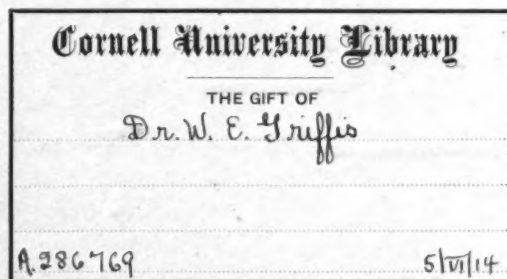
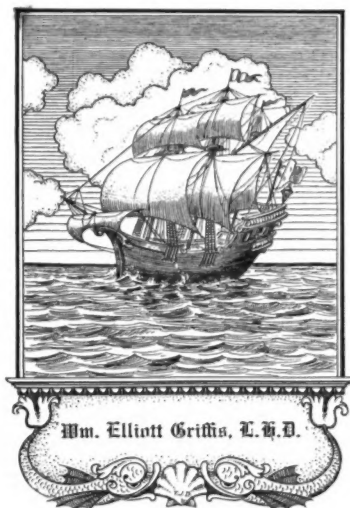


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305-329-357-389-421-452-481-	
505-533-565-593-623-647-679-911	

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS	
DURING THE WEEK...2-26-54-82-	
106-142-170-194-222-250-278-	
306-330-358-390-422-454-482-	
506-534-566-594-624-648-680-712	

LATEST TELEGRAMS	19-46-75-99-
135-162-187-216-243-271-299-	
323-351-383-415-445-474-499-	
528-560-587-615-642-674-706-734	

CHESS	20-47-76-100-
136-164-187-216-244-272-300-	
324-352-384-416-446-476-500-	
528-560-588-616-642-674-707-735	

LATEST SHIPPING	21-49-77-101
137-165-189-217-245-273-301-	
325-353-385-417-447-477-501-	
529-561-589-617-643-675-708-735	

LATEST COMMERCIAL..22-50-78-102-	
138-166-190-218-246-274-302-	
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 1.]

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YOKOHAMA, JULY 4TH, 1896.

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可認書信通日十三

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to name, and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 4TH, 1896.

BIRTH.

On June 18th, at Niigata, the wife of JOHN G. DUNLOP, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On 29th inst., at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., Rector, E. FLINT KILBY to ANNIE BRITTAN, daughter of the late John McMeikan Shaw, and sister of Mrs. P. E. Fred Stone, of Yokohama.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, on June 29th, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., DONALD FRANKER, Inverness, to CHRISTINE MARIE DRUMMOND, of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Midland Counties have beaten the Australian Eleven by four wickets.

THE French Chamber of Deputies has passed the Bill to annex Madagascar.

THE Powers have proposed to the Porte to appoint a Christian Governor in Crete.

THE Fifth National Bank will continue business on an increased capital of yen 300,000.

THE death is announced of Sir Augustus Harris, of the Drury Lane Theatre, London.

THE *Taiwan Shimpō*, published in Taipeh, on the 17th June, appeared with the first page

printed in Chinese ideographs, and the second page in Japanese characters.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank will open a branch office in Hongkong about the 10th of this month.

MR. HORI KATSUTARO, a millionaire merchant of Nagoya, died on the 25th inst., at the age of 71.

THE application for permission to increase the capital of the Nippon-Yusen Kaisha has been granted.

It is estimated that the seismic-wave of the 15th ult., travelled over the Pacific at the rate of 9 miles a minute.

LI HUNG-CHANG continues his triumphal tour through Germany, many gorgeous fêtes being arranged in his honour.

A ROYAL salute was fired last Sunday in honour of the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria Empress of India.

MR. R. VON KRENCKI has been elected Chairman of the Kobe Municipal Council, in the room of Mr. J. J. Ensle deceased.

MR. HARA KEI, the newly-appointed Japanese Minister to Korea, and his wife, left Tokyo on the 25th at 6.45 p.m.

H.I.H. PRINCE FUSHIMI has wired from Marseilles that he leaves there the 5th of July. He is expected at Yokohama on August 15th.

MARSHAL MARQUIS YAMAGATA is expected to arrive at Yokohama on August 3rd. His gastric maladies have troubled him sorely in Europe.

THE affairs of the Seiya Railway Company are said to be in great disorder owing to some scandalous and fraudulent proceedings among the officials.

THE seismic-wave that did so much damage in the north-east of Japan on the 15th June, was felt in the Hawaiian Islands, where it did no damage at all.

THE Venezuelans have arrested and conveyed to their territory Mr. Harrison, a Government official, who was directing the making of roads on the British side of the Schomburg Line.

MARQUIS ITO, Minister President, Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, and Lieut.-General Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa, have returned from their trip to the new colonial possession.

A JAPANESE errand-boy in the employ of Messrs. MacArthur and Co., of Yokohama, abstracted a cheque for \$300 from a letter addressed to the firm, and cashed it at a Chinese exchange-shop. He was subsequently arrested.

By Government notification No. 259, issued on the 26th inst., it is announced that payments for serum and vaccine from the Government laboratories, can be made in revenue stamps.

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR had a narrow escape at the railway crossing at Shibuya-station, Tokyo, on the 29th ult., owing to the stupidity of an engine-driver and conductor. Fortunately no one was hurt.

To open up steamship communication with Formosa, the Government will make a contract with a private company, offering yen 60,000 as an annual subsidy for the encouragement and protection of the trade.

THE Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have entertained Mr. Shoda, the Managing Director of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, at an important representative gathering of

English and Japanese officials and representatives of the mercantile shipping interests. The Japanese Minister also was present, and warm expressions of mutual regard were interchanged.

MR. NAKAMURA SEIDAN, Director of the Central Observatory, will leave in the middle of this month for Kushiro, Hokkaido, to take observations of the total eclipse of the Sun. The English and American expeditions left this week.

THE *Asahi* states that the Imperial Estates Sales Committee has decided to grant a sum of about 70,000 yen to the people of Sado, and 50,000 yen to the people of Ikuno, to reconcile them to the transfer of the mines in those places.

THE Fourth of July programme in Yokohama includes a baseball match between an American team and the nine of the Tokyo Higher School, a cricket match, sailing races, and aquatic sports among the men of the American fleet in Yokohama Bay.

THE American Democrats are profoundly divided over the silver question. Mr. Whitney, the Democratic leader, declares that the adoption of a silver programme by the Chicago Convention will lead to the disruption of the party.

HIS MAJESTY the King of the Belgians; the President of the French Republic; and H.M. the Emperor of Austria, following the example of Queen Victoria, have sent expressions of their sympathy on account of the recent sad disaster in the north, to the Emperor, through their Ministers.

THE Mashona revolt is spreading and there has been severe fighting in the Mazoe district, between the rebels and a party escorting the women and children. So far as can be ascertained, twenty whites have been murdered and fifty-nine either killed, wounded, or missing in Mashonaland. Troops are being hurried to the front.

THE Foreign Office announces that Mr. F. W. Playfair has been appointed Consular agent at Kobe *ad interim*, owing to the death of Mr. J. J. Ensle, British Consul for Hiogo and Osaka, who died on the 14th inst. Mr. R. G. E. Foster is appointed Consular agent at Nagasaki from the 15th, Mr. J. J. Quin having gone on leave. Mr. A. M. Chalmers is appointed Vice-Consul there.

BUSINESS in Cotton Piece Goods, Woollens, and Cotton Yarns has been very dull, only small sales being reported, and quotations for all are nominal until real business set in again. Small day-to-day trade in Metals, all in favour of buyers, and no improvement is looked for for some time to come. The demand for Kerosene is likewise very quiet, the country dealers being absolutely asleep. A very considerable business has been done in Brown Sugars, Manila's especially finding favour, but other sorts, with the exception of White Refined, are dull. Nothing has been done this week in Raw Silk. A few samples of the new crop, as reported last week, were sold for \$730, but now shippers refuse to go on, and holders are expressing their willingness to take less in order to induce some business. Waste Silk has moved slightly, and the stock is now down to 3,700 piculs. Tea has seen a steady business, but the returns for the half season are very disappointing, being 135,000 piculs against 160,000 this time last year. Growers are in despair at the prices now prevailing, but buyers declare that they cannot give more. The Second Crop Leaf is reported to be inferior to last season's. Exchange has had another steady week.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The *Fiji* and the *Nichi Nichi* are fated to disagree on many questions, and well-matched controversialists they are. Their spirit of competition has extended even to the collection of funds for the relief of the sufferers by the recent disaster in the north, for so zealously do they exert their influence to have contributions entrusted to them that many mercantile corporations are obliged to divide their subscriptions into two parts and transmit a moiety to each journal, so as not to provoke the umbrage of either. The controversy in which the two have been engaged this week relates, first, to the granting of patents of nobility to the Lord Abbots of the two Hongwan Temples, and secondly, to the Navigation Encouragement Law. As our last summary showed, the *Fiji* attacked the alleged policy of the Government, and we now find the *Nichi Nichi* defending it. The latter journal traverses the *Fiji's* arguments and observes that the Government's estimate of a sum of some 300,000 *yen* as likely to be paid out in the form of subsidies during the present half-year, was based on the fact that, at the time of passing the law, there were about 28 steamers qualified to receive such subsidies. It was also thought an appropriation of 900,000 to 1,000,000 *yen* a year would suffice for the purpose at first. That estimate is now proved to be plainly under the mark, judging from the present extraordinary activity of maritime enterprise, and the Authorities are considerably embarrassed, as may easily be inferred. Some persons hold that the Treasury must be prepared to pay out an annual sum of fully six million *yen*, if Japanese ship-owners are to get into their hands one-half of the country's total foreign carrying trade (21,700,000 *yen*), of which only one-seventeenth now comes to them. It is not easy to determine, however, whether financial conditions will admit of such a liberal use of public money. This much premised, the *Nichi Nichi*, proceeds to discuss points at issue between it and the *Fiji*, and alleges that the exact qualifications of steamers entitled to receive a subsidy have yet to be determined. It expresses astonishment at the ignorance displayed by the *Fiji's* assertion that the *Tosa Maru* is the only double-bottomed steamer owned by the Yusen Kaisha, and therefore the only vessel possessing the restrictive qualification that the Government is supposed to contemplate enforcing. In point of fact, about 18 steamers owned by that Company are double-bottomed, the only difference between the *Tosa Maru* and the others in that respect being one of quality. As the *Fiji's* objection to the provisions of Art. IX., which make the authorities' special sanction an essential preliminary to the employment of foreigners, the *Nichi Nichi* alleges that such a proviso is deemed useful, as a means of determining whether a foreigner whose employment is contemplated by a ship-owner possesses the necessary qualifications. The *Nichi Nichi* further expects that an amendment of the Law, in the sense of setting a limit to the total amount of the subsidy, will be submitted to the Diet next session, and also in the sense of closing up the loopholes through which foreign capitalists might attempt to turn the Law to their account.

The *Fiji* gives a long rejoinder. It scoffs at the idea that the authorities estimated the subsidies on the basis of the then existing number of qualified steamers only, and avers that the statements in the *Nichi Nichi* have entirely confirmed its suspicion as to the Government's intention of having recourse to stringent restriction. Our contemporary singled out the *Tosa Maru*, because of information that the authorities contemplated limiting the grant of a subsidy to double-bottomed steamers of the *Tosa Maru's* standard. As for the question of seeking the approval of the authorities before engaging foreigners to serve on Japanese steamers, the *Fiji* fails to appreciate the utility of such a proviso, inasmuch as the matter, being inseparably connected with the interests of ship-owners, they

may be trusted to engage men of established competence. The *Fiji* is entirely opposed to the *Nichi Nichi's* plan of putting a limit to the amount of the bounty, and declares that such a measure would be unfair, as well as calculated to cripple the natural development of maritime enterprise. Further, it suggests that the amount, say, 10 million *yen* a year, should be defrayed for a period corresponding to the average life of a steamer, that is to say, 10 or 15 years, so that any steamer commencing to run within that limit of time would be entitled to a subsidy. Lastly, it criticizes as narrow-minded the suspicion of the *Nichi Nichi* that foreign capitalists might elude the restrictions of the Law. Such an apprehension is inconsistent with the actual state of affairs, for the Yusen Kaisha and the Toyo Kaisha have no names of foreigners on their list of shareholders, and the Japanese public is rich enough to furnish whatever funds are wanted. Besides, what evil would there be in utilizing foreign capital?

Two other wordy fights have been going on between the rivals, but we need not trouble our readers with details. Suffice it to say that while the *Fiji* has no scruples about adding to the burden of the people when measures conducive to the development of national enterprises are in question, the *Nichi Nichi* is inclined to be more cautious, and holds such lavish expenditure to be inadmissible under Japan's existing circumstances.

The *Fiji's* argument against conferring patents of nobility on the Lord Abbots of the two Hongwan Temples is equally outspoken. It contends that to make Counts of these great dignitaries of the church is to pull them down from the high pedestal on which they stood, and it attributes the measure simply to a whim of the authorities, who originally instituted these artificial and entirely childish social distinctions for the purpose of themselves profiting by them, and then proceeded to extend them to others, so that the latter might become supporters of the whimsical idea. The action of the Hongwan Abbots is equally blameworthy, for the *Fiji* learns that instead of declining the offer, they themselves agitated to obtain the title. Such hankering after things worldly is plain evidence of degeneration, and the *Fiji* doubts strongly whether temples of the kind are worthy to furnish spiritual guidance to the masses. The editor at all events, will never look to them for such guidance.

The comments of the *Nichi Nichi* on the above deserve to be quoted at more length, not because we endorse our contemporary's contention, but because much interesting historical information is furnished as to the origin of the Temples and the lineage of their hereditary Lord Abbots. Setting out by stating that the grant of the title of Count to the two Abbots was due not to any meritorious services rendered by them in connection either with the Restoration or with the late War, but entirely to the distinguished achievements of their ancestors and to the status of their houses, the *Nichi Nichi* proceeds to review the history of the *Monto*, beginning with that of Shinran, the founder of the Sect, who was the son of a Court noble named Hino Arinori. In consequence of offering funds for carrying out the coronation ceremony of the Emperor Gokashiwabara (1501 to 1557 A.D.), Hino's 9th descendant and the latter's successors were nominated *Monzeki*, a title formerly borne by Imperial Princes who entered the priesthood. In the time of the 11th descendant, the Sect was subdivided into two distinct branches, the Higashi Hongwanji being for the first time created, as a result of the policy of Iyeyasu. Thenceforth the two branches began to entertain unfriendly feelings towards each other, in connection with which the *Nichi Nichi* describes the treatment accorded to the Lord Abbots of the two, in pre-Restoration days, at the Courts both of Kyoto and of the Regency, and shows that all these facts militate against the views of the *Fiji*. It is indignant at the allegation of its contemporary that the accept-

ance of such titles by the Abbots is vulgarizing and derogatory to their dignity, and it avers that such a declaration is tantamount to calling in question the dignity of the Imperial Court, the fountain-head of all honours and titles. The *Nichi Nichi* believes that the titles conferred on the Lord Abbots are entirely independent of religious considerations, being primarily due to the status of the two Houses of Otani. The Hongwan Sect is peculiar, in that, as the founder Shinran laid down, it combines both spiritual and worldly elements, and the title was conferred in consideration of the worldly element. If the Court conferred no higher title than that of Count upon the Lord Abbots, it was because the main stock of the two Houses of Otani, namely, the House of Hino, occupies that position in the peerage. The *Fiji*, when it condemns the acceptance of a title by the Lord Abbots, seems to have overlooked the fact that they were actually Peers more than two decades before the present time, as well as the fact that untitled Peers are not permissible according to the strict interpretation of the Peerage Law. The *Nichi Nichi* finally asks why, if the *Fiji* is so averse to artificial social distinction, it does not openly and plainly declare for a republican form of Government.

The controversy of the two leading papers having occupied so much of our space, we can devote only a brief notice to other articles, and in truth there is not much to say about them. First comes the question of female education, discussed by the *Kokumin*, which says that things foreign and things Japanese being at present merely mixed and not thoroughly coalesced, the problem of female education shows the taint of the times, one section of publicists declaring for western systems and the other for Japanese. When mixed residence is inaugurated and more intimate coalescence of foreign and Japanese ideas has taken place, a definite principle will be found whereon to base the policy of education.

The victories gained by the lads of the Tokyo Higher School at base-ball over the players of Yokohama and also over the baseballers of an American man-of-war, furnish a theme for editorial discussion in the columns of the Tokyo *Asahi*. Although the winners ought not to be satisfied with their achievements, since, while they are practically the champions of all Japan, their antagonists can not pretend to represent the players of their own countries, one lesson can be learned from this incident, namely, that small as the Japanese are in stature and build, they can cope successfully with their bigger and stouter brothers of the West. That consideration should tend to dispel the delusion under which worshippers of the Occident labour.

Mr. Miyake, in the editorial columns of the *Nippon*, writes about *samurai* and their code (*bushido*). He describes at length the admirably disinterested and chivalrous characters of Garibaldi and Gordon, and says that, judging from the unstinted reverence in which their memory is held in the West, Europeans and Americans do not seem to have entirely degenerated into base worshippers of Mammon. Turning to typical instances of *samurai* in Japan, the writer singles out Uyesugi Kenashin, in former times, and Saigo Takamori, in modern, and says that, as the former's brilliant example contributed to uphold the military code (*bushido*) for the space of three centuries, so the latter's merits of the same nature are felt even to this day. It is chiefly because of Saigo's influence that military men shrink from keenly pursuing their own interests. But is there now any one qualified to succeed Saigo as a model exponent of the *bushido*? The *Nippon* avers that there is not, and finds the fact no less deplorable than incomprehensible, inasmuch as officers hold their positions for life, and need not be concerned about financial matters. Let them devote themselves to upholding and asserting the canons of the *bushido*, and this effort will conduce much towards purging the people of the base custom of selfishness.

The last article to be summarized is a discus-

sion in the *Mainichi's* columns about the advice said to have been tendered by a certain Power to Japan to pay a portion of the Chinese War Indemnity to Korea. The *Mainichi* contends that as the War really rose from Japan's desire to uphold the integrity of Korea and maintain the peace of the Orient, if Korea seeks to participate in the Indemnity on the plea of damages suffered by her in consequence of the War, then Japan must prefer the same demand against Korea, for it was on the latter's account that such inestimable damage was suffered by the Japanese nation. In point of fact, the idea is wholly due to the machinations of a third party desirous of playing Korea and Japan against each other. That Korea is really grateful to Japan for having upheld her cause is apparent from the special mission she sent to this empire to offer thanks. It would be positively contrary to justice and common sense to acquiesce in any such absurd demand, a declaration that the *Mainichi* wishes to place on record, seeing that constant repetitions of the rumour seems to indicate that it has some foundations in fact.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SHOCKING AFFAIR AT KOBE.

In the *Kobe Herald* of Saturday evening we find particulars supplementing our telegram announcing the news of the attempted suicide at Kobe. It says, we regret to hear Mr. S. Rosenfeld, who only returned from a business trip to the United States a fortnight ago to-day, attempted to take his life at an early hour this morning by shooting himself with a revolver. The bullet entered the right temple and emerged on the left side, severing the membranous sac holding the right eye, in its passage. The eye fell out. The deplorable act is believed to have been committed at about 5 o'clock this morning, but the unfortunate gentleman's condition was not discovered until 7 a.m., when an attendant went, as was his wont, to shave him. Mr. Taylor, who occupied the same house as Mr. Rosenfeld, was then aroused, and help was promptly summoned. There is some ground to hope that the wound will not prove fatal, but the patient lies in a very precarious state and even if he survives it is doubtful if he will ever recover his eyesight. The sad affair has cast quite a gloom over the community, Mr. Rosenfeld having been very well liked; and as a rule of an uncommonly cheerful and buoyant disposition. We say as a rule, for it was known to his friends that he was subject to occasional fits of extreme depression, when the temptation to take his own life assailed him with almost irresistible force. This much he had confessed in times past, but no one attached serious weight to the disquieting statement. What motive existed for the act is not known. He was both trusted and much liked by his employers, the Japanese Fan Co. of New York, and so far as is known he was as free as most men are of business and social cares.—After lingering in semi-unconsciousness for several days, during which the other eye had also to be removed, Mr. Rosenfeld died at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and was buried on Friday.

SUGGESTED CENTRAL MARKET FOR KOBE.

Just before the adjournment of the last meeting of the Kobe Municipal Council, Mr. Hellyer brought the following proposition before the assembly:—"That the Municipal Council address the Governor of this *Ken* asking that arrangements may be made for the establishment of a provision-market adequate to meet the growing requirements of Kobe." Proper provision for the large resident and floating population, he added, was a matter of the greatest importance. It might not exactly come within the Council's province, but as there was no other public body to bring it forward he ventured to ask the Council if it would not adopt this motion. The present arrangements for supplying the wants of the population here were quite inadequate, only equal to what was required twenty years ago. If the Government would

take the matter in hand and establish a market where the people from the country could bring in their produce and the people here could go to fulfill their requirements, it would be a great boon to both parties. One important point was this: there were often a great many ships here and sometimes it was impossible for them to get what they required. The stewards had to go from one little shop to another and were often at their wits' ends to get what they wanted.—Mr. J. Connelly, in seconding the resolution, thought that the question was one for the Consular Board to take up. The proposition was accordingly altered to:—"That the attention of the Consular Body be drawn to the necessity of establishing a Provision Market suitable to the needs of the Community and of vessels visiting the Port." It was then carried unanimously.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED ROBBERY.

UYEDA HYONOSUKE alias Torii Hachizo, a youth of 15, employed as an errand-boy by Messrs. MacArthur & Co., of No. 10, Bund, has just been arrested on a charge of attempted robbery. The boy was sent to the Post Office for the mails on Tuesday, and abstracted a letter containing a cheque of \$300 drawn on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, at Yokohama, by Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, of Hakodate, in favour of Mr. MacArthur. Later in the day he took the cheque to the Gen-tai Exchange shop, No. 52, and cashed it for \$300, less commission. Upon the Chinaman sending the cheque into the H. & S. Bank, payment was refused. He accordingly went to the Kagacho police station and laid information. Mr. Nakajima, one of the detectives, upon getting the clue went to No. 3, Benten-dori, and found the would-be thief at home. He had not had time to spend a cent of the money, and the whole of it was accordingly handed back to the Chinaman. The arrest was made between three and four o'clock on the 30th ult.

H.M.S. "EDGAR."

H.M.S. *Edgar*, after a stay on this station lasting from the 10th November, 1894, left Yokohama for good on Wednesday. She went to Hakodate to exchange one hundred men, and leaves there on the 7th July. Then the *Edgar* goes on to Hongkong and will stay there till about the 11th August. We understand that the "homeward pennant," that will be flung to the breeze, probably at Hakodate, is a thing to marvel at for breadth and length, while the gilded bladder that will decorate the end is larger than the average. Captain Henderson and his officers will carry away with them the best wishes of the foreign communities of Tokyo and Yokohama for their future welfare and success, while not a few Japanese naval officers will follow the careers of several among them—whose friendship they made on the bleak coasts of the Gulf of Pechili—with fraternal interest.

THE BEHRING SEA CONVENTION.

A TELEGRAM that appears in the *New York Herald*, dated Washington, June 8th, says that President Cleveland and Queen Victoria will officially proclaim within a few days the Behring Sea Convention which their respective Governments have entered into. The Senate has made public the text of the treaty. It provides for the appointment of a joint commission to ascertain the amount of damages sustained by the owners of British sealing vessels seized in Behring Sea by United States revenue cutters before they had authority to do so under the terms of the *modus vivendi*, or the approved decision of the Paris arbitration tribunal. The long preamble of the Convention recites the facts of the treaty of 1892, and the failure of the tribunal of arbitration provided for it, to satisfactorily settle all matter in dispute. The Convention provides that all claims arising under the treaty of 1892 and the award and findings of the tribunal of arbitration shall be referred to the commissioners, one appointed by Great Britain and the other by the United States. These commissioners are to meet in Victoria, B.C. If either so requests, they shall also sit in San Francisco. The decisions reached by the com-

missioners in each claim shall be accepted by the two governments as final. They are given full authority to examine under oath every question of fact not found by the tribunal of arbitration, and shall have such powers to procure or enforce testimony as may hereafter be provided by legislation. If in any case the commissioners fail to agree, the differences shall be referred for final adjustment to an umpire to be appointed by the two governments jointly, or in case of a disagreement to be nominated by the President of the Swiss Confederation. The amount awarded to Great Britain under the convention is to be paid by the United States within six months after the award is made.

METALS.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co., in their Report, dated, Manchester, May 23rd, say:—Prices of Pig Iron fell during the early part of this month, but have since improved, and are now firm at an advance of a few pence per ton. The Engineers' strike has had a depressing effect, but this strike is not expected to last much longer. There is not, however, a large business passing at present, and it is mainly for delivery prompt or during the next few weeks, the disposition amongst both buyers and sellers being not to operate far forward but to wait and see the course of events. The finished iron trade in the Midlands is fairly good, and more new business is now coming forward. Copper has advanced some 25s. per ton during this month, and is quite firm; the visible supply is said to have decreased by about 17,500 tons during the last twelve months. Spelter is nearly £2 per ton dearer than it was a month ago, and has a strong position. Tin has advanced about 20s. per ton during the last four weeks. Lead is slightly dearer, and is steady.

RAW SILK TRADE AT KOBE.

DURING the last twelve months, according to the *Osaaka Mainichi*, the exports of waste raw silk from Kobe amounted to 664,983 lb., valued at 386,967 yen, the largest amount since the opening of Kobe for foreign trade. Our informant adds that the establishment of a raw silk exchange has been approved, the Jinei Kaisha has augmented its capital and the Japan Raw Silk Company has been organized, its shares being now put on the market. The company has already received one bale of new crop silk from a mill in Tajima province and the Jineisha also received five bales (coarse, denier 14) on the 28th inst. from the Sanyo Silk Reeling Mill at Kasaoka, Bitchu. Thus there is a good beginning of the trade this year.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

THE annual distribution of diplomas to graduates of the Kyoritsu Jogakko, No. 212, Bluff, took place last evening. Despite the unfavourable weather, there was a large attendance, and the long programme was most successfully carried through. The Graduates were Miss Tama Oyama, Miss San Maruya, Miss Ine Otani, Miss Tami Iwama, Miss Kin Yamaga, and Miss Mitsuru Yonekura.

KOBE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

MR. R. VON KRENCKI has been elected Chairman of the Kobe Municipal Council, in the room of the late Mr. J. J. Enslie.

THE REVISED TREATY WITH BELGIUM.

The negotiations with Belgium for Treaty Revision seem to have been concluded very quickly. They were conducted by Viscount Aoki on Japan's part, and the *Yiji Shimpō* says that the Foreign Office received official intimation of the new Treaty having been signed in Brussels on the 22nd instant. This speedy procedure on Belgium's side is attributed by our contemporary to a desire to promote trade with Japan—a desire that has received considerable impetus from the opening of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's new European service of steamers, touching at Antwerp.

THE SEISMIC WAVE.

Saturday, June 27.

The report submitted by the Miyako Observatory to the Iwate Prefectural-office about the seismic wave, is as follows:—The day had been overcast, as had also been the previous day. It rained and was foggy. The atmospheric pressure and temperature were above the average for the corresponding days in other years. At 6.32.30 p.m. a slight shock of earthquake was felt, lasting for about 5 minutes. Its direction was E.N.E. and W.S.W., and the motion was extremely slow. At 6h. 53m. 30s.; and at 8h. 33m. 10s.; and at 8h. 39m. slight shocks were again perceived. Further, between 9 and 10 p.m. four shocks were experienced, between 10 to 11 p.m., one shock, and between 11 and midnight, two shocks—in all 13 seismic movements. The hour at which the seismic wave occurred, that is the time at which the sea began to recede, could not be observed with any prevision, but must have been at about 50 minutes past 7. At about 8 o'clock, the water rose, but fell somewhat in a few minutes. At 8.7 p.m. the biggest wave, about 15 ft. high, came on with a fearful booming sound, and instantly swept away all houses or living things that were in its path. Subsequently, six waves of more or less volume rolled in, and till noon of the following day similar abnormal seas swept the coast. On the 16th inst., 13 shocks; on the 17th inst., 12; and on the 18th inst., 6, of a very weak description, were felt.

At Toni, the impetus of the rushing wave was so vast that houses, trees, and so forth were all overthrown towards the land. The Yusen Kaisha has consented to place one of its steamers the *Chitose Maru*, at the disposal of the three afflicted districts until the end of July, at a reduction of 50 per cent. of the usual rates. The steamer is to cruise backwards and forwards along the afflicted coast at intervals of every 3 or 4 days, calling at each place of importance.

Wednesday, July 2.

The tide-gauge maintained by the Department of War at Ayugawa, in the Oshika District of Miyagi Prefecture, since 1890, furnishes important data for scientific men in conducting investigations into the calamity that recently devastated the Pacific coast of north-eastern Japan. The tide-gauge used is Thomson's self-registering instrument. In addition to the place mentioned above, similar gauges are set up at Misaki, in Kanagawa Prefecture; Hanasaki-mura, in Nemuro; Kushimoto, in Wakayama; Iwasaki-mura, in Aomori; two places in Miyazaki Prefecture, and one place each in Ishikawa and Shimane Prefectures. Three records from Ayugawa, Hanasaki, and Misaki have been prepared by the Survey Bureau of the Department, with notes affixed. The record of the Ayugawa tide-gauge and the notes are given in the *Chuo*, from which we extract these particulars:—

The diagram, shows that the sea, which was calm as on ordinary occasions, suddenly receded by about 20 centimeters (registered) at 25 minutes past 8 p.m. on the 15th of June, that is to say, at the hour when the gauge ought to have indicated flood tide. At half-past 8, a large wave struck the instrument and caused it to indicate a height of 1.40 metres. In about 5 minutes the indicator receded. Subsequently, at intervals of four or five minutes, the indicator rose and fell, tracing an extraordinarily serrated diagram, resembling in form the teeth of a dog. The heights of the wave were nearly equal at 9.30 and at 9.50 p.m., but at 11 p.m. there was a rise of about 2 metres, showing a total difference of 2.70 metres. Thenceforth the altitude of the waves grew lower and lower, but several days elapsed before the sea resumed its normal condition.

The instrument on the beach of Hanasaki-mura, Nemuro, suddenly marked a height of 40½ centimeters at 8.50 p.m. on the 15th of June, and some 5 minutes afterwards, it fell about one metre. Subsequently, during the space of about an hour, 5 or 6 vibrations were recorded and a deeply serrated diagram, like the teeth of a saw, was traced by the indicator. Unfortunately the instrument went out of gear from

that moment, and an untrustworthy result was recorded. At 8.10 a.m. on 16th of June, the instrument was re-adjusted, but at that time the sea had nearly resumed its normal condition, and the diagram showed undulations not exceeding those generally seen on occasions of storm.

The diagram obtained at Misaki, represented, from 8.10 p.m. on the 15th of June, a slightly undulating line different from the record on ordinary occasions. The height of the wave indicated on the instrument was 20½ centimeters, and vibrations were felt every 5 minutes, but they grew weaker and weaker, until, in a few days, they ceased altogether.

Collating the three diagrams, it is clear that the force of the wave was only slightly felt to the south of Choshi. The diagrams obtained at Ayugawa and Hanasaki show a difference of 20 minutes between the times when the instruments at the places indicated extraordinary changes. Supposing the velocity of the water's movement to have been uniform, the centre of disturbance must have lain in the Pacific Ocean eastward of Kamaishi. The site where the Ayugawa tide-gauge stands is protected on the east by Kinkwazan and the headland of Kuro-misaki, while in the south it has an island called Omiji. Consequently, it does not face direct to the Pacific Ocean. The situation of the Hanasaki tide-gauge is very similar, for it is at the end of a small inlet facing north-east, and has on the south two islands that protect it against the direct action of high waves.

Though the disturbance was similar in physical configuration at the two places, the manner of its occurrence differed. For whereas in Ayugawa the water receded at first and then rushed in, such was not the case at Hanasaki. The inference suggested is that the seismic wave must have had its origin at a place nearer to Ayugawa than to Nemuro, for not only was there a difference of 20 minutes between the times when the disturbance made itself sensible at the two places, but also in the former place the water first receded before pouring inland with great force.

We read that this report from the Bureau is in process of being translated into several languages, for presentation in Europe and America.

The moneys already disbursed in Miyagi Prefecture, where the loss of property is generally estimated at a fifth of that in Iwate Prefecture, are 5,000 yen from the Sanitary Fund, and 47,120 yen from the Central and Local Relief Funds, a total of 52,120 yen. The fishing boats carried away or wrecked in Miyagi Prefecture aggregated 2,491, estimated to be worth 107,240 yen, an average of about 43 yen, and the nets destroyed were 70,991, estimated at 12,500 yen, an average of less than 20 sen each. This estimate given in the *Tokyo Asahi* is evidently wrong, so far as concerns the nets. At any rate, the Miyagi Prefectural Authorities are said to have applied to the Central Government for an extraordinary disbursement of 190,000 yen, to be applied to the purpose of furnishing fishing gear to the sufferers.

If, as is generally believed, the extent of the disaster in Iwate Prefecture is five times as great as that in Miyagi, a sum of about one million yen must be disbursed from the Treasury to afford relief to the sufferers in the former region and to provide for their future subsistence.

Vernacular journals continue to describe the horrors of the catastrophe in Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures, but it seems to us that the public has heard enough about these things. What has already been written is sufficiently awful to render all further details superfluous. Interest now centres upon the scientific phase of the phenomenon—what was the cause of the disturbance and where did it have its origin? Everything bearing upon these questions is important, and we therefore translate from the columns of the *Official Gazette* the following report compiled and forwarded by the Hokkaido Administration Board, under date of the 25th ultimo:—

The times of the inflow of the seismic wave and those of its outflow in the vicinity of Hori-

izumi, Hitaka district, differed more or less according to localities, but in general the wave flowed in between 8.30 and 9.30 p.m. on the 15th of June, and receded between 11.30 p.m. on the same night and about 1 a.m. on the following morning. The weather did not present any unusual feature throughout that interval. The wave came from the south, and struck Cape Erimo, the impact dividing it into two currents, one travelling eastward, the other westward. The former swept the coast of Hitaka as far as Horiizumi, while the latter made itself felt as far as Saru. At the commencement of this unusual phenomena a peculiar sound was heard from the direction of the sea, and the beach was laid bare to the extent of 100 yards or thereabouts, during an interval of over 10 minutes. Thereafter a vast wave rolled in with tremendous force, and swept inland to a distance of tens and hundreds of *ken* (one *ken*=6 ft.), according to localities. It then receded with great velocity, this forward and backward movement being repeated three times. It was the second advent of the wave that caused most damage. The height of the mass of water is calculated to have been about 10 ft. at Horiizumi, from 8 to 15 ft. along the coast stretching from Utabetau to Kokoshi, and from 12 to 30 feet along the coast from Saru to Shono. The casualties to life and property were, 6 drowned, 5 wounded, 25 houses swept away or wrecked, as also 12 sheds, 1 junk, and 83 fishing boats. Over 164 *koku* of fish manure were carried into the sea. Furniture and implements lost or damaged were too numerous to be catalogued.

The damage caused by the calamity in Iwate Prefecture may be approximately estimated from a computation that the District Office of Kisen has made with reference to the losses suffered by the villages and towns in that locality:—

Buildings swept away, 4,557, the value of which, at the rate of 100 yen each...	Yes, 455,700
Salt-fields devastated (15 acres)	8,000
Places for curing fish or making fish manure, 24 destroyed, at 380 yen each.	9,120
Boats (2,391) and fishing gear swept away; estimated at 100 yen per boat..	239,100
Cattle drowned (650); estimated at 20 yen per head	13,900
Crops destroyed, (1,187 acres); estimated at 15 yen per <i>tan</i>	7,125
Furniture washed away from 1,519 houses; estimated at 150 yen per house.	227,850
Arable land laid waste (502 acres); estimated at 100 yen per <i>tan</i>	200,000
Building land laid waste (200 acres); estimated at 100 yen per <i>tan</i>	80,000
Cash lost	500,000

Grand Total1,739,995

As the number of dwelling-houses washed away in Iwate Prefecture totalled 5,920, of which those in the Kisen district constituted about one-fourth, we may infer that the damages resulting from the calamity throughout the Prefecture aggregated about 7 million yen, supposing the estimate of the Kisen District Office to be fairly correct. This, of course, does not take into account the loss inflicted on the local marine industry by the death of the fishermen.

THE WAVE AT HAWAII.

In the issues of the *Commercial Advertiser* of Honolulu for June 16th and June 17th, we find the following:—

The report that there had been a tidal, or more properly a volcanic, wave in the harbour and all along the Coast naturally leads one to think of the volcanic waves of the past. These waves are a sure sign of volcanic action in some part of the shores of this ocean. They most frequently come from South America, though they have been caused by action in other places, as the one that swept across the Pacific from Japan to San Francisco when the terrible earthquake of Simoda took place, and again one was slightly apparent here after the Krakatoa eruption.

A volcanic wave struck the shores of Hawaii in May of 1819, shortly before the death of Kamehameha I. It was thought by the natives to presage some dire calamity and they were convinced that the prophecy was correct upon the death of the monarch. This wave came from South America.

In 1837, on November 7th, there was a tremendous commotion of the sea all round the Islands. Alexander's history says:—"At Hilo the sea first

receded and then suddenly rose twelve feet above high-water mark, carrying away houses and doing great damage. Twelve lives were lost at Hilo, and more would have been but for the boats of an English whaler, then in port. This came from Chile, and to give some idea of the speed at which it travelled, the earthquake in Chile occurred the same day that the wave reached these islands.

There was a volcanic wave on May 17, 1841, another in 1868, another in 1871, and again in 1878. The wave of 1871 was caused by the tremendous earthquake at Arica, Peru, where volcanic waves kept sweeping in sixty feet high for several hours, destroying everything along the coast. On this occasion a United States man-of-war was carried bodily two miles inland, and there left stranded.

Besides volcanic waves from lands afar there have been our local waves, caused by volcanic action on Hawaii. The most notable of these was connected with the great eruption which commenced March 27th, 1868. On April 2nd there was a terrific earthquake, followed by an enormous volcanic wave which rolled in upon the coast of Kauai sweeping away the villages from Kanae to Keaunohu. Over eighty people lost their lives. At the same time the coast of Puna sank four feet and the stumps of the coconuts that were then growing can be seen now amid the surf.

There is very little doubt that the wave yesterday is a message from afar, not from Hawaii. There would have been earthquake shocks here and the rise would have been greater.

The wave commenced at 7:38 a.m. on an ebbing tide. At 7:45 the summit of the wave, one-tenth of a foot, was reached, and at 8 it was at its lowest. It then began reaching its highest elevation, two-tenths of a foot, at 8:05, and what is extremely curious, holding it till 8:33, with slight oscillations. At 8:48 it dropped and at 9 began to rise again, reaching an elevation of three-tenths of a foot.

These rises and falls continued till 3 o'clock, showing fourteen noticeable waves in fourteen hours. The *Advertiser* is indebted to Mr. Walter Wall for the chart of the volcanic wave, which is an exact copy of the Government tide gauge. It is also indebted to him for valuable information as to the height and time of the waves.

Honolulu, June 17th.

From reports received by the *Fames Makee* yesterday morning the tidal wave as noticed here Monday was very much more pronounced along the coast of the island of Kauai. Through the kindness of Captain Peterson of the *Fames Makee*, which arrived early yesterday morning, an accurate story of all the details of the wave as noticed at Kapaa was given a reporter of this paper.

"To begin with, I want to tell you that since 7 o'clock Monday morning I have shortened my prescribed existence by at least five years, lost more hair than I care to talk about, and became almost knock-kneed from the strain of the trip. I was never so glad to be in Honolulu in all my life, and let me assure you that whenever I go into Kapaa again it will be with the feeling of a heathen howling in terror before a god.

"We were at Kapaa on Saturday night, but pulled out from there while the wind was blowing a gale. At Hanalei we lay over Sunday and got back to Kapaa to discharge the remainder of our freight early Monday morning.

"We first noticed the peculiar action of the water at about 7:30 o'clock and I became convinced at once that we were in for a tidal-wave. Two boats, with sixteen bags of coal apiece had gone ashore, and when I looked in towards the wharf I saw that they were stuck fast in the sand near the landing. A couple of minutes later and they were left high and dry and the sailors were forced to hold up the boats to keep the coal from spilling out. Simultaneously with the occurrence to the boats, I felt the *Makee* settle on the sandy bottom and knew that we were in for it. I made up my mind then and there to get out of that hole as fast as I could. I blew the whistle for the boats, and after making several attempts they succeeded in getting alongside.

"In the meantime the waves were playing havoc with the *Makee*. We had seven lines attached to buoys, and anchors set in various places, as you are aware that the nature of the bottom inside the reef at Kapaa is such as to allow no anchors to be dropped.

"The swinging motion produced by the waves caused two of our hawsers to part, one at the bow and another at the stern. If we had remained there much longer all our hawsers would have parted and we should have been smashed to pieces on the reef. I can tell you that such a prospect was by no means pleasant.

"We succeeded in getting out into deeper water between two waves at about 9 o'clock. This

could have been done by no other steamer than the *Makee*, for a guardian angel watches over her continually. This is the cause of her proverbial good luck.

"We made for Hanalei to take sugar, and left for Honolulu in the evening. Our trip down was one of the worst I ever experienced."

The purser, in speaking of the experience of the *Makee*, added a few facts to the captain's story.

"The water is twelve feet deep where the *Makee* was moored. Our good steamer draws eleven feet and when the water receded she was solid in the sand.

"From observations taken by looking at the reef and other places I judge that the water dropped at least three feet.

"Telephone messages received from Kilauea told of a big wave at that place. The water had receded, leaving a dry space of about forty feet around the landing. At Nawiliwili the water rushed over the Government road and the bridges.

"Old people in Kanai say they have never before witnessed such a thing, and may of the natives believe it to be a premonition of a coming evil."

Kanai, where the seismic wave is said to have been severely felt, is the North-westernmost island of the Hawaiian group. It is situated in N. Lat. 22° and W. Long. 159½°, whereas the region where the seismic wave worked the greatest destruction on the coast of Japan is in N. Lat. 39° 15' and E. Long. 142°. The wave's presence was experienced at Hawaii at a little before 8 a.m. on June 15th, corresponding with 2 a.m., approximately, on the 16th June, Japanese time. Hence it appears that the wave traversed a distance of about 3,390 miles in some 6 hours, which gives an average velocity of translation equal to a little over 9 miles a minute. This assumes the centre of disturbance to have been in the immediate vicinity of the Sendai coast, but even if we locate it at a distance of five or six hundred miles from that coast, the calculation is not materially altered. Between Sendai and Kanai Island the only obstacles of a seismic wave are a rock (Bird Island) and a coral reef (Midway Isles). It will be noticed from the *Commercial Advertiser's* accounts that at Kanai, where there are no harbours worthy of the name, the water first receded some forty feet and then rose 3 feet, whereas at Honolulu official scientific observations showed the rise to be only 1.2 to 2.1 inches, and the movements were observed during the day. On the whole the evidence seems to indicate that the centre of the disturbance may be located some 500 to 600 miles off the coast of Sendai, about the 39th parallel of latitude. We can scarcely hope that any record of observations will come from districts in Japan where the wave wrought no destruction, for a harmless rise and fall of the water occurring at night would not have attracted attention. It is possible, however, that some valuable data may be obtained from the Bonin Islands. The great Gifu earthquake made itself felt throughout the whole length of Japan, but its effects at Kamaishi do not seem to have been more marked than were the shocks that preceded the advent of the seismic wave on June 15th. Hence, so far as concerns the translation of the actual seismic force, there appears to be nothing unreasonable in assuming that it had its origin at a point not more than five or six hundred miles from the Sendai coast.

REPORT FROM THE GOVERNOR OF IWATE.

Saturday's issue of the *Official Gazette* contains a long report on the seismic wave from the Governor of Iwate, under date the 24th ultimo.

On the 15th inst., the weather was misty from morning, and the thermometer fluctuated between 80° and 90° F., about 10° higher than in ordinary years. People suffered much from this unusual heat, but did not think it particularly strange, the weather being generally fickle in the *Baiu* (spring rain) season. The 15th, coinciding with the May festival, according to the old calendar, a feast was held in every family, and the hours were passing merrily, when, at dusk, repeated shocks of earthquake were felt, and at about 8 in the evening, a sound as if made by the firing of big cannon was heard from the direction of the sea, off the coast of Higashi Hei district. Such a sound from the sea not being uncommon, the inhabit-

ants did not pay much attention to it, thinking that it might be caused by men-of-war practising gunnery. Only a few minutes had elapsed, when a seismic wave suddenly rolled in with most terrible force, and towns and villages along the coast, through a distance of over 175 miles, were inundated. In a moment men, cattle, buildings, ships, and so forth, were almost entirely swept away, so that towns which had been thickly populated only the day before, were turned into sandy wastes. Corpses were piled in heaps, houses were completely wrecked, and the whole scene presented the most ghastly and heart-rending aspect, impossible to describe. It is reported that the wave was as high as 80 ft., and that, though more or less variation occurred according to locality, the devastation and damage inflicted by the wave were most serious in places facing the south-west. Strange to say, fishermen plying their trade about 5 miles off the coast, noticed merely a slight swell and had no suspicion of the occurrence of such a catastrophe. As soon as reports of the calamity were received, steps were at once taken to extend succour to the sufferers. The Local Chief of Police was directed to visit the scene of the disaster, the Secretary of the Prefecture was despatched to Higashi Hei; the Councillor, to Kisen and Minami Hei; and the Chief Tax Collector, to Kunohe. At the same time, 33 clerks and police inspectors, together with 113 police constables and 450 coolies, were sent to various afflicted districts, to succour the survivors, to dispose of the remains of the killed, and to restore order. Neighbouring towns and villages that escaped unhurt offered the services of their fire-brigades and coolies, and the number of working-men available altogether amounted to above 4,000. The disaster having proved fatal to many medical practitioners living along the coast, and the survivors having lost their supply of drugs and instruments, the greatest difficulty was experienced in extending efficient aid to the sufferers. A large quantity of carbolic acid, bandages, and such things, was quickly sent; and at the same time, 15 doctors and 15 nurses were expressly engaged and despatched to the scene of disaster. Even this proved insufficient, in consequence of the multitude of sufferers, but how to meet the urgent need of the moment was a perplexing problem, the number of medical practitioners in this prefecture being from the first comparatively small. At this juncture, 12 surgeons from the Second Military Division, and 7 doctors, 2 pharmacists, and 28 nurses from the Red Cross Society, arrived, and were forwarded to one or other of the afflicted districts. But the ambulance staff still proved inadequate, and on the arrival of a party of troops belonging to the Sendai Engineering Corps, one surgeon from the same Division, and five physicians and one nurse from the Fukushima Branch of the Red Cross Society, the detachment from the Sendai Barracks was hurried forward to Miyako, and the physicians from Fukushima were distributed to other places. In addition to the above, a number of medical men have been requisitioned from towns and villages adjoining the afflicted districts, and drugs, instruments, and other matters needed in surgical operations are being forwarded to places where they are wanted. Further, in order to give prompt relief to survivors suffering from starvation, more than 1,000 *koku* of rice have been sent with all speed to the scene of the disaster.

The extent of the calamity, as classified according to the respective districts, is as follows:—

KISEN DISTRICT.

The area of devastation was widest in this district, and the damage was consequently considerable. In the hamlet called Matsugaura, one of the group that collectively form Hirata-mura, the wave wrecked houses standing at a height of 50 feet above the sea, and boats were swept inland to elevations not less high. The police-barrack was washed away; the police constable on duty was badly injured, and his family was carried out to sea. In Snekaki-mura, the same fate overtook the police barrack, and the constable on duty, together with

his family, 6 persons, were lost. In Ofunawatari the telegraph poles along the coast, through a distance of 2,160 yards, were entirely levelled, and in Koto-mura, more than 450 acres of arable land were devastated. In Ayasato-mura, so tremendous was the force of destruction that the bodies of the dead had their skulls crushed or their upper or lower limbs broken or torn away. Out of the whole staff of the village office, only the Headman escaped; the school-house and the police-barracks were washed away, and the constable on duty and his family were all killed. In Okiri-mura, the police-barrack was annihilated and the constable and his family drowned. The school-house was also washed away but one of its teachers, Sato Jiu, succeeded in carrying to a place of safety, even before he looked after his own family, the Emperor's picture. In Toni the disaster was conspicuously severe. Not only were the police-barracks washed away and the constable and his family carried off by the wave, but out of a population of some 2,800 souls, 2,100 were killed.

Detailed statements of casualties to life and property in the district:—

Place.	Original Population.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Wounded.
Kisen	3,651	23	10
Takata	3,489	3	unknown.
Yonezaki	3,460	12	2
Kotomo	2,519	260	14
Hirota	3,102	500	11
Suiezaki	2,965	606	30
Ofunawatari	2,304	780	35
Akasaki	2,085	448	68
Ayari	2,803	1,458	59
Okiri	2,449	411	60
Yoshihama	1,075	215	9
Toni	2,807	2,100	20

Total

Place.	Original No. of Houses.	No. of Houses carried away or wrecked.
Kisen	569	35
Takata	616	unknown.
Yonezaki	350	11
Kotomo	381	70
Hirota	469	163
Suiezaki	400	191
Ofunawatari	306	105
Akasaki	389	172
Ayari	451	285
Okiri	322	113
Yoshihama	133	32
Toni	474	341

Total

MINAMI-HEI DISTRICT.

The extent of area devastated in this district is considerably smaller than that of the above, but the casualties to life were far more serious relatively. In the Kisen district, the deaths in one town and eleven villages aggregated 6,800; while in the Minami-Hei district they were above 6,600, though only two towns and one village were struck by the wave. Kamaishi was a town of some 1,200 houses, and over 6,000 inhabitants. All the houses, except a hundred or thereabouts, were washed away; the streets being turned into a mass of ruins, and the corpses of the dead being strewn everywhere. Farms along the coast were over-laid with mud, and the Police Office, the Post and Telegraph Office, and six School-buildings were swept away. One police constable was killed, and the inspector and other members of the Office were all seriously wounded. One expert of the Post and Telegraph Office escaped unhurt, and a few hours subsequently, he placed a reserve instrument in working order, and managed to re-establish communications which had been temporarily suspended. The damage at Otsuchi-machi and Usamai-mura was equally terrible.

Place.	Original Population.	Deaths.	Wounded.
Kamaishi	6,557	4,700	500
Usamai	3,147	1,069	190
Otsuchi	6,555	900	724

Total

Place.	Original no. of Houses.	House washed away or wrecked.
Kamaishi	1,223	1,080
Usamai	511	350
Otsuchi	1,192	369

Totals

HIGASHI-HEI DISTRICT.

In this District Taro suffered most from the wave, which rose there to a height of above 100 ft. So irresistible was the force of the water that more than 100 pine trees, measuring two spans in circumference, were broken off at the base, and a sailing vessel was cast on the side of a hill, 140 yards from the beach. The officials in the Village Office and the school teachers were all drowned, the police-barrack was carried away, and two constables, together with their families, were drowned. In Omoni-mura, the place where the police-barrack stood was converted into a desert, and the only thing that remained was the roof of the Village Headman's house, crushed into the side of a hill. Ships and boats were entirely swept away or wrecked, and the police constable on duty, and his family, were drowned. The disaster was not less severe in Funakoshi-mura, where the village office, the police barrack, and the school building were carried away; the police constable on duty was badly injured, and his family were destroyed. In Yamada-machi, the Police Office was wrecked, more than 1,000 people were killed, and fire that broke out after the seismic calamity burned to death more than 40 of the survivors.

Towns and villages.	Original Population.	Deaths.	Wounded.
Funakoshi (vill.)	2,295	1,327	701
Orikasa (vill.)	1,800	67	50
Yamada (town)	3,746	1,040	150
Ozawa (vill.)	1,036	550	57
Omoni (vill.)	1,493	709	33
Tsugaruishi (vill.)	2,618	1	3
Iso-dori (vill.)	1,996	90	54
Kuwagasaki (vill.)	3,459	100	33
Miyako (town)	5,157	12	unknown
Yakiyama (vill.)	681	160	12
Taro (vill.)	3,747	2,655	277

Totals

Towns and villages.	Original No. of Houses.	No. of Houses swept away or wrecked.
Funakoshi (vill.)	474	371
Orikasa (vill.)	303	105
Yamada (town)	782	359
Ozawa (vill.)	196	199
Omoni (vill.)	236	159
Tsugaruishi (vill.)	434	8
Iso dori (vill.)	365	109
Kuwagasaki (vill.)	701	300
Miyako (town)	993	20
Yakiyama (vill.)	155	45
Taro (vill.)	666	130

Total

KITA-HEI DISTRICT.

In Fushiro-mura one clerk of the village office was killed, the police-barrack was washed away, and the police constable on duty and his family were drowned. In Komoto the police-office was also washed away, and though the police constable was miraculously saved, his wife and children were lost.

Place.	Original Population.	Deaths.	Wounded.
Komoto-mura	2,090	307	257
Tanohata-mura	3,025	303	15
Fushino-mura	2,038	1,010	153

Totals

Place.	Original Number of Houses.	Houses Carried away or wrecked.
Komoto-mura	386	150
Tanohata-mura	465	47
Fushino-mura	330	95

Totals

MINAMI-KUNOHE DISTRICT.

The police-barrack in Noda-mura was washed away. The police constable escaped, but his family were drowned. In Kuji the disaster was most severe. The village office, school building, and police-barrack were wrecked, and three of the family of the police constable on duty were drowned:—

Place.	Original Population.	Deaths.	Wounded.
Kuji-machi	4,072	400	344
Ube-mura	2,244	185	140
Noda-mura	2,590	319	69
Osauchi-mura	2,719	127	101
Natsui-mura	1,803	43	40

Totals

Place.	Original Number of Houses.	Houses Carried away or wrecked.
Kuji-machi	657	100
Ube-mura	328	48
Noda-mura	411	120
Osauchi-mura	472	52
Natsui-mura	265	unknown

Totals

KITA-KUNOHE DISTRICT.

The damage in Taneichi and Nakano was considerable, but owing to the topography of the district and also to the reduced force of the wave, the casualties were not so serious as in Kisen and other districts:—

Place.	Original Population.	Deaths.	Wounded.
Matsushima-mura	1,397	85	53
Nakano-mura	1,695	106	62
Taneichi-mura	4,685	175	60

Totals

Place.	Original Number of Houses.	Houses Carried away or wrecked.
Matsushima-mura	185	50
Nakano-mura	228	53
Taneichi-mura	4,450	655

Totals

The damage to village offices, school buildings, and arable land, as well as the number of ships and boats lost and wrecked, have yet to be ascertained.

Summarizing the foregoing report from the Governor of Iwate, we find the casualties to life and property to be as follow:—

District.	Original Census.	Population.	Houses.	Casualties to human beings.
Kisen	33,609	4,860	6,816	318
Minami Hei	16,259	2,926	6,669	1,414
Higashi Hei	28,328	5,308	6,704	1,370
Kita Hei	7,153	1,181	1,680	425
Minami Kunohe	13,448	2,133	1,074	694
Kita Kunohe	7,777	1,068	366	175

Total

District.	Washed away.	Casualties to Houses.
Kisen	1,518	361
Minami Hei	1,799	unknown.
Higashi Hei	1,802	335
Kita Hei	298	238
Minami Kunohe	320	unknown.
Kita Kunohe	113	unknown.

Total

Latest researches have resulted in a reduction of the total casualties. Investigations carried up to 6 p.m. on the 21st inst., put the deaths at 23,416, whereas they are now given as 23,309. According to telegrams given in the Tokyo papers, this diminution is said to be due to the fact that more than 100 persons, stranded upon islands, have been discovered and taken off by the war-vessel *Tatsuta*.

Thus, according to the latest official reports, the casualties to life and property in the afflicted districts, including Hokkaido, stand as follow:—

Place.	Deaths.	Wounded.	Houses Washed away or wrecked.
Iwate	23,309	4,396	7,429
Miyagi	3,314	776	1,396
Aomori	340	213	465
Hokkaido	6	5	25

Total

The special correspondent of the *Shogyo* estimates the damage to boats and fishing gear, that were washed away or destroyed by the wave, at 250,000 yen in Miyagi, 540,000 yen in Iwate, and 90,000 yen in Aomori, all in round numbers. If to these figures be added the damage to cultivated fields, to houses, and the loss of other valuables as well as cash, the whole must reach a very large figure. The fishing industry alone in each of the three districts produced over 1½ million yen a year, on the average, and this has been seriously crippled, especially in Iwate, owing to the destruction of the fishermen and their implements.

Besides disbursements from the Local Relief Fund, 50,000 yen to Iwate and 10,000 yen to Miyagi have been allotted from the Central Relief Fund. The employment of these Relief Funds is, however, subject to various restrictive conditions. For instance, the fund can not be used except to provide rations of food to sufferers disabled by calamity, or to pay taxes, or for the purpose of erecting temporary shelter and

purchasing agricultural implements and seeds. The sufferers from the last calamity being fishermen and not farmers, the letter of the Relief Fund Law, strictly considered, does not allow the Authorities to apply the money for the purchase of fishing implements. The only other Law applicable to such a case, is the Paupers Law, issued in 1874, which grants relief to widowers or widows, about 70 years of age, who have no one to look after them and are incapacitated, either from sickness or age, from pursuing business, or to persons under 15 years who are sick, or orphans under 13 years, the grant of rice under this law being at the rate of 3 *go* for one man and 2 *go* for one woman. It is evident that both the Relief Fund Law and the Paupers Law are inadequate to meet the present requirements, and the only seemingly lawful alternative is to make an appropriation from the Surplus Revenue as an outlay of urgent character.

This relief question is inviting serious attention from the Government and from political parties. We read in the *Tokyo Asahi* that the Government and the Radicals think it advisable to make appropriations out of the Relief Fund and the Surplus Revenue, in the form of disbursements of an extraordinary and urgent nature, while the Progressive Party have arrived at the conclusion, in a meeting held on the 27th instant by members staying in Tokyo, that an extraordinary session of the Diet must be convoked to deal with the question. The National Unionists intend to formulate a definite conclusion when their representative despatched to the scene of disaster to inspect the actual state of affairs, returns to Tokyo and submits his report on what he has observed.

Surgeons of the Sendai Barrack engaged in the devastated districts report that the majority of the wounded are suffering from injuries inflicted by baulks of timber or wreckage of houses, and that the inflammation of the lungs by which many are attacked, is also ascribable, for the most part, to external injuries. Long immersion in the water and the subsequent wearing of wet clothes must have made the survivors susceptible to cold, resulting in the catarrh of the throat and so forth. External injuries are chiefly on the head and the limbs, especially the feet, and there are many cases of sprains and bruises as well as serious hurts to the thorax and spine. The wounds are, for the most part, in a purulent state, and accompanied by fever. The report from Aomori says that the majority of cases are inflammation of the lungs, caused by drinking sea-water impregnated with fish-manure or fish-oil. Those who did not drink much do not, for the moment, show any such symptoms, but even these are liable to develop the same trouble after the lapse of one or two weeks. It is expected therefore that the number of patients will greatly increase, as compared with what it is at present.

THE SEISMIC WAVE AT THE BONIN ISLANDS.

A letter received by Professor Clay MacCaulley from the Bonin Islands, under date June 19th, says:—"We had a tidal wave here two or three mornings ago. We, in our house, did not feel it, being asleep at the time, but a friend lost some turtles through it. The disturbance was very gentle, but close observation showed that the stones at the bottom of the sea became visible and invisible at short intervals during two days." There is an unfortunate vagueness about the language of the writer, but evidently had the wave occurred the day but one before the letter was penned (*i.e.* the 17th of June), the expression "two or three mornings ago" would scarcely have been employed, neither would a disturbance ended the preceding evening have been referred to as a thing of the past. It seems fair to assume that the writer alludes to the morning of the 16th—the very early morning, since the people of the Bonins were still in bed. Even on that hypothesis, however, the information is puzzling. The Bonins lie almost on the same meridian of longitude as the region of Japan that suffered, and the distance is only

750 miles. The records obtained from Hawaii indicate that the wave crossed the Pacific at an average speed of 540 miles an hour, and as the speed must have diminished in proportion to the distance from the origin of disturbance, the wave ought to have reached the Bonin Islands within about an hour of its impact against the shores of Iwate Prefecture. Yet the early morning is spoken of as the time of its coming. Further, its magnitude and force at the Bonins were evidently less than they were at the most northern island of the Hawaiian group. In other words, its impetus in a direct southerly line became virtually exhausted within a distance of 700 or 800 miles. We also know that when it struck Cape Erimo, which is only 200 miles north of Kamaishi, its destructive energy had already dwindled to comparative insignificance. Thus, speaking broadly, the direct north-and-south component of the initial force was almost dissipated within a total distance of twelve or thirteen hundred miles at most, whereas the component along the Kamaishi-Kanai line—*i.e.* a line travelling some fifteen points south of east—retained destructive energy through a distance of over 3,000 miles. All this would consist with the theory of a great seismic disturbance exercised in a definite direction at the bottom of the ocean—a disturbance similar to that exhibited at Bandaisan, when the whole of the country on one side of a mountain was devastated, that on the other remaining unharmed.

CURRENT TOPICS.

We are told by the *Asahi* that the Imperial Estates Sales Committee has decided to grant a sum of about 70,000 *yen* to the people of Sado, and 50,000 *yen* to the people of Ikuno, to reconcile them to the transfer of the mines in those places.

The Court has appointed the following artists to form a Fine Arts Committee of the Royal Household, on the recommendation of Baron Kuki, Privy Councillor and President of the Imperial Museum:—

Painting: Messrs. Kishi Chikudo, Yamana Tsurayoshi, Kawabata Gyokusho.
Architecture: Mr. Ito Heizayemon.
Glyptic work in Metals: Mr. Umio Shomin.
Keramics: Mr. Miyagawa Kozan.
Cloisonné Enamel (Shippo): Messrs. Namikawa Sosuke and Namikawa Yasuyuki.
Bronze casting: Mr. Suzuki Chokichi.
Lacquer: Messrs. Kawanobe Heizayemon and Ikeda Taishin.

It was by the special approval of the Emperor that the above nominations were made.

Statistics of joint-stock companies coming under the direct control of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, are published:—

AT THE END OF 1895.		
		Capital, Yen.
Commercial	622 companies...	57,168,500.200
Industrial	519 companies...	74,585,456.500
Agricultural	76 companies...	1,884,475.450
Totals	1,217	133,638,343.150

COMPANIES NEWLY ESTABLISHED BETWEEN JAN. AND MAY, 1896.		
Commercial	68	10,558,500.000
Industrial	138	30,050,300.000
Agricultural	2	4,000.000
Totals	208	40,618,300.000

COMPANIES WHOSE CAPITAL WAS INCREASED DURING THE SAME PERIOD.		
Commercial	19	4,470,000.000
Industrial	22	2,769,000.000
Totals	41	7,239,000.000

Summing up this above we have:—

NO. OF COMPANIES.		
Commercial	690	72,197,000.000
Industrial	657	107,410,256.500
Agricultural	78	1,888,475.450
Total	1,425	181,495,732.150

Companies that went into liquidation between January and May of the current year, or were

dissolved, or disappeared from other causes, were as follows:—

DISSOLVED OR PUT IN LIQUIDATION.		
Commercial	10	531,500.000
Industrial	5	123,000.000
Total	15	654,500.000

DISAPPEARED FROM OTHER CAUSES.

Commercial	1	55.00.000
Industrial	3	182,000.000
Agricultural	1	4,500.000
Total	19	843,740.000

Summing up the above we have:—

NO. OF COMPANIES.		
Commercial	11	1,194,240.000
Industrial	5	305,000.000
Agricultural	1	4,500.000
Totals	17	1,503,440.000

Deducting the latter totals from the former we have:—

NO. OF COMPANIES.		
Commercial	679	71,002,760.000
Industrial	652	107,105,256.500
Agricultural	78	1,883,975.450
Totals	1,109	179,991,992.150

The problem of reconstructing the building of the Imperial Diet, is again on the *tapis*. The present edifices being flimsy affairs, intended only to satisfy temporary requirements, are not expected to last more than two years longer. Two sites have been proposed, on the open space in front of the Kyobashi, within the castle grounds; another the unoccupied plot in front of the General Staff Office. However, the consent of the Imperial Household for employing the former site cannot be easily obtained, so that the second locality must of necessity be chosen. The next question is whether to erect a permanent or a temporary building. A permanent building would require, it is estimated, a sum of over 3 million *yen*, whereas one million would suffice for a temporary edifice.

In either case, the work can not be completed in one or two years, and the Authorities are very anxious to discover whether the present buildings can be made to last until the new are completed. It is believed that a Budget asking for the necessary appropriation will be submitted in the Diet next session.

For some unexplained reason, the Nihonbashi Election Section has been represented, from the first opening of the Diet, by candidates identified with one party or other of the Opposition. The electors have recently been consulting as to whom they should return in succession to Baron Kusumoto, whose elevation to the Peerage disqualifies him to sit in the Lower House. Their choice has at last fallen on Mr. Hamaguchi Kichiyemon, a wholesale dealer in soy and table salt, residing in that quarter of Tokyo, who has promised to espouse the cause of the Opposition. The electors have always been undivided, and Mr. Hamaguchi will doubtless be elected unopposed.

HIGH-PRICED PROVISIONS AND IMPROVIDENCE.

So long as public interest remains centered on the terrible events in the north-east, we shall read in the vernacular newspapers a great many startling stories, difficult either to credit or to discount. For example, the *Chuo Shimbun* says that so great was the scarcity of provisions in the Ta-no-hama hamlet in Iwate Prefecture, that 5 *yen* was paid for a ball of rice made up in the form of *nigiri-meshi*. The purchaser is further represented as having bought three balls for 15 *yen*, and still remained hungry.

By way of rider to the above, we are informed by the same journal that in the village of Taro, the people being very well-to-do, nearly every household possessed one or two hundred *yen*. Instead of lodging the money in a savings bank, they kept it in small boxes in their households, and very little of it now remains.

SHIPPING NEWS.

We have already mentioned that it is in contemplation to open regular services to Australia and Bombay, two out of the four special routes remaining to be subsidized. With reference to the Vladivostock and Korsakoff services, an advertisement has appeared in the *Official Gazette*, inviting contracts, but as the remaining two, namely, Bombay and Australia, demand arrangements of greater magnitude, arrangements that the Yusen Kaisha alone is capable of undertaking, overtures have already been made to that company by the Department of Communications, and the matter is now in process of negotiation. It is expected that an understanding will easily be arrived at, inasmuch as the Yusen Kaisha has been carrying on a service to Bombay for some time, and its already planned programme includes the establishment of a service to Australia. The subsidies to be granted for those two services are said to be as follow:—

	For the latter half of 1896.	Subsidy per annum till the 31st year of Meiji.
	Yen.	Yen.
Australia ...	175,109.035	350,218.070
Bombay.....	99,142.695	198,285.389

The total of subsidies and bounties to be received by the Yusen Kaisha is estimated at above 5 million yen, of which about 1½ millions fall under the head of subsidies and over 3½ millions under that of bounties, as shown below:—

EXISTING SHIPS.

Routes.	No. of Ships.	No. of Services.	Subsidies.	Bounties.
Existing foreign or domestic routes under contract with the government, and extraordinary domestic services ...	51	—	886,300.000	—
Manila ...	1	—	—	15,914.304
Hongkong & Vladivostock ...	12	—	—	36,805.949
Bombay ...	3	18	198,285.390	—
Bombay special service... 1	4	—	—	47,005.056
Australia ...	5	28	350,218.070	—
America ...	5	28	—	381,452.298
Foreign Service & Brazil ...	1	0	—	518,777.310

NEW STEAMERS.

New Steamers.	Speed.	Average Tonnage.	Bounties.
	Knots.	Tons.	
Australia ... 3	22	45	288,596.000
America ... 3	23	24	4,500
Europe ... 18	24	24	479,500.000
			5,800
Total ... 18	48	—	2,114,404.464
Grand Total 83 (not yet fixed.)			3,969,435.275

Since the sum that the Yusen Kaisha alone is to receive amounts to such a large figure, it is easy to understand that the whole outlay attending the operation of the Laws for Encouraging Navigation and Shipbuilding, when the sums paid to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha are taken into account, will aggregate over seven million yen. There is further to be considered the services that the Oriental Steamship Company purposes opening a year or two hence, to America and Europe. If that programme be carried out, the annual disbursements from the Treasury for promoting maritime enterprise will eventually exceed 10 million yen, assuming that the rates provided in the laws are strictly adhered to.

One of the causes, we read in the *Yiji*, why disasters to ships are now so much more frequent than in previous years is incompetence on the part of the officers. It would seem that the recent sudden increase in the number of Japanese-owned ships has resulted in the employment of captains and mates who carry licenses obtained in virtue of their experiences alone, and have not graduated in any regular course of navigation, or passed any examination, and who, prior to this unexpected demand for ship's officers, had been superseded by the younger generation of regularly trained seamen. These antiquated mariners were engaged in one business or another, but scarcity of men to navigate vessels and a consequent rise in seamen's emoluments, induced them to come forward once more for service at sea. Owners of ships are warned by our contemporary to pay more attention to the qualifications of the officers to whom they entrust the charge of life and property.

THE QUESTION OF LAND LEASES.

In the *Osaka Asahi* we find the judgment given by the Osaka Appeal Court in the case that recently caused so much comment, between a Portuguese-American lessee and a Japanese land-owner in Kobe. Some years ago, the Supreme Court of Japan placed on record a pronouncement that whenever foreigners held land from Japanese under perpetual leases, no special agreement existing as to the immutability of the rent, it is perfectly consonant with the fundamental principles of justice that the rent be considered alterable, in conformity with the rates ruling in the market. This judgment of the Supreme Court has been constantly availed of by Japanese land-owners, and suits claiming the right of raising rents have been brought before the Law Courts. Foreign lessees, as a rule, have managed to evade the obligation defined by the Supreme Court. Taking advantage of the absence of any provision in Japanese Law enabling Japanese lessors to obtain an attachment against the property of foreigners, the latter—in Kobe for example—set the regulations of the *Kencho* at naught, and with the approval of the foreign Consuls, transferred their leases to other foreigners, thus seeking to elude the claims preferred against them by the Japanese lessors. The judgment recently given by the Osaka Court of Appeal in a case of that nature that had risen between two Kobe lessors and a Portuguese lessee, formally condemns the practice resorted to by foreigners. It declares that the transfer of a lease, if not endorsed by the Local Office, is null and void, and that, as the appellant in the suit continued to stand in the relation of lessee towards the respondents, he must submit to have his rent duly raised. It may be added that the judgment of the lower Court had been in the same sense.

Such are the Osaka journal's comments. It sometimes seems quite idle to hope that the conduct and motives of foreigners can escape the grossest misrepresentation at the hands of Japanese journalists. Here we have the *Osaka Asahi* writing as though there had been a deliberate attempt on the part of foreign land-renters to defraud their Japanese landlords and evade the just provisions of law. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Speaking generally, foreigners that had leased lands direct from private Japanese owners outside the original limits of the Settlements, entertained no conception whatever that their rents, fixed in perpetuity, as they supposed, were liable to readjustment according to appreciations in the average price of adjacent lands. When that fact was brought home to them suddenly by the judgment of a law Court, they were taken completely by surprise. Hitherto they had considered their leases virtually their own property, to hold or to transfer as they pleased, and their action with regard to them had been perfectly upright. Naturally they demurred to what they regarded as an unwarrantable interference with their rights of property, and though they now recognise the justice of the principle on which the judgment of the Japanese tribunals is based, it is extravagant to suppose that they could have recognised it merely in obedience to the dictum of a Japanese landlord. The *Asahi* writes as though disputes of this nature had been of common occurrence, as though the question had long been on the *sapir*, and as though foreigners had constantly resorted to the device of transferring their leases in order, dishonestly, to evade their obligation. That is untrue and unjust. The transfer of a lease could not have affected the landlord's rights in any way, nor does it appear that anything of the kind was ever attempted with such an object. In the very case that forms the basis of our Osaka contemporary's comments, there was a transfer, not of lease but of ownership, and not on the foreigners' side but on that of the Japanese. It was a transfer made evidently with the object of facilitating a demand for increased rent, and to impartial observers it bore a very questionable aspect. Before, therefore, the *Asahi* spoke of transfers, it should have ascertained, for its own sake, on which steed the saddle sat. There is

no fault whatever to be found with foreign lessees in the matter. They have never wilfully evaded their obligation, and will always be ready to satisfy it when they understand it properly and on good authority.

ACCIDENT TO THE IMPERIAL CORTÈGE.

We read in the *Tokyo Asahi* an account of an accident which occurred to the Imperial cortège when the Emperor visited the Riding School at Meguro-mura on the 29th ultimo. That morning the cortège left the Palace at half past eight, and as the route lay across the track of the Nippon Railway at Shibuya Station, a message was sent a day previously to the Shinjuku Police Office, under whose jurisdiction the district falls. The latter therefore, despatched a notice to the Shibuya Station-master, directing him to keep the line clear when the cortège was to pass, an essential precaution, inasmuch as, according to the time table, a train was to arrive at Shibuya from Shinjuku at the very hour when the cortège was expected to reach the former place. A red flag was duly displayed on a post erected close by the station, and a workman was also sent to wave another danger signal up the track, some 300 yards from the station. Presently the cortège approached the line, but just as it was about to cross, the train from Akabane for Shinagawa came on at its usual speed, the driver and guard entirely unconscious of the red signal displayed from the post. Nor did the efforts of the workman to attract the attention of the careless conductor prove successful, though he waved the red signal frantically. By the time that the train had come close to the signal-man, the mounted gendarme in the van of the cortège and four mounted Police-inspectors that followed, two and two, had already crossed the track, and others were about to follow. The signal-man struck the engine with the handle of the flag, whereupon the driver, who must have been in a somnolent condition, became conscious for the first time of what was in progress. He strove to check the train, but its impetus carried it forward until it had passed through the cortège, and totally obstructed its advance. The engine was then ordered to steam on, and after a delay of a minute or so, the procession passed over the line. It is said that when the train appeared in sight, the people standing on both sides of the road to see the cortège pass, raised a loud cry of alarm. Indeed, had the cortège reached the spot half a minute earlier, it is impossible to tell what consequences might not have ensued. After the moment of intense suspense, the bystanders burst into a lusty cheer of "*Bansai*." The Chief of the Shinjuku Police hastened to the spot when the news reached him, and made strict inquiry into the cause of the affair. He and his subordinates, who were on duty that day at Shibuya, tendered their resignations to the Metropolitan Police Board the same day.

SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

We resume from to-day our monthly summaries of the Religious Press, the preparation and publication of which have been interrupted for some time owing to causes that baffled our control. We also purpose to publish, about the middle of every month, a summary of magazine and current literature.

MOJI FORT.

Moji Fort, which has for some time been in process of construction, on the Hayadomoye promontory, is now completed, says the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun*, and has received its armament of 25-cent. guns. They were duly and successfully tried on the 25th instant. These guns are capable of piercing 16 inches of armour. They would prove very formidable to any ship attempting to pass the Shimonoseki Straits.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO RELIEVE THE SEISMIC-WAVE SUFFERERS.

IF our readers will look at the list of subscribers to the Seismic Wave Relief Fund, as published in these columns, they will see that a hundred and sixteen names are recorded, and that the total subscribed is \$3,739, making an average of over \$32 per subscriber. That is a very remarkable figure. On the occasion of the Gifu earthquake, we showed that the sum put up by charitable foreigners in Yokohama amounted to no less an average than \$7 per head of the whole community, the Chinese of course excluded. That, also, was a most remarkable figure. But each case invites one very obvious comment; it is, that the subscribers are virtually limited to the "Taipans," and to what may be called the upper strata of the foreign residents. The clerks, the small store-keepers, the small retail dealers, the masters of drinking saloons, the handicraftsmen, and so forth, are conspicuous by their absence. Why is that, we wonder. It cannot be possible that these people are altogether wanting in the sentiment of charity. In truth, their more intimate acquaintance with the hardships of life generally educates their sympathies, and renders them readier to help the indigent than are men actuated merely by abstract principles of benevolence. *Neither is it conceivable that they are wholly too impecunious to give something.* That can be a question of degree only. If a leading mercantile firm gives one, two or three hundred dollars, a clerk can surely afford one, two or three dollars, and the various elements of the community's substrata can subscribe proportionately small amounts. But they subscribe scarcely anything at all. Missionaries with wives and families to support on an income of ninety or a hundred dollars monthly, contribute ten, fifteen or twenty dollars, but clerks with much better salaries and no one whatever depending on them, contribute nothing. It is singular. One explanation only presents itself—a very unwelcome explanation; namely, that charity in such cases is checked by vanity. Reluctant to invite comparison as to the inferiority of their resources, many folks prefer to stand aloof altogether. The greatest teacher of ethics that the world has ever seen, administered a most refined rebuke to that kind of self-consciousness when he appraised the Widow's mite so much higher than the rich man's talent. Looking at the vernacular journals, we find long lists, published daily, in which contributions of ten, twenty or thirty *sen* occupy as honourable a place as the thousands of *yen* subscribed by the IWASAKI or the MITSUI. But in the Yokohama and Tokyo foreign residents' list, only three names stand for less than five dollars. Altogether, the subscribers that have sent

in money to the three principal newspapers aggregate 273 out of a community of some twenty-five hundred, and their subscriptions amount to \$7,808, an average of \$28.60 a head. Thus we have a small but remarkably munificent minority, and an apparently indifferent or uncharitable majority. It is a nice subject for reflection.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

(COMMUNICATED).

WILLIAM MCKINLEY has just been nominated for the high honour of President of the United States of America, by the Republican National Convention assembled at St. Louis—a memorable and decisive victory. He has been opposed by the leading and most skilful politicians, throughout the country; the big political machines in all the leading States have been used to their utmost capacity to defeat him; but without promises to place-hunters or pledges to any man, MCKINLEY has triumphed. In the history of the Republican party, extending over forty years, no man has ever been so nearly the unanimous choice of the party as he. Not less than nine-tenths of the party favoured him. No doubt, this is in large part due to his being the great representative and champion of the protective tariff idea, but to that must be added the thorough confidence of the people in his integrity as a man, and his honesty and ability as a statesman. He is a typical representative of sturdy American manhood as well as the Champion of Protection. He was born at Niles, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1844; the son of a manufacturer of some means and standing in that community. He studied at the common schools and at Poland Academy. His studies, however, were interrupted by the breaking out of the great American Civil War, at the very beginning of which MCKINLEY, with patriotic zeal, enlisted as a private soldier, though but seventeen years of age. The Ohio regiment, of which he became a member, seems destined to become celebrated not only for its determined fighting, but for having contained within its ranks two men destined to become President of the United States—RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, for some time its Colonel, afterward Major-General and President, and WILLIAM MCKINLEY, who, after serving throughout the war and rising to the full rank of Captain, was breveted Major by President LINCOLN for gallantry displayed in many desperate and bloody battles. After the war, MCKINLEY studied law, and removing to Canton, Ohio, where he has even since resided, was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Stack County in 1869. In 1876, he was elected to Congress, and continued to be re-elected every two years for fourteen years. He was led by the interests of his district to make a special study of the Tariff, and soon came to be looked upon

as one of its ablest advocates on the floors of Congress. In 1888, when the Republicans elected GEN. HARRISON as President, they also gained control of both Houses of Congress, and MCKINLEY became one of the two leading contestants for Speaker of the Lower House. He was, however, defeated by a few votes by the present speaker, THOMAS B. REED. Mr. REED, however, at once appointed MCKINLEY, Chairman of the most important Committee, that of Ways and Means, and he was recognized as the leader of the majority in the Lower House. In this capacity he was instrumental in drawing up, advocating, and defending the bill which became known the world over as the MCKINLEY Tariff Bill. It was one of the most important pieces of legislation in the history of the country, and its merits or defects, as the case may be, are the merits or defects of Protection as a system. At any rate, the measure proved entirely too radical to suit the temper of the people, and at the next election the Republicans were everywhere badly beaten, MCKINLEY himself failing to return to Congress. This latter failure, however, was brought about by the Democratic Legislature of Ohio changing his district so as to make it overwhelmingly Democratic. Even then he was only beaten by some 300 votes. That was in 1890. In 1891, the people of his own State, Ohio, rewarded him by electing him Governor, by over 21,000 plurality. The defeated Democrat, CAMPBELL, had been elected two years before by over 10,000 plurality. The issue was Protection, and CAMPBELL, being one of the ablest Democratic statesmen in the country, the incident was looked upon as a great vindication of MCKINLEY. But the election, two years later (1893), was even more so. Again the issue was Protection and the money question—the Democratic Candidate being for free coinage of silver and MCKINLEY for sound money, and MCKINLEY triumphed by more than 80,000 plurality—the largest obtained by any man in Ohio since the War. After the close of his second term as Governor of Ohio, MCKINLEY lived quietly in his home at Canton, but the masses of the Republican party throughout the country have been enthusiastically naming him for President. This is not the first time MCKINLEY has had advocates who urged his claims to this high office. In 1888, almost two years before the MCKINLEY bill was framed, MCKINLEY went to Chicago as the leader of the Ohio delegation to the Republican Convention, which met to nominate a candidate for President. No candidate had anywhere near a majority and the mention of MCKINLEY as a dark horse was received with great enthusiasm, and those who ought to know said he could have been nominated. The man was most determined, however, in his refusal to allow his name to go before the Convention, considering that it would

be charged against him as dishonourable if he, who was there as the chief advocate of JOHN SHERMAN, should himself receive the honour. He declared his position in a short and manly speech to the Convention. HARRISON was finally nominated. Again, in 1892, MCKINLEY was the real hero of the Republican Convention. He was made permanent Chairman, and though refusing to allow his name to be put before the Convention, almost 200 delegates insisted on voting for him. Every one knew that he would be a prominent candidate this year, but few realized what a profound hold he had taken upon the mind of the people. One of his acts which greatly strengthened this hold was his honourable and manly conduct under personal misfortune while serving as Governor of Ohio. A business friend in Ohio having failed, it was found that about 75,000 dollars of his paper had been endorsed by Mr. MCKINLEY. He hastened to make good every dollar of this obligation. The payment swept away all his savings, and it was even necessary, in order to pay it all, that his wife should sacrifice her own property—upon which there was no legal claim. In all this he showed his true character and gained much in public esteem, and in the end lost little in money, for friends finally came forward and rescued his property—an action honourable alike to them and to him. It is sterling honesty and high integrity that the people of America want to see in their President, even more than brilliant qualities of statesmanship. Not that MCKINLEY is lacking in this respect, however, for he is an all-round man and a statesman of high rank. The writer of this sketch is not a member of Mr. MCKINLEY's party, does not believe in a high protective tariff, does not suppose he should vote for him if he was at home in the United States, and writes therefore without prejudice in honour of a great and good man. It is to the credit of the United States that none but good men have ever been elected President—WILLIAM MCKINLEY will mark no exception. J.W.D.

THEATRICALS IN TOKYO.

According to rumour there is some chance that the private theatricals performed recently at the French Legation in Tokyo may be publicly repeated in the cause of charity. We trust that report may prove correct in this instance, for the unanimous verdict was that better acting has never been seen on an amateur stage in the East.

A HEAVY LOSS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* alleges that during the night of the 26th instant, an American gentleman staying with his wife in the Kinkiro, an inn at Enoshima, was robbed of two cheques for twenty thousand and three thousand dollars, and of eight *yen* in Japanese currency. The police are said to be prosecuting vigorous inquiries.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The Christian press furnishes abundant proof that churches of all denominations are engaged in a struggle, in one form or other, with the current of Japanese nationalism and self-assertion. It is of course one of the main objects of foreign missionaries to render the Japanese churches pecuniarily independent of foreign support; and among Protestant missionaries, at any rate, there is a general desire to avoid the imposition of burdensome formularies and practices that do not constitute an essential part of Christianity. The principle that it is not necessary that an Oriental Church should be an exact imitation of its Western models is generally acknowledged, and numerous concessions are constantly made in response to proposals advanced by native churches. As an illustration of the truth of this remark, we may quote a few lines from Bishop Bickersteth's pastoral letter, published in May last. Referring to the recent decision of a Synod of Bishops, whereby the 39 articles of the Church of England were excluded from the Japanese Prayer Book, Bishop Bickersteth says:—"Now the 39 articles have no oecumenical authority. They are English of the English, an outcome of the special circumstances of the Church of England in the 16th century. . . . They are not, and do not profess to be, a complete statement of Christian doctrine, and were certainly never intended by their compilers to be imposed as a standard of orthodoxy outside the British Isles. Further, speaking generally, the imposition of elaborate doctrinal standards, as distinguished from the brief devotional enumeration in a creed of the facts of belief, is an evidence of weakness." The Bishop adds, "Though the East is but little concerned in Western controversies, it has and always will have its own modes of thought, its own problems, its own difficulties; and this being so, it would seem that the doctrinal confession of an Eastern Church, if its formulation be deemed requisite, should be the work of Oriental theologians, be racy of the soil, spring out of a surrounding of Eastern circumstances and carry to those who study it the obvious meaning of its own allusions and references." Though all this, and a great deal more, is admitted by the majority of foreign missionaries, there is a general feeling that the demands for freedom of thought and action constantly made by Japanese churches are fraught with danger, in that they are apt to be extended so as to include liberty to decide on the doctrines of the Church which it is necessary for a Japanese to accept in order to be enrolled as a member. "I deeply regret," says Bishop Bickersteth, in the Charge from which we have quoted, "that it does not seem to me possible to accept as Christian a great deal that goes by that name in Japan. The manifesto put forth at Nara last year, at a very large meeting, as expressing apparently the maximum of common belief of those who attended, is lamentable evidence of the results in a country like Japan of what is called 'liberal' or undenominational Christianity." It is contended in some quarters that congregationalism is a dangerous form of Church Government as regards Japan. As is doubtless known to our readers, congregationalism is purely democratic in character. The great principle on which it is founded, according to Mr. Henry M. Dexter, is that every Congregational Church is, by divine right, independent of all control from without, except that of Christ its Head. This, say some writers, accounts for the fact that it is possible for the pastors of certain *Kumfai* churches to become Unitarian or even Agnostic and still be supported by their congregations, no other church having the right to interfere. But there is evidence that signs of impatience of foreign control are one of the characteristics of modern Christian literature, and that the next ten years may witness some rather astonishing developments, from a foreign point of view. The general tone of numbers of Japanese articles on Christian doctrine and practice is decidedly anti-conservative and anti-dogmatic,

and the tendency of the age is to question the authority on which the time-honoured doctrines of the Christian Church rest.

The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* recently published two articles on the Doshisha's connection with Christianity and its probable future. The first of these articles is devoted to a criticism of the leader published in these columns on May 23rd last, entitled "The Doshisha and Dogmatic Christianity." We give a short abstract of both the articles. In replying to the *Japan Mail*, the writer in the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* observes that, though misrepresentations of the connection of the Doshisha with Christianity have been made for some time past, he has, for reasons of his own, forbore to notice them, but that since the publication of the commissioners' report, a very one-sided document has been made the basis of further erroneous notions, he has decided to place the facts of the case before the public and allow readers to judge for themselves. The article that appeared in the *Japan Mail* is wrong, says the *Kirisutokyo*, in two particulars. (1) It is wrong in saying that the main object of the Doshisha is an institution has undergone a change. (2) It is wrong in supposing that the Doshisha represents Christianity in any way.

(1) The main object of the Doshisha is the moral and intellectual education of youth. Though the constitution of the Society provides that moral education shall be founded on Christian principles, the Doshisha school is not to be regarded as a means of propagating Christianity. That view of the institution was held by many at the time of its first establishment, who maintained that education with it was a mere name, that its real object was Christian propagandism. At that time one of the officials of the Department of Education observed that it was a misnomer to call the Doshisha a *Gakko*; it should be called a *Gakurin*, or Theological Seminary. These assertions were stoutly denied by the founders and members of the Company, who have always maintained in a most public manner that the school is not a mere device for teaching Christian doctrine. In the face of this, how can it be said to-day that, for the sake of obtaining a grant from the American Board, the Doshisha professed its belief in Christianity and that it recently renounced the religion it once adopted. About the primary object of the founders of the institution and its existing educational principles there can be no manner of doubt. We cannot but regret that the institution and the Commissioners of the American Board were not able to understand each other better. The friction which has been caused is solely owing to failure on the part of each of the parties to comprehend the position of the other. But to attribute the misunderstanding to any change of religious views in the members of the company or the teaching staff is an egregious mistake. (2) The second contention of the writer of the article published in the *Japan Mail*, namely, that the Doshisha espouses the cause of a Christian sect or represents a set of Christian doctrines, is likewise incorrect. The Doshisha does not concern itself with sects, articles of faith, or religious principles, whether liberal or conservative; it concerns itself neither with dogma on the one hand nor with free criticism on the other, but simply aims at cultivating virtue in the minds of its pupils by means of universally acknowledged Christian principles. It makes no attempt to bind pupils and teachers to fixed articles of faith. The members of the Company, in their capacity of representatives of the body, refused to make any such public confession as the commissioners from America required, but they were perfectly willing as private individuals to express their faith in the personality of God, the Divinity of Christ, and the reality of a future life. There is great difference of opinion on religious subjects among the members of the company and the professors; hence was it not unreasonable to suppose that the Institution could profess belief in any fixed articles of faith? There are those who say that the demand for a pub-

lic confession of faith is to be traced to the fact that the Christianity of the Institution is no longer so pronounced as it used to be, and that hence earnest Christians were anxious to make sure that it had not renounced the faith it once espoused. But suppose the deterioration spoken of were an actual fact, does the responsibility of this rest with the Japanese teaching faculty alone? And how would the supposed situation be improved by a public confession of faith? The change in religious belief which is complained of is by no means confined to the Doshisha. All over the country young people are to be found in large numbers who have lost their faith in Christianity. The remedy for this state of things exists; but what grounds are there for holding the Doshisha professors responsible for the prevailing scepticism? There are those who maintain that what the Commissioners asked for was, not a Confession of articles of faith such as might give rise to great difference of opinion, but simply the acknowledgment of truths which no Christian denies. But is that so? How many are the questions, for instance, involved in the use of the word personality in reference to God? Does not the Divinity of Christ involve the whole question of the Trinity? And does not the doctrine of a future life include the eternal existence of the individual soul. These questions at first sight seem simple enough, but further examination shows that they are of a most complicated nature, a proof of which may be found in the controversies that have raged around them in Western lands. Had the professors subscribed to some simple confession of faith, no value could have been attached to it, for their differences of opinion would not have been affected thereby. Such a confession would have been a mere useless form. That a school whose chief object is to impart general instruction should be asked to give an exposition of Christian doctrine, seems to us a most unheard of proceeding. We fail to see that there is anything to complain of in the action taken by the Doshisha. We do not pretend to have any special knowledge of the religious opinions and beliefs of the members of the Doshisha staff, but we think there is no ground for asserting that their Christianity is of a rationalistic character. In reference to the changes to be introduced by the Doshisha, and the fortune of the Institution, we are informed, says the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, that the following resolutions have been adopted:—(1) That the Doshisha acknowledges with deep gratitude the support which the American Board of Missions has given them, in the form of men and money, from the time of the foundation of the Institution down to the present day; (2) that the Doshisha respectfully declines to receive help from the Board of Missions after the close of the present year; (3) that the Institution appeals for support to all who sympathise with its work, whether Japanese or foreigners, and trusts that by means of this support it will not only maintain its present position, but extend its operations. In order to show its appreciation of the liberality of the Board of Missions, the Doshisha has decided to leave to the Missionaries of the American Board, free of rent, the houses in Kyoto hitherto occupied by professors and others, for fifteen years; the Missionaries of the Board will also be allowed to make use of the Doshisha Library. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, in its concluding remarks, observes that only two courses are now open to the Doshisha, either to mould itself into a shape that will satisfy the Foreign Board of Missions, or to strike out a new policy. Its refusal to make a public confession of faith may be taken as an indication that the latter course will be adopted. According to the present arrangements, some of the foreign professors connected with the Institution will have to leave for home in January next. That is a contingency which we very much regret, says our contemporary. The whole thing is far too sudden. It is said that there is no desire on the part of the managers of the Institution to deprive it of the services of the foreigners now employed, and that, provided the latter are prepared to recognise the altered character of the school, there is no reason why their

term of service should not be extended. We are informed that the members of the Doshisha have determined to show their respect for its past history by preserving its Christian character and the special type of education for which it has always been noted.

In the pages of the *Seikyo Shimpō*, an organ of the Greek Church, Mr. Ishikawa Kisaburo expresses the hope that the new Home Minister will exercise his influence in the direction of granting more religious liberty than is now enjoyed. It is not necessary, says Mr. Ishikawa, that Christians should attach themselves to any political party, but owing to the fact of the *Jiyu-to's* having been the steady advocate of general liberty, in which religious liberty is included, many Christians have joined that body and have always hoped to benefit by their connection with it. Since Count Itagaki has always been one of the chief promoters and supporters of constitutional government, and since a clause in the Constitution insures to Japanese subjects freedom of choice in religious matters, the Christians who belong to his party look to Count Itagaki, now that he is in power, to remove the obstacles to perfect religious liberty which exist in official circles. Though the written law allows freedom, the influence and acts of officials, which in the eyes of many constitute a kind of unwritten law, are opposed to belief in Christianity, are, in fact, agencies which form unbelief. Is this a state of things that the new minister can regard with indifference? Looking in another quarter, we find that the Government errs in the direction of excessive leniency, owing to a mistaken notion of the nature of religious liberty. When liberty becomes license, when it is interpreted as liberty to do as one pleases without regard to the standard of morals, it behoves a government, to which the safe-guarding of national interests has been committed, to step in and put its foot on the attempt to turn a privilege into an excuse for wickedness. In the case of the irregularities and pernicious practices of the Remmonkyō and the Tenrikyō sects, it was only after the newspapers had repeatedly called attention to the subject that the Police began to move, so that the credit of the interference belongs to the Press and not to the Government. The doctrine of non-interference in religious matters on the part of the Government is plainly one that cannot be maintained in the face of recent developments. It is most important that the administration should guard the nation from abuses and immoral contagion of all kinds. There are quarters where more liberty in religious matters may be granted than is now possessed, and there are quarters where curtailment is imperative; that the new Minister will exercise the necessary discretion is the earnest hope of the present writer and his fellow-thinkers.

In an article entitled, "Why do we not study Christianity a little?" a Buddhist priest, in the pages of the *Bukkyō*, urges on his brethren the necessity of paying more attention to the study of other creeds. The zeal of Christian teachers shown in the investigation of other faiths, says this writer, is most exemplary. Their object of course is to show that Christianity loses nothing and gains a great deal by comparison with other religions. In England there exists a Society whose object is the study of Oriental religions. Books on Mohammedanism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and other creeds are collected and sold at reduced prices. More than this, comparative religion is a subject taught at all high-class Christian schools. In contrast to all this, we Japanese Buddhists are prejudiced and narrow-minded. How many are there of us that have read the four gospels? Mr. Lloyd, of the Keiogijuku, not long ago composed a beautiful poem in praise of Nichiren. How many of us are acquainted with the lives of St. Paul and St. Augustine? We live in a little, narrow world of our own. We undertake no extensive investigations, but simply content ourselves with doling out traditions received from ancestors. Hence

our influence in the world is very limited, and there is great danger of our religion's being superseded altogether. Since it is the plain duty of disciples of Buddha to show to the world the superiority of his teaching to that of any of the great authors of religion, and since that can only be done by a close study of the doctrines and history of alien faiths, I have asked in the title of this essay, why it is that we do not investigate Christianity. Christians know well that in order to outdo a rival, it is necessary that you should be acquainted with the strong and weak points in his character. Cannot we Buddhists take a leaf from their book?

In the *Shinri* (Truth), the organ of the German Protestant Church, Mr. Schiller traverses Dr. Kato Hiroyuki's views on the difference between the fundamental ethical principles of the East and the West. Dr. Kato's Essay was reproduced in these columns some months ago. Mr. Schiller is of opinion that Dr. Kato has misrepresented the sentiments and the practices of Occidentals in numerous particulars. The essay is too long for reproduction even in an epitomised form in this summary, but we may remark that to us it seems that Dr. Kato's comparison of Eastern and Western moral standards is characterised by many of the defects which Mr. Schiller has pointed out.

In a recent number of the *Shukyo*, a Unitarian organ, the part played by religion in social development is discussed in a liberal tone. The organisation of society, says the *Shukyo*, depends chiefly on government, law, education, and religion. These agencies all work in different ways, but they have the same end in view. Each of them supplies a felt want. Religion is designed to satisfy cravings which are as real as the desire for food or water. In what manner these cravings can be satisfied without involving the injury of other parts of man's complicated nature, is a problem that scholars are expected to solve. There are those who argue that in the choice of a religion and in the adoption of religious tenets, men should not be interfered with; that in such matters great liberty should be allowed. But that is not our view. The theory does not work, as is well illustrated by a recent occurrence. The *laissez faire* policy is to a large extent responsible for such abuses as have been developed by the sect known as the *Tenrikyō*, abuses that have called for police interference. In the notice lately issued by the police on this subject, attention is called to an improper mingling of the sexes, to the use of charms for the purpose of deceiving unsophisticated people, resulting in many instances in the recipients of these charms refusing to make use of medical aid when suffering from disease. This state of things is no doubt exceptional, but it is a proof that the masses cannot be allowed to choose their own religion. Such liberty in too many instances involves belief in superstitious teaching of the worst kind. Shintoism, Buddhism, and Christianity are all contributing their quota to the development and amelioration of Society, but it is a mistake to think that the doctrines of either of these creeds are free from liability to abuse and misapplication. In order to guard against this contingency, it behoves religious teachers to enlighten the uneducated by their instruction.

In connection with the above, it may be observed that no religious movement of modern days has taken greater hold on the ignorant than the *Tenrikyō* teaching. It is said that, not only in Tokyo, but in all parts of the country, thousands of houses are to be seen where, after the occupants' names, may be read the words "member of the *Tenrikyōkai* (the natural Religion Sect). In March, the Mishima branch of the sect held a giant meeting, extending over three days, which was attended by no less than 250,000 believers from all parts of the province of Yamato, and from other places. The strength of the *Tenrikyō* movement may be judged by the notice it has received in the vernacular press,

and at the hands of popular speakers. There seems to be little that is likely to be permanent in the tenets of this modern sect. Ten Shinto gods are special object of worship with the *Teurikyo* votaries, but there is a marked lack of system in the creed, and it appears to be rather of the nature of a device for deceiving the uneducated masses than an earnest and sincere attempt to arrive at religious truth.

The June number of the *Uchu Shukyo* (the Universalist), contains an article entitled "Christianity and Individualism," which deals with a question of great importance connected with modern ethical teaching. It is customary for Christian Japanese writers to lay stress on the fact that the new Civil Code is based on individualism; that it practically abolishes the time-honoured family relationships, and the responsibilities they involved, that is, as far as the law is concerned. That is used as an argument for the necessity of accepting Christianity, which, according to the authorities referred to, is the source of the principle of individualism. Hence many Christians regard with dissatisfaction the present tendency to revive Confucian moral teaching, the attempt to base morality on family relationship rather than on individual character. They predict that great evils must follow the endeavour to teach a system of ethics that is in opposition to the law of the land, as embodied in the Civil Code. This view was expressed by a writer in the *Kristokyo Shimbu* not long ago, who signed himself *Gokyo* (a defender of religion). The *Universalist* repudiates the notion that Christianity is on the side of individualism as opposed to a system of ethics founded on family relationships. It doubts whether individualism can be correctly considered to be a product of Christianity at all, but even if it be so, it is only one among many other doctrines: it is a part and not the whole of Christian teaching. The tendency of the age, says the *Universalist*, there is no denying, is all in favour of individualism. In politics, in education, and in ethical teaching, to the individual, rather than to the family or society generally, is the post of honour assigned. But is that a tendency to be encouraged? May not exclusive egoism become a source of great danger wherever it prevails? And is this a time to push the claims of individuals to the detriment of family relationships in Japan? We, says the *Universalist*, are in favour of steering a middle course between the old patriarchal system of ethics and modern individualism. A sudden change in favour of the latter would be fraught with numerous dangers. The connection of personal virtue with a man's family and public relations, so often insisted on by Confucius and Mencius, was a real connection, which no system of ethics can afford to ignore. It is quite feasible to blend the old teaching and the new in such a way that they will complement each other. This is the proper course to be adopted, instead of the practice advocated and followed by so many Christians.

The *Nihon Shinkyo* (Japanese Religion), in its eleventh number, recently published, invites all persons interested in religion to furnish the magazine with an expression of opinion on the following six questions. (1) What kind of a religion should be chosen? (2) What should be the attitude adopted towards existing religious sects in Japan? (3) Can the sacred writings and the articles of belief of existing religious sects be retained? Is it desirable that a religion possess such things? (4) How should religious bodies be constituted? And how should places of worship be erected? (5) What are the best methods of propagandism? (6) How best may households and society generally be taught and reformed? Replies to these questions may be looked for in the succeeding numbers of the *Nihon Shinkyo*. The May number of this publication, among other articles, has the following:—"Concord between Eastern and Western Religions"; "The Influence of Christianity"; "Religious Thought in Russia"; "On Answers to Prayer," in which the question of praying for rain in discussed and the subjective benefits to be derived from prayer insisted on.

The author gives it as his opinion that the most suitable places for prayer are the tops of high mountains and places calculated to awe and solemnise the worshipper, and adds that it is of no importance that the language used by the suppliant should be intelligible to others; all that is necessary is that it expresses his devotion to the object of worship. The author further holds that rain is procurable by means of prayer alone, provided the right kind of people pray for it, and he contends that the prayers of Buddhists, Shintoists, and Christians, irrespective of their various objects of worship, are on such occasions of equal merit in bringing about the desired result. He spurns the notion that there is no Divine interference with the world's affairs in response to the earnest entreaties of the world's devotees, but contends that even supposing that there are no such things as answers to prayer, the practice of praying should be retained on account of its beneficial effects on the mind of the suppliant.

An article entitled, "Changes in the Religions of Japan," by Mr. Togawa Ataka, demands fuller notice. The changes discussed are not retrospective, but prospective. The writer observes, at the outset, that it is extremely hard to predict the future of religion in this country, and then proceeds to observe that men like the prophets of old are not to be found, and even if they were there, the present age would demand more minuteness in their predictions than they were wont to possess. Events, however, usually cast their shadows before them, and keen observers of the signs of the times can usually foretell in a general way what is about to happen. First, as regards Buddhism and Shinto, their relation to each other is that of two allies pitted against a foreign foe. Though, owing to the influence of foreign creeds, there no longer exists an established religion, both the time-honoured creeds now mentioned may be regarded as constituent parts of Japanese nationalism and hence have retained their hold on men's minds. They have blended to a very large extent, but not so as to lose identity. Shinto may be said to have been swallowed by Buddhism, but the dose proved too much for the digestive powers of the latter, and hence the Shinto creed still exists as a distinct religion and Buddhism has desisted from vain attempts at assimilation and has rested content with its acknowledged supereminence. The Christianity that was brought to this country in the early days of the Tokugawa Shogunate met with reverses which would have been impossible had civilisation been as advanced in Spain and Portugal in those days as it is England and America to-day. Not all the determination of Iemitsu, or Japan's military resources, would have sufficed to stamp out the foreign teaching. Christianity is in essence an aggressive and exclusive religion. Its votaries have no desire to join hands with the representatives of other creeds. Christianity may be compared to a fire seeking to destroy all that comes into contact with it. But history has shown that there are substances that survive even after being reduced to ashes, substances the identity of which is never lost. There were elements in the national life and religion of the ancient Greeks and Romans that stood the test of the Christian fire to which they were subjected, and which in the Christian creed to-day, where they are embodied, have lost not one iota of their identity. If the Christianity of one country differs widely from that of another, is there any doubt that Japan will have a type of its own, a type which has been moulded by purely national agencies? The roots of the Buddhist faith descend deep into philosophic earth, and hence there is little fear of Buddhism being overthrown. She will retain her hold on the minds of the educated. But her methods of propagandism sadly need reform. She should learn from the Roman Catholics or the Protestant Episcopalians how to reach outsiders. Buddhists need to take more interest in philanthropic movements than they have hitherto done, to pay more attention to the inculcation of domestic virtue. Moreover, priests

in charge of parishes should be men of high character. One of the most conspicuous defects of Japanese Christianity is the low standard of learning among her missionaries. Most of these men condemn Buddhism without ever having read a Buddhist book. Of the real teaching of Buddhism they have no knowledge. The practices and doctrines on which they centre their attacks are no part of Buddhism, but abuses and irregularities that devout Buddhists deplore. Christian teachers in this country should be well versed in Buddhist doctrines, Japanese history and native customs; they should mix more with men of other creeds, they should be earnest students of comparative religion and be free to adopt and reject as they please. What we most earnestly recommend is that on fixed days Buddhists and Christians meet together, that the adherents of both faiths explain the doctrines which they believe to be true, that they unite their efforts in all benevolent works, and discuss in a friendly, loving spirit all that concerns society as a whole, and that they labour together to promote independence of spirit in religious matters. In conclusion, we may say that there are many evidences of the establishment of a universal religion in the not distant future, and young men, whether Buddhists or Christians, should see to it that their vessels are ready to rise and advance with the flood that will bear them to a new world.

In the same number of the *Nihon Shukyo*, from which we have quoted, Mr. Watarase Tsunekichi dwells on the importance of Christians striving for greater independence. (1) They must seek to establish independence of thought and opinion. If they do nothing but retail the doctrines learned from the missionaries, their teaching will soon become tedious and the churches with which they are connected, and they will fall into a dead, sleepy state. (2) The Churches must become independent. Where Christians are thoroughly united this can be effected without difficulty. (3) Japanese ought to be independent as regards the choice of methods of propagating the gospel. These three kinds of independence are earnestly desired by all Christians, but there are some who think that the time is not ripe for allowing native churches to become free from all foreign control. There is little to be said in favour of this view. It is certainly much easier for Christians and Churches to form habits of independence in their infant days than it is in later stages of development.

Among other interesting articles in the *Nihon Shukyo* which we have little space to notice, one entitled "The Present Religious World" gives in a condensed form the opinions of a variety of writers on religious subjects. The first view given is of a decidedly pessimistic character. Christianity is said to have lost its influence on men's minds, to be in a stagnant condition; Buddhism to be in a state of corruption and general deterioration; and Shintoism to be no less effete than lacking in intelligence. The writer next proceeds to quote from writers of different schools. The author of a recent article in the *Yui-itsu*, a Shinto organ, says that religion has reached such a degree of corruption that nothing but the appearance of some great religious teacher can save it from destruction. Earnest men should abandon their sectarian watchwords and combine their efforts in the promotion of the common cause of religion. A religious resolution is needed. The *Kyokai* has an article entitled, "The need of a great religious Reform," and the *Fiji Shimpō* not long ago published an essay entitled, "A great revival among religious believers is needed." Various other organs have expressed their dissatisfaction with the present state of religious belief and practice in similar terms. To many, says the writer whom we quote, the present aspect of the religious world resembles the chaos which preceded the evolution of the physical cosmos. That a new form of Christianity and a new type of Buddhism will replace the traditional forms of these two religions,

is confidently asserted by those who have watched the course of recent events in the religious world. The following is a brief account of religious sects as they exist to-day. There are some 10 Shinto sects. There are some 50 well-known Buddhist sects, and 13 less well-known bodies, making a total of 63, so that, if Christian sects be added, the number of sects will be considerably over a hundred. And many of these show signs of dividing up into still smaller bodies. The leading Buddhist sects, namely, the Shin, Nichiren, Soto, Tendai, Jodo and Ringai sects each possess from 4,000 to 19,000 temples and each have from 2,000 to 16,000 priests acting as rectors of temples. But the adherents of such obscure sects as the Ji-shu, Yuyunembutsu-shin, Hosso-shu and the Keyon-shu are too few to be worthy of mention. The question of the day is, will the mass of Buddhist believers, pressed by the exigencies of the time, combine and form one giant sect under the guidance of the writers and preachers known as the new Buddhist School?

NEGOTIABLE JAPANESE SECURITIES.

The *Kokumin* publishes an interesting list of Japanese public securities negotiable in the open market.

	Yen.
Old Public Bonds	5,705,817
New Public Bonds	4,173,200
Pension Bonds	30,211,120
Naval Bonds	16,950,000
Consolidated Bonds	170,472,450
Railway Bonds	6,000,000
War Bonds	109,124,000
Total	342,636,587
Local Loan Bonds	7,650,150
Railway Shares	112,768,000
Bank Shares	175,321,479
Company's Shares	179,991,992
Company's Debentures	6,954,300
Total	475,035,771

Grand total 825,321,508
The above figures, so far as they relate to securities of the Central and Local Governments, are in accordance with statistics corrected up to the end of May of the present year. The figures for railway and bank shares are corrected up to December of 1895; the figures relating to Companies are corrected up to the last day of May of the current year, and those relating to Company's debentures, up to the end of 1895. Companies that have received permission to undertake business but have not yet done so, are not included in the reckoning, and no distinction is made between the various kinds of companies.

THE STRONG FOREIGN POLICY PEERS & THE REVISED TREATY WITH GERMANY.

We read in vernacular newspapers that the so-called "Strong Foreign Policy Peers"—namely, the members of the *Sanyo-Kai*, the *Konwa-Kai*, and the *Chawa-Kai*—recently held a meeting and appointed a committee to investigate the question of the revised treaty with Germany. The Committee has concluded its inquiries, and the journals from which we quote say that it has been decided to make a strong appeal to public opinion on the subject, but no enumeration is given of the special points considered nationally hurtful by these gentlemen of the *Kyō-ha*. Presumably their objection is to the terms of the Consular Convention accompanying the Treaty, but it will be hard for them to found a case on that basis, seeing that precisely similar Consular Conventions exist between several of the Great European Powers.

THE SEISMIC-WAVE DISASTER.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following sums towards the relief of sufferers through the terrible disaster in Iwate, Aomori, and Miyagi Prefectures:—

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Professor G. Droppers	15
Mr. W. F. Page	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh's children	20
Mr. C. V. Sale	200
The Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	50
The O. & O. S.S. Co.	50
Dr. Divers	20
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd.	100
Messrs. Butterfield & Swire	100
China and Japan Trading Company, Ltd.	50
Mr. A. J. Lines	10
Prof. Henry T. Terry	15
Mr. Fied. G. Woodruff	5
Messrs. H. MacArthur & Co.	25
Mr. S. Y. French	10
Captain Munter	25
Mr. E. H. House	25
Miss Doring	5
A.C.S.	10
Dr. D. Macdonald	10
Captain Baron d'Aehrenthal	25
G.E.M.N.	20
Messrs. North and Rae, Limited	25
Mr. L. Muraour	10
Mr. E. J. Moss	25
W.R.H.C.	10
Rev. J. Popper	5
H.H.	5
W.	10
Messrs. Langfeldt & Co., Limited	100
Rev. G. M. Meacham	40
J.A.M.	5
Mr. R. Paget	20
Mr. J. Conder	10
Rev. F. W. Voegelien	10
Dr. C. H. H. Hall	10
H.M.	5
O.	25
Établissements Orosdi-Back	200
Messrs. Bavier & Co.	100
Mr. E. H. Hampden	15
Dr. A. G. Smith	25
Mr. Tom. Thomas	10
Miss Mair	10
Dr. Scriba	25
Rev. H. Loomis	10
J.N.C.	10
"Star in the East," 640, S.C.	100
Messrs. S.S. & Co.	100
H.W.L.	20
E.C.F.	10
Mr. F. Hellyer	50
Mr. C. B. Stedman	10
E. and L.G.	6

Kanda Bashi Church	5
Dr. Ludwig Riess	15
Mr. Y. Duer	10
Messrs. R. Isaacs & Bro.	100
Lutheran Church, Saga	7-50
Mr. Müller Beek (Nagasaki)	20
Members of the C.M.S. Mission Tokyo	40
Rev. G. W. Van Horn	10
Rev. G. H. Hudson	9
Mr. A. Stein	30
F.F.	25
Mr. F. L. Smelser	1
Tsukiji Union Church Congregation	117
Tsukiji Union Church Sunday School	20
Rev. W. J. White	10
H.E. Count d'Orfni	50
Mr. W. Silver Hall and family	20
Mr. G. Elliott Gregory	10
A Friend	1
Mr. H. L. Layman	10
J. G. D.	5
Rev. Chas Haas	10

The Rev. Rotheray Miller acknowledges receipt of \$114.20, from the Aoyama Gakuen, Tokyo, for the Relief Fund, as organized by the Y.M.C.A., by the Protestant Churches of Tokyo.

MR. LOUIS LOMBARD.

Mr. Louis Lombard continues to be quoted by Shanghai journals as a high musical authority. His second appearance in print is a species of rhapsody on the music in the Shanghai Cathedral. And not the music only:—"the edifice, the congregation, the playing and singing," he writes, "suggested the most advanced æsthetic culture." That is very nice for Shanghai. But with Mr. Louis Lombard's permission we should like to tell him what his own writing does not suggest, namely, the first element of true artistic spirit, modesty. Besides, by his own confession, his ears are singularly out of order. He declared in his first letter that he had to listen for a full minute to ascertain whether Japanese or western music was in course of execution by "the cracked military band of Japan." That is a damaging confession. Even if Mr. Louis Lombard never heard any better band in Japan than the Yokohama Town Band, he still should not have been perplexed to make so plain a distinction. But from a man who commits himself to the silly exaggeration that "no edifying music is heard from one end of the year to the other" in Yokohama, Tokyo and so forth, we should imagine that praise possesses no great value. The foreign communities in Japan were the victims of his prejudice; the foreign community of Shanghai is the victim of his partiality.

AN AMERICAN BOY'S VIEW OF JAMESON.

An American lad, æt. 12, whose forte, we are told, is mathematics, has embodied his views about Jameson ride in verse, which a friend sends us for publication. We need say nothing of the quality of the performance in the case of a boy so young:—

A REPLY TO ALFRED AUSTIN'S POEM, "JAMESON'S RIDE."

"Wrong were we?—Well may be." No "May be" about it,
'Twas a criminal deed in the eyes of the law;
But you Britons are always the people to doubt it,
A man such as you are 's the man they adore.
You thought you were adding to England's great glory:
You were pricking her honour through flesh and through bone.
What the mischief's the matter with Transvaal's old border?
Why can't they let peace-loving people alone?
Do you think you could alter a half inch of border
With twenty or thirty times as many men?
You're a crazy, conceited, and brutal marauder
And they welcomed you nicely at Krugersdorp's glen.
At the Judgment-day, well, at least God judges fairly.
No matter what Austin may think of your crime;
You must pay the dear price,
You must reap your own harvest
And your name as marauder go down to all time.
J. W. HELBURN.

"Aged twelve," 1896.

THE WATER-PIPE BRIBERY CASE.

The public examination by the Tokyo Local Court of Messrs. Kazama Shinkichi, Yamanaka Rinnosuke, and four others, charged with corruption in the Tokyo Water-pipe Scandal, having been concluded, judgment was delivered on the 22nd instant. The first two defendants were sentenced to major confinement, one for five months' and the other for three. They were also fined. The judgment, in part, runs thus:—Mr. Kazama was appointed, while a councillor of the municipality, to be a member of the Water-works Committee. In that capacity, he took part in the Water-works improvement affairs, and examined or determined drafts relating to the purchase of materials, or concluded contracts, before they were submitted to the City Assembly. In direct breach of his civic obligations, he secretly met, on March 18th, 1895, in a certain restaurant in Umicho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, Mr. Okada Kiyotaro, an employee of M. Raspe and Company, Yokohama, and was asked by him to have the Firm admitted on the list of bidders for the supply of pumps and other materials used in the Water-works; and also to act on behalf of the said Firm so that its bids might be accepted. This request of Okada's he complied with, and, when the former called at his residence in the latter part of April, he revealed official secrets to him and promised every possible advantage, on condition that he received a third of the profits that the Firm would derive from the transaction. Again, when, on the plea of difficulty in fulfilling the contract, the Nippon Iron Foundry repeatedly petitioned the City Council to have the contract nullified or the terms altered, the Defendant saw the President and Manager of the Company at his residence, and, in compliance with their request, promised, on condition of receiving certain compensation for his trouble, to exert himself so as to have the request of the company agreed to by the Council. As part of that compensation, the Defendant received at his own residence a piece of silk worth 12 yen and also a sum of 200 yen. The Court found the foregoing facts conclusively proved by the affidavits of several witnesses concerned in the affair, and also by a letter sent by Okada to one of the witnesses. The Court therefore sentenced the Defendant to 5 months' major confinement with a fine of 20 yen, together with the restitution of 212 yen, the bribe received. The finding against the other Defendant was somewhat similar. He was sentenced to major confinement for the space of 3 months' and fined 15 yen, together with restitution of 112 yen, the bribe received in goods and cash. The other four Defendants were acquitted on the ground that, though they had been appointed by the City Council as managers or assistant experts in the Water-works, and though they received gifts of money or articles, this did not constitute a crime, inasmuch as the City Council, according to the Organization of the Special Municipal System, had no right to appoint such functionaries as officials of the Municipality, therefore their actions in receiving money or articles in connection with the business entrusted to them by the Council could not be called into account.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS IN TOKYO.

In an editorial and subsequently in a note, the *Jiji* calls the attention of the Authorities to the question of improving the streets of Tokyo, work that is now carried on by a regular standing committee of the Municipality. The *Jiji* wishes to see the fund appropriated for improvements considerably increased; at present only 3½ million yen is set aside by the Authorities, and the work proceeds very slowly. Complaints are also frequently heard of ground having been purchased by the Municipality from private owners against their will and at prices far below the ruling rate. A case that lately happened at Ichibeicho, Azabu, affords a good example. The proprietor of a lot of ground at Ichibeicho bought the land in November, 1894, at rates ranging between 7 to 8.30 yen per *tsubo*.

The lot was originally divided into two parts, one covering 243 *tsubo* and the other 338 *tsubo*. He purchased the land for 4,500 yen, with the intention of establishing a weaving shop thereon. Last July, the Street Improvements Committee decided to cut a road through the lot, dividing it into two entirely distinct areas, and the original programme of the projector was thereby upset. Moreover, so cheaply did the Committee value the ground that the man was forced to sell 107 *tsubo* at rates varying between 1½ to 2 yen, and received in all only a little over 200 yen. This was the land's valuation according to the standard fixed by the Home Minister; and the proprietor has no appeal against it, although there is difference of no less than 3,460 yen between the price he paid for the land, and that which the Committee would pay. The *Jiji*, while printing the complaint, does not pretend to fully endorse the statement of the proprietor, but it cannot help thinking that in a few cases the Authorities must have resorted to rather peremptory measures.

CHINESE NEWS.

According to Mrs. Bishop, anti-foreign feeling is very strong in Szechuan. She reports that she was hooted and pelted with stones and mud in many places, and that whereas, on her former visit, she could go about without molestation, on this occasion she found it impossible for ladies to walk in the streets without being insulted. In short, she noticed a great difference for the worse in the attitude of the people. If this testimony be correct, it would seem that the methods adopted last year in the sequel of the Szechuan riots were not very successful.

Says the *North-China Daily News*:—

The eunuchs in Peking appear to be having a rather bad time of it at present. According to despatches received yesterday from the capital out of six eunuchs who had been engaged in a brawl over seats in a Peking theatre lately, and who accidentally killed a gendarme who came to stop the row, three are to be summarily executed and the remaining three exiled to a distance of 4,000 ft or 1,200 miles. Another eunuch who had the temerity to present a memorial praying for internal reforms in the central government was also executed, because by doing so he had broken one of the Sacred Edicts of the late Emperor Kanghsi (17th century) prohibiting eunuchs from interfering with state affairs. Another eunuch, the alleged sworn brother of the now cashiered Wen Ting-shih, one of the principal founders of the Reform Association and a devoted supporter of the Reverends Gilbert Reid and Timothy Richard, has also been summarily executed in Heilungchiang, to which city this eunuch had been exiled for the frivolous reason of being Wen Ting-shih's sworn brother. The cause of this eunuch's execution is stated to have been exciting the other convicts to mutiny, but his death was a foregone conclusion, and the same despatch to the Heilungchiang Tartar General consigning the eunuch to exile is said to have contained also the order for his execution "on any pretext."

"Captain Lake, of the *Eldorado*," writes a Shanghai contemporary, reports that on Wednesday, the 17th instant, while the ship was lying at Taku Bar, three distinct shocks of earthquake were felt, followed by a noise which he compares to the sparking of a dynamo, and which he believes to have been caused through the atmosphere's being excessively charged with electricity. The noise continued for about half an hour and caused some consternation among the Chinese members of the crew."

CHOLERA.

Between April 17th and June 28th there were 16 cases of cholera in Tokyo, 3 of which ended fatally. In Osaka, between April 26th and June 26th, there were 12 cases, 4 of which proved fatal. In Fukuoka Prefecture since the 29th of February there have been 6 cases. The *Miyako Shimbun*, from which we take these figures, adds that there are signs of an epidemic of cholera in Tokyo, but certainly no such signs can be inferred from the above statistics.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

The French cruiser *Alger* started on the 1st of July for Hokkaido, having on board the astronomical mission sent by the French Government. The head of the mission is M. Besandres, of the Paris Observatory, well-known in the scientific world by his works on physical astronomy. M. Besandres was the head of the mission sent to Senegal to observe the total solar eclipse of the 16th August, 1893. The mission arrived lately in Japan, and a subsequent steamer, the *Ernest Simons* brought out a large amount of materials of all kinds for use of the expedition, besides three assistant-astronomers. It is on the northern coast of Yezo that the French mission will establish its observatory, the calculation being that that point will offer more favourable atmospheric conditions than the one chosen by the English mission. The Japanese and American missions also have chosen the same locality as the French.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha are, we learn, doing everything in their power to assist the members of the scientific expeditions to observe the forthcoming eclipse of the sun. The company's steamer *Sakura Maru*, which left here on Tuesday last for Otaru, took as passengers to Hakodate, Professor Schaeberle and staff. At Hakodate the Professor and party will join the Company's steamer *Ise Maru* and proceed by her to Akkeshi, the Company having kindly consented to extend the steamer's voyage to that port from Nemuro for the convenience of the Expedition. Professor Tod, the head of the other observation party, left Yokohama by train on Wednesday for the north, and will join the *Sakura Maru* at Hakodate for Otaru, where he will tranship to the *Suruga Maru*, the steamer on the Soya line. The Company have also given permission for the *Suruga Maru* to extend its trip to Mombetsu, with the Professor and staff, while all the instruments and impedimenta of both Expeditions are being carried free, and if possible the Company will arrange to give the members of the party the same advantages on their return from the expedition.

JAPANESE ENTERPRISES IN KOREA.

A gold mine at Yong-dam, Kyong Sang-do, is reputed to be the best in Korea, occupying the same position relatively as the Sado gold mine in Japan. The charter for working this mine was granted to Mr. Maki Kenzo, a Nagasaki capitalist, who obtained it from the Korean Government a number of years ago. For six months, from July, 1892, Mr. Maki worked the mine in conjunction with Mr. Furukawa Ichibei, but this partnership was subsequently dissolved, and Mr. Maki was obliged to suspend mining operations. About a year after, a German Firm in Ninsen agreed to purchase the ore at the rate of 150 yen per ton, and work was resumed in April, 1894. The Tonghak insurrection and the outbreak of the Japan-China war again interfered with the business, and after two months working, operations were once more suspended. When order is restored in Korea, the lessee is determined to resume work for the third time, for the charter having been secured when the Mins were all-powerful in the Korean Government, he infers that the Government will not be so devoid of good faith as to invalidate it now, however much it may be prejudiced against Japan and her people. As a preliminary toward the resumption of the enterprise, Mr. Maki asked the Sado Mine experts to analyse a specimen of the Korean ores. The analysts experimented with 5 tons of ore, and their report reads as follows:—Gold, 1.24/10,000 per cent.; silver, 4.5/10,000 per cent.; lead 8.873/100 per cent.; copper, 4.03/100 per cent.; average value of one ton of ore, 93.843 yen. Such a result is considered very satisfactory, the output of the Sado Mine being generally estimated at 15 yen per ton. The cost of haulage, however, is very great in Korea,

the distance between the mine and Fusan being over 57 miles. The ore has then to be shipped to Ninsen. The *Yomiuri*, from which we take these facts, urges that the work be resumed as quickly as possible, lest delay afford the Korean Government an excuse to revoke the lease.

The matter of the Fusan-Sōul railway scheme, projected by Mr. Omiwa and other Japanese merchants in Korea, is extremely perplexing. Mr. Komura, ex-Japanese Representative to Korea, and now Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, alluded to this project in anything but favourable terms the other day. The *Shogyo* also wrote of it in an outspoken tone. Paragraphs that have subsequently appeared in the vernacular papers, the *Shogyo* included, are couched in a different vein. The latest news about the scheme is that it is now fairly matured. Mr. Omiwa first obtained the approval of several Osaka capitalists engaged in the Japanese-Korean trade, and then came up to Tokyo. He waited on the Premier and other Ministers of State, and was told, in the capacity of a private individual, that they were willing to approve the scheme. He succeeded in obtaining the support of Mr. Watanabe Koki, ex-Japanese Minister to Vienna, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, M.P., Mr. Abe Hikotaro, Mr. Asano Soichiro, and so forth, and consulted with them. It was eventually decided to start the company with a capital of 7½ million yen. Mr. Omiwa is now in Osaka enlisting the support of capitalists in the scheme. He expects to submit an application before long to the Foreign Office, and then the matter will be definitely arranged between the Korean Government and the projectors, through the medium of the Foreign Office. It is stated that a German Firm in Ninsen, and Mr. Morse, who secured the concession to construct the Sōul-Ninsen railway, are agitating to obtain the Sōul-Fusan line concession.

INDUSTRIAL TOPICS.

It is interesting to know, writes a Tokyo paper, what kind of crops are attracting the chief attention of cultivators, in view of the gradual rise of their market values, and what kinds belong to the opposite category. These points became apparent when we consider the following comparative table:—

	Increase or decrease in 1895 as compared with 1884. Per cent.	As compared with 1887. Per cent.
Rice	5.70	4.50
Barley	16.90	9.2
Mulberry	174.20	93.3
Tea	111.00	38.2
Beans .....	.20	-4.9
Millet	3.20	-1.6
Hiye (kind of millet)	7.50	3.9
Kimi (kind of sorghum)	16.5	-0.3
Indian Corn	4.5	-3.7
Buckwheat	5.3	2.2
Sweet potato	37.0	9.8
Potato	118.5	33.2
Rape plant	7.1	2.7
Cotton	-25.8	-27.5
Hemp	35.6	7.5
Tobacco	19.4	33.3
Indigo	34.6	12.4
Sugar cane	13.5	6.9

It will be seen from the above that mulberry, tea and potato are the crops showing most marked appreciation, and that cotton, *kimi*, and *hiye* stand at the other extreme. The causes of the appreciation of mulberry and tea are easy to understand; that of potatoes is most likely due to gradual opening up of Hokkaido, where the root is cultivated extensively. The depreciation of cotton is owing to the home-grown variety's not being adapted to spinning purposes, and the depreciation of *hiye* and *kimi* may be accounted for by the advance of the standard of living, (these edibles being essentially in vogue among the poorer classes), and by increased facilities of transport, which bring the rice-producing districts into closer touch with the remote parts of the empire.

The activity of the spinning business in Osaka is attended by a serious trouble in the matter of procuring operatives. There has always been some difficulty of the kind. Formerly, a batch of, say, 150 operatives, engaged by a

factory on condition that travelling expenses and a commission to middlemen was paid, used to dwindle to less than a hundred before reaching their destination, owing to tempting offers made by rival factories. With the view of providing against that inconvenience, the spinners of Osaka, in 1893, organized themselves into a union, and resolved that a factory engaging an operative already pledged to another factory on specified terms, must pay a fine of 10 yen to the latter factory, and must, as a matter of course, give up the operative. This special arrangement proved efficacious so far as concerned the object immediately contemplated. But an objection was subsequently raised against the practice, on the ground that it interfered with the liberty of operatives, and checked the work of the factories. On these grounds, the Kanegafuchi Mill decided to sever connection with the Spinners Union at its last general meeting held in Osaka. Negotiations were afterwards opened between the Union and that factory on the point at issue, but no definite conclusion has yet been reached. The Union is ready to yield on one of the two original conditions, namely, the surrender of the decoyed operative, but asks in return, that the penalty be increased to 20 yen. The Kanegafuchi directors, however, think that sum too large and hold that the fine should be left as before. It is confidently believed that a compromise will be effected by fixing the sum at 15 yen.

The diminution of the export of tea this year as compared with the preceding year is significant. Here is a table showing the export of tea in two years from the beginning of the season to June 15th:—

	Quantity. Catties.	Price. Yen.
1895	14,183,700	4,495,305.50
1896	11,643,200	2,814,065.50

A diminution of over 2½ million catties in quantity and of over 1,680,000 yen in price, is undoubtedly a serious matter.

THE GREAT SEISMIC WAVE.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Ono-mura, Fukuoka District, Iwate Prefecture.
Tuesday, 1.30 p.m.

Hachinohe was left this morning at 8 o'clock. Your correspondent greatly desired to set off at an earlier hour, but the *jinrikisha*-men proved intractable. Despite double wages, no three willing pullers could be found. At last the police—who have so far been exceedingly helpful and courteous—were compelled to interfere. It was not so much a question of the road, rough as that is in places, but of your correspondent's bulk, the men excitedly avowing that no "mortal" *kuruma* would carry me the 35 miles over the stony road without more or less severe injury to springs, shafts, or wheels. However, off we did get at the above-specified hour. The road led through a country of undulating hills, clad with verdure from base to summit, the valleys cultivated in every possible nook and corner, the road-sides redolent with wild and briar-roses—I counted four different species—and the scenery most beautiful and striking. Proud though the good people of Iwate Prefecture seem to be of this highway, it is a most fatiguing one; filled with ruts, fissures and boulders of all sizes, with an occasional smooth run of a quarter of a mile. The *kuruma* to which fate has this day consigned me, is an ancient one, with springs of adamant and no perceptible back. I am now only 23 miles on my way to Kuji, yet already feel fully prepared to condemn the maker of that *kuruma* in the strongest language at my command. I have tried leaning sideways, leaning forward, bending till my head nearly touched my knees; but in no position could I obtain the least physical relief. Singing, which I also attempted in the seclusion of these hills, soon changed to a melancholy strain, ending a minor quaver not unlike a groan. In fact, the only relief I have found was the occasional indulgence in profanity.

Tashiro-mura was reached at 10.30 a.m., ten miles from Hachinohe. This is a typical hill-village of the better sort, and has a prosperous look about it. My *jinrikisha*-men halted here for 15 minutes, to indulge in a bowl of bean-curd. Thereafter, without any halt, we pressed on, over a most trying road in places, to Akudo-mura, which was made at 1.05 p.m. A constable met here told me that this was on the northern boundary of

Iwate, or rather just inside the boundary line. He moreover stated that it was rumoured at Kuji that a French missionary had disappeared among the thousands who lost their lives at Kamaishi. At all events, nothing had been heard of the gentleman, he declared, since June 3rd, when he is known to have been in the neighbourhood of that fated town.

This Ono-mura is a rather pretty place. The inn where I am now resting boasts a neat little garden and an exceptionally neat-looking, dimpling Phyllis. I had not intended to lunch here, but—under the circumstances—how very pretty these country maidens sometimes are.

Kuji, 11.20 p.m.

This place was reached at 6.20 p.m., after a most exhausting journey over the hills. Leaving Ono-mura at 2.30 p.m., where, be it parenthetically stated, I enjoyed a most delicious lunch off a congener of the speckled trout, taken fresh from the hill-streams, the road led on to Futatsuyama and Odaira-mura. After Ono the road was villainous beyond description; indeed, in many places quite untraversable except on foot, and even then the greatest prudence had to be exercised, the path—for the highway had dwindled down to that—running often along the edge of very steep and ugly-looking precipices. From Odaira the road became impossible for *jinrikisha*, and the rest of the journey was made on foot; two stiff and most stony hills having to be climbed. Between the Odaira hills, and the next range lay a most beautiful valley: perhaps a mile broad by ten miles long. I have never seen any place which affected me so pleasantly. The guardian hills, clad with verdant, deciduous trees; the path lined on either side with hedge and briar-roses; and far below the smiling vale, with its hundreds of rice and wheat fields, glowing in the warm rays of the June sun. A most memorable picture, in very truth. On ascending the next hill, beyond which I was told that Kuji lay, I expected a repetition of this beautiful vista. But instead of verdant meads, an arid waste met my view, the rice-fields swept bare of vegetation, and for clustering hamlets only several unsightly plots filled with ruins. The town of Kuji itself was another Hachinohe, though on a smaller scale, and, if anything, still poorer-looking. Going at once to the Police District Office, I was told that a walk of three miles (both ways) would bring me to the worst of the ruined villages. *Kuruma* were impracticable, for no path worthy the name was left. This was unpleasant news to a tired man, but I had determined to see as much as possible while the daylight lasted; so at once set out, two constables acting as guides. And here I must again refer with warm approval to the courtesy shown me everywhere by the constabulary. The members of this well-drilled body have indeed rendered me the greatest service.

So soon as the broad street of the town was left, the signs of the terrible wave became very apparent. Bridges swept away; embankments torn down; trees uprooted; fields absolutely waste and looking like a freshly-drained swamp, without the least verdure to hide their ugliness. "There in that grove," said one of my guides, "we found a corpse to-day. It had been carried two miles inland by the wave." A little later, walking very rapidly, we came to the first of the villages. But what a sight! Out of a cluster of four or five thriving villages back of the crescent-shaped beach of Kuji Bay, two houses alone were left standing, and even these had a dangerous-looking sag on one side. How can I describe the scene of desolation? To me it looked like the sight after one of the Tokyo fires, only on a gigantic scale. Houses fallen in every conceivable shape; heaps of domestic furniture tossed carelessly hither and thither; spinning-wheels and lacquered trays, broken crockery and petroleum-tins, wrecked *shoji* and dilapidated water-worn *latami*—everything in a bewildering confusion, skitter-skitter, disorder, destruction, desolation! And this for two miles in succession. For here there was no low range of hills back of the beach. That surmounted, the whole valley lay at the mercy of the water. "I was in it all," said one of my companions, a dark, little man. "I was caught by the wave, floated off to the beach and then left stranded. It was horrible to see the hands of the drowning people stretched out for aid. I can't swim, yet I managed to save two. I was carried fully a mile in less than a minute, which may give you an idea of the great swiftness of this colossal wave. How high was it? Well, those telegraph poles," pointing to one side, "where completely covered. Telegraphic communication was cut off for two days." Making our way with the utmost difficulty over the broken road and through and over the debris of countless houses, we came finally to the *jinmusho*, or Inspector's Office, on the northern hillside, two peasant-houses having been requisitioned for this purpose. Here I met the Chief of the Kuji Police and several physicians, two coming from Tokyo. I was taken into some

wretched-looking houses near at hand, and there shown a number of the victims. In one word, horrible! Some were minus a leg or arm, most were severely injured about the head and eyes; while fractures of all sorts were to be seen. One man, with a broken jaw and four ribs crushed in, who could just speak in a whisper, told me that he had been walking in the village when the wave came. It had caught him up and thrown him with terrible force against the hillside, very near where he was then lying. A baby on its mother's back was minus a hand. A young and rather good-looking woman was totally blinded, and having a broken ankle readjusted as I came in. Withal the direst poverty, nearly all those under treatment being absolutely destitute. "Yes," said one of the physicians in answer to an enquiry, "we have medicines and doctors enough; but no money to feed the poor people and no clothes to give them. Help, pecuniary aid, is most urgently needed." After a prolonged survey, I questioned some of the survivors. They told substantially the same story that I had heard at Minato-mura. Only here the dreadful sound preceding the wave is said to have been like a discharge of artillery, peal upon peal, as if some great battle were being waged.

Kuji lies a little to the south-east of the vale, Osanai-mura being the southern seaward village, while Monzen-mura is the northernmost. Osanai suffered greatly; but Monzen and several adjacent villages, aggregating five hundred houses, are no more. Back of Kuji and at the western end of the valley lie the Kuji Coal Mine, of which M. Cottin is the foreign superintendent. Retracing my steps, saddened and sickened by what I had seen, I re-entered Kuji at 8 p.m., or just at nightfall. The first step was to call at the *yadoya* where M. Cottin is lodging; and there I met two other French residents of Yokohama, also interested in the mines, Messrs. Bickart and Becker. M. Cottin at once invited me to a most excellent impromptu dinner, and spoke in strong terms of the calamity that had befallen the place. He, too, affirmed that the premonitory sound was like a cannonade. On rushing out of his lodging he was surprised to find the street aswirl with salt-water. Be it said to M. Cottin's honour that he was the first foreigner to subscribe to the local relief-fund, \$200. From him I learned that at another place not far away in the valley, there was a small but paying gold-mine, worked by a Japanese syndicate. While standing on the ruins of Monzen-mura I caught sight of two men-of-war in the offing, at a distance of about 5 miles. They were, I was told, looking for floating corpses. Later in the evening, I again met with the Chief of Police, who had meanwhile prepared a very interesting statement, which I subjoin. Nearly all those found dead where, he says, killed by head-injuries; only a few were drowned outright. In Monzen-mura only 50 or 60 people were left alive after the wave had receded; and these saved themselves by catching hold of posts, pillars, or rafters. Monzen being a fishing village primarily, nearly all the men were absent when the terrible wave came. Those lost were principally women and children. The first intimation that the fishermen received of the calamity was at daybreak the next morning, when they were making for the beach. Some distance from the shore they met with numerous corpses floating on the surface of the sea, their own wives and children. Heart-rending scenes ensued. The police went at daybreak of June 16th to Monzen, and the sight was terrific. Yet at Samurahi-hama, five miles northwards and eastwards, there had been nothing more unusual than a sudden unaccountable swell that came lapping up the shingle, but without doing any damage. The next morning the fisher-people knew some strange convulsion under the sea must have taken place; for, remarkable to relate, their seines came floating to the surface, upside down, all the imprisoned fish having escaped. In Anomori Prefecture, I forgot to add in my last letter, fish are very scarce at present, the boatmen being unable to catch anything without using their deepest seines and going far below the usual depth. Even then the haul is scanty. The Kuji Chief of Police gave me the following statement of the result of the investigations up to to-day, emphasizing the imperative need of pecuniary aid:—

Name of Village.	Deaths.	Wounded.	Houses wrecked.
Monzen	198	28	90
Cho-kuji	4	—	2
Osaki	36	4	15
Heiguchi	4	1	—
Osanai	20	3	—
Ube	184	71	48
Noda	261	134	61
Tamagawa	—	—	—
Kita Samurahi-hama.	23	3	4
Shirama	—	—	—
Nakano, Uge, Kotonai.	67	14	14

Tane-ichi	182	34	45
Total deaths (or missing)	979		
Total wounded	287		
(20 of these are not expected to live.)			
Total houses destroyed	377		
Total godowns destroyed	34		
Schools destroyed	3		
Mills destroyed	7		
Boat and net-houses destroyed	129		
Out-houses destroyed	121		
Salting-houses destroyed	56		
Boats destroyed	904		
The bodies recovered so far amount to about 400 only.			

Hachinohe, Aomori Prefecture, June 24th, 7.20 p.m.

I should have preferred returning by any other road than the one I took in going yesterday, picturesque though it be. Yet there is only one way to get away from Kuji to civilisation; viz. Hachinohe. At all events, I arose with the dawn this morning, in order to take a brief look at the Red Cross temporary lazaret. This I found at Osanai-mura, about one mile away from Kuji proper, on the southern flank of the valley. Here were four physicians and ten trained nurses at work with nearly 80 cases, the houses taken for hospital purposes for the time being crowded to the uttermost. It was vastly different from what I had seen the preceding evening at Monzen; there, gloom and a good deal of unnecessary dirt; here order, quiet, cleanliness, skill. As for the injuries received by the patients they were mostly fracture of the upper or lower limbs, jaws, or head-wounds. Nearly all the patients are convalescent, although there are perhaps 15 cases whose lives still tremble in the balance. I was permitted to speak with one young woman, evidently a recent mother. Her face was swathed in bandages, and one arm in splints; yet she was sitting up and could and did talk. She had been nursing her baby, she stated, when the first artillery-sound of the great wave denoted some strange and unwonted convulsion of nature. The rest I give in her own words:—"My husband's house was not near the beach; fully half a mile away. His parents lived with us. We were married in the spring of last year and I had only"—and here her voice broke—"one little baby, born in February, a boy, and oh, so good! My husband was a fisherman and had gone to one of the houses where we stored fish and nets, in order to make ready for the next day's toil. Most of the Monzen fishermen were out after sardine, having gone round to the Hokkaido coast; but my husband had, unfortunately, not left with the rest. We were not poor; always had enough, and my husband was very diligent and kind to his parents. When I heard the awful noise, I snatched up baby and ran out. It was nearly dark, yet in a few moments I could quite plainly see a huge wall of black water, with a shining fringe or edge, coming up swiftly from the sea. It may have been 10 *cho* away when I first caught sight of it. I started to run back to the house and warn my husband's parents, but before I could get there—not more than 50 yards away—the water was upon us, coming with a great roar. There was a swirl and a wild struggle in the waves. I felt my head knock against something, and don't remember anything after that. It was long after midnight when I came to my senses. I had been thrown up on the hillside, a thousand yards or more from where I had been. I could not move, though I tried to rise, and heard people groaning all around me. Baby was still in my arms, but strangely quiet. I think I must have fainted again, for I remember nothing until I found myself here in this room. Yes, baby is dead; and my husband, too, and his parents, and mine also. I have an uncle living farther away up the coast, but no other relations left alive." One little boy of five years, close at hand, seemed to be mentally paralysed by the shock. He could not tell his own name, and nobody had come to ask about him. From his childish babble it was supposed that he was the sole surviving member of a once-numerous family. The scene and the stories I had heard saddened me so greatly that I was glad to retrace my steps. After a pleasant *dejeuner* with my French friends, I started once more for Hachinohe, but this time on a weird-looking steed, warranted to carry even my weight across the two steep and high hills—better, mountains—between Kuji and Ono-mura, 13 miles away. My Bucephalus was thin and scraggy, though sturdy; a stallion, yet rejoicing in the absurdly poetical name of *Ko-sakura*, or "Little Cherry." But I would say nothing in his disfavour, for he carried me bravely to Ono in three hours and a half, without a halt. He had good points unquestionably, on one of which I proceeded to hang my hat, in order to conform to the laws of equine symmetry. Climbing up the first hill, Naga-yama, which was very steep, *Ko-sakura*

would every now and then stop to look around reproachfully, as much as to say "Won't you please make yourself a little lighter?" I explained that "negative gravity" was a science of which I knew little beyond the works of Frank R. Stockton. After a moment's reflection *Ko-sakura* would struggle on again, but it was easy to see that his soul was far from being at peace. Ono-mura was reached at 11.30 a.m., and there my jinrikisha-pullers were awaiting me. The remaining 23 miles were done between noon and 4.45 p.m. When again I reached Hachinohe it was in a condition of physical distress that made rest an imperative necessity. On the road back I had better opportunities to note the luxuriant vegetation of these beautiful hills. Silver maples, and a peculiar kind of chestnut, were abundant. Hedge-roses (known as *utsugi* here) lined the wayside, with beautiful natural trellises of the wild honeysuckle, or *sui-katsura*. The atmosphere was redolent of their honeyed breath, and life was a pleasure in such idyllic surroundings. To-morrow morning early I leave for Morioka, the prefectural capital of this ill-fated Iwate.

Hachinohe, 6 a.m., June 25th.

I leave in two hours for Morioka, but must jot down what I have heard. Two Japanese men-of-war, the *Musashi* and *Tatsuta*, are in the offing searching for corpses. Up to midnight about 40 bodies had been recovered, all greatly decomposed and no longer recognizable. They were immediately put in quicklime. Women preponderated, the local police inform me. Representatives of the *Fiji Shimpō* and *Nippon* have passed through Kuji, while the editor of the *Chuo Shimbun* has just started for that sad place.

Morioka, 4.10 p.m.

Reaching this prefectural capital of Iwate, at 1.30 p.m. I repaired at once to the prefectal offices. The local Governor, Mr. Hattori, left yesterday for Miyako with Count Itagaki, the Home Minister. Up to noon to-day, the subjoined particulars had reached the office, from which it will be seen that the number of deaths is less than had been reported. Thirty-seven towns and villages report 22,947 dead or missing; 3,717 wounded; 79,910 uninjured; 17,476 houses wrecked; 930 houses partially destroyed. The towns or villages which suffered most were:—

	Deaths.	Wounded.	Houses destroyed.
Kamaishi (town)	4,700	500	1,223
Yamada (town)	1,040	150	782
Taro (vill.)	2,655	277	666
Shirota (vill.)	500	11	469
Ukashima (vill.)	1,069	190	511
Suizaki (vill.)	606	30	400
O-funado (vill.)	780	35	306
Akasaki (vill.)	448	68	389
Funakoshi (vill.)	1,327	701	474
Osawa (vill.)	550	59	109
Omoe (vill.)	700	33	236
Komoto (vill.)	367	257	386
Tanabata (vill.)	303	15	405
Fudai (vill.)	1,010	153	330
Ayasato (vill.)	1,458	59	451

It is now definitely known that the French missionary, Henri Lissard, was lost in the Kamaishi catastrophe. Père Lissard was attached to the Roman Catholic Mission here, was 29 years of age, four years a resident in Japan, and most ardently devoted to his cause. I found an entry at Ono-mura to the effect that he had stopped there with his guide and interpreter, Yoshida, on the night of June 2nd. On June 4th he met and conversed with Messrs. Cottin and Bickart near Kuji, these gentlemen being just then enjoying a walk in the neighboring hills. Two days later he was in Morioka, and left at once for Miyako and Kamaishi. One of the French fathers here, who has just this afternoon returned from a melancholy search at Kamaishi, supplies me with the following particulars:—"Père Lissard had passed through Miyako and, after a long and wearisome walk, reached Kamaishi at 20 minutes before 8 p.m., June 15th. He had changed his dusty *soutane* for another and was about to sit down to supper when the terrible wave came, carrying him, his interpreter, and thousands of others out to sea. Père Lissard was an expert swimmer and was thereafter seen by several, struggling manfully in the waves and swimming towards a little flight of steps near to one of the hills by the beach. But his long *soutane* must have prevented the exertion of his full skill, or else he may have been wounded. At all events he was seen to sink. Yoshida, the interpreter, had better luck, and managed to reach safety. Père Lissard's body has not been recovered, though the *soutane* he had taken off has since washed ashore. His death is profoundly felt by the native converts." The people of Kamaishi would not only have suffered from cruel water but from actual starvation as well—their granaries and

fields having been entirely destroyed—had it not been for a large quantity of rice which had just been sent to the town for the miners in the adjacent mines. It was three months' rice and has sufficed to keep the people from actual death by hunger. Help is pressingly needed.

But this letter must come to an abrupt conclusion, as the train is about to start for Tokyo. Would I were going with it!

I must add, in conclusion, that the Rev. Mr. Miller, a Morioka resident and of the American Mission Board, is now at Miyako, for which place he left 3 or 4 days ago. Père Rispal is the only foreigner who lost his life in the earthquake wave.

Morioka, Iwate Prefecture,

June 27th, 2 a.m.

Since last writing, I have been having interviews with several people from Kamaishi and Miyako, survivors of the cataclysm; Mr. Murakami, Secretary of this Prefecture; Mrs. Rothersey Miller; the Fathers of the local Roman Catholic mission, and several others.

In the first place let me refer to the wide-spread rumour—now proved to be without foundation—that an American missionary was among the victims of the great seismic wave. This report reached me first on the 22nd instant, while at Hachinohe (so pronounced; not Hachinoe), but in so vague a form that I refused to give it credence; besides, I was in Aomori Prefecture, and the story ran that the American missionary had met his death somewhere between Kuji and Miyako—or in a district more than 100 miles long. However, on the road to Kuji I met with some constables coming from that place, who stated that they also had heard of the matter, and that the American had been a resident of Hakodate and named something like "Wild" or "Wilds." This was pretty circumstantial evidence, but still unsatisfactory. At Ono-mura I questioned the two inn-keepers of the place, and both declared that an American, belonging to the Methodist Mission, had passed through the village between the 3rd and 5th of the month. In the registry of one of the inns I found the names of the late Father Henri Rispal, and his servant or interpreter, Yoshida, under date of June 2nd. At Kuji no one could supply me with any further information, though such an American gentleman was believed to have passed through. On reaching Morioka yesterday, my first act was to interview Secretary Murakami on the subject. He said that inquiries had already been made telegraphically from Tokyo; he knew of no such missionary, but would at once put me in communication with Kamaishi and Miyako. The vague particulars I had received were then telegraphed to these two towns and at 9 o'clock in the evening replies came in. Nothing, the local police inspectors affirmed, was known of such an American, nor had the corpse of any foreigner been discovered. In the meantime, I had called upon Mrs. Rothersey Miller and learned that no Hakodate missionary had been at Morioka within the month. The Rev. E. Rothersey Miller had left for Kamaishi on the 22nd instant and was expected to return within 24 hours. He would, I was told, give the *Japan Mail* full particulars of his journey. Kamaishi lies on the coast 24 *ri* from Morioka, or 20 *ri* from Hanamaki, the second station from this town on the way up. The road is a most trying one to travel on, for the most part too narrow for *jinrikisha*, and there is one *toge* or mountain pass most difficult to negotiate. Japanese pedestrians take, as a rule, three days for the journey, but it can be done in two. The Rev. Rothersey Miller, however, using a bicycle, had reached Kamaishi by noon of the day after starting, which is exceedingly good time. Père Rispal, leaving Morioka at dawn, had reached Miyako 40 hours later; but the late lamented Father was an extraordinarily swift pedestrian. On arriving at Miyako, where a native convert was in *extremis*, Père Rispal celebrated mass by the sick man's bedside; and at 2 a.m. of June 15th left for Kamaishi. The distance between the two towns is, the Fathers here tell me, *onze lieues*, over a very hard road. Yet Père Rispal and his interpreter had reached Kamaishi at 7.40 p.m. the same day: a prodigious walk. He had only halted for a brief lunch at noon, or at 3 p.m. to be exact, and was tired out, as one can easily imagine, on arriving at his destination. He had just changed his *soutane*, as related in my last letter, and was about to sit down to supper when the dreadful cannonade of the approaching seismic wave was heard. Yoshida and the inmates of the house in which the Father was, ran off at full speed, for the horrid wall of water was already distinctly visible. Père Rispal also ran out, but was seen to hesitate and is believed to have turned back for something he had forgotten, in one of the coast-villages. Though badly injured himself, he worked for three days with other volunteers in rescuing the wounded, drag-

ging people from under the débris of their houses, and working with most unselfish devotion. It was not until the third day had passed that he gave up, and promptly succumbed to what had, from the outset, been a mortal wound. Great praise is due to the police, moreover, for their almost superhuman exertions since the catastrophe. Many constables were drowned, and of the survivors several have lost their entire families; yet they have not flinched nor flinched from the fulfilment of their innumerable duties.

"What," I asked of a Kamaishi survivor, "was the condition of the townspeople on the morning after the cataclysm?" "One of utter stupefaction," he replied. "Many people completely lost their wits; others sat down by the ruins of their homes, or near where their houses had been, speechless with grief and horror. There they remained until we had to force them away and compel them to eat and drink, which they did mechanically and apparently without knowing what was going on. Several persons, principally women, became entirely demented, yet—would you believe it?—on the very night of the catastrophe a band of marauders came down from the hills, and committed many thefts." Think of it! These human ghouls prowling among the dead and dying, the ruined houses and sodden fields, and robbing the wretched survivors of what even the terrible wave had forborne to take! Some were captured red-handed, and if the scene had been America would have been given short shrift. Imprisonment for life does not, I hold, meet with the exigencies of such a case. But to continue. "Physicians from the garrison at Sendai," went on my informant, "were the first on the field and did yeomen's service. Had it not been for them I do not know what we should have done. Anyhow a number of people died before help could reach them, as some of our local practitioners on the coast had lost their lives with the rest. How did we do for food? Well, if it had not been for the Kamaishi Iron Mine, the greatest iron-mine in Japan, hundreds of people would have starved to death. The miners had just received a load of rice, and this was doled out in quantities sufficient to keep the people alive till other help came. But food is sorely needed, not to speak of clothes. Many who were, ten days ago, quite rich, are now the veriest beggars. Speaking of children, do you know that one little fellow was found alive, beneath the débris of a large house, fully four days after the catastrophe occurred? Well, it's a fact. Child of about five." "And how about the work of the Red Cross?" I asked. "Oh!" and his face lighted up; "they've done wonders. It isn't so much the doctors, for with the military surgeons we could have got along. But the nurses! The skilled, kind nursing; the unwearying service; the knowing just what to do and what is wanted—we should never have enjoyed this but for the Red Cross." I saw last evening a number of sufferers sent up here from Kamaishi and Miyako, *via* Hanamaki, by the Red Cross. All were convalescent, but pale and bore terrible marks of suffering. As at Kuji, I learn that most of the people killed must have died from head-wounds: the simply drowned are in the minority. And the force of the water must have been unimaginably great. Some victims were found without arms, or legs; some with their heads missing, or half the skull cut away as with a knife. Of course, such injuries are attributable to the wretched sufferers having been dashed furiously against the rocks and cliffs with which the Iwate littoral abounds. As I think I have already mentioned, there is a great lack of fish in the markets; and this not because of the want of fishermen but because there are hardly any piscine denizens left in the waters along this, so Rein calls it, *überans fische-reiche küste*. Either the fish have been killed in millions, or else, what is scarcely supposable, they have taken to greater depths and gone farther out to sea. While on this subject I must not forget to mention my discoveries concerning a most malodorous fish-compost I found first at Minato-mura. It consists of the partly-purified heads and tails of sardines, with a substratum of minute crabs, small sea-snails (*Rotella*, *Mitra*, *Conus*, *Murex*, etc.), and various *algae* or sea-tang. And the smell is, I do assure the readers of the *Japan Mail*, simply deafening. How the people manage to live in so vitiated an atmosphere, is to me absolutely incomprehensible. And nearly every house is surrounded by coarsely-plaited mats on which this wretched compost is slowly drying and tainting the air for miles around. I have tried by questioning many eye-witnesses, to ascertain the exact height of the seismic wave. Replies give various figures, from 20 to 30 feet. From what has been told me I am certain that the height must have varied with the locality, and that it depended largely on the depth or shallowness of the waters just off the beach. At Same-mura, for instance,

eye-witnesses said "Twenty feet," while my own measurements by the marks on the hillsides, made it a little less than 18 feet. At Kuji the answer was "Over 25—nearly 30 feet." I made it here nearly 22 feet. At Kamaishi they say it was fully 30 feet high. Again, the phosphorescent fringe was not noticed by many. One Monze-mura survivor said it "looked as if the moon were shining brightly on the edge," yet a Miyako man tells me that he saw no phosphorescence whatever. It was all black and horrid-looking. It was half-flood when the wave came, and some people in North-eastern Aomori noticed an unusually high tide, but nothing more.

I must note, before closing this letter, that Kuji and Hachinohe are, beyond all comparison, the poorest, dirtiest towns I have seen in Japan. The roofs of the houses, all of which look centuries old, are weighted down with large stones. On asking the reason of this, I was told that the singles were not nailed down and generally thrown on at random; so these stones served to keep the light pine-shingles in place. It is not a pretty habit and argues laziness on the part of the builders. But the country about these towns is delightful and picturesque to a degree. Most interesting to me has been the strange kind of chestnut, already referred to, which flourishes everywhere hereabouts in a wild state and is just now in flower. The fruit is, I am told, no bigger than a boy's marble, yet excellent in taste. So plentiful are these chestnuts in season that one *sho* may be bought for 8 *rin*, about two farthings! The food in the inns is far from good, a leathery species of *tofu* being the standard dish. It is wholly unappetising. And as to the language of the people, I confess having been at fault on several occasions. The dialect is guttural and not pleasing. The village of Shirinuchi, for instance, is locally known as *Suri-uji*; "8 o'clock," *hachiji*, become *hazu dzu*; the diphthong *ai* is invariably pronounced *é*, even by the better classes; *i* becomes *e*, and *e* becomes *i* as finals; the aspirated sibilant *sh* is unpronounceable to most people. They say *su*, instead.

But the day is breaking and the lamp burns low. Yet I cannot close without giving the text, verbatim, of the Kamaishi telegram announcing the death of Père Rispal. It came from the Inspector of Police and was addressed to the local Prefectural office. The date is "5 p.m. June 17th."—*Morioka Yotsuya no senkyoshi Futsu-kokufin Henri Rispal sakujitsu yahari tsu-nami no tame shibo su-shigai mienai.*

P. S.—Morioka people tell me that there was a continuous earthquake felt here and in the vicinity for thirty full minutes on the evening of the catastrophe. There was, however, no subter, ranean roar. The shock was light but distinct and remarkable for its great length.

The Rev. Rothersey Miller writes from Morioka:—Three places on the coast of Iwate were especially centres of the destruction caused by the seismic wave. These are Sakari, in the Kesen district, in the south; Kamaishi, in the centre; and Miyako, towards the north. Of these three places I selected Kamaishi as the most accessible as well as the one where most destruction had been wrought. Starting by the early train on Monday, the 22nd, with my wheel, I went by rail to Hanamaki, because the road that way is better than the direct one from Morioka. The first day I reached Tōno at 1.30 p.m., and though I could have gone farther, there was no place to spend the night this side of the Senin Toge, and to reach Ohashi would have involved travelling for six and a half *ri* more over a road that would make any good bicycle blush. The new road is in process of construction, and where a man takes the new road he wishes he had kept to the old, and where he steers between the boulders and sharp stones of the old road he wishes he had remained faithful to the bumps and stakes of the new. Then there is general up-hill work all the way, besides several considerable hills of more than a mile each. Of course it is simply impossible to ride over the Senin Toge. I was obliged to have a man to pull my wheel up one side and then change the rope to the back to keep it from running away while I guided it down the gulleys and among the rocks on the other side. From the foot of the *toge* to the town of Kamaishi the road is very good, and with a down grade I got in about one o'clock on the afternoon of the second day. I carried with me about twenty pounds of luggage.

The only reason for giving these details is lest someone else should think of going to Kamaishi on his wheel, or even doing it in one day from Hanamaki. It will not pay any one to try wheeling beyond Tōno, for the road, besides being up-grade, is simply indescribably bad, and on the only bit of good road, that between Ohashi and the

foot of the *toge* and Kamaishi, the Mining Co. run little cars, like those which used to be on the Karuizawa Toge, for the benefit of any wishing to take advantage of them. They leave Ohashi, however, only once a day at 2 p.m.; but as the clocks of the company seem to be between one and two hours fast, that must be taken into consideration by any one wishing to make connections.

Kamaishi is a town that has been visited by misfortune in the past. In 1882, the cholera swept the place, when 500 persons were attacked, 200 of whom succumbed to the disease: then in 1883, there was a fire which burnt 600 houses, among which were the town offices and public buildings. Three years later, in 1886, there was another outbreak of cholera, which fortunately was very light in the town itself, but some of the neighbouring villages suffered badly, as Toni to the south and Odzuchi to the north. Again, four years ago, in 1892, there was another fire in which 450 houses were burnt; and finally this year of 1896 will be ever memorable, for out of 1,105 houses 953 have been destroyed, and from a population of 6,529 persons 4,985 are dead and about 500 wounded, so that only about 1,000 of the former population are now strong and well.

A school-house has been turned into a temporary hospital where are surgeons from the Red Cross Society and from the Military Barracks in Sendai. They were, however, short-handed in both doctors and nurses, and asked for five of the former and 15 of the latter, and as I crossed the *toge* on my return on Thursday afternoon I met more military doctors and nurses making their way to the town. At present there are about 70 in-patients in the hospital, but the authorities are trying to get all the wounded into the wards, so that they may receive the attendance required. Those who are able to walk come each day and are treated outside of the temporary wards. Some few who were able to stand the journey have been taken to other places.

I can not do better than express here the obligation which I am under to the officials, especially to Mr. Yasutsugu Hattori, the headman of the town (*chocho*) for his courtesy in supplying all information I needed and giving all particulars which were in his power. The Iron Company too, placed at the disposal of those who came to investigate, their official boarding house, and supplied rooms, charging but a nominal price, and a gentleman, one of whose rooms I occupied, Mr. Takahashi Senzo, treated me as an honoured guest.

All the coast in the neighbourhood of Kamaishi is cut up into little bays and inlets by the sharp foot-hills which run out like fingers into the water, making beautiful and picturesque scenery, but at the same time greatly increasing the difficulty of travel. The towns and villages are built on the narrow open spaces at the foot of these hills, the beach being generally so confined that the houses have to run up into the little valleys, lying crowded together in a very different manner from the farming villages of the interior. Of course most of the people are fishermen: in one village they told me that out of 958 persons there were only four farmers.

The Rev. Rotherham Miller, describing the town of Kamaishi, says that there were two spots of high ground, one a little bluff under the cliffs, on which stood the Town Office and the other buildings huddled around it; the other a place where the road to the north winds up a little valley and so over the hills, the houses being built up closely for some distance on this road. The rest of the town was crowded between these two high places and the shore, while among the houses narrow streets or lanes seemed to wander at will. To the south of the town proper lay fields and paddy all the way to the foundry at Suzuko ("The Wind-Bell's Child," but why such a romantic name for the settlement of an iron foundry?) from the railway, is carried on an embankment along the edge of the fields to the jetty, built to facilitate the loading of ships with the iron.

On looking down upon Kamaishi, or any of the villages visited by the seismic wave, the first thing which attracted my attention was a queer brown look that covered everything. On examination I saw this came from two causes, one that the sun-browned house timbers were strewn over the waters, beach, village sites, and fields; the other that wherever the waves went over the crops or washed up against the sides of the hills all the grasses and shrubs were burnt by salt waves as in a prairie fire.

I am afraid that I can give but an inadequate idea of how the town of Kamaishi looks at present, for to say that the houses were crushed and piled one on another till they were a mass of kindling wood, and then were scattered over the neighbouring fields, is one thing, but to make one realize

all the desolation in those piled-up ruined homes, all the misery implied in those scattered timbers, as they lie drifting on the sea or bleaching in the sun, is something much more difficult.

The disaster came about eight o'clock in the evening, when, on account of the rain and the celebration of the *sekku* of the fifth month (old style), almost every one was at home. I was told that none were out fishing from Kamaishi, though some boats had gone out from other places. There were some slight shocks of earthquake, but they were so slight that many, if not most, persons did not notice them. I inquired particularly about the noises heard before the coming of the wave. Some say they heard distinctly noises as of guns discharged at sea, some as of thunder, and others as of strong wind blowing, while others say that they heard nothing but the terrible *gara-gara-gara-r-r-r* of the houses as they were swept down and dashed together before the advancing wave; but it must be remembered that just at that time the people, for the most part, had other things to think of besides listening to the sea. The time of these noises is put variously at from "five minutes more or less" to ten minutes. Some few report that they saw the tide recede, and the time of the recession is put at from five to ten minutes before the coming of the wave. When the wave did strike the beach and crush the houses to splinters before it, there was no time for any one near the water to escape to a place of safety, though some who were nearer the bluff managed to reach higher ground. Those who were finally saved were those caught in the falling timbers and carried up to the foot of the cliff, and after the waves had receded were extricated, or they were those who managed to catch on to some piece of floating wreckage and drifted about till they were stranded or were picked up by boats.

From the reports, it would appear as if the wave was of different heights at different parts of the coast, but this can be accounted for by the formation of the land. In places, like Kamaishi, where the flood had open ground on which to spread after the first crash, the houses were piled on top of one another, or were moved bodily from their bases, or so fell as to keep some semblance of shape, as where a two-storey house was tumbled into a tottering one-storey ruin, or where a roof still covered what was once a humble home; but where from the land formation the opening to the sea was wide but the ground on which the village was built ran up into a point or valley with most of the houses crowded on to the beach, there was nothing to show where houses had stood but loose timbers and scattered boards, nothing whatever left standing, because the water must have been piled up as it advanced up the narrow space, so that when it returned it swept everything away out to sea, the second wave carrying back again the light, loose pieces and scattering them in confusion over the empty space. This was the case at Toni. Then again, as at Rio-ishi (not Futa-ishi, the local reading of place-names being very strange all along the coast), there was nothing left to tell that a village had once stood on the little beach but the smooth foundation of a storehouse. It was as if "swept with a broom," as I heard it expressed several times.

At Kamaishi the present ruin extends from the beach all the way to the foot of the bluff, but as the waters spread out on either hand they carried the broken timbers and portions of houses, as well as household furniture, together with ties from the railway, parts of bridges and the pier, and boats in all stages of wreckage, and left them stranded all over the valley, so that at first sight one would suppose that the town covered four or five times the actual site of the houses. Boats of 50 and 60 *koku* are stranded half or three quarters of a mile from the water's edge, some slightly injured and others smashed almost beyond recognition, nothing remaining but a knee of timber, or some side or plank or rudder-post.

The force of the water may be judged from the fact that one of the monolith pillars to the *Torii* of the little *Miya* of Osaki Jinja, now lies about twenty feet from its foundation (it was not easy to step off the distance through the rubbish, and building that was going on), while the other pillar and lintel lay between. There were two foreign rigged vessels of 100 and 150 tons carried ashore. I went over to the larger of the two as she lay a half mile or more from the water in the middle of a wheat field. The cable had not parted, but she had dragged her anchor, which broke through and tore down the railway embankment and still lay towards the sea, showing that the receding wave had spread out, leaving her as she lay without washing her into the bay again. She had drifted side on because at the time she was down at the stern. There were three sailors in her, none of whom were injured in the least; the captain was on shore at the time but feeling anx-

ious about the weather ran to look out at the first sound of the crashing houses. The house he was in was left standing though those in front and on either side had fallen. One foreign rigged boat of about 50 *koku* was carried across the bay and landed in the little village of Matsubara beyond some of the houses which were left standing.

The full particulars have not yet been gathered, as it will take about another week before the names of all the survivors are obtained. When they are in, I am happy to say that the grand total will be slightly diminished—though sufficiently appalling any way—the reason being that when the first reports came in account was taken only of those who were on the ground at the time, but it was afterwards known that some were away on business or for other reasons at the time of the disaster and have since returned.

There were many hair-breadth escapes, some of which have been reported before, but I think they are of sufficient interest to bear repetition; they were told me mostly by Mr. Hattori, the Mayor of the town, or by the persons themselves who escaped. One of the most remarkable happened to Mr. Hattori himself. He had been invited to the house of Mr. Kogamui, a member of the standing committee of the Provincial Assembly, but had excused himself on account of the press of business; but after a while a special messenger came to urge him to come, as the chief of police was there, so he yielded, and the three gentlemen were in an upstairs room enjoying themselves, when a cry of "fire" was raised outside. The first rush of the waves as they tore down the houses on the beach sounded like the crackling of flames. The first instinct of the Mayor was to run quickly to the high ground so as to see in what direction the flames were likely to spread, and for this purpose he made his way out the back door and ran for the bluff, which was directly behind the house. On reaching high ground he turned and saw a dark mass rushing towards him, it was the wave bearing the broken remnants of the houses from the beach, and as he stood he saw the houses he had just quitted swept down before the advancing mass. The chief of police, who was but a step behind him, having stopped to pick up his tobacco-pouch, was caught between a falling roof and the stone wall at the foot of the bluff, and pinned fast so that he could not escape. He was under the water for a short time and was badly injured, but escaped with his life, while the unfortunate host, who had run to the front door instead of the back, was caught by the wave and overwhelmed and his body has not been recovered. The Mayor started out to go to his own house, which in a place of safety on high ground, but on account of the darkness and rain it was with difficulty that he could find the way, and before reaching there he was met by messengers from his wife, who had been sent to look for his body, supposing it impossible that he could have escaped. Forty-three years before there had been a tidal wave at Kamaishi which, however, had done but little damage. The people learned from their fathers that when a tidal wave came the thing for them to do was to go up-stairs, or get on the roof of the house, and they would be perfectly safe. Acting on this suggestion, there were many instances of persons running upstairs on the first indication of danger, some of whom were saved in consequence, as they were not crushed when the lower part of the house fell. This was the case of the telegraph operator, who, on the first alarm, ran up-stairs with his family, and although the house was carried away from its foundations and the lower part was crushed to pieces, yet he and all his family were saved. It was to his promptness that telegraphic communication was opened so soon with the outer world: he went to Suzuko, at the iron works, through which the telegraph line passes, and opened an office, getting an old machine from the operator in Odzuchi, whose office had been preserved intact, and with this machine sent a message to Morioka, which reached there about one o'clock the next day, and the Governor being absent in Tokyo at the time, one of the Sanjikan, Mr. Murakami, set off at once, and by travelling all night reached Kamaishi the next day and arranged for supplying the poor people with rice.

Mr. Kano Kyubei had a wonderful escape. When he knew of the coming of the seismic wave he sent his family to a place of safety and went upstairs himself to get something, when the house was struck and overwhelmed. Although unhurt he was washed out to sea, where at first he got on a piece of timber, and then seeing a roof about six feet square he got on it and picking up two *futon* which were floating by, wrapped them around him. He was washed by the second wave just under the town offices where, leaving his raft, he clung to a tree till the water subsided, when he went to a place of safety.

Mr. Asano, the head of the police, was washed away with his house, and after getting on a floating roof, was carried clear across the bay to the village of Urei-shi, where he arrived unhurt.

Mr. Motoki, Secretary of the Registry Office (Tokijo), told me that he was in the habit of taking a walk on the beach in the evening about dark, but on that eventful day he was in the house on account of the rain. Hearing the crackling of the houses as they were broken up and driven together, he at first thought it was a fierce wind, but then recognizing something in the noise different from the sound of wind, he went to the window and opened the *shoji*, when he saw a dark mass coming towards him and realized that it was a seismic wave. Speechless with horror he rushed back, and catching up his baby in his arms and his wife by the hand, without stopping to explain, hurried with them up the hill at the back of the house into the darkness and rain. Fortunately his office, which was in the house where he lived, was just outside the edge of destruction, although he did not know this at the time. Leaving his wife and child he went back to see if he could not save his legal papers. On all sides could be heard groans and cries of *Tasukete kurete*, but he could see nothing in the darkness and as the rain was pouring he could not keep a lantern lighted.

There was also a remarkable case of a little girl, only 11 years old, who was found on the third day under a fallen house, where she had been wedged in between a *fansu* and a fallen beam, which rested on the *fansu*, so that it protected her from the rest of the debris and she was taken out unhurt.

In the principal hotel of the place there were eleven guests at the time of the calamity. Of these all escaped but two, one, a man in the employ of the telegraph department, and the other, the lamented Rev. M. Henri Rispal, who, as one gentleman expressed it, "had but come to die," for he had hardly arrived from an evangelistic tour when the wave struck the house. His companion, the evangelist from Yamada, Mr. Yoshida, escaped. On the other hand, of the 14 composing the family of the innkeeper, only three escaped.

On my way to Kamaishi, while stopping the first night at Tono, I called on a gentleman there and was told that a relative of his, who had been injured at Kamaishi, desired to see me, as he had lived with Mr. Hoy of Sendai and was a Christian. I was very glad to see him, and learned that he had been badly hurt, having been caught between two large beams of his falling house, so that he could not move, and in that position had been washed under the cliff, where he lay for some time unconscious, but after a while he could make out that a man was passing with a lighted torch, and calling to him, the man asked who he was. This he thought a remarkable question at such a time, but on telling the man his name it turned out that the man had lived just back of his home. The man removed the accumulated rubbish, but found that he could not move the beams without assistance, so he told Mr. Chiba to be patient while he went for help. He soon returned with his father, and they together managed to take away the timbers and help their friend to a little hut, as he could not walk, where he remained till another friend removed him to his own house and nursed him, while word was sent to Mr. Chiba's relatives in Tono, who came and took him home. His wife and his four servants, in a butcher-shop, which he kept, had all been killed, and the bodies of only two were found. Being anxious to have a Christian funeral for his wife he asked me to stop, if possible, on the way back, which I did gladly. To be sure the costume of the officiating minister was rather unclerical, for I stood with a beard of a week's growth, wearing white flannel knickerbockers—that is, they were white when I left home—and a black knitted jacket. The singing was done by myself and the young daughter, who had just arrived from her school in Hakodate. Her voice was sweet and clear, but once or twice she was almost overcome, for she had but heard of her mother's death, a few days before, when she had been summoned by telegraph. I must say, however, that I rarely have had a more attentive audience, which was composed of relatives and friends. They asked me to speak again in the evening, which I did to a smaller but no less attentive company.

Before closing what I have to say of Kamaishi, I would note that during the short time I was there a change had taken place. The first afternoon the people seemed still dazed and apathetic, those who were at work putting up their houses, did it in a half-hearted way, but before I came away they were recovering their spirits and working like the light-hearted Japanese they are.

CRICKET.

A. TO K. VERSUS L. TO Z.

A match was played, in somewhat overcast weather, on Saturday afternoon between alphabetical teams, twelve aside. The L. to Z. contingent went in first to bat, sending out the two Tyngs to face the bowling of Bugbird and H. S. Goddard. The Rev. T. S. Tyng was bowled by Bugbird in his third over, when the score stood at 13; these figures had just been doubled when Tyng jun., was stumped by Dickinson, off Bugbird. The retiring bat had contributed 11 runs. White was then joined by Duff, but the latter made but a short stay, being dismissed by Goddard after compiling three. Schurr stayed much longer, the total being taken to 88 before he succumbed to E. B. S. Edwards's bowling. White was then paired with Walford and the runs came merrily, till at 136, the former was neatly bowled by H. S. Goddard—136-5-53. Two balls later in the over Goddard sent Dr. Todd's balls flying, nothing having been added to the score. Porch filled the vacancy but only to lose his partner, Walford being caught and bowled by Edwards. Then Lias came in. He started with two fours, a single, a couple, one more boundary for four, another couple, and then Goddard found his stumps. His contribution brought the score up to 162, Porch having meanwhile been stumped by Dickinson after compiling 3. The last four men, Libeaud, Showler, McGerrow, and Smith made 2, 11, 4, and 2 respectively, the innings closing for 180.

Dickinson and Kenyon opened for the A. to L. team. At 6, Kenyon was bowled by White: then Crawford joined Dickinson, who continued to score. Crawford managed to break his duck, and then was bowled by Lias—15-2-1. Edwards filled the empty crease and made the hit of the day, off White, in the twelfth over, sending him out of the ground for six. Edwards was the fifth wicket down for 71, Bugbird was the next at 78, and Cocksedge seventh at 127. Mr. Dodds and Allcock then came together and the former had put up 23 and the latter 5, when the waning light put an end to the game. Score:—

L. to Z.			
Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Bugbird...	...	...	6
Mr. J. D. Tyng, st. Dickinson, b. Bugbird...	...	...	11
Mr. F. E. White, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	53
Mr. C. Murray-Duff, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	3
Mr. J. Schurr, b. E. B. S. Edwards...	...	...	24
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. and b. Edwards...	...	...	34
Dr. Todd, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	1
Mr. J. Porch, st. Dickinson, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	8
Mr. P. J. Lias, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	86
Mr. E. J. Libeaud, c. and b. Edwards...	...	...	0
Mr. W. Y. Showler, b. H. S. Goddard...	...	...	13
Mr. C. McGerrow, not out...	...	...	4
Mr. V. Smith, b. Edwards...	...	...	2
b. s. w. 4	...	...	6

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Goddard...	197	55	5	6	1
Mr. Libeaud...	75	40	3	3	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards...	86	56	1	4	—
Mr. Wallace...	80	53	—	—	—

A. TO K.

Mr. H. V. Dickinson, b. White...	...	...	...	18
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, b. White...	...	...	...	4
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Lias...	...	...	...	1
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, run out...	...	...	...	30
Mr. Wallace (substitute) b. White...	...	...	...	21
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Lias...	...	...	...	20
Mr. J. Cocksedge, st. Duff, b. White...	...	...	...	30
Mr. J. Dodds, not out...	...	...	...	23
Mr. G. C. Allcock, not out...	...	...	...	5
Mr. Edisson	...	...	...	—
Mr. W. Goddard	...	...	...	—
Mr. H. S. Goddard	...	...	...	—
b. s. w. 1	...	...	...	8

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Lias...	108	44	7	2	—
Mr. White...	95	57	2	4	—
Mr. Libeaud...	35	24	3	—	—
Mr. Walford...	15	15	3	—	—

BASEBALL.

This match was played on Wednesday between the team that will represent the foreigners on Saturday, in the Fourth of July game, and a team from the U.S.S. *Machias*. Scores:—

Y.C. & A.C.				"MACHIAS."			
	POS.	RUNS.	OUT.		POS.	RUNS.	OUT.
Smith	CF	3	4	Soden	...	...	...
Abel	Thomas	...	...	...
Stanley	Rorhbach	...	...	...
Wills	Albro	...	...	...
Schwartz	Simmons	...	...	...
Bain	Ryan	...	...	...
Monahan	Taylor	...	...	...
Church	Ross	...	...	...
Ferguson	Clarke	...	...	...
Total	...	21	24	Total	...	6	27

INNINGS.

Y.C. & A.C.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Machias	3	4	0	4	3	0	5	2	0

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SEISMIC WAVE RELIEF FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Being myself a member of what you term the apparently indifferent or uncharitable majority who have not subscribed to the above fund, I strongly object to the tone of the remarks in your leader of this morning. Whilst the whole community is shocked by the appalling nature of the calamity in the North, there are some of us who believe that the extent of the pecuniary aid required is not in proportion to the magnitude of the disaster. It appears to us that where property has been destroyed the owners have for the most part also perished, and that where the workers have been swept away those who were dependent on them have not in many cases survived. We are waiting for more information, and perhaps our previous experiences have taught us not to yield to the first impulse of charity.

What the people want at the moment is evidently not money so much as the quick transportation of food, and necessities, and labourers, to the afflicted districts. That is a matter within the competence of the Japanese authorities, and they have not been as prompt as could be wished.

A large sum has been already subscribed, but if further details show that more relief is necessary, and that for default of Japanese sympathy and aid the sufferers remain dependent on the charity of foreigners, the money will be forthcoming.

I am Sir, Yours, &c.

FOREIGNER.

June 30th, 1896.

[If "Foreigner" refers to our article he will see that its comments can not possibly be read as relating to him.—Ed. J.M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the name of all those missionaries who have preferred to send their contribution directly to the Committee of missionaries in Sendai, which made an appeal to us, I beg to state, that not all who do not appear in your list, belong to the "indifferent or uncharitable majority," as you seem to suggest.

I enclose my card and remain, dear Sir,

Yours truly, A MISSIONARY.

Tokyo, July 1st, 1896.

[The missionaries were explicitly excluded from the scope of our remarks. It seems a pity that correspondents will not read more carefully the matter they undertake to criticize. Ed.—J.M.]

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, June 29.

Italy is recalling a number of the troops from Africa.

The Union Company's steamer *Arab* has left Cape-town with a force of Mounted Infantry and Artillery for Salisbury, Mashonaland, *via* Beira.

London, July 2.

The third reading of the Land Rating Bill has been passed by the House of Commons.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has adopted a vote of confidence in the Cabinet. Marquis Rudini, the Premier, has declared that it is necessary to retain Kassala in order to safeguard Italy's rightful interests in the Egyptian question.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Kobe, June 27, 5.30 p.m.

Mr. S. Rosenfeld shot himself last night. One eye has been destroyed and the other is damaged. He has been unconscious since the rash act was committed, and is still alive. Mr. Rosenfeld returned from a trip to the United States only a fortnight ago.

Hakodate, June 30, 7.55 a.m.

The *Idsumi* Kan arrived yesterday.

Hakodate, July 2, 8.20 a.m.

H.M.S. *Spartan* arrived yesterday.

Kobe, July 2, 4.20 p.m.

Mr. S. Rosenfeld died at 3 o'clock this afternoon: the remains will be accorded a Masonic funeral to-morrow.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Joan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, June 26, 1896.

H.I.M. the Czar is suffering from jaundice. Advices from the Cape report that the rebel Mashonas have looted Marindella? (Matindela) and have surrounded Fort Charter.

London, June 27.

The Chartered Company has accepted the resignations of Messrs. Rhodes, Beit, and Harris, and in so doing adopted a motion deeply regretting the events of December last, of which the Company was ignorant and which have necessitated the acceptance of these resignations. It was announced that Mr. Rhodes will continue in Rhodesia to aid the Company in the administration of the country.

The trial of Dr. Jameson has been fixed to commence on July 20th.

Exchange on London at Paris..... 25.16½
Exchange on London at New York ... 4.88½
(Tel. trans.)

London, June 30.

The American Democrats are profoundly divided over the silver question. Mr. Whitney, the Democratic leader, declares that the adoption of a silver programme by the Chicago Convention will lead to the disruption of the party.

A battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps (6th foot) has been ordered to the Cape.

The Deceased Wife's Sister Marriage Bill has been brought before a Committee of the House of Lords.

So far as can be ascertained, twenty whites have been murdered and fifty-nine either killed, wounded, or missing in Mashonaland.

London, July 1.

In the course of a speech Mr. McKinley fully accepted the currency plank in the Republican platform.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, June 24.

The Mashona revolt is spreading and there has been severe fighting in the Mazoe district, between the rebels and a party escorting the women and children.

London, June 25.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has arrived at Hamburg, where splendid festivities had been organised, but the Ambassador was confined to his house by a cold.

It is stated that he has given extensive orders to the Krupp Works at Essen, and to the Vulcan Works at Stettin.

London, June 26.

Soudan refugees report that the people are eager for freedom from Dervish rule.

America is using her good offices with Venezuela to procure the release of Mr. Harrison.

H.E. Li Hung-chang paid a two hours' visit to Prince Bismarck at Friedrichsruhe and met with a most cordial reception.

The Mashona rebels have surrounded Fort Charter and looted Marindella. Lieutenant Bremner, of the 20th Hussars, was killed at Marindella.

(FROM THE BANGKOK PAPERS.)

London, June 13.

The Emperor William, in a telegram to the British Naval Architects, who were lately visiting Germany, hopes their cordial reception proved to them that blood is thicker than water.

Lord Salisbury has stated in the House of Lords that Dongola is the present objective of the Egyptian expedition, and will not pledge the Government to a forward policy beyond Dongola. This latter may be undertaken any year, but he does not consider that Egypt will be made safe until the Egyptian flag floats over Khartoum. General Kitchener has a free hand to Dongola, but he is instructed not to go beyond.

(FROM THE "COMERCIO.")

Madrid, June 14.

The President of the United States has repeated his declaration that he will not interfere in any matter referring to Cuba.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

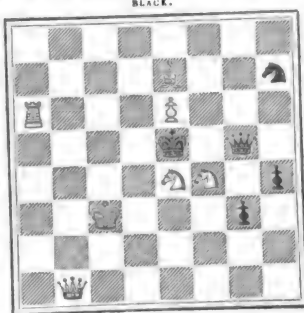
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 235.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Q 6	1—B takes R
2—P to Q 4, mate	1—K takes R
2—B to B 7, mate	1—B takes B
2—R to K 6, mate	1—R to B 5
2—Q to K 6, mate	1—R takes P
2—R to K 6, mate	1—R to B 4
2—Q to Q 4, mate	1—R to B 3
2—R to Q 5, mate.	

Correct answers from W.H.S., Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., and W.d.H.

PROBLEM NO. 237.

By A. G. FELLOWS, Wolverhampton.



White to play and mate in two moves.

This problem won the first prize in the recent tournament of the *Irish Weekly Times*, and is the work of a young composer of exceptional ability. Although only 18 years of age he has already competed successfully in 9 tournaments, winning 6 first prizes. His first prize was won when he was only 13 years of age.

SHOWALTER VERSUS BARRY.

The elder man has been doing good work lately, our last news, per steamer *Peru*, giving the score:—Showalter 4, Barry 1, Draws 3.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* discourseth as under on the match:—

Showalter, according to present appearances, will make short work of his opponent, Barry, and again demonstrate to the chess fraternity that he is a player not to be trifled with and that he is a worthy holder of the championship of the United States.

The fourth game of the match was played on May 23rd last, and resulted in a win for the Kentuckian after a well-contested fight.

Showalter opened with P to K 4, while Barry adopted the Petroff defence and selected the same variation as Kemeny did in the third game of his match against the same player.

In the fifth game, played May 25th, Barry opened with P to K 4 and Kt to K B 3, to which Showalter interposed the Petroff and played with such excellent judgment that his adversary was compelled to relinquish the game.

The sixth game, in which Barry declined to accept a queen's gambit offered by the Kentuckian, was begun last Saturday and was finished early on Sunday, the game ending in a draw after sixty-two moves.

Showalter played another Russian defence in the seventh game, played on Monday. The Bostonian again conducted a spirited attack, in the course of which he sacrificed a piece. This manoeuvre proved to be unsound, as Showalter easily neutralized the attack, and after thirty moves, when an adjournment was taken for dinner, had virtually won the game. Nine additional moves were made in the evening, when Barry resigned.

The eighth game, played on Wednesday, was a queen's gambit declined, the Kentuckian having

the move and forcing a win after forty-six moves by a very clever play.

This makes the score: Showalter 4, Barry 1, draws 3.

Barry has made a thorough study of the openings, and has put in a lot of practice over the board, successively meeting, as he advanced in skill, a better and a better grade of players. For two years past he has had to go out of Boston to get on a hard game, and most of the New York players have had a taste of his strategy, and for the same period he has been deeply engaged in chess analysis, concerned in the compilation of Howells and Young's "Minor Tactics of Chess," in the course of which several new schemes have been devised and old schemes revived, notably the real strength of the Petroff defence that Pillsbury made such good use of abroad.

Although chess matches have become fairly common in New York there has never been a match arranged and played in Boston for anything like the stake in this contest, and there has, perhaps, never before been a Boston player, thoroughly identified with the city, strong enough to enlist the attention of a first-class master.

Mr. Showalter was a chess master of the first rank as far back as 1885, and has successively beaten about all the American players except Pillsbury and Steinitz during the past decade. He made a creditable showing in the sixth American chess congress, and now by reason of defeating in turn whoever cared to discuss the American championship at the game, is in first place. He has just concluded a match in Philadelphia with Kemeny, that he won.

GAME NO. 515.

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP.

The following is the score of the ninth (and final) game:—

THE CENTRE GAME.

WHITE. Mr. Wallace.	BLACK. Mr. Hodgson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—Q takes P	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Q to K 3	4—B to Kt 5 ch.
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—Q to Kt 3	6—Q to B 3
7—B to Q 3	7—P to K R 3 (a)
8—B to K B 4	8—P to Q 3
9—Kt to B 3	9—B to Kt 3
10—Castles	10—P to K Kt 4 (b)
11—B to K 3	11—K Kt to K 2
12—B to Q Kt 5	12—B to Q 2
13—P to Q R 4	13—B takes B (c)
14—P takes B	14—Q to Kt 2
15—Q Kt to Q 2	15—Castles K R
(18m.)	(30m.) (d)
16—Kt to Q 4	16—Q R to K sq. (e)
17—R to B 2	17—Q to K 4
18—Q to B 3 (f)	18—Kt to Kt 3
19—Q to R 5	19—K to Kt 2
20—Kt to B 5 ch.	20—B takes Kt
21—P takes B	21—K to R 5 (g)
22—P to B 6 ch.	22—K to R 2
23—Kt to B 3	23—Q takes K P (h)
24—Kt takes Kt	24—P takes Kt
25—Q to B 5 ch.	25—K to Kt sq. (70m.)
26—B to Q 3 (40m.)	

And Mr. Hodgson resigned.

NOTES.

(a) Weak. 7..... K Kt to K 4 was the proper move.
(b) The K Kt ought to have been developed at K 2.
(c) This capture shows bad judgment. The proper move was 13..... Kt to K 4.
(d) 15..... Castles (Q R) was far better than 15..... Castles (K R).
(e) The position suggests 16..... Kt takes Kt (threatening ... Kt to K 7 ch), 17..... P takes Kt, B takes B &c., with probabilities of a drawn game. Black might also play 16..... P to Q R 3, and if the Knight be not captured, ... Kt to K 4.
(f) Obviously threatening Q to R 5.
(g) 21..... Kt to R sq was better as a defensive resource.
(h) If, instead, 23..... Kt takes Kt ch, then 24—R takes Kt, with an easily-won game.

NORTH V. SOUTH LONDON.

A match between teams of 100 a-side, representing London North and South of the Thames—the first of its kind—was played recently in the Cannon Street Hotel. The North won by 57½ games to 42½. A repetition of the match on a larger scale is in contemplation. The following are two of the games played:—

GAME NO. 516.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Carr (North).	BLACK. Howell (South).
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Castles
6—Kt to B 3	6—P to B 3 (a)
7—R to B sq.	7—Q Kt to Q 2
8—B to Q 3	8—R to B sq.
9—Castles	9—Kt to K sq.

10—Kt to K 5 (b)
 11—B takes B
 12—P to B 4
 13—Kt to B 3
 14—Kt to K 5
 15—Kt to K 2
 16—R to B 3
 17—B takes Kt
 18—B P takes Kt
 19—R to Kt 3 (c)
 20—Kt to B 4
 21—Kt to R 5 (d)
 22—Kt to B 6
 23—R to R 3
 24—Q to B sq. (e)
 25—Kt takes K P
 26—Kt to B 6
 27—Q to B 4
 28—Q to Kt 3
 29—R to R 4
 30—R to B sq.
 31—P to Q Kt 3
 32—P to K R 3
 33—R takes P (R 6)
 34—Q to B 4
 35—Q to Kt 5
 36—P to K 4 (f)
 37—R takes R P
 38—Kt to Q 6 ch.
 39—Kt takes Q
 40—Q to Q 8 ch.

(a) 6..... P to Q Kt 3 is preferable.
 (b) The Knight's occupation here is a strong point in White's game.
 (c) The freedom of action of the White pieces is in marked contrast with that of the Black.
 (d) If 21..... P takes Kt, White makes in 5 moves. The Kt gets immovably posted at B 6, and decides the game.
 (e) The object has apparently been overlooked by his opponent.
 24..... Q to K B 2 was the only reply.
 31..... A fine preparatory move for the catastrophe which follows.
 37..... B takes R would be more suddenly disastrous.

GAME No. 517.

WHITE. R. Loman. (South.)
 1—P to Q 4
 2—P to K 3
 3—Kt to K B 3
 4—B to Q 3
 5—P to Q Kt 3
 6—Q Kt to Q 2
 7—P to Q R 3
 8—B to Kt 2
 9—Kt to K 5
 10—P takes Kt
 11—Q to R 5
 12—Q to Kt 4
 13—P to K R 4
 14—B to K 2
 15—B to Q 4
 16—P takes P
 17—Kt to B 3
 18—Kt takes P
 19—Q to R 3
 20—P to B 4
 21—B takes B
 22—P to R 5
 23—R to Q B sq.
 24—Q to Kt 4
 25—P takes P
 26—Q takes Q (ch)
 27—B to Kt 4
 28—B to K B 3
 29—P to K Kt 4
 30—R takes R
 31—P to Kt 5
 32—R to R 7 (ch)
 33—B to Q 6
 34—P to B 5 (g)
 35—B to R 5 (ch)

BLACK. Rev. W. W. W. (North.)
 1—P to Q 4
 2—Kt to K B 3
 3—P to K 3
 4—P to B 4
 5—Kt to B 3 (a)
 6—B to K 2
 7—Castles
 8—P to Q R 3
 9—Kt takes Kt (b)
 10—Kt to K sq.
 11—P to K Kt 3
 12—P to Q Kt 4
 13—P to B 5
 14—Q to B 2
 15—P takes P (c)
 16—P to B 3
 17—P takes P
 18—Kt to B 3
 19—B to Q 3 (d)
 20—B takes Kt
 21—Q to B 2
 22—Kt to K 5
 23—R to R 2
 24—B to Q 2
 25—Q takes P
 26—P takes Q
 27—Kt to B 3
 28—K to B 2 (e)
 29—R to B sq. (f)
 30—B takes R
 31—Kt to Q 2
 32—K to K sq.
 33—R to R sq.
 34—Kt P takes P
 35—Resigns.

(a) The points in favour of developing this Knight on Q 3 in preference to Q B 3 are as follows:—It gives the Black Q B a chance to obtain an active range on Q Kt 3. It enables Black, if necessary, for the defence of his king's side, to play R to K sq. and Kt to B sq. It supports the K Kt necessary for the defence of the K R P. It leaves the Q B file open for the better development of the Q R, &c.
 (b) The consequence of this capture is a strong king's side attack. If the knight had been on Q 2 it would not have been necessary for Black to take the knight, but he could have continued with his development on the queen's side.
 (c) This capture is not favourable to Black. In view of the coming king's side attack B to B 4 would have been a better move, as White's Q B is in a very threatening position, and should be disestablished if possible. The move also would enable Black subsequently to play P to B 4, and then R to R 3 for the better defence of his king's side.
 (d) Kt to K 5 seems better, if White then plays (sp) P to B 3. Black could still play B to B 3 or Kt to Q 3, with Kt to B 3 or 4 to follow.
 (e) R to B 2 might enable him, if followed up by Kt to R 2, to make a laborious defence, though the chances are very much against its success.
 (f) White is taking advantage of the position with such good effect that there hardly seems a move by which Black can escape the action of the two rooks and the bishops so admirably placed. Perhaps K to K sq. might have been tried here, or even Kt to K 4.
 (g) This forms a fine ending to a well-played game. If Black had replied K P takes P, then B takes P would have been equally fatal.

GAME No. 518.

CHESS AT DUNDRE.

Played in the Tournament for the championship of Scotland on 6th April last.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. G. B. Fraser.
 1—P to K 4
 2—Kt to Q B 3
 3—P to B 4
 4—B to B 4
 5—P to Q 4
 6—K to B sq. (a)
 7—Kt to B 3
 8—P takes B
 9—K to B 2
 10—Kt to Kt 2
 11—Kt to K 2
 12—Q to K sq.
 13—R takes Q
 14—P to B 3
 15—P to Q Kt 4
 16—P to Q R 4
 17—P takes P
 18—R to K B sq.
 19—P to R 5
 20—P to R 3
 21—P to Kt 5
 22—B to Q 3
 23—P to K 5
 24—B to R 3
 25—Q B takes Kt (b)
 26—K R to Q B sq.
 27—Kt to Kt sq.
 28—Kt to B 3
 29—P to Q B 4
 30—P takes P
 31—R to B 5
 32—P to K 6
 33—P takes R
 34—R to K sq.
 35—R to K 8 ch.
 36—P takes P and wins.

BLACK. Sheriff Spens.
 1—P to K 4
 2—Kt to Q B 3
 3—P to Q 3
 4—P takes P
 5—Q to R 5 ch.
 6—B to Kt 5
 7—B takes Kt
 8—Q to R 6 ch.
 9—Q to R 5 ch.
 10—Kt to R 3
 11—P to K Kt 4
 12—Q takes Q
 13—B to Kt 2
 14—Castles (Q)
 15—P to K B 4
 16—P takes P
 17—K R to B sq.
 18—K to Kt sq.
 19—Kt to K Kt 5
 20—Kt to B 3
 21—Kt to K 2
 22—P to Q 4
 23—Kt to K 5
 24—R to B 2
 25—R takes B
 26—R to B 2
 27—Q R to K B sq.
 28—P to K R 3
 29—Kt to Kt 6
 30—R to Q 2
 31—Q R to Q sq.
 32—P to Q Kt 3
 33—P takes R
 34—R takes P
 35—K to Kt 2

(a) 6—K to K 2 is preferably.
 (b) White should rather have played 25—P to K 6.

NOTES FROM HOME.

PARLIAMENTARY CHESS TOURNAMENT.

A contest between players on the two sides of the House of Commons is in progress—one team representing the Government, the other the Opposition. Lord Randolph Churchill used to be one of the keenest and strongest players in Parliament. The champion of the House now is, it is said Mr. Horace Plunkett, by whom the tournament has been started. The teams are as follows:—Government—Horace Plunkett, Bonsor, Seton-Karr, Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett, Colonel Sidebottom, George Whiteley, Sir Herbert Maxwell, and Vicary Gibbs. Opposition—J. Parnell, Atherton Jones, Dr. Clark, W. Wilson, C. Shaw, W. Allen, M'Kenna, and Bryn Roberts. The strongest player on the Opposition is Mr. Parnell. Each player has to meet his opponent three times, and the contest was to be concluded on 15th June. Seven of the first eight games have been played. Dr. Clark beat Mr. Seton-Karr, Mr. Wilson beat Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Shaw defeated Mr. Sidebottom. Mr. M'Kenna beat Sir Herbert Maxwell, and Mr. Bryn Roberts won against Mr. Vicary Gibbs. Only one Unionist victory has been scored—viz., Mr. Whiteley against Mr. W. Allen.

MR. A. L. JORDAN.

This strong player from Nagasaki duly arrived on 26th ultimo and (the local clubs not being in session) has been entertained by the President of the Yokohama Club. On Saturday, 27th June, a visit was paid to the Tokio Chess Club, informally, at the Rokumeikan. So far, Mr. Jordan has won all his games over the board against local players, which is a good record.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE
 From America per O. & O. Co. Saturday, July 9th.*
 From Canada, &c. per C. P. R. Co. Monday, July 6th.†
 From America per P. M. Co. Tuesday, July 14th.†
 From Europe, via
 Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Monday, July 6th.†
 From Hongkong per C. P. R. Co. Thursday, July 9th.†
 From Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Saturday, July 11th.
 From Europe, via
 Hongkong per N. M. Co. Wednesday, July 15th.

* Copies left San Francisco via Honolulu on June 20th. † Express of Japan left Vancouver on June 22nd. ‡ City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on June 25th. § Hibernia left Hongkong on July 1st. ¶ Empress of India left Hongkong on July 1st. The English mail is on board the steamer Oceana.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES
 For America per P. M. Co. Saturday, July 4th.
 For Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Sunday, July 5th.
 For Hongkong per C. P. R. Co. Monday, July 6th.
 For Victoria, B.C. per N. P. Co. Tuesday, July 7th.
 For Canada, &c. per C. P. R. Co. Friday, July 10th.
 For Europe, via Hong-
 kong per N. D. Lloyd Saturday, July 12th.
 For Europe, via Shang-
 hai per N. M. Co. Sunday, July 13th.
 For America per O. & O. Co. Tuesday, July 14th.
 For Victoria, B.C. per O. & N. Co. Tuesday, July 15th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 27th June.—Hongkong via ports, 19th June, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
 Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 27th June.—Kobe 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 28th June.—Sakata 23rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Shimadzu, 28th June.—Yokkaichi 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 28th June.—Bonin Island 23rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, McLean, 29th June.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
 Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, Matsumoto, 29th June.—Hakodate 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 29th June.—San Francisco 10th June, via Honolulu 17th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
 Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 30th June.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
 Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 30th June.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
 Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, Thompson, 1st July.—Kobe 30th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Brown, 1st July.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Palawan, British steamer, 4,686, Gadd, 1st July.—London via ports, 2nd May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
 Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Iwanaka, 1st July.—Shimonoseki 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Balmoral, British ship, 2,500, R. L. Boldchild, 1st July.—Nagasaki 25th June, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Muramatsu, 1st July.—Nemuro 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 1st July.—Hakodate 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Cassius, German steamer, 2,347, Unruh, 2nd July.—Hongkong 25th June, General.—M. Raspe & Co.
 China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 2nd July.—Hongkong via ports, 25th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
 Swatow, German steamer, 631, Brodsten, 2nd July.—Manila 25th June, Sugar.—Chinese.

DEPARTURES.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, McKenzie, 27th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 27th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 27th June.—Hakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Anaconda, British schooner, 50, Lawsen, 27th June.—North Pacific, Sealing and Fishing Gear.—Captain.
 Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 27th June.—New York via Suez Canal, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
 Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 28th June.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
 Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 28th June.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, W. Crichton, 28th June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 29th June.—Hakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Shimadzu, 29th June.—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,503, R. F. Scale, 30th June.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
 Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 30th June.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 30th June.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, McLean, 30th June,—Portland, Or., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Tonoce, 30th June,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 1st July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Alger (10), French cruiser, Captain Jaureguiberry, 1st July,—Nagasaki.
Edgar (12), British cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 1st July,—Hakodate.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 1st July,—Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Crichton, 1st July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, Allen, 2nd July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Verona**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. Hardwick, Mr. A. Skelton, Mr. P. Clark, Mrs. Kee Chow, Mrs. Ah Mook, infant and amah, Mr. and Mrs. C. Band, child and infant, Mr. W. O. King, Mr. Todoroki, Mr. H. Morris, Mr. H. S. Harris, Lieut. D. Power, R.B., and Mr. Sunigeons in cabin.

Per British steamer **Mount Lebanon**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Burton and Mr. and Mrs. Spink and family in cabin; 12 Chinese in steerage for Portland, Or.

Per French steamer **Ernest Simons**, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Aden Treud, Mr. Toshima, Mr. B. Arigos, Mr. M. Luis de la Barreira, Mr. Masigama, Capt. Cossons, Mr. Kagashi, Capt. Woodcock and wife, Mr. M. Gerard, Mr. E. E. Elias, Mr. La Blanc, Mr. Bard, wife and 4 children, Mr. R. Finch, Capt. Winnuth, Rev. Hudson, wife and family, Madame R. Finch, Mr. H. Delkok, Mr. George and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson, Mr. Crosse, Dr. Gesha, Mr. Morton, Mr. F. Savanti, and Mr. W. F. Lawson in cabin.

Per American steamer **Peru**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Reginald Fenton, Mr. F. Fenton, Miss Fenton, Miss Jessie Asbury, Mr. G. E. H. B. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Blaque, Mrs. Bris Dauntree, Miss M. Olsen, Dr. Herbert Muster, and Dr. R. Pschorr in cabin. For Hongkong:—Miss S. Baker in cabin.

Per British steamer **Palawan**, from London via ports:—Mrs. Morris, Miss Morris and child, Mr. Morris, Mrs. Getley, child and infant, and Mrs. Kenderline, 2 children and amah in cabin.

Per British steamer **China**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. J. T. Smith, Miss Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Pigot, child and amah, Mrs. Morgan, Mr. C. H. Nugent, Mr. T. S. Morrison, Mr. Stewart Harrison, Sir W. H. Abercrombie, Lieut. S. A. Perry Lyscough, Bishop McKim, Rev. and Mrs. S. R. Hope, child and amah, Mr. J. W. Green, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. J. W. Lee, Mr. J. Janell, Mr. Shimpei Goto, and Mr. W. Taguchi in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss Fraser and maid, and Mr. Cheong Shu Chong in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Goldstein in European steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer **Melbourne**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. Ouillot, Lieut.-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh, Mr. John Ronblae, Mrs. Fabre, Mr. Louis Rides, Mrs. Murray Robertson, General Terauchi, Mr. Fred. von Spirach, Mr. F. P. Marquet, Mr. S. Minobe, Mr. Maurice Brugnot, Lieut.-Colonel Norcott, Mrs. Norcott, child and 2 servants, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, Miss Komiya Tetsu, Mrs. Leonard, Mrs. Eiton, Dr. G. P. Beit and boy, Mr. J. Marshall, Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. T. Isogaya, Mr. Ch. Braess, Mrs. P. Richter, Mr. P. Kremer, Mr. Manuel, Mr. Derby, Mr. W. Madden, Mr. Alexander Docter, and 8 Chinese in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer **Kobe Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer, Miss Hellyer, Mr. Wolff, Mr. S. Y. French, Mr. C. Crosse, General and Mrs. Kodama, Mrs. F. Truscott and child, Mr. Matsumi, Miss Mancini, Mr. and Mrs. Stone, Mr. N. Isahaya, Mr. A. H. Lay, and Miss Olsen in cabin; Mr. T. Mishima, Mr. and Mrs. Nakayama, Mr. S. Koyama, Mr. S. Saito, and Mr. C. J. Williams in second class, and 79 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer **Mount Lebanon**, for Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC COAST.	AND WEST AND EAST.	
Amoy.....	—	—	4,815	—	4,815
Hyogo.....	515	901	—	98	1,514
Yokohama ..	1,168	987	455	—	2,610
Total	1,683	1,888	5,270	98	8,939

Per French steamer **Melbourne**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 137 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 248 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer **Peru**, Captain Friele, reports:—Left San Francisco the 10th June, and Honolulu the 17th. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th June. On the 23rd, at noon, lat. 31.26 N. and 176.28 E. passed the British steamer **Altmore** from Honolulu for Yokohama.

The German steamer **Cassius**, Captain Unruh, reports:—Left Hongkong the 25th June; had strong S.W. winds and very low barometer. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd July.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STRAMERS.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 15th June,—Bona, Algeria, Phosphate.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Balmoral, British steamer, 2,002, McRichie, 15th June,—Antwerp, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cassius, German steamer, 2,347, Unruh, 2nd July,—Hongkong 25th June, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Chittagong, British steamer, Oliver Davey, 6th June,—Portland, Or., 7th May, via Honolulu 25th, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Le Trodec, 29th June,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Vyvyan, 22nd June,—Kobe 20th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kaifong, British steamer, 994, J. Dewars, 27th June,—Newchwang 16th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 30th June,—Kobe 29th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Palawan, British steamer, 4,686, Gadd, 1st July,—London via ports, 2nd May, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Pyrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 30th June,—Kobe 29th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Rosedale, British steamer, 4,075, Jackman, 15th June,—Mayport 25th April, Rails.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sabine Rickmers, British steamer, 597, Sanders, 25th June,—Hongkong 18th June, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathgarry, British steamer, White, 8th June,—Bombay, via Kobe 6th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Swatow, German steamer, 631, Brodsten, 2nd July,—Manila 25th June, Sugar.—Chinese.

Taurus, Spanish steamer, 508, F. Garteriz, 26th June,—Manila 15th June, General.—Brown & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 27th June,—Hongkong via ports, 19th June, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

In the doldrums all round. Yarn—Small sales and feeble market. T.-Cloths—One or two sales, everything else stagnant. Quotations are more or less nominal until some real business is done.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirts—9 yds. 38 1/2 inches	2.70 to 3.25
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirts—12 yds. 44 inches	1.00 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds. 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds. 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds. 12 1/2 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24 1/2 yds.	1.50 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24 1/2 yds.	1.70 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24 1/2 yds.	2.10 to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24 1/2 yds.	2.70 to 3.10

WOOLLENIS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—	\$0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 34 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32
Medium	0.25 to 0.27
Italian Cloth, 30 yds. 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds. 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22

Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 x 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—President, 51 1/2 x 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 x 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Hankies—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$35.50 to 37.50
Nos. 28 32, Singles	39.00 to 40.50
Nos. 38 42, Singles	43.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	47.50 to 49.50
Nos. 1 60, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	76.00 to 81.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	92.00 to 97.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	118.00 to 125.00

METALS.

No improvement. Small doings: prices nominally unchanged, but tending in favour of buyers.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.50 to 3.55
Iron Plates, assorted	3.65 to 3.75
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.40
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.60
Lin Plates, per box	5.20 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Very quiet market with nominal sales. The country demand has not woken up yet.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Browns—Market the turn in favour of buyers and considerable business done. Formosa—Nothing done in Takan, but some low quality Taiwan has been sold at \$3.90. White Refined—The demand has come out strong once more and a large business has been done at quotations.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takan	\$4.15 to 4.20
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.05
Brown Daitong (New)	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	6.00 to 7.00
White Refined	6.90 to 9.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Nothing done this week; New Silk is now on the market but shippers do not take hold. After a few sample purchases (mentioned last week) at \$730, buyers have withdrawn and holders would gladly take a trifle less to move something.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 11	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

The trade pegs along on the old basis and stocks has worked done to 3,700 piculs. No mention of New fibre as yet.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$105 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Oshu, Best	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	55 to 65
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	105 to 110
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	95 to 100
Noshi—Shimizu, Medium	90 to 95
Noshi—Shimizu, Fair	60 to 65
Noshi—Shimizu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	75 to 80

TEA.

Steady business with a fair amount of purchases. Settlements to date 135,000 piculs against 160,000 to same date last year. Prices unchanged. Second crop Teas look dear, and tasters complain that they are inferior to last season's.

QUOTATIONS.

Choice	\$28 to \$30
Choice	26 to 27
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	20 to 22
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	15 to 16
Common	13 to 14

EXCHANGE.

Very steady all the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2½
— — Bills on demand... 2/2½	
— — 4 months' sight ... 2/2½ to 2/3	
— — Private 4 months' sight... 2/3	
— — 6 months' sight... 2/3½	
On Paris—Bank sight	2.79 to 2/8
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.83½
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1½ to 1½ 9/16 d.
— Private today's sight. 1½ to 1½ 9/16 d.	
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
— Private 10 days' sight... 73½	
On India—Bank sight	187
— Private 30 days' sight.....	189
On America—Bank Bills on demand..	54
— Private 4 months' sight	56
On Germany—Bank sight	2.25 to 6
— Private 4 months' sight	2.30 to 1
Bar Silver (London).....	31½

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, June 29th.

Mail advices from Hongkong with dates up to the 20th instant, report the following changes in the share market since the 17th instant:—

17th June.	20th June.
Union Insurance	\$230 Buyers. \$235 Sales.
North Chinas	Tls. 198 N. Tls. 200 S.
Yangtze Insurance.....	\$130 N. \$147 50 S.
H. C. & M. Steamboats..	\$34 25 S. \$34 B.
China & Manilas.....	\$72 B. \$75 S.
Luzon Sugars	\$69 S. \$68 B.
Punjom Mines Pre-	
ference	\$3.70 Sa. \$3.90 Sa.
Raub Mines	\$5 50 S. \$5 25 N.
H. & K. Wharfs	\$54 S. \$53 Sa.
Wanchai Warehouses...	\$40 B. \$45 N.
Kowloon Lands	\$18.50 B. \$19 S.
Hongkong Hotels	\$29 S. \$26 Sa.
H. G. Browns	\$5 50 B. \$5 25 B.
Geo. Fenwick	\$28 B. \$27.50 Sa.

Shanghai stocks have undergone the following changes:—

17th June.	20th June.
Indo-Chinas	Tls. 47.50. Tls. 47.
Yangtze Insurance.....	Tls. 130. Tls. 135.
S. & H. Wharfs	Tls. 125. Tls. 123.
Shanghai Tugs	Tls. 200. Tls. 210.
Perak Sugars	Tls. 45. Tls. 44.50.
Shanghai Lands (Tls. 50) Tls. 82.	Tls. 81.50.
Shanghai Lankats	Tls. 675. Tls. 625.

At a third meeting of the H. & K. Wharf Co. the terms of the lease of the Wanchai Warehouse Co., as originally proposed, were accepted. The lease extends to ten years.

Some doubt exists as to the accuracy of either the translation or the despatch of the telegram regarding the sale of the 'Olivers' Freehold and New Balmoral Mines. The transfer of the properties presumably has not yet been effected, and the general managers have come to the conclusion that the meaning of the wired message is doubtful.

Local stocks remain unchanged, with the exception of Club Hotel, which are offering at \$75, and Japan Breweries, which are wanted at \$200. A trifle over this sum might be paid on an offer of the latter stock.

Yokohama, June 30th.

Hongkong quotes the following as the closing quotation of yesterday:—

H. & S. Banks 188 per cent. premium Sellers; Hongkong Lands \$72.50 Buyers; China Fires \$97 Sales; H. & W. Docks 183 per cent. premium Buyers; Douglasses \$65 Sales; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$34 Sales; Punjom Mines \$13.75 Nominal; Raub Mines \$5.50 Nominal; Balmoral Mines \$3 Sales; National Banks \$29 Nominal; Indo-Chinas \$65 Sales; Straits \$29 Sellers; Unions \$237.50 Sales, and Sales of China Traders at \$79.

It will be noticed from the above that the tone of the market is weak, due, no doubt, to the settlements to-day; and we may mention in support of our supposition the fact that whereas all the stocks which have been dealt in for forward clearances show signs of weakness, those which have been purchased for cash, notably Hongkong Lands and Union Insurance, are firm and quoted at a point or two higher.

As some doubt exists as to the price of H. & K. Wharfs, which are either \$52 or \$57 Buyers, we do not include them in our list of quotations, but we shall be in a position to state the price accurately to-day.

Yokohama, July 1st.

As referred to in our share report of yesterday, we now learn that there are sellers in Hongkong of H. & K. Wharfs at \$52.

Local stocks remain unchanged. Langfeldts are wanted at \$180.

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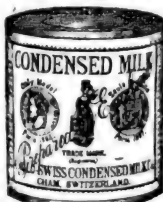
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Yokohama.—SATURDAY JULY 4, 1896.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 2.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 11TH, 1896.

月三年五十二拾明 Vol. XXVI.
可處者信通日十三

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 1896.

BIRTH.

At Karuizawa, on the 2nd July, the wife of J. H. GUBBINS, Esq., of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.M.S. *Edgar* has left Hakodate, homeward bound.

THE Dean of Macao, in a fit of despondency, has committed suicide.

THE British Fleet has been assembling at Hakodate during the week.

SHANGHAI is collecting a fund for the relief of sufferers in the north-east of Japan.

THE insurgents in Crete have repulsed a large force of Turks, killing over two hundred.

THE *Teikoku Maru* has been sunk in collision by the *Ise Maru*, near Hakodate this week.

SIR HERCULES ROBINSON, Governor of the Cape

and High Commissioner for South Africa, has been raised to the Peerage.

It is said that most favourable verdicts have been obtained for Japanese canned fish in Italy.

A 24-CENTIMETRE cannon has been presented to the Shrine of Ise. It was captured during the late war.

THE Republican ticket is Mr. W. McKinley for President, and Mr. Garret Hobart, of New York, for Vice-President.

A SMALL insurrection has broken out in Formosa and troops have been dispatched from Japan to reinforce the garrisons there.

DISASTROUS floods are reported from Toyama and Shiga in consequence of the recent heavy rains. No lives are reported lost.

It is reported that the Yellow River—China's Sorrow—has again broken its banks, spreading destruction over many hundreds of miles.

THE dispute between Messrs. Vantine & Co. and Mr. Kamiyama over some silk business, has been arranged through the efforts of the Guild.

THE tone of the Berlin Press in the farewell notices to Li Hung-chang is markedly cool, disappointment being expressed at the absence of orders.

MISS MATSUMOTO AIKO, of Osaka, now in Tokyo, is trying to raise one million yen with which to purchase a cruiser that is to be presented to the State.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Hon. Col. Denby, U.S. Minister to China, occupied a seat on the Bench of the U.S. Consular-General Court for Japan, on Friday.

THE American Minister's Cup and the Western Challenge Shield, have been won this year by Mr. G. H. Seidmore's *Daimyo*, with a minute and a half to spare.

PERMISSION has been granted by the Supreme Court at Hongkong to the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works Company, Limited, to reduce its capital by one-half.

THE concession of the Sôul-Wiju line has been granted to French capitalists, the agreement being signed this week by the French Representative and the Korean Court.

THE scheme recently devised to utilize the celebrated Nachi Waterfall (one of the biggest in Japan) in Kii province, to drive the motors at Osaka, has fallen through.

THE Friendlyties at Buluwayo are becoming restless and it is feared that the country will again become in a disaffected state. Many of the white settlers are quitting Matabeleland.

THE *Kobe Maru*, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, scraped a rock when leaving the Shimonoseki Straits last week, and her repairs at Shanghai are expected to take fully three weeks.

COLONEL PLUMER's column has defeated the Matabele rebels after seven hours' fighting, with a loss to the enemy of one hundred killed. The British loss was twenty-three killed and wounded.

THE Yokohama baseball team won the match against the Tokyo Higher School, played at Yokohama on the fourth of July, by two points. The trophy was a gold cup presented by Mr. Denison, of the Foreign Office.

It is proposed to spend the money subscribed by foreigners in Yokohama and Tokyo and

placed in the hands of a Committee for distribution, upon providing new boats and hemp for making fishing nets.

A PROPOSAL has been made to the Korean Court to prosecute on a charge of high treason the *Tai Wôn-kun*, Pak Yong-ho, and others implicated in the *emeute* of October 8th. It is doubtful if the scheme will carry.

H.M. THE EMPEROR WILLIAM, in a speech at the launching of the new battleship *Emperor Frederick*, said the vessel was the forerunner of many others of the same class and would inaugurate a new era for the Germany Navy.

It is announced that Li Hung-chang will visit the Marquis of Salisbury at Hatfield, and inspect Armstrong's works at Elswick. He is also to visit Portsmouth, where one hundred and seven men-of-war will be assembled after the manoeuvres.

On the 28th ultimo, the Tokyo Education Council decided that fencing lessons should be given in the common schools. The Department of Education objected to such exercises being included in a school's curriculum, and the proposition will not be adopted.

THE exports of camphor from Kobe for the last few years is as follows:—1892, 3,983,220 *kin*, 1,657,168 *yen*; 1893, 3,233,730 *kin*, 1,701,193 *yen*; 1894, 2,692,791 *kin*, 1,331,143 *yen*; 1895, 2,892,084 *kin*; 1,975,557, and totals, 12,801,825 *kin*; and 6,665,061 *yen*.

THE Committee of the Chicago Democratic Convention has drafted a platform which is certain of adoption. It demands free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of sixteen to one, and condemns the revival of the McKinley tariff. The planks regarding Cuba and the Monroe doctrine are at present unsettled.

OWING to an employé at the Central Observatory mistaking the nature of some experiments that were being undertaken there, he spread a report on the 2nd inst. that a great seismic disturbance had been foretold, and for a while much consternation prevailed in certain parts of Tokyo, and more especially at the Palace, a Court official having carried the rumour thither.

THE Import trade is not brisk, though there is some enquiry for Yarns, and there would be more doing if buyers would stretch a point as to price. The market for Grey Goods is improving, but Fancy and Coloured Cottons continue quiet. Woollens are only in small request at about recent rates. There are no sales to report in the Metal trade, and only few deliveries, but arrivals continue on a liberal scale. The only business done in Kerosene has been for present requirements, and holders talk of higher values. In the Sugar trade, sales have been about on a par with arrivals, consequently the stock remains much the same. Manila sorts have been mostly in request, and in general recent prices have been paid. Formosa Sugar has been entirely neglected, but there has been a fair amount of business in Whites, which have fully maintained late values. With the exception of one bargain in fine new filature Silk, the trade has seen a blank week. New crop is coming in, there being 1,000 piculs now on the market, and 6,000 piculs of old left over from last season. In Waste Silk nothing doing. The Tea trade is behind, the export figures to date being much below those of last season. The leaf taken is mostly Good Common to Medium grade, and settlements scale about 1,000 piculs daily. Exchange has seen another week of absolute stability, though there has been a slight rise in the value of silver.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Events worthy of notice during the week were the results of the Imperial Cortège incident, the return of the Premier and the Minister of the Navy from their inspection tour to Formosa and Amoy, the outbreak of a local insurrection in the new dominion, and the floods in Toyama, now known, however, not to have been of such magnitude as was originally supposed.

The rice exchange presents a very abnormal aspect, especially in Osaka, where engrossment has been effected by a party of speculators taking advantage of the continued unseasonable weather, with the result that quotations have been pushed to a point not reached for 16 years. The latest intelligence, is that, notwithstanding repeated interference on the part of the authorities, the price has risen to 12.60 yen per koku. The Stock Exchange, on the other hand, has been very dull during the week.

The Opposition papers, as we stated at the time, have laboured to make capital out of the Imperial Cortège incident. Both the Household Department and the Metropolitan Police Board have been charged with negligence of duty. The *Kokumin* observes, that the unpopularity of the Household Department, owing to the sale of the mines and the smelting-works, has been aggravated by this railway incident. The question resolves itself into this—is the Minister of the Department competent or not? With the Ministers of State rests the responsibility of answering. The Metropolitan Police Board is considered by the *Nippon* to be more or less blameworthy. Since it confined itself to giving notice of the passage of the cortège to the Station-master at Shibuya, whereas it should have known perfectly well that a station-master has no power to change the times of the service of trains.

The *Mainichi* seizes the occasion to roundly charge the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha and other private railway companies with want of system in the management of their business, and want of punctuality in the departure and arrival of trains. The company can not pretext ignorance that the route of the Imperial cortège lay across the track at Shibuya, for the route had been notified in the columns of the *Official Gazette* a day or two in advance. Hence the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha and other companies must take warning from this incident and endeavour to place their business on a more trustworthy and sufficient basis.

The brief time devoted by the Premier and the Minister of the Navy to inspecting Formosa and Amoy has evoked some sarcastic comments from the Opposition papers. Cautious editors marvel whether anything can have been observed or investigated in the course of such a hurried visit. As yet they confine themselves to that broad criticism, probably reserving fuller comments for the moment of the Ministers' return to the capital.

In connection with the hearty welcome extended by the citizens of Osaka to the Premier during the few hours of His Excellency's sojourn en route for Tokyo, a short explanation may be given. The Osaka folks recently made a new departure in their treatment of statesmen and politicians. They used to be noted for coolness towards personages of that type, but they have now become very courteous, if not enthusiastic, in their attitude toward them. That is considered a new manifestation of their shrewd business spirit. Having decided to reconstruct their harbour, they are desirous of obtaining a subsidy from the State. Hence their warm reception of influential officials and politicians, whether the latter be in the Government or not. To that motive is referable their cordial treatment recently of Counts Okuma and Itagaki, and subsequently of the Premier. It is curious to observe that this zeal on the part of the Osaka

citizens to conciliate the favour of great men, has drawn from their habitual seclusion millionaires of the old school, like Messrs. Sumitomo and Konoike, who have hitherto persistently avoided appearing in public, but are now at the head of the Committee of reception.

The outbreak of a fresh insurrection in Formosa has furnished the *Fiji* an opportunity for reverting to its favourite argument about the administration of the island. It condemns the Government policy as too lenient, a contention that it bases primarily on the decision in the matter of opium-smoking, and it observes that in view of the natural obstinacy of the natives of Formosa, and considering the island's proximity to China, the new dominion must be controlled in the strictest manner. Otherwise the day when it will be possible to strengthen the defences of the island and open up its resources, must be indefinitely distant. Can capitalists venture to invest their money in Formosa when an insurrection may be expected at any time? Let really coercive measures be adopted and let natives convicted of insubordination be driven out of the island.

The *Nichi Nichi*, which observed strict reticence while its contemporaries loudly discussed the Opium problem, has now broken silence, and declares itself dissatisfied with the present gradual suppression policy of the Government. It entertains doubts about one of the chief grounds that have led the Authorities to adopt a comparatively lenient course, namely, the danger to which the life of confirmed smokers might be exposed were they suddenly obliged to abandon a habit of old standing. Against this contention our contemporary adduces the case of several natives who were able to endure compulsory abstinence, without injury to their health, while confined in prison. Not merely did no danger result to their lives, but they were reported to have gained in health, and to have been much gratified by having their evil habit incidentally cured in that fashion. At any rate, the problem is worth investigation by competent experts, and the Government ought to consult the Central Sanitary Association, or appoint a special committee to examine the question. The *Nichi Nichi* endorses its contemporaries' apprehension as to the danger of the evil's spreading to other inhabitants of the island, and also to Japanese emigrants, and hold that this latter peril is more real and ought to be more strenuously guarded against than the hypothetical danger to which total prohibition might subject the lives of a limited number of natives. Besides, would it not be better for the permanent welfare of the island that the enforcement of strict prohibition should compel habitual smokers to leave the place altogether? The *Nichi Nichi* hopes that the recent journey of the Premier and the Minister of the Navy, as well as the Chief of the Sanitary Bureau, through the new dominion may have furnished materials for the better solution of the opium question.

The *Mainichi* wonders how Marquis Ito and his colleagues will feel when a letter from the Anti-opium Society, congratulating them on supposed total prohibition of opium smoking in Formosa, reaches them from London, as rumour says that it soon will? The Society is sure to revoke its congratulations when it discovers its delusion. Speciousness without substance is indeed the chronic defect of the Ito Cabinet. This opium affair furnishes a striking illustration.

There is at present a dearth of good novel writers, whereas the public demand for works of fiction is on the increase, says the *Kokumin*. Indeed, so keen is the cry for good stories that writers of prominence are pressed by publishers, and the latter are obliged to meet the needs of the moment by publishing serials that have already appeared in dailies or periodicals. This is a great change compared with the state of affairs that prevailed formerly, when authors could barely find publishers. We (*Japan*

Mail) take occasion to refer briefly to Miss Higuchi "Ichijo," a lady novelist of the highest class. Not only among authoresses, but even among authors, she has been placed in the first rank by general public consent. Evidently she is a most painstaking writer, for since the close of last year when her name became first known, she has composed only three or four magazine stories. Short stories they are, too, yet prominent characters figuring in them are so powerfully depicted as to become real, living personages to her readers. She is specially excellent in portraying the miseries and vices of society, having, it is said, long acted the part of a cool and careful observer in social circles. Though not much above 20, she is already the novelist par excellence of the day.

The *Fiji* thinks that the opportunity to inaugurate an Augustine age for Shinto and Buddhism presents itself. The war has strongly reinvigorated the faith of the masses, and strengthened their reliance upon Divine assistance. That might have been anticipated, it being a common practice with the people to pray for supernatural aid whenever any extraordinary crisis occurs. The recent war was such a crisis. Hence the number of persons visiting temples and shrines for the purpose of rendering thanks for their glorious victory achieved through the help of their patron deities, has greatly increased since last year, and offerings are abundantly made. The *Fiji* urges the priests not to miss this splendid opportunity of rescuing their religion from decay, and tells them, at the same time, that they are doubly bound to keep their own conduct pure and unimpeachable, their immorality and corrupt manner of living being one of the most potent factors promoting the decadence of the creeds they inculcate.

The *Mainichi* hails with unreserved pleasure the prospect of Japanese Consolidated Bonds being regularly quoted on the London Exchange, and of the rate of interest on money becoming in consequence much lower in Japan. The Government Loans will soon reach 500 million yen, and the interest on them, at the ruling rate of 5 per cent., will aggregate 25 million yen a year. Should the rate be reduced to, say 3½ per cent., in consequence of foreign capitalists investing their money in Japanese Bonds, the Treasury will find its revenue increased by 7½ million yen a year. The question is, will foreign capitalists purchase the bonds of a silver-using country, and especially of Japan. As to the former point, the *Mainichi* does not see any particular difficulty, for it believes that silver has now fallen to its lowest possible limit and that any future fluctuation must be in the direction of appreciation. As to the latter point, the *Mainichi*, being an Opposition paper, feels compelled to make some caustic allusions to the financial policy of the Cabinet. Having referred to the ignorance of foreigners about the real condition of Japanese finance—ignorance assumed, of course, by the *Mainichi* itself—and their consequent hesitation to invest money in Japanese bonds, our contemporary says that, unless the Government, while striving to remove that ignorance, exerts itself also to arrange its post bellum financial affairs in a more intelligent manner, there will be much difficulty in getting Japanese bonds extensively purchased in London.

The *Fiji* is inclined to believe that there exist in Korea materials out of which a sound and respectable State might be organized. It refers to the fidelity and integrity of the lower orders of the nation, adducing two typical examples: one a servant of the late Kim Ok-kyun, and the other an equally meritorious servant of Sō Kwang Pōm, a partizan of Kim's, who fled to America after his leader's abortive attempt in Sōul some years ago. Kim's servant continues to tend the murdered politician's aged father with the same constancy as in the days of the family's prosperity, and Sō's servant is behaving similarly towards his master's wife and children. The *Fiji's* contention is borne out by the statements of a certain gentleman who acted as

adviser to the Korean Government in financial affairs; namely, that the common people in Korea are upright, unselfish, and punctual in discharging their public obligations. It is the officials standing between them and the Government that are chronically dishonest. The *Yiji* thinks were the officials cured of their vicious propensities, Korea, having such an excellent national substratum, might develop into a bright and flourishing country.

The *Shogyo* has a timely article headed "Calamity and State Aid." There is a special fund, we read, furnishing relief to sufferers from famine or any other extraordinary calamity, the object of the fund being to provide them with food, and also with allowances of money to erect temporary shelter and procure farming implements. This fund aggregates, throughout the whole country, 19,800,000 yen, that is, an average of 440,000 yen per prefecture. It is clear that such a sum is totally inadequate to meet catastrophes of serious dimensions. Hence a provision exists that when a case can not be sufficiently dealt with by appropriating 5 per cent. of the fund belonging to a locality overtaken by disaster, aid from the Central Relief Fund may be applied for. The Central Relief Fund amounts to only 1,820,000 yen, and is plainly inadequate to satisfy extraordinary demands. It follows that some special resources must be held in readiness. Such resources are the Second Reserve, destined to be used for unavoidable expenditures over and above the Budget. But as the Second Reserve aggregates only 1,000,000 yen, of which about 300,000 yen has already been paid out, the amount actually remaining does not exceed 700,000 yen. The Governors of the three districts lately devastated by the Seismic Wave have applied for 270,000 yen in all, to satisfy requirements of an urgent nature that will present themselves on the expiration of the term of one month covered by the Relief Fund Regulations. The *Shogyo* greatly doubts whether the remaining 430,000 yen of the Reserve will be enough to supply the further requirements of the three northern prefectures, as well as of the more recently afflicted Toyama and Shiga, and other cases that must be anticipated before the fiscal year expires. Our contemporary advises the Government to lay aside in future a larger sum on account of the Second Reserve.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

ETHICS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THE recent re-action against the general laxity of school-morals and the oft repeated demand for better ethical culture in public schools, have, we are gratified to note, borne excellent fruit. Principal Sugihara, of the Shizuoka Middle School, is doing good work in that direction. Not only do the students read the ethical books prescribed by the Department of Education, but the Principal frequently assembles the classes to lecture on some moral theme in a very sincere and earnest manner. The instructors of the school have sworn in a body never to enter a tea-house, *machi-ai-jaya*, or place of ill-repute, believing, and with reason, that their conduct will have directly beneficial effect on the students. In Nagoya, Prof. Matsudaira lectures on ethics, and his classes are well attended. Moreover, Principal Shibata assembles the students once a week in the lecture-hall and there talks in a homely yet ruggedly eloquent manner with the young men, his theme being invariably an ethical one. Sometimes the Principal has nothing particular to say, and then the students sit in meditative and decorous silence for half-an-hour, the time being supposedly devoted to the forming of good and nobler resolves for the future. At all events, the plan has worked most excellently, the moral reputation of the students being enviably high. In Kochi, that prolific home of hot-blooded politicians, Prof. Ohara has been delivering an interesting series of lectures on the comparative morals of Japan and the West, the lectures being given to the local Middle School students. Part

of Prof. Ohara's addresses has already appeared in print, and the essays, carefully and learnedly written, fully merit the praise which Prof. Matora, the well-known psychologist, has bestowed upon them. These are, however, only a few out of numerous instances; similarly encouraging reports come from half-a-dozen other localities. It is a great work, and one on which Japan may well come to be congratulated in future years.

MRS. DRAPER'S BLIND SCHOOL.

THE annual summer exercises of the Blind School conducted by Mrs. Draper, took place at the Van Schaick Hall on Wednesday afternoon. The Rev. H. Loomis presided, and there was a fair attendance. The proceedings opened with a pianoforte duet by the Misses Moulton and Griffin; then the Rev. G. M. Meacham offered up prayer. Dr. Whitney read the report of the school for the past year. He said that the scholars now totalled 27, and the average daily attendance was 20. The subjects taught included reading and writing by the Braille system, mental arithmetic, history, geography, botany, geology, anatomy, acupuncture, physiology, music—including *koto* and *sho*—singing, etc. There were something like 800 blind people in Yokohama, and roughly about 150,000 throughout the Empire of Japan. The school for the Blind in Yokohama was just the thing that was most needed, and he thought that the scholars would be the bringers of a better and a higher hope to their afflicted brothers and sisters. In the olden times in Japan, the blind were better looked after than now. They were taught and helped, and many rose to such a degree that they received ranks of nobility. Many were money-lenders and men of wealth. With the change of régime they were practically left to look after themselves. After a while, a sort of normal school was started in Tokyo, and since Mrs. Draper's school was instituted another school for the Blind had been started in the South. Bishop Joyce, of the American Methodist Church, gave a short address in which he wished all success to the school. It was but another illustration of the many paths of relief that lay open to those who would but seek them when setting out to help mankind. The school should become a centre of an influence that in the future years would greatly benefit the blind of Japan. Miss Thomas and Mrs. Jas. Walter sang several beautiful songs during the afternoon, and the blind boys and girls gave recitations, songs, and exercises on the *koto* and organ that reflected great credit on their self-denying teachers.

INCIDENTS OF AN ALL-NIGHT SITTING.

MR. BALFOUR, Lord George Hamilton, Mr. Curzon, Mr. Stuart Wortley, and Mr. Chamberlain were among the occupants of the Treasury Bench who remained in close attendance at the all-night sitting of the House of Commons on the 22nd May. The Secretary of State for the Colonies continued at half-past ten in the House, and was still in the evening dress which he wore at the South African dinner, and so also were his Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Cochrane, and several other members who had been out the previous evening at that or other dinner parties. The only occupants of the Front Opposition Bench who sat through the sitting were Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Mandella, and Mr. Thomas Ellis. The Chairman of Committees, Mr. Lowther, was on duty the greater party of the night, but obtained occasional relief for brief intervals. Four ladies remained in the Ladies' Gallery all night. Becoming tired with their long attendance, some members left the House about eight o'clock in the morning and went home for a short rest, but within an hour received urgent telegrams recalling them, and a fresh batch of telegrams was sent to members who had been absent paired. Several of the members who did not very closely follow the slow course of Parliamentary business occupied some of their abundant leisure in sending telegrams to their wives or in writing letters to friends and committees descriptive of the extraordinary incidents of the protracted sitting. The Press

Association learns from Mr. Moss, the recently appointed manager of the refreshment rooms at the House of Commons, that the all-night sitting imposed an extraordinary and unexpected strain upon that department. The coffee-room has not been cleared since eleven o'clock the day before, when the Committee work began. All night long suppers were in progress, and in the morning there was a large demand for breakfasts. At five o'clock Mr. Moss went out and bought up the entire contents of a fish shop, which he brought to the House of Commons in a cab. Subsequently he brought other cabs full of loaves and other provisions. Perhaps the most curious incident connected with the protracted sitting is that narrated by Mr. T. P. O'Connor in the *Weekly Sun*. The hero was Mr. Wootton-Isaacson, whose experience, it seems, would go to show that had the Leader of the House so desired, it was perfectly possible to have had his bath within the precincts of the House. His official position, however, may have magnified the fear of the division bell, and thus saved him from the predicament in which Mr. Isaacson found himself. Under the régime of Mr. Herbert Gladstone, when he was First Commissioner of Works, excellent bath rooms were erected in the subterranean parts of the House, and many members availed themselves of this accommodation on Friday morning. Mr. Wootton-Isaacson was actually plunged in a bath when the division bell rang. There was nothing for it but to jump out and hurriedly put on all the garments he had time to get, which consisted of his dress coat, his trousers, and his shoes. He had not time even to put on a shirt or a pair of stockings. Stretching his coat across his breast, and putting up its collar, he was able to hide his forlorn condition from the House; he was accommodated with a seat in Mr. Balfour's room before a fire until he was able to get back to his bath, and so scored a division under circumstances of greater difficulty than ever a member experienced before. It appears that Mr. Wootton-Isaacson was not the only member who during the all-night sitting was caught tubbing when the division bell rang. Mr. Chamberlain was also in one of the bath-rooms, according to the *Daily News*, and rather astonished the House by his smartness as a quick change artist, for having left in evening dress he hurried into the division lobby in morning dress. It may readily be believed that in the interval there had been some exciting moments, but certainly there was nothing in Mr. Chamberlain's appearance to denote the fact. Lord Valentia was not so fortunate. With dripping hair and loose clothes, he arrived at the door of the division lobby only to find it closed against him.

THE "KOBE MARU'S" ACCIDENT.

THE account given by the *Nagasaki Shipping List* of the accident to the *Kobe Maru* is as follows:—At about 7 a.m. on the morning of Saturday last, just as she was leaving the Straits of Shimonoseki, the steamer *Kobe Maru* struck upon a sunken rock and scraped over it, doing considerable damage to the plates in her bottom. The shock was so violent that many of the passengers and crew were thrown off their feet. On her arrival here a diver was sent down to examine her bottom and report upon the damages which were found to be scarcely serious enough to warrant the vessel's detention. She accordingly proceeded on her way to Shanghai on Sunday afternoon. We understand that the rock upon which she struck is marked upon the charts but is very difficult to locate in wet or foggy weather.

THE ATAMI JINRIKISHA TRAMWAY.

RECENT advices from Odawara emphasize the growing disrepute of the Atami jinrikisha tramway. Only recently put into running order, misfortunes seem to have been of frequent occurrence. It is claimed that in several places the gradients are too steep, while the pullers are often reckless. Two accidents occurred in the first week of the present month, in one case the arm of a passenger being badly fractured, the tram having been derailed and overturned. In the other, one of the pullers was knocked down and the car passed over his body, killing him.

instantly. In April a first-class car, one or two foreigners being among the passengers, was similarly overturned, several bad bruises being fortunately the only untoward result. It seems that some radical changes are imperatively called for. In the first place, the human locomotors must be compelled to exert greater prudence; then the grades will have to be made easier in several cases; and finally the overcrowding of the trams must be avoided. It is asking too much of a first-class passenger to expect him to be cooped up with five others in a box with hardly room for four all told. Japanese travellers are, we understand, falling back on the old jinricksha road, preferring comparative discomfort, long hours, and safety to great comfort, shorter travel, and positive danger. And in this, we think, they are wise.

THE DEATH OF MR. ROSENFELD.

AN inquest was held on Friday by Mr. Hunter-Sharp, Vice-Consul of the U.S. at Kobe, into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Samuel Rosenfeld. It was ascertained that the deceased fired two shots from his revolver, one being found in the ceiling of the room, the other passed through his head and fell on to the floor. The evidence also disclosed that deceased had been in low spirits for some time and complained of bad pains in the head, while he had worried over business matters. Some years before he got up early one morning to drown himself in the Bay, but then thought better of it. The coroner found as follows:—"Having viewed the body of Samuel Rosenfeld, an American citizen, who died on the 2nd day of July, 1896, at the International Hospital, Hiogo (Kobe), Japan, and having heard the evidence as to the cause of his death, I am of the opinion that the said Samuel Rosenfeld died from the effects of a bullet wound in the brain, self-inflicted, while under mental depression, on the morning of June 27th, 1896." The funeral took place on Friday evening, and was largely attended, Mr. Hermann Marcus and Mr. Taylor being the chief mourners.

JAPANESE TEA IN CHINA.

We take the following from the *Kobe Chronicle*:—

According to the *Kwansat Shogyo Nippo*, a new market for Japanese tea has been discovered, giving good promise. The tea trade this season has been poor, and the quotation of best leaves at Kobe is much cheaper than in last year. But the middle and lower grades are dearer by some 30 per cent., and their supply at Kobe is very scarce on account of the opening of sales in North China of the common tea produced in Kiushiu, especially in Chikuzen and Chikugo provinces. The export to China has continued to grow year after year. The exports of tea to Tientsin and thereabout from Kobe and Nagasaki four or five years ago were no more than 600,000 cattie, which rose to 1,400,000 cattie last year. The area of consumption in China is getting wider and wider. It is anticipated the export this year will reach some 2,000,000 cattie. This strange development of the export of Japanese tea to north China is explained by the fact that no tea is produced there and it is cheaper to import Japanese tea than Chinese tea produced in south China. If the exports to China grow at the present rate, China will become one of the best customers of Japanese tea. Now all the common tea produced in Kiushiu has begun to go to Nagasaki and thence direct, resulting in scarcity of stock of common tea at Kobe.

H.M.S. "GRAFTON."

THE Chatham correspondent of the *Naval and Military Record* writes under date of 19th May:—"The alterations which are being made on the *Grafton* to suit the requirements of Rear-Admiral Oxley will cost a good deal of money. She is quite a new vessel and has been fitted as a flagship, and the fact that the Port Admiral complimented the Dockyard officials upon the efficient manner in which she had been finished, when he officially inspected and received the vessel into the fleet reserve, is a proof that the work had been properly performed, and no great alterations in the accommodation were required. It would seem, then, that the alterations in the ship's fittings are being effected merely to suit the taste of Admiral Oxley, and most of them

might have been dispensed with and the expense saved; while the men could have been better and more profitably employed upon other work on hand in the yard. Moreover, the delay in the departure of the *Grafton* to relieve the *Edgar*, which has completed her three years' commission, would have been avoided.

NAVAL NEWS.

THE *China Mail* of June 29th, says:—"Several changes are to take place shortly amongst the vessels of the China squadron. H.M.S. *Undaunted* sails on Sunday next for Yokohama and Hakodate to join the flag of the Commander-in-chief. Lieutenant James, late of H.M.S. *Eolus*, now doing duty as Senior Lieutenant of the *Victor Emanuel*, will shortly be relieved by Lieutenant Plumer. He will then proceed to join H.M.S. *Centurion*, as a supernumerary for disposal. H.M.S. *Eolus* will return from the Cocos and Christmas Island about the 8th July, and will then proceed to Hongkong and Yokohama. The *Porpoise* will assume the duties of Senior Officer in the Straits and Malacca Division after the departure of the *Eolus*. The *Linnet* leaves Chemulpo for Yokohama on 1st July, en route to Behring Island. On the 1st July the *Redpole* leaves Hongkong for a short cruise, calling at Macao, Swatow, and Amoy, and then returning to port. Sub-Lieutenant Compton is in charge of the relief men to arrive by P. and O. steamer *Borneo* next week. He has been appointed to the *Centurion*. The relieved men will probably return to England at an early date by freight ships.

THE LOSS OF THE "DRUMMOND CASTLE."

As reported by Reuter, the *Drummond Castle*, Capt. N. W. Pierce, bound from Cape Town to London, struck the reef between Ushant and Molene, on the 16th June, shortly before midnight, and sank with 247 souls—144 passengers and 103 officers and men. From telegrams that appear in Vancouver papers, we gather that one of the survivors relates that the night was not foggy, but that a drizzling rain was falling, and he attributes the disaster to the weather preventing Capt. Pierce from seeing the light at Ushant. He therefore passed inside instead of outside the island and thus came by his doom. The vessel sank in two minutes after striking the reef.

SUICIDE OF THE DEAN OF MACAO.

THE Rev. Nestor de Castilho, Dean of the Cathedral at Macao, committed suicide on the morning of the 27th June in his room at the Deanery by hanging himself. The deceased gentleman had been unwell for some time past, but appeared perfectly sane, and there was no suspicion that he had any design on his own life. He was an old man and had held the appointment of Dean of Macao for ten years, but did not come out until a year ago, when he received orders from the new Minister that he was to do so. It is said he never liked the place and only came out in compliance with official orders.—*Daily Press*.

SALES OF BRITISH SHIPS.

DURING 1895 no less than 343 British-built vessels, of a gross tonnage of 359,137, were sold to go under other flags. Norway took 32 steamers and 34 sailing vessels, aggregating 63,117 tons. Japan took 25 steamers, aggregating 68,083 tons. Italy took 16 steamers and 12 sailing craft, aggregating 42,668 tons. France took 28 steamers and 8 sailing vessels, aggregating 36,060 tons. Germany, Spain, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, and Austria followed in the order named, each taking upward of 10,000 tons. The United States got 11 steamers and 4 sailing vessels, aggregating 9,097 tons. The vessels were old ones and the average price paid was \$20 to \$25 per ton.

A LONG DROP.

THE *China Mail* reports that whilst the China pony Torchlight, belonging to Mr. G. C. C. Master, was being taken along the pathway from the Mount Austin Hotel to Mountain Side, recently, it (the pony not the Mountain Side) became refractory, backed though the wire

fence, and dropped over the embankment. The pony must have fallen nearly 100 feet, but, strange to say, does not appear to have sustained any serious injury. It was lowered down to the Peak Road, an operation which occupied some hours, and was walked home. Torchlight ought now to score as a steeplechaser.

U.S. SQUADRON CIRCULAR.

OVER the signature of Rear-Admiral F. V. McNair, the following has been issued bearing date, U.S. Flagship *Olympia*, Yokohama, Japan, July 4th, 1896:—

By authority of the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy, the following values are announced for the quarter ending September 30th, 1896:—

Imperial Japanese Yen, Silver.....	\$0.536
Mexican Dollar	0.540
Tael, Shanghai	0.735

THE KOBE LIBEL CASE.

THE action for libel instituted by Mr. P. Mackenzie Skinner, Editor of the *Hyogo News*, against Mr. Alfred W. Curtis, Editor of the *Kobe Herald*, heard by his Honour Judge Mowat, in part with a jury and in part as a submission to his arbitration, on June 18th and 19th, has been settled by the following award, dated the 3rd instant:—"I find for the Plaintiff with costs, but without damages—the Plaintiff having assented to my suggestion, at the close of the hearing, to forego that part of the claim.

(Signed) R. A. MOWAT.

—*Hyogo News*.

SERIOUS RIOT AT COLOMBO.

ON June 7th a most unprecedented scene was witnessed at Colombo. Some sailors from H.M.S. *Redbreast* got into trouble with a native woman in the Pettah and a mob collected. Very soon the sailors fled and the crowd pursued them into the Hotel de l'Europe, which was speedily wrecked. Then the military were called out—two companies of the Royal Artillery proceeding straight to the scene, the rest being held in readiness—and peace was eventually secured.

HONOURED DEAD.

SIR JAMES BROWNE, K.C.S.I., British Agent in Beloochistan, died of fever at Quetta on the 15th June. He is the third British Agent there who has literally died in harness. The death is announced of Professor Sir George Johnson, M.D., F.R.S., Physician Extraordinary to the Queen, aged 78. Signor Ernesto Rossi, an Italian tragedian, who was styled the "Italian Talma," is dead. Signor Rossi was in his 67th year.

HARTMANN'S "RELIGIOUS-PHILOSOPHY."

SEVERAL Japanese scholars are, we note, engaged in translating Hartmann's great work on the "Philosophy of Religion." Part has already appeared in the *Tsushigaku Zasshi*, the organ of the Philosophical Society, and has met with universal approval. The translation is exceptionally fine, while true to the original.

VAGRANTS.

DURING the past few days two suspicious-looking beach-combers have been wandering about the Bluff and pestering house-servants for food. They generally go round to the kitchen after breakfast or in the early afternoon, when they know that the coast is clear of the master of the house or other male residents.

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

H.M.S. *Tamar* is to go into Kowloon Dock to have her boilers and heavy weights taken out of her, after which she will be fitted up to take the place of the *Victor Emanuel* as receiving ship in Hongkong.

NEW STEAM LAUNCH.

MR. SIM, with his new launch, the *Glenearn*, and Mr. Head, as passenger, left Kobe for Yokohama about half-past five o'clock on Tuesday evening. This is the second launch Mr. Sim has navigated between the two ports this year.

SHANGHAI'S GENEROSITY.

UP to July 4th, the residents of Shanghai had subscribed \$2,600 for the relief of sufferers by the great seismic wave.

RAILWAY AFFAIRS.

One of the most noteworthy features in connection with private railways in Japan is their tendency toward amalgamation. Negotiations for this purpose have long been carried on between the Ryomo and the newly established Tobu Railway Company. The latter, however, would not consent to certain concessions proposed by the old company, so the Ryomo has given up the idea altogether, and a similar negotiation is now taking place between it and the Nippon. The Tokyo papers say that the scheme will probably assume practical shape when the two companies enter into competition with the Tobu.

Concerning the Bu-So (Musashi-Sagami) Central Railway and the So-O (Hachioji-Aibara) Railway, which latter is to be constructed in the two provinces of Musashi and Sagami, the project of uniting the two into one concern is said to have been broached by the respective projectors. The Railway Bureau is advising them to that end. Indeed, says the *Shogyo*, our authority in this matter, there are strong reasons that recommend the scheme. Between Yama and Isehara, a distance of 10 miles, the two railways, according to the original programmes, are to be laid along exactly the same route. However, the prescriptive right belonging to the So-O, the other, should it refuse to coalesce, must mark out a new route. It is said that the owners of land in that particular section are resolved not to part with their property to either, unless the two lines be amalgamated. If the prospects of the two lines are considered, the Bu-so is relatively better than the other, for while the first is to extend between Shibuya Station, of the Nippon Railway Company, and Matsuda Station on the Hakone Section of the Government Railway, and therefore may be regarded as one of the most promising lines in the suburbs of Tokyo, the latter extends only for a distance of 21 miles, of which 10 miles are to run side by side with the other line. Still, though the distance is short, the So-O commands this advantage, that it will draw the pilgrims to Oyama, and is therefore expected to prove a profitable investment.

A similar scheme between the Mo-Bu and the Bushu is also likely to succeed, if they really consider their own interests. The Isominato and the Jyogan have already decided to combine, and the projectors have submitted an application to the Authorities to obtain sanction. In the Kwansai districts the same idea is on the *tapis* among various railway companies, the most noteworthy being the cases of negotiation between the Kwansai and the Naniwa, the Taisha and the Ryozan, the Kishiu (Himeji-Tsuyama), and the Chugoku (a railway starting from Okayama and terminating in a certain town in Hoki), and so forth. The amalgamation proposed between the Hoshu and the Kyushu appears have been broken off.

The Sei-Wa (Ise-Yamato) Railway Company's scandal is now a matter of notoriety in railway circles. The trouble began with the chief of the originating committee, a speculator with no property of his own. Having incurred the suspicion of the shareholders, who charged him with peculation, he was obliged to resign the office. The shareholders can not publicly call him to account, although a considerable sum of money has disappeared in his hands, for he threatens to disclose the names of persons to whom, he alleges, he presented gifts to facilitate the granting of the charter. The permanent charter having been obtained in May, the Company ought to start the work of construction in earnest; but the disappearance of a sum of about 80,000 *yen* that the Company received in the form of security from its shareholders, and the troubles that have ensued, are said to be fatal obstacles. The last extraordinary meeting held at the beginning of the month at Tsu was a scene of indescribable tumult when the two rival factions came together. The upshot of a heated discussion was that the two factions elected their own chairmen, and then carried on the deliberation side by side but in diametrically opposite senses. The box that held the

proxies of absentees became a prize around which the struggle was fiercely waged, each party doing its best to carry it away. The police interfered, and the box was taken under their escort to the railway office in the town. The box is at present guarded, night and day, by a number of watchmen hired by the rival parties.

THE HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

The Graduation Exercises of the Tokyo Higher Commercial School took place on the 6th inst. in the spacious hall of the institution. In spite of the unfavourable weather there was a large assembly of invited guests, among whom were H.E. Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture; H.E. Sir Ernest Satow, H.B.M.'s Minister; Their Excellencies Messrs. Makino and Komura, Vice-Ministers of Education and Foreign Affairs, respectively; Mr. Kinoshita, Chief of the Special Schools Bureau; Mr. Koba, Chief of the Ordinary Schools Bureau; Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Shibusawa Eiichi, Ando Taro, Kondo Rempai, Abe Taizo, Nagai Kynichiro, Prof. Wadagaki, and many others. Forty-five graduates were awarded diplomas. We are told that so great is the demand for graduates of the school this year that nearly all are already engaged to take up active work in business firms, companies, government offices, &c. After the address by the Director, and a reply to the same by one of the students, other addresses were given by H.E. Vice-Minister Makino, H.E. Viscount Enomoto, and Mr. Shibusawa, one of the Board of Council of the School, and others.

Sir Ernest Satow, spoke as follows:—"Your Excellencies and Gentlemen:—It is a source of unmixed pleasure to me to be present at this graduation ceremony, and to have the opportunity of tendering my congratulations to the young men who, after completing their studies at this institution, are about to go forth into the world, and devote themselves to one or other of the varied callings for which they have been prepared. If the lamented founder of the Commercial School, my friend the late Viscount Arinori Mori, from whom this institution took its origin, were present here to-day, he could not fail to be gratified at the development which has been reached by commercial studies in this country, and at the success which has attended many of those whose education has been completed within these walls. It appears from the lists appended to the Calendar of the Higher Commercial School for this year, that no less than 350 past students of this school, besides at least 100 graduates of the former Accountant's School, are now actively employed, some as merchants in business on their own account, or as managers of well known firms in Japan, or at their foreign branches, others in banks, on railways, in mines, in insurance companies, as teachers in commercial schools, and in various other important positions. A very large proportion indeed, more than a fifth, appear to have obtained appointments under Government, whether at the capital or in other parts of the country. These facts furnish eloquent testimony to the wide character of the teaching imparted and show that the curriculum fits young men for a most varied choice of careers in after life. The principal object of the School, I take it, is to train men for the calling of merchants. It has been the fashion in many countries and in all ages to depreciate this calling, and we know of one country at least where the merchant is in theory placed at the bottom of the social scale. In Japan, at any rate, the existence of this institution is a proof that such a view finds no favour. What is the truth of the matter? The merchant, with his allies the banker, the ship-owner, and the railway director, perform for the body politic functions similar to those of the blood in the human body, putting in circulation the elements which nourish the whole frame in all its parts. They are in fact the life-blood of the State, conveying to every portion what is necessary for its maintenance and so keeping the whole in a condition of the

highest efficiency. And as every article produced by man is of most value in that place where it can be best utilized, the organization of the machinery of distribution is a principal factor of wealth. Hence, it is not too much to say that the welfare of the State depends upon the activity, the energy, and the capacity of its merchants. Look over the whole world, consider its past history, and you will find that those have been and are the most powerful States, actually or potentially, whose commerce has been most flourishing. So much is this truth recognized in these days that the principal pre-occupation of modern governments is how to develop their commerce, and the chief object of rivalry amongst modern States is the protection by means of commercial treaties of the freedom and facility of the exchange of national products and manufactures. To the young men whose student life is now over, and who are about to commence their active careers, and especially to those who may be called on to take a share in the direction of the foreign commerce of their country, I should like to speak one word of counsel. It is this: that in business relations, as in all the other relations of life, the main thing to strive after is the creation of mutual trust and confidence between all the parties to a transaction. Let them recollect that in the long run no business can be really beneficial which does not bring advantage to both sides, and that justice in the highest sense, not mere legal justice, but the justice of the ethical philosopher, is the only sure foundation to work upon. They should bear in mind that the best calculation will sometimes prove fallacious, and that loss must be cheerfully met when our provisions are disappointed. Riches are far more often the reward of integrity and fair dealing than of ambitious speculation: the consciousness of right is worth more than all the gold that was ever minted, and the highest praise that can be uttered of a merchant is that "his word is as good as his bond." I have only to add the expression of my wishes for their future success and prosperity in whatever positions they may hereafter be called upon to occupy."

After the exercises, cold refreshments were served to the guests in one of the fine rooms of the school.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The transfer of the Business Tax to the category of Direct Taxes has resulted in extending the scope of the franchise and of the right of citizenship. Imperial Ordinance No. 263, recently issued, provides that the Business Tax shall henceforth come under the term "Direct Taxes" mentioned in the Law of Election of the two Houses of the Diet, whereas hitherto only the Land Tax and the Income Tax were thus designated. Up to the present, the number of persons enjoying the franchise aggregated 464,277, throughout the whole empire, but it is estimated that the total will now reach 571,965. The Budget puts the average payment of Business Tax at 13.20 *yen*, and consequently a third of the number of tax-payers may be expected to become entitled to the franchise. In other words, about 190,000 (?) franchise-holders will be newly created. However, as the franchise can not be exercised until after the lapse of a year from the day on which the Electors' List is compiled (three years in the case of income tax), and as the Business Tax is to be levied from the beginning of next year, the new holders of the franchise will not be entitled to vote until 1898, at soonest. The right of citizenship has hitherto been enjoyed by persons paying above 2 *yen* of Direct Tax, in the form of either Land Tax or Income Tax. But according to the new law, a payment of that amount of Business Tax will confer the same privilege.

The accident that happened to the Imperial cortège at the Shibuya Station—already referred to in these columns—has been magnified to serious dimensions by the chauvinist papers. It would appear that the fault lay with both the Household Department itself and the Station-master at Shibuya. Contrary to previous usage, the

Department did not send notice to the Central Office of the Nippon Railway Company, but simply conveyed instructions to the Shinjuku Police Office. The latter, in turn, gave warning to the Shibuya Station-master, who neglected to convey sufficient information to the Shinjuku Station and to the Central Office, thinking that the situation could be dealt with when the cortège came in. But when the conductor of the train just then arriving became cognizant of the danger signal, he could not stop the engine in time. Hence no blame can be attached to him, roundly as he was originally accused by the *Asahi Shimbun*. But the Directors of the Railway Company are resolved to dismiss the Shibuya Station-master on the ground that he acted *ultra vires*. The opposition papers, however, seek to place the responsibility on the shoulders of the Minister of the Household, their evident motive being to satisfy their old grudge against him in connection with the sale of the Sado and Ikuno Mines and the Smelting Works.

The Committee appointed to investigate the question of the sale of the two mines and the Smelting Works, has concluded its work, and has decided that the three properties shall be put up to public tender unconditionally.

The Imperial Court was thrown into some confusion on the 1st instant, owing to a stupid blunder on the part of one of its officials. Preparations had been made that day at the Central Observatory, located not far from the palace, to conduct some experiments on earth tremors at the dead of night. The official mistook these preparations for a warning that a severe seismic disturbance was expected in the middle of the night, and conveyed tidings in that sense to his superiors, not one of whom seems to have had sufficient scientific knowledge to recognise the absurdity of such a forecast. They all took the news seriously, and hastened to make preparations for the safety of the Emperor and Empress when the dreaded phenomenon should occur. No intelligence coming from the Observatory though the evening was far advanced, a messenger was specially sent thither, and the absurdity of the whole business was then for the first time exposed.

The Tokyo City Assembly is now engaged in prosecuting inquiries as to two questions; one, to determine whether the Water-works committee ought to be continued; the other, to decide whether the application from a number of capitalists of Tokyo to make use of the headwaters of the river Tama for the purpose of generating electricity should be granted. The two problems are likely to lead to tumultuous scenes in the City Assembly, the two parties concerned in their solution being pretty evenly balanced.

More than 2,000 fishermen of Iwate, Miyagi, and Aomori who, as usual every year, go to Hokkaido to find employment during the herring season, have returned, upon learning the alarming intelligence of the seismic wave, and each is bewailing the loss of one member or another of his family or even of the whole. Still, the return of so many stout bread-winners will prove beneficial both to the broken-hearted survivors and to the devastated districts.

The Home Minister returned to Tokyo late on the evening of the 4th instant, and has since been busily engaged in elaborating measures for the relief of the sufferers in the north. The magnitude of the disaster is, contrary to what might have been expected, greater than the amount of relief needed, the mortality having far exceeded the number of persons wounded, and the list of survivors requiring assistance being small. We read in the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the most trustworthy source of information in connection with the result of the researches conducted by the Home Minister and his suite, that the sufferers needing aid from the State do not, thus far, exceed 8,600 persons throughout the desolated districts, and that, therefore, the case may be met by defraying from the Second Reserve Fund all that is needed after the relief period covered by the

Relief Fund Regulations expires. Over 700,000 yen remains to the credit of the Second Reserve Fund. Outlays needed for repairing roads, embankments, and so forth will not amount to much, for with the exception of the embankment in Miyagi, there are no particular repairs to be undertaken along the devastated coast. The chief items for which relief will be appropriated consist in the maintenance of orphans and the disabled, and in furnishing fishing gear to survivors.

The accident to the Imperial cortège has led to the officials concerned being punished. On the part of the Household, it has been decided to subject Mr. Sakurai, a secretary of the Department who had charge of all matters relating to the Emperor's visit to Meguro, to disciplinary punishment and to fine him by administrative process. On the part of the Railway, the station-masters of Shibuya and Shinjuku, and the conductor of the train, have been dismissed.

Great hope is entertained for the future of the recently established Oriental Kerosine Company. Mr. Ishizaka Kumazo, now serving an apprenticeship at a kerosine well in Pennsylvania, is to superintend the business. The Company has sent to America for plant of the latest construction.

INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC TOPICS.

According to inquiries carried out by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, this year's sericultural prospects are far from re-assuring. In Yamanashi the crop is expected to be 15 per cent. below that of an ordinary year. In Miyazaki, Ibaraki, Saga, Hyogo, Tottori, Ruki, Ehime, and Shimane, it is estimated that the crop will not fall below that of an average year. In Miye, Kochi, Nagasaki, Tochigi, Tokushima, Kagawa, and Hiroshima, the average will be exceeded. In Oita, Gifu, Gumma, Chiba, and Yamaguchi, it will be from 30 to 40 per cent. below the average. In Kagoshima, Kanagawa, and Ehime, it will be below an average year. In Niigata the crop is expected to exceed an average year by about 15 per cent. Reports have still to come in from 17 places, including Nagano, Tokushima, and Aichi, but it is generally believed that the result of the year's yield will not exceed 60 per cent. of an average year's. The silk market presents an extraordinary aspect, prices for silk being lower, relatively, than the quotation for cocoons. Some merchants of Yokohama, instead of exporting silk, are devising means for reimporting bales already sent to America. Mr. Tanaka, for instance, has given an order to the Doshin Kwaisha to purchase for him in New York a certain quantity of hand-reeled Japanese silk. He can actually buy silk at New York for 615 yen, including cost of transportation to Yokohama, while here he can sell the same silk at 700 yen. We (*Japan Mail*) find this statement very flighty.

The development of the weaving trade in Kiryu during the last few years is astonishing. Kiryu is behind Kyoto in the production of fine art fabrics, but though the output is somewhat inferior in quality, the lower prices its goods command is steadily helping to push them. Last year, for instance, goods turned out from the looms aggregated about 12 million yen, as shown in the following statistics prepared by the Kiryu Weavers and Merchant's Guild.

	Quantity (hiki)	Value yen.
Export Goods	1895 ... 292,876...	6,485,051
	1894 ... 132,067...	2,483,133
Goods for Domestic Use	1895 ... 3,177,513...	5,411,441
	1894 ... 1,601,348...	2,085,015

It will be seen that last year the output exceeded that of the previous year by 1,736,774 pieces, and the value by 5,328,344 yen. The statistics of looms and mechanics are as follow:—Ordinary looms, 16,202; Jacquard looms 1,360; iron looms, 140; total, 27,702. Male weavers, 1,938; female weavers, 18,132; total, 20,070. The statistics of various artisans and

merchants engaged in the industry are:—Proprietors of weaving shops, 1,115; persons engaged in softening and rolling the fabrics, 14; dyers, 25; crest-men, 23; reed-makers, 33; loom-makers, 95; brokers, 28; yarn merchants, 105; mercers, 10.

Mr. Kawamura Jun, editor of the defunct *Choya*, who was despatched to Formosa by the projectors of the Formosan railway, in the suite of the Premier and the Minister of the Navy, has sent some information as the result of his inquiries. The projectors estimated the capital needed for carrying out the scheme at 12 million yen, but Mr. Kawamura's researches have convinced him of the insufficiency of that sum. He thinks that owing to the higher market prices of commodities and also to the difficulty in obtaining a supply of sleepers in Formosa, the undertaking will require a capital twice the size previously estimated. The only timber available for sleepers in Formosa is camphor wood, but as the trees generally grow in places not easily accessible, they are practically useless for railway work. Sleepers must be transported from Japan, and this would necessitate heavy transport charges. The wages of workmen and prices of commodities are higher in Formosa by 50 to 200 per cent. than in Japan. Coal is found at Kelung, but it is not fit for engine furnaces, nor is the output sufficient to meet present requirements. Coal would therefore have to be imported from Japan. The contemplated route of the Formosan Railway Joint Stock Company measures 270 miles, starting from Kelung and terminating at Taku, *via* Taiwan, Taihoku (Taipei), Shinchiku, Kyoritsu, Taichu, Jynrin, Kagi, Tainan, and Hozan. A branch line of 19 miles is to be built between Tainan and Anpei (Anping). Between Kelung and Shinchiku, *via* Taihoku, the existing line of 60 miles owned by the Government is in operation, but if the Government has really resolved, as it is generally believed, to allow private capitalists to undertake the work of railway construction in Formosa, then the application already submitted for taking over this line will, it is expected, be granted within this month. This existing line, however, requires thorough reconstruction, which alone will involve the investment of between four and five million yen.

TREATY REVISION WITH SIAM.

We read in the *Yiji Shimpō* that the number of Japanese subjects residing in Siam having become very numerous, the advisability of establishing a Japanese Legation and Consulate there has been urged upon the Tokyo Government. Before taking any step of that nature, however, the Foreign Office in Tokyo has intimated to Siam that revision of the Treaty between the two countries is desirable, and the Siamese Government has given its consent. As to the place for carrying on the negotiations, Tokyo has been chosen, and it is expected that, within a brief period, a plenipotentiary envoy will come from Siam.

ENGLISH LITERATURE IN THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

We understand that the chair of English Literature in the Imperial University is to be filled by Mr. Lafcadio Hearn, Professor Wood, its hitherto occupant, being about to return to the United States. The University is very fortunate in obtaining the services of a literary star like Mr. Hearn. Our readers may not be aware that Mr. Hearn is a naturalized Japanese, and that, in the country of his adoption, he is known as Mr. Iwazumi Yakumo. It will, perhaps, be referred to by and by as a singular fact that whereas the chair of Japanese Literature in the University was, until recently, filled by a British subject, Mr. Basil Hall Chamberlain, the chair of English Literature is now to be occupied by a Japanese subject.

INSURRECTION IN FORMOSA.

It appears, from intelligence just received in Tokyo, that an insurrection has again broken out in Formosa. The first symptoms of disturbance made themselves apparent in the middle of June, and precautionary measures were accordingly adopted. But, on June 29th, some thousands of rebels attacked Yuen-lin, a town almost exactly in the centre of the island, and succeeded in capturing it, the Japanese casualties being one officer and five men killed and seven men wounded. The nearest military station of importance is Taiwan, 40 miles distant. Thence four companies of infantry were immediately despatched for the scene of disturbance, together with one company from Loking, and one, as well as a battery of artillery, from Nanchi. Further, as soon as the news reached Taipeh, the Head-quarters of the First Brigade embarked, on the 2nd instant, from Keelung, with the object of proceeding to Taiwan. It is also reported that a British merchant named Densho (?) was killed by the insurgents.

Major-General Tachimi, telegraphing on the 4th instant, says that he has sent two battalions of the Eighth Regiment to Taichang, to assist the Second Brigade, and that, according to circumstances, he will himself proceed, with the two remaining battalions of the Seventh Brigade, to the seat of disturbance, and will assume the command-in-chief. He adds that there is no appearance of any disquiet in the Taipeh district.

The insurrection in Formosa is evidently an affair of some magnitude, though no doubt can be entertained that it will speedily be quelled. We have already stated that, according to official intelligence, several thousands of rebels attacked Yuen-lin, a town lying some 50 miles to the south-east of Taiwan, and captured it after a severe struggle, in which the Japanese casualties were an officer and five men killed and seven men wounded. Since the receipt of that news, four telegrams are to hand:—

Taipeh, 2.10 p.m. 3rd July.

The insurgents in the vicinity of Yuen-lin are developing strength, and have obtained possession of that town. The central districts are in a disturbed condition. The troops despatched by the officer in command of the Second Brigade to the scene of disturbance, up to the 2nd instant, are, one company each from Chia-i, La-king, and four companies, with half a battery of artillery, from Taiwan.

(Signed) Major-General TACHIMI.

Taipeh, 5.11 p.m. 4th July.

Yesterday, the 3rd instant, several hundred insurgents attacked Taiwan, but were temporarily repulsed. On the same day, Hu-lu-tun fell into the hands of the rebels. (This part of the message is unintelligible). Two companies of the Nan-tou infantry are surrounded by the rebels in strength. The troops sent out from Chia-i have come into touch with the insurgents at Ta-pu-lin, and the company of infantry and half battery of artillery under Lieut.-Col. Imahashi's command, are advancing towards Nan-tou. Telegraphic communication southward of Peh-tou and with Puli-sho is interrupted. The third battalion of the Eighth Regiment ought to reach Miaoli to-night, and the second battalion of the same Regiment is proceeding by railway to Hsin-chu.

(Signed) Major-General TACHIMI.

Taipeh, July 4th, 7.25 p.m.

Insurrection has broken out in Peh-tou, Tsz-tung-hiang, Yuen-lin, Lin-chi-pu, Tzu-tsi-chie, Nan-tou, Tai-chang, and Hu-lu-tun. The rebels are in force. Our troops are divided, and since this morning have been acting on the defensive, three companies being at Tai-chang, for example. A state of disquiet is also reported from Chia-i, Chang-hua and their vicinity. Colonel Takenouchi entered Tai-chang on the 3rd instant, and two battalions have just now reached that place from Taipeh.

Taipeh, July 5th, 11.50 a.m.

Lieut. Colonel Imahashi's force reached Nan-tou yesterday (4th instant), and effected a junction with Major Matsui's troops (i.e. the troops reported as being surrounded by the rebels in strength on the 3rd instant). Steps are being now taken to drive the insurgents from the vicinity of Nan-tou. Peh-tou has been attacked by the rebels, and the gendarmes by whom it was garrisoned have retreated to Chang-hua.

A telegram from Taipeh, dated 3 p.m. on the 4th instant, says that the casualties on the Japanese side at Yuen-lin and in its vicinity up to that day were 3 officers and 13 non-commissioned officers and men killed; 18 non-commissioned officers and men wounded, and 4 men missing. Evidently there must have been severe fighting. Nothing is said as to the casualties on the side of the insurgents; silence easily understood when we remember that the Japanese were obliged to evacuate Yuen-lin.

Another telegram from Taipeh, dated 3.05 p.m. on the 6th instant, reports that the patients in hospital at Peh-tou were successfully removed at the time of the retreat from that place to Chang-hua.

From the same telegram we learn that the railway, which has hitherto been used for official purposes only, has now been fully equipped, and will be opened immediately for general traffic.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives expression to the surprise and dissatisfaction caused among the public by these constant insurrections in Formosa, but nobody supposed that the island would be reduced to tranquillity at once. The French still have trouble in Tonquin, though eleven years have passed since the place came into their possession. It will be a question for the Japanese Authorities to consider whether a winter campaign should not be undertaken in the mountainous regions on the east of the island, to hunt down, and, if necessary exterminate, the rebellious Chinese lurking in the recesses of the hills. Such an operation would doubtless be attended by immense difficulties, but probably it would pay best in the long run.

It was expected that the re-inforcements sent from Taipeh, namely, the Third Battalion of the Eighth Regiment and the Second Battalion of the same Regiment, would reach Taichung and Miaoli, respectively, on the 6th instant.

In the fight at Peh-tou, Captain Miyana Keida, a sergeant, and a private were killed. The *Nichi Nichi* puts the total casualties, reported up to date, at 40, but according to the details given above, the aggregate is 41.

We may refer here to a statement advanced in quarters where every contemporary happening is exaggerated to a laughable extent—a statement that the insurrection is wide-spread. There seems to be no warrant whatever for such an allegation. Yuen-lin is a little town in the hill country, only 30 miles from Taiwan, and up to the present the area of disturbance has not extended beyond the vicinity of the latter place.

MARQUIS ITO IN FORMOSA.

The Minister President, during his sojourn in Taipeh, is said to have invited the Japanese merchants of that place to the store of Mr. Sameshima, where His Excellency addressed them on the subject of trade in the new dominion. The gist of Marquis Ito's speech, as reported by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, was that the chief problem to be solved in connection with the development of Formosan commerce is that of communications. At present, facilities for importing Japanese products into Formosa or exporting Japanese products to Japan, are so defective that it paid better to send goods round by Hongkong or Amoy. So long as that is the case, Marquis Ito sees no prospect of the development of the island's trade in Japanese hands, and is not surprised that the merchants of his country should suffer defeat in competition with foreign merchants. His Excellency referred also to Formosa tea, which, he said, had to be sent to Amoy and there prepared for export, whereas, if the work were done by Japanese in Formosa, considerable outlay might be saved.

Mr. Aruga Nagao, while on a recent tour through Europe, collected the opinions of many jurists concerning the late China-Japan war. Nearly all were unanimously in favour of Japan. The opinion of one member of the *Académie Française* is most interesting, and it will be translated into Japanese and presented to the Emperor.

SPECULATIVE TRANSACTIONS IN SHARES.

There is something like a mania for speculation in bonds and shares at present. A table has been drawn up of certain stocks constantly changing hands, though the shares themselves are not actually in existence, but the right to purchase them has been conceded:—

	Concession obtained yen.	Quoted at yen.
Sango Railway new shares	1.00	4.0
Kinki Railways	1.00	4.4
Sakata Railways	1.00	1.1
Kanabe Railways	1.00	9.5
Seiwa Railways	1.00	2.4
Kyohoku Railways	1.00	4.4
Omi Railways	1.00	3.1
Taisha-Ryozan Railways	.50	2.5
Tokyo Electric Railways	.25	4.0
Teikoku Beer Company	1.00	3.0
Tokyo 12 Staples Exchange	1.00	15.0
Toyo Sekiyu (kerosine)	1.00	2.5

If a right to purchase a share can be sold to speculators at a large profit, it is not strange that men are rushing at various enterprises in order to realize big profits on transfer transactions, though they care not a straw whether the work they have started will pay or not. An interesting judgment has been delivered in the Supreme Court in connection with the sale of concessions. Last year, a certain speculator of Okayama bought a large number of Osaka Guano Exchange concessions from three merchants of Osaka. The market fell, and the concessions subsequently became worse than waste paper. Thereupon the Okayama speculator brought a suit in the Osaka Local Court, claiming that the transactions should be nullified and that the defendants should be made to return the money received in exchange for the concessions. The Court found that the contract was invalid, but that the plaintiff had no right to claim the refunding of the money he paid to the parties. This judgment was not entirely satisfactory to the plaintiff, and he therefore appealed to the Osaka Appeal Court. The judgment of this Court was as follows:—The transfer of concessions in the shares in question having been accomplished prior to the registration of the Company which issued the concessions, such transfer was entirely null and void, according to the provisions of Art. 180 of the Commercial Code. The defendants therefore had no right sell or transfer their shares, and as the price which they received from the invalid transfer must be regarded in the light of illusory profits, the defendants must comply with the claim of the Appellant and must refund the sum they received. Dissatisfied with the decision of the Osaka Appeal Court, the defendants carried the case to the Supreme Court. The latter, however, has approved the award of the Osaka Court and pronounced substantially the same judgment.

COTTON GOODS FOR EXPORT.

The *Osaka Asahi* says that the export of cotton twilled goods in 1895 totalled 469,595 pieces, valued at 400,519 yen; in other words, there was a diminution of over 430,000 yen as compared with the previous year's export. The goods go mostly to Hongkong and India, next to which come the United States of America and China. The articles are principally produced in Awa, Suwo, Jyoshu, and Tokyo. Cotton flannel is chiefly exported to China, Hongkong, Korea, India, and Vladivostok: the two provinces of Shantung and Chili being the best markets. The termination of the late war gave a strong impetus to the export of these goods, so that the total trade of last year amounted to 1,329,511 yen. The goods were chiefly produced in Kii and other districts adjoining Osaka, and 80 to 90 per cent. of the gross export passed through the hands of Osaka merchants. At present the goods are almost exclusively made from home-spun yarns. Other cotton goods shipped abroad are towels—over 22,000 yen worth last year being chiefly sent to southern China—white and black calico, and figured cotton cloth, these going mostly to Korea.

THE DISPOSAL OF RELIEF FUNDS.

FROM the letter of the Rev. J. G. CLEVELAND, published elsewhere in our columns, it will be seen that close attention has been given to the question of how best to dispose of the funds charitably contributed by foreigners in Tokyo and Yokohama for the relief of the sufferers by the seismic wave. Three points have been definitely established by the Committee that proceeded specially to Iwate and Miyagi Prefectures for the purpose of investigating the question. The first is that, owing to prompt measures taken by the Local Authorities and to the helpful spirit displayed by the people living just beyond the line of devastation, there is no such thing as actual destitution to be relieved: all the survivors are sheltered and fed. Secondly, the living being few as compared with the dead in the most heavily visited places, the timbers of ruined and now ownerless buildings constitute ample material for constructing new edifices to house the survivors. Thirdly, the great and pressing need of the moment is to provide boats and nets so that the fishermen may be enabled to resume their bread-earning occupation. The members of the Committee found that the Local Officials are thoroughly in touch with the people and fully understand the latter's wants. As to gifts of money, the unanimous verdict was that they should be avoided. In cases where help is really requisite, the people are not accustomed to have command of any considerable sum, and would probably misapply funds placed at their uncontrolled disposal. Bedding will certainly be a difficulty in many instances, and it may be found advisable to employ some portion of the relief fund to procuring wadded *futon* and *yagu*. But transportation is a serious obstacle in that matter, and closer inquiries must be made before any definite step is taken. Besides, the quality of the bedding used by fisher folk in Japan is such that perhaps the business of providing it had better be left to themselves. On the whole, the wisest and kindest plan that suggests itself is to devote the greater part of the fund to furnishing boats and nets, so that the people may resume their regular occupation. Every day lost at this season tells against their chances of laying in bread for the winter. The programme recommended by the Committee is to authorize the immediate building of a certain number of boats, and the purchase of hemp, the latter to be placed in the hands of the fishermen themselves, most of whom understand net-making. Nets are very expensive things: the largest seines cost as much as two thousand *yen*. The limited funds entrusted to us for relief purposes are evidently inadequate for supplying such

implements. But material for smaller nets can be furnished, and, above all, the building of boats can be at once commenced. The Local Officials offer every possible assistance in discriminating between the degrees of need, and in order that our duty, as well as that of the Committee, should be properly discharged, receipts are to be obtained from all persons that receive assistance of that nature. Boats can of course be built on the spot, and timber as well as labour being cheap, they will not average more from 35 to 50 *yen*, according to localities. Evidently a couple of thousand *yen* promptly spent in that way may prove most serviceable, and we think that subscribers to the fund will be pleased to think that the proceeds of their generosity have been put into a comparatively permanent form, and become tools of trade to enable the unfortunate fishermen to earn their livelihood once more. There is a minor need in connection with the hospitals, and some prompt assistance has been rendered there. Boat-building and net-purchasing, however, constitute the chief features of the programme seemingly most desirable from every point of view, and by pursuing it there will be the satisfaction of knowing that the money given by charitable members of the community has not been made practically valueless by infinitesimal division, or dissipated on account of temporary needs, but has rendered really efficient aid and conferred lasting benefit.

THE LATE WIND-STORM AT ST. LOUIS.

THE wind-storm that visited St. Louis on the afternoon of the 29th May, touched, in its path of destruction, but a fraction of that great city. All its finest buildings were left undisturbed, and even the damage to the great Eads Bridge was comparatively trivial; indeed the regular railway traffic was interrupted on this route for only one day. And yet the amount of destruction was enormous. St. Louis is a city of close upon 700,000 inhabitants; its houses extend along the river bank for seventeen miles, and the city limits stretch inland for seven miles. If we take the Eads bridge as a centre from which to describe the city, the main thoroughfare, running north and south, parallel with the river, and known as Broadway, lies a few blocks off and is really Fifth Street. The river makes a bend eastward at St. Louis, so that Broadway, being parallel to it, lies like an arc to the straight chord of Grand Avenue, or Thirty-Sixth Street. The main artery east and west is Olive Street, a few blocks south of the Eads Bridge. This runs out to the West End, and the point where it crosses Broadway is the business heart of the city. A few blocks south of Olive Street the ground begins to fall away to the Mill

Creek Valley, which serves as a bed for the railway-track of all the railroads that enter the city. The great new Union Station, possibly the finest on the continent, is built to the north of this valley, between Eighteenth and Twentieth Streets. Almost all the destruction wrought by the wind-storm lay in the triangle, or half-segment, formed by the Mill Creek Valley on the north, and the point on the south where Broadway and Grand Avenue, described already as chord and arc, come together. It will be seen, then, that the busiest portion of the city was not touched. But along the west of the southern bank of the Mill Creek Valley the houses were fortunate which did not escape. And the busy thoroughfare of Chonteau Avenue, at the foot of the slope, with its cheap stores and saloons, was shattered almost from end to end. At St. Louis, this year the warm spring weather came late, but in the three weeks it more than made up for its lateness by high temperature combined with considerable moisture. Few residents ever remember seeing vegetation spring up so rapidly and with such luxuriance. Towards the middle of May, the weather became broken, and a large amount of rain fell. For the past three years there has been a scanty rainfall, and the rainy weather excited much comment. The Wednesday of the storm opened fair, but about ten o'clock the sky began to present an appearance which suggested some peculiar disturbance. The clouds were packed together like lumps of cotton wadding—some one compared them to a flooring of great white shells. Off to the north-west there was a lurid set of black thunderclouds, and eastward rose another black wall of cloud. About five o'clock the storm burst, after a short period of lull. On the western portion of the city the rain-storm broke in whirling sheets of water; but round by the southwest, entering the populous portion at Grand Avenue, about a mile south of the bridge where it crosses the Mill Creek Valley, a tornado entered, scattering ruin in its course. Between Grand Avenue or Thirty-sixth-street, and Jefferson Avenue or Twenty-sixth, it wrecked whole streets of fairly well-built residences. Then it came to churches, halls, public schools, clubs, and poorer-houses. These it treated with very little ceremony, sending the roof into the cellar, as in the Church of the Unity, or into the street, as in Calvary Church. The substantial one-story Power-houses of the Scullin Lines and the People's Railway went down. Here the loss of life was not great, as the houses and buildings were not crowded, and people could fly from one room to another. But in the factories farther down town, and in the slim tenement houses, the effects of the tornado were more fatal. It seemed to spread out a little towards the South, and then turning off north-east it jumped the river, tore the upper masonry

at the eastern abutment of the Eads Bridge, and made a clean sweep of the river side of East St. Louis, known as the Island. Elevators, hotels, cattle-sheds, railway offices were all knocked over like a pack of cards. About six miles due east, in a hollow, lies the little village of Birkner; this was also wrecked.

All communication for the time was stopped, but before long the cars began to run again. The Suburban, which goes due west, with a bend to the north down in the city, was practically uninterrupted. The Olive Street cable-line, running west to Forest Park and passing close to the Union Station, was also suspended only during the actual fury of the storm. Next morning a visitor arriving in the city could have entered the Station and gone by car to any of the principal hotels without knowing that any catastrophe had happened. The pluck shown by the people was extraordinary. The machinery at the Power House of the People's Railway, buried under a mass of wreckage on the evening of the 27th, was at work in the open air by the evening of the 29th. Power was transmitted from one electrical railway to another, and soon all the derelict cars, seen here and there over the city, began to be set in motion once more.

That the loss of life should have been limited to less than 200 in St. Louis, where the houses of probably 70,000 people were rendered uninhabitable, and many positively levelled with the ground, is extraordinary. The number of hair-breadth escapes, well authenticated, is astonishingly great. It must be remembered that merely escaping outside, as in an earthquake, was no safeguard, as bricks and other débris were flying, and trees and telegraph poles were falling on the sidewalk. One explanation must be that the people are so accustomed to take care of themselves, their instincts led them into safe positions behind doors, close to heavy furniture, or into a safe corner of the cellar.

It has been denied by one of the Weather Bureau officials that the storm was a tornado, but no one who witnessed its doings at Lafayette Park could doubt for a moment that it must have gyrated like a spinning-top. The old trees in that Park are twisted, and barked, and splintered in a way that requires a tornado to explain. Besides, on the ceilings of many of the wrecked houses black mud was scattered, different from any soil known to exist in the neighbourhood. The tornado seems, indeed, to have been accompanied by a downfall of mud rather than of rain.

It seems as if a tornado in visiting the city should prefer a certain route, for twenty-five years ago such a storm ran down the Mill Creek Valley, jumped the river, and, in East St. Louis, carried great locomotives fifty feet from the tracks.

Probably this storm will check the growth of St. Louis on the South, and help its growth to the West, now the fashionable quarter. Twenty years ago Lafayette Park was the centre of possibly the most fashionable quarter, and Compton Heights, further west, is a new and fine residence district. Beyond lies Tower Grove Park, the trees of which suffered, and close by it Shaw's Garden, the Botany School of Washington University, and possibly the most complete Garden of the kind on the continent. The plants there have suffered badly and it will take three years to recover from the injuries inflicted. Possibly the Victoria Regia, the glory of the place, which attracted so many visitors last summer, may have received permanent injury, as the structure protecting it was blown down, and the plant exposed to the blinding rain.

In East St. Louis the disaster has had a much more depressing effect on the community than on the West side. The funerals of the victims were thirty times more numerous compared with the population; the class rendered homeless are less able to bear loss or to move elsewhere; and the numerous cattle and hogs whose carcasses lie pinned under sheds and débris are causing a stench that may induce a pestilence. In the great city what strikes a visitor to the wrecked districts is the wonderful power of initiative and organizing energy of the people which will soon wipe out all signs that anything unusual has happened.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

CONTEMPORARY history, it has been said, is seldom trustworthy because the force of prejudice that presides at its compilation distorts it far more than the inaccessibility of materials in later eras. The fact is illustrated by Korea's case. To this moment the public is confidently assured by various writers, at whose heads stands Bishop CORFE, that the hair-cutting edict, which is supposed to have created so much commotion, was suggested, if not dictated, by the Japanese. But the truth is that, so far from suggesting or dictating anything of the kind, the Japanese Representative in Söul strongly urged the inadvisability of such a step. That to replace by Western modes the troublesome, time-wasting, and comparatively costly Korean fashion of wearing the hair would be a reform, no one might deny. But in every country sumptuary interference calls for the greatest caution, and that is eminently true of Korea, where conservatism clings strongly to the old fashions in costume and head-gear. In Japan the queue was abandoned very quickly after the Restoration. But the aid of legislation was never invoked. The leading men of the time set the example, and the people followed it readily. So, too, in the matter of female apparel. Quite

recently, it was asserted by a Yokohama English newspaper that the adoption of foreign costume by Japanese ladies had been inculcated by Imperial Edict. That is incorrect. No edict ever appeared on the subject. What happened was that ladies attending at Court were requested to wear either the approved Court costume of Japan, or Occidental dress. The impracticability of the conventional Court costume, with its long crimson *hakama*, has been adduced by way of proof that this order amounted to an interdict against female garments in Japanese style. But how much more impracticable are the *hakama* than the train worn, *de riguer*, by ladies at a Drawing-room in England, and how can Court costume be regarded as setting a compulsory example for every day use? Ladies in Europe do not wear trains in domestic life because that barbaric appendage has to be worn at Court, and ladies in Japan need not wear either crimson trousers or balloon-like sleeves because one horror or the other is necessary when attending at Court. In fact, there never has been any legislative interference with the costume of the Japanese people in general since the Restoration, and the Representative of Japan strongly opposed anything of the kind in Korea. But, as ought by this time to be well known, the queue-cutting edict had a motive much deeper than the mere question of a fashion of coiffure. It was a political scheme. Certain Korean statesmen conceived it as a means of marking the men on whom they could count as allies, and then, believing that any short-haired person must become an object of suspicion and dislike to the conservatives, they pushed their programme to the extent of forcibly lopping off top-knots *malgré* the owners. All that, we repeat, is perfectly well understood by every earnest observer of events. It is inexplicable that the theory of Japanese inspiration should be so persistently maintained by some writers. Further, there is no longer any ground for alleging that the hair-cutting edict or the murder of the QUEEN were the real reasons of the recent disturbances in Korea: they were mere pretexts. To discover the true causes, we must look in a different direction. When Count INOUE went to Söul, he found there many crying abuses, but none called for speedier remedy than the system of hereditary office-holders. The oppression and corruption resulting from that system in the provinces were incalculable. The privilege of holding this or that official position descended from father to son in absolute entail. Incompetence, extortion, dishonesty—nothing interrupted the succession. Governors of provinces, indeed, were appointed by the Central Government, and the small suites that accompanied them found employment within their districts. But, for the rest, the whole provincial administration was in the hands of hereditary office-holders, with

results probably never surpassed in any part of the world. This flagrantly evil state of affairs was among the first that Count INOUE endeavoured to correct, and it may well be imagined that every family deprived of such a valuable heirloom became bitterly hostile to reform and its representatives. Another sweeping but most necessary change was the disbandment of the *Kogun*, a force organized originally by the TAI WUN-KUN after Admiral ROZE's repulse in 1866. It numbered over a hundred thousand men, who, though scattered throughout the provinces, preserved their military organization and constituted a perpetual menace to the peace of the Kingdom, as well as a powerful weapon in the hands of intriguing politicians. The breaking up of this force was, of course, widely resented, not merely by the men composing it, but also by those that counted on it as an instrument for furthering their schemes.

There can be no doubt that the consummation of these two reforms engendered great discontent in the provinces, but since neither of them could be employed as a popular pretext for insurrection, public tranquillity remained undisturbed. A pretext alone was needed, however, and it was furnished by the hair-cutting edict and by the assassination of the QUEEN. Outsiders were puzzled to understand why the insurrection continued after liberty as to coiffure had been restored, and despite the fact that the overthrow of the QUEEN'S enemies might be expected to restore to power the family proverbially associated with oppression and corruption. But these things were quite secondary considerations in the eyes of the agitators that fomented the disturbance. If comparative quiet has now been restored, it is not because the Government's authority has been re-asserted or the discontent of the hereditary officeholders and the provincial troops allayed, but because the resources of the insurgents have been temporarily exhausted, and to obtain supplies of food even has become a difficulty to them. A period of tolerable tranquillity is now anticipated by those best acquainted with the circumstances. The contemporary history of Korea does not seem, after all, to defy intelligent scrutiny, if critics will only take the trouble to look below the surface.

HISTORY OF THE IMPERIAL IRON FOUNDRY.

THE necessity of establishing a steel foundry in Japan was long talked of among Military and Naval men, and several wealthy merchants were invited by the Authorities, at different times, to undertake the work as a private enterprise. But no one was found willing to respond. Finally, before the second session of the Imperial Diet, the Naval Department submitted estimates bearing

upon this affair. Admiral Count KABAYAMA, then Minister of the Navy, made an earnest attempt to have the programme approved by the Diet, and delivered, in support of it, a long speech in his usual outspoken manner. An allusion that he made in the course of the speech to the meritorious services rendered by the Satsuma and Choshu clans to the State before and after the Restoration, caused much excitement among the members of the House of Representatives, and a tumultuous scene ensued, with the result that both Radicals and Progressionists combined to reject the programme. This opposition constituted one of the causes that led to the dissolution of the Lower House that session. Nevertheless, next session, the Government again submitted estimates covering an appropriation of 2,750,000 *yen* for the proposed foundry, but the same fate befell the Bill. Mr. OOKA IKUZO, who, as a member of the Budget Committee, had charge of the Naval section, reported that the information furnished by the Government with regard to the foundry was not sufficiently explicit in respect of the amount of raw material available in Japan, and added that, the Authorities being unable to guarantee the work, the appropriation ought to be struck out. The House adopted this report, and the Government's programme was once more defeated. The House of Peers, however, entertained a different opinion on the subject. Soon after the Lower House had declared against the scheme, Viscount NAITO, supported by Prince KONOYE and 36 others, presented a Representation urging that the Government ought to appoint a special committee to thoroughly collect the necessary information, after which the consent of the Diet should be sought. This Representation was passed unanimously on June 8th, 1892. Acting upon the prudent advice of the Upper House, the Government organized a Committee, appointing as members General MAKINO, the Director of the Imperial Military Arsenal; Mr. ARISHIMA and Professor WASEDA, ex-Directors of the Bureaus of National Debts and of Mining, respectively; Professor NORO, now a victim of the notorious iron pipe scandal, Viscount NAITO, mover of the Representation, and Dr. HASEGAWA, of the Mitsu Bishi Co. After having held meetings during some ten days, the Committee presented a report to the Government, stating that before they could arrive at any definite opinion on the subject, they considered it necessary to conduct investigations into the following points; namely, first, the amount of iron contained in the mines of Japan; and secondly, the method of organizing, the location of, as well as the outlay connected with, an iron foundry. The Committee were also of opinion that the affair should be considered from the standpoint of the national defences, as well as from that of economy, and that the Department of Agriculture

and Commerce, rather than that of the Navy, as the Government proposed, should undertake the conduct of the enterprise. The Government acted upon this advice, and transferred the affair to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, which caused the Committee, assisted by experts, to carry on experiments and investigations. The result of their work, so far as these experiments and investigations were concerned, was decidedly encouraging. But Count GOTO, then Minister of the Department, thought it expedient, before taking any definite step, to appoint another committee with the object of further investigating matters relating to organization and management, and determining the quantity of plant and accessories required for the work. He asked the Diet, in its fourth session, to appropriate a sum of 24,900 *yen* for that purpose, but before proceeding to consider the Minister's request, the two Houses invited the Government to inform them about the results of the experiments and investigations conducted by the Committee previously appointed. This request was readily complied with, and the reports, given elsewhere, in an abridged form, were laid before the Houses. The documents so far satisfied the House of Peers that they suggested the advisability of the Government's placing before the Diet, in the shape of a supplementary budget, estimates providing for the establishment of a foundry. But considering the scheme still premature, the Government did not adopt the advice of the Upper House, but appointed, in August, 1894, a second Committee composed of 25 members, to carry out investigations with special reference to the work of iron-foundries in Europe and America and the circumstances existing in Japan. The Committee was to investigate the quantity of iron ore procurable in Japan, as well as the method of mining and transportation; was to make experiments with pig and wrought irons produced in Japan, and so forth. From the magnitude of the scope of the investigations and the limit of available funds—which had been largely reduced by the House of Representatives—the second Committee failed to achieve any particular results, and, on the other hand, Count GOTO himself declared it advisable, in his opinion, to have the work undertaken by private capitalists. However, in the meanwhile, the attitude of the two Houses of the Diet towards the affair underwent a radical change, so that Representations urging the establishment of a steel foundry were submitted, in the fifth session, by the National Unionists in the Lower House; in the sixth session, by Viscount NAITO and Baron OZAWA, supported by Prince NIJO and 70 others, in the Upper House; and in the eighth session, by both the Radicals and the National Unionists in the Lower House. Count GOTO was no longer at the head of the Department of Agriculture

and Commerce, having been succeeded by Viscount ENOMOTO, a zealous advocate of the establishment of a steel foundry in Japan. Soon after Viscount ENOMOTO'S assumption of the portfolio of the Department, he caused a trial manufacture of steel to be made at the Yokosuka Naval Arsenal under his personal supervision, and succeeded in obtaining the metal according to a plan of his own. Last year, the Diet approved, with only a slight reduction, an appropriation of a little over 39,000 *yen*, for the purpose of carrying out experiments in the manufacture of steel under a third committee. General experiments were undertaken by the Viscount himself at the Military Arsenal in Tokyo, always with satisfactory results. To still further confirm those results, the enterprising statesman, accompanied by Prof. NORO, went, last fall, to Kamaishi, where he stayed about a month and undertook various experiments at the Tanaka Iron-works established there. The third Committee, presided over by His Excellency Mr. KANEKO, held several meetings at the Noshomusho, and resolved, among other things, that it would be advisable to have the business undertaken as a State industry, instead of leaving it to private capitalists, as Count GOTO had recommended. Inquiries into the technical and business features of the question having been satisfactorily completed, the Government finally submitted, in the last session of the Diet, a Budget of 4,095,700 *yen* for establishing a steel foundry, the sum to be spread over four years and applied for the construction of a foundry, the purchase of ground and machinery, and so forth. The Bill obtained the consent of the Diet.

According to the Government's programme, the foundry is to manufacture yearly 60,000 tons, consisting of 35,000 tons of Bessemer steel, 20,000 tons of Martin steel, 4,500 tons of wrought iron, and 500 tons of crucible steel. In March last, the organization of the State Steel Foundry was promulgated by Imperial Ordinance, the staff being composed of a President; a Chief Engineer, two Managing Directors, Eight Engineers, two consulting Foreign Engineers, and a number of assistant engineers and clerks. Several gentlemen were proposed as candidates for the posts of President and Chief Engineer, but finally the choice fell on Mr. YAMANOUCHI TEIUN, originator of the Hokkaido Colliery Railway, and Dr. OSHIMA, an ex-Chief Engineer of the Ikuno Silver Mine. Judging from the wide experience and knowledge possessed by both gentlemen, it is confidently hoped that the new enterprise will be successful.

The relief provisions drawn up by the Home Office will be submitted to the Cabinets for approval immediately on Marquis Ito's return to Tokyo, on the 9th or 10th inst.

THE SEISMIC WAVE.

The *Asahi* has received a letter from Iwate intended to throw some light on the difficult question of the centre of the recent seismic disturbance. The writer thinks that the centre may be assumed to have been at the bottom of the sea not far from the coast of Komoto-mura, Kita-Hei District, Iwate. In support of this hypothesis several facts are adduced. Thus, at a distance of over 1,000 yards from the shore of the village, a rock used to project from the surface of the sea. On the evening of the disaster, this rock was transferred, amid a deafening din, to the mouth of the river called after the name of the village, and in its new position the rock projects more than 15 ft. from the surface of the sea. At the same time, the mouth of the river, which had been from 35 to 40 ft. deep before the phenomenon, became suddenly so shallow that a portion of the bed is now above the surface. Another rock, previously standing some 80 ft. from the shore of another hamlet, also in the same district, was thrown out of its original position so that it now points to the south, and a portion of its base is exposed. A third rock, situated not far to the north of the latter, was broken in two, and one half was hurled some 400 yards northward. About 1,200 yards farther seaward from this second rock, stood a fourth rock, some 12 yards long. This was turned upside down.

The latest official statistics from Aomori are as follow:—Number of houses in the two devastated Districts before the disaster, 2,350; number of people, 14,911; deaths, 142 males and 147 females; wounded, 113 males and 101 females; missing, 20 males and 15 females; cattle drowned, 12; number of houses and other buildings swept away, 589; number wrecked or submerged, 313; cultivated fields, building sites, and other land devastated, 122.95 *cho* (305 acres); bridges wrecked or swept away, 5; embankments injured in 1,300 places; bales of grain or fish-guano, and number of fish-curing pans and nets carried away, 1,739, 30,257, and 193,909, respectively; ships and boats swept away, 379, and wrecked, 218.

The medical men and nurses despatched from the Red Cross Association to the regions of the disaster are 10 physicians, 2 compounders, 25 male nurses, and 24 female nurses. Assisted by a party of succour despatched from the Local Branches of the Society, they are tending the wounded survivors in about 20 hospitals temporarily established in the various devastated districts. The patients under treatment aggregate 756 in Miyagi, 172 in Aomori, and about 2,000 in Iwate. It is said that most of the patients are suffering from inflammation of the lungs or stomach, caused by drinking fish-oil while they were struggling for life in the wave. A letter received by Surgeon-General Baron Ishiguro from one of the surgeons engaged in treating the wounded at Kamaishi, describes the privations to which both the patients and those looking after them are exposed. Though in the immediate vicinity of the sea, fish is unprocurable; and owing to defective means of communication the available diet consists only of rice and pickled radish. There is absolutely no supply of nutriment for the patients, and as for the surgeons and nurses, they are barely able to keep body and soul together.

A news agency supplies information to the Tokyo journals as to the plan entertained by the Home Office with reference to relief for the three devastated districts. Already in Miyagi and Aomori Prefectures the money procurable from the local taxes has reached its limit. There is still a portion of that fund available for Iwate, but the damage there being exceptionally serious, the money in hand can not suffice to meet it. It is evident that subsequently to the 15th inst., when the relief period covered by expenditures from the Famine Fund will expire, some measures must be taken by the Central Treasury. The moneys that the three Prefectures are entitled to receive from the Central Relief Fund aggregate about 1,000,000 *yen*, and there is also a sum of some 900,000 *yen* from the

Second Reserve Fund available for the purpose. These two sums are thought sufficient to meet the worst cases in the three districts, and no extraordinary outlay from other sources will be necessary. The question of furnishing fishing gear to the survivors is still unsettled, pending the return of the Home Minister from inspecting the devastated districts. In this respect, the towns and villages in the old Nambu fief are considered to be in a fortunate position, for the fishermen's nets and other gear are supplied by capitalists who receive payment by installments. That method may be resorted to in the case of the sufferers by the wave.

Contributions sent to the vernacular journals for purposes of relief are steadily growing. The *Yiji's* list has risen to above 40,800 *yen* and that of the *Nichi Nichi* to more than 35,000 *yen*. The *Osaka Asahi* has received some 23,000 *yen*. Thus the three journals aggregate about 100,000 *yen*. The sums obtained by others are far smaller, none being above 5,000 *yen*.

THE SEISMIC WAVE IN THE BONIN ISLANDS.

Official information from the Bonin Islands necessitates some modification of the views recently expressed by us, on the strength of information contained in a private letter, which, as our readers will remember, was very vaguely worded. The letter indicated that the force of the seismic wave, by the time it reached the Bonins, had become so insignificant as to be virtually incapable of harm, the only damage recorded being the loss of a turtle pen. The exact time of the wave's advent was not recorded, but the tone of the letter suggested early morning on June 16th as the probable date. That inference, at any rate, proves correct. The official account says that at 4 a.m. on the 16th June, the water at Futami harbour, in the island called Chichi-shima (the main island of the group), showed signs of disturbance, and an hour later there was an extraordinary tide, the water rising suddenly from three to four feet, and its inflow and outflow being very violent. In the port of Miya a boat was swept out to sea, but no injury was suffered by either man or beast. On the western coast, also, strong tidal disturbance was felt, and some fishing gear was carried off, but no other harm resulted. From Ototo-jima similar phenomena are recorded: a wave three or four feet high; the breaking of a plank-bridge in Okimura port, and general commotion of the sea, but no injury to life or limb. It is now certain that the time of the seismic wave's arrival at the coast of Miyagi Prefecture was 8.30 p.m. on the 15th of June. Hence, if it reached the Bonins, 700 miles distant, at 4 a.m. the following morning, its average rate of translation must have been about 93 miles an hour. On the other hand, the records obtained from the tide-gauges at Ayugawa, in Miyagi Prefecture, and Hanasaki-mura, in Nemuro Prefecture, show that the wave reached the former place at 8.30 p.m., and the latter at 8.50 p.m., and as the distance between them is 350 miles, approximately, we have here, apparently, a velocity of transmission equal to 17 miles a minute. That, of course, assumes that the direction of translation was from one place to the other, whereas all that we can say definitely is that Ayugawa, in Miyagi Prefecture, was 20 minutes nearer than Nemuro to the centre of the disturbance. But there is another perplexing factor: the tide-gauge at Misaki, in Kanagawa Prefecture indicated the presence of the disturbance at ten minutes past eight on the evening of the 15th, or fifteen minutes earlier than the time of the first indications in Miyagi Prefecture. Yet Misaki is 320 miles south of Ayugawa. It is difficult to reconcile these records with any conceivable theory, especially when we remember that the wave traversed the Pacific, a distance of over 3,000 miles, in 7 hours.

THE DISASTER IN THE NORTH.

The Rev. Rotheay Miller sends us the following returns, up to the 28th ult.:-

Villages.	Population.	Deaths.	Injured.	Uninjured.	No. of buildings.	No. of buildings swept away.	No. of houses partially damaged.	No. of houses undamaged.
Kesen District—								
Kesen-mura.....	3,651	23	10	3,618	566	35	16	313
Takata-machi.....	3,480	3	—	3,476	616	—	—	616
Yonezaki-mura.....	3,400	18	—	3,446	550	11	50	289
Kotomo-mura.....	2,510	303	29	2,287	381	67	5	309
Hirota-mura.....	3,100	500	21	2,599	469	103	—	366
Maeki-mura.....	2,665	606	30	2,029	400	191	—	209
Obinata-mura.....	2,304	180	31	2,124	300	105	30	171
Asakaki-mura.....	2,085	448	68	1,669	380	178	—	202
Ryori-mura.....	2,803	1,458	39	1,386	451	285	100	66
Okirai-mura.....	2,449	415	60	1,974	321	113	184	83
Yoshihama-mura.....	2,075	815	0	851	331	31	31	299
Karatan-mura.....	2,807	2,200	30	607	474	341	3	130
Totals.....	31,009	6,759	335	26,517	4,860	1,315	361	2,984
Minami Hei District—								
Kamaishi-machi.....	6,557	4,041	630	1,886	1,223	989	—	234
Unodai-mura.....	3,147	1,060	190	1,888	511	350	—	161
Ohtuchi-machi.....	6,555	2,128	5,937	1,198	1,198	177	—	915
Totals.....	16,259	5,729	944	9,605	2,932	1,616	—	1,310
Higashi Hei District—								
Funakoshi-mura.....	2,205	1,327	701	877	474	171	1	109
Kasori-mura.....	1,800	67	50	1,663	303	105	25	173
Yamada-machi.....	3,740	1,445	150	2,255	782	350	173	3
Ozawa-mura.....	1,630	550	59	1,021	390	106	—	284
Omoo-mura.....	1,493	700	31	762	290	159	—	131
Tsugaru-mura.....	2,618	3	—	2,614	431	8	—	423
Isodori-mura.....	1,596	90	54	1,552	365	100	—	265
Kuwakasa-machi.....	1,450	100	33	1,317	701	300	30	351
Miyako-machi.....	2,157	21	—	2,136	991	30	—	973
Sakiyama-mura.....	981	160	28	800	155	45	9	101
Taro-mura.....	3,747	9,553	277	815	660	130	—	196
Totals.....	26,338	6,794	1,370	20,254	5,308	1,802	335	3,171
Kita Hei District—								
Omoto-mura.....	2,190	367	259	1,664	386	156	147	83
Tanabata-mura.....	3,081	393	11	2,677	465	47	48	376
Fudai-mura.....	2,038	1,010	133	877	330	95	49	186
Totals.....	7,253	1,780	403	5,070	1,181	298	238	645
Minami Kuno District—								
Kuji-machi.....	4,099	271	100	3,827	657	344	—	313
Ube-mura.....	2,244	280	81	1,972	328	43	—	285
Noda-mura.....	2,590	261	62	2,367	411	138	—	273
Osachi-mura.....	2,719	28	3	2,694	472	27	—	455
Natsui-mura.....	2,803	41	6	2,756	205	16	—	249
Totals.....	15,449	688	252	12,905	2,133	568	—	1,370
Kita Kuno District—								
Samurai Hama-mura.....	1,397	23	3	1,371	185	4	—	181
Nakano-mura.....	1,695	65	18	1,612	228	136	—	98
Taneichi-mu.....	4,685	28	34	4,623	665	81	—	574
Totals.....	7,777	276	55	7,451	1,078	221	—	847
Grand Totals.....	106,574	21,821	3,382	81,389	17,470	6,025	934	10,517

H.M.S. "EDGAR" AND THE SEISMIC WAVE.

The following letter has been handed to us for publication:-

COPT.
H.M.S. *Edgar*, June 30th, 1896.
DEAR BARON SANNOMIYA—I am sending you, through Mr. Hall, our Consul at Yokohama, the sum of 230 dollars, as a contribution, though a small one, from myself, the officers, and ship's company of the *Edgar*, towards the relief of the sufferers by that disastrous seismic wave.
Will you please turn it over to the Japanese fund which is being raised for their relief.
Sincerely yours, W. H. HENDERSON.
I am sailing to-morrow morning for Hakodate, where I shall be till the 7th.

This, being the first instance on record of such action on the part of a British man-of-war, has attracted considerable attention, and been much appreciated by the Japanese. We learn that His Excellency Baron Sannomiya brought the fact to the notice of the Emperor, and that His Majesty graciously expressed his sincere pleasure at such an evidence of kindly sympathy.

THE DOUBLE SUICIDE IN OSAKA.

The particulars of the recently reported double suicide in Osaka are now published. On the afternoon of June 30th, a young man and a girl, apparently newly married, came to the five-storeyed pagoda in the enclosure of the Shitenno Temple, and having paid a few *sen* to the door-keeper as admission fee, left their umbrellas and purses in his charge and ascended the ladder. About half an hour afterwards, something heavy fell from the pagoda,

and the door-keeper, hastening out, saw the same couple bound together with a sash and girdle. They had evidently precipitated themselves from the highest storey. The old man at once carried information to the nearest Police-station, and constables, presently arriving, summoned a doctor living in the vicinity. By the time he reached the spot, the woman had expired, but the man was still alive, though evidently moribund. He was carried on a shutter to the Doctor's house, where he lived for about half an hour. It turned out that the unhappy couple had been operatives in the Hirano Mill. They fell in love, but marriage was impossible, the man already having a wife and a child. So they determined to die together, in order that they might "live as man and wife in the other world," a delusion commonly entertained by infatuated lovers among the lower orders. A *post mortem* examination showed that the man's spine had been broken just above the hips, and he had received several wounds on the face. As for the girl, the bones of her thighs had been crushed by the fall, but no other injury was visible. It is said that a man tried to commit suicide by throwing himself from the same place some forty years ago, but that he sustained no fatal injury, and is still alive. This instance is the only one of the kind that has happened at the pagoda within the memory of the present generation. The youth was 24 and the woman 21.

We commend this incident to the notice of writers who affirm that love does not exist in Japan. Cases of *shinju*, or dying together in the hope of re-union together for all eternity, have been common in this country since records began to exist. Can love demand any stronger proof than such sacrifices? But the Japanese do not wear their loves upon their sleeves. Flirtation is not a prime element of their social habits; a newly married couple cannot be recognised by their mutual demeanour; husbands and wives do not kiss each other in public; youths and maidens do not make marriage the open end of existence. Yet that love has its kingdom here as elsewhere can not be doubted. To infer the absence of a sentiment because its outward expression is controlled must be pronounced a fallacious method of reasoning. We make no comparison between the two systems, but merely invite attention to facts.

TEA.

As already mentioned in these columns, the depression in the tea market has resulted in many tea-growers resolving to abandon this year the picking of second crop leaves. Such a resolution on the part of manufacturers is said to be inevitable, for present quotations really entail loss. A report forwarded from a district in Shizuoka in the middle of last month to the Central Guild in Tokyo, puts the situation thus:

ESTIMATED COST OF MANUFACTURE PER KWAMME.	
Raw leaves, 4 <i>kwamme</i>	792
Picking expenses	372
Cost of curing	680
Total	yen 1,821

Tea of a given quality is now quoted at 1.50 *yen* or so, hence in manufacturing one *kwamme* of this tea, manufacturers are actually losing .321 *yen*.

In a previous issue we noted how markedly the quantity of tea exported has fallen this year compared with last season. The *Kokumin* says that the attention of the Authorities has been drawn to the matter, and they have caused inquiries to be made into the subject. According to their investigations, one of the causes that has resulted in the diminution of export is believed to be the over-abundant stock held in New York and Chicago. Another is the gradual encroachment in the American market of the Indian teas. British tea-merchants in India are sparing no pains to push their product in America. In the press, in social conversation, and in almost every conceivable way, the British-Indian merchants are speaking ill of Japanese tea, and are doing their utmost to ex-

pel it from the markets of America. Japanese tea-merchants are entirely indifferent to, or ignorant of, these things. The moment they deliver goods to resident merchants in Yokohama or Kobe, they consider their interest closed, and they do not even take the trouble to ascertain the destination of their goods, or whether they are favourably received or not in foreign countries. Under the circumstances, the gradual ousting of Japanese tea by Indian in the markets of America is not strange. Another point which Japanese tea-merchants and manufacturers ought to bear in mind, is this. They must distinctly understand that cheapness is the only quality that recommends Japanese tea to American consumers. Therefore, when Formosan or Indian tea, which generally command higher prices in the American market, can be sold as cheaply as Japanese tea, the middle and lower classes of America, the principal buyers of Japanese leaf, at once transfer their patronage to the products of India or Formosa. In this respect, Japanese tea-growers are placed in a very painful situation this year, for while the cost of production has risen considerably, market values have moved in a contrary direction. Any temptation towards deterioration in quality must be resolutely faced, otherwise Japanese tea will be speedily driven from America by its Indian and Formosan rivals, and then its fate will be sealed. The prospect of the election of Mr. McKinley as President of the United States, must place Japanese tea-growers more on the alert, for, with his election and the imposition of a higher protective tariff, the inspection of imported tea will become more stringent.

THE SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR.

The annual commencement exercises took place yesterday (7th instant), at the well-known and popular institution, the School of the Morning Star, in Tokyo. S.G. Archbishop Osouf and Their Excellencies the French and British Representatives attended, and the hall was crowded with spectators. It is to be hoped that the new buildings of the School will soon be in complete occupation. The apartments now available are quite disproportionate to the large number of students receiving instruction, and to the public interest that draws together such assemblages as that of yesterday. The programme—given below—was well chosen, and excellently rendered. The earnestness and spirit shown by the students, as well as the evidences they gave of patient and skilful training, showed that the faculty of the School have relaxed nothing of the indefatigable care to which the institution owes much of its high reputation. We make no reference to individual achievements, but confine ourselves to saying that the instrumental, vocal, histrionic, and recitative performances were all worthy of the school. An interesting incident occurred during the progress of "Le Médecin Malgré Lui." Master A. Jourdan, who had met with an accident the previous evening, and had been obliged to undergo somewhat severe surgical treatment, nevertheless appeared to play his part as *Valère*, a display of pluck that won him a burst of hearty applause from his fellow-students. It had been announced that a collection would be made for relief purposes in connection with the Seismic Wave Disaster, and most prettily the thing was managed. Three tiny lads appeared upon the stage holding silk bags, and having addressed a gracefully worded appeal to the audience, the first speaking in Japanese, the second in English, and the third in French, walked round from seat to seat soliciting subscriptions. At a later period the three graduates of the year announced the result, three languages being again employed, when it was learned that 113 *yen* had been taken, and that the pupils had independently subscribed 65 *yen*. At the distribution of prizes, each fortunate lad was allowed to make choice of the hands from which he should receive the reward of his work, and it was significant to observe that though some few indicated their own fathers, and others the French Representative or the much-revered

The *Asahi* infers, from the absence of any reference to casualties to life in the official messages and from the distinct assertion of its own correspondent in that sense, that none of the citizens of Toyama was lost. Moreover, from the close agreement between the number of houses flooded, as given in the two messages—1,800 in that of the *Asahi's* correspondent and 1,500 in that of the Governor—and also from the correspondent's failure to make any mention

of houses washed away, the probability is that no such disaster occurred, though a message from the Kencho puts the number of houses carried away by the flood at 2,831.

KOREAN TOPICS.

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Ninsen has compiled a valuable report, giving a concise exposé of the relative position of Japanese and Chinese commerce in Korea during the last ten years. For the five years between 1885 and 1889, inclusive, exports and imports by Japanese merchants far exceeded those of their Chinese rivals. In other words, whereas the volume of commercial transactions that passed through the hands of Japanese merchants totalled between 1,000,000 and 1,400,000 yen, the Chinese trade fluctuated between the two extremes of 200,000 and 700,000 yen. However, with respect to the later progress of these two currents of Korean commerce, that under the control of the Japanese merchants now falls far short of the other. The comparative table shows that the rate of progress of Japanese business during the specified period was 62 per cent. and that of the Chinese 216 per cent. Consequently, Chinese merchants were more successful in pushing their trade with Korea than Japanese. During the four years ending 1893, the relative positions of the rivals presented the following aspect:—

	By Japanese Merchants. Yen.	By Chinese Merchants. Yen.	Difference. Yen.
1890	1,259,218	1,312,614	53,386
1891	1,426,463	1,738,044	331,581
1892	1,318,707	1,712,272	393,569
1893	845,349	1,589,126	743,777

Since the war, the relative ratio that the commerce of the two nations bears to the sum total, has again changed, with the significant exception of the two months of March and April of the current year, up to which period the survey furnished by the report extends, and also to two other months in last year. To be more explicit, the volume of Korean commerce carried on by Japanese merchants during 1894 totalled 3,088,000 yen, as against 1,874,422 yen by the Chinese. This relative discrepancy was maintained during 1895 up to the month of August. But coming to September and also to November, the Chinese merchants passed their rivals, and did so again in March and April of the current year. It is apprehended, therefore, that the Korean market may again fall into the hands of the Chinese.

The most important questions of the day in Korean politics, writes the *Fiji*, from which this news is taken, are the return of the king to his palace and the entry of Min Yong-chu into the Cabinet. A recent rumour from Seoul reports that the Korean Government intend repairing a detached palace situated close by the Russian Legation, at a cost of about 40,000 yen, so as to make it suitable for the residence of the king. The *Fiji*, however, can not readily credit this news, and thinks that it may be a subterfuge wherewith to quiet local agitators who declare themselves dissatisfied with the continued residence of the king at a foreign legation. The entry of the head of the Min faction into the Cabinet is still problematical, chiefly because he maintains a prudent hesitation at coming forward. It is evident, however, that he must be ready to place himself at the head of the Government when the opportunity arrives. His adherents are exerting themselves to create that opportunity, but it is, of course, impossible to predict when it will happen.

A Chinese official is now in Ninsen with the avowed purpose of conducting preliminary negotiations for a renewal of the Treaty between China and Korea. He has told the Japanese Consul in that port that he carries with him a draft of the Treaty, and that he is going to see the British Representative in Seoul and the Korean Cabinet upon the matter.

The problem of creating a central bank to facilitate the circulation of money in Korea, is in a fair way to consummation. An Kei-su and a few others are the principal promoters of the

scheme. Preliminary arrangements having been completed, the prospectus has been issued over the joint signatures of the Ministers of Finance and of Foreign Affairs, and six others. The main points in the prospectus are to this effect:—

- 1.—To limit the capital to 100,000 yen.
- 2.—To call the Bank the Great Korean Bank, and to open it as soon as a third of the capital has been raised.
- 3.—To make use of the new coins.
- 4.—To undertake matters relating to the Revenue and Expenditures of the Government, and the collection of the land tax throughout the country.
- 5.—Not to issue paper notes.
- 6.—To raise funds as much as possible from Koreans, to avail of American capital should any deficiency occur, but not to permit Japanese to become shareholders.

Chhun-chhon and Kan-neung, in Kang-wō-do, and Chhung-ju in Chhung-chhōng-do, are now infested by mobs. The first town is besieged; at the second, the Government troops have sustained a disastrous defeat; while in the vicinity of Chhung-ju the insurgents are spreading disorder with impunity.

The correspondent of the *Asahi* describes the devastation wrought by the mobs in various localities of Kyōng-Kwi-do, based on the information supplied by a Japanese who lately returned to Seoul after travelling through those localities. The most extensive damage was in I-chhōn. This town contained over 700 houses, but all, with the single exception of the District Office, have been burned, together with the stores containing provisions. The inhabitants, reduced to the verge of starvation, are barely keeping body and soul together by picking the ears of green barley. The Japanese troops despatched to I-chhōn when that place was menaced by mobs, returned when the telegraph line was cleared of the troublesome pests, and now Japanese gendarmes and troops stationed at distances of 12 to 13 miles, guard the wire. They suffer great hardships. It must be remembered that they are only a handful of men, but are often obliged to deal with mobs numbering several hundreds. At present it is almost impossible to distinguish lawless marauders from peace-abiding farmers, for not a few of the latter are prone to join a pillaging party on occasion. They work in the field, but have arms secretly concealed about them. Whenever a small party of Japanese or Korean merchants happen to pass through a place inhabited by such people, and when the latter think that they can easily put them to the rout, the farmers suddenly take up their guns and fire upon them. They then rob them of their goods. Consequently, it is dangerous to travel through such places in small numbers. The Japanese troops guarding the telegraph line are doing inestimable service to wayfarers. They patrol the line every day and are generally followed on such occasions by a number of Japanese or Korean travellers, who are thus enabled to proceed on their journey unmolested. It is owing to the protection thus afforded by the Japanese troops that Korean merchants are enabled to go to the vicinity of Changho-won, noted for the production of rice and other grain. However, the towns and villages along the highway connecting Fusan and Seoul have been desolated by the mobs, and in almost every place the people are on the verge of starvation.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The Korean correspondent of the *North China Daily News* continues to disgrace that journal by his displays of shallow prejudice and singular gullibility. In the sequel of various remarks not worth detailed reference, his latest letter says that, were the king to return to his palace, "he would be killed (unless he had a strong foreign guard) by some fanatical *roski*, if not by an agent of the Japanese Government, as was his consort." No person of the most ordinary honesty can any longer pretend to think that Viscount Miura acted as the Japanese Government's agent in the events culminating in the Queen's assassination. It is strictly consistent with the extraordinary prejudice shown

by the *North China Daily News* from the outset of the war between China and Japan until the present moment, that it should continue to publish the letters of a correspondent who long ago became a by-word in the East for untruthfulness, silliness, and exaggeration. We doubt whether any one of the ignorant Chinese that spread among their countrymen such strange stories of foreign doings and habits, has ever been so conspicuous for perversion and distortion of the truth as the leading Shanghai Journal's Korean correspondent.

The railway between Tientsin and Peking is progressing rapidly, and is expected to be in operation next year. It is to run along the eastern side of the Peiho, that is to say, the opposite side from Peking and Tientsin. The Peking terminus, which, according to the original plan, was to have been some 16 miles from the capital, is to be carried to within 3 miles, an immense improvement. Where the Tientsin station is to be we have not yet learned, but the natural supposition is that the line will form a junction with the present Tongku-Tientsin road, in which case the station will be opposite the lower part of the foreign settlement.

In the last annual report of the Indo-China S. N. Company, we find this clause:—

The Directors very much regret having to report that their claim for the destruction of the steamer *Kowshing* still remains unsettled. Correspondence is going on between the Foreign Office and the Chinese Government, but no final decision has yet been arrived at. The Directors still look for suitable compensation being made, and they have used every effort in their power to urge increased expedition on the authorities having charge of the case.

It is plain, from the language here employed, that the question lies entirely with the Chinese Government, and that the terrible breach of international law—apart, of course, from the offence against humanity—laid to the charge of the Japanese, has not been supported by juriconsults.

Concerning the new German Minister to Peking, the *North-China Daily News* translates the following from the *Neue Freie Presse*:—

It is learnt by wire that the German Envoy to Morocco, Baron Heyking, before taking up his post, received the appointment as Minister to Peking. Great political importance is attached to this change. It has long been a matter of surprise that the present German Minister to China kept himself so much in the background in the discussion of the Far Eastern Question, and that in Berlin the advice of the former Envoy to Peking, Herr von Brandt, should have been so constantly sought. The explanation of this is that Herr von Brandt was in Germany when the question reached an acute phase, and that there was no one in all Europe better acquainted with the state of affairs in Peking, from both their political and economic points of view. Baron Heyking has never previously been in the Far East; but he is said to take with him to his new post—besides a thorough acquaintance with the economic situation in China and a certain degree of acuteness in business matters, which he has already displayed at Chicago, Valparaiso, Calcutta, and lastly Cairo—a complete knowledge of the Russian language and relations, as he was a Russian subject before entering the German diplomatic service. In view of the part which has fallen to Russia since the recent occurrences in the Far East, and in view of the importance to German export trade of the opening of the enormous Chinese market, the utmost demands will be made on the German representation in the Far East, and to fulfil those demands Baron Heyking, to judge by his former record, seems to be the right man in the right place.

The project of permitting the Chinese Government to raise the duties on imports from a basis of 5 per cent. to one of eight per cent., is supported by the *North-China Daily News* on the ground that it will be impossible for China to find, in any other source of taxation, an equivalent for the loss of customs revenue to which she is now subjected in connection with the loans for paying the Japanese indemnity. Our contemporary's contention is that any attempt to impose a new tax or to increase an already existing tax would lead to rebellion. The inference, then, is that China's only elastic factor of revenue is her customs dues. That is an exceedingly straitened condition. On what

security, we should like to know, is she to raise her third loan for paying the Japanese indemnity, or, supposing it raised, what means has she to discharge it?

Shanghai has lost one of its "old residents" in the person of Mr. William Brand, who expired at Royat, in France, on the 26th of June, after a brief attack of dysentery. Mr. Brand was a general favourite, and his death at the early age of 58 is most painful news.

We referred recently to a riot raised by the silk-weavers at Soochow, who objected to have the loom tax imposed on the actual number of looms at work instead of the much smaller number that they represented as being at work. It now appears that this tax was originally a voluntary contribution made by the weavers, after the Taiping Rebellion, to aid in maintaining military and naval guardians of the peace, towards whose support the other inhabitants of the city and its environs were too poor at the time to contribute. The contribution was to be paid for ten years only, but at the end of the decade (1874), it was not only contributed but increased from 500 cash per loom monthly to a somewhat larger figure not mentioned in the correspondence from which we take these facts. At the end of a second decade, the thing had become "old custom" and the weavers found themselves saddled to all eternity. What made matters worse was that it had become habitual for the foremen of factories to deduct 20 per cent. from the workmen's daily wages (averaging 25 cents. daily), a sum that left a large margin for squeezing. However, the official fiat has gone out against the workmen. The tax must now be paid on 2,300 looms, instead of on 1,500 only. The total involved is only \$15,505, not a very great contribution after all.

The passage, through the sluice at Tsing-kiangpu into the Grand Canal, of the prescribed fleet of 950 boats bearing tribute rice to Peking, was attended this year by the usual snake worship at the Taiwang temple. It is taught that the deities of the Grand Canal come down that big ditch in the form of water snakes, in order to be caught, put into glass cases, and worshipped with prayers and theatrical performances, whereat there is large occasion for the consumption of pea-nuts and tobacco.

THE SEISMIC-WAVE DISASTER.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following sums towards the relief of sufferers through the terrible disaster in Iwate, Aomori, and Miyagi Prefectures:—

Messrs. Sieber & Co.	\$25
Mr. C. Giussanni	25
Captain Brinkley	25
Marquis C. de Nembrini Gonzaga	10
C. R.	25
Mr. G. Lowther	25
Dr. E. Baelz	25
Mr. E. Chiossone	15
St. Andrew's House, Shiba, Tokyo	15
Lord Dormer	100
Mr. Gustave Gilbert	20
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.	100
Mr. W. B. Walter	25
Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.	50
Rev. Clay MacCanley	20
Messrs. J. Witkowski & Co.	25
Messrs. Nabholz & Osenbrüggen	50
Mr. F. Nabholz	15
F. L. E.	5
Standard Oil Company of N.Y.	100
Mr. F. H. Trevithick	20
Bishop Bickersteth	50
The Eastern Press, Ltd.	10
Mr. L. T. Corke	10
Rev. T. M. MacNair	10
Mr. A. de Flesch	20
Mr. Andre Conil	10
Rev. W. T. Austen	5
Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Society	50
Messrs. Finzar & Co.	100
Messrs. C. & J. Favre-Brandt	100
Mr. M. Wollheim, Mexican Chargé d'Affaires	50
Mr. J. C. Hall	10
Mr. E. W. Rutter	10
Mr. F. Gillett	20
Mr. B. H. Chamberlain	10
Mr. W. B. Mason	10

Messrs. Raspe & Co.	100
Mr. E. Powys	10
Mr. Gen. H. Scidmore	10
Dr. J. N. Seymour	10
Professor G. Droppers	15
Mr. W. F. Page	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh's children	20
Mr. C. V. Sale	200
The Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	50
The O. & O. S.S. Co.	50
Dr. Divers	20
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd.	100
Messrs. Butterfield & Swire	100
China and Japan Trading Company, Ltd.	50
Mr. A. J. Lines	10
Prof. Henry T. Terry	15
Mr. Fred. G. Woodruff	25
Messrs. H. MacArthur & Co.	25
Mr. S. V. French	10
Captain Munter	25
Mr. E. H. House	25
Miss Denning	5
A.C.S.	10
Dr. D. Macdonald	10
Captain Baron d'Aehrenthal	25
G.E.M.N.	20
Messrs. North and Rae, Limited	25
Mr. L. Muraour	10
Mr. E. J. Moss	25
W.R.H.C.	10
Rev. J. Popper	5
H.H.	5
W.	10
Messrs. Langfeldt & Co., Limited	100
Rev. G. M. Meacham	40
J.A.M.	5
Mr. R. Paget	20
Mr. J. Conder	10
Rev. F. W. Voegelien	10
Dr. C. H. H. Hall	10
H.M.	5
O.	25
Établissements Orsdi-Back	200
Messrs. Bavier & Co.	100
Mr. E. H. Hampden	15
Dr. A. G. Smith	25
Mr. Tom. Thomas	10
Miss Mair	10
Dr. Seiba	25
Rev. H. Loomis	10
J.N.C.	10
"Star in the East," 640, S.C.	100
Messrs. S.S. & Co.	100
H.W.L.	20
E.C.F.	10
Mr. F. Hellyer	50
Mr. C. B. Stedman	10
E. and L.G.	6
Kanda Bashu Church	5
Dr. Ludwig Riess	15
Mr. Y. Duer	10
Messrs. R. Isaacs & Bro.	100
Lutheran Church, Saga	7-50
Mr. Müller Beeck (Nagasaki)	20
Members of the C.M.S. Mission Tokyo	40
Rev. G. W. Van Horn	10
Rev. G. H. Hudson	9
Mr. A. Stein	30
F.F.	25
Mr. F. L. Smelser	1
Tsukiji Union Church Congregation	117
Tsukiji Union Church Sunday School	20
Rev. W. J. White	10
H.E. Count d'Orfani	50
Mr. W. Silver Hall and family	20
Mr. G. Elliott Gregory	10
A Friend	1
Mr. H. L. Layman	10
J.G.D.	5
Rev. Chas Haas	10
J.H.	25
X.	20
Rev. C. K. Harrington	10
Rev. J. L. Dearing	10
Rev. Clarence E. Rice	10
Tokyo Lodge, No. 2015, E.C.	50
Unknown	10
Mr. J. E. Beale	10
Mr. Henry A. C. Bonar	25
A Missionary	25
Miss Irving	5
Miss Montgomery	5
Miss Pratt	5
Dr. Scriba	5
Mr. John McDonald	10
X.	20
A.S.G.	21
H.M.W.	5
C.A.C.	5
A.M.C.	2
Mr. H. J. Owen, Tokyo	10
Archdeacon and Mrs. Warren	20
J.M.Mc.	10

DEATH OF SIR JOHN PENDER.

We are informed by Mr. J. P. Mollison that he has received a telegram announcing the death of his uncle, Sir John Pender. The sad event, which occurred on the 7th instant, was not unexpected, Sir John having been in a precarious condition for some time past. We take the following notice of the deceased from *Men and Women of the Time*:—

[PENDER, Sir JOHN, K.C.M.G., F.R.S. (Edin. and London) F.S.A. (Scotland) J.P. D.L., second son of the late James Pender, of Vale of Leven, Dumbartonshire, was born in 1816. Sir John had the advantage of early education, and of good Scottish parents, who passed him on expeditiously from the school of his native place in the Vale of Leven to the High School of Glasgow, where he may be said to have had a free choice of any profession or trade to which chance might lead him, and to which learning was a necessary passport. While at the High School he was observed to occupy much time in drawing, and on an occasion of free competition, submitted a design for which he was awarded a Gold Medal. On leaving school he went into the accounting branch of a factory, and in two or three years (about the time he had attained majority) he was general manager of the business. The life of Sir John divides itself from this point into two parts:—(1) as a merchant in Glasgow and Manchester, and (2) as introducer, executant, and extender of submarine and sub-oceanic telegraphy. In Manchester Sir John rose to the front rank in the export trade of that vast emporium of manufacture, and there laid the foundation of his still more conspicuous course in telegraphy; not only as regards ample personal means for a work that was to task the richest men, but also a thorough commercial knowledge of India, China, America, and the colonies, combined with lofty faith in the possibilities of British enterprise. When the immense Atlantic project was undertaken he was one of the 35 who contributed £1,000 each to let the experiment be tried. His name appears from that time in the list of directors of the Atlantic Company over seven or eight years, during which cable after cable had failed. The final crisis of Atlantic prospects came when the ship "Great Eastern" steamed out, with capacity far greater than any other ship before or since, and a cable more nearly perfect than had before been made; yet the great ship parted with this precious cargo in mid-ocean, and the Atlantic Company was financially ruined. Its appeals to the public for subscription of capital had hitherto fallen flat; they were now utterly useless. But not so thought Sir John Pender, and others like him, as to the attainable undertaking, and the Anglo-American Company (of £600,000) was then formed to lay a new cable and to recover the former if possible. Negotiations with Glass, Elliot and Company, and the Gutta Percha Company, therefore had been under arrangement. But difficulties arose between the two manufacturing Companies. The Gutta Percha Company found that it was surrendering its accustomed business in favour of a supreme object, and in the failure of that one purpose might lose all. It was here that the genius of Sir John Pender rose to heroism. Delay would have been fatal to an Atlantic cable, and to all the capital, approaching two millions, that had been expended. The Gutta Percha Company were asked by Sir John what amount of guarantee they required. A quarter of a million sterling was the answer. "Will you take my personal guarantee for that amount?" "Yes," "Well, you have it." And in a few weeks more, Glass, Elliot and Company and the Gutta Percha Company were formed into the Cable Construction and Maintenance Company with Sir John as chairman. The cable was not only laid successfully—luckily for Sir John and the world—but the same expedition that laid it, recovered the one that had been lost; and the two companies, Atlantic and Anglo-American, were brought back successfully to life and land. This result would have been enough to crown the adventures of any one man, but Sir John had no sooner seen the Atlantic cables established than he proceeded to work indefatigably in the organisation and development of the Mediterranean, Eastern (Indian and China), Australian, South African, and direct African cables—in short a world system, of which the American is now but a segment. Sir John is now at the head of the Eastern, the Eastern Extension, the Cape and others systems outside the Atlantic—in fact, he is virtually the dominant spirit of all submarine telegraphy. He is chairman of the Direct Company, having a cable across the Atlantic also, and his influence is present in all directions where submarine telegraphy is active, and in these days it is difficult to say where it is not active. Sir John Pender was a merchant in London, Glasgow, and Manchester; he is a D.L. for Lancashire, and Middlessex, a J.P. for Middlesex, Manchester, Lancashire, Denbighshire, and Argyllshire. He published in 1869 "Statistics of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries from 1840," was member for Totnes 1866, and was first returned for Wick Burghs in 1872, which he represented in three Parliaments. Sir John has shown great interest in technical education, and gives a Medal annually to be competed for by the students at the College of Science, Glasgow. On the occasion of quite a recent visit to Constantinople, Sir John Pender was sent for by the Sultan, and in recognition of the great part he had played in connection with submarine telegraphy, his Imperial Majesty presented Sir John with the Grand Cordón of the Medjidieh. This is a highest honour the Sultan can grant to an alien. Sir John, years ago, was the recipient of the Knight-Commandership of the St. Saviour of Greece, and has also the Order of the Rose of Portugal. He is also Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. He married, first, 1844, Marion, daughter of Jan. Cairns Esq., second, Emma, daughter of the late Henry Denison Esq., of Daybrook, Notts.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE SEISMIC WAVE FUND COMMITTEE.

SIR,—In accordance with your request of this morning, permit me to make the following statement in regard to what has been, and is being, done, by the Committee that went from Yokohama to the region devastated by the recent Seismic Wave:—

We visited all that part of the devastated region lying between Shizukawa, in Miyagi Prefecture, to Kamaishi, in Iwate Prefecture, and spared no pains in trying to get at the true situation. We visited the hospitals and conversed with those in charge, talked with people by the wayside, questioned the local officials, learned what was being done by the neighbours of the suffering, and then asked ourselves the question, "How can we best administer the aid we were sent to administer?" Some one may exclaim, "But were the people not starving while you were investigating?" In reply, I would say that the first thing that struck us was the spontaneous way in which local aid was being sent in. At Shizukawa there was an abundance of provisions, and they were being sent out systematically and rapidly, and this we found to be the case as we advanced. Further than this, the Government has undertaken to feed the sufferers for some time, and they are housed in the hamlets and villages back from the sea.

The question now arose as to what form of relief would be best. Should it take the form of gifts of money to restore homes for the survivors? Household goods? Or boats and nets for them to return to their work as fishermen? We canvassed the whole matter carefully, and arrived at the conclusion that the best assistance we could render would be in the form of boats, with hemp for nets where the men are able to make their own nets. Their fishing season is now on and will last till winter, and if the men have their boats and tackle they can return to their occupation, and thus provide for the winter.

Now as to the method of providing the boats. It was quite obvious that the boats could be built there much cheaper than anywhere else, as the timber is there. We were able to fix, with a fair degree of accuracy, the amount that it would cost (differing slightly in different places), to build the kind of boats needed.

Again, it was clear that we would be at a disadvantage if we endeavoured to oversee the building ourselves, and here we felt obliged to call in the aid of the officials. We have asked for a list of the names of those, in the villages we are aiding, who are deserving, and we say to the local officials "Our funds will permit us to furnish so many boats." We deposit the amount necessary to build them at the Kencho, and they go forward at once with the building so that the men may have the boats as soon as possible. When the boats are ready for delivery, they will be handed over to the men, who will give a receipt for them, the same being our vouchers to those who sent us that the money has gone where your subscribers intended it should go. After talking with some of the men themselves, the local officials, and also with some of those that have subscribed liberally, we have yet to find the first dissenting voice to this method of relief. All say that it will be permanent and practical. The great obstacle in the way of any other form of relief is the difficulty of transportation. Take Kamaishi, which all know suffered so much. It is sixty miles from the railway, and everything must be carried on pack-horses. The nearest point in Iwate to the railway is about forty-five miles. Then the transportation by water is slow and very unsatisfactory, while what we purpose doing can be done on the spot with no cost for transportation, and at the same time is the most acceptable form of relief we can offer.

Besides the boats and hemp, we shall provide cases of canned milk for the hospitals, and the members of the committee still in the field will purchase and forward some bedding which was asked for, and is needed at certain points.

Not having seen the local papers since I left for the North, I do not know what may have been written in regard to the devastated region, but take it for granted that your readers have had a surfeit on the matter. Starting out to make but a simple statement of what the committee has been doing, I forbear from anything more for the present; but if there is anything that I have seen that would be of interest to your readers I shall be most happy to furnish it for them.

Trusting that our methods will meet the hearty approval of all, and standing ready to answer any

questions that may be asked or give any information that may be in my power to give, I remain, yours very truly,

J. G. CLEVELAND.

Yokohama, July 6th, 1896.

PRAYER AND OBJECTS OF WORSHIP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the Monthly Religious Summary published in your columns a few days ago, a Japanese writer is represented as holding that the efficacy of prayer is not affected by the object of worship. It may interest some of your readers to know that an eminent Boston lecturer, the Rev. G. E. Winchester Worrald, Rector of Trinity Church, gives expression to the same conviction in a course of Lectures on "The Expansion of Religion," delivered before the Lowell Institute, a few sentences from which I append:—"I am glad to believe, and I do believe, that the idolator, kneeling in blind hope or stupid terror at the feet of his hideous or fantastic idol, is as truly religious as the Romanist, hushed and awed, at the Elevation of the Host, or as the Liberal, passionately moved by the splendid utterance of the great divine truth of the Fatherhood of God. I can imagine myself kneeling in a great temple of Buddha, in Japan, or in the magnificent mosque of St. Sofia, by the side of the Buddhist or the Moslem, sure that my prayer and theirs reach the listening ear of the one Father which is in heaven, and that God answers us both. It has ever seemed to me," he goes on to say, "a bit of logical folly to point to the universal belief in Deity as proof that there is a God, and in the same breath declare that the god of the pagan and heathen is no god at all. Abruptly to convince the heathen that his idol god is nothing, is to do one's best to plunge him into atheism, and not to lift him up into Christian theism." "I think," he further says, "if I were a missionary in Japan, I should begin my work of unfolding Christianity by worshipping Almighty God, Maker of Heaven and Earth, in a temple of Buddha, and I should explain and defend my act by quoting the words of Jesus: 'I am come not to destroy but to fulfill.'"

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

COSMOPOLITAN.

July 3rd, 1896.

DR. KATO'S DOUBTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is surprising that ere this no communication has appeared in your columns concerning the remarkable deliverance of Dr. Kato, referred to in your issue of June twenty-second.

I shall not take space to attempt an answer to his answers to the reasons commonly adduced when prostitution is condemned. I find it hard to believe that any one could find such answers satisfactory to himself.

He is reported as saying that "no affair either tacitly or implicitly sanctioned by law can be absolutely wrong." Why not? We can admit only the converse, that no affair absolutely wrong ought to be sanctioned by law. That is the position taken by the British Government, and may dear old England hold by it, how great soever be the pressure brought to induce her to legalise vice.

To us who come from the West, the feeling after reading the article referred to must be one of bewilderment, as we become conscious of the moral standards around us. As one breathes the pure air of his native hills and does not think of it, until introduced to air which is impure, so by such an article we begin to realize somewhat of that which we owe to the Christian civilization in which we have grown up. And when one holding so high a position in the intellectual world of Japan gropes in doubt upon such a question, we are led to ask if, outside of Theism, it can be proven that what in Christian lands is esteemed the grossest of vices is really wrong. It comes back to the question: if no personal God, what are right and wrong? It might be thought that the moral instinct would be sufficient, but it is evident from the article under consideration that it is not. Is there any other sure support than that which held Joseph in the hour of stress; "How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"

I hope I misunderstand, but it is a fair inference from the *Japan Mail's* synopsis that the ex-President of the Imperial University of Japan, in a *Woman's Magazine*, says to her, of whom the Bible says, "Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house," that, so far as he now sees, her occupation is not wrong; and as "in the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night," the student class, who

throng by tens of thousands the Latin Quarter of Tokyo, go "the way to her house," they still the voice of conscience by saying to each other as they go, that one whose name commands so great respect, has publicly written that, so far as he now sees, not only can their conduct not be proven to be wrong, but that it *cannot* in itself be wrong since it has Government protection. Heaven knows, and all good men ought to know, that the young men who reside under the shadow of the University do not need any such easy grading of the road to hell.

In the book of Proverbs we hear one mourning at the last when flesh and body are consumed and saying, "How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; and have not obeyed the voice of my teachers." But, whatever be the physical and moral wreckage, the young man who has come under the influence of such teaching cannot upbraid himself by saying, "I have disobeyed the voice of my teachers."

During seven years of service in Japan, I have not met a stronger argument for the continuance of schools permeated with Christian instruction than this bewildering deliverance of the Imperial University's ex-President.

I am, your obedient servant,

B. CHAPPELL.

Aoyama, Tokyo, July 2nd, 1896.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your Reuter is a peculiar sort of telegraph agent: he never sends a telegram to your paper which contains anything good with regard to Germany, whereas you are provided by him with plenty of despatches of the most unfavourable character. These news are partly true, partly not. Of course, if they are true, we can only say *shikotaganai*, but in case they afterwards appear to be wrong, I scarcely remember that they have ever been corrected. Among many other cases I shall take the liberty to mention only the last one. In the days of the 25th anniversary of the 'Frankfurter Frieden' you published a telegram saying that a great many people (I forget the number) were imprisoned during the ceremonies on a charge of *lesa majestas*. Will you allow me to correct this false news by the following translation which I take from the *Vöglische Rundschau* May 17th, 1896:—

"The *Volksstimme*, a social democratic paper in Frankfurt-on-the-Main, published on the 13th of May the news, which entered also into other papers, that during the days of the celebration 40 people were imprisoned on the charge of *lesa majestas*. The official police report states that, during that whole time, not one single case of that kind took place, and that therefore the report of the *Volksstimme* is a mere invention from beginning to end with the apparent aim to bring subsequently a disharmony into the celebration, which in fact went on in a perfectly undisturbed manner."

There are some wicked tongues which say that every newspaper has the news agent it deserves, but since I can not assume that you are so partial as to favour such a system of telegrams, I, with many other readers of your valuable paper, should be very glad if you would instruct your agent to be either more careful in selecting his news or at any rate more inclined to correct them afterwards if necessary. For though I can not expect that you take any consideration of your many German subscribers, still I think that your English readers prefer to hear also with regard to Germany, the truth, and the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

I beg your pardon for trespassing on your space, and remain, Sir,

Yours truly,

DR. M. CHRISTLIEB.

Tokyo, July 4th, 1896.

(Dr. Christlieb is mistaken if he thinks that we have no consideration for our German subscribers. Nothing could be farther from our wish than to publish anything unjustly derogatory to the credit of Germany or the Germans. It is exceedingly difficult, however, to exercise such supervision as would meet the views of our correspondent, and as to arranging that only true and well authenticated intelligence shall be sent over the wires, we fear the thing is hopeless. We thank him for the correction he has made, and shall be always grateful to have attention drawn to such errors.—*Ed. J. M.*)

Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited,
Yokohama Agency, July 9th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Dr. Christlieb appears to labour under the impression that all the telegrams appearing in the columns of your paper are supplied by Reuter. As you, Sir, and the majority of your readers very well know, this is not the case, and the telegram to which Dr. Christlieb refers was not furnished by Reuter, but was reproduced by you from an American paper.

Yours truly,

J. K. TRAFFORD,
Reuter's Agent.

FOURTH OF JULY IN YOKOHAMA.

Saturday was a dull, overcast day throughout, and old residents declare that it was the coldest Fourth of July that they remember. The temperature at one time fell to 61°, but later in the day, when the drizzling, dreary rain had ceased and the sun tried to struggle through the heavy rain-clouds, the thermometer rose again, and 72° was reached. This is an exceptionally low temperature record for July. Owing to the rain, the baseball match between the Tokyo Higher School and the Y. C. & A. C., arranged for 10 o'clock in the forenoon, was postponed till 3 in the afternoon, by which time the Cricket-ground had dried considerably. The game attracted a large number of spectators, among whom much excitement prevailed, especially towards the finish, when fortune still hovered but half determined over the two teams. The victory of the local nine was received with rousing cheers. During the morning, Admiral McNair and Staff were at home on the U.S.S. flagship *Olympia*, as were also the Commanders of the U.S.S. *Machias* and *Detroit* on their respective vessels, and most of the American community made calls upon them. A series of boat-races and other sports between the members of the various U.S.S. ships' companies took place, and some of the contests were most keenly fought out. Of course fire-crackers and bombs were exploded everywhere throughout the day, commencing at a very early hour and finishing about midnight, while the American warships kept up a continual hooting, shrieking, and howling on their fog-horns, sirens, and steam whistles, making a most discordant din. The yacht-races attracted a good deal of attention during the latter part of the afternoon. Mr. Scidmore's *Daimyo* won the American Minister's Cup and the Weston Challenge Shield; the *Sodeska* won the 26-raters' race, and *Eclair* was the winner of the B division contest. Towards dusk, the Grand Hotel, the American Naval Hospital, and several private houses belonging to American citizens, were illuminated, and crowds began to gather along the Bund to watch the display of fireworks. Two out of the three U.S. warships were beautifully illuminated, and each had their search-lights in play, adding greatly to the success of the evening's pyrotechnic programme. A drizzling rain set in about half-past nine, developing into a heavy downpour by ten o'clock, and this drove many people home, though the fireworks continued for another hour. The display was finer than in former years, and it was a pity the rain came on again to mar the conclusion of what, despite the climatic conditions, proved an enjoyable day.

THE BASEBALL MATCH.

The game commenced at 3 o'clock, instead of 10 a.m., owing to the heavy rain of the early morning making the ground too swampy for play. In the meantime, the Tokyo players had been entertained to lunch in the Pavilion, the repast being furnished by Mr. W. N. Wright. A large number of spectators were on the ground when the game began and they increased considerably as the afternoon wore on. Yokohama went in first to bat and made 5 runs; the Tokyo Higher School failed to score that innings, but in the next drew level. In the third innings, Yokohama made two runs, and Tokyo only one. A change came over the play in the next innings, the Tokyo lads, by excellent fielding, putting out the home side for one run. Then they went in and scored 5, the game thus standing, Yokohama 8, Tokyo 11. From then on the game grew more and more exciting, neither team letting a chance go by. Abel made some pretty catches in the right field, while Church, a naval player, relieving Eckhardt as pitcher, made things more lively for the visitors, whose propensity for stealing bases he greatly checked. At the close of the sixth innings, Yokohama had made 10 runs and were two behind the Tokyo Higher School's score. In the seventh and eighth innings neither side managed to get home, the men being either struck out or put out on 1st and 2nd base. Excitement became intense when Yokohama went out to begin the 9th and last innings. They had to make three runs to win, and when two men were caught out without scoring it looked all over but the cheering. Then Dame Fortune went boldly over to their side, and with the assistance of an error or two by the Japanese fielders they managed to get four runs, thus passing their opponents' score by two runs. Still the Japanese had another innings to play and the possibility of a tie was very imminent. But the home team, pulling themselves into better combination than before, prevented the visitors from scoring another run: the game thus ending in a victory for Yokohama by two runs. The applause—supplemented by many fire crackers—

that greeted the hoisting of the telegraph, was frantic; then the Yokohama captain called for cheers for the Tokyo Higher School. These were given in right good earnest. Competent critics agree that the Japanese team played a neater and better game in the field than did their opponents—the combination produced by constant practise being pretty to watch; but the home team beat them easily in batting, sending the ball further afield with the greatest ease. Mr. W. S. Stone was umpire, and Mr. Geo. E. Rice scored. The following is the detailed score:—

Y. C. AND A. C.										
	Pos.	BAT.	RUNS.	1ST	B.P.O.	A.	E.			
Mr. Smith	...	C.F.	6	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
Mr. Monahan	...	C.	6	3	3	5	0	0	0	0
Mr. Abel	...	C.F.	6	2	5	3	0	0	0	0
Mr. Stanley	...	C.	3	5	4	4	0	0	0	0
Mr. Schwyer	...	C.	3	5	4	4	0	0	0	0
Mr. Ellis	...	C.F.	6	5	5	5	3	1	1	1
Mr. Church	...	C.F.	6	3	4	0	0	0	0	0
Mr. Bain	...	C.	5	0	5	8	1	4	1	1
Mr. Eckhardt	...	P.	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Mr. Winslow (Sub.)	...	C.	3	0	3	4	0	0	0	0
Total	...		31	24	34	27	13	3	3	3

TOKYO HIGHER SCHOOL.										
	Pos.	BAT.	RUNS.	1ST	B.P.O.	A.	E.			
Mr. Ihara	...	C.F.	5	3	3	2	3	0	0	0
Mr. Murata	...	C.	5	2	3	0	3	0	0	0
Mr. Miyaguchi	...	C.	5	1	3	8	0	0	0	0
Mr. Tomiyaga	...	C.F.	4	1	2	3	0	0	1	1
Mr. Morioka	...	C.F.	6	0	4	3	0	1	1	1
Mr. Fujino	...	C.	6	3	4	5	0	1	1	1
Mr. Aoi	...	C.	5	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Mr. Inoue	...	C.	5	1	4	8	1	1	1	1
Mr. Kamimura	...	C.F.	4	1	3	0	1	1	1	1
Total	...		45	18	28	27	10	5	5	5

INNINGS.										
Y.C. & A.C.	...	5	0	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tokyo Higher School	...	0	5	1	5	1	0	0	0	0

GREAT SEISMIC WAVE.

In a third letter from Morioka, the Rev. Rothe-say Miller writes:—While at Kamaishi I learned that the villages of Toni, 3½ ri towards the south, in the Kesen district, and Riotsi, 1½ ri north of Kamaishi, had been almost obliterated. Although it seemed difficult to realize that any place could be in a worse plight than Kamaishi itself, I determined to go and see for myself. At present there is no way of getting along the coast road except by walking, for the horses are used in transporting baggage. It will be useless for any one who is not a good walker to attempt any distribution of charity or examination of the devastated districts.

The coast scenery is very beautiful. When I set off for a ten ri walk to these places, everything was so bright and calm, with hardly a ripple on the water, that it was hard to realize that this same water had within so short a time risen in angry flood against the land, and even now hid so much of death and destruction in its bosom. I went directly from Suzuko, where I was staying, through the villages of Matsubara and Urei-shi, crossing the little stream, which empties into the bay under the railway bridge. The whole way was lined with evidences of the flood, stranded boats, wrecked houses, and broken timbers. One part of a rice cleaning mill had been carried under the railway bridge and deposited in the field beyond, while the little tumbledown houses, which were only across the stream hardly four feet wide, were left standing. The very chickens were running in and out as if nothing unusual had taken place so lately. In one place I was obliged to go around the prow of a large Japanese boat which was pointed up the mountain as if it too wanted to try the ascent; in another, a foreign rigged boat was landed among the houses which were still left standing. The paddy and wheat fields were beaten down and burnt brown with the salt water, generally covered with shingle or filled with black mud and brine. The people were half-heartedly gathering the floating roof-shingles or pieces of wreckage, evidently on some principle of selection, but what it was I could not discern. I was impressed with the indifference of the fishermen in regard to the wood washed up on shore, though generally they are so eager to secure every stick of timber which can serve them as fuel, and here was enough timber to supply them with fuel or building material for years.

The first climb is from the little village of Oreishi, over the hill to Heita. All these villages are included in the town of Kamaishi. I reached Heita in about an hour, and walking across a wide gravelly beach, and then over what had been grain fields, sat down for a few minutes beside some men who were putting up houses or sheds. One old man had a jagged wound over his left eye as if made by a three-cornered stone. He seemed to have some impediment in his speech, for although I have been 24 years in Japan, and eight in Morioka, yet this old man's language was utterly beyond my comprehension, I could not make out but one word

in a sentence. However, from what the younger man said who was with him, I understood that the *oji san* was the only one left of his household. They showed me a tree where two men had taken refuge when washed out by the returning tide. The lower limbs of the tree were wrenched off and it was evident that the water had been ten or twelve feet high; the men, however, said that farther up it had certainly been 20 feet, because it had covered the top of some building of that height. Out of the little village of 40 houses only 13 were left. They could not give me the number of people lost, but there had been 70 bodies buried. There seemed to be more houses here than in some of the other villages, as they were built on the high bank of a little brook which ran through the place.

From Heita the road goes up over a second hill much higher than the first. It is supposed to be two ri to Toni, but the ri seem very long as one wanders through the valleys and over the hills. On descending to the village of Toni, a gruesome sight greets the traveller. At the entrance to the village, on the bank of a little stream, there had been thrown right across the road the remains of a house, under which were the decaying bodies of some of the villagers, and as it blocked the way it had been burned, and there were the bones lying among the ashes. From here all the way down the stream were scattered boards and timbers, but no parts of houses which kept their shape. A heavy stone, "god" they called it, but it was only a stone inscribed with the name of a local deity or guardian of something, that had been tossed away from its pedestal and carried up stream some twelve feet; beside it in the stream an oil-can had been completely flattened against the stones by the water in its backward rush to the sea.

As I turned to the right, up the open valley, around the rock against which the water had broken and divided in its path of destruction, there was a little hill which jutted out some fifty feet high from the water line. Ascending this were steps cut in the rock winding up to a little *tera*. This was the only house left in the village, and to this I was directed for information of what had happened. On ascending the platform I saw in a little shed outside the house several men, women, and boys sitting round a fire where mochi was steaming. In the house an old man was giving the details of his experience to two reporters, Mr. Yokokawa, of the *Asahi*, and Mr. Ikegami, of the *Chuo*. I joined the group and sat down on some straw bags. The old man said that on the evening of the 15th, he had gone up to the temple to have a game of go with the priest there; they had played one game and were at the second when they heard the noise of the waves crashing down the houses. Opening the *shoji* he saw that the water had risen to the platform of the temple. Between the coming of the first and second waves he remained in the house, so he knew that there were two. The second was, he thought, about 30 minutes after the first and was not so high, not coming quite up to the platform of the temple. He thought there was also a third wave. Hearing calls for help he took a lantern, and holding over it an umbrella to keep it from the rain, he went round the edge of the hill through the bamboo and trees, trying to find those who were calling; not discovering any one he returned to the house. Again hearing a voice, and this time right under the temple at the back, he went out and found a young woman and her child, who had managed to climb up the perpendicular bank. This young woman was some sort of connection of his and used to call him "father." On speaking to her afterwards we learned that she was the daughter of the keeper of the hotel which was situated on the beach, and at the time of the flood was lying down with her child but had not yet gone to sleep. The house was crushed, and she, still holding the child, was swept some distance out to sea, but where it was or how long it took she could not say. She thinks her head was knocked against a rock, as her ear was slightly injured. It seemed a very long time before the second wave carried her in again and landed her behind the temple. She saw the light, knowing where the old man had gone, and she cried out, "O To San, tasukete kuree!" There were some few others who were washed up to the edge of the trees. One little child of five years was found at the head of the valley "ki no uchi," which the old man, who did not see where the child was found, says may mean either "in the branches of the trees," or "among the trees." I think it was the latter from the formation of the ground.

There were 154 houses in this village of which this one temple remains. Out of 859 persons only 24 were saved. Of these 5 died of their wounds, 6 others were taken to the hospital for treatment and 13 are safe. Those rescued from the water were only 7 or 8. There were three boats containing 12 men, each away looking after the

nets. One of the men who had been in the boats said that they had noticed nothing remarkable till he saw that the light, which was in a basket on a pole at one end of the net, had gone out; they immediately started towards it. When they saw the great wave coming, their first thought was to make for land, but recognizing that this would not do, and as they could not go against the wave, they took a slanting course across the bay, where there was plenty of sea room. They shipped some water but were not damaged in the least. The man said he noticed three waves, and the intervals between them were about the same as those given by the old man: thirty minutes between the first and second, and more than an hour between the second and third.

While we were talking and asking questions it had grown towards noon, and the old man prepared for us *cha-tsuke*, which we ate standing in front of the little house, all that was left of the once prosperous village.

I returned to Kamaishi about 2 p.m. having promised to take a cup of tea with a gentleman in the town, but as I made my way through the ruined fields and debris I wondered whether I should be able to make the other three *ri* to the village of Riioishi and back before night, since I was already somewhat tired and had ten *ri* to ride next day, besides crossing the Sennin-toge. Mr. Motoki, however, said he should like to go with me as he had been wishing to visit the village, it being in the district with which he was connected, and so we started off over the hills.

Just before reaching the village of Riioishi proper, we passed through what was called Midzumi, a little place of only about six houses, which belonged to the hamlet of Riioishi. All the houses had disappeared, but we afterwards heard that one house was left, away at the head of the bay beyond the curve, which hid it from view. On coming down the hill to the place where Riioishi had been, there was nothing to indicate the great destruction to life and property which had taken place. The edges of the bay were burnt brown by the sea water, but that might be attributed to high tides. The village had been literally swept into the sea, there was hardly a stick to show where the place had been. There were, to be sure, two houses standing near the foot of the bluff some forty feet above high water, but there was nothing remarkable in their appearance, except that many things were lying in the sun, quite a number of large tubs, some mats, &c. Here a village of 140 houses containing 958 persons, had been completely blotted out, for the two houses left might be taken for tea-houses built for the convenience of travellers going along the coast road. The village was one of fishermen, there being only four farmers all told. Out of 58 boats belonging to it 54 were carried away and the remaining four were badly damaged, so that it was with difficulty they could get one ready the next morning to go out to the open sea and look for those who were drifting on the roofs of houses. A considerable number of persons belonging to the village were absent at the time of the catastrophe, either fishing or otherwise employed, so that the number of those alive are 111 males and 83 females, including the children.

Some five minutes before the flood came, some men who were standing on the beach saw the tide recede and heard what they took for thunder out at sea, but when they saw the wave coming there was hardly time to cry out, "Tsunami, tsunami!" before the wave swept down upon them, along with the falling houses. Of the 194 who are alive belonging to the village, only 22 were home at the time; eight of these were taken from the water, some few escaped to the mountains, and the remainder were in the two houses. Of the 750 who are missing only 80 bodies have been found. The water rose two feet in one of the two remaining houses, so that the wave must have been about fifty feet in height.

Here too there were remarkable instances of escape. A little girl, ten years old, called Sakamoto Kiku was found the next day, about 11 o'clock, floating on the roof of a house at sea. She had climbed through the window made for the escape of smoke in the kitchen, after the house was washed away. She was the only one of the family saved.

Naka Tomogoro, a boy of 15, was washed out to sea on a roof and then drifted back again by a subsequent wave. When he got near shore he jumped off and swam ashore and climbed the mountain, where he crouched under a tree, naked, and waited till he was found next morning.

Dr. Shiokizawa with his wife and one child were found on the roof of his house out at sea the next morning, but sad to relate, the other child, who had given them warning of the coming of the seismic-wave so that they had time to run upstairs, was lost.

Returning, we reached Kamaishi in a shower of

rain, which rendered everything drearier than before. After a hot bath and some supper, I slept well and long, as I was in no hurry to get off next morning, preferring to let the roads have a chance to dry somewhat from the drenching they had received. Next morning I started off in a blaze of sunshine for the pass at Ohashi, where I took lunch, hiring a man to pull my wheel up and down the pass as before, reaching Tono at five. When I say that it took two hours and a half to do four *ri* on a down grade with my wheel, any one can imagine the condition of the roads, not on account of the rain, however, for they were perfectly dry. I spent a day longer than I had expected at Tono, waiting for Mr. Chiba's daughter to arrive from Hakodate to attend the funeral of her mother. I left there at half-past one the next morning and made the ten *ri* in time to catch the early train from Hanamaki to Morioka. The first part of the road was so rough that it shook my light out some half a dozen times, and then I gave it up and went by the light of the moon, which was fortunately full. Still I was obliged to go very slowly and carefully to avoid the stakes in the new part of the road and the stones in the old. By half-past three I found I had gone not much over two *ri*, but the worst part of the road was passed and it was then light enough to see obstacles, so that I got into the station about ten minutes before the train started.

The Rev. J. P. Moore, writing from Shizukawa, says:—To state a few facts, and relate a few of my experiences, with the view of helping to awaken, if possible, still greater sympathy in behalf of the sufferers of this part of the "Seismic Wave" district, is the object of this letter. My wife and myself, accompanied by a trained nurse, and one other Japanese attendant, have been on the field now for five days. We obtained letters of introduction from the *Kencho* to the persons in charge of relief and hospital work in the stricken places, and have had ample opportunity of visiting all the hospitals and places desirable, getting the facts in each case. After two weeks, the work of clearing up the debris is still going forward, and, in a number of places, only just begun. One hundred and forty coolies from Sendai City, a detachment of eighty soldiers from the same place, besides some four hundred men from three of the neighbouring *gun*, have been sent to engage in the work of finding and burying the dead, and of clearing up the wreck. These men, working for the most part under the direction of the policemen and *Kempei* detailed for this purpose, have already done much in the time, but several more weeks will be required to bring order out of the confusion and desolation that exist in such large measures.

In many places the scenes that meet our eyes is that of houses, partially wrecked, piled on top of one another; or turned over and up side down, pushed into, and against, each other. Here and there one sees a thatched roof, intact, amidst broken fragments, with several holes at the top which, on inquiry, I found were made to search for the missing; remove the living who saved themselves by clinging to the inside rafters and timbers, and take out the dead who were buried under them. Broken furniture, stranded boats, washed far inland, uprooted trees, masses of wreckage, and debris, with smoke rising in volumes from the numerous fires by which the refuse matter is being burned, these are on every hand.

Where the wave struck with full force, nothing in the way of ordinary building could stand against it. The only exceptions noticed were several *Kura* which rose from amid the general ruin, solitary and alone, proving that they were strongly built and able to stand a heavy shock without yielding.

The village of Tanomura, in the Utsu district, consisted of fifty-five houses, and of these only three remain, these being on an elevation. And out of a probable population of three hundred and twenty-five, two hundred and eight met their death, and twenty were wounded. This place, as I saw it, is a scene of complete destruction. At Shizuhama, in the Shizukawa district, only six houses, out of the sixty-five before the wave, remain. The number of the dead and wounded aggregates two hundred and eight. If one takes up the official statistics, the figures run like this: in such a district there were four hundred and twenty-eight houses, and eighty-five were destroyed. Population, three thousand and nine, deaths, four hundred and twenty. In another district the number of houses is reported at seven hundred and seventy-two, and the number destroyed, at two hundred and sixty-two. Population, five thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, deaths, eight hundred and twenty-three. But these figures are misleading, in so far as they refer to districts, and not to the towns or villages inundated. If referred to these latter, the percentage of houses wrecked and of lives lost is much

greater, as seen in the villages already referred to.

The sick and wounded are well cared for. In the Motoyoshi district there are nine (9) hospitals in charge of competent physicians, sent by the civil and military authorities at Sendai. The work of caring for the sick and wounded in the hospitals and outside is under the supervision of the Red Cross Association of Miyagi Ken. It furnishes the physicians, nurses, medicines, garments, and food. This Association is proving itself a most useful auxiliary in the relief work of this overwhelming calamity, and is adding to its previous good record. In such a calamity as the present, the work of providing for the destitute is the most important, as it is the most difficult. This work taxes the utmost energies of the authorities, and should call forth the most liberal aid of the people.

In Miyagi-ken alone, the number of destitute families is 3,000, and the number of individuals in want, 20,000. What must it be in the Ken to the south of us, where the disaster was so much greater? The work of relief is going on in noble contributions of money, and provisions are flowing in freely. Present want, in the way of clothing and food, is well supplied, and there is provision in this Ken for a month ahead; so I was told by those in authority. But what of the future? There is a plan on foot by which to give to every family a sum of ten *yen* for putting up a temporary building in which to house themselves, and a sum of from 10 to 15 *yen* for boats and implements with which to carry on their business. To do even this much, and at the same time support these destitute ones until such time as they can help themselves, will require a large sum of money. And unless there is widespread charity and a most liberal response to the appeals sent out, there will be, during the coming months, great suffering.

THE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

The following letter has very kindly been placed at our disposal:—

The Rev. Albert A. Bennett, writing from Mizuno-Yokichi (Hotel), Sakari, Iwate Ken, June 30th, 1896, says:—We—Rev. J. G. Cleveland, Rev. W. S. Woden, and Rev. A. A. Bennett—have passed over the whole of the distance of Miyagi Ken north of Shizukawa, gaining all the information we could from every source, and endeavouring to utilize it for the purpose for which we have been sent. A summary of our present convictions, both negative and positive, may be interesting to those for whom we are acting. Let me say, however, that we are now examining Iwate Ken, where some of the conditions widely differ from those of its neighbour, and it must not be concluded that the favourable conditions of Miyagi extend across its borders. There is no need of rice or other food just now—Government now supplying its people in that line, and probably will continue to do so until they are able to shift for themselves. The sick and wounded are being well cared for in hospitals specially erected, or in the treatment there administered to patients coming from their own homes. These hospitals are under the care of the Red Cross Society. Perhaps one-third of the cases treated are pneumonia, resulting from the water taken into the lungs at the time of the flood. The other cases are mainly bruises and fractures. Many of the cases were unfortunately not reported for treatment till several days after they occurred, retarding, if not preventing, complete recovery. We saw one case of lock-jaw resulting from a wound that had not been cleansed of sand and other foreign matter. Both sexes and all ages are in the hospitals, one little child we saw there had lost every relation she had. At present, household utensils are being sent in from all parts of the Ken. The destruction of houses had been great, as all know, but the main timbers are left, and are usually quite sufficient to build again for the diminished population, although they are so far removed from their true sites, and so mixed up generally that it is hard to tell to whom they respectively belong. The loss of boats is sometimes less in proportion than the loss of life, so that they are not much needed. It is an interesting fact, and one bearing on the scientific investigation of the tidal wave, that fishermen far off from shore did not severely feel the convulsion of nature, and did not know till their return to the shore that there had been a tidal wave. This looks as if there had been some vast upheaval of the bottom of the sea rather than the eruption of a submarine volcano. Soldiers have repaired, or are repairing, the roads everywhere, and coolies are removing debris, searching for the dead, &c., &c. The well-nigh perfect system of Japanese registration, enables officials to know the name and age of every one

who is missing, and also what relatives, if any, may be called upon to care for the helpless. Bodies that have sunk are coming to the surface, and to-day we saw some that had just been found, and also groups of people watching the water where it was supposed their lost ones would rise. In some places every house has been broken down, and the wide-spread desolation is rendered more dismal by the smoke from burning thatch, which is also sometimes funeral-pyres of bodies calling for speedy cremation. The height attained by the destructive wave greatly varies, owing to the conformation of the coast. At times a funnel shaped inlet has forced the water with increasing speed and momentum to a vast height, as boats far inland testify, and as strong buildings would testify were there anything left of them beside broken timbers and dislodged foundations. At other times a narrow opening in the coast communicates with a much wider expanse of water between the village and the sea, and then the wave was not much higher than ten or twelve feet. Many sad cases are daily brought to our notice. One young man we met had lost fourteen relatives, of whom the bodies of only four had been recovered, told us that in addition to his house he had lost his wife, his father, and his daughter. One man, who escaped by climbing to a high place, tells of looking down and seeing the lanterns of the people on the house-tops and hearing them talk to each other when the first wave came in, but when the second came the lanterns all went out, and the voices were all silent, while the sea rolled away with its struggling captives. We have not yet given anything, preferring to survey the whole field first. Our present impression is that Iwate Ken is far more needy than Miyagi. We also now incline to a large donation of hemp from which fishermen can make their own twine and construct their own nets. Fishermen are the main sufferers; the fields of the farmers are not much damaged. The difficulties of transportation to this district are great. High mountain roads are not open to any kind of vehicle, and some of them not to a horse even. Still, there are roads from some of these towns to the railroad, and occasionally the Yusen Kaisha boats come to one or more of these ports. The towns which have suffered most loss of life are not those needing most, for they are gone whose goods are gone also. We may yet find places where boats are needed or where farmers should be aided, but our present opinions are the result of thorough investigation under official aid. We are expecting to start to-morrow for Kamaishi, which will probably be our furthest point. Between here and there are two of the worst places, and we may find it necessary to add to our list of things to purchase. Should nothing be needed but hemp (which the officials say the fishermen can make up for less than one-third the cost of nets) thousands of dollars might profitably be spent.

EXPERIMENTS FOR THE IMPERIAL IRON FOUNDRY.

REPORT BY DR. TAKAYAMA.

The object of the present experiments was to ascertain whether Japanese clay could be used in the manufacture of fire-bricks, and of what quality these would be, and also to test their adaptability for the various purposes connected with an iron foundry. The defects of bricks thus far produced in Japan are, first, insufficiency of heat-resistance; secondly, defective burning; thirdly, their comparatively porous nature. The experiments were principally confined to the improvement of these defects. The material used was the fire clay called Kibushi of Owari, Naigo clay of Iwaki, and pulverized "Roseki" (Kaolinite) of Mitsuishi, Bizen, their mechanical and chemical composition being as follows:—

VELOCITY OF WATER IN SCHÖNE'S ELUTRIATING APPARATUS.

milim.	milim.	milim.
0.183	0.73	1.50

DIAMETER OF CLAY GRAINS.

milim.	milim.	milim.	milim.	milim.
0.01	0.025	0.04	0.04	
Portion remaining in the cylinders.				

Kibushi clay	67.55	9.11	3.32	19.94	99.92
Naigo clay	61.83	7.53	1.30	27.58	98.25

OLT'S SIEVE EXPERIMENT.

DIAMETER OF THE MESH OF OLT'S SIEVE.

Below	0.5 to	0.5 to	1.0 to	1.0 to	Above
milim.	milim.	milim.	milim.	milim.	milim.
Kibushi	10.63	8.47	0.52	0.16	—
Naigo	12.72	8.95	4.60	1.04	0.01

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION.

	Silicic acid.	Alumina	Ferric oxide	Lime	Magnesia	Potash	Soda	Loss on ignition.
	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	CaO	MgO	K ₂ O	Na ₂ O	
Kibushi	48.90	35.37	1.30	0.46	0.06	0.15	0.40	13.62
Naigo	53.33	30.86	2.14	0.40	0.11	0.29	0.69	11.90
Kaolinite	58.10	31.59	0.84	trace	0.27	0.61	0.35	9.09
Roseki	70.30	21.97	0.45	trace	0.47	0.06	0.30	4.55

Moisture deducted, the results were as follows:—

	Silicic acid.	Alumina	Ferric oxide	Lime	Magnesia	Potash	Soda	Loss on ignition.
	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	CaO	MgO	K ₂ O	Na ₂ O	
Kibushi	56.31	40.96	1.50	0.33	0.07	0.17	0.46	4.32
Naigo	60.73	35.13	2.44	0.46	0.11	0.33	0.79	1.1
Roseki	69.07	34.10	0.86	trace	0.30	0.07	0.80	3.81
Roseki	73.96	23.52	0.47	—	0.18	0.06	0.11	3.83

When conducting the experiments mentioned above, the clays were first elutriated and separated from foreign ingredients. One part thus purified was then calcined and this was mixed in certain proportions. In order to make the brick as fine as possible in texture, the proportion of calcined clay was somewhat increased. After the mixture had been placed in the mould and modelled into the ordinary shape, a pressure of 15 tons was applied to the surface with a hydraulic machine. The results of these experiments were as follows:—

Description.	Kibushi, light-yellow color, very dense at broken section, and no pores.	Naigo, light-yellow color, dense, tendency to brittleness.	Roseki, pure white, dense, tendency to brittleness.
Dimensions.. {			
Length	22.2	22.2	22.6
Breadth	11.0	11.1	10.1
Thickness	6.1	6.1	6.1
Weight of bricks	26.57	29.86	28.13
Absorption of water, per 100 of weight	13.09	10.05	12.41
Crushing strength	52.9	119.1	51.0
Contraction	No contraction	0.54 traction	No contraction

Action of Slags.. Not corroded.. Slightly corroded.

In the above experiments the measures used were in centimeters; weight, kilograms; crushing strength, kilograms per square centimeter.

The results of the chemical analysis were as follows:—

	Kibushi.	Naigo.	Roseki.
Silicic acid	59.72	59.15	61.72
Alumina	36.13	34.92	36.18
Ferric oxide	2.23	3.27	0.63
Lime	0.24	0.30	trace
Magnesia	0.57	0.72	0.29
Potash	0.84	0.86	0.98
Soda	0.32	0.82	0.10
Refractory quotient	2.04	1.35	4.41

SILICIOUS BRICKS.

Silicious sands of superior quality are not found in Japan. Those found on the shores of Kii and Izu can be used in the manufacture of glass, but not for bricks. Silicious rocks are, however, found in abundance, particularly in the vicinity of Mikawa and Owari. In former times these rocks were pulverized by water power and were used in the manufacture of pottery, and their use has recently become more extensive. These powders are very pure and can be used for bricks, but their cost is prohibitive. Still, compared with silica bricks imported from abroad, they are, to a certain extent, cheaper. According to the experiments carried on at the Arsenal, Koishikawa, Tokyo, in connection with manufacture of steel, silica bricks made of pulverized silicious rocks at the Shinagawa White Brick Factory, compared well with the silica bricks made in England, and were not at all inferior in respect of efficiency. The Shinagawa bricks were made of silicious powdered rocks from Ibaraki Prefecture.

The experiments at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce on the two kinds of bricks were as follow:—

	Shinagawa bricks, of white color, bear dark red spots, very dense at broken surface, and do not contain pores, sufficiently burnt, but are somewhat brittle.	English bricks, of yellowish color, are very dense at broken surface, and very firm in texture.
Dimension {		
Length	23.1	22.6
Breadth	11.3	11.2
Thickness	6.0	6.0
Weight	2.972	2.915
Absorption of water, per 100 per cent.	10.47	10.27
Crushing strength	44.07	89.02

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Silicic acid	93.90	1.97
Alumina	1.17	0.97
Ferric oxide	0.83	1.01
Lime	trace	1.81
Magnesia	0.10	0.08
Potash	0.80	0.14
Soda	3.14	3.87

Basic Bricks.—Magnesia has not been found in Japan so far as known, but lime-stone containing

more or less magnesia is abundant. The following kinds of lime-stone may be used in making basic bricks.

Producing districts... MgCO_3 ... CaCO_3 ... Fe_2O_3 & Insoluble matter.

	MgCO_3	CaCO_3	Fe_2O_3	Insoluble matter.
Aso-gun, Shimozuke	40.88	55.89	0.78	2.41
Do	39.40	57.72	0.42	2.80
Do	38.86	60.90	0.66	0.76
Do	37.48	61.20	0.33	0.27

In consequence of the absence of available magnesian rocks in Japan, magnesia was produced artificially by the following processes, when conducting the experimental manufacture of magnesian bricks. The first process was to procure magnesia from magnesian limestones, and in the second the mother liquor of common salt was used. The first process need not be described here. Analysis of the mother liquor of common table salt as made in Japan:—

	Na Cl.	K Cl.	Mg Cl.	Ca SO ₄	Mg SO ₄	Total.
No. 1	8.27	8.67	29.93	0.02	7.75	48.64
No. 2	14.53	1.03	7.21	trace.	1.08	23.85
No. 3	8.93	3.47	29.45	1.01	10.43	43.89
No. 4	12.98	1.78	12.45	—	11.33	38.54
No. 5	15.91	2.48	2.26	trace.	7.39	37.00

The above table shows that the mother liquor of Japanese common salt contains an abundance of magnesia. From this, caustic lime, or magnesian lime, when added, can easily produce magnesia. The magnesia bricks made with magnesia produced by the above processes showed the following results:—

Description.	Length.	Breadth.	Thickness.	Weight of Brick.
Bricks made for trial	23.3	11.1	6.0	31.27
Dark in colour, somewhat brittle				
Absorption of water per 100 per cent.	11.54			
Crushing Strength	86.6			
Contraction	No contraction			
Action of Slags	Slight.			

Description.	Length.	Breadth.	Thickness.	Weight of Brick.
Foreign bricks. {				
Dark in colour, very dense in texture	23.8	11.3	6.6	46.81
Absorption of water per 100 per cent.	6.21			
Crushing Strength	302.8			
Contraction	No contraction			
Action of Slags	Slight.			

Analytical Result.

	Bricks made for trial.	Foreign Bricks.
Magnesia	85.98	82.89
Lime	3.16	3.17
Manganese oxide	—	0.50
Ferric oxide	1.24	8.01
Alumina	—	1.86
Potash	0.12	0.02
Soda	0.30	0.11
Insoluble matter	9.14	3.30

CHROME IRON ORE. The chromite, or compound of chromium and iron, is a species of heat proof material. The ores are found in Bungo and Hokkaido, and on analysis proved to be of the following composition.

	Bungo.	Hokkaido.
Chromium oxide	45.82	58.94
Ferrous oxide	16.31	14.42
Aluminium	20.42	11.06
Magnesia	16.46	15.64
Silicic acid	0.53	0.20

In summing up the results of the experiments, it may be affirmed that not only can heat-proof materials be abundantly produced in Japan, but their adaptability for the manufacture of special kinds of bricks can be declared excellent. In carrying out the experimental manufacture of bricks with clay, special attention was directed towards providing against defects that have hitherto disqualified home-made bricks for iron foundry work. That the bricks thus obtained were perfectly adapted for the purpose in view admits of no doubt. There being work-shops in Japan capable of manufacturing an excellent kind of silicic brick, no need existed to specially conduct the experimental manufacture of that particular brick. As for the material to produce magnesia bricks, the mother liquor of common salt and magnesia limestone seemed the best materials available in Japan, being very cheap and abundant everywhere.

REPORT OF ASSIST. EXPERT KANEKO.

The experiments carried on by Mr. Kaneko, an assistant expert of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, were to prove whether iron sand could be substituted for wrought iron in the manufacture

of Martin steel. The use of iron sand both by Mr. Kaneko and Prof. Noro in the trial manufacture of Martin steel was based on the same important principle. Iron sand is a kind of magnetic iron, and therefore free from obnoxious foreign ingredients commonly present in ordinary iron ores. Iron sand ores are pure, native, ferric oxide, and are found in great quantities in Japan alone. Now, although experiments have been carried on in Europe and America to apply iron ores direct in the manufacture of steel, the result thus far obtained is unsatisfactory, owing to the inferiority of the ores. On the other hand, iron sand ores are abundant in Japan and were from olden time used as material for direct manufacture of steel of excellent quality—steel used in making swords and other sharp instruments. When so much could be accomplished by the old process, far better results, it was anticipated, could be obtained, provided a more perfect process was adopted, so that iron founders of the West might envy the naturally more fortunate experts of Japan in the matter of steel founding.

The process adopted in the present experiment was to fuse pig-iron and iron sand in the Siemens-Martin furnace and thus convert them into wrought iron by chemical action. The oxygen in the iron sand combined with carbon in pig iron and wrought iron was produced. Then manganese-ferrous-iron was added and the result was expected to be the formation of fused steel. The experiments were conducted on six different occasions between the 7th and 31st of March, a petroleum furnace being used, and 6 tons of steel were manufactured.

Proportions of raw materials and flux; the figures being in kilograms:—

	Pig-iron.	Iron sand.	Man.	Time	Clay.
1st.....	1,000	455	35	33	—
2nd.....	1,000	500	35	10	30
3rd.....	1,000	400	60	10	—
4th.....	1,000	300	25	23	—
5th.....	1,000	505	32	56	—
6th.....	1,000	525	35	60	—

The manganese iron used in the experiments was obtained from abroad and contained 77 per cent. of manganese.

Analysis of steel manufactured:—

	Carbon.	Silica.	Copper.	Manga.	Phos.	Sul-
1st.....	0.29	0.02	0.25	0.12	0.17	0.08
4th.....	0.27	0.04	0.66	0.12	0.16	0.10
5th.....	0.23	0.04	0.26	0.09	0.17	0.09
6th.....	0.20	0.02	0.24	0.06	0.22	0.07

The presence of copper, phosphorus, and sulphur, was due to the previous existence of such ingredients in the pig-iron used.

Result of experiments to ascertain the strength of the steel produced:—

	Malleability (per 100).	Tenacity (per 1 inch square).
1st.....	21.50	36.05
4th.....	10.50	34.70
5th.....	11.00	35.05
6th.....	20.00	32.15

The foregoing results proved that the iron sand, so easily procurable in Japan, could be substituted for wrought iron in the manufacture of Martin steel. One grave difficulty was experienced in the course of the repeated experiments, namely, the formation of silicate of iron; iron sand, which has a strong basic reaction, combining with silica in the acidic bricks used in the oven. The question was, therefore, not whether iron sand could be used in the manufacture of Martin steel, but whether bricks, either of basic or neutral reaction and capable of withstanding the corrosion of iron sand, could not be manufactured. It was upon the result of the brick question that the fate of the steel foundry in Japan depended.

EXPERIMENTS.

The experiments, as conducted by the Assist. Expert, were of two descriptions: three were in accordance with the ordinary process in vogue in Europe and America, and eleven were experiments with a Martin oven. The composition of materials used in the first series of experiments was as follows:—

	Kitchen-knife iron (produced in Izumo).	Izumo iron.	Mangan- ferrous iron.
	Kilograms.	Kilograms.	Kilograms.
1st.....	810	197	40
2nd.....	350	700	94
3rd.....	690	700	7

Kitchen-knife iron and white pig-iron produced from Izumo were both manufactured from the same iron.

In each of the three experiments a satisfactory result was obtained, soft steel of good quality being produced. This steel was sent to Kamaishi, to be made into steel plates and rails. The chief reason that in the three experiments the proportion of kitchen-knife iron and white pig-iron varied so much, was that the compositions of the gases

changed on each occasion, neutral oxydizing gas being used on the first occasion, and acid oxydizing gas on the second and third.

Of the series of experiments conducted with the Martin furnace, the first three ended either in complete or partial failure, the chief trouble being corrosion of the magnetite bricks piled around the bed of the furnace and the defective action of the manganiferous iron. In the 4th experiment both the defects were greatly minimized, soft steel of tolerable quality being produced. At the same time the following three points were verified:—

1. A low heat should be maintained until the iron sand has amalgamated and in that case the magnetite bricks would not be much corroded.
2. Before manganiferous iron is run into slags it should be exposed as much as possible, allowing the manganese to complete its action.
3. When iron sand is put in, care should be taken not to allow the fused mass to solidify, the mixture should be repeatedly agitated, so as to facilitate the action of the iron sand.

Further experiments proved that agitation not only enabled pig-iron and iron sand to maintain their scientifically proper proportions, facilitated the action of iron sand, and economized it, but also effected a similar action to that obtained in the puddling process. It was further proved that agitation enabled iron sand to make a perfect alloy in the proportion of 39 kil. of the former to 1,000 kil. of pig-iron.

In the subsequent four experiments, though the defects that appeared in the preceding experiments were much lessened, the steel produced was rather harder in texture, probably owing to the greater presence of manganese. In the last three experiments softer steel was produced, but the quantity of manganese used was extremely large. The following table shows the composition of raw materials used in the different experiments:—

	Kamaishi white pig-iron. kilo.	Iron sand. kilo.	Mangan- ferrous iron. kilo.
1st.....	1,200	380	36.0
2nd.....	1,200	350	78.0
3rd.....	1,200	350	54.0
4th.....	1,200	200	36.0
5th.....	1,500	200	63.0
6th.....	1,500	140	52.5
7th.....	1,500	130	52.5
8th.....	1,500	165	45.0
9th.....	1,500	200	25.5
10th.....	1,500	196	127.5
11th.....	1,500	230	60.0

The physical and chemical qualities of the steel produced are yet to be proved. The steel was forwarded to the Kamaishi Foundry to be made into various articles.

FIRE-PROOF BRICKS.—As above stated, the question whether fire-proof bricks can be made in Japan being vitally related to the foundry question, it will not be waste of time to enumerate briefly the results obtained in regard to the present experiments, fuller explanation on the subject being reserved for Dr. Takayama.

SILICA BRICKS.—The walls and dome or roof of the Martin furnace, that is the portion of the furnace that does not come into contact with slags and is exposed to intense heat, must be formed of silica bricks, which, however, could not be produced in Japan in the early stage of the experiments. The Shinagawa White Brick Factory undertook the work of making the new kind of bricks, after the French silica pattern. After repeated failures the Factory produced bricks which proved far superior in fire-proof quality to the original French bricks, and were not easily distinguishable in this respect from the English bricks of the same kind. Thus one of the most important facilities for foundry work in Japan has been secured.

"ROSEKI" BRICKS.—The regenerators of the Martin furnace were constructed with Mitsuishi "Roseki" bricks made by Kato Ninkuro, and they were found, after a series of experiments, to be excellently adapted for the purpose, their cheapness and fire-proof quality being special merits.

MAGNESIA BRICKS.—Magnesia bricks made in Germany were used in the experiment. It was discovered that though in intense heat they were considerably corroded by slags, they could stand the pressure well when the heat was lowered: one piece, half a brick thick, stood six experiments; that is, one ordinary brick could be used more than ten times.

Magnesia bricks made by Dr. Takayama were proved to resist corrosion just as well as the imported bricks. They lacked definite shape, however, and were in small pieces.

Even when magnesia bricks can stand more than ten experiments, the necessity of their being renewed after 10 to 12 operations of the furnace must involve a large waste of fuel, for the furnace must be cooled down when the old magnesia bricks

are replaced. Therefore, it may be useful to construct the bed of a Martin oven after the style of the Pernot oven, so that it may be detached from the rest and be more easily renewed. This would to a large extent economize fuel.

The present experiments, though sufficient to prove the merit of the new process of manufacturing steel, are still incomplete, and must be followed by another series of experiments, to determine the question more in detail. The points to be investigated would be:—

- 1.—To reconstruct the oven to facilitate the outflow of slags, with a view to enabling manganese to complete its action.
- 2.—To investigate the length of time in which magnesia bricks could be used.
- 3.—To test the efficiency of magnesia bricks produced by Dr. Takayama.
- 4.—To try whether such cheaper stuffs as dolomite or chromite could be substituted for magnesia.
- 5.—To use iron sand reduced by Prof. Noro's process.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, June 3rd, 1896.

I must take, as my occasion of a letter, the correspondent's query and editorial note in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of April 4th, 1896. Your correspondent "M." inquires concerning a certain "Martyr Statesmen" who is referred to in "the report of a lecture delivered recently in Boston," by the undersigned, as having been "the first man who dared lead for freedom of religious belief in their [the Japanese] Parliament, and who was assassinated within three hours by ruffians who did not want Christianity." The editorial note stated that the undersigned (rather than the hasty reporter) had been "sadly misled."

The reference of the lecture in Boston was not to the Imperial Diet, nor to anything under the Constitution, nor to any event since the year 1869. It is very hard, indeed, for those who do not know the Japan of the Tokugawa era or of the early Meiji days to realize how things went in the days when all the gentry wore two swords, and Christianity was banned and outlawed throughout the Empire. My reference was to the event of Feb. 15th, 1869, when Yokoi Heishiro was assassinated by six ruffians in Kyoto as he was returning from Court. Yokoi was an elderly adviser of the new Imperial Government, and a member of the Higo Clan. The reason of the assassination, as given in the Japanese histories, especially the Kinse Shiraku, is that "the opponents of the constitutional changes which he constantly advocated had falsely charged him with professing evil opinion, and the Ronins believing this had acted in consequence." Those who know of Yokoi, through his Life and Letters, published a few years ago by his son, and those who knew of him as I did through his week as lecturer, scholar, and reformer at Fuku, Echizen, and in Yedo, know that he believed in the toleration of the Christian religion in Japan, and indeed in the right of men to think for themselves provided they kept within the bounds of peace and righteousness. Yokoi was the far-sighted Japanese who sent the first Japanese students directly and purposely to America for systematic study. He thus began that long procession of seekers after knowledge, who at American schools, colleges, and Universities have been, on the whole, so diligent and shed honour on their own country. No intelligent man who knows the present state of things in Japan would make the assertion credited to him by the hasty reporter of a Boston newspaper.

When Yokoi Heishiro lay headless in the street of Kyoto, there was, at his home near Kumamoto, a son then ten years of age, who has since made a name for himself, becoming a Christian, a graduate of the Doshisha University in the same city where his father was murdered, and afterwards pastor of Christian Churches in Tosa and Tokyo. As editor, writer, and thinker his reputation extends beyond Japan. He has twice been in the United States for study, this last time spending two years again at New Haven. This month he and the Rev. K. Tsumashima return to Japan. With such an intellectual inheritance and experience in travel and study, Mr. Yokoi may fulfill even the highest expectations of his friends.

The future of Christian theology and of Christianity in Japan, is one that perplexes a great many people in the United States, and especially those who contribute to the "The American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions," and who are most interested in the *Kumi-ai*, or Associated churches in Japan. These American Christians constitute the body of Congregational Churches in the United States, for there is no such thing as

AGAINST FOR SEASONS.				
1894-95.	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
Bis.	Bis.	Bis.	Bis.	Bis.
28,745	19,342	27,448	30,035	18,343
1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.
20,377	19,921	20,964	14,001	15,034

THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF AUGUST NINTH.

To-morrow (says *The Times* of May 27) will see the first flight of English astronomers to view the important eclipse of next August. Professor Turner, of Oxford, and Captain Hills, R.E., leave Liverpool for Japan via Canada, expecting to reach Yokohama on July 6. They take with them not only their own instruments, but those of the Astronomer Royal, who cannot leave England so soon owing to the necessity of being present at the visitation of the Royal Observatory, which is fixed by Royal Warrant for the first Saturday in June. He will follow three weeks later, in time to complete the work of preparation for the eclipse which the other two members of the expedition will have conducted through its preliminary stages; and should the weather be propitious, some valuable photographs of the corona and its spectrum ought to be secured by the party. Astronomers of other nations will also be present in Japan, besides the Japanese themselves; Prof. D. P. Todd, of Amherst, U.S.A., who went to Japan for the eclipse of 1889, is to be there again on the present occasion. Indeed, he is well on his way already, in a private yacht which has been placed at his disposal for the expedition. Professor Todd has shown himself an adept in managing an immense mass of apparatus on such occasions, and his equipment was piled on board this yacht several months ago, and carried from the East to the West Coast of the American Continent by a voyage round Cape Horn. Recent American eclipse expeditions have owed much to private benefactions, and the present one is apparently to be no exception. In England we look to Government aid, which, if it is not always so lavish as that accorded by private individuals in America, is at least always given ungrudgingly, and in a form which contributes in no small degree to the success of such enterprises. The funds for preparing the special instruments and for paying the expenses of the observers come from the Government Grant Fund, administered by the Royal Society, while the Admiralty generally places at the disposal of the expedition one of her Majesty's ships, which conveys them from the nearest large port to the special station selected, assists the observers in countless ways during the preparations, and through its officers often takes a considerable share in the observations themselves. On the present occasion, for instance, the observers will be conveyed from Yokohama to Kushi-iro, the selected station in Yezo, by a man-of-war; and but for this promise of help it is doubtful whether any British expedition to Japan could be undertaken at all.

Besides Professor Todd, there will be in Japan M. Deslandres, with two assistants from the Paris Observatory. He left Paris for Kushi-iro on May 16th, and will probably arrive before the English observers; so that there will be a goodly assemblage of observers in this neighbourhood, and probably very close together. The points of vantage available for observing a total solar eclipse are theoretically distributed along a narrow belt something like 100 miles wide and a few thousand miles long. Practically the choice is more restricted, for this belt crosses sea and land impartially, and observations of value can only be made on terra firma and at a spot conveniently accessible with heavy baggage. The desirable stations in Japan seem to be limited to the neighbourhood of Kushi-iro. But the belt sweeps across northern Siberia, cuts Nova Zembla, and the north of Norway, terminating, however, before reaching the British Isles. In England we shall see nothing of the eclipse even in its partial phases, for it will be all over by sunrise, and even in Norway the sun will not have risen very high at the time of the eclipse, which will occur in the afternoon to those in Japan. Favourable stations in Siberia are to be occupied by Russian astronomers, but in Norway there will be a large assemblage of Europeans. A British Government expedition will proceed thither as well as to Japan under the joint direction of Professor Norman Lockyer (to whom the assistance of a man-of-war has been promised), and Dr. A. A. Common, the President of the Royal Astronomical Society. There will also be a large party of English astronomers organized by the British Astronomical Association, as well as others unattached to any special expedition. Of these Norway expeditions, which will not start for another six

weeks, more may be said later. We may, however, here remind those whose summer holiday is not already arranged that the present opportunity for seeing a total solar eclipse is not one to be lightly disregarded. The spectacle is a magnificent one, worth travelling thousands of miles to see; and unfortunately it is in general really necessary to travel these thousands of miles. No total solar eclipse has been visible in England this century, and it is but rarely that the track of one crosses Europe. In 1887 there was a chance to see one by going to Russia, but clouds hid the spectacle from view. Those who go eclipse hunting in the next few years must go at least as far as Norway this year, or India in 1898, or Spain in 1900; and of these journeys that to Norway is perhaps the simplest.

There are two points of special interest in the programme of work arranged by the British expeditions for this eclipse. In the first place there are to be two expeditions, one to Japan and one to Norway, as has already been mentioned. Now the total phase will not occur simultaneously to these two parties. As the moon passes slowly in front of the sun the shadow cast on the earth sweeps along from Norway over Siberia to Japan, and by the time it reaches Japan the sun will be some hour and a-half older than it was when it was eclipsed to the Norway party. Thus if the corona shows any appreciable change of form in an hour and a-half the photographs taken at the two stations should on comparison show the change. We know that the corona does alter in form completely between one eclipse and the next, but we do not know how rapid the alteration is, for the glimpse of it caught every couple of years or so, when there is a total eclipse, is insufficient to give us this information. As far as we know at present, the change of form goes on too slowly to be noticeable in such a short interval as an hour or two; this, at least, was the conclusion arrived at by Mr. Wesley after a very critical examination of the photographs taken at the eclipse of 1893, when expeditions were sent from this country to Brazil and South Africa. But it is eminently desirable to make the experiment again on the present occasion, when the circumstances are even more favourable than in 1893. There must be some change in the corona even in an hour; if not a real physical change, then at least a change of aspect due to the slow rotation of the sun on its axis; and it ought not to be beyond the power of our present instruments to detect it. The second point of interest concerns the instrumental equipment, the form of which has been changed since the 1893 eclipse. Instead of pointing the photographic cameras and telescopes to the sun directly, most of the observers will employ some forms of heliostat, and three of them will be using the special form called the celeostat. In all heliostats there is a mirror which is so rotated by clockwork that the sun's rays are reflected in a fixed direction and can thus be observed in the fixed telescope; and for photography it is a great advantage to be able to fix the telescope instead of having it in motion to follow the sun. But with most forms of heliostat, when the telescope has been placed in position to receive the sun's reflected image, although this image will constantly remain in the field of view, it will be seen on close observation to be gradually rotating about its centre, and this motion is sufficient to prevent a good photograph from being taken. It is only in the celeostat that this motion of rotation is eliminated. With this instrument (a plane mirror rotating once in 48 hours about an axis in its plane parallel to the earth's axis) any portion of the sky viewed by a fixed telescope pointed to the mirror remains absolutely the same; and a photograph may be taken of it with the same convenience as though the sky were rigidly attached to the earth. The instrument was designed many years ago, but its importance for eclipse work has only recently been realized, and its trial on the present occasion is looked forward to with very great interest.

The eclipse is still so many weeks and even months ahead that few save actual astronomers will at present concern themselves seriously about it. At a later date we shall have something to say of the Norway expeditions and more especially of the spectroscopic work to be undertaken by Professor Norman Lockyer. For the present we will wish a pleasant voyage and good luck to the observers who are leaving us for the other side of the world on the chance of seeing the sun eclipsed for two or three minutes. To some it may seem a long way to go for such a brief entertainment, but when little is to be had a little must suffice; and there is no way of multiplying or extending total solar eclipses.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, July 6.

The Friendlies at Bulawayo are becoming restless, and it is feared that the country will again become in a disaffected state. Many of the white settlers are quitting Matabeleland.

It is believed that a dark horse may win at the Chicago Democratic Convention. The Goldites maintain a strict reserve, hoping to gain something from the chaotic condition of the party.

London, July 9.

The Committee of the Chicago Democratic Convention has drafted a platform which is certain of adoption. It demands free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of sixteen to one, and condemns the revival of the McKinley tariff. The planks regarding Cuba and the Monroe doctrine are at present unsettled.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, July 4, 8.20 a.m.

H.M.S. *Edgar* and *Alacrity* arrived here yesterday; and the *Idsumi Kan* left for Yokohama.

Hakodate, July 7.

Her Majesty's ships *Centurion*, *Narcissus*, *Immortalité*, *Rainbow*, and *Pique* arrived here yesterday. The *Spartan* leaves this for the Behring Sea to-day.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, July 4.

Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon stated that negotiations continue regarding the French claim to establish a protective tariff in Madagascar.

A resolution authorizing an outlay of three millions sterling on the Uganda Railway has been carried in the House of Commons by a majority of two hundred.

H.M. the Emperor William, in a speech at the launching of the new battleship *Emperor Frederick*, said the vessel was the forerunner of many others of the same class and would inaugurate a new era for the German Navy.

The insurgents in Crete have repulsed a large force of Turks, killing over two hundred.

London, July 7.

The tone of the Berlin Press in the farewell notices to Li Hung-chang is markedly cool, disappointment being expressed at the absence of orders.

Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of the Cape and High Commissioner for South Africa, has been raised to the Peerage.

London, July 8.

The Chicago Democratic Convention has been opened. Mr. Daniels, the Silverite nominee, has been temporarily elected President of the Convention by a majority of two hundred over Mr. Hill, the Goldite's candidate.

Colonel Plumer's column has defeated the Matabele rebels after seven hours' fighting, with a loss to the enemy of one hundred killed. The British loss was twenty-three killed and wounded.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

June 30.

So far, twenty white persons have been murdered, and fifty-nine are killed, wounded, or missing in Mashonaland.

The Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, states that Government propose to keep the Cape garrison up to its full strength, hence a battalion of the King's Rifles has been ordered to the Cape.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has been visiting Essen as the guest of Herr Krupp.

July 2.

It is announced that Li Hung-chang will visit the Marquis of Salisbury at Hatfield, and inspect Armstrong's works at Elswick. He is also to visit Portsmouth, where one hundred and seven men-of-war will be assembled after the manoeuvres.

London, June 16.
Emperor William, plainly promoting a renewal of the *entente* [between England and Germany], has sent to the Regiment of Royal Dragoons, of which he is an Honorary Colonel, a wreath with which to decorate the colours on Waterloo Day.

London, June 27.
The Venezuelans have released Mr. Harrison.

June 29.
At a banquet in Berlin given by the leading merchants to H.E. Li Hung-chang, Dr. von Boetticher, Secretary of State for the Interior, made a speech, in which he dwelt upon the importance of H.E. Li Hung-chang's visit. Admiral Hollmann proposed the health of the Emperor of China.

(FROM "LE COURRIER DE SAIGON.")

Paris, June 18.
A rumour from Tunis is to the effect that Marquis Morès and thirty-five companions have been massacred near Chadamès by Sénoussi.

Paris, June 19.
The Marquis Morès and four Tunisian servants were killed on the 8th June in North Chadamès by an escort of Touareg Chambaas recruited on the previous day in the village of Elaoutia.

(FROM "L'AVENIR DU TONKIN.")

Paris, June 20.
General Brière de l'Isle is dead. The French squadron has received a warm welcome at Corunna.

Paris, June 21.
The Chamber has adopted the proposal declaring Madagascar a French Colony, and has invited the Cabinet to take the necessary measures to abolish slavery as soon as possible.

Paris, June 22.
Forty thousand workmen are on strike in St. Petersburg, but there have been no outrages.

(FROM "LE COURRIER D'HAIPHONG.")

Paris, June 23.
The Chamber, by 341 votes to 74, has adopted the vote of 4,500,000 francs in order to meet the expenses incurred by the expedition against Siam.

(FROM "BANGKOK OBSERVER.")

London, May 21.
The Governor of Damaraland will have a thousand troops at his command when the reinforcements arrive. The organ of the Colonial Party in Berlin says that Germany will thus acquire in South Africa a position the influence of which will be felt in Capetown, while at the same time the Boers will receive an indirect support whereof time will plainly display the effects.

(FROM THE BANGKOK PAPERS.)

London, June 15.
The English Mediterranean Squadron being at Civita Vecchia, 400 of the sailors attended Mass at the Sistine Chapel. The Pope, who was present, blessed the congregation, and, as His Holiness left, all rose, cheering and waving their hats. A dinner was afterwards served in the corridor adjoining St. Peter's, the English sailors being specially invited to partake of the good things provided.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Shanghai, July 4.
In the northern part of the province of Kansueh a fortnight ago, a mob broke into and destroyed some Christian Churches. They murdered some German missionaries and many native converts.

Söul, July 4.
The rebels of Chhöl-wön are surrounding Kai-söng. The government has despatched reinforcements.

It has been decided that the King will remove from the Russian Legation when the palace of Kwang-hwa-mun, near the Russian Legation, is repaired. The cost will be yen 70,000.

Mr. Hillier, British Consul-General, left for Japan this morning.

Otaru, July 4.
The *Alger*, the French first-class cruiser, with

the French astronomical party on board, arrived here at 7 o'clock this morning, and left at 5 p.m.

Bakan, July 4.
Marquises Ito and Saigo left in the *Foshino* this morning for the eastward.

Kobe, July 4.
Lieut.-General Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa, arrived last night, and left for Nagoya. He will await there the arrival of Marquis Ito and his suite.

Li Sun-yong has arrived here, and left for Suma.

Nagasaki, July 5.
The Russian man-of-war *Manjour* has arrived from Vladivostock.

Nagasaki, July 4.
The French man-of-war *Isly* has arrived here from Ninsen.

Hakodate, July 6.
H.M.S. *Centurion* and five other British men-of-war arrived here this morning.

Osaka, July 6.
Lieut.-General Okubo and 14 other officers, 63 sub-officers and men of the 7th Brigade of 4th Division, bound for Formosa, arrived at Umeda (Osaka) Station, at 7.30 a.m. to-day. They were received by the citizens with much enthusiasm. Fireworks were displayed and national flags hoisted.

Aomori, July 5.
Viscount Higashizono and suite left Hachinohe for Tokyo to-day.

Nagano, July 6.
A violent storm has been raging since the morning.

Matsumoto, July 5.
The regular meeting of the local Branch of the Japan Red Cross Association, was held to-day. About 4,000 persons were present.

Söul, July 4.
Behind the Russian Legation is an old ruined summer palace, the grounds of which are used for raising vegetables. The *Independent* of this morning says that the new palace will be built there.

Osaka, July 5.
A correspondent writing from Shanghai under date the 2nd inst. says that Choshi-do is arranging to start the electric light and establish a telephone in Kohoksho.

Li Hung-chang had a long interview with Prince Hohenlohe at Berlin, the main object of which was to obtain Germany's aid in resisting the pressure of Russia.

Dr. Yersin, the distinguished French bacteriologist, has succeeded in curing the black plague by inoculation, the experiments being conducted at Canton.

A Chairman in Singapore has raised Taels 10,000,000 for the projected railway between Hankow and Peking, and has sent the sum to capitalists in Peking.

Söul, July 5.
Mr. Hara Kai, Japanese Minister to Korea, has arrived at Ninsen, and will leave for Söul to-morrow.

Nagano, July 7.
H.I.H. Prince Komatsu arrived here from Uyeda to-day; he had dinner at the Shiroyama Kwan, and left for Naoyetsu.

Gifu, July 7.
Continued rainfall has caused all the rivers to overflow in the district of Ikeda, and postal communications are interrupted.

Söul, July 7.
The contract for the Söul-Wiju railway has been signed by the Korean Government and the French representative. The work is to be commenced within three years, and completed with in nine. The other provisions are identical with those of the Söul-Ninsen line.

Söul, July 7.
The rebels around To-saw have retreated to Hwang-hai-do. Kai-söng is tranquil.

Kyoto, July 7.
A feeble shock of earthquake was felt here at 11.38 p.m., on the 6th instant.

Söul, July 8.
Li Seung-kiu has brought forward a proposal to punish the Tai Wön-kun, Pak Yong-ho, Kim Hong-tsub, and U Kil-chun for high treason, along with others who were concerned in the

emeute of October 8th. The Korean Government has accepted the proposal, and issued warrants for the arrest of those concerned. Liu Sé-nan, many army officers, and the Tai Wön-kun were arrested.

Later.
Yu Sé-nan has tendered his resignation, but it has not yet been accepted, nor has he been arrested.

The proposal of Li Seung-kiu is under discussion at the Korean Court. The arrest of the Tai Wön-kun and members of his party is doubtful.

Tottori, July 8.
The *Matsushima* arrived at Sakai yesterday. Thirty-nine persons were attacked with camp fever to-day.

Kyoto, July 9.
At Miyadzu, Tango Province, on the 8th, from 5 p.m. an unusually high tide, rising from 5 to 6 feet above the normal, rolled in upon the town.

Hiroshima, July 9.
H.I.H. Prince Kikumaro Nashimoto has invited the military officers to dine with him to-day.

Nagoya, July 9.
Marquis Ito, the Premier, arrived here this morning. He leaves for Oiso to-morrow.

Osaka, July 9.
Lieut.-General Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, who arrived yesterday, left this morning for Tokyo.

Hiroshima, July 9.
Mr. Yamanouchi, President of the Iron Works, left this morning for Tokyo.

Nagano, July 9.
Small-pox has broken out at Shimotsuwa, and shows signs of spreading.

Aomori, July 9.
A slight earthquake was felt this morning.

Nagano, July 9.
The mountain railway over the Usui Pass has been damaged, and trains are temporarily stopped.

Mitajiri, Suwo, July 9.
An earthquake was felt here this morning early. The accompanying noise was very loud.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 236.

WHITE.
1—Q to K Kt 7
2—Q to Q Kt 7
3—Kt to Kt 3, mate

BLACK.
1—K takes Kt
2—P queens (ch.)

if 2—K to Kt sq.

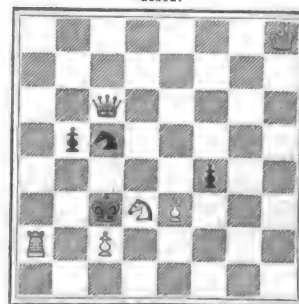
3—Q to Kt sq., mate
1—K to B 8
2—Kt (R sq.) to Kt 3 ch.
3—Q to R sq., mate.

Correct answers from W.H.S., W.D.C., J.D., W.d.H., and A. L. Jordan.

PROBLEM No. 238.

By I. IVERSEN, of Copenhagen.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in three moves.

ERRATUM.

About thirty years ago in England we had occasion to call a printer over the coals for not

following our copy. His reply was "These type-stickers of mine invent such a lot." The same trouble seems to prevail in Japan; for we have received remonstrances about the wording of our paragraph in last week's column about Mr. Jordan's visit to Tokyo. Now what we wrote was this:—"On Saturday, 27th June, a visit was paid to Tokyo, where Mr. Jordan met a few members of the Tokyo Chess Club, informally, at the Roku-meikan." How it got changed into what really appeared, the "comps" and proof-reader only know. On their behalf we apologise to those members of the Tokyo Chess Club, who feel aggrieved at our former statement.

SHOWALTER-BARRY.

We give two more games in this contest, which are good and show that the Kentuckian was coming out in his old form once more.

GAME No. 519.

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Showalter.	BLACK. Barry.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P to Q 4
4—P takes Q P (a)	4—P to K 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt takes P
6—B to Q B 4	6—B to K 3
7—Q to K 2	7—P to K B 4
8—Castles	8—Kt to Q 2 (b)
9—B takes Kt	9—B takes B
10—Q to Kt 5	10—P to B 8
11—Q takes Kt P	11—Kt takes Kt
12—P takes Kt	12—B to B 4 (c)
13—P to Q B 4 (d)	13—B takes P (e)
14—Q takes P ch.	14—K to B 2
15—P to K 6 ch.	15—K to Kt 3
16—Q takes B (f)	16—B takes R
17—Kt to B 3	17—B to R 3 (g)
18—Kt to Q 5	18—K to K sq.
19—Kt to B 4 ch.	19—K to B 3
20—Q to B 3 ch.	20—K to K 2
21—Q takes P ch.	21—K to Q 3
22—B to K 3	22—K to B 3
23—R to B sq. ch.	23—K to Kt 4
24—Q to K 5 ch.	24—K to R 5
25—P to Kt 3 ch.	25—K to R 6
26—B to B 5 ch.	26—K takes P
27—Q to R sq. ch.	27—K takes P
28—R to B 3 mate.	

NOTES BY EMIL KEMENY.

- (a) Black adopted the same defence as Kemény did in the first game against Showalter. The latter replied then 4 P takes K P. The move adopted in the present game seems superior.
- (b) P to Q B 3 or B to K 3 was the proper play. Black failed to observe the power of White's combination B takes Kt followed by Q to Kt 5.
- (c) R to Kt sq. or Q to B sq. was necessary, in order to have Q B guarded. Black, it seems, did not observe the threatening P to B 4 move, which leaves the Q B P unprotected.
- (d) Q takes Kt P would have given Black a powerful, if not winning attack, if he had continued R to Kt sq. followed by P to K 6.
- (e) Had Black played now R to Q Kt sq., then White could capture the K Kt P. R to Kt sq. would be less threatening now, since Black could continue P to K 6, his Bishop being attacked.
- (f) P to K 7 dis. ch. would have been bad. Black would have answered Q to Q 3, and gained a pretty good position. White's attack is most powerful and the sacrifice of the exchange is perfectly sound.
- (g) Premature play: Black overlooked entirely the force of White's move, Kt to Q 5. He should have played R to Q B sq. followed by R takes Kt. Black, though a Pawn behind, had excellent chances for a draw, the Bishops being of different colours. After Black's present move his game becomes hopeless.

GAME No. 520.

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Barry.	BLACK. Showalter.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—Kt takes P
4—B to Q 3	4—P to Q 4
5—Kt takes P	5—B to Q 3
6—Kt to Q B 3	6—Kt takes Kt
7—P takes Kt	7—Kt to Q 2
8—Castles	8—Castles
9—P to K B 4	9—Kt to B 3
10—Q to B 3	10—P to B 4
11—P to Kt 4	11—P to B 5
12—B to K 2	12—Q to B 2
13—P to Kt 5	13—Kt to K 5
14—Kt takes P (B 5)	14—P takes Kt
15—Q takes Kt	15—B to K R 6
16—R to K sq.	16—Q to R K sq.
17—Q to B 3	17—B to K B 4
18—B to Q 2	18—B to K 5
19—Q to B sq.	19—P to Kt 4
20—P to Q R 4	20—P to Q R 3
21—P takes P	21—P takes P
22—Q R to B sq.	22—Q to B 3
23—B to Kt 4	23—P to B 3
24—K to R 3	24—P to B 4
25—B to K 2	25—R to Q R sq.
26—B to B sq.	26—R to R 7
27—B to Kt 2	27—B takes B
28—Q takes B	28—Q takes Q ch.
29—K takes Q	29—B to R 6
30—R to Q R sq.	30—R takes P
31—R takes B	31—R takes B ch.

32—K to Kt sq.	32—K to B 2
33—R to R 7 ch.	33—K to Kt 3
34—R to K 6 ch.	34—K to R 4
35—R takes P	35—K to Kt 5
36—R takes P	36—P to Kt 5
37—R to K 3	37—K takes P
38—R to Kt 3	38—K to K 5
39—R to K 7 ch.	39—K to Q 4
40—P takes P	40—R to Q B sq.
41—R to K 5 ch.	41—K takes P
42—R takes P	42—P to B 6
43—R to B 4 ch.	43—K to K 4
44—R to K B sq.	44—B to B 7
45—R to K 3 ch.	45—K to Q 5
46—K (K 3) to K sq.	46—K to B 6
47—R to B 2	47—R (B) to Q sq.
48—K to Kt 2	48—R takes R ch.
49—K takes R	49—R to Q 7 ch.
50—K to B 3	50—R to Q 8
51—R to K 8	51—K to Kt 6
52—R to K 3 ch.	52—K takes P
53—R to K 4 ch.	53—K to Kt 4
54—R to K 5 ch.	54—K to B 3
55—Resigns.	

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHESS.

In chess there are, to narrow our notice to its more salient properties, four characteristics, which, when taken in their combination, separate it from all other games, and indeed from all other exercises that are supposed to be merely recreative.

First, it is a game without chance, in its ordinary sense, as chance is found in cards; and a game of skill in a peculiar sense—that is, of skill exclusively intellectual, and not such as allows a sound calculation to be overthrown by any material or physical circumstance, by the eye, for example, or the hand, or the table. We might add that the degree of intellectual skill which it admits is so high that Leibnitz declared it was far less a game than a science.

Secondly, it is a game—since that is the received term—a game affording to the player so much proper, or intrinsic interest, that it is if not the only game, at least the best and most satisfactory one to play without pecuniary stakes, and has actually been so played to a far greater extent than all other games put together.

Thirdly, it has been for a long succession of centuries pre-eminently the game of great men and of celebrated characters, both civil and military, both secular and clerical. We may add here that it is surrounded by a host of associations, that it is suggestive of a pleasant mass of memories, anecdotes, manners, and incidents such as no other game, and hardly any science, may presume to boast.

Fourthly, it has that which no other game has, and which can avail itself of all the preceding circumstances, that, in truth, which from those characteristics derives its existence and receives all its force and all its attractions; a literature properly appertaining to it and arising as its own actual creation; a contribution which no philosophical critic can ignore to the humanities, civilities, and amenities of peaceful life, and of social or sociable refinement.—Staunton.

PROFESSIONALS VERSUS AMATEURS.

A very interesting match was played last Friday at the City of London Chess Club between eight of the Club and a team of eight first-class players, members of the newly formed Divan Association. The players were, on the one part, Messrs. Lasker, Gunsberg, Teichmann, Mason, Van Vliet, Tinsley, Guest, and Fenton. And these were opposed by the following City players:—Lawrence, Dr. Smith, Physick, Bellingham, Wagner, Dr. Ballard, Tietjen, and Cole. Mr. Lasker, through an indifferently played opening, obtained an inferior game, but managed to draw after very careful play. Mr. Gunsberg, on board No. 2, also played the opening rashly, and was less fortunate than Mr. Lasker. Dr. Smith winning through a powerful attack. Mr. Teichmann proved steady and reliable, as usual, and beat his opponent. Mr. Mason's opponent went wrong in the opening of a French defence, and resigned on the eleventh move. Mr. Van Vliet had the best of the game, but his opponent drew by careful play. Mr. Tinsley outplayed Dr. Ballard in a queen's side opening and won. Mr. Guest missed his way in a Ruy Lopez, and his opponent, Tietjen, won by very pretty end-game play. Finally, on board No. 8, Mr. Fenton got played in the middle game by Mr. H. H. Cole and lost. The result, a most surprising one, was received with great excitement, each side winning 4 games. The match was drawn. There was a dinner after the match, in which all speakers expressed themselves very enthusiastically about the play.

We transcribe the following game (with notes from Gunsberg) in which the Champion Lasker could only escape with a draw against Mr. Lawrence.

GAME No. 521.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. T. F. Lawrence (City.)	BLACK. E. Lasker (Divan.)
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—B to K 2 (a)
5—Kt to B 3 (b)	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Kt takes P	7—B to Q 2 (c)
8—B takes Kt	8—P takes B
9—P to Q Kt 3 (d)	9—Castles
10—B to Kt 2	10—R to K sq.
11—Q to Q 3	11—B to K B sq.
12—Q R to Q sq. (e)	12—R to Kt sq. (f)
13—R to K sq.	13—P to Kt 3
14—Q to R 6	14—R to Kt 3
15—Q to Q 3 (g)	15—B to Kt 2
16—Kt to B 3	16—Kt to Kt 5
17—Kt to Q R 4 (h)	17—B takes B
18—Kt takes B	18—R to Kt sq. (i)
19—Kt to B 4	19—P to B 3
20—Q to Q 4	20—Kt to K 4
21—K Kt takes Kt	21—B P takes Kt
22—Q to Q 3	22—Q to B 3
23—Kt to K 3	23—K to K B sq.
24—P to K B 3	24—K to Kt 2
25—P to Q B 4	25—R to B 2
26—Q to B 3	26—Q to K 2
27—P to B 5 (k)	27—R to B 3 (l)
28—Kt to B 4	28—B to K sq.
29—P to B 4 (m)	29—R takes B P
30—P takes P	30—P takes P
31—R takes P	31—R to Q Kt 4
32—Q to R 3	32—R to B 3
33—R takes R	33—Q takes R
34—R to K B sq.	34—Q to K 2
35—Q to K B 3	35—B to B 2
36—Kt to Q 6 (n)	36—Q takes Kt
37—Q takes B (ch.)	37—K to R 3
38—Q takes Q R P	38—R to B 4
39—K to R sq. (o)	39—R to B 7
40—Q to K 3 (ch.)	40—K to Kt 2
41—P to Q R 4	41—R to Q 7
42—P to R 5	42—P to B 4
43—R to R sq. (p)	43—R to Q 8 (ch.) (r)

Drawn game.

(a) It has been established that the order of moves between this and Kt takes P cannot be reversed, and that it is necessary in this defence to play Kt takes P before playing B to K 2.

(b) The proper reply which compels Black to content himself with an inferior defence by P to Q 3.

(c) It is curious that Mr. Lasker, who has done so much to punish the P to Q 3 defence to the Lopez, should, in spite of himself, be forced into these disadvantageous lines merely through reversing the order of moves.

(d) This is the unkindest cut of all, and Mr. Lasker himself recommended this as an effective move in this position.

(e) A move showing good judgment. White is evidently determined that Black's belated Q P shall get no further than Q 3, if that can be prevented by pressure of pieces.

(f) This is of doubtful value.

(g) White shows discretion in bringing the queen back without wasting time and opportunity in the capture of the R P.

(h) Again well played. This move compels the exchange of bishops, which is always advantageous whenever Black has adopted the B to Kt defence, as the absence of the bishop leaves the king somewhat exposed.

(i) Black could not yet carry out his intention of playing Kt to K 4, for, after (19) Kt takes Kt, the rook must retreat, then (20) Kt to K 4 was threatened.

(j) White at last reaps the reward of his efforts. The K P is now almost doomed.

(k) If Black had played P takes P, White could continue either with (26) R to Q H sq. or (28) Kt to 4, R to K sq.

(l) A fine supplementary move to the whole combination which forces the break up of Black's centre.

(m) An effective move which brings about a simplification of position in White's favour.

(n) B to R 3 would have been much more useful at this stage, as it would give White a chance of employing his rook, and remove the inconvenience arising from the White king having no move. After P to K R 3, White threatens at once to win by R to B 7. The omission to play this move has deprived White of a well-earned victory.

(o) P to R 3 was still available, for if Black then played R to Q 6, (44) Q to B 3, and Black cannot take the Kt P.

(p) (44) R takes R, Q takes R (ch.), (45) Q to Kt sq., Q takes P, (46) Q takes P, Q to Kt sq. (ch.), (47) Q to Kt sq., Q takes P, (48) P to R 6, K to B 2, (49) P to R 7, K to K sq., (50) Q to R sq., Q to R sq., (51) Q takes P (ch.), K to Q 3, (52) Q to Kt 8, Q to Q 4, (53) P to R 3, and wins. This is a likely line of play, which, of course, might be varied, and we merely give it to show that White even then had some winning chances. The following, perhaps, was Black's best:—(44) R takes R, Q takes R (ch.), (45) Q to Kt sq., Q takes P, (46) Q takes P, Q to Kt 8 (ch.), (47) Q to Kt sq., Q to R 7, (48) Q to K sq., K to B 3, (49) P to R 3, K to K sq., (50) Q to Kt 4, and again White has winning chances.

CHESS AT DUNDEE.

The two following games were played in the Championship Tournament of the Scottish Chess Association held recently at Dundee:—

GAME No. 522.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. W. N. Walker.	BLACK. D. Y. Mills.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Kt 3
4—P to B 3 (a)	4—B to Kt 2
5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—P takes P	6—Kt to K 2
7—Kt to B 3	7—Castles
8—Castles	8—P to Q 4
9—P takes P	9—Kt to Kt 5
10—Q to Kt 3	10—Q Kt takes Q P

11—B to Q B 4
12—R to K sq.
13—B to Q 2
14—Kt to K 4
15—Q R to Q sq.
16—P to K K 3
17—Kt to B 3
18—B takes Kt
19—Kt takes Kt
20—Q to R 3
21—Kt to K 5
22—Q to K Kt 3
23—P to R 3 (b)
24—B to B 3
25—Q to Q 3
26—Kt to B 3
27—Kt to Q 2 (c)
28—Kt to B sq.
29—Kt to K 3
30—Q to B sq.
31—P to K Kt 3 (d)
32—Kt to Q 4
33—R to Q 3
34—B takes R
35—Kt to K 3
36—R to Q sq. (e)
37—K to R 2
38—P to Kt 4
39—Q to K sq.
40—Q to Kt 2
41—K to Kt sq.
42—B takes P
43—Kt takes Q
44—Resigns.

(a) This leads to an isolated Pawn later on, and is therefore considered inferior to either 4 P to Q 4 or 4 Castles.
(b) For now Black could play 23..... B takes Q R P, and be able to retire the Bishop in safety.
(c) Better to have returned to K 5 and allowed Black to take the initiative if he desired more than a draw.
(d) The game is very interesting from this point. Black has got an advantage in position and makes the most of it in very few moves.
(e) 36 R to Q 4 would have given Black greater difficulty in winning.
(f) A well played end game.

GAME NO. 523.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE.	BLACK.
D. Y. Mills.	G. B. Fraser.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—K Kt to K 2
5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—Kt takes P	6—P to K Kt 3 (a)
7—B to K 3	7—B to Kt 2
8—Kt to Q B 3	8—P to Q 3
9—Kt takes Kt	9—P takes Kt
10—B to Q 4	10—Castles (b)
11—B takes B	11—K takes B
12—Castles	12—B to K 3
13—P to B 4	13—P to K B 4 (c)
14—Q to Q 4 ch.	14—K to Kt sq.
15—B to Kt 3	15—B takes B (d)
16—R P takes B	16—P takes P
17—Kt takes P	17—P to B 4
18—Q to Q 3	18—Q to B sq. (e)
19—Kt to Kt 5	19—Q to B 4
20—Q to B 4 ch.	20—Q to Q 4
21—Q to B 3	21—Kt to B 4 (f)
22—Q R to Q sq.	22—Kt to Q 5 (g)
23—Q to R 3	23—P to K R 4
24—Q to Q 7	24—R to B 2
25—Kt takes R	25—Q takes Kt
26—Q takes Q ch.	26—K takes Q
27—R to B 2 (h)	27—R to K sq.
28—K to B sq.	28—K to B 3
29—P to Kt 3	29—K to B 4
30—P to Q Kt 4	30—Kt to K 3
31—P takes P	31—Kt takes Q B P
32—R to Q 5 ch.	32—R to Q Kt sq.
33—R to R 2	33—P to R 4
34—P to Kt 3	34—K to B 2
35—R to Q 4	35—P to Q R 5
36—P to R 3	36—R to Q R sq.
37—P takes P	37—R takes P
38—R to K 3	38—Kt takes R
39—R takes R	40—Resigns.
40—R to R 3	

NOTES BY MR. HOFFER.

(a) Steinitz's defence here is 6 Kt takes Kt; 7 Q takes Kt, P to Q Kt 4; 8 B to Kt 3, P to Q 3, threatening to win a piece with P to Q B 4. &c. This line of play is preferable to that in the text, as Black avoids getting a double Pawn.
(b) If 10..... P to E 3, then 11 Kt to Q 5, Kt takes Kt; 12 P takes Kt, winning a Pawn. Black being compelled to give up the B at Kt 5 weakens his King's position; therefore the defence up to this point is proved inadequate.
(c) If 13..... P to Q B 4, then 14 P to B 5, P takes P; 15 P takes P, Kt takes P; 16 Q to Kt 4 ch, K to R sq; 17 R takes Kt, Q to B sq; 18 Q R to B sq, having gained two minor pieces for a R-k.
(d) The alternative would be 15..... B to B 3, thus avoiding the pressure upon the isolated R P.
(e) Now he has to defend the Q R P, which he does ingeniously enough; but his game is inferior.
(f) He cannot exchange Queens, because 22..... Q to Q 5 ch, 23 Q takes Q, P takes R; 24 Kt to K 6, winning a Pawn.
(g) This move loses the exchange eventually. He had therefore nothing better than 22..... Q to B 3.
(h) The remainder is easy. Mr. Mills played this game very well.

LASKER VERSUS STEINITZ.

A match between these players for the world's championship has been arranged to be played at Moscow in September. The conditions are a prize of 2,000 roubles to the winner and 1,000 roubles to the loser, and all expenses paid to both parties in addition.
Lasker and Steinitz have contested a total of 26 games, of which six have been drawn, six won by Steinitz, and 14 won by Lasker.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 14th.*
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 14th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 16th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 15th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, July 15th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 15th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 16th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Aug. 5th.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on June 28th. † Belgic left Hongkong on July 8th. ‡ Gaelic left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 10th. † Salasia (with French mail) left Shanghai on July 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shang-		
hai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 14th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 16th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 15th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wednesday, July 16th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Wednesday, July 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 15th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per O. & N. Co.	Tuesday, July 16th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 18th.
For Europe, via Hong-		
kong	per N. D. Lloyd	Saturday, Aug. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Saitio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 3rd July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, J. Watson, 4th July,—Portland, Or., via Honolulu, 16th June, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, A. W. S. Thompson, 4th July,—Kobe 2nd July, General.—Cornes & Co.
Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, Madsen, 4th July,—Kobe 2nd July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 5th July,—Vancouver, B.C., 22nd June, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 6th July,—Hongkong 1st July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, Paulford, 6th July,—London via ports, and Hongkong 30th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Chingwo, British steamer, 2,556, Shaw, 7th July,—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, Whistler, 7th July,—Hongkong via ports, 23rd June, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 9th July,—San Francisco 20th June, via Honolulu 27th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Changsha, British steamer, 1,830, F. Williams, 9th July,—Hongkong 3rd July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 9th July,—Hongkong via ports, 1st July, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Exe, British steamer, 2,064, Henley, 9th July,—Amping 3rd July, Sugar.—Browne & Co.
Longships, British steamer, 4,461, Theo. Millons, 10th July,—Yokosuka 9th July, Coal.—H. Ahrens & Co.
Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, J. Truebridge, 10th July,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 22nd June, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 10th July,—Kobe 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Osborn, British steamer, 2,033, P. Rettie, 10th July,—Kobe 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 10th July,—Hongkong via ports, 3rd July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 10th July,—Shanghai via ports, 3rd July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenfarg, British steamer, 3,646, Selby, 11th July,—Kobe 10th July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, M. Nakao, 3rd July,—Yokosuka.—Lighthouse Department.
Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, J. Watson, 4th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Cassius, German steamer, 2,347, Unruh, 4th July,—Kobe and Hongkong, General.—M. Raspe & Co.
China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 4th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, A. W. S. Thompson, 5th July,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 5th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 6th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Strathgarry, British steamer, 3,263, White, 6th July,—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kaifong, British steamer, 994, J. Dewars, 6th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Coronet, American yacht, 160, Crosby, 7th July,—Nagasaki.—Captain.
Saitio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 7th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Rosedale, British steamer, 4,075, Jackman, 8th July,—Mojji, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, Whistler, 8th July,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Palawan, British steamer, 4,686, Gadd, 9th July,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, Madsen, 10th July,—Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, Inman Sealby, 10th July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Delvot (g), U.S. cruiser, Commander J. S. Newell, 10th July,—Nagasaki.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 10th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 11th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saitio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Rev. E. Faber, Mr. H. J. Owen, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Starkey, Mr. Ponn, Miss L. Lewis, Mr. Okura, Mrs. and Master Ringer, and Lieut. Takeuchi in cabin; Mr. E. Douelle, Mr. C. Dalston, Mr. O. J. Olsen, Mr. Kurada, 5 Japanese ladies, Mr. Fredman, Mr. Baule, Mr. Miyoshi, Misses Yamanaki, Mr. Fowlie, Mr. Guntrau, and Mr. E. Engart in second class.
Per British steamer *Altmore*, from Portland, Or., via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Poutain in cabin; 70 Japanese in steerage.
Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Bell, Miss Bell, Mr. F. W. Bird, Mr. W. J. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Clark, Master Clark, Mr. John W. Cornish, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Delmege, Mr. Alex. Flinsch, Mrs. E. B. Gamewell, Mr. J. P. B. Glossop, Baron Hickey, Captain E. H. Hills, Mr. J. R. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Hoy and 3 children, Bishop Joyce, Mrs. Joyce, Mr. J. Officer, Mr. S. M. Officer, Miss Officer, Mr. W. H. Percival, Master Kenneth Robinson and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Rosendale, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. M. G. Schlee, Mr. H. Sugihara, Professor Turner, Baron von Heyking, and Baroness von Heyking in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 81 passengers in Asiatic steerage.
Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. O. Kleinschmidt and Mrs. B. Butterson-Harken and child in cabin; Mr. Robert Koops, Mr. R. Schmidt-Scharf, and Mr. N. Isobe in second class, and Mr. J. Gomes in third class.
Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Evington, Mr. Bieber, and Mr. Neighly in cabin. In transit for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Rev. Mr. Walker, Rev. and Mrs. Goddard and child, Mr. Jordan, and Rev. and Mrs. Pole and family in cabin; 3 Chinese in second class, and 72 Chinese in steerage.
Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. J. Sanger, Mr. H. B. Kendrick, Mr. R. H. Powers, Mrs. Judge Bickerton and son, Mr. Nathan Bentz, Mrs. Nathan Bentz, Miss J. Ozawa, Mr. G. H. Howard, Mr. C. R. Gagan, Mrs. C. R. Gagan, and Mrs. Fred. Healy in cabin; 109 Japanese and 129 Chinese in steer-

age. For Shanghai:—Mr. Franz Foremny, Mr. W. S. Simpson, Mr. E. W. Monkhouse, Dr. Geo. Y. Taylor, Miss V. Monti, and Miss H. Von Holten in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. Ernest Stouham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Changsha*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Benmont in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut.-Colonel H. Hay, Mr. and Mrs. Fenelosa, Mr. H. Anstruther, Mr. Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. A. W. Schellhaas, Mr. L. Holland, Rev. W. McGregor, Rev. and Mrs. Sandeman, Miss E. M. Pappou, Miss Talmage, Mr. T. G. Gowland, Mr. J. Watanabe, Mr. and Mrs. Sandeman, Mrs. Fearon and child, Mr. J. H. McLaren, Mr. V. Faga, Mrs. Faga, Madame de Lain, Baron Von Schenck and valet, Miss L. Dunster, Mr. L. R. Pechantoff, Miss Fancs, Mr. H. Gribble, Mr. Carlin, Mr. Beaumetz, Dr. Gillson, Mr. Peden, Mr. and Mrs. Heffen, Mrs. Toeg and 2 infants, Miss V. D. Keane, Mrs. Platt, Miss Atherly, Mr. W. J. Tyock, Mrs. J. D. Thompson, infant and nurse, Mrs. Addis and infant, Mr. J. Liddell, Captain W. H. Lacy, Miss Doty, Mrs. Van Petten, Rev. Fulkerson, Rev. M. S. Vail, Miss Lansing, Miss Dyer, Rev. and Mrs. Pieters and 3 children, Rev. Carrell, Mr. and Mrs. Tiegfield and children, Mr. H. L. Baggallay, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Mr. F. Harold, Mrs. Putnam, Mr. Putnam, Miss E. Hubold, Mr. H. W. Lea, Colonel and Mrs. Connelly, Mrs. McIntosh and infant, Mr. Platt, Rev. and Mrs. Haworth and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. Porter and son, Miss Kelly, Mr. E. Krauss, Mr. A. Fisher, and Mr. C. Becker in cabin; 18 passengers in second class, and 386 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. R. W. Williams, Jun., and Mr. S. Tada in cabin; 29 Chinese and 3 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Jones, Miss and Master Pakenham, and Mrs. A. Lyons in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—General Katsuda, Mrs. Katsuda, Mrs. Twentyman and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Laing and infant, Misses Berigny, Low, Gladys Low, Vera Low, Mr. S. Goto, Mr. R. B. Page, Rev. and Mrs. Arnold, and Mr. Stevens in cabin; 19 Japanese, 3 Europeans, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Dr. W. F. Arnold, U.S.N., Lieut. A. Boutakoff, I.R.N., Mr. Wm. A. Collins, Mr. Cheong Shu Chong, Mr. W. D. Van Eck, Miss H. E. Fraser and maid, Dr. S. G. Hill, Captain Lancaster, Mr. P. Landolt, Mr. Learned, Mr. S. Maass, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. W. R. Matteson, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Mundy, Mr. Sho Nemoto, Mr. H. Ogilvie, Mr. Eugene Pras, Mr. A. M. Reid, Mrs. Geo. H. Stafford, Mrs. Alexander Saarp and son, Mrs. H. Stone, Mr. K. Suzuki, Mrs. Thornton, Miss Thornton, and Lieut. S. Talauff, I.R.N., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Wm. Hardwick, Surgeon-Major McKie, Mr. W. S. Harrison, Mr. E. Morris, and Mr. Alf. Woolley in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. Campbell, H.K.R., Rev. W. J. and Mrs. Morris, Lieut. Close, R.B., Mr. and Mrs. Church and 2 infants, Mr. A. H. Skelton, Mr. and Mrs. Descours, Major and Mrs. Wrottesley, Mrs. Paul and infant, Mr. R. Midzutan, Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Lyndon, Mr. and Mrs. C. Palmer, Mr. Chan Tsye Kai, Messrs. B. and J. Guggenheim, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Captain Bethune, Mr. and Mrs. Rosendale, Captain B. Carr, Lieut. Paley, Captain Schabert, and Mr. N. J. Ede in cabin; Mr. Mrs., and Miss Lugebil in second class, and Mr. Phillip in third class.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. I. J. Hunt, Mr. J. J. Bennett, Mr. A. E. Bennett, Miss F. Clarke, Miss S. Clarke, and Miss R. Clarke in cabin; Mr. U. Ogata, Mr. M. Yamashita, Mr. R. Yamashita, Miss N. Yamashita, and Mrs. H. Suyekawa in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Mr. H. Hommura in second class. For Nagasaki:—Captain T. Yamamoto in cabin; Mrs. Y. Tanaka in second class. For Jinsen:—Rev. A. F. King in cabin. For Newchwang:—Mr. A. R. Morris in cabin; 138 passengers in steerage in all for ports.

Per British steamer *Palawan*, for London via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Doxat in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Anstruthers, Mr. S. Asano, Mr. H. L. Baggallay, Miss Bethel, Mr. Bethel, Mrs. Bishop and 4 children, Mr. C. H. Black, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Black, Mrs. Mary Black, Master Joseph Black, Rev. D. H. Briggs, Mr. E. H. Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Chlebnikoff, Mr. Clark, Captain J. G. Cox, Mrs. A. Coxon, Mr. H. Craw-

ford, Colonel and Mrs. Cuniberti, Rev. G. E. Dienst, Mrs. Dienst and 5 children, Miss Doty, Miss L. Dunster, Mr. and Mrs. V. Faga, Mrs. Fearon and child, Miss Fancs, Mr. V. Garlanda, Mr. H. Gribble, Mr. W. P. Halliday, Mr. J. Hamel, Mr. F. Harold, Lieut.-Colonel H. Hay, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Mr. Hildreth, Mr. and Mrs. K. Iwahara, Mr. Jessop, Mr. E. Keighley, Mr. R. J. Kerr, Dr. H. N. Kinnear, Mrs. Kinnear and 3 children, Captain W. H. Lacy, Madame de Laine, Mr. A. Leeds, Mr. T. Luneberg, Mr. J. H. MacLaren, Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Macy and maid, Captain John S. Newell, U.S.N., Mr. H. Okawa, Mr. S. A. Pechantoff, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Putnam, Mr. Paul Ross, Baron von Schenck and valet, Mrs. E. B. Skottowe, Mr. Scrimgeour, Baron Heinrich von Siebold, Mr. Stableforth, Mr. S. Tomioka, and Mr. S. Yoshiwara in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. R. Koops, A. Levy and child, E. Krause, and E. Becker in cabin; Mr. N. Isobe, Captain James Renney, Mr. E. Wright, and Mr. O. Murohara in second class, and 6 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	LAND.	TRAIT.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,005						1,005
Hoggo	112	325	720			254	1,071
Yokohama	3,112	1,787	1,396	289		388	7,230
Hongkong	10						10
Total	4,240	2,112	2,116	289	642	511	9,910

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong		50		50
Yokohama		17		17
Total		67		67

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
	CANADA.	AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.		
Shanghai	340	412		151		903
Hoggo		1,853	928			2,781
Yokohama	843	6,438	3,851	51		11,223
Hongkong				98		98
Foochow	12,056	1,998	490			15,144
Amoy		641	4,683			5,324
Total	13,839	11,342	9,952	339		35,472

	NEW YORK.	SAN FRANCISCO.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	22		22
Hongkong	25		25
Total	47		47

Tea 18 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement \$11 Gold per ton.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
	CANADA.	AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.		
Hongkong				70		70
Colombo	250			6		256
Amoy		310	5,434			5,744
Foochow	8,130			120		8,250
Shanghai		293	764			1,057
Hankow		1,323		285		1,608
Kobe		1,145	290	50		2,860
Yokohama		3,981	2,788	945	10	7,724
Total	14,829	4,701	7,442	541		27,513

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	10		10
Shanghai	36		36
Yokohama	33		33
Total	79		79

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 20 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 178 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market for Greys improving. Business doing in Shirtings, and there are some enquiries for Yarn, although buyers try to get an advantage in price. Fancy and Coloured Cottons quiet. Woollens also.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb. 38½ yds. 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9½ lb. 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.25
T. Cloth—7½ lb. 21 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12½ yds. 44 inches	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateens Black, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 42 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches	0.75 to 0.90

Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.50 to 1.65
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.70 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.10 to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.70 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

Flannel—30 yards, 32 inches best	\$0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarf and Green, 3 in 5 lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$35.00 to 37.50
Nos. 18/24, Singles	39.00 to 40.50
Nos. 20/24, Singles	43.00 to 44.00
Nos. 22, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 22, Doubles	47.50 to 49.50
Nos. 26, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 28, Plain	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	76.00 to 81.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	92.00 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	118.00 to 125.00

METALS.

No fresh sales. Lots of arrivals, but few deliveries. Contractors making the rainy weather an excuse for their slow moving.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.65 to 3.75
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.40
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.60
Tim Plates, per box	5.20 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Some business doing for current requirements only, and sellers are talking of higher prices. We shall see if that will induce buyers to "hurry up" or no.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	

SUGAR.

Browns—Arrivals and sales about equal, chiefly Manila, prices unchanged. Formosa—Nothing done. White Refined—Fair amount of business at late rates.

Brown Takao	\$4.15 to 4.20
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.05
Brown Daikong (New)	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.50 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	6.00 to 7.00
White Refined	6.90 to 9.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A blank week with the exception of a retail sale of fine Filatures (New) at \$730. Arrivals are now more plentiful, and there is about 1,000 piculs new crop on the market, without finding buyers. We have also 6,000 piculs Old Silk as well, and sellers feel "blue."

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 2	
Kakedas—No. 2	

WASTE SILK.

Nothing doing this week, and the season closed. We may hear something about New crop shortly.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	
Noshi—Filature, Good	
Noshi—Oshu, Best	
Noshi—Oshu, Good	
Noshi—Shinsu, Best	
Noshi—Shinsu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Best	
Noshi—Bushu, Good	
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	
Noshi—Joshu, Good	
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	
Kibiso—Filature, Best	
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	

TEA.

Settlements average about 1,000 piculs per diem. Mostly Good Common and Medium at from \$15 to \$17 per picul. Statistics maintain their inferior position when compared with those of a year ago.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	\$28 to \$30
Choice	26 to 27
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	20 to 22
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	15 to 16
Common	13 to 14

EXCHANGE.

Rates of exchange have remained unaltered during the week, though there has been a slight improvement in the value of silver.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2 1/2 to 1/2
— Bills on demand...	2/2 1/2
— 4 months' sight ...	2/2 1/2 to 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight...	2/3
— 6 months' sight...	2/3 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.79 to 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.83 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1 1/2 % d.
— Private 10 days' sight. 1 1/2 % d.	
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight...	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	187 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight.....	189 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand..	54
— Private 4 months' sight	56
On Germany—Bank sight	2.26
— Private 4 months' sight 2.30 to 1/2	
Bar Silver (London).....	31 1/4

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 6th.

Below we append our Hongkong agent's circular reporting the movements in the share market during the week ending 27th ult.

Hongkong, Saturday, June 27th.

Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai remain dull with no business. Shares are obtainable at 189 or probably 188 per cent. prem. cash, and at equivalent rates on time. Nationals have remained on offer at \$29 without leading to business.

Marine Insurances.—China Traders have ruled weak and small sales have been effected at \$79 and \$78 1/2. Unions have further advanced with small sales at \$237 1/2. Cantons are enquired for and have changed hands in small lots at \$200. Straits have ruled weak at \$28 1/2. North Chinas are offering from the north at Ts. 200, and Yangtszes are wanted at \$145 after futile efforts to obtain shares at \$137 1/2 and \$140, to which rates they nominally fell in the early part of the week.

Fire Insurances.—Hongkongs have remained at \$337 1/2 with small sales. China Fires have found buyers in fair quantities at \$97, closing with sellers.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have changed hands at \$34, Douglasses at \$62 1/2 and \$63, and \$64 closing in with sellers at the latter rate. Indo-Chinas have been negotiated to a considerable extent at \$66 and \$65, closing quiet. China and Manilas continue to be enquired for, and have changed hands at \$74; more shares could be placed at the rate, notwithstanding the fact that 15 days guarantee has been imposed on the Company's steamers at Manila.

Refineries.—China Sugars are still out of favour, and although sellers (chiefly from the north) are willing to accept \$112, no transfers have been made. Luzons have changed hands in fairly large quantities at \$68, \$67, and \$66, Shanghai being the chief seller at the lower rates. At time of writing market is steadier with no sellers under, but with no buyers at \$67.

Mining.—Punjoms have ruled weak with sales at \$15 1/2, \$15, \$14 1/2, \$14, and \$13 1/2. The result of the May cyanide clean up gave 293 oz. (assay value of £1 18s. od. per oz.) from 680 tons of tailings. This result is not considered satisfactory by the generality of shareholders. Raubs have been done at \$5.50 in small lots, Jebeus at \$3, Olivers at \$8 and \$3.75, and Balmorals at \$2.75.

Docks, Wharves, and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled more or less neglected but shares are now in request at \$182. It is very unlikely, however, that any will be obtainable under the rate quoted. Kowloon Wharves, after further small sales at \$55, quickly fell to \$54, after intermediate sales at \$53 and \$52. At time of writing shares can be placed at the last rate, but not many are obtainable. The small enquiry that exists for Wanchais is still unsatisfied.

Lands, Hotels, and Buildings.—Lands continue in demand at \$72 and several sales have been

effected at that rate. Hotels, owing chiefly to the failure of negotiations for the purchase of or an amalgamation with Mount Austin Hotel, continue quiet at \$26. West Points have been enquired for in a small way at \$18, but I hear of no sales. Humphreys continue neglected at \$9 with sellers. **Miscellaneous.**—With the exception of small sales of Electrics at \$7.10 ex dividend, Watsons at \$12.50 and \$12.25, and of Ewo Cotton mills at \$85, I have nothing to report under this heading. Local stocks continue unchanged. Grand Hotels have been placed to-day at \$165.

The following changes have taken place in the Hongkong share market during the period from the 27th ultimo to the 1st instant:—

	27th June.	1st July.
H. & S. Bank	189 1/2 S.	186 1/2 S.
China Traders	\$78.50 Sa.	\$79 S.
Yangtze Insurance.	\$145 B.	\$147.50 S.
Straits Insurance ...	\$29 N.	\$28.50 N.
Douglas Steamships	\$63 B.	\$65 S.

China Sugars.....	\$112 S.	\$110 N.
Luzon Sugars.....	\$67.50 S.	\$68 S.
Punjom Mines	\$14 N.	\$14.25 Sa.
New Balmorals	\$2.75 Sa.	\$2.50 B.
Jebeu Mines	\$3 Sa.	\$3.10 Sa.
Raub Mines	\$5.50 N.	\$2.5 Sa.
H. & W. Dock.....	\$183 1/2 S.	184 1/2 S.
Hongkong Lands ...	\$72 B.	\$73 Sa.
Kowloon Lands.....	\$19 S.	\$18.50 S.
Hongkong Hotels ...	\$26 N.	\$25 Sa.
A. S. Watsons	\$12.25 Sa.	\$12.50 B.
H. G. Browns	\$5.50 B.	\$6 B.
Hongkong Electrics.	\$7.10 ex div. N.	\$7 ex div. N.
Geo. Fenwicks	\$28 S.	\$27.50 S.

Hongkong Fires have been purchased locally from Hongkong at \$350 for the 31st December delivery. Club Hotels have changed ownership at \$75. Grand Hotels are wanted at \$165, Japan Breweries at \$215, and Debentures of all kinds at quotations. Langfeldts are enquired for at \$185. Oriental Hotels are offering at \$140.

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No. 3.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, JULY 18TH, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 18TH, 1896.

DEATH.

On July 11th, at Kobe, after a long illness, EDWARD HUNT, in his sixtieth year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE disturbance in Formosa has been put down.
H.M. FLEET has left Hakodate for ports further north.
Most of the schools have now broken up for the summer vacation.
THE French Chamber of Deputies has rejected the Income-tax Bill.
THE French Senate has passed the Bill making Madagascar a French Colony.
A BALKAN alliance has been formed between Servia, Bulgaria, and Montenegro.
THERE are now eight different schemes for providing Tokyo with overhead railways.
THE scheme for building a palace at the back of the Russian Legation in Sôul has been tem-

porarily suspended through the intervention of Kim Heung-shi and Chheung Heun-sei.

MARQUISSES ITO and Saigo were received in Imperial audience on the 13th inst.

THE Y.C. & A.C. were beaten at cricket on Thursday by a team from H.M. ships.

LI HUNG-CHANG has been decorated with the Grand Cross of the Lion of the Netherlands.

KANG KEUN-KI, and other members of the Tai Wên-kun's household, were arrested on the 10th instant.

LI POM-CHIN, the once all powerful Premier of Korea, has fallen, and all his dependants are in disgrace.

M. HITROVO, Russian Representative to the Court of Japan, died suddenly in Russia during the week.

In the race for the Grand Challenge Cup at Henley, the Leander Club crew beat the Yale crew easily.

THE "fourteenth of July" was duly celebrated by the French community, with fireworks, dances, and other festivities.

THE last two sailing races had to be abandoned owing to lack of wind. In consequence four races have to be sailed this afternoon.

MR. OZAKI SABURO left Tokyo on 12th inst. for a tour through Korea. He is a member of the committee for the Sôul-Fusan Railway.

THE Rickmers liner *Maria Rickmers* was thrown open to inspection on Friday, and was visited by a large number of Yokohama residents.

MR. HOSHI TORU, the new Minister from Japan to Washington, has been wine and dined at San Francisco, where he made several speeches.

THE Rt. Rev. Bishop Bickersteth dedicated the steam-launch *Gleaner* to the service of the Missions to Seamen, at Yokohama, on Thursday.

HEAVY rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, swept over Yokohama on Wednesday evening. The weather has now become very hot.

FARMERS in the northern districts of Japan complain of the continuous rain. At Takasaki and Matsuyama locusts are doing much damage to crops.

SIR AUGUSTUS BERKELEY PAGET, the well-known Ambassador to the Court of Vienna, is dead. Mr. Ralph Paget, of the British Legation, Tokyo, is his son.

THE British Parliamentary Secretary of the War Office has stated that no British regiment has been ordered to advance to Dongola, but the garrison is available if so ordered by the Sirdar.

THE Tsuruga and Fukui railway inaugurated its business on the 13th inst., at 7 a.m. Over 400 passengers travelled by the company's trains by 4 p.m. The line was opened for public traffic on the 15th inst.

THE sub-marine cable between Okinawa (Liukiu Island), and Nagasaki is making progress, the shore work being nearly finished. The whole line is expected to be completed in September, or a little later.

THE hearing of the charge against Judge Besho, for breach of discipline, has concluded in the special Disciplinary Court, and he has been dismissed from his position. He will now bring forward a suit in the Court of Cassation.

A NUMBER of notable Democrats, being alarmed

at the decision of the Chicago Convention in nominating Mr. Bryan, who is an extreme silverite, are rallying to the support of Mr. McKinley, and the latter now declares strongly in favour of gold.

AN attempt was made on the life of President Faure, on the 14th July. Whilst driving through Longchamps, two revolver shots were fired at his carriage, but the President escaped unhurt. The assailant was arrested.

MR. BRYAN of Nebraska, a former Congressman, has been nominated by the Chicago Convention as the Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, and Mr. Sewall, of Maine, for the office of Vice-President.

THE rising in Matabeleland is increasing. Earl Grey, Administrator of Rhodesia, has now accepted the Cape Government's offer of a transport corps which he had previously refused, the Chartered Company bearing the cost. The corps proceeds at once Beira.

THE Government proposes to double the Tokaido line from Tokyo to Kanagawa, and then branch off to Hodogaya, thus eliminating Yokohama from the purview of the scheme. The project has aroused a good deal of objection among Yokohama residents of all classes.

THE Emperor's silver *saké* cups, made in commemoration of the invasion of China, were distributed on the 11th instant, to members of both the Upper and Lower Houses that attended the session at Hiroshima. These *saké* cups are in sets of three, and are valued at yen 60 each.

THE following sums have been collected by the vernacular press for the relief of sufferers by the Seismic disaster in the Sanriku district:—
Yiji Shimpô, yen 47,499.40; *Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, yen 41,131.88; *Osaka Asahi*, yen 33,720.26; *Osaka Mainichi*, yen 17,303.55; *Hinode*, yen 12,589.44; *Kobe Fushin Nippo*, yen 9,059.76; *Miyako Shimbun*, yen 7,158.92; *Tokyo Asahi*, yen 5,703.45; *Fuso Shimbun*, yen 5,227.32; *Chuo Shimbun*, yen 4,875.83; *Shimodake Shimbun*, yen 4,759.33; *Shin Aichi*, yen 4,452.62; *Yorodau Choho*, yen 4,369.09; *Gifu Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, yen 3,272.24; *Mainichi Shimbun*, yen 3,607.26; *Geibi Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, yen 3,390.56; *Yomiuri Shimbun*, yen 3,382.78; *Shidzuoka Minyu Shimbun*, yen 3,210.49.

THERE is no great alteration to report in the Import trade. Though Yarns have been taken to a fair extent, at present prices business can hardly be called remunerative to importers. Grey Cottons continue to command some attention, but Fancy and Coloured goods are very dull, and the Woollen trade is lifeless. There is nothing to report in Metals but an access of stock, which is now heavy in nearly all lines. The Kerosene market gives signs of weakness though no absolute cheapening of Oil has occurred. Buyers hold off, but it can only be a question of time with them, for the stocks in the interior are small. The Sugar trade has toned down to dullness, a gulf existing between buyers and sellers as to value. The Silk trade is very quiet, and the business done has not been sufficient to make quotations. With nothing doing and new Silk tumbling in on a large stock of old, the outlook is not bright. Nothing to report in Waste. In the Tea trade, a large business continues to be done in Medium and Good Medium leaf, and prices are about the same. Exchange may be said to have remained unchanged for another week, and rates are apparently firm at the close.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The alleged elimination of the industrial clause from the draft of the Treaty of Commerce now in process of negotiation between Japan and China, evokes much comment from the vernacular press. The Opposition papers' criticism lacks coherency, for while admitting that the clause never appeared in the Japanese draft, and that it made its *début* in counter proposals advanced by China, they complain that the disappearance of the clause must be regarded as a concession made by Japan with the view of facilitating the conclusion of the Treaty. Certainly that way of stating the matter leaves much to be desired in point of intelligibility.

The *Nichi Nichi* bears out the view advanced by us, for in the latest article penned by it on this subject we read that special inquiries show that the Japanese Plenipotentiary caused his Chinese colleague to withdraw the clause in question, and that the unusual delay in concluding the Treaty was occasioned by disputes over other clauses also, as, for instance, the enforcement of extraterritorial jurisdiction over Japanese subjects in China while requiring that Chinese subjects in Japan should be judicable by Japanese tribunals, and the claim that Japanese should have freedom of travel in China, whereas the corresponding privilege is denied to Chinese in Japan.

The *Mainichi* gives an incredible piece of news in this context, alleging that it emanated from Mr. Oishi, an ex-Japanese Minister to Korea. It is to the effect that, owing to repeated petitions "on the part of China for the abrogation of the clause granting to Japanese subjects the privilege of carrying on industrial undertakings in China, the Japanese Cabinet, when the matter was communicated to them by Baron Hayashi, decided to leave the question entirely to the discretion of the Baron. Count Mutsu, then at the head of the Foreign Office, held an entirely different view, and this incompatibility of ideas between him and the rest of the Ministers led to his retirement from the Cabinet. We (*Japan Mail*) may add here that the *Mainichi's* story is pure fiction.

The *Kokumin* and *Mainichi* raise a combined clamour of dissatisfaction about the recent trip of the Premier and the Minister of the Navy to Formosa and Amoy. The *Kokumin* wishes to know why their tour was not more thorough and careful, and why they did not extend their inspection to the vicinity of Yuen-lin, notorious as a hot-bed of disaffection. Had they visited that place, the result might have been the adoption of measures for the more efficient control of the malcontents and the consequent prevention of the recent outbreak. This most captious *Kokumin* next wishes to know why the Premier did not hasten back to Tokyo as soon as he received at Nagasaki news of the seismic disaster in the Sanriku districts, instead of prolonging his journey by visiting Sasebo, staying at Shimonoseki, and so on. While he spent no less than 13 days between Nagasaki and Osaka, the sufferers in the afflicted districts were weeping over and bemoaning the dire calamities that had overtaken them. Even apart from that terrible calamity, he ought to have hastened back promptly to report to the Throne the result of his inspection, for the Emperor was much concerned about the fresh outbreak of insurrection in his new dominion, and grieved to hear of the casualties that had befallen a number of his officers and troops in Formosa.

The *Mainichi*, not less wildly censorious than the *Kokumin*, is surprised at the failure of the two Ministers to foresee the danger of an insurrection and concert measures to prevent it. Naturally, the *Mainichi* has learned that signs of the coming trouble were visible while the two Ministers were engaged in their inspection-tour through the island. The reckless eagerness of the Opposition

journals to clutch at any straw likely to discredit the Ministers of State has become quite ludicrous, and has brought them into well and deserved discredit. They recently stooped to circulate a monstrous story that a woman of questionable character was on board the war-vessel *Yoshino* when she carried the Premier and the Minister of the Navy to and from Formosa, and they even made this scandalous falsehood the subject of leading articles. Mr. Kote-gawa, an officer of the Nippon Ginko, who accompanied the Ministers, was naturally indignant at the wretched conduct of these journals, and sent a letter to the *Yiji* protesting against the villainous story and pointing out to the reckless journals that they were not only disgracing themselves, but also grossly insulting the Imperial Navy. Indeed, we read in another paper that the Naval Authorities are highly indignant about the matter, as well they may be.

The *Yiji* thinks it necessary to adopt some special procedure with regard to Peers engaged in business, for, as matters stand at present, the advantages they enjoy are quite extraordinary. In the first place, there is the Hereditary Property Law, in virtue of which a Peer is secure from having his inherited possessions distrained or brought to the hammer, even though he fail in business and incur heavy liabilities. In the second place, even when a peer contracts a loan on the security of the full profits accruing from this property, he is not legally liable for more than a third of those profits every year. Thus his privileges as a peer are incomparably greater than those enjoyed by any untitled business man under similar circumstances. Either the Peers, in the same manner as Government officers, must be precluded from going into business, or the Hereditary Property Law must be amended.

The *Mainichi* urges that the problem of street electric railways in Tokyo must be promptly dealt with. The Home Office's opinion is said to be that an undertaking of a public character such as street electric railways, should be carried out by the city itself. The *Mainichi* doubts whether the contention of the Home Office in the matter of this special question is tenable, and whether the undertaking could be successful as a municipal concern. It points out that the Home Office's position depends on the adoption of extreme nationalistic views such as are advocated by Wagner of Germany, views not carried into practice in Europe; and that a public corporation, like a municipality, is not adapted to conduct with success a business so troublesome and complex as the undertaking in question. The case of lighting the streets by gas is a good example: the business did not begin to become profitable until after its transfer to private capitalists. Moreover, the city having already many affairs of importance to manage, as the construction of water-works, the improvement of the streets, and the reconstruction of the harbour, has no capacity to attend to anything else. At all events, the question must be promptly settled, and street communication facilitated as quickly as possible.

The *Shogyo* wishes to direct the attention of railway projectors and experts to China, believing that they ought to divert their capital and energy towards the construction of railways in that big country. With the exception of rails, almost everything needed for the building of railways can be supplied by Japan. Hence, instead of exhausting their capital and their energies in constructing railways in Japan, the returns from which are in many cases problematical, they should try to engage in lucrative railway enterprises in the neighbouring empire. Otherwise all the profits accruing from Chinese railways will fall to foreigners.

The people are labouring under a delusion, writes the *Yiji*, when they imagine that the steady increase of imports over exports since the termination of the war must prove disastrous to the economy and prosperity of the country. To

undeceive them, the *Yiji* gives two tables, intended to show that the increase of imports is chiefly due to augmented demand for raw materials to be employed in manufacturing enterprises, and that the import of articles contributing to habits of luxury shows considerable diminution. Here are the tables:—

Table showing Total Increase of Imports, and Increase of Articles of Consumption.

	Total Increase of Imports, Per Cent.	Increase or Decrease of food stuffs, liquor & tobacco, Per Cent.
From 1890 to 1894	43	57
From 1894 to 1895	6	—4
From Jan. to Apr. 1896 as compared with the corresponding period of 1895 ...	36	+5

Table showing Total Increase of Imports and Increase in the Import of Raw Cotton, Hemp, Yarn, Iron, Leather, and Hides, Wool, and Woollen Fabrics.

	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
From 1894 to 1895	6	44
From Jan. to Apr. 1896 as compared with the corresponding period of 1895 ...	36	67

An increase in the import of raw materials being indicative of the expansion and development of Japan's industries, the public need not be at all disturbed about the figures, but must, on the contrary, welcome and strive to take advantage of a state of affairs calculated to promote the commerce and industry of Japan so as to convert her into a world centre of manufacturing enterprise.

The revival of rumours about alleged points of difference in the Treaty between Japan and Germany as compared with the revised Treaties concluded with other Powers, causes the *Kokumin* much uneasiness. Those points, according to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, are as follow:—

1. That the subjects of either High Contracting Party shall enjoy the same rights and privileges with regard to inventions, models, trade-marks, and other marks as the subjects of the other, provided that the subjects of each shall observe the laws relating thereto enforced in the dominions of the other: this clause to be put into operation simultaneously with the exchange of ratifications.
2. That the hypothecation of land and the loan of money on such hypothecation shall be permitted.
3. That the renting of land or buildings for purposes of manufacturing industry shall be permitted.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* adds a clause relating to the sanction of mining industry. The *Kokumin* considers all these things a great concession on Japan's part, compared with the terms of the revised Treaties concluded with other Powers, and avers that the rights and interests of Japan are seriously affected. It scoffs at the contention advanced by some that as the provisions are equally binding on the subjects of the two Powers, no concession on Japan's part is involved. Do these theorists believe that the results arising from such provisions will really be reciprocal, asks the *Kokumin*. Nothing is further from the truth: any benefit accruing from them will be enjoyed by Germany alone. In fact, enforcement of such clauses will cripple Japan's industry, the products of her manufactures being, in great measure, imitations of those of Europe and America. The *Kokumin* is eager to have the text of the treaty published, so that the people may be enabled to pronounce judgment upon it.

The Formosan problem still occupies the attention of the *Yiji* and the *Mainichi*, the former writing about the tardiness of the Government in the matter of taking steps for opening up the island and developing its resources, and the latter about the arbitrary and lawless conduct that many Japanese and not a few Government officials are reported to be pursuing towards the natives.

Tom Sharkey, an ex U.S. blue-jacket, fought Jim Corbett, at San Francisco on the 24th June, in four rounds, and had the best of the bout. Corbett was thrown twice, but the fight was declared a draw. They will now fight for \$10,000 to the finish.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE RICE EXCHANGE.

THE late unseasonable weather and the influence of speculation in Osaka, raised prices in the rice market beyond their normal level, and the Authorities thought fit to interfere and suspend transactions on the Osaka Exchange. Quotations in Osaka had never been so high since 1880, and the managers had lately confined transactions to transfers and buying back stock. When the "bulls" learnt that this limitation had been brought about in consequence of a petition which the "bears" had presented to the Exchange, the local, and central Authorities, they became indignant and resolved to persecute their rivals, even if they lost profits amounting to over 200,000 yen which they would have realized from pending transactions. Their schemes succeeded so well that on the 4th inst. the quotation rose by 60 sen, and the "bulls" once more carried the day. The Authorities thought that the only way to stop the recklessness was to entirely suspend the Exchange, and the *flat* went forth on the 6th inst. That quotations at Osaka were entirely artificial may be seen when prices at other places are compared. Quotations on the 2nd instant were lower than at Osaka by 1.32 yen in Tokyo, 1.695 yen in Kobe, 1.50 yen in Kuwana for July, and 1.78 yen in Tokyo; 2.120 yen in Kobe, 2.12 yen in Kuwana for August. When transactions were resumed on the 7th inst. at Osaka, quotations were quickly pushed up to 12.34 yen, that is about 40 sen above the prices quoted when the Exchange opened. On the 7th, the Tokyo Exchange opened transactions at 10.25 yen, which was carried to 10.35 yen, but fell to 10.17 yen at the close. On the 8th, quotations ranged between 10.32 yen and 10.41 or 10.42 yen.

FOURTEENTH OF JULY.

THE anniversary of the taking of the Bastille—the French national holiday—was duly observed in Yokohama on Tuesday. The day was overcast, with occasional rain-showers, but comparatively cool for the time of year. In the forenoon a reception was given at the French Consulate, that was largely attended. At noon a salute was fired by the U.S.S. *Olympia* and *Machias*, that were both dressed, but through somebody's blunder, the British ships did not participate. In the afternoon a race for the 26-raters was attempted for the French Resident's Cup, but owing to an absence of wind was not completed. The M.M. steamer *Salasie* came in shortly before noon with her masts dressed rainbow fashion. The office of the big M.M. Company, at No. 9, Bund, was tastefully decorated with lanterns and bunting, as were also the French Consulate, Dr. Möcck's house on the Bluff, the Club and Grand Hotels, and the residences of several French citizens. A good deal of bunting was also hung out in Main Street and other parts of the Settlement. In the evening there was a display of fireworks, from floats moored off the Club Hotel, and the Imperial Guards Band discoursed a splendid selection of music at that hotel throughout the evening.

RECEPTION ON BOARD THE "MARIA RICKMERS."

ON Friday afternoon, Capt. Berg, of the Rickmers' liner *Maria Rickmers*, and his officers, were "at home" to the mercantile community of Yokohama. The day was gloriously fine and most of the German residents availed of the invitation. Among those present we noticed Mr. and Mrs. Grosser, Mr. E. Leopold, Mr. O. Kiel, Mr. Kallen, H.I.G.M. Vice-Consul, Mr. F. McNab, Capt. Forbes, Capt. and Mrs. Efford, and Miss J. Booth, Mr. O. Voigt, Mr. Paul Schramm, Mr. G. Mitsui, Mr. M. Mitsui, managing directors of the big firm of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Mr. Y. Uyeda, manager of the foreign department of the M.B.K.; Mr. K. Hasegawa, manager of the Kobe Branch of the M.B.K.; Mr. A. C. Sim, Mr. S. Odagaki, Mr. K. Fukui, Mr. A. Hofmann, Mr. Unger, Mr. Nabholz, Mr. Brennwald, Mr. Kaufmann, Mr. Weinberger, Mr. J. R. Merian, and many others. Steam launches were waiting at the *hatoba* to take off the guests, and from three

o'clock till seven they were kept constantly employed. The *Maria Rickmers* was most artistically dressed in evergreens, flags, and flowers, and a prettier sight has seldom been seen in this harbour than was presented yesterday when the spacious promenade deck was crowded with the delighted visitors. Rows of tables were set out with refreshments for the inner man, and the officers did their best to make the visitors at ease, in which they succeeded admirably. The Yokohama Town Band was in attendance, playing a nice selection of music, and towards the end of the function, dancing was indulged in. The *Maria Rickmers* was built at Sunderland for the well-known Bremen firm of Rickmers, and is intended for service to the Far East. She is a finely modelled vessel of 5,000 tons register, and is 427 ft. long; 50 ft. 6 in. beam; 30 ft. 6 in., moulded. Aft, she has a big poop, and amidships a bridge-house and promenade deck over 100 feet in length. Attention has been paid on this deck to the requirements of Mecca pilgrims and special sanitary arrangements introduced. In addition, accommodation is provided for twelve first class passengers, who are housed in spacious cabins. The officers' quarters are wide and airy, their comfort being attended to in every way. Cargo can be speedily taken on board or discharged by the aid of nine steam winches and an equal number of steel derricks. Water ballast is carried in the cellular double-bottom. In this connection we may mention that by a simple arrangement the officer in command can close all the dropping water-tight doors automatically without leaving the bridge, that invention belonging to the Superintending Engineer of the company. By an electric signal all the men below can be warned, and can leave the portions about to be closed, then the doors drop down in their proper places and the ship can float for days without any apprehension of danger. The engines of the *Maria Rickmers*, of triple-expansion type, are driven by four multitubular boilers, and all the latest improvements are introduced in the engine room and stoke-holds. Altogether, she is a vessel that any company may well be proud of.

THE HUNGARIAN MILLENNIUM.

ON May 1st, Budapest, the capital of Hungary, and in fact the whole Kingdom, witnessed the beginning of the Millennium Celebration. This marks an important juncture in the history of one of the most interesting nations in Europe. In a brief survey of the history of the Hungarians, the *National Zeitung* says:—It was in the year 890 that this strange people came like a flood into the Pannonia, which was formerly a Roman province, and where they found ruins of the Roman Empire, and of Germanic and Slavonic migration. The Hungarians were a nomadic people, and are descendants of the Finn-Ugrarian family, whose customs of life they observed even after they had established themselves in their new possessions. Their repeated raids into German provinces and their barbarous depredation and pillage reminded the Germans of the frightful deeds of the Huns, and many of the common people regarded them as none other. This, however, was stopped by the German victory on the "Goldenen Aue," in 933, and "Lechfelde," in 955, under King Henry I., and Emperor Otto the Great. These "restless attacks" and invasions of the Hungarians had the effect of bringing about a better organized system of government among the German tribes, the building of castles and fortified cities, and a more elaborate military system. In Hungary the German victories produced a very similar effect and culminated in the introduction of Christianity. From the time of the conquest to the year 1,000, Hungary was ruled by dukes, the regal title being first assumed by Vaik (afterwards Stephen I., the Saint). The introduction of Christianity paved the way for Western civilization. With reference to this very interesting historical event, a writer in the *Nation*, Berlin, says:—It was of vast importance that Stephan turned to Rome rather than to Byzantium. He thereby turned Hungary into a breastwork against the

invasions of the East. The Hungarians opposed the advances of the Tartars and the Turks at tremendous odds and terrible sacrifice. In the war against the Moslems, the Austrians came to their assistance but only to destroy the national independence of Hungary and to exterminate Protestantism, which had already become so well established in the country that Calvinism was regarded as the national religion. Revolutions followed but were crushed, and yet the Magyars could not be kept subject, the energy of the people was such that they gained their independence as soon as Constitutionalism was established in Austria. Since the reconciliation of the Magyars with the Hapsburg dynasty, both parties have sought to throw a veil over the past by mutual concessions. On the 8th of June, 1867, the Emperor and Empress of Austria were crowned King and Queen of Hungary at Budapest, and a complete pardon was proclaimed to all political offenders at home and abroad. To-day Hungary is not only completely independent but is in fact the predominant member of the Dual Monarchy. This is all the more remarkable as the Magyars do not even constitute a majority of Hungary itself. Out of the seventeen and a half millions, only seven and a half millions are reported as Magyars. About two millions are Germans, two and half Roumanians, two Slavonians, one and a half Croats, one Servians, and in smaller numbers Italians, Slovenes, Armenians, Bulgarians, Czechs, Gypsies, and other strangers. In the Hungarian capital where the German was formerly predominant, the Magyars now take the lead. Ever since they have effaced the intellectual difference which formerly existed between them and the Germans, the German element is blending with the Magyar into compact nationality. The Slavonic races are more difficult to manage in this respect. The Germans of Hungary, it is reported, have heartily joined in the Millennium celebration.

MR. GEO. W. TRACY.

THE many friends of Mr. Geo. W. Tracy, who spent some time in Yokohama as the Japan representative of Hayes and Tracy, wholesale dealers in Japanese goods, Chicago, will be interested in the following item clipped from *The Standard*, of Chicago:—"Mr. George W. Tracy and Miss Susan Pope were married in London, on May 19th, and have now proceeded to their future home in Odessa, Russia. Mrs. Tracy is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pope, of the First Baptist Church, Chicago. Congratulations are extended by many friends, congratulations which are hearty enough to reach from Illinois to Russia." It may not be generally known in Japan, that Mr. Tracy came near returning to this country as U.S. Consul to Hyogo by appointment of Pres. Cleveland, but finally decided to remain in the United States. We are not informed as to his business in Odessa.

JAPANESE PROVERBS.

IN the *Deutsche Révue*, we find a contribution from the pen of Reinhard von Bibra on Japanese Proverbs, viewed from a German standpoint, from which we reproduce the following: In the Land of the Rising Sun, the Land of the Chrysanthemum, the language has an abundance of gay leaves and flowers, the most charming of which are the proverbs. These must interest us, because they are so nearly related, and have such a marked similarity, to our German proverbs, both when treating of the most serious affairs of life or the more cheerful phases. All vicissitudes of human life, joy and grief, life and death, in fact everything from the cradle to the grave, is reflected in the Japanese proverbs. With "One is the beginning of all things," we can begin with a Japanese, who advances the good advice before the new citizen of the world makes his appearance, to "Have the swaddling-clothes ready before the child is born." Scarcely has this taken place than a proverb says, "The child of a warrior awakes at the sound of the sword, that of a merchant at the rattling of the abacus, and that of the beggar at the sound of the alms-plate." "Love

to children makes some dumb,"—is to teach us that parents will deny themselves everything, even speaking—a great sacrifice to Japanese women—if it can benefit the child. Foolishness on the part of children is excused. The child knows not the heart of the parents. To the old that think themselves wise, it is said: "Some are old at the age of three and some are children at the age of one hundred years." The frivolous are exhorted: "When one wishes to fulfill his duty towards parents there are no more." "Love lies outside of deliberation," thus, love is blind there as with us here. That girls regard marrying as a serious affair, is shown by the proverb: "Man is man, though he were made of straw." And of men: "To the eye of the lover, even small-pox scars are laugh-dimples." Parents complain that, "As soon as the bride assumes the name of her husband, she becomes a stranger to her parents." Presently it is said: "Daughter-in-law and mother-in-law are like apes and dogs," and the husband is advised:—"Entrust your wife with no secret, even if she has born you seven children." Several proverbs refer to feminine loquacity and tea-gossip. "The tongue goes like a mill-wheel," just as with us, and "A scandalous tongue separates relatives quicker than a sword the head from the body." This is saying a great deal in the land of *harakiri*. Grief is frequently demonstrated by women: "Weeping, as though the eyes would melt." Jealousy is to be expected: "A woman that is not jealous is like a ball that does not bounce." The proverb, "One's own Buddha is beautiful," serves the same purpose as our "every fool is pleased with his cap." The sword occupies a prominent place in Japan: "A costly sword is given the distinguished warrior, cosmetics and powder to pretty women." "Under a brave general there is no cowardly soldier, none that eats wind" (runs away). The coward is also scoffed at in the following proverbs: "He trembles like one walking on thin ice." Therefore he will come to grief for "fish-fool will be made of him." The brave are honoured; they are advised: "First bind fast the six parts of your armour and then go on the battle-field;" he then hastens, "like a flying arrow," in order to "Wash blood with blood," or to "Make an air-passage through the body of the adversary" (pierce the body). The national drink is not forgotten; saké plays a rôle that reminds one of Mirza Schaffy's drinker's-humour (Zecherhumor): "Saké is the first among a hundred medicines." And as with us, appetite comes by eating, so the Japanese with regard to drinking: "After the first cup one feels thirsty." That there is truth contained in rice-wine, is shown in the following proverb: "A great drinker shows his true character." What more saké can accomplish is stated in the following: "With the first cup man drinks sake, with the second cup saké drinks saké, with the third cup saké drinks the man." Distrust is a prominent characteristic of the Japanese. I find expression in the following: "To hear a hundred times is not as good as seeing once," and "Rather copy once, than read ten times." In Japan not only have the walls ears, but "the doors have eyes," and a "spectator has eight eyes." To be careful against losses, the advice is given: "Even though the thief be resting, the watchman dare not rest." With regard to physical health the Japanese says: "Health is money," and in ordinary life, "Medicine costs ninefold," but "Men are vessels of ailments." Therefore the physician is to help: "The physician heals the sick that die not," that is, if the patient does not die the doctor gets the credit. In Japan things sometimes go the wrong way also: "When the stone swims the leaf of the tree will sink." But one should not ask for the impossible: "From a non ask no comb," as their heads are shaved in Japan. Nor is one to undertake too much: "He that endeavours to catch two hares at once will get none." The animal world has also its proverbs: "Give food to the bad falcon," that is, get rid of your enemy the cheapest way possible. "When the cow drinks water, she gives milk, when the serpent drinks water, it makes poison;" or as the

Latin says: *Si duo faciunt idem, non est idem*. There is no lack of rules concerning the seriousness of life: "The course of water and the future of man is uncertain." While we sing: "Ah, how changeable are the hearts of women!" the Japanese say: "The heart of man and the sky in autumn are both changeable." Here follows fittingly: "Whether we pass through life weeping or laughing, there is but one life," less sentimentally and more briefly we say, "One lives but once!" Here also the following: "To wait for fortune is the same as to wait for death." Instead of, silent as the grave, the Japanese says: "The dead have no mouth." Many proverbs treat of the final home for all: "The new year's tree (our Christmas tree) is a mile-stone on the way to the grave." Among the luxuriant vegetation of Japan there is also no herb against death: "There is help for everything, death excepted." When death approaches, the Japanese laments, "My life is broken like a cup that is smashed on a stone." Death makes all alike: "On the way to Hades there are no old or young." "He has disappeared like water in sand." In the foregoing only some of the usual proverbs have been given. All such as are too intimately entwined with Japanese conceptions and circumstances have been left out. However, those given here furnish us a true mirror of the original Japanese characteristics. We see that the inhabitants of this island empire are disposed to be cheerful and courageous, that they are of a social disposition, but cautious to the extent of being suspicious; that in religious matters they are indifferent, and that concern about the beyond disturbs no one.

HON. GARRETT A. HOBART, OF NEW JERSEY.

As the Republican candidate for Vice-President is not a very well-known man, it may not be out of place to quote here some facts about him as reported to the *Chicago Record* by Mr. Wm. E. Curtis:—

Mr. Hobart is a native of New Jersey, a graduate of Rutgers' college in the class of '65, and went to Paterson to study law with Socrates Tuttle, who for a time was the leader of the bar in the northern part of the state. He soon became a partner, married Mr. Tuttle's daughter, and took the corporation business of the firm in his hands. As counsel he naturally became a director in various companies, and when they did not pay he generally was appointed receiver or manager, so that after a time he drifted out of the law into the active charge of manufacturing establishments owned by his clients. He was receiver and afterward president of the New Jersey Midland railway, the New York, Susquehanna, & Western the Montclair railroad, the Jersey City and Albany road, and other small lines at one time or another, and has reorganized them and put them on their feet or sold them out to other and stronger associations. He is at present a director in several railways, including the Lehigh Valley, and last December was selected as an arbitrator to settle the differences of the Joint Traffic Association. He is president of the local gas company, the water company, a street railway company, and the First National Bank, and is a director in the great Barbour Thread Company, the Pioneer Silk Company, and various other manufacturing corporations. As one would naturally infer, the people of Paterson regard Mr. Hobart as an uncommonly fine business man; his reputation in that respect is not confined to New Jersey. There are very few men in New York or Pennsylvania who would make a stronger canvass for vice-president in either or both of those States than Mr. Hobart, and he would be acceptable to Mr. Quay, Mr. Bliss, Gov. Morton, Speaker Reed, and to all the other leaders of the Republican party in the east regardless of their factional differences. I wrote from Washington several months ago that Mr. Hobart had been selected as the candidate of the anti-McKinley combine for vice-president, but his state went for the Ohio man and he cheerfully fell into line. I therefore think Mr. Hobart will be nominated. He seems to suit the conditions better than any one who has thus far been suggested, and his selection would leave no scars. He is an ardent "gold" man.

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

AMONGST the giants of the Life Assurance world of Great Britain, says a writer in a London paper, must be reckoned the Standard, an Edinburgh Company, which came into existence seventy years ago, and which has been growing and expanding ever since. I think I am right in saying that last year the Company beat all its previous records in respect of volume of new assurances, policies being issued for the large total of £1,943,475, at new premiums amounting to £77,714. The Standard thus takes the premier place amongst the great Scotch Offices, and is third in the list of British Offices in respect of this particular feature. Last year its net premium income rose to £786,246, an increase of over £50,000 for the year, while

£68,496 was received as consideration for annuities granted. Yet the addition to the funds was only about £24,000, raising them to nearly eight millions. The increase would have been largely in excess of £200,000 but for a circumstance incidental to the Indian business, which might, perhaps, be regarded as the skeleton in the Company's cupboard. The Company does a very large business in our great Oriental empire, and the steady depreciation in the exchange value of the rupee appears to have wrought havoc with that department of its finances. For the directors, after long consideration—at the end of which they had lost hope of any improvement in the rate of exchange—have adopted what appears to me the only sensible course, in writing down the value of the Indian assets, an operation which has involved the debiting of the revenue account with the large sum of £194,614. After this has been done, however, the total of the funds is within easy distance of eight millions.

MRS. LYNN LINTON AND CYCLING.

In the *North American Review* Mrs. Lynn Linton goes for some "cranks and crazes," among these being cycling. "Walking, riding, skating, and dancing," says Mrs. Linton, "we can understand as fit exercise for the vigorous and young; but cycling seems to be such a doubtful kind of amusement—such a queer cross between the treadmill and the tight-rope—demanding such a constant strain of attention to keep your balance, with such a monotonous and restricted action of the limbs as to render it a work of penance rather than of pleasure. . . . To the uninitiated, the craze which has swept over England seems inconceivable." Mrs. Lynn Linton is also down upon "the modern craze for missionary work in unlikely and unsympathetic countries, where the lives of the missionaries are in danger, where the converts they make are for the most part unredeemed scoundrels, and where the civilisation of the people is older and more compact than our own, better suited to the needs of the people," and so on.

INTER-UNIVERSITY CRICKET.

THE Inter-University cricket match finished on Saturday, July 4th, Oxford winning a brilliant victory by four wickets. Cambridge, whose side was mostly favoured by the betting men, won the toss, and, going in first, scored 319. Oxford only put together 202 in the first innings. Cambridge then knocked up 212, leaving the Dark Blues 330 to win. Oxford gallantly accomplished the required task with the loss of only 6 wickets, thus winning with four stumps still to fall. One of the Oxford men succeeded in passing the century.—*China Gazette*.

CHUNGKING.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has appointed Mr. George F. Smithers, Deputy Consul at Kobe, to be the United States Consul at Chungking, in Szechuan, on the Yangtze river. Mr. Smithers, the *Kobe Chronicle* learns, will in all probability proceed to his new post in the course of a month. Chungking was opened nominally by the Chinese Government at the demand of the British and French after the Yangtze riots in 1891, as a penalty for several murders and violent outrages. Since then nothing whatever has been done with Chungking except the establishment of a British Consular agent.

THE DOSHISHA.

IN a letter to the Rev. H. Kozaki, President of the Board of Trustees, of the Doshisha University, Kyoto, the Rev. M. L. Gordon and the Rev. D. W. Learned, state that the American Board cannot advise the missionaries under its care, to continue at the University, and they therefore resign their posts.

THE P. AND O. COMPANY.

AN Indian contemporary, referring to the last report of the P. & O. Company, remarks that there has been an increase of 33 per cent. in the gross tonnage, and nearly 40 per cent. in the horse-power since the Jubilee boats were built. Moreover, whereas they were 16·6-knot

boats, the *Caledonia* does her 18 knots, and the four latest steamers now being built are to be 19-knot boats.

PRESENTATION.

At last evening's meeting of the Yokohama Lodge, Wor. Bro. E. Flint Kilby, W. M., was presented with a handsome silver card tray, of rich Japanese workmanship, the decoration being an open-work design of chrysanthemums. Wor. Bro. R. N. St. John, I.P.M., made the presentation, and said that it was a small token of the Brethren's high regard, and also a memento of the W.M.'s recent wedding. Wor. Bro. Kilby made a suitable reply.

DEATH AT SEA.

THE American ship *Abner C. Coburn*, arrived in Yokohama from New York on Monday after a passage of 155 days. She met with continued bad weather all through the passage, and four days out from New York a sad calamity befel. Her mate, Mr. Hugh Nicholls, the only son of a former master, and a most promising young fellow, was washed overboard by a heavy sea. He was never seen again.

TUESDAY NIGHT'S FIRE.

THE loss occasioned by the fire on Tuesday evening is estimated at \$10,000. The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company lose only about \$50 from damage done to the roofs of two godowns in the vicinity.

DEATH OF MRS. H. LUCAS.

THE death is reported, by telegram, of Mrs. H. Lucas, of Kobe, the sad event occurring at Folkestone on the 11th inst. She spent over twenty years of her life in Kobe, and her loss is greatly deplored.

SHANGHAI'S CONTRIBUTION.

SHANGHAI had subscribed \$3,85 up to the 9th inst., for the sufferers in the north-east of Japan. The fund is to be handed over to the Kobe committee for distribution.

ELEVATED RAILWAY SCHEMES FOR TOKYO.

Eight schemes are already afoot for providing Tokyo with elevated railways, one of which is official, the rest private undertakings. The official plan, approved in the last session of the Diet, is to construct a line between Shimbashi terminus and the site of the Central Station at Yairakuchō, Kojimachi. This elevated railway will be two miles long. The work is to begin in 1896 and to be completed in 6 years, the cost being estimated at 3½ million yen. The track will be constructed over a series of arches, and four sets of rails will be laid, two serving the purpose of a connecting link between the Tokaido railway and the Nippon Railway Company, while the others will be used for providing inter-city communication.

The private elevated railway scheme of most importance in Tokyo is that of the Nippon Railway Company. The original programme was to construct an elevated railway, 3 miles and 50 chains in length, between Ueno station and Shimbashi terminus, the route lying along the Kanagura moat *via* Tamachi, and then effecting a junction with the Government Central Station within the precincts of the castle grounds. The cost was estimated at 5 millions, the designs being supplied by a German expert, who was, at one time, consulting engineer to the Kyushu Railway Company. His scheme does not differ much from the official elevated railway plan. The estimated net profit accruing from traffic alone is put at 4½ per cent. on the capital, but the rental of warehouses that will be fitted up under the arches will cause the profits to greatly exceed that figure. The Company forwarded its application in August, 1893, but as the Government had decided to construct an elevated railway between Shimbashi and the Central Station, the scheme of the Nippon Railway Com-

pany will be cut down to the construction of a railway from Ueno as far as the Central Station. The second private scheme is projected by Messrs. Honma Yeiichiro, Iwata Sakubei, M.P., Morioka Shozun, member of the House of Peers and ex-President of the Yusen Kaisha, and a few others. Their plan is to join the Misakicho terminus of the Kōbu Railway with the terminus of the Tobu Railway, lately chartered, at Makurabashi, beyond which the river Sumida flows. The distance is 3 miles and 60 chains, and the estimated cost is three million yen. Their object is to effect a junction of the Kobe, the Nippon, the Tobu, and the Government railways. The line would proceed underground through Hongo, but then emerge and be carried on iron trestles, a system that commends itself on the score of cheapness. The third scheme is an undertaking by the So-bu Railway Company that intends to construct an elevated railway, 2 miles long, between its Honjo terminus and the vicinity of Bansei Bridge, at a cost 2½ million yen. The embankment system would be adopted between the Honjo terminus and the river Sumida, but it is not clear yet whether the American trestle style or the arch system is to be adopted beyond the river bridge. As the main object is to effect a junction with the So-bu Railway, the Nippon, and the Government lines, the exact site of the terminus may undergo revision according to the possible alteration of the other schemes. The Tokyo Central Elevated Railway is to join the Kōbu with the Government line. It is to branch from the contemplated Government Elevated Railway in the vicinity of Dobashi, Shiba, and to terminate at Yotsuya Station on the Kōbu Railway. It will pass along the side of the moat. A tunnel is to be constructed through Kinokuni-zaka, and the rails between the tunnel and the terminus will be laid level with the ground. The system of construction for the other portion will be that of elevated trestles. The distance is 2 miles and 15 chains, and the estimated cost 1½ million yen. Another rival scheme is projected by Messrs. Kato Tokuzo, Tsuji Shinji, and three or four other capitalists, and is known by the name of the "Castle Southern Elevated Railway." It starts from Shimbashi terminus, and, after passing Atagoshita, Tamuracho, and along the outer moat at Kojimachi, Akasaka, and Yotsuya, is to terminate at Yotsuya Station, Kinokuni-zaka being tunnelled as in the previous scheme. The embankment system is to be made use of for the portion passing along the moat at Akasaka, but the American trestle system will be adopted for Shiba. Though the distance to be covered is 2 miles and 60 chains, the cost is estimated at only 720,000 yen. The Tokyo Bay Elevated Railway is projected by Messrs. Kawasaki Yoshinosuke, Matsumoto Renzo, and 10 others, the scheme being to construct an elevated railway from the vicinity of Koishikawa Arsenal to the Central Station, and thence to Echu-jima, close by Susaki, the two lines aggregating 3 miles and 70 chains. The capital is 3½ million yen. The object is to connect the Kōbu Railway, terminus at Tomizaka, Koichikawa, and the Tobu Railway which is to come to Echu-jima. The two railways are to be constructed in both the trestle and arch style. Another elevated railway scheme to be projected, starting in the vicinity of the Rokumei-Kan, and passing through the outskirts of Shiba and over the moat, crossing the Parade Ground at Aoyama, and terminating at the military station, Sendaki. The line is intended to afford a link between the Central Bu-So and the Kōbu, and also to shorten communication between them and the Government Line. The distance is 3 miles, and the capital 2,200,000 yen. A portion of the line is necessarily competitive with the "Castle Southern" and the "Central Elevated Railways." These are the eight elevated railways already planned, but another may be added to the list. Some time ago the Kōbu Railway Company applied for permission to prolong its line from Misakicho to the vicinity of Bansei (Megane) Bridge. No notice having been taken of the application, the Company has once more

forwarded it, stating that if the Authorities are disinclined to give it sanction on account of the prolongation being along level ground, the Company might change its scheme into an elevated railway. These details are taken from some notes in the *Shogyo Shimpō*.

MR. ITO HEIZAYEMON THE ARCHITECT.

The *Yomiuri* gives a brief biography of Mr. Ito Heizayemon, the celebrated architect of Nagoya. Architecture has been a hereditary pursuit in his family for over three centuries. The founder of the house was chief architect to Tokugawa Yoshinao, a son of Iyeyasu, who received the fief of Owari in 1609. From the time of the 3rd Heizayemon, the fame of the house was widely spread, he having determined to undertake the building of temples and shrines not in the fief of his liege lord alone, but in all other places. The construction of the Higashi Hongwan Temple at Nagoya was his first great work. The porch (*sanmon*) of that temple, the mausolea of the Emperors Saga and Kameyama, and also the Hokkedo, in the premises of the Tenryu Temple, Kyoto; various edifices in the premises of the Chionin, Kyoto; the Tsushima Shrine, Owari; and also the superintendence of the erection of the Higashi Hongwan Temple, were the principal architectural works undertaken by the predecessors of the present head of the family, the 9th Heizayemon. Mr. Ito Heizayemon, born in 1830, was initiated into the art when young, under the direct guidance of his father. At the age of 18, he accompanied his father to Koya, where the latter was entrusted with the building of a certain temple. From 15 to 20, he devoted himself exclusively to the practice of wood modelling, and then he was promoted to be a draughtsman. For six years he and his father remained in Koya, and then he went to Kyoto, where he stayed for more than a decade, studying and investigating the architecture of the old religious edifices in the city and its suburbs, and also assisting his father in architectural work. The eighth Heizayemon died in 1877, and Mr. Ito succeeded to the hereditary honours, changing his name to Heizayemon. The works which he has undertaken are too numerous to be given in detail. Suffice it to say that all the important official buildings in Nagoya, the Kencho of Miye, the new edifices of the Higashi Hongwan Temple, Kyoto; the Branch Office of that Temple at Shanghai; the State Shrine at Yoshino, may be given as some of the noteworthy works constructed by this unique artist of Japan. The *Yomiuri* says that he has built already 43 temples, 36 shrines, 11 government offices, 15 school-buildings, and 47 residences or other miscellaneous buildings. He once travelled through a particular locality of China with the express purpose of investigating Chinese architecture. Rewards and certificates of merit have been frequently received by him, for he has exhibited models at several local and national exhibitions. The people of Hokkaido are very greatly indebted to him for the improvement he effected in their dwelling houses, for when he proceeded there, some eight years ago, to erect temples in various districts by special request of the Central Office of the Hongwan Sect, he was so much struck with the rude and unsightly appearance of the buildings in Hokkaido, that he spared no pains to transmit a knowledge of architecture to the carpenters of that northern district. Besides his central office in Nagoya, he has branch offices in Kyoto and Hakodate. The central establishment is composed of three buildings, one, 7 x 14 ken; another, 5 x 12 ken; and the third, 4 x 8 ken. He employs over 120 artisans. He is now engaged in designing or superintending the construction of nine buildings, the chief of them being the main edifice of the Houn Temple, Kyoto; the main edifice of the Minaguchi Shrine, Omi; a Japanese dwelling house for Mr. Elliot, Sydney, Australia; the main edifice of the Nanjen Temple, Kyoto; and several edifices for the Kōmpira, Sanuki.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Extraordinary disbursements for the relief of sufferers in the three prefectures devastated by the seismic wave have been sanctioned by the Emperor. The sum is a little over 477,600 *yen*, of which 452,600 *yen*, approximately, constitutes the actual relief fund, the remaining 25,000 *yen* being set aside for travelling expenses and sundry outlays connected with the work of distribution. Details relating to these disbursements are published by the Tokyo papers:—

Food, at the rate of 4 <i>go</i> of rice per day for 30 days from the 16th inst., the number of persons to receive rations being 49,137	Yen. 56,643.30
Clothing for 8,500 families, at the average rate of 15 <i>yen</i> per family...	127,500.00
Relief for 8,500 families, at the average rate of 20 <i>yen</i> per family	170,000.00
Fund for burying the dead, removing the debris, and taking care of the wounded	98,480.00

Total Relief Fund for Iwate, Miyagi, and Aomori ... 452,633.30

In the last item the dead are estimated at about 24,000, among whom those that have to be buried at public expense aggregate 10,000. The houses wrecked are put at 2,500; and the wounded survivors at 5,300.

The total given above is to be divided as follows:—For Iwate, 375,600 *yen*; for Miyagi, 59,600 *yen*; for Aomori, 17,400 *yen*, all in round numbers.

The figure representing the number of persons needing relief, which we lately reproduced from the *Tokyo Shimbun*, is thus proved to be erroneous. Our contemporary confounded the number of families and the number of persons.

The *Shogyo* shows that, judging from the total absence of any appropriation for repairing damaged roads and embankments, the Home Office must be contemplating further disbursements. The fact is that the experience of the past deters the Home Minister from using the Surplus, and it is reported that an understanding exists between him and the Governors of the afflicted districts in connection with the present disbursements which may be regarded as intended to meet the urgent needs of the moment only.

The Peking correspondent of the *Asahi* sends a strange item of intelligence to that journal, namely, that the Japanese Government has proposed to strike out of the draft Treaty of Commerce the clause relating to manufactures by Japanese subjects on Chinese soil, and that the Chinese Commissioner has given his consent to this proposal. The fact is, proceeds the correspondent, that there was never any clause in the Japanese draft of the new Treaty of Commerce relating to manufacturing industry by Japanese subjects in China, the Japanese Government having evidently concluded that the matter was already covered by the Shimonoseki Treaty. It was not so, however, in the case of the draft originally prepared by the Chinese Commissioner, Earl Li. That document contained distinct provisions relating to manufacturing industry, Earl Li's motive being to restrict, if not to rescind, this privilege already enjoyed by Japan in virtue of the Shimonoseki Treaty. Naturally, the Japanese Commissioners' interpretation of the provisions of the Shimonoseki Treaty did not agree with that put upon them by China's representative. Li was succeeded by Chang, but the difficulty remained as before, so that the negotiation came to a standstill. The *Asahi's* correspondent is surprised to hear that the Japanese representative has proposed to strike out the provisions in question, and declares the proposal entirely incomprehensible, seeing that the difference of interpretation between the two representatives indicates the absolute necessity of inserting a distinct clause in the Treaty of Commerce. He denounces the alleged overture of the Japanese plenipotentiary as a mere temporising measure, and observes that, even if the conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce be thereby hastened, the difficulty thus shuffled out of at present is sure to present itself hereafter in practice. Na-

turally, he goes on to say that such a proposal emanating from the Japanese Government, with full knowledge that the question will demand solution sooner or later, indicates a distinct abandonment of her acquired rights by Japan, and he concludes his letter with a violent tirade against the incompetence of his country's diplomatists.

The correspondents of both the *Yiji* and the *Nichi Nichi* have sent similar news. The latter's intelligence is substantially the same as that of the *Asahi*, and the writer adds that, after the Foreign Department came under the temporary control of Marquis Saionji, instructions were conveyed to the Japanese Representative in Peking not to insert the manufacturing clause in the Treaty, and that the Chinese Representative seems inclined to acquiesce readily in the proposal of Japan. The *Yiji's* correspondence bears the latest date, that is to say, the 29th ult. We read there that the sixteenth conference was held on the 27th of June, and that, as the clause bearing on manufacturing enterprise was eliminated, so as to facilitate the conclusion of the Treaty, no particular difficulties presented themselves at the last meeting. Indeed, as the conference is reported to have been occupied chiefly in amending the phraseology of the clauses already agreed upon, the negotiations may be said to have been practically brought to a termination. The next conference will be the last, and the two parties are said to be now making clean copies of the drafts. The correspondent thinks that the welcome tidings of the satisfactory conclusion of the Treaty may be expected after the lapse of a week.

The affairs of the Sei-wa Railway Company are still in a scandalous state. We have already explained that the shareholders are divided into two rival factions, each having its own office and its own staff of officers. They have now brought suit against each other for illegal use of the company's seals, and have inserted advertisements, side by side, in the columns of several papers, asking the shareholders to pay in the first installment. Naturally the shareholders, occupying a neutral position, are puzzled, and will wait until the singular dispute be definitely settled. Under the circumstances, to commence the work of construction is out of the question, though the company is bound to do so by the end of the current month, its permanent charter having been issued on April 30th. The Railway Authorities are much concerned about the anarchical condition into which the Company's affairs have fallen, but are not in a position to take any step, since the matter has been brought within the purview of the law courts. Should it be concluded, however, that there is no prospect of the difficulties being definitely settled previously to July 30th, there is a possibility of the company's charter being declared invalid. Incidentally we may mention that the dispute causes considerable embarrassment to the post-office, for the two factions having their offices in the same building in Matsusaka, and having the same sign-boards hung side by side, there are no means of deciding to which of the two mail matter should be delivered.

The question of fencing is now much discussed, not only in Educational circles but also in the Army and the Navy. The representation of the Tokyo Educational Society, that lessons in fencing should be regularly given in the higher common schools, has been rejected by the Municipal Authorities, but the Department of Education had nothing whatever to do with the action of the Municipality. Apart from this particular case, seeing that the problem deserves to be thoroughly investigated, the Department of Education has submitted it to the School Sanitary Council for a definite opinion. But the Council's views are divided, one section holding that fencing conduces to physical development, the other maintaining that it is injurious to the full development of the brain. The opinions of the military and naval authorities are equally divergent, though for a different reason. Those that declare for fencing

base their verdict on the assumption that it tends to educate presence of mind and therefore to make troops more efficient; while the other side holds that the practice serves merely to train individual courage and tends to produce men who aim at distinguishing themselves by irregular methods, thus militating against unity and system.

Messrs. Otsu and Nakashima, members of the Diet identified with the *Shimpo-to* (Opposition), have returned from their mission of inspection through the districts recently devastated by the seismic-wave, and have submitted their report to the Central Office of the Party. The document says that the relief to be extended to the sufferers should be divided into two kinds: one of an urgent description; that is to say, funds for maintaining the sufferers subsequently to the 15th inst., when the period covered by the Relief Fund Regulations will expire; and the other less urgent though not less necessary, namely, for provision for the future livelihood of persons that have lost their means of bread earning. The former need is estimated by the inspection commissioners to require the sum of about 300,000 *yen*; the latter, about 1,000,000 *yen*. They are of opinion that altogether a total of from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 *yen* must be defrayed, but that as such a sum cannot be furnished by the Reserve Fund, an extraordinary session of the Diet must be speedily convoked to satisfactorily dispose of the matter.

The incorporation of the suburbs of Osaka into the city proper has been announced by Imperial Ordinance. The following districts are to be incorporated, the census being taken at the end of last year:—17 towns and villages from Nishi Nari Gun, aggregating over 27,000 families and 125,000 people; 11 towns and villages from Higashi Nari Gun, aggregating over 11,000 families and 52,000 people. The latest census of Osaka was over 94,000 families and 484,000 people. The new arrangement is to come into force from April of next year, when Osaka will become a city of over 132,000 families and 662,000 inhabitants.

A petition has been submitted to the Railway Authorities by the City Assembly of Yokohama in connection with the contemplated doubling of the Tokaido line, the route contemplated being to strike directly from Kanagawa to Hodegaya without calling at Yokohama. The petitioners think that the following three reasons must have influenced the Authorities in their decision:—

- 1st. To make a detour to Yokohama in connection with the doubling of the line would increase the cost of construction.
- 2nd. To make a detour to Yokohama would involve waste of time.
- 3rd. The disadvantages accruing from the loading and unloading of goods at Kanagawa instead of at Yokohama are less than the other disadvantages, put together—the greater outlay on account of construction and the waste of time.

The petitioners proceed to examine these reasons, in order to prove that, according to their way of thinking, the reasons are not strong enough to dictate the adoption of the proposed route. In the first place, the position of a commercial depot is determined by natural as well as artificial advantages. It was on that consideration that at an early period after the opening of the country for foreign commerce, Yokohama was selected in place of Kanagawa, the site originally chosen; for though human agency might perfect facilities of land transportation at Kanagawa, the same agency could, it was thought, provide more satisfaction by both maritime and land facilities at Yokohama. This prediction is realized, for the prosperity of Yokohama has grown by leaps and bounds, so that it is now an emporium holding over 180,000 souls. This must essentially be due to the fact that Yokohama is adapted, both naturally and artificially, for the seat of commercial transactions. Yet the Government now proposes that the veins conveying the life blood of Yokohama shall be diverted in another direction, and the heart of Yokohama shall be paralyzed. Can this disaster bear comparison with a slight increase

In the cost of construction and a trivial waste of time? It is true that to call at Yokohama instead of going direct from Kanagawa to Hōdogaya involves the expenditure of a little time, but it is not the less true that the selection of a railway route must be determined according to the relative facilities that a place affords in the matter of transportation of goods; while the time required in the running of trains may be adjusted by altering their speed. Especially when the advantages accruing from a detour far outweigh the disadvantages, the advisability of adopting the longer route admits of no doubt. Now what will be the result should the railway route be altered? Cargoes after being landed will have to be conveyed to Kanagawa, while goods coming by land must be unladen at Hōdogaya as well as at Kanagawa. The time and expense involved in such processes are far greater than the preliminary cost involved in making a detour to Yokohama from Kanagawa. Hence the petitioners conclude that the advantages accruing from the change of route are far from compensating the disadvantages incidental to such a step, especially when it is remembered that the completion of the reconstruction of the harbour and the connection of Yokohama Station with the Custom House piers by railway will make the transportation of goods more prompt and convenient. The petitioners are convinced that the proposed change of route is entirely at variance with the wishes of the Yokohama people, and the Assembly has been obliged to take up the matter. By unanimous resolution it asks the Authorities to reconsider the step before they irrevocably adopt it.

The celebrated Chiya scandal, brought about by the stubborn resistance of Judge Chiya to being removed from the Supreme Court to the Local Court of Okinawa was abruptly terminated by the Judge's death. A similar trouble has been caused by Judge Besaho, who refuses to be removed from the Local Court of Yamanashi to the District Court of Aikawa, Sado, where, owing to either the death or removal of one of the judges a vacancy has occurred. A special Disciplinary Court pronounced a verdict unfavourable to the recalcitrant Judge and dismissed him from the service. The Judge has appealed to the Court of Cassation, but it is expected that the award given by the lower tribunal will be endorsed by the higher.

We read in the *Tokyo Shimbun* that the Government will not extend any further relief to the afflicted Sanriku districts. Incidentally we may mention that the grand total of the subscription lists of the vernacular papers for the relief of the sufferers has reached over 200,000 yen. Most of the lists were to be closed on the 15th inst.

The two most prominent figures in the business world are Mr. Shibuzawa Eiichi, of Tokyo, and Mr. Matsumoto Jyutaro, of Osaka. Both are Presidents or Directors of an astonishing number of Companies or Banks. The *Yiji* gives a list of the public positions held by these two gentlemen, from which we find that Mr. Shibuzawa is President of no less than 14 companies and director or auditor of ten; while the other millionaire is President of 10 and Director or Auditor of six. The *Yiji* says that they are the "guinea-pigs" *par excellence* of Japan.

The attempt to float a Hakodate City Loan and an Osaka City Loan has failed signally. The Hakodate folk wanted 450,000 yen and offered 6½ per cent. interest, and the citizens of Osaka asked the public for 381,200 yen, the interest to be 5 per cent. and the minimum price of a 100-yen bond, 97 yen. For the Osaka loan only 5,800 yen was subscribed, and the Hakodate proposal elicited no offer at all. The *Shogyo Shimpō*, from which we take these details, says that it was a wretched blunder on the part of the Hakodate people to set about raising a loan despite the fact that the self-government system is not yet in force there, without previously consulting influential capitalists with the object of inducing them to organize a special syndicate. As for Osaka's

conception of floating a loan at the low interest of 5 per cent. and allowing a margin of only 3 yen, the programme displayed palpable ignorance of existing financial conditions. The Authorities of both Hakodate and Osaka must hold themselves responsible for the signal failure that has attended their inept schemes.

In continuation of a list given some weeks ago, we publish the following statistics of joint-stock companies coming under the control of the Noshomusho at the end of last month:—

At the end of June last.	No. of companies.	Aggregate capital. Yen.
Existing companies at the end of May ...	1,409	279,991,993
Companies established during June ...	67	7,879,500
Companies whose capital was increased during June ...	37	1,769,900
Total ...	1,503	289,641,393
Companies dissolved or "invalidated" during June ...	5	107,820
Companies whose capital was reduced during June ...	3	60,900
Total ...	8	158,710
Balance, existing companies at the end of June ...	1,495	289,182,683

Statistics relating to the commercial, industrial, and agricultural corporations included in the above are as follows:—

COMMERCIAL.		
Existing at the end of May last ...	679	71,003,760
Newly established during June ...	26	3,463,000
Capital increased during June ...	13	398,000
Total ...	718	74,864,760
Dissolved or invalidated during June ...	2	30,000
Capital reduced during June ...	3	60,900
Total ...	4	70,900
Balance ...	714	74,793,860

INDUSTRIAL.		
Existing at the end of May ...	652	107,205,236
Newly established during June ...	49	5,413,000
Capital increased during June ...	24	2,371,900
Total ...	705	115,090,136
Dissolved or invalidated during June ...	2	280,000
Balance, existing companies at the end of June ...	703	114,810,136

AGRICULTURAL.		
Existing at the end of May ...	78	1,883,975
Newly established during June ...	2	3,000
Total ...	79	1,886,975
Dissolved or invalidated during June ...	3	78,310
Balance, existing companies at the end of June ...	77	1,879,165

"Drive a tiger away in front, and a wolf menaces the rear," is a Japan proverb often applied to a case such as that of the Tokyo City Assembly at present. The Assembly has commissioned Messrs. Shiraiishi Gō, Motoda Hajime, Kojima Kango, and three others, all members of the Tokyo Bar, to act as its counsel in the water-pipe suit against the Tokyo Iron Foundry with the object of recovering compensation for losses incurred by the city in consequence of frauds on the part of the Foundry. The first stage of this suit, namely, Mr. Ameno-miya's application to have the distraint removed from his property, has been heard in the Tokyo Local Court and an award unfavourable to the plaintiff has been pronounced. But before the suit proper has come up for hearing, the above barristers—with the exception of Mr. Shiraiishi, who declared from the first that he would undertake the business gratis—have laid a claim before the City Council for fees amounting to ten thousand yen each, the alternative being that if they are not to be paid until the suit is concluded, they shall receive thirty thousand yen each, whatever be the verdict of the Courts. That is the version given by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, but the *Yomiuri* learns that the sum asked for is much larger. A point to be specially noted is that all three barristers are at the same time members of the City Assembly, and it would therefore appear that the case was entrusted to them by the Assembly without any arrangement as to terms. It is believed that fresh tumults will disfigure the next meeting of the Assembly.

The Sulphur (Reduction) Company was authorised on the 7th inst.

It is stated that the railway between Nagasaki and Nagoya will be finished in the course of this year. The line between Takeo and Hayagi will be completed on or about February next.

COUNT OKUMA.

Some prominent residents of Saga now staying in Tokyo, gave a banquet at the "Maple Club," Tokyo, the other day, in honour of their distinguished fellow clansman, Count Okuma. The Count delivered a speech on that occasion, having special application to his native district, but he also made other remarks that are applicable to Japan as a whole. One of his points was that the rural sections are now enjoying greater prosperity than the urban. The Count explained that this was due to the rate of the land-tax having been reduced to less than one half of what it was formerly. The surplus that remains in the pockets of farmers must have been appropriated to elevating the status of their homes, and to starting various undertakings, as also to improving the productive capacities of their farms. In support of this last contention, the Count observed that many farms now yield as many as 12 bales of rice per *tan*, while the area of others producing two crops a year has been much augmented. He also alluded to the propensity of Saga men to quarrel with each other, those of the urban sections being specially prone to pick quarrels with the residents of the rural districts. He declared that the leading men of Saga should endeavour, seeing that Saga folks can not eliminate this propensity from their character, to widen the scope of their quarrels, and so in the end complete industrially with outsiders.

Commenting on this speech, the *Nichi Nichi*, while endorsing the opinion of the Count as to the increase of the purchasing power of farmers, wonders why the Count's political adherents, in view of his recent avowal, should urge that the load of the people's burden is so great that they steadily oppose any additional impositions being put upon them. The warning of the Count against petty internal quarrels is considered by the *Nichi Nichi* as timely, Count Okuma's adherents being prone to interfere with the progress of important State affairs and endangering their success by petty bickerings. The *Nichi Nichi* approves the recent action of the Count in throwing off the hermit's veil and again condescending to speak in public. It was owing to his backwardness in appearing before the public that the Count's opinions were so frequently misconstrued by his followers. Henceforward, he must cease to act as a wire-puller behind the curtain. As a true statesman, he should deliver his views in the open and with all the straightforwardness possible.

The *Tokyo Economist*, an earnest advocate for raising the rate of the land tax, wishes to return to the subject. It contends that the three amendments effected in the Land Tax Regulations have resulted in reducing the assessment by 14,387,182.114 yen. When it is remembered that the average price of rice, taken as the standard in revising the tax in 1877, was 4.185 yen, and that used in amending it in 1889 3.88 yen, whereas recently the staple has been quoted between 6 to 7 yen, nothing is more certain than that the incomes of farmers must have considerably increased. The Count must have ascertained this long ago, and yet, strange to say, he suffered his followers to advocate a further reduction in the tax in the House of Representatives, that is to say, subsequent to 1890, by which time the evils attending the over-issue of inconvertible notes had altogether disappeared.

THE CHINA-JAPAN COMMERCIAL TREATY.

There has been a good deal of talk lately about the commercial treaty between China and Japan, the gist of the rumours being that the negotiations were brought to a conclusion on the 28th of June, and that the treaty would be signed so soon as the drafts had been copied. With reference to this, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that having made inquiries at the Foreign Office, it has been informed that, up to the 16th instant, no intelligence of such a nature had been officially received from Peking. Our contemporary conjectures that some false information has been transmitted to Japan.

THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE AT THE CHINESE COURT.

Baron Heyking's stay in Japan has been unexpectedly shortened by a telegram directing him to repair to his post in Peking at once. His Excellency had contemplated a month's sojourn in Japan, we believe, and was recruiting his energies at Chiusenji when the urgent message arrived. It would seem that the German Government contemplates resolute, or, at all events, vigilant, action in China; a determination to be sincerely welcomed, we think, for Germany long ago abandoned the mistaken route that she entered as a member of the Triple Alliance, and whatever steps she now takes in the Far East are not likely to be inimical to the interests either of Great Britain or of Japan. There still remains among the Japanese much bitter feeling about the policy adopted in Berlin in March of last year. But events are now justifying the opinion advanced by us at the time, namely, that Germany then made a temporary aberration from her natural political orbit, and that her return to it could be only a question of time. Baron Heyking has produced a most excellent impression on every one that has had the pleasure of meeting him in Japan. It is felt that Germany will now be strongly and astutely represented in Peking, and that an influence far sounder and much worthier of a great Power than that of Herr von Brandt will henceforth be felt in the Berlin councils.

GERMANY IN THE FAR EAST.

Our readers may be interested by comparing the following paragraphs:—

Japan Mail, July 13th.
Baron Heyking's stay in Japan has been unexpectedly shortened by a telegram directing him to repair to his post in Peking at once. His Excellency had contemplated a month's sojourn in Japan, we believe, and was recruiting his energies at Chiusenji when the urgent message arrived. It would seem that the German Government contemplates resolute, or, at all events, vigilant, action in China; a determination to be sincerely welcomed, we think, for Germany long ago abandoned the mistaken route that she entered as a member of the Triple Alliance, and whatever steps she now takes in the Far East are not likely to be inimical to the interests either of Great Britain or of Japan. There still remains among the Japanese much bitter feeling about the policy adopted in Berlin in March of last year. But events are now justifying the opinion advanced by us at the time, namely, that Germany then made a temporary aberration from her natural political orbit, and that her return to it could be only a question of time. Baron Heyking has produced a most excellent impression on every one that has had the pleasure of meeting him in Japan. It is felt that Germany will now be strongly and astutely represented in Peking, and that an influence far sounder and much worthier of a great Power than that of Herr von Brandt will henceforth be sensible in the Berlin councils.

Japan Herald, July 16th.
We have good authority for stating that the article published in the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 13th inst. about the German Representative at the Chinese Court, has no foundation in fact. Baron von Heyking had orders to see his colleague accredited at the Japanese Court. Being besides a very old friend of Baron von Gutschmid, it was only natural that he should go to Chiusenji, where his colleague is actually residing with most of the members of the Diplomatic Body. We need hardly add that the other statements made in the above-mentioned article about a change in German policy in the Far East, etc., are just as unfounded as those we have already referred to.

It seems quite plain that the *Japan Herald* has been officially instructed from Chiusenji to insert the above paragraph. Under any other circumstances we should not think of noticing an attack made upon us in that journal. But it appears to be now publicly stated on the authority of German officials that "the article published in the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 13th inst. about the German Representative at the Chinese Court had no foundation in facts," and that "the other statements in the same article about a change in German policy in the Far East, &c., were just as unfounded." That is

very plain speaking. Let us see, then what it was that we stated and what are the contradictions now officially published. First we stated that Baron Heyking's stay in Japan has been shortened by a telegram directing him to proceed at once to Peking. That is declared to have no foundation in fact. Well, we repeat it. Secondly, we said that the Baron was recruiting his energies at Chiusenji when the urgent message arrived. That is declared to have been without foundation in fact. We repeat it, however, but are quite willing to append the information that Baron von Heyking went to Chiusenji under orders to see his colleague in Japan and that he was not recruiting his energies there. As to his having gone to the place because he is a very old friend of Baron von Gutschmid, the news may be interesting, but is quite irrelevant, and obviously inconsistent with the other assertion that His Excellency proceeded to Chiusenji under orders. At any rate, our note did not touch upon these points at all. They are entirely novel, and to adduce them as proof that our article had no foundation in facts is a bewildering kind of logic. Thirdly, we said that the German Government seemed to contemplate resolute, or at all events vigilant, action in China. That is declared to have no foundation in fact. We accept the correction with amazement. Fourthly, we welcomed Germany's apparent determination, on the ground that "whatever steps she now took in the Far East were not likely to be inimical to the interests of either Great Britain or of Japan." That is declared to have no foundation in fact. We accept the correction with much regret. Fifthly, we urged the Japanese to abandon any remains of the bitter feeling engendered by the Berlin policy of 1895, inasmuch as Germany had now returned to her natural political orbit, namely, a friendly attitude towards Japan and coöperation with Great Britain in China. That is declared to have no foundation in fact. We accept the correction with great reluctance. Sixthly, we said that Baron von Heyking had produced a most excellent impression on every one that had had the pleasure of meeting him in Japan. That is declared to have no foundation in fact. We accept the correction with surprise. Seventhly, we said that Germany would now be strongly and astutely represented in Peking. That is declared to have no foundation in fact. We accept the correction with disappointment. Eighthly and lastly, we said that an influence far sounder and much worthier of a great Power than that of Herr von Brandt would henceforth be sensible in the Berlin councils. That is declared to have no foundation in fact. We accept the correction with disquietude.

Having been compelled to abandon so many hopes that our genuine appreciation of the German nation had led us to entertain, we feel justified in asserting one point, namely, that our article was written in the most friendly spirit possible, and that we decline to regard as really representative of German opinion the sweeping, exceedingly discourteous, and entirely undeserved assault that it has provoked.

DEATH OF SIR AUGUSTUS PAGET.

News has been received in Tokyo of the death of the Right Honourable Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, G.C.B., whose son, Mr. Ralph Paget, now holds the position of Second Secretary in the British Legation, Tokyo. The deceased statesman was one of Great Britain's most distinguished diplomats. He served his country at one capital after another in Europe for fifty-two years, his last post being that of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of Austria, a position that he held from January 1st, 1884, to July 1st, 1893. He was sworn a Privy Councillor on July 21st, 1876, and received the Grand Cross of the Bath on August 21st, 1883. In all his posts he won respect and affection, and his brilliant record, extending over more than half a century, is a page of her diplomatic history that England may justly be proud of. Sincere sympathy will be felt with Mr. Ralph Paget in his sad bereavement.

ARMY DEVELOPMENT.

In the *Yomiuri Shimbun* we find some details as to the manner of carrying out the programme of military expansion, on account of which budgetary appropriations were sanctioned by the Diet last session. The Government's original intention, we read, is to complete, within seven years, the expansion of the army to 12 Divisions, irrespective of the Imperial Guards. But inasmuch as the programme makes it optional to complete the establishment of the troops with the colours within three years, it has been determined that the staffs of the various new Divisions, Brigades, &c., shall be fully organized by the winter of the year after next (*i.e.* 1898). As to the order of carrying out this organization, the staffs of the three Boards of Command, those of five new Divisions, and those of any additional troops raised during the year, will be organized by the end of this fiscal year (March 31st, 1897); then, by the winter of 1897, the staffs of the new Brigades and of any further troops raised during that year, will be organized; and finally, by the winter of 1898, the organization of all the remaining staffs will be completed.

This account may be somewhat unintelligible to non-military readers. They should observe, however, that when staffs are spoken of, the reference may be to Board-of-Command Staffs, Divisional Staffs, Brigade Staffs, Regimental Staffs, or Battalion Staffs. As we interpret the project, the intention is to raise the full complement of Troops with the Colours during the three years, ending March 31st, 1899, so that the Reserve—which is formed of men that have served three years with the colours—will receive its first drafts in 1899—*i.e.* will receive all the men whose service with the colours commenced in the fiscal year 1896-7. Further, the staffs of all the new Divisions will be organized by the end of the fiscal year 1898-9, the staffs of five of them being organized before next spring, and the staff of the sixth before the spring of 1899. Why this delay should take place with reference to the staff of the sixth, we are unable to conjecture, but presumably some point of financial convenience is concerned. Further, as the troops with the colours are raised, they must be told off into Brigades, Regiments, and Battalions, and consequently the staffs of those tactical units will be formed *pari passu* with the raising of the troops. The three boards of command are separate organizations, being, in brief, the head-quarter staffs of four Divisions each. A Railway Corps is also to be established during the current fiscal year, with Colonel Yamane in command.

As to the cavalry, some information is furnished by the same journal. In the Army, as hitherto organized, each Division, the Guards included, was supposed to have one battalion of cavalry, the battalion consisting of three squadrons (or companies). But with the exception of the Guards, no Division had more than two squadrons, though in every case the battalion organization existed. At the close of last year, however, when the usual conscription took place, a sufficient number of conscripts were taken to add a squadron to each cavalry battalion, so that the establishment is now, for the first time, complete. But for the purposes of the new scheme of military expansion, it has been decided that two squadrons of cavalry shall be added to each Division, and that the battalion formation shall be abandoned in favour of the regimental, each Division thus including a Regiment of five squadrons of cavalry. That means, of course, that the six divisions already existing will receive an increment of eighteen squadrons; the Guards will receive an increment of two squadrons, and on account of the six new Divisions twenty-four squadrons will be raised. Hence the new Army will comprise a total of sixty-five squadrons, or thirteen regiments, of cavalry, whereas, up to the close of last year, the total cavalry establishment was only fifteen squadrons in reality, though nominally twenty-one. We have never succeeded in ascertaining the exact strength of a squadron

of cavalry, but to put it at 150 of all ranks will not be far from the mark. On that hypothesis, the cavalry of the new Army would aggregate 9,750 on the peace footing, and about 18,000 on the war footing. The *Yomiuri* adds that the Emperor's consent to this alteration from three squadrons to five, as well as to the fixed establishment of each cavalry regiment, and the change of name from Battalion to Regiment, was obtained by the Minister of State for War on a recent occasion, and that a Lieut.-Colonel of cavalry will be added to the staff of each Division. The two new squadrons are to be added at the rate of one yearly from the current fiscal year, so that the increment will be completed by the spring of 1899.

We may add that the twelve Divisions are to have the following head-quarters and districts, the head-quarters being placed first in our list in each case:—

First Division.—Tokyo (Azabu), Yokohama, Takasaki, Nagano.

N.B.—The Imperial Guards also are stationed in Tokyo, so that the garrison of the city on a peace footing consists of about sixteen thousand men.

Second Division.—Sendai, Fukushima, Shibata, Kashiwazaki.

Third Division.—Nagoya, Tsu, Toyohashi, Shizuoka.

Fourth Division.—Osaka, Wakayama, Otsu, Kyoto.

Fifth Division.—Hiroshima, Onomichi, Yamaguchi, Hamada.

Sixth Division.—Kumamoto, Omura, Kagoshima, Miyazaki.

Seventh Division.—Sapporo, Hakodate, Nemuro, Toigachi.

Eighth Division.—Hiromaye, Morioka, Akita, Yamagata.

Ninth Division.—Kanazawa, Toyama, Tsuruga, Gifu.

Tenth Division.—Fukuchiyama, Kobe, Himeji, Okayama.

Eleventh Division.—Marugame, Tokushima, Matsuyama, Kochi.

Twelfth Division.—Kokura, Oita, Kurume, Saga.

This distribution went into force from the 1st of April of the current year.

NEW UNDERTAKINGS.

The Board of Directors of the Sanyo Railway Company has decided to construct a special line, starting from Suma-mura, a village situated about midway between the two stations of Suma and Hyogo, and terminating in the vicinity of the Ajigawa-Bridge, Osaka, a distance of 24 miles. The cost is estimated at 3 million *yen*, and the project is to be submitted to a special general meeting of shareholders to be held on the 15th inst., at Osaka. The estimates are as follow:—

Receipts ...	<table><tr><td>Passengers receipts,</td><td>137,900 <i>yen</i>.</td></tr><tr><td>Goods receipts,</td><td>66,300 <i>yen</i>.</td></tr></table>	Passengers receipts,	137,900 <i>yen</i> .	Goods receipts,	66,300 <i>yen</i> 204,200
Passengers receipts,	137,900 <i>yen</i> .					
Goods receipts,	66,300 <i>yen</i> .					
Working Expenses		84,154				
Net profit		120,046				

The opening of the railway is expected to add 167,200 *yen* to the passengers and goods receipts of the existing line, while the working expenses are 36,026 *yen*, that is to say, a profit of 121,174 *yen*. The clear earnings directly and indirectly accruing from the new line are therefore expected to realise 8 per cent. on the investment.

The Colliery Railway Company held an extraordinary general meeting on the 8th instant, and decided, with the unanimous approval of the shareholders present, to raise 1,000,000 *yen* as an additional undertakings fund for the Mining Department, and 2,200,000 *yen* for purchasing four steamers to be used in transporting coal.

The establishment of a curious insurance company, designated the "Conscription Insurance Company," has been sanctioned by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The object of this unique insurance company is to insure young lads, so that when they are drawn as conscripts they will obtain money from the fund on which to support their family during the term of their service, the amount of course varying according to the sum insured for. The premium is to be confined between the two

extremes of 50 and 5,000 *yen*, premia varying according to age and the amount insured for. For a baby, one year old, a yearly payment of 2.17 *yen* will enable his parents to receive 100 *yen* when he is drawn for service after arriving at the age of 19 or 20. The yearly payment for a lad of 16 is 14.29 *yen*. The projectors are Mr. Wakamiya Seion, ex-Director of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Tsuji Shinji, ex-Vice-Minister of Education, and three or four others.

The programme of the Oriental Steamship Company has been slightly modified. It has decided to include Brazil in the American service, there being in that south American State already more than 4,000 Japanese emigrants. The Great Eastern Steamship Company having been practically amalgamated with the Oriental Steamship Company, though not openly, and the capital of the latter having been increased from 5 millions to 7½ millions, the expanded Company is to open a special service to Tenuantepec, Mexico, to receive consignments of cotton produced in the United States.

A HEALTHY SIGN.

The Government and especially the Imperial Court, have apparently become more magnanimous towards utterances of historians and men of science with respect to the origin of the Japanese people. Formerly, the Authorities were so morbidly sensitive about utterances of that kind that any article or speech containing sceptical views about the "divine origin" of the race and the supernatural character of the fabulous beings said to have existed in the mythical age, was sure to provoke the high displeasure of the press censors. Prof. Kume's dismissal for having written an article in that sense; the suspension of the *Shikai* for publishing it; and, only a year or two ago, the suspension of the *Tokyo Economist* for having spoken too radically about the origin of the Japanese race, are notorious facts. A great change is now observable in the attitude of the Censors and the Court. Quite recently, Mr. Matsumoto Kumpel, M.A., whose article about the probable identity of the ancestors of the Japanese and the Hittites appeared last fall in our columns, read another essay on the same question before the Economic Society, and dilated much upon analogies detected by him between the records contained in the Old Testament and those in the *Kojiki*. He spoke in perfectly unreserved terms about the "Divine Beings" declared by orthodox Japanese scholars to have existed before the time of Izanagi and Izanami, and he explained that, judging from the meaning of the names given to those beings, they cannot have existed in life, but were merely impersonations of the sky, the earth, and so forth. He further made some ingenious suggestions indicating an analogy between Izanagi and Izanami, on the one hand, and Adam and Eve, on the other. Notes taken of this interesting lecture were published in the *Tokyo Economist*, but did not provoke the ban of suspension.

Another evidence of the Authorities' changed attitude is furnished by an article in the *Kokumin*. It appeared in the form of a letter from a writer using a *nom de plume*, but there are internal indications that the article emanated from the pen of a member of that radical paper's staff. The theme was the saving of the Emperor's picture by a school-master, at the risk of his own life, and without pausing to provide for the safety of his family, during the recent seismic calamity—conduct that elicited special mention in the official despatch sent by the Governor of Iwate to the Home Office. The writer denounces in unmeasured terms the commendation evoked by the incident from various newspapers. He regards the whole affair as unmitigated humbug. Loyalty to parents and loyalty to a ruler are one and the same thing. Can it be said that a man shows real loyalty to his parents if, on the occasion of such a catastrophe as that in Iwate, he risks his

life for the mere purpose of saving from destruction a picture of his parent? Is the picture of one's parent more precious than the life of his son? Suppose that the son had lost his life for the sake of such a delusion, and consequently failed to discharge his duty to his parents, could he still be called loyal? The relation of subject to Sovereign is the same. Rather, indeed, a Sovereign hold the life of his subject more precious than parents hold that of their son. Can it be proper, then, for a subject to risk his life simply for the sake of saving a picture of his Sovereign? Can a Sovereign be satisfied with such conduct on the part of a subject, seeing that his picture can be reproduced *ad libitum*, whereas the loss of a subject's life is irreparable? Any argument directed to maintain such a proposition must be denounced as a contention that attaches no value to proportion and is adapted to the mouth of a hypocrite only.

The above letter evoked a few rejoinders from correspondents writing under various *noms de plume*, the most plausible plea adduced by them being comparison between the colours of a regiment of troops and the Sovereign's picture hanging in a school. Just as troops are bound to guard and preserve their standard even at the risk of their lives, so the Emperor's picture in a school must be preserved from destruction at any cost. The standard represents the Emperor in the eyes of the troops, as the picture does in the eyes of the scholars.

Without pausing to discuss the question at issue, we note that the mere fact of such an article's being published by a newspaper without incurring the displeasure of the Authorities, and without producing any loud protest from the public—not a word has been editorially written on the subject by other papers—is a sign that men's minds have undergone a great change in the matter of Court forms and conventionalities. It is emphatically a healthy change.

DEATH OF MR. HITROVO.

With sincere regret we have to record that intelligence was received yesterday in Tokyo of the death of Mr. Hitrovo, Russian Representative at the Court of Japan. The sad event took place suddenly on the 12th instant, but no particulars are given in the telegram as to the cause or the place. Mr. Hitrovo had long suffered from asthma, and as he was never careful of his health, his tenure of life did not seem very secure. Yet, when he left Tokyo on leave of absence, there was no reason whatever to anticipate any serious danger. Russia loses an able servant in Mr. Hitrovo, and society a most genial gentleman. He was a man of wide culture and winning manners, and throughout a period that would have severely tried the tact of a less competent diplomatist, he managed to assert his country's interests successfully and firmly in Japan, with a minimum of friction, and without in the least impairing the friendly relations that always existed between him and the Japanese Foreign Office. Since the time of Mr. Davidow, whose tenure of office in Japan was similarly shortened by sudden death, no Russian diplomat in this country combined the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re* more skilfully than Mr. Hitrovo, and it is much to be regretted that his hand has been removed from the helm in these troublous times. To his many accomplishments he added a genuine love of art, and during his residence of two and a half years in Tokyo, he made a fine collection of Japanese objects of *virtu*, especially swords and sword furniture. Thoroughly popular with all nationalities, the news of his untimely death will make many hearts sad in Japan.

The President of Hawaii sanctioned the imposition of slight duties on imported Californian wines containing under 18 per cent. of alcohol. Japanese *Sake*, which is a powerful rival of the Californian wine, is subjected to an almost prohibitory duty, and spirits containing over 18 per cent. of alcohol are also placed on the list of heavy import duties.—*Asahi Shimbun*.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND IN THE FAR EAST.

THE *Fortnightly Review* for June contains a cleverly phrased article under the heading of "Russia and England in the Far East." It is one of those essays with which recent experience has rendered us only too familiar—specious special pleading, interspersed with misconceptions and misrepresentations. That it should abound with inaccuracies and be disfigured from first to last by prejudice, will be at once understood when we say that the writer relies for his information upon the *North-China Daily News*, the Korean correspondent of that journal, and the *Japan Herald*. The slightest direct knowledge of Far-Eastern affairs would have warned any honest writer against depending upon such sources of intelligence where Japanese or Korean questions are concerned. We must assume, therefore, that "W."—for so the *Fortnightly Review's* essayist signs himself—is a total stranger to Far-Eastern affairs, and that his dicta are based solely upon indiscriminate excerpts from a very limited library, composed, unfortunately, of publications proverbial for error and partiality in the particular field under review.

Briefly stated, the argument of the writer in the *Fortnightly* is this:—Korea must be a dependency, and the choice of Powers to assume charge of her is limited to Russia and Japan. Of these two, Russia is the stronger and should, for that reason, be supported by England against Japan. At present, however, fear of British opposition withholds Russia from assuming complete control in Korea, and since the Great Northern State must have an ice-free port on the Pacific, she will, if she can not find it in Korea, seek it along the line of least resistance, namely, the Liaotung Peninsula. But her occupancy of Liaotung would be a most serious matter for English interests, whereas her occupancy of Korea would not affect those interests at all. Therefore, finally, Great Britain should openly withdraw all opposition to Russia's programme in Korea.

Every careful reader will be conscious that this line of reasoning stops abruptly short of completeness. It does not tell us what is to be the gain to England of suddenly reversing her Far-Eastern policy, and allowing Russia to enter into full possession of territory from which it has hitherto been the object of British statesmen to exclude her. The hiatus is not the fault of the writer in the *Fortnightly*. It is of our own making, and we have made it purposely, in order to draw more vivid attention to this the most vital phase of the whole problem. What is to be England's gain? Let us quote the exact words of the essay:—

It is of importance to note the persistency with which negotiations on Russia's part for the acquisition of the Liao-tung Peninsula are reported. True, these negotiations have been denied, but the objective

is a tempting one. Russian chauvinists have for years cast longing eyes in the direction of it. It is not excluded from the purview of Russian ambition by any inconvenient pledges. It would not only give the Eastern possessions of the Czar all the ice-free outlets that they can require, but it would render him the master of China and the greatest power in the Pacific. Finally, it would place Korea and Southern Manchuria in a vice of Russian territory, which would inevitably squeeze them into the condition of Russian provinces. If it is in this direction that we are pushing Russia by our fatuous reliance on the Korean pledge of 1886—and it seems to me very likely that we are—then we are simply sitting on the safety-valve of Russian expansion and provoking an explosion, which will inflict upon us immense harm. In Korea Russia would obtain all that she really wants without threatening or even interfering with a single British interest. In the Gulf of Pechili she would become arbiter of a volume of British trade worth nearly fifty millions sterling a year.

Here, then, we have a statement of the gain to England, and a very surprising statement it is. A certain line of policy, we are told, is open to Russia, namely, the acquisition of the Liaotung Peninsula. Her chauvinists have for years cast longing eyes in that direction. The peninsula acquired, Russia would not merely have all the ice-free outlets that she desires, but she would also be mistress of China, would become the greatest Power in the Pacific, would hold Korea and southern Manchuria in such a vice that their ultimate absorption into her empire must ensue, and would become arbiter of a volume of British trade worth nearly fifty millions sterling a year. That splendid ambition unfolds itself now before her eyes. Could she satisfy it, the results to England must be enormously damaging, if not disastrous. To turn her from such a policy would, therefore, be correspondingly important in British interests, and she can be turned from it—how? By graciously granting her permission to content herself with a small fraction of the programme. Allow her to annex Korea and she will be content. No longer will she care to become mistress of China; to rise to the position of the greatest Power in the Pacific; to hold an enormous tract of territory in such a vice that it must ultimately accrue to her by natural processes; to become arbiter of a great volume of British trade. Is it not difficult to believe that these silly propositions are seriously advanced? Russia in Liaotung could be empress of the Far East; could annihilate English supremacy, and could plant her foot upon the head of British trade. Against such contingencies Great Britain would necessarily struggle to the utmost limit of her capabilities. Hence, between Russia's ambition in Liaotung and its consummation, there stands the certainty of a maximum of British resistance, and it follows that if Russia really entertains such an ambition, she is prepared to defy Great Britain. Now turn to Korea. What prevents Russia from immediately asserting her supremacy in Korea, and placing the peninsula under her control? Nothing, according to the writer in the *Fortnightly Review*, except the remote contingency of English opposition; a contingency based on the pledge given by the St. Petersburg

Government to the Chinese in 1886—on the occasion of England's evacuation of Port Hamilton—that Russia would not, under any circumstances, occupy Korean territory. The writer himself contends that the pledge retains no binding force, since it was given to a Power no longer the Suzerain of the territory concerned, and he adds:—"To imagine that Russia feels herself bound by any Quixotic interpretation of her promise of 1886, would be too naïve." Yet, at the same time, he gravely asks his readers to believe that if England simply released Russia from that already valueless pledge, and bade her treat Korea as she liked, the Great Northern Power would be satisfied, and all the difficulties of the Far Eastern Problem would be solved. We have no interests in Korea, declares the writer in the *Fortnightly*, and our only title to interfere there is an obsolete pledge given by Russia to China ten years ago, when all the circumstances of the case were different. We have, on the other hand, immense interests in Liaotung, the possession of which would make Russia mistress of China and of the Far East, would place our trade under her heel, and would force us to fight for existence. Yet the shadowy possibility of encountering English opposition in Korea compels Russia to turn to Liaotung, where the certainty of England's most strenuous opposition awaits her, and a superfluous expression of British readiness to leave her a free hand in Korea would divert her from pursuing an incomparably bigger and more profitable policy in Liaotung.

Such writing as that of "W." is totally worthless for practical politicians. It is vitiated, at the very outset, by the stupendous misconception that no interest of Great Britain's would be "interfered with or even threatened" by a Russian occupation of Korea. Different minds may attach different interpretations to the term "interests." But we are not concerned with academical definitions: our business is with hard facts. If Russia's position in Asia has any importance for Great Britain, then a Russian occupancy of the Korean peninsula would vitally affect British interests. At present Russia's essential element of weakness in the East is that she has no basis of operations. Vladivostok is not and never can be a satisfactory basis. Giddy journalists have talked, and continues to talk, of a hundred thousand Russian troops actually massed there to-day. They would be nearer the mark if they talked of a hundred thousand bees in their own bonnets. But let Russia once obtain possession of Korea, her position in the Far East is radically metamorphosed. Seated on the Yalu, southern Manchuria, the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea and the neck of the Liaotung Peninsula would be hers whenever she chose to stretch out a hand to take them. It is true that when the Siberian railway is

finished, she will be able to collect an army at Vladivostock. But from Vladivostock to Korea or to the mouth of the Liao River is a far cry. Such an enterprise must be preceded by massing of stores on a colossal scale at Vladivostock, hundreds of miles away, and must be supported throughout by naval operations, for with the various lines of coast at the mercy of an opponent, a Russian army could not venture to march southward in search of the ice-free littoral supposed to be the natural objective of the Great Northern Power's ambition. In fact, for all aggressive purposes in the Far East, Russia is now virtually dependent on her navy, and no elaborate exposition is needed to demonstrate her relative weakness under such circumstances. But with Korea as a basis, she could collect what military force she pleased at China's very gates; the region between the Yalu and the Liao would lie at her mercy, and her acquisition of the Liaotung Peninsula, with the contingent command of the Gulf of Pechili, must come about by processes such as the whole history of her growth has prepared us to anticipate. We are not Russo-phobes. It has always been our conviction that a distinct agreement between Russia and England in Central Asia, and the elimination of buffer states that serve merely as sources of friction and invitations to intrigue, would be the happiest course for the two Powers. But that is a question quite distinct from the policy of deliberately placing Russia in a position that would constitute her arbiter of the destinies of the Far East. States possessing effective vitality must expand. That is Nature's law. But just as the exercise of individual freedom is limited by the obligation of not encroaching upon the corresponding sphere of another's liberty, so the legitimate interests of one Power set bounds to the expansion of another. Great Britain has large and important interests in the Far East, and she can not regard with indifference such a complete readjustment of the balance of Power as would result from Russia's occupation of Korea. There can be no heroic revision of the policy that the instinct of empire has impelled England to pursue in this part of the world for the past thirty years.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN AMERICA.

THE issues at stake in the American Presidential election have vital interest for the whole civilized world. Months ago, it was foreseen that the two great parties must rally to two main principles, the Republicans to protection, the Democrats to bimetallism. All, or nearly all, the outcry that has been heard of late with reference to the danger of Japanese industrial competition, may be regarded merely

as a device to re-animate the effete doctrine of protection. It would seem as though events had gradually drawn, with ever-increasing distinctness, a line of demarkation between the industrial and the agricultural classes in the States. Under the ægis of protection manufacturers have flourished. The great home markets being reserved to them, they have not yet been driven to compete for customers in foreign markets, where the high price commanded by labour under a protective system would severely handicap them. The agricultural classes, on the other hand, depend largely on European demand. The quantity of produce raised by them so far exceeds the requirements of their own nationals that without foreign customers they would be ruined. In the markets of Europe, however, the prices commanded by farm produce are constantly forced to a lower level by competition on the part of India, Russia, and other countries where either a silver currency confers special advantages or the scale of agricultural living is lower than that in the United States. The result is that things have fared worse and worse with American farmers, and in this moment of distress they have learned to believe that their only salvation lies in bimetallism. The remonetization of silver, they think, would not only enable them to pay off their crippling debts, but would also bring back prosperity. Protection they ought to hate, and probably many of them have learned to hate it, for its only effects in their case are to raise the price of labour and to enhance the cost of living. It comes then to this, that the Democrats stand forth as the champions of the agricultural classes; the Republicans, as the representatives of the industrial. Election platforms are not very stable affairs in the United States. Experience shows that when they have served to carry their party into power, no serious attention is subsequently paid to them. Their planks are not by any means regarded as hard-and-fast pledges. The platform adopted by the Chicago Convention, and apparently endorsed subsequently by the Democratic Party, was this:—

We are in favour of an honest dollar, a dollar worth neither more nor less than one hundred cents. We favour bimetallism, and to that end we demand the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 as standard money with equal legal-tender power, independent of the action of any other nation. We hold that the Secretary of the Treasury should exercise his legal right to redeem all the coin obligations in gold or silver, as may be more convenient, and are opposed to the issue of bonds in time of peace for the maintenance of the gold reserve or for any other purpose. We are opposed to the national banking system and to any enlargement of its powers.

We are opposed to any contraction of the currency by the retirement of greenbacks or otherwise.

It would appear that the Republicans were at first disposed to shirk the currency question, though such action towards so momentous a problem would have been unworthy of politicians inviting

public confidence. Now, however, whether influenced by that consideration or forced by the Democratic declaration, they have come out squarely for gold monometallism, and thus the two parties stand marshalled for a conflict the results of which must be felt all over the world. The Democrats can count on the support of the south and the west. They seem to be sure of at least 110 votes in the Presidential election, and as 124 votes represents a plurality, the outlook is distinctly hopeful for them. Should they succeed, and should they carry their platform into practice, the main consequence must be that gold would be entirely driven out of circulation in the States. No one would pay an ounce of gold on account of an obligation dischargeable with sixteen ounces of silver, when twenty-one ounces of silver could be obtained abroad for the same ounce of gold. The tendency would be to carry silver as copiously and quickly as possible to the States, there to purchase gold with it at a price nearly 24 per cent. below the price ruling in Europe. American financiers are perfectly sensible of these contingencies, but they believe that their country is big enough and economically strong enough to undertake the rehabilitation of silver single-handed. In other words, they think that before any serious drain of the yellow metal had taken place from the States, the gold-price of silver, the world over, would have adjusted itself to the new conditions. It is a colossal experiment in a field where men are wont to shrink from everything savouring of the radical or the heroic. Evidently if the world saw itself on the eve of such a financial cataclysm, there would be a general rush on the part of foreign investors to unload American securities, and the effect upon the stock market could scarcely fail to attain the dimensions of an unparalleled crisis. But probably it is superfluous to forecast an event not likely to occur. Two things stand between the world and an experiment so dangerous: one is that the Democrats will fail to win the election; the other, that even if they win it, they will hesitate to put their alleged convictions to the test of practice. In any case, the problem of the century will acquire fresh imperativeness from the contest. The fate of silver is throwing the financial world into a condition of feverish unrest from which statesmen must perforce bestir themselves to rescue it.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th June, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China ...	\$1,879,077	\$1,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ...	5,844,570	2,500,000
National Bank of China Limited	428,743	285,000
Total	8,152,390	3,785,000

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT
JAPANESE LITERATURE.

Japanese modern literature has assumed proportions demanding something more than the occasional notice that it has hitherto received in these columns. Hence we propose furnishing our readers with regular summaries of the secular periodicals, resembling the condensed history of the religious press which has appeared in these columns for several years past. As an introduction to the subject it may be well to give a short account of the general character and tendency of literature during the *Meiji* era.

The modern literary world may be said to have originated in the earnest labours of such men as Nakamura Keiun and Fukuzawa Yukichi, who were among the pioneers that introduced Japanese readers to the charms of Western thought. The first fifteen years of the *Meiji* era may be regarded as an age of import. Translations, good and bad, of well-known foreign works in all the principal book-shops crowded out the old Japanese and Chinese works hitherto in such request. The events that preceded and followed Saigō's rebellion turned the attention of the nation from literature for a time, but when the political atmosphere again grew congenial to the lovers of literary pursuits, a reaction in favour of purely national and Chinese literature set in, and, in order to neutralize the effects of this movement, such societies as the Kana-no-Kai and Romaji-Kai were organised—bodies whose existence the present generation has almost forgotten. The pro-foreign section of the reading public naturally found the works of the two translators mentioned above somewhat too prosy for every-day reading, and a demand for works of a lighter type grew so pronounced that Mr. Yano Fumio's *Keikoku-bidan* brought him in a small fortune. One of the most eminent novelists of that day, and a writer who may be said to have been the father of modern novelists, was Mr. Tsubouchi Shoyo. He graduated at the University, and was a most diligent student of English literature. He was the author of the well-known works *Shisaku Kidan* (Incidents in the Life of Cæsar); *Shosei Kishitsu* (The Character of a Student); *Imose Kagami* (A Conjugal Mirror); *Mirai no Yume* (A Dream about the Future), and *Shosetsu Shinsui* (The Brains of Romance). Other novelists of that time worthy of mention were Ayeba Koson, an imitator of ancient styles of writing and of a conservative turn of mind; Sudo Nansui, noted for his polished style and powerful grouping of incidents; Morita Shiken, who devoted his wide knowledge of Chinese literature and his classic pen to the presentation in popular form of Western ideas; Koda Rohan, a master of the style of the Buddhist Zen sect, with all the contempt for material things and the abstraction from the every-day humdrum life that possess such fascination for unworldly minds; Ozaki Koyo, who was better versed in the literature of the Genroku era [1688-1704] than any man of his time, and who wrote in the style of the seventeenth-century novelists, albeit with the same indecent allusions that characterise their works; Ishibashi Shian, who discussed the relation of the sexes and blended the elements of romance found in foreign works of fiction so as to suit Japanese readers, a task that his extensive acquaintance with what is known as Yamato-Kotoba specially qualified him to perform; Iwaya Sazanami, an earnest student of German literature, whose special gift it was to stimulate and to instruct the rising generation; Miyazaki Sammai and Saikiku Sanjin, both men of great reputation; and Yamada Bimyoai, of the realistic school of novelists, an ardent admirer of Zola and other French writers of fiction, who will ever be remembered in the Japanese literary world for his earnest advocacy of the amalgamation of the colloquial and the written styles, and for the well executed models of the dual styles unified that in his writings furnished. These authors who, in many cases, as will be perceived by some of our readers, modestly retired behind a variety of *noms de plume*,

all earned a reputation by novel writing which, however short-lived it may prove to have been, has to be taken into account when we are seeking to mark the stages passed by Japanese literature in its onward march. Considering how little accustomed to anything like serious reading were the majority of semi-educated persons a few decades ago, it is not to be wondered at that Occidental thought had to be administered in small doses and largely mixed with palatable ingredients. We are aware that it is customary with certain Japanese writers to treat with supreme contempt the panderers to the public taste whose works we have been considering. These critics are mostly of the conservative school: they regard the ruthless removal of old literary and moral landmarks as fraught with unseen dangers of a serious kind. It is the opinion of many foreign observers that the minds of staid Japanese are cast in serious moulds, and consequently that the lamentations over the novel-loving spirit of the age uttered in various quarters are genuine expressions of the natural antipathy of the Japanese to anything like unintermittent frivolity. The majority of the novels of this period were of an inferior type, consisting of poor imitations of Bakin, of literal translations from foreign works, or reproductions of Chinese books. The demand for novels was so great that new editions of numbers of almost forgotten works were published, and there sprang into existence a "Novel Publishing Company," which, while the rage lasted, drove a roaring trade, and a novel publishing magazine, which obtained a wide circulation. Many of the writers of romance received a somewhat severe handling from such critics as Ningetsu and Shodayu, men that concealed their identity under these assumed names. As a result of adverse criticism combined with a certain amount of satiety on the part of readers, the ordinary love-story gave place to the detective story, which was rendered popular by Mr. Kuroiwa Ruiko. Lovers of light literature were also regaled with poems and plays, some original, others reproductions of foreign compositions. At the close of 1888 the rage for novels may be said to have passed. The granting of a Constitution and the establishment of the Diet were events that for several years absorbed public attention, and became the means of calling into existence a class of literature that only exists in countries where the government encourages the public discussion of great national questions, and is determined to be guided as far as possible by enlightened public opinion.

The present era may be said to be the age of newspapers and magazines. It is with the latter that we shall be chiefly concerned, since a weekly review of the contents of the former is published in these columns, and since books calling for lengthy notice must necessarily be very few during the transition stage through which Japanese literature is now passing. Though any general account of the literary characteristics of the principal Dailies has been rendered unnecessary by the frequent references published in this journal from time to time, it is perhaps well to observe that some of the daily newspapers, in addition to their function as organs of news, aim at supplying their readers with purely literary matter, thus furnishing a stimulus to the study of ancient and modern literature. The *Kokumin Shimbun* has always taken the lead in this movement, though such papers as the *Choya* and the *Yomiuri* have devoted space to the publication of historical narratives of an interesting and valuable character.

We now proceed to notice, as fully as our space will allow, such topics of general literary interest and importance as have been discussed in the new magazines and books that lie before us. The June number of *Shinri* (Truth), in an unsigned article, deals with the translation of technical terms. The writer observes that the subject has received a great deal of attention of late, articles on the subject having appeared in the *Taiyo*, the

Tetsugaku Zasshi, and the *Waseda-Bungaku*. The difficulty of finding and rendering current in Japan suitable technical terms is acknowledged on all sides. Among the ways of overcoming this difficulty that have been proposed, one is to the effect that the Professors of the University should discuss and decide on the terms to be used. But the objection to this is that it is very doubtful whether writers generally would bow to such authority in cases where terms not in general use were recommended. The *Shinri* is of opinion that the simplest course to follow is to retain the foreign terms. It contends that in numerous instances writers deem it necessary to place the foreign terms in Kana by the side of the translation to aid the reader's comprehension. That is cumbersome. Why not follow the example of most European countries and reproduce the original with such modification as the rules of transliteration may require? That is what happened in the case of Greek and Latin terms in the West and in the case of Buddhist terms, of Sanskrit origin, in the East. The writer in the *Shinri* concludes by remarking that in whatever country it is considered advisable to introduce foreign ideas, history shows it to be quite impossible to exclude foreign terminology; hence he thinks the time spent in the search for suitable equivalents in Japanese is so much time wasted.

The following items are from the *Tuikoku Bungaku* (The Literature of the Empire), a well-edited and high class organ, issued by the Literary Department of the Imperial University. The practice of composing Chinese verses is strongly condemned by an anonymous writer, who maintains that the only excuse that can be offered for such compositions is the inability of the composers to write poetry in their own language. They are driven to the necessity of making Chinese verses by sheer ignorance of their native tongue. The thoughts found in these verses are shallow and their expression most artificial. Young men who aim to be poets are recommended to make themselves masters of their mother tongue and then to embody in their poems the lofty ideas, deep meditations, and penetrating thoughts found in Western poetry.

Another writer complains of the poverty of the Japanese language in respect of humorous terms. To many, says he, such a complaint may seem ridiculous; but it is quite rational. It is far more difficult to make an intelligent man laugh than it is to make him pull a long face. The world needs more wit and fun, as the eccentric efforts of some writers that aim at being amusing abundantly prove. It has lately become the fashion in certain quarters to publish poems written in Chinese style, but whose language is colloquial: to these the term *狂詩* (*Kyoshi* (mad verses) has been applied. That is a very clumsy and inadequate sort of humour, if humour it can be called. In fiction and the drama, numerous models of comic verse are to be found, so that there is no excuse for the literary barbarism of which would-be poets have been found guilty.

A note entitled *Bibun* (美文) *Honyaku* (the Translation of Foreign Masterpieces) expresses disagreement with the objection to the large number of translations now appearing, that is to say, the objection that the translators are unable to reproduce the force of the original, and the selections from foreign authors made by Japanese translators are more ambitious than wise, the workmen not being equal to the task undertaken. The *Tuikoku Bungaku* thinks there is much to be said on the other side. The difficulties these translators have to encounter are not realised by many of their critics. Even in Europe, where languages are in many cases more or less allied to each other, the reproduction in another language of classical compositions so as to preserve the charm of the original is found to be seldom possible. Hence it is hardly to be wondered at that any one seeking to render Western thought into an Oriental tongue

like the Japanese, the structure of which differs so widely from the languages of the West, should meet with insurmountable difficulties. "Something is better than nothing," argues our contemporary. These translations are a step in the right direction. Their imperfections will be removed in the course of time. But a word of caution needs to be added to these remarks. When translators find that there is no possibility of rendering certain phrases into Japanese, they have no alternative but to omit them altogether: the too frequent practice of inserting matter spun out of the translator's brains, cannot be too strongly deprecated.

A writer in the same magazine insists on the necessity of more attention being paid to the study of foreign languages and of Japanese. There is too great a tendency to dilate on subjects connected with the literatures of European countries, though the writer lacks all the qualifications entitling him to express an opinion on such questions. With no adequate knowledge of English, men compose treatises on the comparative merits of English poets; raw students of German express a preference for one German poet rather than another. These things are a disgrace to the whole Japanese literary world. Although it may be a long time before we can attain to the rank of the Germans as literary investigators, yet we surely ought to aim at reaching the standard of the English in the matter of literary qualifications for criticism. But the neglect of which we complain, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, is not confined to the study of foreign tongues: it is still more apparent in the case of our native tongue, to teach which in the Imperial University, a foreigner (Mr. Chamberlain) had to be employed, to our shame be it said. Is it not a disgrace that Japanese should be content to pick up the linguistic crumbs falling from the foreign professor's table? Is it not a disgrace that many of us are unable to express ourselves grammatically in our own language, and, worse still, do not know how to use Kana correctly. These are the men that talk and write grandly about the literary merits of German and English authors. No such want of the elements of learning is to be found among the *litterateurs* of other countries.

An article entitled *Kokubun Gakusha no Shinjigyo* (A new Occupation for Japanese Literary Men) demands fuller notice than we have given to the topics hitherto treated. The suggestions made in it and the information it contains are alike valuable. It is only a short time ago, says the writer, since Japanese literature began to be studied in a systematic manner. But still the materials for a scientific knowledge of the subject are not at hand. Writers should be grouped according to the age in which they lived or the topics on which they wrote. Concise accounts of their styles, their works and their personal history should be given, in fact a history of comparative literature should be written. In addition to this we need an Encyclopædia of Literature, to furnish students with minute information respecting any author or work that they may be studying. It may be worth while to record what has already been done in this line, if only to show how much remains to be done. The histories of Japanese literature published by Mikami and by Takatsu, and the *Wabungaku-shi*, by Owada, and a few less elaborate works, are the only attempts that have been made to furnish students with materials for a comparative study of literature. As literary Encyclopædias we have the *群書類従* (*Gunjoruiju*), the *扶桑拾葉集* (*Fusojuyoshu*), and the *八洲文藝* (*Hasshubunso*). To these should perhaps be added a recently published work called *國文讀本* (*Kokubun-tokuhon*). Of literary dictionaries, as distinguished from encyclopædias, there is a total lack, not a single book that we can name being of this class. The *Gunsho-ichiran*, by Ozaki Gaka, the *Zoku-gunsho-ichiran*, the *山村徳淳* (*Yamamura-toku-jun*), the *Hakubutsukan-shomoku-gedairyaku*, the *淺草文庫書目解題* (*Asakusa-bunko-shomoku-*

gedairyaku), and the *倭版書籍考* (*Yamato-ban-shoshikiko*), are books that give the dates of authors, the number of their works, with particulars concerning copies or printed editions, but that supply no such minute information as is required by the student of literature. Moreover, the details given in these works concern books published in pre-Tokugawa days. For minute information concerning the fiction and drama of the Tokugawa era we search these volumes in vain. That must be regarded as a serious defect. Perhaps there is no country in the world where the names of books are more misleading than they are in Japan. In numerous instances the title of a work gives no clue to its contents. Hence a mere enumeration of works is of little use to the student of literature. Numerous are the treatises that fail to supply the information their titles would lead us to expect, and contain minute particulars regarding subjects that modern critics would deem extraneous. Thus the need of a systematic history of authors and their works—a well arranged Dictionary of Literature—is most urgent. There is no greater obstacle to progress than the want of books of reference. This want it is within the power of our literary men to supply, and we trust that it will not be long before they commence their labours.

Another advocate of progress, in the same publication, draws attention to the lack of suitable maps for teaching history. A map, entitled *Dai Nippon Rekishichisu*, was published by Mr. Namatame Tsunenori not long ago, but this work, according to the writer whom we quote, has serious defects. It abounds with blank spaces and its valuable parts are very limited. Though we cannot but congratulate the cartographer on being the first to undertake a work of the kind, we regret that its deficiencies are so numerous, concludes the *Teikoku-bungaku* critic.

We read in the *Toyo Tetsugaku Zasshi* (Oriental Philosophy) that the Tetsugakkan, a school for teaching philosophy founded by Dr. Inouye Yenrio, has decided to open a new branch of the Institution to be called the *Toyo-daigaku-kwa*, the Oriental College Department. For this purpose Dr. Inouye has already collected nearly 2,000 yen, the greater part of which has been given by residents in Nagano-ken. By the ensuing autumn, it is anticipated, that some 2,000 yen more will be forthcoming from the same quarter.

No. 186 of the *Rikugo Zasshi* contains a review of Mr. MacCauley's recently published work entitled "An Introductory Course in Japanese." The reviewer takes exception to some of the examples given by Mr. MacCauley, for instance, on p. 106 as an example of compound nouns that consist of two nouns one of which is used as an adjective, after quoting such words as *kusuriya*, to insert a word of Chinese origin like *gakumon* is a mistake. These terms are not to be included in the same category. Later on the word *meiken* is given. This, too, is a doubtful example of the rule Mr. MacCauley was illustrating. Again, on p. 229, when furnishing examples of the formation of adverbs by adding the post-position *ni* to a noun, to place *sude ni* side by side with such words as *makoto ni* and *shinsetsu ni* was wrong. The treatment of words used in replying to questions or remarks on p. 163 leaves much to be desired. Just as Japanese in speaking English made constant mistakes in the use of "yes" and "no," so foreigners speaking Japanese frequently employ the terms "*hai*" and "*ie*" in a wrong sense. After pointing out a few other minor defects of Mr. MacCauley's work, the *Rikugo Zasshi* says, "Though not without parts which call for improvement, Mr. MacCauley's work may be said to have attained its purpose. It is by far the best book of its kind that has been published, and our desire is that it should become known to the world."

The *Tensoku*, Dr. Kato Hiroyuki's organ,

a relentless exposé of abuses of all kinds, sums up the character of certain scholars of modern days in the following terms:—(1) With low natures, they put on airs of great superiority and, while indulging freely in *sake* and courting the society of women of ill-fame, they make grand speeches. (2) They are either bigoted and hopelessly attached to old ways, or insincere and inferior. Even in these advanced days they speak of the appearance of gods and Buddhist divinities, are flatterers of the great, or court the smile of the vulgar. (3) Out of the love of money they sacrifice their positions as scholars. Their learning is converted into an article of merchandise. "That the above characteristics are common to a large class of modern scholars is undeniable. Can men of this type be said to have fulfilled their responsibility as representatives of learning in this empire?"

The same (June) number of the *Tensoku* has an article on antiquarian research in Japan, in which the writer deploras the want of interest in ancient works of art in this country. In Japan the antiquarian spirit can hardly be said to exist apart from such studies as subserve to a knowledge of anthropology and the fine arts. While for a number of years Europeans have been collecting in foreign lands articles of *virtu* and sending them home, we Japanese are so careless in these matters that before very long there is a likelihood of our descending to the ignominious position of inquirers at foreign doors for specimens of ancient Japanese art.

Among important works issuing from the press are the following:—*韓圖純理批判解説* (*Kanto-junri hihan-Kaisetsu*, "A Commentary on Kant's Critique of Pure Reason," 2 vols., by Kiyono Ben. The first volume is already out and the second will appear in the middle of August. The Tetsugakusho-in are the publishers. Price \$2.50.

The *Sibutsu-Shigenron*, the "Origin of Species," by Darwin, translated by Tachibana Senzaburo, published by the *Keisai Zasshi* Sha. Price \$1.45.

Kon-in Shinkwa-ron, a translation by Fujii Uhei of a popular work on the Evolution of Marriage, by Professor Westermarck, of the Finland University. The book was originally published in English, but has been translated into German, French, Russian, Italian, and Swedish, and now, by the express permission of the author, has been rendered into Japanese. Price \$1.60. Published by the Tetsugaku-shoin.

Nisen Gohyaku Nenshi, by Takenokoshi Yosaburo. A history of Japan from the days of the Emperor Jimmu, a work whose title suffices to show that the author has not imbibed the views of modern critics on historical chronology. Numerous smaller works have lately appeared, but they do not call for any special notice in this summary. There is perhaps no country where learned works are translated and sold at such low prices as those current in Japan. That the Origin of Species should be procurable at \$1.50 and that a small edition of Webster translated should be selling at 35 sen a copy, are ample proof that Japanese zeal for learning is free from the sordidness too often detracting from its value in Western lands.

The *Bungakukai* (文學界) recommends scholars to pay more attention to classical authors. The writer remarks that many of the modern developments of thought in Europe may be traced back to Greek and Latin writers, and further contends that to the classical authors of Europe belongs the credit of teaching the men of recent times how to think. In Japan, with few exceptions, learned men regard the classics with absolute indifference. No department of the University has been created to encourage that study. In Europe it is impossible to understand aright literature, religion, and philosophy without a knowledge of ancient classical authors. But in Japan a different opinion, we regret to say, is widely entertained. It is not our (*Japan Mail's*) business to discuss theories here, but we may perhaps be allowed to observe that the

parallel drawn by the *Bungakukai* is only imaginary, for there is no kind of similarity between the ancient Greek and Latin authors and Chinese and Japanese ancient writers and thinkers.

The same magazine is of opinion that far too large a space is given to works of fiction and poetry in modern newspapers of a certain type. These journals profess to be organs published for the purpose of giving urgent news. That busy recorders of the events of modern life should find space for so much irrelevant matter is very surprising. They all boast of possessing the latest intelligence on the events of the time, and yet find space for a mass of compositions having no claim to urgency.

An article published in No. 42 of the *Bungaku-kai*, entitled *Akamon Bungaku*, furnishes some interesting items of information on literary subjects. The term "Red-gate Literature" refers to the writings of University men, who go by the name of the Akamon-ha, the Red Gate Party, the allusion being to one of the gates by which the University grounds are entered. The influence of members of the Imperial University in the literary world, says the *Bungaku-kai*, is revealed in the pages of the *Teikoku Bungaku*, which is a product of the Akamon-ha. The members of the literary society bearing this title are all busy with their pens. To give a few instances, the connection of Mr. Takayama with the *Taiyo* is well known. The space devoted by that magazine to literary subjects is principally occupied by the writings of University men. Messrs. Sasa and Omachi have a great deal to do with the *Meiji-hyoron* (Meiji Criticism), Mr. Taoka is connected with the *Seinen-bun* (Literature of Young Men), Mr. Omachi with the *Shonen-bunshu* (少年文集). In the pages of the *Bungei Club* University men make a great show, and in the pages of the *八紘 Haiko*, the *Rikugo Zasshi* and the *Shinri* their names are frequently to be seen. The only organs where their absence is marked are the *Waseda Bungaku* and the *Mesamashi-gusa*. Though University writers figure thus largely in the literary world, what surprises us is that the writers are not professors. Why do not such men as Dr. Inouye astonish the world with some literary venture.

For many years past Messrs. Toyama Yatabe and others have been publishing verses known in Japanese as *Shintaishi* (New Style verses). Respecting this class of poetry the *Bungaku-kai* supplies its readers with the views of the well-known novelist Koda Rohan, embodied in a letter from Rohan given in its issue of June 30th, a short epitome of which we append. I observe, says Rohan, that of late the *hokku* (17 syllable verses) are all the fashion in the magazines, and that the new style verses are at a discount. But this cannot last. The *Shintaishi*, in my opinion, are destined to regain their popularity. There is no saying that the next ten years may not produce some one specially qualified to write this kind of poetry. Neither Chinese verses nor what are called *waka* (Yamato-uta) will retain their hold on men's minds. The latter even now owe the rank they occupy to the patronage they receive from the Imperial Household Department rather than to their intrinsic merits. And as for the verses known as *kyoshi* (crazy verses) they are like the squibs let off by children. They create a momentary sensation, but they will sink into lasting oblivion. Among the verses to be found in old books and old plays there are many popular ones, but this consideration should not be allowed to prevent people from appreciating the value of the new style of verses. As I read the magazines to-day it seems to me that we have retrograded some 15 or 16 years in the matter of poetry. Is this activity of archaic verse the last flicker of a dying fire?

In the same number of the *Bungakukai* from which we have been quoting, a writer complains of the want of ardour in literary matters;

a want visible in every direction since the conclusion of the war. It shows itself in the world of romance, the modern novelist expecting to effect with his 40 or 50 pages what in former days it took five or six times that number to accomplish. It reveals itself in the remarks of the critic, who for a thorough treatment of the subject under discussion substitutes a few cursory observations. The popularity of ancient verses and of the easily composed *kyoshi* is additional evidence of the lukewarm state of literary men. The beneficial results of the war are distinctly material in character. Literature has suffered severely therefrom.

The *Waseda Bungaku* notes with satisfaction the attention paid to the Fine Arts and to music by the periodicals of the day. The latter figures prominently in the pages of the *Teikoku Bungaku*, the *Bungakukai*, and the *Shinri*, and the former in the columns of the *Shirayuri* and the *Taiyo*, while the *Mesamashi-gusa* gives considerable space to both subjects. It is not quite clear what this tendency indicates. It may be a sign that art is about to enter on a new era. However regarded, the movement is a step in the right direction. The same organ states that the Department of War has undertaken to prepare the history of the China-Japan War, that it will take 5 years to prepare, and cost 50,000 yen. According to the *Nihon Shimbu*, says the *Waseda Bungaku*, the sources of information to be relied on are the reports of captains to their superior officers, descriptions of battles by eye-witnesses, and official daily records. The hope is expressed that the history will be a thoroughly reliable one, recording events as they took place without regard to their being favourable to Japan or the reverse.

As is probably known to many of our readers, for some time past the Imperial University has had in contemplation the compilation of an exhaustive history of Japan, and the work of collecting, classifying, and editing material has been entrusted to a committee, which now consists of 16 members. According to a recent number of the *Waseda Bungaku*, special steps have been taken to expedite the work. Diligent search has already been made in Kyushu, Chugoku, and Kwanto for historical records of all kinds, but half of the O-U provinces (Rikuzen, Rikuchu, Mutsu, Uzen, and Ugo), and the whole of the Hokurikudo are still unexplored. The Shigakkai (Historical Society) are in the habit of holding lecture meetings in Tokyo every month. It is usual to allow the public to attend these meetings, but in April last when Dr. Shigeno, the eminent historian, delivered a lecture, a notice was issued forbidding the attendance of any but members of the Society. Was this, asks the *Waseda Bungaku*, owing to the nature of the subject treated by Dr. Shigeno? Instructions have been given to the representatives of the various *Daimyo* to collect the historical records of their Diastates and forward copies of the same to the Imperial Household Department. It is said that Viscount Akimoto has already collected 300 volumes having reference to the Han of Tatebayashi. In order to facilitate the collection of material, Historical Societies have been organised in various districts: among these the O-U Society, and the Hokuriku Shigakkai are specially worthy of mention. Valuable matter is constantly appearing in the magazines published by these provincial associations.

A writer in the same magazine sighs for the days when the publication of books involved expense and trouble undreamt of by the mass of modern scribblers. Facilities for publishing books are now so great that literary tyros are encouraged to inflict their crude ideas on the reading world. The methods used for self-advertisement in recent times are, continues this critic, of a most objectionable kind. Authors entirely unknown to fame publish books containing their own photographs. Little children are encouraged to send literary contributions to such papers as the *Shonen Zasshi*, and then the photograph of the per-

son considered the best youthful composer is supplied to the subscribers. The bad effects of all this fuss on the minds of young people must be patent to everybody. In the old days when every character that a book contained had to be carved, only those that had something important to say ventured to publish a book, and booksellers took no leaps in the dark. Modern inventions have their drawbacks, regarded from a literary point of view.

On the subject of translations, the *Waseda Bungaku* has an excellent article. It is gratifying, says that magazine, to observe that learned men in Japan are becoming more serious and more practical, and are aiming at attaining a higher standard than has hitherto been reached. One great proof of this is furnished by the wide-spread desire to furnish students with thoroughly trustworthy translations of foreign standard works. The agitation in favour of better and more extensive translation is not confined to one or two literary organs, but has gained the approval of most of the chief magazine writers. A recent number of the *Taiyo* has an article entitled "The Age of Translations," in which the writer observes that great thoughts are the result of elaborate preparations; that, hitherto, intellectual matters in Japan may be compared to a tree the growth of whose foliage has been too luxuriant to admit of its bearing good fruit; that since the number of well educated men in proportion to the number of the ignorant is very small, the only effective method of elevating the masses is to place them in possession of the best thoughts, and the translation of standard books is the surest way of attaining this end. The *Hakko* is equally explicit. Two great defects, writes that organ, characterise modern literary men: one is their imperfect knowledge of literature, the other their failure to explain to their fellow countrymen the true significance and purpose of foreign literature. The latter defect can be remedied by the production of good translations. A writer in the *Bungaku-kai*, on the same subject, observes that many of the translations hitherto prepared have been merely pecuniary speculations; hence their slipshod character. Our contemporary trusts that new men actuated by purely literary motives are about to take part in the work. The *Kokumin Shimbu* has of late expressed its regret that there should exist antipathy even to well executed translations, and is of opinion that this feeling is an element of the desire for isolation and seclusion that has taken possession of certain minds. The cure for the anti-foreign spirit, says the *Kokumin*, is familiarity with Western thought, and this can be rendered attainable by a supply of well translated foreign works. Such books as Darwin's "Origin of Species," and Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason," have already appeared, says the *Waseda Bungaku*, and we are informed that Mr. Nakajima Rikizo in combination with Messrs. Yamamoto, Kuwaki and Takayama have already commenced the translation of certain ancient works, among which is Aristotle's Ethics. Mr. Takahashi Juzo has already finished the translation of Kant's "Metaphysics of Ethics." The translation of purely literary works makes large demands on the translator. He must be well versed in learning and must be a sufficiently good writer in Japanese to be able to reproduce the force of the original. If duly qualified men undertake the work and the country is supplied with a large stock of trustworthy translations, the necessity of students spending about one-fifth of their time in the study of foreign languages will be obviated. In order to prevent a useless waste of energy, it is desirable that a translating society should be formed and that money should not be spared in the effort to furnish the country with the much needed works of foreign authors in a form that will insure their thorough appreciation.

No. 174 of the *Tokui-Shushi* (Statistics) publishes the following details referring to the increase of ephemeral literature. Between the beginning of 1890 and the end of 1894 no less

than 98 different kinds of periodicals were published. The subjoined table gives statistics for the five years :—

Year.	No. of Magazines and Newspapers at the end of the year.	No. of Copies.	Newly Started Magazines and Newspapers.	Magazines and Newspapers discontinued.	Publications Suspended.	Proposed Publications to every 10,000 persons.
1890	716	188,280	441	373	39	128
1891	766	209,768	446	396	61	234
1892	793	244,803	460	434	87	263
1893	808	276,137	484	474	87	284
1894	814	367,733	518	506	140	341

THE INSURRECTION IN FORMOSA.

A telegram from Lieut.-General Katsura to the Minister of State for War in Tokyo says that the number of officers who lost their lives at the hands of the insurgents in Formosa is five, namely :—

Captain Yamada Manjiro, of the Infantry, killed in battle.

Lieut. Nakamura Michiaki, of the Infantry, killed in battle.

Lieut. Matsuo Koichi, of the Infantry, killed in battle.

Ensign Nishina Masajiro, of the Infantry, killed in battle.

Captain Miyayaga Keida, of the Infantry, died of wounds.

Telegrams to hand with reference to the insurrection itself are as follow :—

Taipei, 11 a.m., 8th instant; from Major-General Tachimi.

Major Sato's force, which retreated from Yuen-lin and halted at Ta-pu-lin, was engaged from the 2nd to the 5th instant driving away the rebels from the vicinity.

The Brigade, as previously planned, finished its operations against the insurgents in Nan-tou on the 6th instant, and the various corps assembled at Tai-chung. On the 7th, Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi, with two battalions of infantry, a battery of artillery and a party of sappers, advanced from Chang-hwa, and resuming communications with the troops in the south, issued orders for driving the rebels from Yuen-lin and its vicinity. A company was also sent to re-inforce Pu-li-sho, and Major Matsui with two companies was detached to preserve communications with that place.

Taipei, 3.15 p.m., 10th instant; from Major-General Tachimi.

Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force attacked the rebels, numbering about 800, at Yuen-lin-chie on the 8th instant, and drove them away, pell-mell. On the same day, some 600 insurgents attacked Lachiang, and after nine hours' hard fighting they were driven off. On the following day (9th) the officer commanding the Brigade sent Lieut.-Col. Imahashi's force, together with two companies of infantry and a field-gun, under Major Suzuta, and four half companies from Tai-chung, to Lo-chiang. The casualties in the fight at Lo-chiang were Lieut. Okuda, severely wounded, and Captain Iwai, Control-officer Watanabe, Ensign Urabe, of the Gendarmier; and eight men, wounded; also, one gendarme killed. Seven of the enemy were taken prisoners and over a hundred killed.

The following telegram has been published in Tokyo :—

Taipei, 2.30 p.m., 12th July.—The force under Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi attacked and captured Peh-tou at 10 a.m. on the 10th instant. The Japanese casualties were, one private killed, and one non-commissioned officer and one private wounded. On the 11th instant, Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force reached Tsu-tung-hiang, and at Ta-li-wu effected a junction with the troops under Major Sato. The Lieut.-Colonel's force will now march against Yuen-lin. The two companies of infantry and one section of artillery under Major Matsui marched from Tsu-tung-chie on the 11th instant to attack the insurgents. The company of reinforcements in Pu-li-sho was also to take part in the movement. (Signed) Major-General TACHIMI.

A great number of Police-inspectors, and other Police officers throughout the Empire were promoted or awarded grants ranging from yen 300 to yen 100, on the 15th inst. for services rendered in the years 1894 and 1895.

Baron Suematsu's increasing corpulency is causing him much trouble. He has been ordered by his physicians to make a tour in a mountainous country and take a course of the waters at Carlsbad.—*Tokyo Shimbun*.

THE SEISMIC WAVE.

The *Official Gazette* gives a very useful account, from the pen of Nakamura Seidan, a member of the Seismic Disaster Prevention Committee, about the relation of earth magnetism to the recent seismic disturbance. He first refers to the change noticed in the magnetometer at Nagoya, seven or eight days previous to the occurrence of the Gifu-Aichi Earthquake on Jan. 10th, 1894, and the indications at Sendai about a week prior to the occurrence of a similarly disastrous seismic calamity at Sakata on Oct. 22nd of the same year. With respect to the present calamity, indications were given by the instrument at Sendai from about the 11th. A most striking change was observed in the readings on the 14th, that is, the day previous to the calamity. As the instrument at Nagoya did not present any such appearance that day, the inference is that the change at Sendai must have been caused by subterranean disturbances that culminated in the dreadful calamity in the Sanriku district. On this hypothesis, disturbances may have been taking place off the coast of the three provinces from about the 11th, and these may have caused the tidal wave of the 15th. It is a pity that Nemuro had not an instrument with which to observe magnetic changes, for its readings might have served the excellent purpose of localizing the seat of the disturbance with tolerable accuracy.

FIRE IN CHINA-TOWN.

On Tuesday evening a big fire broke out in China Town, Yokohama, that involved the total destruction of several houses. The alarm was given at 8 o'clock, and Supt. Morgan proceeded to the spot with all the men of the Yokohama Fire Brigade, two hose-reels, stand-pipes, and a steamer. He found that the fire had broken out in a tenement house on Lot 145, in the occupation of Yu Lung. This house is divided into four and is occupied solely by Chinese—Kwong Man Wing, a curio merchant; and Sung Lung & Co., sugar and curio merchants, etc., who rent the place from Yu Lung. In an upstairs room of the principal tenants' apartments a kerosene lamp exploded and set fire to the furniture and hangings. The flames quickly spread, destroying the whole house. Then, fanned by a fairly strong breeze, they leaped across the road and attacked No. 146, a tenement house occupied by Mr. A. H. Joseph, silk and curio merchant; Wing Tai Lung, an importer and exporter; and Hing Kee, a straw-braid dealer. This house was more substantially built than the other and withstood the attack of the flames better, but the next house, also occupied by a colony of Chinese, quickly succumbed. The police brigades were in attendance, and a fire party from the U.S.S. flagship *Olympia*, and water being obtained in good volume from the well at No. 76, and the street hydrants, the fire was mastered within an hour. The Commander of H.M.S. *Undaunted* sent to inquire if he could render the local brigades any assistance, but fortunately it was not required. The places, we understand, were insured, principally in Chinese offices.

GUNS AND ARMOUR IN ITALY.

We read in the last papers from Europe, that Captain Urio, naval attaché to the Japanese Legation in Paris, and Captain Endo, who occupies the same post in London, accompanied by Messrs. Takayama and Miyabara, Japanese Naval Engineers, visited in Italy, under official instructions from their Government, the large establishment of Terni (cannon and armour-plate factories), the two shipbuilding yards of Leghorn (Orlando), and Sestriponte by Genoa (Ansaldo), as well as the engine works of Ansaldo at Sampierdarena.

The same papers note that a very favourable impression was derived by the Japanese guests from their visit to these places, but the practical results of the inspection is still unknown.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The long-expected fall of Li Pöm-chin, head of the Cabinet in Korea, has taken place, and the question now asked is, what led to his discomfiture. The *Yiji Shimpō* attributes his misfortune to the fact, or rather hypothesis, that he had alienated the confidence of the Russian Minister, who became tired of his coarse vulgarity and lost patience at his want of prudence. Another explanation is that the direct causes culminating in his fall were that, after losing the confidence of the Russian Minister, he advised the king to return to the Palace, and also that he secretly attempted to do away with a trusted Korean employé of the Russian Legation. Li is in an embarrassing predicament, for the Cabinet, the Russian Minister, and the American Minister are all urging him to start for his destination, America, and he, on his side, is afraid to leave his present asylum lest the followers of the late Premier and the late Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Agriculture, whom he caused to be murdered, should rise and wreak vengeance upon him. However, he must start for the United States, and it is said that he intends to do so during the current month, taking with him his family, for he knows well that whatever Cabinet changes take place hereafter, no hope can be entertained of his obtaining a portfolio. With his fall, the real power has passed into the hands of Han Kyu-u, the Minister of Justice, and his coadjutors, the Ministers of Finance and of Education and the Chief of the Police Board. It is entirely a mistake to suppose that with the disappearance of Li the influence of the anti-Japanese party has waned in the Korean Cabinet. Nothing is farther from the truth. Japan is as unpopular as ever, and Russia's predominance remains undiminished. Indications are not wanting, however, that the Koreans do not repose so much confidence in Russia as they did formerly. Reports sent to Seoul by the Korean ambassador to Russia are believed to be in the sense that the Korean Cabinet may rely upon the possibility of borrowing money from Russia, but that the protection of the palace by Russian troops cannot be obtained. The Cabinet has consequently been obliged to have recourse to another method, namely, the engagement of some 20 Russian officers to train a body of Korean troops as Palace Guards. The arrival of those officers is eagerly awaited. It is said that Russia is to send two companies of troops for the special purpose of guarding her Legation, a procedure regarded as probably one of the conditions of the so-called Japan-Russia Convention. The principal topic to which the Korean Ministry are now devoting attention is characteristic of their prevailing temper. They are seeking to make the political stage revolve so as to present to the public once more the scenes popular before the present system was adopted.

The rumour that the Korean Government declared against the use of foreign, and especially Japanese, coins, has proved groundless. The news was never taken seriously by anybody acquainted with the true condition of the media of exchange in Korea. At present all kinds of coins are used in the various districts of the peninsula, each kind being restricted to particular districts. Even the different varieties of coins struck several years ago at the Osaka Mint, we believe, circulate only in Seoul and Ninsen and the suburbs, although the Government has frequently issued orders enjoining the people generally use those coins as legal tender. Further, in the capital itself, and in Ninsen, citizens and merchants refuse to sell goods in exchange for the coins in question. The fact is that the Government struck only a small quantity of genuine one-yen and 20 sen silver coins, and issued debased subsidiary coins in large quantities. The silver coins that possess real money value have disappeared from circulation, and there remain only 5 sen, 1 sen, and ½ sen subsidiary coins. These debased tokens, at first circulating in various places, have flowed back to Seoul and Ninsen, where they lie idle in the people's boxes to the great obstruction of the smooth transaction of business.

The Banks refuse to accept them, as do also the Customs beyond the legal limit. Both the Chamber of Commerce, in Ninsen, and the Japanese Consul stationed there are devising measures to deal with this trouble. On the other hand, Japanese silver coins are very popular. In remote districts, Wiju for example, the yen piece is taken at the rate of 1.24 yen, and many wealthy merchants are coming over to Ninsen to buy Japanese coins.

When, owing to their novelty, the Koreans were much more of a curiosity than they are at present, there used to be some discussion about the sex of young people seen in the train of great men or moving about the streets of Söul, with a decidedly feminine cast of features and long braids of hair down their backs. If the disputants had known more about Korean manners and customs they would have found less room to doubt. "Complete seclusion of all young women and all older women except those of the low class, is an inexorable law in Korea," says the *Korean Repository*. "All young women of respectability are carefully hidden from the eyes of males, whether strangers or friends. The rat-ta-ta of her flying ironing sticks may be heard in the streets, the smoke of the green pine-wood fire she is cooking by may be seen ascending above the roof, and possibly her voice may be heard by a passer-by, but her face and form are never seen." In Japan the expression "secluded," as applied to a girl, means that she is immensely precious in the eyes of her parents. But in Korea the custom of seclusion seems to have been dictated solely by caution. "The theoretical inferiority and weakness of woman, and the superiority and strength of man render some such protection necessary; the facts of history point to protection of some sort as highly desirable. The previous dynasty had no law of seclusion, women enjoying great public freedom. In the final decades of the dynasty women became the special objects of violence. Buddhist priests were guilty of wide-spread debauchery of homes; conjugal infidelity was estimated the lightest of crimes; the most popular sport of court and provincial nobles was a raid upon a home known to contain a beautiful woman. These onslaughts on the home did more to ruin and destroy the State than anything else, for the prevailing corruption and debauchery finally engulfed royalty itself. The present dynasty tried to remedy this evil by withdrawing woman from the public eye."

In marriage affairs the principals have not the least voice. The match is made by the parents. Not until the knot is tied do the persons bound see each other. Then, as the girl has been secluded ever since she was six or seven; cut off from instructive converse with others; condemned to an everlasting routine of cooking, sewing, and small talk, the man finds her what the dualistic philosophy of his country has already taught him to expect—an inferior being. Thus the practice of this Korean creed is like that of the great economical fallacy, protection: each created circumstances favourable to its perpetuity.

Yet this essay in the *Korean Repository*, from which we have been quoting, has a very good deal to say about the real status of the Korean woman:—

An absurd philosophy, the dogmas of a man-made religion, shadowy legal rights, illiteracy, and neglect have combined to force woman beneath man's level in Korea. But she has risen in spite of these depressing forces, and actually occupies a place in national life, all theory denies her. In her essential qualities she is diligent, forceful in character, resourceful in an emergency, superstitious, persevering, indomitable, devoted. There is much more in evidence of her diligent integrity than there is of her lord's industry. There are no man tailors to share with her in clothing a race, the spacious dimensions of whose garments indicate seemingly that they were designed to use up cloth—great quantities of cloth. Then the entire job of laundering these garments and cooking the 200,000 bags of rice which the nation eats daily is all done by her. She does a man's work on the farm (we have seen her yoked with a man, dragging a plough in the country) and runs thousands of small stands for merchandise as well as doing a thriving business in the huckster line. In part the power and influence of Korean women are to be met with in every quarter of the world man deludes himself into believing he has appropriated to himself in Korea. When times of trial arise and the home is threatened with starvation, the busy needle and flying washing and ironing

sticks of the wife keep the household together. Even more, her persevering and indomitable energy rises superior to the severest poverty, while her liege lord collapses as though he had a shoestring for a backbone. Could we know the actual facts in every case, it would be found probably that many of the strutting, self-styled aristocrats in large towns are really drummers up of trade, purveyors of washing and needle work, messengers for the real "man-of-the-house" who is too busy or too modest to appear in the street. Korean women are withal inveterate intrigantes, exercising an unseen but powerful hand in general affairs—all the more powerful because unseen.

A writer in the *Korean Repository*, signing himself H.G.A., tells the story of the defences of Ping-yang, as he found them on a recent visit to the celebrated battle-field. The conclusions he arrives at are that the Chinese showed great skill in their methods of fortification, that in every case the sites chosen by them for forts and parapets were good; that the disgrace of not successfully holding at bay the Japanese troops on the east and south sides was "of the deepest dye," and that "no words can properly express the disgrace, disloyalty, and cowardice" exhibited by men who allowed themselves to be driven out of such fortifications, natural and artificial, as existed on the north side." Readers of the news that reached us immediately after the battle of Ping-yang doubtless remember the allusions made to Mount Peony, where Hideyoshi's celebrated general, Kato Kiyomasa, sustained a crushing defeat three centuries ago, and where the Japanese encountered no little difficulty in September, 1894. "H.G.A." says, "As one stands on the summit of Mt. Peony one is amazed at the daring and pluck that drove the occupants from this almost impregnable position."

"Reaction against the reforms introduced into Korea in 1894 has begun to set in," says the *Korean Repository*. Evidently the statement is correct, otherwise the new Minister of Education, Sin Ki-sun, would not have ventured to memorialize the Throne in an emphatically reactionary sense. The *Independent* of June 6th says:—

The Minister of Education, Sin Ki Sun, has memorialized the Throne to the effect that the adoption of foreign clothes by the soldiers, policemen, and Government students, and the cutting of hair is the first step toward making them barbarians; that the use of the *summun* and the adoption of the western calendar is the first step toward throwing off the yoke of China, that the new regulations for the Cabinet, giving the freedom to discuss public matters, deprives His Majesty of some of his power, and encourages the freedom and liberty of the people. These were things contemplated by the former traitorous Cabinet. He has been appointed Minister of Education, but he cannot perform the duties of the office so long as the students have their hair cut and wear foreign clothes. The use of the *summun* is the act of a beast and is like going into the fire with powder, and is the beginning of the destruction of the government and the venerable Chinese classics. He therefore hopes His Majesty will dismiss him from the Cabinet.

The King paid no public attention to the memorial and the Minister entered the Cabinet, apparently persuaded that he had acquired the right to exercise a free conservative hand. Three days later he issued an order forbidding the students of the Royal English School to wear foreign dress, under pain of heavy penalties. The order was to have gone into force at once, but its operation was eventually postponed for a fortnight, by which time the summer vacation began, and on the re-opening of the schools the portfolio of the retrogressive Minister may be in other hands.

Many critics are wont to say that Japan's influence in Korea has not been productive of any genuine reform. Here is what the editor of the *Korean Repository* writes on the subject, incidentally to some remarks on the acts of the present anti-progressive Minister of Education:—

The efforts of the Minister of Education to stem or throttle the new spirit growing up here can only be partially successful at best. Quite a few Koreans, especially among the students of the several schools, are cutting their hair a second time and that too at the very time when such an act is the "first step towards barbarism;" with a lively tri-weekly published in the native script and widely read by all classes, the common people will begin to think. This and not the use of the native character, is the real cause of alarm of the Conservative party. The concern for the Royal prerogative may be true or feigned, but the discussion of public questions by the Cabinet will be one of the most effectual ways of breaking up the intrigue for which this government has an unsavory reputation. A little opposition may be good. The country, however, must not be allowed to go back to the corrupt and corrupting ante bellum times.

We observe that the Editor of the *Korean Repository* takes some pains, in his June number, to refute a charge advanced by the *Literary*

Digest that his magazine is "violently anti-Japanese." Truly, we do not think that an accusation so palpably unjust needs any refutation. If all editors in the Far East showed the spirit of fairness and impartiality that has hitherto distinguished the *Korean Repository*, public intelligence and accuracy of judgment would be much improved.

DETAILS OF THE TOYAMA INUNDATIONS.

Details of the recent inundations in Toyama are to hand. The statistics are these:—

Embankments breached, 4,577 *ken* (9,158 yards); roads damaged, 299 *ken* (598 yards); bridges damaged, 18; bridges swept away, 9; persons drowned, 4; houses washed away, 15; houses wrecked, 24; houses flooded, 1,724; sheds washed away or wrecked, 6; arable land inundated, 516,765 *cho* (1,292 acres); other land flooded, 813,870 *cho* (2,034½ acres). From the beginning of the month the weather continued wet and gloomy in Toyama, and, after a short interruption, rain again began to fall heavily at about 10 p.m. of the 5th instant. From the afternoon of the next day, the storm grew in force, and between 2 p.m. of that day and 10 a.m. of the next, the rain-gauge at the Toyama Observatory showed a fall of 52 mill., the highest record since the instrument was set up. The Jijoganji-gawa rose more than 4 feet, the Jinzu more than 10½ feet; the Kurobe, more than 11 feet. The first river broke its embankment early on the morning of the 7th instant, and inundated the neighbouring country.

THE RUSSIAN THRONES.

The *Times* correspondent gives the following account of the three Thrones used on the occasion of the Coronation of the Czar, the Throne of the Empress Dowager, and the Thrones of the Emperor and Empress:—

All three thrones are armchairs of antique form and have interesting historical associations. That of the Emperor is covered with plaques of gold in which are many large, roughly-cut jewels, rubies, emeralds, and turquoises, to the number, it is said, of nearly 2,000. It is usually called the Throne of the Tsar Michael, the first ruler of the Romanoff dynasty, but according to the old records it belongs to an earlier period, having been sent as a present by a Shah of Persia to Ivan the Terrible. The throne of the young Empress, covered with plaques of ivory beautifully carved in bas relief, was a gift of Pope Paul II. to the Tsar Ivan III. on the occasion of his marriage with a niece of the last Byzantine Emperor. The Empress Dowager's throne, not unlike that of the Emperor's in general appearance, is that of the Tsar Alexis, father of Peter the Great. It is ornamented with nearly 1,000 diamonds and over 1,200 rubies, together with many turquoises and pearls, while from the back rises an eagle of solid gold, and statuettes in the same metal of St. Peter, and St. Nicholas, the miracle worker. On the back of each throne is a dark crimson velvet cushion edged with gold, and bearing in gold embroidery the monogram of its august occupant. The canopies are likewise of crimson velvet and gold and are surmounted with black, orange, and white plumes.

A TIDAL OR SEISMIC WAVE AT IKI.

Intelligence from Iki, an island off the coast of Hizen, 48 miles from Taushima, says that frequent showers of rain fell there on the 8th instant, and that, at 10 a.m., the thermometer registered 21° C. (69.8° F.). Towards evening a violent gale began to blow, and at 7 o'clock the sea showed signs of disturbance, rising several times two or three feet above its usual height, and retreating with exceptional rapidity. The boats anchored off the island were thrown into considerable confusion, and some damage was done to cultivated lands, but happily there were no casualties among the people or the live stock.

Among the riders at the recent equestrian games at the Akasaka Palace the most conspicuously successful was H.I.H. Prince Kanin, who received warm encomiums.

CHINESE NOTES.

It is alleged that, at the dictation of Count Cassini, the Chinese Government have agreed to appoint a Danish Naval officer to an important position in the service about to be organized. The attempts of the Chinese Authorities to evade this appointment, the insistence of the Russian Representative, and the understanding that the Dane is to be second to, not of equal standing with, the officer that England is expected to lend, are graphically described by the leading Shanghai paper. But the story is too much embroidered. Of course the hypothesis is that Russia wants to prevent the organization of China's new navy under completely British auspices. If that be so, her method of procedure seems somewhat roundabout. At all events, the British Government can not enter that field of competition.

The Shantung correspondent of the *North China Daily News* tells the story of a remarkable man who recently died at Linchingchow. A beggar, content to live on scraps picked out of the gutter; illiterate to the point of not being able to read, and without any apparent gift except singular tenacity of purpose, this man, Wu Tou-mo, succeeded in founding three colleges and in sustaining them for the decade preceding his death. His unique idea was that he had a mission to establish free schools. To that end he devoted every cent he could procure, and even when money came to him in showers and honours were heaped upon him by the Emperor until he had more titles than any other man in the town, he remained a beggar in habits, refusing to eat with the students that received their education through his labours, and satisfying himself with the remnants of their meals. But in business matters he seems to have been a man of exceeding shrewdness, who did not hesitate to take full advantage of his neighbours' simplicity.

A wholesale raid has been made by the Shanghai police upon a species of Chinese Monte Carlo, in the vicinity of the Woosung Road, not far from the rifle range. Matsheds had been erected for the convenience of the gamblers; quite a little town was growing up about the place, and watchmen were always on duty, one of their functions being to warn off foreigners. The raid is thus described:—

Inspector Howard determined to disperse them and proceeded to do so on the afternoon of June 28th. By different routes, and without exciting suspicion, thirty native constables were placed in ambush about two miles away in the country; and in another direction twenty constables were posted, whilst two foreigners kept the bridge over the Singkingpang creek between a large cotton ginning mill and the gamblers' sheds. Altogether 50 native constables, six native detectives, and five foreigners were engaged under Inspector Howard. At the appointed hour, when all was in readiness, Inspector Howard crossed over the bridge just mentioned and blew his whistle. The gamblers, surmising they were to be attacked, ran in all directions, but as the constables remained hidden for some time their uncertainty as to which route to take was increased. So well were the police placed, however, when they did begin to move that no fewer than 84 gamblers were caught, whilst two in attempting to cross a creek near the likin station were drowned. The raid is described as having been most exciting, the gamblers in their flight throwing away money, etc., as they scampered pell-mell across country. Two baskets of money were recovered from a creek, some \$40 or \$50 were picked up in the fields, and the country people no doubt gleaned some more. When the prisoners were paraded at the police station, 28 were found to be Cantonese, many of them in good positions, and one man was said to be a large drug dealer at Nanking.

The Viceroy of Nanking, Liu Kun-yi, has issued the following proclamation:—

Whereas, our citizens ought to treat foreigners who come into our country with consideration, and thus show a friendly spirit since there are already friendly treaties with all other nations. Any affair that concerns other countries ought to be reported to the local authorities who will decide in an impartial way according to the established law. At the present time all the German military instructors in this provincial capital were engaged to train the new army by the late acting Viceroy H.E. Chang, and are exerting themselves in the interests of China.

In the case of the churches and hospitals that have been established by the French, English, and American missionaries for preaching and healing, these are indeed works of benevolence. Law-abiding citizens should harbour no suspicions as to their

doings, but rather treat them with great respect on all occasions. Any one who, without cause, stirs up trouble, or incites to riot, is a law-breaker, and will be punished without leniency. Citizens should attend only to their own business, and not follow idle rumours and thus unawares be caught in the clutches of the law. The inspectors of police and magistrates of this district are all instructed to give protection and act energetically. I have already ordered those who are under my service to seize and punish several if any trouble arise.

On this account, I issue a special proclamation to instruct all the soldiers and civilians of this city to attend to your own duties, and respect the established laws. In any affairs which concern foreigners do not listen to false reports and silly gossip. If any ill-intentioned parties start rumours and cause trouble, they will be seized and punished without leniency.

There seems to be some uncertainty as to the proximate cause of the issue of the above, but doubtless it owes its origin to the recent trouble between the Chinese braves and the new German-drilled "Ad-Astra" force, which resulted in a German drill instructor's receiving a bad beating. The Viceroy now finds it advisable to remove this force to Woosung, and arrangements to that end are in progress.

The *North-China Daily News* has opened a subscription for the relief of the sufferers by the Seismic Wave in Japan. The amount subscribed up to July 4th was 2,600.

Our readers doubtless remember that serious trouble seemed to impend at Hankow, owing to the arbitrary manner in which the vested interests of British land-holders were about to be treated in connection with the establishment of a French settlement. The difficulty has now been solved by the simple expedient of making large additions to the British concession in directions distinct from the area to be occupied by the French.

Owing to the sudden rise of various rivers in Chihli—the Yungting, the Peiho, and others—large tracts covered with nearly ripe wheat have been inundated, and a famine is apprehended.

The appropriation of the site selected for the new Japanese settlement at Chungking will necessitate the removal of a number of graves, a contingency that is expected to cause much trouble.

The cotton-mill project of the Viceroy in Chungking has been abandoned.

Official sanction has been definitely given to mining operations in Manchuria. There is believed to be an abundance of gold, silver, iron, and coal. The terms of the sanction are thus given by the Mukden correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*:—

Any man may have an official *piao* entitling him to work for gold or silver in any piece of ground he chooses. If the ground belongs to another man, this man is bound to sell the ground to the miner for what it cost—this seems the hardest condition connected with the new decree. If the concession wanted is among the mountains, nothing is paid therefor. The *piao* empowering the man to mine costs nothing for the first three months, giving time to explore the concession, which may be abandoned, if unpromising, and another taken within that time. After three months, when the miner is satisfied with his claim, he pays two shoes of silver (Tls. 107) for his *piao*. One-tenth of the products of mining, if silver, belongs to the Emperor and four-tenths if gold. Coal pays so little that it is inappreciable. A considerable number of claims are made already, and it is to be hoped that they will be sufficiently profitable to entice large numbers into the work. Despite the vigilance of soldiers kept purposely to prevent the people from meddling with the gold deposits, a considerable quantity of gold dust found its way into the market. We may surely look for a great deal more now. Manchuria, if properly worked, would help to allay the bimetallic agitation.

The renewed outbreak of the Mahommedan rebellion in Kansu seems to be decidedly serious. The leading Shanghai paper of June 29th has the following:—

Telegraphic despatches received here yesterday evening from Kansu via Peking report the Mahommedan rebellion to be spreading to an alarming extent and that it is much more formidable than the one which began a year ago and was reported last February as "crushed." It is further reported that the Mahommedan rebels have recently inflicted another serious defeat upon the Imperialists. Governor Wei of Shensi, with 10,000 men, was at last reports (24th instant) within 280 li of forming a junction with General Tung Fu-hsiang's army near Huchou.

It appears from correspondence in the same paper, that the Mahommedans of Ili and Hsin-chiang have joined the revolt, and that the Im-

perial forces are in a parlous state. The followers of Islam are said to give evidence of high spirit and military bravery, whereas the Government troops, though better armed, are craven, incompetent, and lacking in *esprit de corps*.

A letter from north Kiangsu, under date June 20th, published by the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—

News was received to-day that a Roman Catholic priest was severely beaten—some official despatches say killed—in Chuchoufu this morning. Chuchoufu is in the north-west end of Kiangsu. For fifteen years, foreigners have held property in the city. The Roman Catholics had repeatedly attempted to take possession of their property and were as often driven out, the Viceroy's orders to the contrary notwithstanding. After the triennial examinations this year, the priests were invited to come and take possession, with the effect just noted. The settlement of this case will be of deep interest to other missions in the prefecture.

Mr. Krause, the German drill-instructor, who was so mercilessly handled by an undisciplined mob of Chinese soldiers, has received a salutation in the form of twenty-five thousand marks, accompanied by the cancelling of his agreement. We presume that a sum of ten thousand dollars paid down, and liberty to return to the Fatherland without further service in a country where a man is liable to get clubbed for doing his duty, will satisfy Mr. Krause. But his dismissal is peculiar. May it not suggest to conservative Chinese braves a device for getting rid of all the "Ad-astra" instructors?

There has been a duel in the neighbourhood of Shanghai—at Woosung, say some; in a garden just outside the settlement, say others. The principals were German officers, Captain Count Nayhauss and Captain Wilhelm Hoffman. The cause is uncertain; apparently some caustic remarks made by Captain Hoffman were the origin of the trouble. The two officers came down from Nanking, where they were serving, obtained seconds and a surgeon in Shanghai, and then slashed at each other with swords, Captain Hoffman receiving a severe wound in the arm.

In a letter written from Morioka to the Missions Etrangères, the Rt. Rev. Père Berlioz, Bishop of Hakodate, says, with reference to the seismic-wave disaster:—

Fathers Jacquet and Deffrennes, who left for Kamsishi the day after the disaster, write me that the spectacle is heart-rending and defies all description. In the midst of the putrefying bodies of men and animals nothing is heard but the groans of the wounded, the murmurs of those who have lost all, the cries of the orphans. There is not one who is not in mourning.

The authorities are doing their duty with a devotion above all praise, and the organisation of succour is working with admirable method. But in the face of so many and such great needs, none can remain indifferent to such frightful calamities. We find ourselves confronted by one of those misfortunes in the allaying of which every one should assist, and; I am confident that the sentiments of charity which animate those who have feeling for the suffering of their kind, will urge them to do something for our unfortunate Japanese.

The promptitude of the Chinese Authorities in meting out justice—or injustice—when certain crimes are in question, is illustrated by a recent case. The Soochow Magistracy having learned that an alleged leader of the Kolaohin was hiding in the vicinity of the Taho Lake, and having bribed a member of that powerful society to guide them, apprehended the man and carried him to Soochow, where his head was cut off six hours after his arrival.

A movement is on foot in China to establish chambers of commerce in all the provinces. A censor has memorialized the Throne to authorize, by special decrees, the Viceroys and Governors to take steps in that sense. As yet the programme seems to have taken practical shape in the province of Shanai only, but no obstacles seem likely at present to prevent its wider application.

A correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* sends to that journal a glowing account of the prospects of the new settlement at Soochow, which place, as our readers are probably aware, was opened to foreign trade by the Shimonoseki Treaty. A new silk filature has been finished and another will soon be completed. Thirty houses, of the Shanghai native type, are

being built, and have already found tenants. A Chinese electric light company is getting up its plant; a large cotton spinning and weaving mill is very near completion, and tea shops, opium divans, and so forth are springing up everywhere.

The "Ad-astra" army corps of Nanking (soon to be removed to Woosung) is not the only body of men in China organized and drilled according to the German system. Another corps of thirty battalions (15,000 men) exists in Chihli. It is called the "Wuyi Corps" and has its head-quarters at Lutai, a few miles north of Tientsin. The formation of this corps was recommended by General Nieh, an officer who certainly did not distinguish himself in the recent war, though he is now Commander-in-chief of Chihli. Nieh's idea was that the corps should be German in all respects, and we learn from a memorial recently addressed to the Throne by the Viceroy of Chihli that the men forming it are the pick of those employed in Manchuria and Chihli during the war; that a number of German officers are now engaged licking it into shape, and that its rôle is to be a "roving offensive" corps ready to take the field at any moment and to fight at any point. A sum of some thirty thousand taels has just been granted to build military and medical schools, ordnance stores, a magazine, and a hospital. We wonder what use either this corps or the "Ad-astra" body would be if deprived of its German officers? What the Chinese army wants above all things is officers. The men are good stuff enough, but the officers are miserable. Can the Germans, can any foreign instructors, make good native officers, and does the system of employing foreign instructors tend to make good native officers? Foreign drill sergeants are excellent in their way, and foreign officers teaching in officers' schools are excellent. But where the foreigner is in all in all during peace, his native successor in war is not likely to be much respected or to deserve much respect.

From Wenchow comes news that the Chinese at Sung-kiang are still engaged in anti-Christian riots. The house of the German mission, originally damaged, is now totally destroyed, and two other houses belonging to a Christian have met with the same fate.

Those that labour under any doubt as to the position occupied by Nepal towards China, had better read the following account (taken from the *N.-C. Daily News*) of the entrance into Pekin on June 23rd of a tribute-bearing mission from the Nepalese King, or the "King of the Goorkhas" as he is called in China:—

The Chief Ambassador of the Goorkhas was gorgeously arrayed in garments of yellow, red, and blue, and he rode in a green baize sedan chair borne by four bearers in a sort of uniform with native official hats, a man holding a yellow umbrella going in front. Ambassadors of independent Powers would have been seated in similar chairs, but borne by eight bearers. The Vice-Ambassador rode in an ordinary blue baize sedan chair borne by three bearers. A man bearing a red umbrella marched in front of this chair. Then came the retinue of the Ambassadors, all riding on diminutive Szechuan ponies. These retainers were armed with the national broad-bladed *hookor*. Then came a small party of native soldiers, a portion of the escort furnished by the Governor of Shantung. After the soldiers came the tribute of the Nepalese King, borne by some thirty to forty mules, the tribute being packed in boxes strongly corded, except four elephant tusks nearly five feet in length, each pair being carried by one mule. These tusks were magnificent and astonished the natives by their size and length, as they were a sight rarely witnessed in that portion of the empire. Another large party of soldiers brought up the rear of this unique procession, an event seen, probably only once in ten years. The chief of the mission will be introduced to the Emperor this month by either the President of the Mongolian Superintendency or of the Board of Rites, the reason for the delay in this ceremony being the period of strict mourning which his Majesty has to go through owing to the death of his mother, the late Princess Ch'un. The length of mourning for parents amongst the Manchus and Mongols is one calendar year; the greater length of three years being observed by Chinese only in obedience to the tenets of Confucianism. The Nepalese Ambassadors will pay the usual obeisance accorded to their suzerain the Emperor, namely, the three genuflections and nine *kombans*, and the Emperor will then order a banquet to be given them after reading a translation of the memorial of the King of Nepal and the list of tribute. This done, a number of return presents will be given the Ambassadors for the King, with the injunction to continue loyal tributaries to the Imperial dynasty, and the mission will then be permitted to return to their country. Missions like the above generally stay six months or so in Pekin, being entertained at the expense of the Emperor, who also provides the necessary silver to carry them back to their country—a tedious journey of quite one year, overland.

The Kobe Committee for the distribution of the very handsome sum subscribed in that Set-

tlement to relieve the sufferers by the Seismic Wave, have placed themselves in communication with Shanghai, asking that the Shanghai fund (now amounting to over three thousand dollars) be entrusted to them, and Shanghai has agreed.

THE SEISMIC WAVE IN HAWAII.

Fuller details are now to hand with reference to the Seismic Wave in Hawaii. They show that the phenomenon was on a much larger scale than previous reports led us to suppose. We quote from the *Commercial Advertiser* of June 20th:—

Great was the excitement in the city Friday morning when the steamer *W. G. Hall* arrived from Hawaii with accounts of the tidal waves on that island. As usual, a few crack-brained individuals went running about the city spreading all sorts of sensational stories regarding loss of life along the Kona coast and terrible disaster in all quarters. The following account of the tidal wave and the damage it caused was received from Captain Simerson of the *W. G. Hall*.

"We were at Honuapo on Monday morning, when the tidal wave was first noticed. As soon as I saw the danger I whistled to the boats and we were very soon steaming out to sea. After the danger was over we returned.

"The wave came from the southwest, struck Kawaihae first and then went around the Kona and Kau way to Hilo.

KAWAIIHAE.

"The first wave struck at about 8.15 a.m. The wharf which has stood the test of years was completely demolished.

KAILUA.

"Wave struck at about 8.30 and demolished the lumber yards of Messrs. M. F. Scott and George Clark. All the lumber was washed out to sea, but boats were set to work and much of this was restored. The warehouse was filled with water and much of the freight was badly damaged."

Following is an abstract of a letter received from J. Kaelemakule, sub-agent at Kailua, and inserted here for convenience:—

"Great excitement prevailed on Monday last, June 15, occasioned by a tidal wave.

"Without warning the sea rose eight feet over usual high water mark. The wharf at the landing was twisted out of position, and at present has the appearance of an archway. The sea entered McDougall's and also my store, and when it stopped rising the water was two and a half feet over my veranda floor.

"You can imagine how we all felt. We naturally first thought of getting to a place of safety, thinking that another wave, larger than the first, would sweep everything before it.

"My family and people living just back of my store are moving what personal effects they can take, and are up to their waists in water.

"The official documents and records were hastily thrown up to the highest shelves in my office. It was impossible to remove them; we were all surrounded by water. I am glad, however, to report that with the exception of some of the stationery the books and Government records are unharmed. A great deal of damage no doubt has been done here and along the Kona coast, but I have not time to report them at this writing."

Following is an extract from a letter written by Miss Paris of Kailua to a friend in Honolulu:—

"I have not the strength or time to describe in detail the terrors of the tidal wave yesterday (Monday). I hope never to experience another. It was about 9 o'clock in the morning when a native man I had been talking with came outside and told me to look at the sea. I did look. It was fast receding, leaving rocks and places bare. I went over the Kaelemakule's and while there the tide flowed in and was soon quite beyond the usual high water mark. After I returned to the house the water receded very rapidly, washing over the rocks like a freshet. I sat in the lanai thinking what I should do. The suspense was dreadful. The next time the wave came higher, and the third time the water came pouring in over the wall. After that it subsided slightly and I began to think it was dying out, and went into the house, when suddenly Mrs. Senter screamed: 'Oh, what shall we do? It is going to be terrible!' I rushed out and found the yard flooded with water.

"On the impulse of the moment I said, 'Let us go up stairs.' So up we flew. Then I called to the natives who were on the big wall at the side and asked what we ought to do. They said: 'Come over quickly and go mauka. I ran to the front of the house, and I'll never forget that sight.

Just the sea in front of us, everything obliterated. It seemed to come in successive swells. Between two waves we waded through the water where it was most shallow and then up on the wall. It is well we left the house when we did, for the water rushed in and filled the lower part. When I returned about an hour afterwards everything was in a terrible state. The water had receded, leaving the walls broken and debris scattered all about the place. Just before sunset another wave came, reaching way into the place. While this one was receding we gathered blankets, bags, and a few other articles and rushed out to spend the night somewhere. We found a little house just above where about twenty natives had gone, and there camped out on the lanai."

Miss Paris came down on the *W. G. Hall* to Maui, and after making a short stay there will come on to Honolulu.

"Wave struck about 8.30 a.m., and the water rose about thirty-five feet, entering the cave on the side of the pali. Nine houses were completely demolished. Of these four were grass and five wooden. The home of Charles Kaiiki, who has charge of Queen Dowager Kapiolani's land, was among the number. When the wave receded fish were scattered in among the lantana bushes. It may sound like a fish story, but the finny creatures were even hanging in the branches of the lantana bushes. Probably the most severe effects of the wave were felt at Keauhou. The cause of the great height of thirty-five feet is easily explained when it is remembered that Keauhou is in a very narrow bay.

NAPOOPOO.

"Wave struck at about 9 a.m., and the water reached thirty feet. Three houses were washed away and lumber from the lumber yard of M. F. Scott was scattered all over Kealeakua bay.

KAAWAEOA.

"Wave struck at about 9 a.m., and reached thirty feet. Moses Barret's house was destroyed, as was the wharf. The water got into the warehouse and caused considerable damage.

HOOKONA.

"Wave struck at about 9.30 a.m., and reached about eight feet. The wharf was destroyed, together with the Chinese stores. The bridge at this place was probably the worst damage of any.

KAALUALU.

"Wave struck at about 9.40 a.m., and reached twelve feet. The wharf and four houses were washed away.

HONUAPU.

"Wave struck at about 9.40 a.m., and reached twelve feet. A big timber from one of the scows was torn away by the force of the water and taken up into the large pond.

PUNALU.

"Wave struck at the same time as at Honuapo, and reach the same height. No damage done.

"The natives along the shore at Punalu, as well as Honuapo, remembering the sad havoc caused by the tidal wave in 1868, when eight-one lost their lives, betook themselves to higher ground for safety. They were seen dragging their canoes, bed clothes, etc., after them. At Punalu the majority slept out all night, and on Tuesday they moved back to their houses, says a Kau correspondent.

HILLO.

"Wave struck at about 10 a.m., and reached in the neighbourhood of eight feet. No damage done.

"All along the Kona coast three very heavy waves were felt in the morning. After that they became very much less in height, continued throughout Monday and Tuesday, ceasing entirely Wednesday morning. Fish were lying all over the place, and at Keauhou large rocks and debris took the place of a formerly beautifully smooth sand beach.

"There were no lives lost, but great deal of damage to property resulted."

Purser Matthews and Freight Clerk Tommy White of the *W. G. Hall* were standing with Captain Simerson when the above facts were obtained, and furnished much important information which has been embodied in this article.

American Journals just received show that the wave reached Santa Cruz, in California, and that its height there was about 9½ feet. The *San Francisco Chronicle* of June 16th has the following:—

Santa Cruz, June 15th.

Nature in the shape of a tidal wave came near overturning the Santa Cruz water carnival to-day. They do not have tidal waves in Venice nor often in California, and that is why the barge builders of Santa Cruz were simply stunned by the prospect of their misfortune. But the waters subsided, the barges, like Noah's Ark, are safe and

dry, and the builders of boats have recovered from their attack of heart failure.

There is a ship-yard near the dam in the San Lorenzo river. It is on an island, oozy and brush-covered, surrounded by a moat without the draw-bridge, but which you drive through if your horse be amphibious and your waggon high.

It was low tide in the morning, and dozens of men were working on the island—painters, upholsterers, gilders, carpenters. Some one resting his bent back and his eyes, cried, "Look, the dam!" and then rose a solid wall of green water. In less seconds than it takes to write it, the water had risen 9½ feet outside the dam. It fumed and fretted, lashed itself into foam and dashed over the dam, which trembled ominously, but the bags of sand held firm and the busy little island with its precious occupants were saved.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.

THE SEISMIC WAVE FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I trouble you to acknowledge for me through your columns, the receipt of sixty yen (\$60.00) from the Presbyterian Missionaries in Kanazawa, Kaga.

I had hoped by this time to be able to forward you the accurate statistics from the Kencho, but it will be a day or two before they are printed. When they are issued they may be relied on, and they will be very full and complete.

Sincerely,

E. ROTHESAY MILLER.

Morioka, July 14th, 1896.

TELEGRAMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your comments on Dr. Christlieb's recent complaints of your discriminations against the Germans and Germany in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, you invite further criticism of a kindred character. I am happy to offer some with regard to the United States. A reader of the *Yokohama foreign press* might peruse column upon column without so much as having heard whether there be any United States. Not that we find fault with Reuter for not having heard of such a country. It is with ye editors of the local press that I have this somewhat to say. Last week a column in the *Japan Mail* was headed "From the American Papers." I eagerly scanned it, thinking to find something fresh and interesting from my native land. There was not the slightest reference to any such land. Your compiler had used his scissors vigorously enough on all other countries, but the very one that made his information possible was not once in his thoughts. This little bit of incivility toward the greatest of the nations occurs so frequently in the *Yokohama press*, that very likely the older American inhabitants have become quite hardened if not resigned to it. True the American contingent is a very feeble folk in this empire, but they outnumber any other nationality in Tokyo at least; and inasmuch as ye editors are not publishing papers exclusively for your health, it might be worth some financial considerations for you now and then to refer to a little nation of seventy millions lying on the North American continent. Hoping to see this unpardonable neglect immediately righted, I beg to subscribe myself

AN AGGRIEVED AMERICAN.

Tokyo, July 11th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent "An aggrieved American," who constitutes himself the mouthpiece of "the greatest of the Nations" (an expression as modest as it is truthful), seems hardly likely to emulate the example of his countryman whose birthday is annually celebrated in February.

No column headed, "From the American Papers" appeared in the *Japan Mail* during the period referred to.

Your obedient servant,

AN INTELLIGENT ENGLISHMAN.

Yokohama, 15th July, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Lest you might think my recent letter more factions than serious, I beg to enclose "a few paragraphs" from your last Friday's issue, further illustrating my position, and which may

have a more salutary effect by being presented in this isolated, graphic fashion.

You will observe that your column and a half is taken directly and bodily from the "American" press. It would take a microscopic investigation to find any farther allusion to "America." Even on the ground of Editorial courtesy some mention might occasionally be made of the United States in these extracts. But on the deeper ground of gratitude you might likewise now and then recognize the source of this valuable and interesting column by a reference to some of the present seething events in the United States. By so doing, I can assure you your journal would possess a deeper interest for not a few of your readers.

I beg to remain, most truly yours,

JOHN DAVIS,
Trinity Division School.

23, Tsukiji, Tokyo, July 13th, 1896.

[As we understand, what our correspondent desires is that the telegrams taken by us from American exchanges should contain more about America itself. But we would remind him that these telegrams are intended solely to give news of the Old World. For the rest, it is only just to point out that, with the exception of the *Japan Mail*, no foreign journal in Japan possesses a United States correspondent, whereas the *Mail* has several.—J.M.]

AN ENQUIRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I ask for information through your columns concerning Japanese musical instruments. Is there an instrument called a *Kō*, and what is it like? What is the *Tsumagoto*? and the *Uichine*? where can a complete list, with illustrations, of Japanese musical instruments be had? Also, I would be glad to know the name of large and reliable firms, making, or dealing in, such instruments. Any information on the above points will be gratefully received.

Thanking you for allowing space for this in your valuable paper.

Very truly yours,

INSTRUMENTAL.

July 14th, 1896.

THE OBJECT OF PRAYER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am of the opinion that the gospel of Jesus Christ suffers more from its pretended friends than from its avowed enemies. Witness, for example, a communication in yesterday's *Japan Mail* from "Cosmopolitan" in which a defence is made for idolatry.

All that we certainly know of the mind of God on the subject of answering prayer—or anything else as to that matter—is communicated to us through his Revelation, commonly called the Bible. There is not a sentence in all that book that even intimates that God will hear the prayer of an idolater. It is a matter somewhat surprising how much of the Bible is levelled against idolatry. Solomon says (Prov., 28:9) "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law even his prayer is an abomination unto the Lord." What does the law say about the worship of idols? Listen to the very first commandment; "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Listen to the second; "Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, nor the likeness of any form that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, upon the third and upon the fourth generation of them that hate me, and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments." (Ex., 20:2-5). He that disregards this part of the law (the moral truth of which has never been abrogated) only offers an abomination unto God when he prays. He is a sinner, and "now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God and doeth his will him God heareth." Of the multitude of scriptures, witness a few selections: "And he did very abominably in following idols according to all that the Amorites did, whom the Lord cast out before the children of Israel." "They shall be ashamed, yea confounded, all of them: they shall go into confusion together that are makers of idols." "And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, now that I have been broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols." "Thus saith the Lord God: Every man of the house of Israel that taketh his idols into his heart, and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord will answer him therein according to the multitude of his idols; that I make the house of Israel in their own heart, be-

cause they are all estranged from me through their idols." "Thus saith the Lord God: Return ye and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations." "And ye shall hear the sins of your idols: and ye shall know that I am the Lord God." "Thus saith the Lord God: I will also destroy the idols and I will cause the images to cease from Noph." Let us turn to the New Testament: "Wherefore my judgment is that we trouble not them which from among the Gentiles turn to God; but that we write unto them, that they abstain from the pollutions of idols." "Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him, as he beheld the city full of idols." "Ye know that when ye were Gentiles ye were led away unto these dumb idols." "And what agreement hath a temple of God with idols? for we are a temple of the living God.....Wherefore come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; and I will receive you." "For they themselves report concerning us what manner of entering in we had unto you; and how ye turned unto God from idols, to serve a living and true God." "My little children keep yourselves from idols." "And the rest of mankind, which were not killed with these plagues, repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver, and of brass, and of stone, and of wood; which can neither see nor hear nor walk."

In view of such scriptures as the above, for one to say he is certain that God will hear his prayer while bowing before an image of Buddha only illustrates the lamented fact that idolatry, as it has ever been, is the besetting sin of the age.

"I came not to destroy but to fulfill," therefore idolatry is right! What! I am ashamed to attempt a reply to such a perversion of the language of Jesus. Was Jesus talking about idolatry! Did he mean to say he came to "fulfill" idolatry! He came to fulfill a God-given law which was "just and good." But he is made to say that he came to fulfill one of the most abominable practices that the human race ever fell into. By such an application (?) of scripture Jesus can be made to participate in every horrible crime and sin imaginable. I find men engaged in murder, theft, and the work of prostitution. I can therefore take part in these things because Jesus said, "I came not to destroy but to fulfill"! "O full of all subtlety and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?"

J. M. McCALEB.

12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, July 9th, 1896.

THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY GRADUATES.

The ceremony of distributing Diplomas to the graduates of the Imperial University of Tokyo took place on the 10th inst., at 9:30 a.m. in the library of the University. After a military band had played, Prof. Hamao, the President of the University, proceeded to award the diplomas. Among those who attended the ceremony were the Representatives of Great Britain and China, Messrs. Kiyoura and Makino, and other distinguished persons, the number of visitors being about 300. The total number of graduates is 313. The following is the list:—

COLLEGE OF LAW.

Section of English Law.—Kashiwabara Yojiro, Toyama; Inouye Junnosuke, Ohita; Shibata Komasaburo, Nara; Takahashi Yojiro, Shiga; Ariyoshi Tadakatadzu, Kyoto; Suzuki Kenjiro, Miya; Isaka Ko, Ibaraki; Shoya Akira, Tokyo; Kano Tomonosuke, Ibaraki; Takahashi Bungoro, Hokkaido; Matsuo Shoji, Fukuoka; Sekiguchi Gisaburo, Miki Itaro, Tokushima; Nan-un Shonosuke, Yamagata; Miura Yagoro, Chiba; Watanabe Katsusaburo, Okayama; Shimada Tetskichiro, Ishikawa; Ariwara Michihiro, Gumma; Yamada Saburo, Hokkaido; Matsumoto Kan-ichiro, Ehime; Takauchi Kimpel, Hokkaido; Miyake Norinari, Okayama; Vasuzumi Tokitaro, Saga; Kokura Takenosuke, Chiba; Heisa Eitaro, Yamaguchi; Nakahara Norita, Kumamoto; Nishimura Chotaro, Osaka; Ito Kotaro, Kyoto; Fujimoto Michiyasu, Kumamoto; Midzuhara Chikatsugu, Yamagata; Matsugawa Kuro, Ehime; Tatsuki Hichita, Gifu; Morita Saburo, Shiga; Ishida Shintaro, Ishikawa; Sakurai Komogoro, Shizuoka; Shibahara Jokichi, Hyogo; Kimura Ko, Tokyo; Matsui Toyotaro, Yamaguchi; Takeshima Keishiro, Ishikawa; Ito Sukeichi, Aomori; Kurokane Yasuyoshi, Yamagata; Tokunaga Kichiro, Kumamoto; Matsukata Goro, Tokyo; Maruoka Heizo, Kumamoto; Solo

Oto-o, Tokyo; Karai Gentaro, Fukuoka; Kekine Sadakichi, Tokyo; Tsuda Mataji, Yamaguchi; Kato Junjiro, Hokkaido; Shindo Keizo, Miye; Koga Korin, Sagami; Miura Tatsuo, Okayama; Kamdate Shinataro, Fukuoka; Urano Masao, Toyama.

Section of French Law.—Suzuki Shigeoyasu, Fukushima.

Section of German Law.—Miyao Shunji, Niigata; Miyoshi Umisaburo, Tokyo; Furukawa Goro, Saga; Iida Seiichi, Yamaguchi; Tamagawa Jichi, Tokyo; Sekine Genji, Yamagata.

Section of Political Economy.—Katayama Teijiro, Niigata; Kamino Katsunosuke, Tokyo; Ichirai Otohiko, Kagoshima; Hatchidai Norihiko, Tokyo; Usami Masao, Yamagata; Abe Moritaro, Ohi-ta; Yamazaki Yooroku, Saga; Kudo Eiichi, Awomori; Watanabe Goro, Hokkaido; Sakigawa Saishiro, Saga; Hata Toyosuke, Tokyo; Kobayashi Masakichi, Hiroshima; Koike Chozo, Ibaraki; Hamada Tsunenoke, Kochi; Moroi Rokuro, Saitama; Ariyoshi Ryunkichi, Fukuoka; Shimidzu Tetsutaro, Tokyo; Ito Shunsuke, Hyogo; Hayakawa Gonfu, Ishikawa; Nonaka Tokutaro, Saga; Minami Hiromu, Toyama; Ohara Senkichi, Gifu; Emura Kichi, Yamaguchi; Hayashi Ichiro, Kumamoto; Takata Unematsu, Hokkaido; Ishimaru Sukasaburo, Saga; Ishii Tetsu, Shizuoka; Tomura Teinan, Wakayama; Takata Otane, Shizuoka; Kikuchi Chuzaburo, Hokkaido; Tanaka Kumozo, Gumma; Fukano Rentaro, Ishikawa; Tsuru Hidekuma, Miyazaki; Migita Torataro, Miyazaki; Totoku Hiroji, Aichi; Ohira Komatsuchi, Hiroshima.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

Section of Medicine (Graduates of March, 1896, and September, 1895.)—Fujinami Tadasu, Aichi; Hashimoto Setsusai, Tokyo; Tomita Chutaro, Ishikawa; Shimose Kentaro, Ohi-ta; Kawashima Keiji, Tochigi; Maki Hitoshi, Fukui; Nagano Junzo, Kumamoto; Ishikawa Teikichi, Yamagata; Uchida Shintaro, Tokyo; Sasaki Jiro-saburo, Iwate; Takahashi Teiken, Aichi; Miura Hasutaru, Tokyo; Toraiwa Yorishige, Miyagi; Mizuno Sakujiro, Gifu; Ichinobe Shozo, Iwate; Watanabe Keitaro, Niigata; Soudzaki Toyojiro, Aichi; Arai Yasukichi, Kagawa; Okamura Tatsuhiko, Tokyo; Nakaidzumi Yukinori, Gifu; Nishimaki Jichiro, Niigata; Sakamoto Shigeakatsu, Miyazaki; Kimura Rintaro, Saitama; Awaka Junji, Toyama; Masayama Masanobu, Shizuoka.

Section of Pharmacy.—Nishizaki Kotaro, Hokkaido.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.

Section of Civil Engineering.—Shibata Keisaku, Okayama; Umeno Jitsu, Fukuoka; Kume Rokuzo, Saitama; Tokumi Tsuneo, Nagasaki; Tokumi Tsuneo, Nagasaki; Aki Kyoichi, Tokushima; Kobayashi Taizo, Hyogo; Omura Shotarō, Nagano; Aoki Isamu, Okinawa; Miyagawa Kiyoshi, Kumamoto; Nakawa Kichizo, Nara; Satoh Chotaro, Niigata; Kato Isamu, Tokyo; Shibata Shiju, Nagasaki; Satoh Shiro, Hokkaido; Sugitani Kozo, Tokyo; Odagiri Chyushiro, Kanagawa; Inagaki Heitaro, Tokyo; Okazaki Heitaro, Gumma; Akutsu Seiga, Miyagi; Hashitsume Seigi, Yamagata; Kimura Kwanichiro, Niigata; Hamano Yoshiro, Chiba.

Section of Mechanical Engineering.—Yoshino Mashiro, Tokyo; Machida Tatsumi, Fukuoka; Yano Kichiro, Ehime; Zushima Tsuneo, Fukuoka; Shinoda Tsunetaro, Hiroshima; Uchida Tokuro, Hyogo; Toriyama Sakakichi, Tokyo; Yokoi Jitsuro, Tokushima; Matsuno Chikatsu, Nagasaki; Sekimoto Eisaku, Hokkaido; Sekifuji Kunisuke, Hiroshima; Furuta Goro, Saga; Hibi Koitsu, Hokkaido.

Section of Naval Architecture.—Tarisue Kentaro, Tokyo; Tsuruta Denjiro, Saga.

Section of Electrical Engineering.—Ho Hide-taro, Osaka; Toshimitsu Hirao, Wakayama; Aoyama Tadaharu, Yamagata; Noguchi Gun, Hokkaido; Hirota Sei-itsu, Hiroshima; Tomita Chiusei, Kyoto; Goto Ichiro, Gifu; Sugino Bunroku, Nara; Yoshino Denji, Chiba; Katayama Kinichiro, Shizuoka; Niwa Mamotsuke, Gifu; Ichikawa Seiji, Ishikawa; Fujita Keitei, Tokyo; Morita Kazuo, Kumamoto; Matsuura Ryoichiro, Fukui; Tsukino Shogoro, Kagoshima.

Section of Architecture.—Suzuki Teiji, Tokyo; Horiike Konosuke, Kyoto; Fukuoka Tsunejiro, Nara; Hashimoto Heizo, Tottori; Ikeda Kentaro, Nagasaki.

Section of Applied Chemistry.—Nakagawa Shosuke, Osaka; Kotera Fusajiro, Osaka; Miyoshi Kyntaro, Hokkaido; Inouye Mikichi, Kyoto; Oyama Jiya, Hyogo; Shimizu Shogo, Tokyo; Iwamura Yen, Kyoto; Imaida Osamu, Gifu; Yamazaki Utaro, Tottori.

Section of Mining and Metallurgy.—Yamada Kunihiko, Hokkaido; Ibara Kozuo, Yamaguchi; Tsumaki Kurizo, Yamaguchi; Tamaki Koji, Miyagi; Ishiura Jinjiro, Ishikawa; Sozo Juro, Kumamoto; Seo Takumi, Niigata; Osame Mura

Shokichi, Hokkaido; Nakanishi Denjiro, Ishikawa; Takakura, Seizaburo, Ishikawa; Ohashi Hachishiro, Kyoto; Sugimoto Juntaro, Hokkaido. Section of Civil Engineering.—(Graduated on Dec. 12th, 1895) Nishimura Torataro, Shiga.

Section of Electrical Engineering.—(Graduated on May 28th, 1896) Amano Kumajiro, Ehime.

Section of Applied Chemistry.—(Graduated on Oct. 24th, 1895) Nakai Shiro, Osaka.

College of Literature, Section of Philosophy.—Kuwaki Genyoku, Ishikawa; Aneaki Shoji, Kyoto; Tatebe Tougo, Niigata; Shimizu Tomojiro, Miye; Takayama Rinjiro, Yamagata; Matsumoto Kojiro, Tokyo; Hirota Ichijo, Wakayama; Shinoda Jiro, Hiroshima; Yamamoto Yasunosuke, Wakayama; Kurita Kamejiro, Tokyo; Murakami Shunko, Yamaguchi; Takahashi Tadasaburo, Miye; Nozaki Matajiro, Okayama; Kuroki Chihiro, Kumamoto.

Section of Japanese Literature.—Hayashi Moritaro, Tokushima; Sugi Yoshisuke, Yamaguchi; Takejima Matajiro, Tokyo; Shimomura Kyo, Saga; Yoshida Yutaka, Fukuoka; Ohmachi Yoshimori, Tokyo; Sasa Masakazu, Kyoto.

Section of Chinese Literature.—Kawahara Tokuzo, Fukui; Yamanoichi Shin, Shimane; Asakawa Yutarou, Fukuoka.

Section of Japanese History.—Uchida Ginzo, Tokyo; Kida Sadakichi, Tokushima; Kuroita Katsumi, Nagasaki; Nakano Reishiro, Saga; Ito Oshiro, Fukuoka; Shibasaki Kempei, Gumma; Nakashiro Naomasa, Kochi; Sasakawa Tanezo, Tokyo; Kobayashi Seisaku, Niigata; Kidera Ryujiro, Tokyo.

Section of General History.—Koda Naritomo, Tokyo; Hara Katsuro, Iwate; Segawa Hideo, Yamaguchi; Yui Tadasu, Kochi; Kitabatake Sadaaki, Katsuo Tsunejiro, Shiga; Inouye Tsuneji, Yamaguchi; Shibuya Komasaaku, Nagasaki; Kawaguchi Nobuo, Tokyo.

Section of Philology.—Ogawa Shogi, Ehime; Kanazawa Shozaburo, Osaka.

Section of English Literature.—Shima Bunjiro, Tokyo; Tamura Kisaku, Okayama; Hanryu Myakotaro, Yamagata.

Section of German Literature.—Nagaye Tojiro, Osaka.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

Section of Mathematics.—Watanabe Yo, Ishikawa; Yoshida Kokuro, Ishikawa.

Section of Physics.—Sano Shidzuo, Saima; Tomoda Chiuo, Ishikawa; Seto Toraki, Kochi; Yasaka Hanroku, Ohi-ta; Nishi Eisei, Yamaguchi; Uruguchi Jui, Tokyo; Hattori Masachika, Tokyo; Shinsaiara Takeshi, Ibaraki.

Section of Chemistry.—Matsuwaka Koichi, Aichi; Takei Kanzo, Hyogo; Hirao Cindan, Okita.

Section of Zoology.—Aida Tatsuo, Kyoto.

Section of Geology.—Ogawa Takuji, Wakayama; Iwasaki Juzo, Kumamoto; Inouye Kin-suke, Yamaguchi; Shimomura Seien, Fukuoka.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

Section of Farming.—Tsukida Tosaburo, Gumma; Omori Junzo, Nara; Ito Teizo, Yamaguchi; Ida Shiukichi, Hyogo; Kimura Kon, Kyoto; Tanaka Toraji, Niigata; Hashimoto Yasujiro, Fukuoka; Aoki Nobuitsu, Tokyo; Kuroki Ikutaro, Fukuoka; Uyeda Bunka, Oita; Ikeda Chojiro, Aichi; Horidzuka Chotaro, Gumma; Fujimoto Haruji, Tokyo; Shirozaka Tetsu, Kagoshima; Ito Ryugo, Niigata; Hattori Motohiko, Tokyo; Kobayashi Chiuo, Miyagi.

Section of Agricultural Chemistry.—Suzuki Umetaro, Shizuoka; Hanai Toichiro, Saitama; Miyachi Tetsuji, Kochi; Ishidzuka Tetsupe, Yamagata; Mayeno Naganori, Kochi; Kusunoki Iwao, Aichi; Nishimura Eijuro, Hokkaido; Aoyama Sanjiro, Tokyo; Shimada Mitsutaro, Osaka.

Section of Forestry.—Ishimaru Fumio, Fukui; Kume Kosaburo, Saitama; Matsuda Rikikuma, Shimane; Oshima Kojiro, Ishikawa; Miyazaki Tsunetaka, Hokkaido; Senbon Teizaburo, Tokyo; Nijima Yoshinao, Tokyo; Ogawa Teisuke, Yamagata.

Section of Veterinary.—Harajima Gennosuke, Tokyo; Nita Naoshi, Shizuoka; Murata Kogoro, Fukui; Nakanishi Midzunojo, Kagoshima; Saka Tsunesaburo, Gifu.

DEDICATING THE STEAMLAUNCH "GLENER."

The *Gleaner*, a handsome steam-launch, built by Mr. A. C. Sim, of Kobe, for the Yokohama branch of the Missions to Seamen, was formally dedicated on Thursday afternoon by Bishop Bickersteth, D.D. The *Gleaner* was brought up alongside the pontoon at the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club Boathouse, and the Mission flag floated at the Club flagstaff. About a score of persons were present, amongst them being the Rev. W. T. Austen, and Mrs.

Austen, of the Seamen's Mission; the Rev. E. R. Borthwick, chaplain of H.M.S. *Undaunted*; Rev. J. H. Ballagh, Rev. J. C. Ballagh, Messrs C. K. M. Martin, A. J. Wilkin, A. C. Sim, and others. A special service of prayer and praise was conducted by the Bishop, who delivered the solemn dedicatory prayer. At the close, Bishop Bickersteth said that he desired to express the satisfaction of all present at the success that had attended the Chaplain's efforts to secure the handsome craft before them. Mr. Austen had for some time past been endeavouring to obtain the means necessary for the purchase of a steam launch for the mission, and now he had been able to attain his important object. He called it important, not because the object was to lessen the burden on the Chaplain's shoulders day by day; for, on the contrary, Mr. Austen calculated that the launch would enable him to do two or three hours' more work per day than usual, and consequently the time that he would be away from home would be increased. Therefore the result of acquiring the launch, with the help of subscriptions from America and elsewhere, was that the work of the mission would be largely extended. Those who lived by a sea-port felt very strongly indeed that they had a duty to those to whom they owed so much, the men who spent their lives at sea. From what he had been privileged to see of sailors, he could honestly say that there was amongst them a great deal of religion; but they were exposed to great temptations and danger. The object of the Mission to Seamen was to help them in their difficulties and temptations, and if the launch helped sailors to join in those services which those on land enjoyed so much, none would regret what they had done to further the object that the Chaplain had in view. He trusted that it would result in the greatest spiritual good for those for whose benefit it was intended, and that by its means Mr. Austen might be able to minister more effectually than hitherto to those in whom he took so deep an interest.

Mrs. McNair, wife of the American Admiral, had been asked to christen the launch, but owing to a previous engagement could not be present. She wrote wishing every success to the boat in its career. Mrs. Austen accordingly took the post of honour and christened the launch by dashing a bottle of water against the bow. She said—I have much pleasure in naming the vessel *The Gleaner*. I hope that the launch will be well used and appreciated by those for whose benefit she has been built. I wish *The Gleaner* God-speed, and trust that for many years she will be used for and by seamen of all nationalities visiting the harbour.

A general inspection of the new launch followed, and then a trip was made round the harbour. The *Gleaner's* dimensions are—Water-line, 46 ft.; over-all, 52 ft.; beam, 11 ft.; draught, 4 ft. 3 in. coal capacity 6 tons; water capacity 3 tons. She has compound engines with a stroke of 10 inches. Her boiler is of the vertical water-tube type, with condenser, feed heater, and automatic lubricators. Her capably ventilated cabin, forward, is 13 ft. by 9 ft.; while she has accommodation for a crew of five. Her cabin and deck will accommodate about 100 men, thus admirably meeting the purpose for which she was built. She will be at the service of parties of seamen wishing to proceed on shore at night and who at present find such a difficulty in escaping the vile harpies of sampan men and jinrikisha pullers who are always laying in wait for them.

CRICKET.

MR. CRAWFORD'S ELEVEN VERSUS MR. WHITE'S ELEVEN.

A cricket match was played on Saturday afternoon, in dull, overcast weather, between an eleven captained by Mr. Crawford, and a team led by Mr. White. The former went in first and compiled a total of 237, to which Mr. Crawford contributed a magnificent 118 not out. The other side went in but only made 62, in the time remaining for play. Scores:—

MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.	MR. WHITE'S TEAM.
Mr. Johnson, b. Bugbird ... 20	Mr. H. V. Dickinson, b. Ed-wards ... 0
Mr. Todd, b. Bugbird ... 0	Mr. F. H. Bugbird, h.w.b. ... 0
Mr. Crawford, not out ... 118	Mr. S. Goddard ... 24
Mr. Duff, c. Mason, b. White ... 39	Mr. J. H. Cockeage, run out ... 8
Mr. Edwards, c. and b. White ... 2	Mr. Tyack, b. H. S. Goddard ... 8
Mr. Kingdon, c. Tyack, b. Bugbird ... 21	Mr. F. E. White, b. H. S. Goddard ... 10
Mr. Campbell, c. and b. McGerrow ... 17	Mr. E. Owen, c. Johnson, b. H. S. Goddard ... 2
Mr. Henry Goddard, c. and b. White ... 0	Mr. McGerrow, c. and b. Edwards ... 2
Mr. Herbert Goddard, c. Tyack, b. White ... 0	Mr. H. Alcock, b. H. S. Goddard ... 0
Mr. Van Smith, at Dickin-son, b. White ... 3	Mr. F. E. White, c. and b. Ed-wards ... 6
Mr. Edilson, not out ... 15	Mr. H. Mason, c. and b. H. S. Goddard ... 0
l.b. 2, w. 2 ... 10	Mr. W. Goddard, not out ... 4
	Mr. W. Goddard, not out ... 2
	b... .. 1
Innings declared closed.	237

THE FLEET VERSUS Y.C. AND A.C.

A match was played on Thursday afternoon, in broiling hot weather, between teams representing the Y.C. & A.C., and H.M. ships now in harbour. Matting was used on the pitch, and until 5 o'clock it was a bowler's day, over a fifteen men being clean bowled in two innings. The homeside went in first and could do nothing against the bowling of Gillett and Pearson, the former taking four wickets for 17 runs, and the latter five for 16. The Fleet made a little better stand, though Goddard's deliveries were deadly, and knocked up 46. Garde should have been held by Duff when he had made 12, but his life did not last much longer. Goddard's bowling analysis was 57 balls, 22 runs, 4 maidens, 6 wickets; Edwards', 55 balls, 20 runs, 5 maidens, 4 wickets. Yokohama went in on their second innings about 4 o'clock and played till about ten minutes past five, when the innings was declared closed, 86 being the score; Crawford carrying out his bat for an excellent 23. The Fleet in their second essay held the bowlers in defiance, and when stumps were drawn they had compiled 121 for three wickets. Scores:—

Y. C. & A. C.		AND INNINGS.	
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Reinhold, b. Pearson	1	not out	33
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Gillett	4	b. Pearson	35
Mr. F. E. White, b. Gillett	4	b. Gillett	7
Mr. Ross Thomson, b. Gillett	0	b. Pearson	0
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Gillett, b. Pearson	0	run not out	4
Mr. E. R. Morris, b. Gillett	7	c. Fitton, b. Pearson	24
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, run out, b. Pearson	8	b. Gillett	5
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Fitton, b. Pearson	0	innings declared closed.	
Mr. E. J. Libeaud, not out	0		
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Pearson	0		
	35		86

BOWLING ANALYSIS.		AND INNINGS.	
Mr. Gillett	57	22	4
Mr. Pearson	49	16	5
Mr. Reinhold	...	...	...

THE FLEET.		AND INNINGS.	
Mr. R. B. Garde, b. Goddard	27	b. Kingdon	48
Mr. H. O. Reinhold, b. Edwards	4	c. Dickinson, b. Libeaud	38
Mr. H. B. Pearson, b. Edwards	0		
Mr. F. S. Rising, b. Edwards	0		
Mr. F. Donkin, b. Goddard	0		
Mr. A. Alley, b. Edwards	0		
Capt. Sparkes, b. Goddard	0		
Mr. Fitton, b. Goddard	0		
Mr. J. L. Goldie, c. Libeaud, b. Goddard	0	b. White	7
Mr. Goldsmith, not out	4	b. 3, l.b. 1, w. 1	4
	46		121

BOWLING ANALYSIS.		AND INNINGS.	
Mr. H. S. Goddard	57	22	4
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	55	20	5
Mr. Libeaud	...	...	...
Mr. Kingdon	...	...	...
Mr. White	...	...	...

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

By JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, May 23rd.

Much unfavourable comment has been occasioned by some remarks lately published in the Melbourne *Age*, a paper which has become proverbial for its protectionist utterances. Those remarks seem to cast grave doubts on the possibility that mutual trade relations between Australia and Japan may be maintained to any considerable extent. The *Age* says—"One of the influences which have stimulated our production with a view to export has been the prospect of a trade with Japan; but the consular report on the foreign trade of Japan for the quarter ending 30th September last, issued by the Foreign Office, places the Japanese market in a very unfavourable light as an outlet for Australian products. During the quarter the imports to Japan from Australia amounted to only \$193,000 making \$520,000 for nine months. Though still insignificant, the Australian trade had increased since 1891; but neither this increase nor anything in the present or prospective requirements of Japan warrants the extravagant hopes which now seem to be entertained in Australia as to very speedily finding or creating a profitable and extensive market for her productions here.' It is said to be 'possible' that a considerable trade may be developed between the two countries; but if so, its main feature will be that of export from Japan to Australia. The free-trade party may take comfort from the following significant passage:—"If the people of Australia seek cheapness without being particular as to durability, Japan can also soon supply them with a hundred articles which they either now make for themselves or import from England or Germany—matches, boots, sad-

dlery, harness, portmanteaux, hats, &c., all of which Japan could furnish to them at less than half the prices they would have to pay for European prototypes." On the other hand, 'Japan has at present absolutely no requirements that Australia could supply which are not already satisfactorily met by the much nearer United States; and it is improbable that unless tempted by lower prices Japanese buyers—who are strongly attracted to the people of the United States by sentimental reasons, and also by the further consideration that they are by far Japan's best customers for all the great staples of her export trade—will ever seek in Australia articles which they can obtain in less time and equally good from the States. Among these are flour, leather, preserved provisions, fruits, wine, biscuits, butter, lard, beef, &c.' There is but a limited field for the importation of Australian stallions and brood mares, while 'for a wholesale import of Australian horses for general use there is not the smallest prospect.' Almost the same may be said as to wool and mutton. The report ridicules the representation that the Japanese are learning to enjoy mutton. It states that a Japanese would as soon think of eating mutton as a respectable English mechanic would of eating horseflesh. To the ordinary Japanese, the odour of mutton is intolerably offensive, and the mutton imported into Japan is consumed exclusively by the foreign residents. Reference is made to the despatch of commercial agents by this colony and one of the adjacent colonies to investigate trade openings in Japan, and as in both cases a very sanguine view has been taken, it is suggested that "these colonies should be afforded the above warning of the opinions held by residents of long experience in Japan."

These remarks of the *Age* have called forth a reply from Mr. E. Jerome Dyer, now residing in Melbourne, who points out that the report quoted was that furnished by Sir E. Satow, at the end of last year, to the Marquis of Salisbury, and contends that it is misleading in several respects. After making the statement that the chief Australian ports from which Japan will draw its largest supplies of wool, frozen beef (or live stock), hides, and leather, are much nearer Japan than any port in the United States, and, furthermore, that ships have the advantage of ports of call on the way which the routes from the States to Japan do not offer, Mr. Dyer says—"Amongst the nine lines mentioned in this report as the monopoly of the United States and not imported—or ever likely to be—from Australia, I am glad to be in a position to state that even in this furthestmost port of Australia (Melbourne) there are several merchants and manufacturers regularly shipping a majority of these lines in steadily increasing quantities. They are leather, preserved provisions, wines, biscuits, and butter, besides many other products entirely associated with our agricultural development." The general line of the report, continues Mr. Dyer, "is discouraging to an Australian trade with Japan, but it appears to reluctantly admit what I have repeatedly stated publicly that meat must be imported by the Japanese in course of time. Australia has the advantage of the States in distance and f.o.b. price, therefore this new outlet should command our watchful attention. Though I believe the time is scarcely yet ripe to take this business up in the wholesale and expensive manner that it would necessitate, yet in confirmation of the certainty and nearness of this prospect I might quote the gist of a letter handed me by the secretary of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce in March last year:—"I am prepared to take 18,000lb. per week of frozen beef at 9 *sen* (2½d.) per lb. c.i.f.' This letter was signed by the owner of 26 retail meat shops in Tokyo. Being an offer to contract for a long period of regular supplies at a fixed price, it proves that a demand existed last year, which, according to statistics and trustworthy reports, is growing beyond the means of local supply. The above offer, it might be mentioned, was considerably under the Tokyo wholesale price. It must be admitted that in the light of the prices which have ruled of late in London—often ranging about 12d. per lb., out of which freight, commission, and other expenses had to be paid—this Japanese offer is at least encouraging. The population of Tokyo is 1,500,000, while that of Japan exceeds 40,000,000, thus affording a very large field to work upon, even though the proportion of consumers may be comparatively infinitesimal."

Mr. Dyer then proceeds—"Sir E. Satow is not clear in his remarks about the loss to Australia or to England and Germany if Japan commenced the manufacture of woollens. It is not expected by Australians that this wool is to be used for the purpose of manufacturing the class of goods at present being imported into Japan so much as in supplying the demand created by the adoption of warm woollen clothing for winter wear. At present the Japanese army of 280,000 is being clothed in this material, and as their army is being increased to 800,000 men and the navy proportionately, there should be fair business in this outlet alone. Besides, these compulsory customers have already enthusiastically admitted its incomparable advantages as compared with cotton, and they thus form the best of mediums for introducing it to their countrymen. Australian producers hope and feel that England will neither reduce her purchases of wool nor suffer in sales to Japan, as the manufacturers of the latter country are certain to confine their operations to material suitable to the peculiar requirements of their people, and will not for many years attempt to make the class of goods which England exports there. The rapidly increasing imports of woollens for general purposes should also act as a counterbalance against the effect of any movement by the Japanese in the direction indicated. As to Germany—well, if her woollens were not often nearly all cotton we might feel justified in concerning ourselves. Besides her trades in woollens with Japan is of very small account. In short, there is every indication that a new demand in clothing material is about to spring up in Japan, and it is the raw material for this that we expect and hope to supply. No doubt this consular report reads pleasantly to the British Foreign Office and the British manufacturer, and in this respect it points out that her Majesty's representative in Japan, though he has only been there a few months, knows how 'to cut his coat according to his cloth.' He omitted, however, to mention that the Japanese have a disagreeable habit—from an interested outsider's point of view—of patriotically preferring their own manufacture of an article to that of other countries. I met many instances of this characteristic when in Japan, but the most extraordinary case that came under my notice was during the war, when the Government supplied the troops with locally tinned meat at 30 cents. per tin, while European merchants' warehouses were bursting with imported stocks, which they were vainly offering at one-third less. Besides, Japanese manufacturing in new industries carries with it deep local interest, unremitting activity in advertising goods and pushing sales and warm practical support from both Government and people. If woollens are to take the place of cottons as winter clothing in Japan, and it appears to me inevitable, it is the height of absurdity to imagine that the Japanese, so expert in the manufacture of cottons and silks, and so keen and energetic in business, will continue importing for this new demand when they can produce as good—for their purposes—at two-thirds the price. The Japanese are a comparatively new people to the English-speaking world, and though a wonderfully assimilative race, they have customs and tastes necessarily different from ours. Like China and all other Asiatic countries, a ready demand for the goods of the west did not exist when white men first visited those countries, and demand had to be created. This is the case with Australia in its efforts to find a footing in Japanese markets, and we are not faring so badly at this early stage. In the case of wool there are many indications that the Japanese are interesting themselves quite as much as we are in the question. A Japanese gentleman has just arrived in Sydney for the purpose of inquiring into wool export, and an agitation has begun in Japan in the interests of woollen manufactures."

A lengthy extract from the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 7th March last, concludes a communication to which too much importance cannot be attached, and which may do not a little towards counteracting the unfavourable impression produced by the quotations from Sir E. Satow's report. The *Age* has also republished an article from the *Japan Daily Mail* of March 24, on the disadvantages under which Japanese merchants labour in consequence of an absence of the banking facilities enjoyed by other nations. The matter has already attracted some attention in Australia, and in view of the possible expansion of Japan shipping business it is not improbable that an effort will be made at an early date to secure improved banking facilities between the two countries.

The New South Wales Attorney-General, who seems to have regained much of his lost health, speaks in favourable terms of his recent visit to Japan. Replying to an interviewer who had asked him about the prospects of trade between the two countries, he replied—"I am sending in a report upon the matter, and cannot disclose its features. I have collected a good deal of information on this point, and from what I could ascertain from the highest authorities in the country, I think there is a possibility of increasing our trade with them. At present they have to some extent the advantage of us. While we might take a number of goods from them, yet through their habits of life generally they would not at present

be likely to want much from us. For instance, they have yet to be educated up to the value of wool. Cotton is almost entirely used, but the Japanese being quick to learn, they would, I believe, soon discard their padded cotton for the warmer and more reliable wollen fabrics. Then there is no market in Japan for our hardwoods, and they have their own soft woods. Nor do the people need our meat or produce. They live entirely on fish, rice, and vegetables." Questioned on the subject of Japanese immigration, Mr. Marsh replied—"I think it would be a very undesirable thing. I have now been in several parts of Japan, and know the place and the people very well. I have also seen the Japanese in other countries, especially in Honolulu. From what I have observed I think we should close our doors to any large influx. Chiefly, however, for this reason. The decent working Japanese will not leave his country. He is too home-loving and patriotic. It is mostly the undesirable class who leave their country for their country's good, and these would find their way to Australia. Therefore, they should be kept out. Still, I don't think there is very much fear of a descent of the Japanese upon Australia. In any case, he would never come like many of the Chinese do, as practical slaves."

The attempt to recover the gold lost in the *Catterthun*, delayed by unfavourable weather, is likely to be successful, the extra gear special diving dress, and pumps obtained from Europe having proved all that could be desired. Soon after they arrived in Sydney, a trial was made in deep water outside the Heads, with the result that a diver went on the bottom at 25½ fathoms, and brought up samples of the seabed. Between this depth, and the greatest depth the *Catterthun* gold is buried was, at the utmost, 4½ fathoms, or 27ft., and that in a total depth of 180ft. seemed to strike the diver and his mate as so little that it was decided to go on with the *Catterthun* business. Some little time elapsed before the wreck was located, but as soon as this had been effected the diver went down and found himself on the deck of the vessel, the principal difficulty being the darkness, which was partially overcome by the use of the electric light. In one of the reports from the wreck it was stated that a difficulty was experienced by the divers in keeping their feet when on deck, due to the current and roll of the sea, and that these conditions would to some extent militate against as early a recovery of the gold as might be expected. Such has proved to be the case, but it is expected that suitable weather will prevail within the next few days, in which case the operations will speedily be terminated. The chief interest in the undertaking (next to seeing the 10,000 sovereigns safe in the bank) lies in the fact of this being the deepest ocean-diving attempted in this part of the world. Mr. W. A. Morgan, one of the greatest living experts in diving, and the present head of the Westminster firm, says that the greatest depth at which a diver may safely work is 150ft. (25 fathoms), though one of Mr. Gorman's men descended into 204ft. of water, at which depth the daring man sustained a pressure of 88½lb. on every square inch of his body. Strangely enough, the coming up is even more dangerous than the descent, owing to the rush of blood to the head when the pressure on the brain is removed.

Two New South Wales residents, Dr. Bell and Mr. Picker, have returned to the Hunter River district from a visit to Japan. Both gentlemen speak very highly of the progress, peculiarities, and the industrious customs and frugal habits of its people. Mr. Bell said that from his observations he would consider that agriculture had attained greater perfection in Japan than any other country in the world. While in Japan, he made a tour by rail, a distance of 360 miles, stopping at different centres of population on the way, and as far as eye could reach each side of the line of route and the whole of the distance, every foot of land was tilled, and in a manner calculated to fully test its productiveness. He and his companion were wonderfully interested with all that they beheld, and thought there was much that Australia could learn from the Land of the Rising Sun.

THE SEISMIC-WAVE DISASTER.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following sums towards the relief of sufferers through the terrible disaster in Iwate, Aomori, and Miyagi Prefectures:—

Messrs. Sieber & Co.	\$25
Mr. C. Giusanni	25
Captain Brinkley	25
Marguis C. de Nembrini Gonzaga	10
C. R.	25
Mr. G. Lowther	25

Dr. E. Baelz	25
Mr. E. Chiosso	15
St. Andrew's House, Shiba, Tokyo	15
Lord Dormer	100
Mr. Gustave Gilbert	20
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.	100
Mr. W. B. Walter	25
Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.	50
Rev. Clay MacCauley	20
Messrs. J. Witkowski & Co.	25
Messrs. Nabholz & Osenbrüggen	50
Mr. F. Nabholz	15
F. L. E.	5
Standard Oil Company of N.Y.	100
Mr. F. H. Trevithick	20
Bishop Bickersteth	50
The Eastern Press, Ltd.	10
Mr. L. T. Corke	10
Rev. T. M. MacNair	10
Mr. A. de Flesch	20
Mr. Andre Conil	10
Rev. W. T. Austen	5
Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Society.	50
Messrs. Frazar & Co.	100
Messrs. C. & J. Favre-Brandt	100
Mr. M. Wollheim, Mexican <i>Chargé d'Affaires</i>	50
Mr. J. C. Hall	10
Mr. E. W. Rutter	10
Mr. F. Gillett	20
Mr. B. H. Chamberlain	10
Mr. W. B. Mason	10
Messrs. Raspe & Co.	100
Mr. E. Powys	10
Mr. Geo. H. Scidmore	10
Dr. J. N. Seymour	10
Professor G. Droppers	15
Mr. W. F. Page	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh's children	20
Mr. C. V. Sale	200
The Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	50
The O. & O. S.S. Co.	50
Dr. Divers	20
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd.	100
Messrs. Butterfield & Swire	100
China and Japan Trading Company, Ltd.	50
Mr. A. J. Lines	10
Prof. Henry T. Terry	15
Mr. Fred. G. Woodruff	5
Messrs. H. MacArthur & Co.	25
Mr. S. Y. French	10
Captain Munter	25
Mr. E. H. House	25
Miss Dening	5
A.C.S.	10
Dr. D. Macdonald	10
Captain Baron d'Aelenthal	25
G.E.M.N.	20
Messrs. North and Rae, Limited	25
Mr. L. Muraur	10
Mr. E. J. Moss	25
W.R.H.C.	10
Rev. J. Popper	5
H.H.	5
W.	10
Messrs. Langfeldt & Co., Limited	100
Rev. G. M. Meacham	40
J.A.M.	5
Mr. R. Paget	20
Mr. J. Conder	10
Rev. F. W. Voegeléin	10
Dr. C. H. H. Hall	10
H.M.	5
Q.	25
Etalissements Orosdi-Back	200
Messrs. Bavier & Co.	100
Mr. E. H. Hampden	15
Dr. A. G. Smith	25
Mr. Tom. Thomas	10
Miss Mair	10
Dr. Scriba	25
Rev. H. Loomis	10
J.N.C.	10
"Star in the East," 640, S.C.	100
Messrs. S.S. & Co.	100
H.W.L.	20
E.C.F.	10
Mr. F. Hellyer	50
Mr. C. B. Stedman	10
E. and L.G.	6
Kanda Bashi Church	5
Dr. Ludwig Riess	15
Mr. Y. Duer	10
Messrs. R. Isaacs & Bro.	100
Lutheran Church, Saga	7.50
Mr. Müller Beck (Nagasaki)	20
Members of the C.M.S. Mission Tokyo	40
Rev. G. W. Van Horn	10
Rev. G. H. Hudson	9
Mr. A. Stein	30
F.F.	25
Mr. F. L. Smelser	1
Tsukiji Union Church Congregation	117

Tsukiji Union Church Sunday School	20
Rev. W. J. White	10
H.E. Count d'Orfini	50
Mr. W. Silver Hall and family	20
Mr. G. Elliott Gregory	10
A Friend	1
Mr. H. L. Layman	10
J.G.D.	5
Chas Haas	10
J.H.	25
X.	20
Rev. C. K. Harrington	10
Rev. J. L. Dearing	10
Rev. Clarence E. Rice	10
Tokyo Lodge, No. 2015, E.C.	50
Unknown	10
Mr. J. E. Beale	10
Mr. Henry A. C. Bonar	25
A Missionary	25
Miss Irving	5
Miss Montgomery	5
Miss Pratt	5
Dr. Scriba	.62
Mr. John McDonald	10
X.	20
A.S.G.	21
H.M.W.	5
C.A.C.	5
A.M.C.	2
Mr. H. J. Owen, Tokyo	10
Archdeacon and Mrs. Warren	20
J.M.Mc.	10
Rev. A. Oltmans, Nagasaki	20
Rev. A. Oltmans' children	3
Rev. A. Pieters, Nagasaki	10
Rev. H. V. S. Peeke, Nagasaki	10
Tennis Bat	12.50
W.	10
Europeans "Soya Maru"	24
Presbyterian Missionaries in Kanazawa,	60
Kaga	60
Presbyterian Missionaries (South)	104

The Rev. Rothesay Miller acknowledges receipt of \$114.20, from the Aoyama Gakuin, Tokyo, for the Relief Fund, as organized by the Y.M.C.A., by the Protestant Churches of Tokyo.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

Dr. J. W. Carrington, the Chief Justice of the Colony, reads the lessons on Sunday at both services in St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.

Two apprentices from the British sailing ship *Scottish Isles* were brought before Commander Hastings at the Hongkong Magistracy on the 6th inst. charged with deserting their ship. The defendants said they were tired of the sea, and wanted to get away. The Magistrate fined them \$7 or, in default twenty-one days' imprisonment.

Whatever may be said of the Cantonese trading people, remarks the *China Mail*, it cannot with truth be alleged that they are not enterprising. News has been received in Canton that a Censor named Wong has memorialised the Throne, urging upon his Imperial master to throw open to general commerce the whole eighteen Provinces of China. The terms of the memorial are not reported, but it is believed that its tenor is to remove certain restrictions that exist at the present time, and which render commercial intercourse between the Provinces a matter of extreme difficulty and of considerable unfair enrichment to the official classes. The reception of this welcome news in Canton has led to the resuscitation of the agitation originated twelve years ago for the formation of a Chamber of Commerce in the city, the objects of which shall be to promote the interests of general trade throughout the whole Empire. It is to be hoped these enterprising Cantonese merchants will succeed in binding themselves together, for such an Association—if it is likely to be confined to these objects alone, and is not to be used as another means of boycotting foreign merchants—must, in time, operate towards greater freedom of trade throughout the Provinces. It is not likely that the Chinese would rest satisfied with that after experiencing the advantages of trade, and foreigners have every reason to expect a more rapid expansion of foreign trade in the interior of China than has been the case during the last fifty years.

According to a Hongkong contemporary, the *Chinese Mail* states that an Imperial edict has been telegraphed from Peking in reply to a memorial forwarded by the Tartar-General at Canton. In the early part of this year a soldier belonging to the Blue Banner committed an impudent theft in the street. He was arrested by the official in charge of the Police Force, but the prisoner, in accordance with the regulations of the service, was immediately handed over to the Manchurian officials. The Viceroy of Kwangtung sent a despatch to the Tartar General asking for the name of the prisoner to

be struck out of the Banner. In consequence, a number of the bannermen went to the Tartar-General's Yamén and demanded that the Viceroy's order should be cancelled. While the dispute between the civil and the military authorities was in progress the prisoner died in prison, and afterwards a large number of the Tartar soldiers proceeded to the Yamén of the officer in charge of the Police Force, wrecked his house, and assaulted his son. The edict orders that any Manchurian soldiers who have been guilty of serious offences may be arrested by the civil authorities. This is a new departure, as hitherto the Tartars have been amenable to no one but their own officers, and sometimes they are not very amenable to them.

The Hongkong Dairy Farm Company, Limited, whose herd of cattle was devastated by rinderpest in March last, will be voluntarily wound up and then reconstructed.

The Government of India, we (*Rangoon Gazette*) understand, are likely to take steps to investigate the cultivation of the reha plant (China grass), as an enormous demand for the fibre has sprung up in England. By a new process of manufacture, excellent fabrics can be woven from reha, and the industry seems to have a great future before it.

The report of the Banque de l'Indo-China has some interesting allusions to the question of the supply of the French commercial dollar for Indo-China, remarks the *Daily Press*. If the Government insists on striking these coins as before, they are sure to be drained away and converted into bars and sent to the Osaka mint. It is only a premium that the French Government gives to speculators. The Chambers of Commerce at Saigon, Haiphong, and Hanoi having asked for the legalisation of the Japanese yen, it seemed natural to them to adopt, as has been done in the case of the new British dollar, the same weight as the yen for the French dollar. The Bank also made representations of the same tenor to the Government, and the result was that the weight was reduced, leaving it just slightly superior to the British dollar and the yen, but only by 1-6 of 1 per cent. This is small enough to stop the drain of the coin and yet large enough to enable the French commercial dollar to maintain its good name. Since this decision in July of last year the Bank has sent in for coinage silver equal to seven millions of dollars.

A REMARKABLE LADY EXPLORER

AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. BIRD BISHOP.

After an absence from Shanghai of about five months, during which she has accomplished a remarkable journey in the less known regions of Szechuan, Mrs. Bird Bishop has returned. Anyone more different from the conceptions of a person likely to willingly go through the hardships, exertion, and even dangers of travel from a foreign-hating populace than Mrs. Bishop it would be difficult to imagine. Seemingly she is a retiring soft-voiced woman, whose silver hair is a passport to respect amongst all but a Chinese mob, and who has reached a period of life when physical comforts might be fairly expected. But when she begins to talk, selecting her words with the nicest discrimination, she at once exercises a sort of spell over the listener, making him feel the power of her intellect, and the acuteness of her observatory powers. It is then recognised that Mrs. Bishop is a wonderful woman, possessing an unsuspected force with which to overcome the most forbidding obstacles. No excuse therefore is needed for recording an hour's conversation in which Mrs. Bishop related to a representative of the *North-China Daily News* some of her recent experiences. They cannot be better given than in her own words.

"I left Shanghai," said Mrs. Bishop, "on the 10th of January last for a journey in Szechuan. I travelled to Ichang by steamer and then by houseboat to Wanhsien, a distance of about 300 miles and occupying three weeks. I only landed a few times for the purpose of taking a photograph or visiting a temple. Then I took an open chair—which is not seen in Szechuan, and was therefore the cause of some trouble—and started on a journey of 1,200 miles. The end of the first stage was Paoningfu, about 300 miles from Wanhsien. The first thing that impressed me exceedingly was the beauty of the country.

The forests and glorious vegetation, the magnificent fertile valleys, and the size and handsome appearance of the farm-houses—all struck me greatly. I could hardly have believed such things existed in China. Then again the abundance of the coal, which crops out of the road, is marvellous; the people have only to dig it out and use it for fuel. On that route I met with a great

deal of hostility. The people were most unfriendly, and proceeded to violence, but the officials always endeavoured to do their best to protect me. Before coming to Paoningfu the country becomes less Alpine and less rich and populous. From Paoningfu I went by Sintientsi, over a less interesting hilly country to Mienchiu, everywhere impressed with the richness of the country in coal and salt. I travelled in that region for some time, visiting various objects of interest and eventually reached Kuanhsien. On the way thither I experienced very bad treatment, being attacked and stoned and hit in the head by a large stone, the effects of which I feel even now. Kuanhsien is in the north-west corner of the plain of Chéngtu, which I found a most marvellous instance of fertility and wealth of population—I have seen nothing like it anywhere. I have travelled for eleven days over the plain, and there is not a place where you do not hear the sound of rushing water, so completely is it irrigated. Kuanhsien is the centre of a great deal of trade with Northern Tibet, chiefly in drugs. It is also very interesting as being the place where—nobody knows how many hundreds or thousands of years ago—a man who has to his memory the grandest temple in China, divided the waters of the Min and sent them to fertilise the plain of Chéngtu, and made such a wonderful system of irrigation works that there can be neither floods nor drought.

Kuanhsien is situated just at the base of the hills where the mountainous region begins. Thence I went up the Min river, which the Chinese consider the actual Yangtze, as far as Weichuan, and, turning off the Lifanting river, went to Lifanting, where the authorities did everything they could to prevent me going further—everything short of actual violence. But I went one day's journey further in China proper to the furthest Chinese frontier post, Tsahkuhiao, where Chinese officialdom ends. From that time for some weeks I was in the country of the Mantze. They are quasi-independent tribes, who pay tribute to China through their rulers. They are actually ruled by a chief, Tsusu, who is appointed by the Emperor for life, and who is generally succeeded by his son. In the case of the Soma territory, where I was, the Tsusu rules a territory containing about 20,000 people, but I could get no reliable figures as to number of the whole race. These tribes are perfect Caucasians in their appearance, both men and women being very handsome. They live in stone houses, two, three, four and even five stories high, many of them resembling feudal castles. One marked feature is that in nearly every village there are one or more lofty square towers, from 50 to 60 feet high, built of stone, the use of which the present inhabitants have no record of. Their social customs are altogether different from those of the Chinese. They are extremely rigid Buddhists, and the signs of religion are everywhere. They have many interesting peculiarities. One son in every family becomes a lama; they either burn their dead, commit them to the river, or expose them on the mountains, at the decision of the lamas. Their marriages are, as in England, love matches, not made by the parents. They raise barely enough of grain and other food for their own consumption. I found them kind, friendly, and hospitable, and at nights slept on the roofs of their houses. The men do not wear the queue; whilst the women fasten strings of coral beads in their hair which they wear in coils round the head. The country after leaving the Min river is most magnificent, a combination of Switzerland and Cashmere, and at that season of the year, though there is not eternal snow, the innumerable snowpeaks give it added beauty. The forests of magnificent timber are very extensive. The flowers and ferns have the redundancy of the tropics. I went up to the source of the Lifanting river, a branch of the Min on the Tsukushan mountain, crossed the pass which appears to be about 13,700 feet high, and descended upon the Rongkai river, an affluent of the Great Gold River. The castle of the Tsusu of the Soma tribe is on a spur of rock extending nearly across the valley, and being a stone structure of several stories in height and in excellent repair, has a singularly grand aspect. There was just then trouble between two of the tribes, and the bridges over the Rongkai were broken down, so I was unable to carry out my intention of going down to Tachienlu, a fourteen days' journey, and I came back chiefly by the same route. Gold and enormous quantities of nitrate of soda are found along this route. The rivers I may say are emerald green torrents of considerable width; a succession of rapids and cataracts the whole distance. The numerous Mantze villages on this side of Lifanting have been inhabited by Chinese since the Taiping rebellion. In continuing my return journey I recrossed the plain of Chéngtu; from Chéngtu came down the Min to Kiatingfu on, to Sinfu and

Luchou, and through a very beautiful and fertile country to Chungking.

This is Mrs. Bishop's record in her own words of her tour, but in the course of a brief catechetical examination which she suggested, some additional facts were gleaned. The spirit of hostility to foreigners she describes as something astonishing in its intensity and extent. Everywhere such phrases as "foreign devil," "foreign dog," "child-eater," and worse were heard. There is no doubt in Mrs. Bishop's mind that the people do really believe foreigners eat children or tear out their eyes, and in Chéngtu and elsewhere she saw children wearing a red cross on a green ground as a charm against foreigners carrying them off. Mrs. Bishop learned that the unfriendliness had increased in the few weeks previous to her visit, and it seems that the large sum demanded by the French missionaries as compensation for their losses in the riots has deepened the feeling of resentment, whilst it has to be remembered that not one of the ring-leaders in those riots has been punished. Not a trace of the buildings destroyed in the riots is now to be seen; every brick has been carried away. For fear it should be imagined that the missionaries have provoked the hostility of the people, Mrs. Bishop laid particular emphasis upon the fact that her experience of the China Inland Mission was that great care was taken to avoid wounding prejudices or violating custom in any way. Never had she seen such care taken—a care that imposed a constraint upon the missionaries. All their houses are built in the native style, a matter of great importance in Mrs. Bishop's opinion. So far as the action of the officials went, she believed they desired to protect foreigners, but nevertheless the unfriendliness amongst the people was nearly universal.

Mrs. Bishop, besides keeping full notes of her experience, has taken some 200 photographs. Photographers may be interested in knowing that she uses a half-plate tripod camera of orthodox form, and films instead of plates. The edges of some negatives have been affected by heat, but from the sixty so far developed very successful results may be anticipated. That Mrs. Bishop has suffered considerably from her treatment by the Chinese mob is evident, and her decision to seek rest in Japan is certainly wise. She is not inclined to talk much about herself, but the dreadful howls of an infuriated Chinese mob—which once heard will never be forgotten—have had their effect, and though Mrs. Bishop contemplates writing a paper for the Royal Geographical Society, and another visit to Korea, she will not attempt this until restored to strength; which restoration every one must hope will be speedy.—*N.C. Daily News*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, July 13.

A number of notable Democrats, being alarmed at the decision of the Chicago Convention in nominating Mr. Bryan, who is an extreme silverite, are rallying to the support of Mr. McKinley, and the latter now declares strongly in favour of gold.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hadodate, July 14.

Her Majesty's ships *Centurion*, *Narcissus*, *Immortalité*, *Pique*, and *Rainbow* left this port yesterday for Akishi.

Hakodate, July 17.

H.M.S. *Alacrity* left this port yesterday for Akkishi.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, July 10.

The Chicago Democratic Convention has adopted the silverite platform.

The rising in Matabeleland is increasing. Earl Grey, Administrator of Rhodesia, has now accepted the Cape Government's offer of a transport corps which he had previously refused, the Chartered Company bearing the cost. The corps proceeds at once to Beira.

London, July 11.

The Deceased Wife's Sister Marriage Bill has passed through all stages in the House of Lords.

Mr. Bryan of Nebraska, a former Congressman, has been nominated by the Chicago Convention as the Democratic candidate for the

Presidency of the United States, and Mr. Sewell, of Maine, for the office of Vice-President.

The Senate has passed the Bill making Madagascar a French Colony.

The Italian Ministry has resigned.

London, July 14.

Cholera is decreasing in Egypt and there are no fresh cases reported among the British troops.

London, July 15.

An attempt was made yesterday on the life of President Faure. Whilst driving through Longchamps, two revolver shots were fired at his carriage, but the President escaped unhurt. The assailant was arrested.

The situation at Bulawayo is again serious, and by last accounts the rebellion seems extending southwards.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.16
Exchange on London at New York 4.88½
(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM THE TONGKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, June, 24.

The understanding between the Powers on the subject of Crete is complete.

The strike of factory hands in St. Petersburg has terminated.

Paris, June 25.

The French squadron received as cordial a welcome at Ferrol as at Corruna. The crowds cheered the French sailors, crying "Long live the alliance of France, of Russia, and of Spain." Friendly speeches have been made at various banquets.

Paris, June 20.

The Duke de Nemours is dead.

[The Duc de Nemours, one of the Orleans Princes, was the second son of King Louis Philippe, and was born in Paris, 25th October 1814.]

According to *The Times*, Russia appears disposed to demand the neutrality of Egypt under the control of Europe.

Paris, June 28.

Arton has been sentenced to six years' hard labour for the dynamite affair.

[Arton was accused in connection with the Panama frauds.]

An attempt has been made to assassinate the new Shah of Persia at Teheran. The Shah was not injured. His assailant has been arrested.

(FROM THE "COMERCIO.")

Madrid, June 26.

In the month of August forty thousand more men are to leave to reinforce the army in Cuba.

Madrid, June 29.

The troops will leave for Cuba early in September.

A new shipping tax is established for the Peninsula, which is calculated to yield 12,000,000 pesetas a year. The new tax is to continue only for twelve years. One peseta per ton is to be levied on all cargo landed or shipped, with the exception of wine and salt, which will pay only half the amount. On foreign shipping the tax will be two pesetas a ton.

(FROM THE SHANGHAI PAPERS.)

Hongkong, July 8.

Mr. Chamberlain's dispatch with regard to the new member of the Council, states that the General [General Black] and one Chinese member will be appointed; therefore we are same as before. Great indignation is felt here.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Osaka, July 13.

A Peking Correspondent, writing to the *Asahi* under date July 1st, says:—The Japan-China treaty was concluded on June 26th. The signatures of the respective Ministers-Plenipotentiary will shortly be affixed. The reason for the sudden termination is attributed to the erasure of the clauses relating to the starting of manufacturing in China by Japanese. As this was provided in the Shimonoseki treaty there no necessity to recapitulate it in the commercial treaty.

Kyoto, July 14.

Prince Wi-hwa, Pak Yong-ho, and Sim Eung-ki arrived at the Kyoto Hotel last night, and will leave for Otsu to-morrow.

Yamagata, July 14.

The *Matsushima* and the *Saiyen* are expected to arrive here to-morrow.

Kumamoto, July 14.

A man was attacked with cholera in a village of Akuta district to-day and died very shortly.

Gifu, July 14.

A man in the Mushiota district has been attacked by cholera.

Moji, July 11.

The steamer *Daini Kisei Maru*, at half-past two o'clock to-day, collided with the *Dai-ichi Kisei Maru* off Haya Momoye and sank within three minutes. The *Dai-ichi Kisei Maru* just managed to reach Tanoura. The number of deaths is still unascertained.

Bakan, July 12.

The steamer that was sunk was principally a cargo carrier, but had seven passengers on board. These are safe. The raising of the steamer is a hopeless task.

Sōul, July 12.

The Japanese Consul, Mr. Uchida, will leave to-morrow for Japan by the *Genkai Maru*.

Nara, July 12.

The four Railway companies of Yamato, Yoshino, Amano, and Nan-wa are to be amalgamated.

Osaka, July 15.

It has been decided to station the 10th Division Head-quarters at Himeji, instead of at Fukuchiyama where the site is unsuitable for the purpose; the Head-quarters of the 20th Division, the 25th battalion of Infantry, and the 10th Company of Engineers, will be stationed at Fukuchiyama; and the 40th Regiment of Infantry at Tottori.

Hiroshima, July 15.

The *Matsushima* and the *Saiyen* have left Ujina for the west.

Nagasaki, July 15.

Four hundred and fifty Russian troops from Vladivostok have arrived here, homeward bound.

Fukui, July 15.

An inaugural banquet was given to-day at 3 p.m. at the Fukui station, the Chief Engineer Mr. Sengoku, being the principal guest. Fireworks were displayed. The number of passengers carried during the morning was 600.

Aomori, July 15.

The Aomori Savings Bank commenced business to-day. The capital is said to be yen 30,000.

Bakan, July 15.

The Bakan Bank opened business to-day.

Takamatsu, July 15.

The rainfall in this district is too abundant, and owing to the unseasonable weather much damage has been done to crops. Swarms of locusts are ravaging the fields.

Up to yesterday, there were nine cholera patients, 20 dysentery cases, and 3,620 persons suffering from camp fever.

Tottori, July 15.

The weather continues rainy with a very low temperature, and the farmers are fearing greatly for the crops.

Sōul, July 15.

The Japanese Minister, H.E. Mr. Hara, it is expected, will have a royal Audience at the Kyōng-Un Palace and present his credentials on the 26th.

Naoyetsu, July 15.

T.I.H. Prince and Princess Komatsu, who have been attending the Branch meeting of the Japan Red Cross Association, arrived here at 3 p.m. They were welcomed with warmth by a large number of people.

Osaka, July 15.

Rice in stock to-day at the Dojima Rice Market, amounts to 547,034 *koku* of domestic rice. This is 40,209 *koku* in excess of last year. The amount of foreign rice in stock is 27,803 *koku*.

Nagasaki, July 17.

The *Okinawa Maru* has left for Kagoshima to lay the cable to Formosa.

Nagano, July 16.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu left for Tokyo, to-day. Sōul, July 16.

Li Pom-chin, the Korean Minister to the United States, left to-day for his destination via Chefoo and Shanghai.

Otsu, July 16.

Prince Wi-hwa, Pak Yong-ho, and Shim Eung-kai visited the Miidera Temple to-day and took tiffin at the Chikusei. They proceeded to Karasaki, Ishiyama, by steamer, and returned to Kyoto by canal boat at 5 p.m.

Bokan, July 16.

Mr. Kabayama, Secretary of the Colonization Department, has left for Tokyo.

Nagano, July 16.

A feeble earthquake shock was felt at 11 p.m. last night.

Moji, July 16.

Messrs. Ozaki Saburo and Omiwa Chobei left for Korea on the 15th inst. at 4 p.m.

Morioka, July 16.

A meeting of the relief investigation committee took place to-day, the attendance numbering about 50. Mr. Hirata Kan, M.P., was elected to the Chair. Governor Sawa, of Iwate Ken, spoke of the plan of relief adopted after the catastrophe.

Nara, July 16.

Mr. Furuzawa, Governor of Nara Ken, has gone to Tokyo to ask the Central Government for a subsidy towards erecting new Prison buildings.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 237.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to K B 6	1—K takes Kt
2—Q to K 4, mate	1—Q takes Kt (B 4)
2—Q to Kt 5, mate	1—Q takes Kt (B 6)
2—B to Q 6, mate	1—Kt takes Kt
2—B to Q 6, mate	1—Q to B 4
2—Q to Kt 8, mate	1—Q to Kt 3
2—Kt takes Q, mate	1—P moves
2—Q to K 4, mate.	

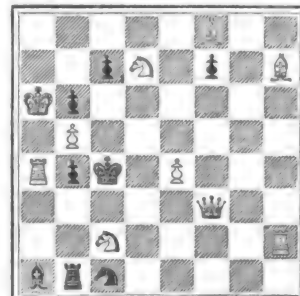
Correct answers from W.D.C., Shogi, W.H.S., J.D., and W.d.H.

PROBLEM NO. 239.

By C. PLANCK.

(A first prize winner, from "The Chess Problem Text-Book.")

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The *Belfast Newsletter* remarks that, strange as it may appear, many leading players give little or no attention to chess problems, and seldom think of solving them. This is not because problems are wanting in depth and beauty and interest and variety; nor because they spoil play in actual games. For, as a rule, problems are characterised by flashes of brilliancy and by beautiful combinations; and instead of injuring a man's play, the

study of problems ought to tend towards making him a master of the end game.

GAME No. 524.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.	
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—Castles	5—Kt takes P
6—R to K sq.	6—P to Q 4
7—B takes P	7—Q takes B
8—Kt to B 3	8—Q to K R 4
9—Kt takes Kt	9—B to K 3
10—Q Kt to Kt 5	10—B to Q Kt 5
11—R takes B ch.	11—P takes R
12—Kt takes K P	12—Q to B 2
13—K Kt to Kt 5	13—Q to K 2
14—Q to K 2	14—B to Q 3
15—Kt takes Kt P ch.	15—K to Q 2
16—Q to Kt 4 ch.	16—K to Q sq.
17—Kt to B 7 ch.	17—Q takes Kt
18—B to Kt 5 ch.	18—B to K 2
19—Kt to K 6 ch.	19—K to B sq.
20—Kt to B 5 ch.	20—K to Kt sq.
21—Kt to Q 7 ch.	21—K to B sq.
22—Kt to Kt 6 ch.	22—K to Kt sq.
23—Q to Q B 8 ch.	23—R takes Q
24—Kt to B 7 (mate.)	

HONGKONG.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock has succeeded in defeating Mr. C. A. M. de Jesus for the Chess Championship Cup. Mr. de Jesus was the challenger. The score was:—Pollock, 2 games; de Jesus 0; drawn 1. Mr. M. J. Danenberg is the next challenger.

GAME No. 525.

The following splendid consultation game was played in Prague. The players of the White are Dr. E. Mazel, J. Roti, and J. Siefayndes; Black being conducted by Jan Kotre, J. Svejda, and Dr. J. Tesik.

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.	
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—B to B 4
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to Q 3
4—P to B 3	4—B to K Kt 5
5—P to Q 4	5—B takes Kt
6—P takes B	6—P takes Q P
7—P takes P	7—Q to R 5 ch.
8—K to K 2	8—B to Kt 3
9—B to K 3	9—Kt to K B 3
10—Kt to Q B 3	10—Kt to K R 4
11—P to Q R 4	11—P to Q R 4
12—Kt to Q 5	12—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
13—P takes Kt	13—Q takes R
14—K to B 2	14—Q to R 7 ch.
15—B to Kt 2	15—P to K R 4
16—Kt takes B	16—P takes Kt
17—Q to Q B 2	17—P to R 5 (a)
18—P takes P	18—Q takes P ch.
19—K to K 2	19—Kt to Q B 3
20—P to Q 5	20—Kt to Q Kt 5
21—Q to B 4	21—Q to Kt 6
22—R to K Kt sq.	22—R to R 7
23—K to B sq.	23—R takes B
24—R takes R	24—Q takes P ch.
25—B to B 2	25—Kt to Q 6
26—Q to B 3	26—K to Q 2
27—P to K 5	27—R to Q B sq.
28—P to K 6 ch.	28—K to K 2

White resigns (b).

NOTES BY THE "TIMES WEEKLY."

(a) The moves of such a game should each be carefully studied. If now 18—Q to B 8 ch., K moves; 19—Q takes R, P takes P ch., and wins the Queen.

(b) If Q takes R, Q to Q 8 ch., and wins at once.

In an article contributed to the *Sketch* soon after the completion of the play at the Hastings Congress, Von Bardeleben spoke of the game of chess as being very much a matter of idiosyncrasy. "A patient, cautious man will play a slow, cautious game, while an impulsive, eager man will play impulsively and eagerly. We have both kinds of players in Germany, just as you have them in England. The brilliant player, whose game is replete with strategy and far-sighted combination, is sought for and admired in Germany quite as much as anywhere else. There is very great danger in learning chess. The game has almost a fatal fascination for those who give themselves up to it, and if acquired before the habit of self-control is developed may have the most disastrous consequences. As an intellectual discipline chess falls immeasurably short of mathematics—if, indeed, there is any comparison between the two—in that mathematics deals with fixed and definite propositions, while chess is the most plastic of games, and contains very little

that can be regarded as fixed or definite. But you must not think that I attach no importance to the moral exercise involved in playing chess. It is a great and noble game, and develops the mental powers in some degree but that degree is hardly appreciable by any known test."

EXAMPLES OF THE "GIUOCO."

GAME No. 526.

GIUOCO PIANO.

WHITE.	BLACK.
A. Albin.	W. P. Shipley.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—Castles
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—P takes P	7—B to Kt 3
8—P to Q 5	8—Kt to K 2
9—P to K 5	9—Kt to K sq.
10—P to Q 6	10—P takes P
11—P takes P	11—Kt to Kt 3
12—B to K Kt 5	12—Kt to B 3
13—Kt to B 3	13—P to K R 3
14—Q to Q 3	14—P takes B
15—Q takes Kt	15—Kt to R 2
16—Kt to Q 5	16—P takes Q
17—Kt to R 7 ch.	17—K to R sq.
18—Kt takes P mate.	

It is noteworthy that a single weak move in the opening should reduce Black to a helpless position as early as the fifth move, viz., 5..... Castles, instead of 5..... P to Q 3, although the former move seems plausible enough. Such, however, is the case.

After 6—P to Q 4, Black's replies are forced till he had only the choice of evils with 8..... Kt to Q R 4 (instead of 8..... Kt to K 2); but even then White answered 9—B to Q 3, necessitating 9..... P to Q B 4 in order not to lose the Kt with P to Q Kt 4. Anyhow, the attack would not have been so overwhelming as in the text.

With 10—P to Q 6, Black's Queen's side is entirely blocked, and nothing could save his game. Albin finishes it by a pretty sacrifice of the Queen, and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 527.

GIUOCO PIANO.

WHITE.	BLACK.
A. Albin.	J. W. Showalter.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—P takes P	7—B to Kt 3
8—P to K R 3	8—Castles
9—R to K sq.	9—P to Q 4
10—P takes P	10—K Kt takes P
11—B to K Kt 5	11—Q to Q 3
12—B takes Kt	12—Q takes B
13—Kt to B 3	13—Q to K B 4
14—R to K 4	14—P to K R 3
15—P to Q 5	15—P takes B
16—P takes Kt	16—P takes P
17—R to K 5	17—Q to R 2
18—Kt takes P	18—Q to R 5
19—Q Kt to K 4	19—P to B 3
20—Q to Kt 3 ch.	20—K to R sq.
21—Kt to B 3	21—Q to R 2
22—R to K 7	22—B to Q B 4
23—Kt to Kt 3	23—Q R to Q sq.
24—Q R to K sq.	24—B takes P
25—Q R to K 4	and White won after a few more moves.

Showalter is an opponent of a different calibre, and does not neglect 5..... P to Q 3, and otherwise conducts the defence correctly till 9..... P to Q 4, which is a premature advance. 9..... P to R R 3, and to wait White's decision with the centre pawns, would have been better. The turning point of the game occurs after 14—R to K 4. 14..... P to K R 3 turns out unfavourably, and so would 14..... B to R 4; therefore, 14..... B to K 3 seems the only feasible alternative. The variation is somewhat complicated, but Black would not come to any harm eventually, as White has after all a weak Q P, and that weakness would remain if the attack can be repelled. White, with good judgment, seizes the opportunity of getting rid of his weak Q P, whilst otherwise strengthening his attack. Showalter thought of relieving his uncomfortable position with 19..... P to B 3, but White's next two moves drove his Queen back to R 2, and he finished with a weak sacrifice, 24..... B takes P, overlooking the fatal 25—R to K 4.

Since two eminent players have come to grief in the two games above, it might be advisable to arm the student with a safe defence. Black gets a good game with:—5..... Kt takes P; 6—B to Q 5, Kt takes K B P; 7—R takes Kt, B takes R ch.;

8—K takes B, Kt to K 2, &c., with I took and two pawns (quite an equivalent) for two minor pieces.

Gunsberg lays down the maxim that in order to win in a modern chess contest, chess talent is not sufficient. One requires, in addition, "a great deal of experience, and a great deal of professional patience and restraint—qualities which can be acquired only with sufficient opportunity."

GAME No. 528.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Mr. Mason.	M. Tschigorin.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—B to B 4	2—P to Q B 4
3—B takes Kt	3—R takes B
4—P takes P	4—Q to R 4 ch.
5—Kt to B 3	5—P to K 3
6—P to K 4	6—B takes P
7—P takes P	7—Kt to B 3
8—B to Kt 5 ch.	8—K to K 2
9—Kt to B 3	9—K takes P
10—Q to Q 2	10—Kt takes Kt
11—Q to Kt 5 ch.	11—P to B 3
12—Q takes B ch.	12—K to B 2
13—B to K 8 ch.	13—Resigns.

STEINITZ PLAYS SIXTEEN GAMES.

At the rooms of the Progressive Chess Club, New York city, Mr. Steinitz played simultaneous Chess against sixteen of the strongest players of the Club. After five hours' play the score was as follows:—

Bd.	Players.	Openings.	Result.
1	Langbein	Two Knights' Defence	Drawn
2	Goodman	Giucco Piano	Drawn
3	Haustaub	Centre Counter Gambit	0
4	Schoenbaum	King's Gambit Declined	0
5	Ross	French	0
6	Goldberg	Ruy Lopez	Drawn
7	Jerker	McDonnell's Double Gambit	0
8	Greenbaum	King's Gambit Declined	0
9	Rosenbaum	King's Gambit Declined	0
10	Finn	French	0
11	Ginsberg, M.	French	Drawn
12	Gunsberg	King's Gambit Declined	0
13	Newman	King's Gambit Declined	0
14	Igel	King's Gambit Declined	0
15	Schoenberg	Centre Counter Gambit	1
16	Martin	Vienna	0

Steinitz, 10; Schoenberg, 1; Drawn, 5.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 21st.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 23rd.
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Monday, July 22nd.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 25th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, July 27th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 27th.
From Hongkong, via		
Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 30th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'ay, Aug. 5th.

† Gatle left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 2nd. † City of Peking left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 11th. † Paris (with English mail) left Hongkong on July 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 19th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'ay, July 22nd.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Wed'ay, July 22nd.
For Europe, via Shang-		
hai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 26th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 27th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, July 28th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, July 31st.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 31st.
For Europe, via Hong-		
kong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 7th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Le Bouillier, 11th July.—Kobe 3rd July, General.—Cornes & Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 11th July.—Yokkaichi 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 11th July.—Yokkaichi 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 11th July.—Kobe 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 11th July.—Hakodate 8th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Linnet (5), British gunboat, Commander Bearcroft, 11th July.—Cheloo.
Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 12th July.—Hongkong via ports 5th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Undaunted (11), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 12th July.—Hongkong 5th July.

Sophia Rickmers, British steamer, 3,249, P. Brunst, 13th July.—Antwerp via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Kaijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Yamaguchi, 13th July.—Hakodate 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 13th July.—Kobe 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Abner Coburn, American ship, 1,878, J. P. Butman, 13th July.—New York 10th February, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, Cottier, 13th July.—Bombay via ports, 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Plover (6), British gunboat, Captain Galloway, 13th July.—Kobe 12th July.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 14th July.—Nagasaki 9th July, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Salasie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 14th July.—Marseilles 7th June, Hongkong 7th July, Shanghai 10th, and Kobe 13th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Hoshima, 14th July.—Sakata 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 14th July.—Yokkaichi 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Maria Rickmers, British steamer, 5,500, 15th July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 15th July.—Yokkaichi 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coronet, American yacht, 160, Crosby, 15th July.—Kobe, Ballast.—A. James.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,040, Iwanaga, 16th July.—Kobe 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 16th July.—Hakodate 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sunda, British steamer, 4,500, Gordon, 16th July.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 16th July.—San Francisco 27th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Allen, 16th July.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, Thompson, 16th July.—Kobe 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 17th July.—Kobe 16th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 17th July.—Yokkaichi 16th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 17th July.—Hakodate 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 11th July.—London and Hamburg, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 11th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 11th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,830, Williams, 12th July.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Le Troadec, 12th July.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, Vyvyan, 12th July.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Swatow, German steamer, 631, Brodsten, 12th July.—Manila, General.—Chinese.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 12th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 12th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, J. Truebridge, 13th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Number, British store-ship, Captain F. W. Wyley, 13th July.—Hakodate.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 14th July.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 80, J. T. Harrison, 14th July.—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, Pulford, 14th July.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 14th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 14th July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Balmoral, British steamer, 2,896, McRitchie, 14th July.—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chingmo, British steamer, 2,556, Shaw, 14th July.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, P. Cottier, 15th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 15th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 15th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 16th July.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Cedar Branch, British steamer, 1,541, Ritson, 16th July.—San Francisco, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Maria Rickmers, German steamer, 3,164, E. Berg, 16th July.—Yokosuka, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Geo. R. Scofield, American ship, 1,645, S. S. Dunning, 16th July.—Manila, Ballast.—Captain.

Kaijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Yamaguchi, 16th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 16th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenfarg, British steamer, 3,646, Selby, 16th July.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Taurus, Spanish steamer, 508, F. Garteriz, 16th July.—Manila, General.—Browne & Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Gowing, 17th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Undaunted (11), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 17th July.—Hakodate.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 18th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong via ports:—Colonel The O'Gorman, Madame O'Gorman, Mr. Geo. Wheeler, Mr. A. E. Moses, Mr. Jno. N. Boyd, Mr. C. Rogers, Mr. D. H. Campbell, Mrs. Edye, Miss Irene Lee, and Mrs. Leonard in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. J. W. Brown in cabin. For San Francisco:—Captain Gerrish and Captain S. L. Christie in cabin; 2 Europeans and 632 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Salasie*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Lassneur, Miss Bernheim, Mr. Bermewitz, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Mikkas, Mrs. Hemington, infant, 3 children, and amah, Miss Hemington, Mr. Mottet, Mr. Bie, Mr. Franz Urbiz, Mr. Worth Fohn, Middle, Ferry, Mrs. Moore, infant and amah, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Trice, Mrs. MacCallum, Miss MacCallum, Mr. Posknoye, Mr. and Mrs. Rohde, 4 children and 2 amahs, Mr. Abakomnoff, Mr. Metz, Mr. Grinwald, Mr. Levy and family, Mr. Pissenti, Miss Bridmann, Miss Cob, Rev. and Mrs. Hykes, 4 children and amah, Mr. A. A. Annot, and Mr. Loa Kioa Chow in cabin; Mr. Li Hong Kow in steerage.

Per British steamer *Sunda*, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bunting and 4 children, Mr. Thomson, Captain Croal, Mr. A. Cauley, Mr. A. W. George Carey, Mrs. De Ath and servant, Mrs. Fisher and servant, and Mr. C. T. M. Nickols in cabin; Mr. Gauntlett, Mr. H. Lundbeck, and Mr. and Mrs. Hay and 2 children in second class.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mr. F. Strahler, Mrs. F. Strahler, Captain W. H. Walker, Mrs. M. Lucas, Mr. G. D. Wise, Mr. H. O. Raynor, and Mr. M. Priest in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Baron von Heyking, Baroness von Heyking and maid servant, Mr. Montague, Mrs. Montague and 3 children, Mr. Odagiri, Mrs. Odagiri and amah, Miss Domballe, Miss Woodward, Mr. O'Fallon, Mrs. O'Fallon, Mr. E. Tuska, Mrs. E. Tuska, Mr. James Connelly, Mrs. J. Connelly, Mr. Ziliacus, Mr. Munster, Mr. Healing, Mr. J. Liddle, Mr. G. Abily, Sisters Henri and Marie, Mr. F. Remedios, Mr. Boule and child, Mr. Polette, Mr. O. Chinda, Mr.

McDonald, Mr. John Campbell, Major C. Lambton, Mr. E. E. Elias, Mr. W. Bewen, Mr. Fournier, Major-General Jones Vaughan, and Mr. Loudon in cabin; 3 Chinese and 2 boys in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Johnson Bennett, Mr. Johnson Bennett, Jun., Mrs. Frederick Butterfield and maid, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. F. Dujardin-Beaumez, Mr. J. W. Brown, Captain S. L. Christie, Mr. Paul Corliss, Mr. H. Fujiyama, Dr. John F. Gentner, Captain Gerrish, Mr. T. S. Morrison, Miss Nichols, Mr. Geo. Schulze, Mr. K. Suzuki, Hon. W. O. Smith, Dr. C. B. Wood, and Mr. M. Morioka in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. A. Adelsdorfer in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Captain N. Sada and Mrs. Sanger in cabin; Mrs. E. Hundrup in second class. For Shanghai:—Dr. G. Taylor, Dr. Sanger, Mr. F. A. Foremney, Mr. T. Wallace, and Miss Wallace in cabin; 83 passengers in steerage for ports.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 3 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 73 bales.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	LOS ANGELES.	ST. LOUIS.	PHILADELPHIA.	BALTIMORE.	WASH. D. C.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	350
Hyogo.....	38	1,153	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,191
Yokohama.....	2,885	—	812	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,697
Hongkong.....	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	80
Poochow.....	2,735	594	522	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,851
Amoy.....	926	5,398	—	2,622	—	—	—	—	—	8,946
Total.....	7,014	5,992	2,497	2,622	—	—	—	—	—	19,428

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	LOS ANGELES.	ST. LOUIS.	PHILADELPHIA.	BALTIMORE.	WASH. D. C.	OTHER.	TOTAL.
Hongkong.....	—	—	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	55
Yokohama.....	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total.....	—	—	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	67

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$153,885.00.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 27th June at 4.05 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th July at 11.30 p.m. Passage, 18 days, 13 hours, and 57 minutes. Had moderate weather the whole passage, overcast and fog most of the time from the meridian; thick fog from Susaki.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns—There has been a fair quantity placed during the past week, but prices realised are very low and mostly unremunerative. In Grey Cottons, a fair amount of business has been put through on the basis of former quotations. Fancy and Coloured Cottons, also Woollens, remain in a moribund condition.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—81 lb, 34 yds, 30 inches	\$2.40	to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—91 lb, 34 yds, 30 inches	2.70	to 3.25
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.70	to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.90	to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16	to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	8.00	to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42-43 inches	0.75	to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.35	to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.65	to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	2.10	to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	2.70	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Flannel—	\$0.30	to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches heat	0.35	to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.30	to 0.32
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.25	to 0.27
Common	0.15	to 0.22
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 21 yds, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloth—Pilot, 51 @ 56 inches	0.15	to 0.50
Cloth—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloth—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$35.50 to 37.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	39.00 to 40.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	43.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	47.50 to 49.50

Nos. 2 60, Plain	65.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	76.00 to 81.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	92.00 to 97.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	118.00 to 125.00

METALS.

No fresh business, large arrivals, and *Bon* festival keeping dealers fully occupied. Prices nominally unchanged, but with the increase in stocks a weakness is being manifested which does not augur well for importers. The slaughtering of American Nails still continues, but although the quantities offered are not large they have a very depressing effect upon the market.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.40 to 3.45
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	3.65 to 3.75
Galvanized Iron sheets	4.60 to 4.80
Wire Nails, assorted	9.00 to 9.40
Fin Plates, per box	5.50 to 5.60
Pig Iron, No. 3	5.30 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KIROSENE.

Market has relapsed a little, and there is less disposition to operate on the part of dealers. Quotations remain as last given.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Very little doing, buyers and sellers being far apart in their ideas of prices.

Brown Takao	Nom. \$4.15 to 4.20
Brown Manila	Nom. 5.00 to 5.05
Brown Daitong (New)	Nom. 3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	Nom. 3.30 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	Nom. 6.00 to 7.00
White Refined	Nom. 6.90 to 9.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market remains in the same condition. There has been only one buyer, who has taken up some 40 piculs Joshi Filatures 10/13 den. at \$720, and 10 bales new Koshi Filatures 10/12 den. at \$705. Prices are quite nominal, and seem likely to remain so until orders come forward from America again. Stock 7,500 piculs, of which 1,650 piculs are new Silk.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/19 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing doing yet; prices nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

A large business has been done in Medium and Good Medium grades at about last prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	\$28 to \$30
Choice	25 to 27
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	20 to 23
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	15 to 16
Common	13 to 14

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 16th.

Mail advices from Hongkong report the following changes:—

H. & S. Bank	4th July. 182 1/2 S.	2th July. 182 1/2 S.
National Bank	Founders' \$115 S.	\$110 S.

China Traders	\$78.50 Sa.	\$79 S.
Yangtze Insurance	\$147.50 Sa.	\$150 B.
Straits Insurance	\$28.50 S.	\$27.25 Sa.
Indo-Chinas	\$58 N.	\$56.25 S.
Douglas Steamships	\$65 S.	\$64.50 S.
China Sugars	\$110 Sa.	\$111 B.
Luzon Sugars	\$67.50 S.	\$68 B.
Punjom Mines	\$15 Sa.	\$14.50 Sa.
Charbonnages Mmes	\$72.50 N.	\$80 Sa.
H. & W. Docks	185 1/2 N.	186 1/2 B.
Hongkong Lands	\$73 S.	\$73 B.
Kowloon Lands	\$10 S.	\$18 S.
Hongkong Hotels	\$26 N.	\$23 Sa.
Greenland Islands	\$17.50 Sa.	\$17 B.
Geo. Fenwicks	\$27.50 S.	\$27 S.

H. & W. Docks.—It is currently reported in Hongkong that this Company has netted over 6 lacs during the six months ending 30th June.

Taku Tugs have been sold to Shanghai yesterday at Tls. 113.85.

Local stocks continue unchanged. Grand Hotels continue to be enquired for at \$165 cum dividend, whilst Club Hotels are offering at \$75. Oriental Hotels have sellers at \$140.

EXCHANGE.

For another week exchange quotations may be said to have been without alteration, and rates are apparently firm.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/2 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/3 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.78 1/2 to 9
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.82 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	1 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	188
— Private 30 days' sight	190
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	55 1/2 to 1
On Germany—Bank sight	2.29
— Private 4 months' sight	2.25
Bar Silver (London)	31 1/4

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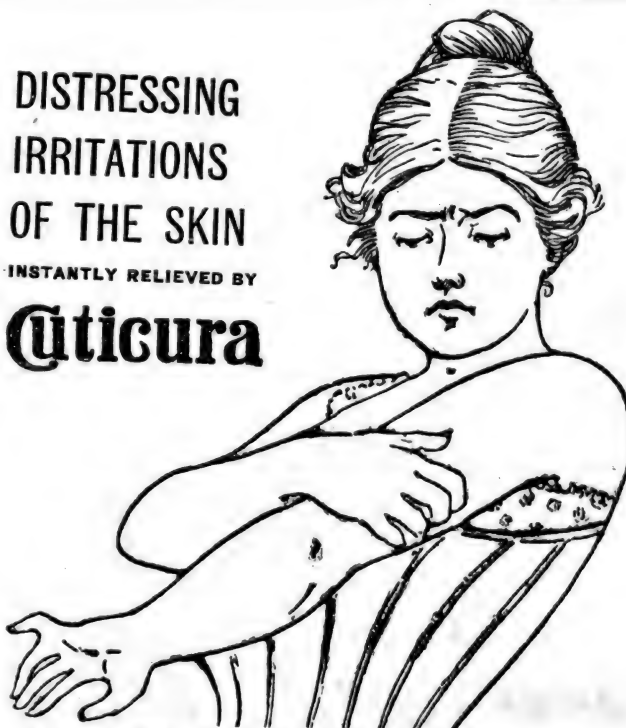
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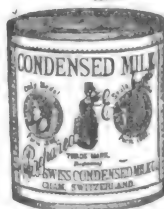
Sir SAMUEL HARRIS, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribu-
taries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet
to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best
medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a
short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a
quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an ex-
plorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they
create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies
them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN. HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Uncertain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations
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in China, published in 1891, says—"I had with me a quantity of
Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing
could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls,
butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-
spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas,
and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up
the small remaining "stock."

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THE TIMES.

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Yokohama.—SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1896.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 25TH, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE trial of Dr. Jameson has commenced.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL intends to visit Nikko shortly.

THE Hongkong A.D.C. is to give "Dorothy" next winter.

THE murders of Christians in Candia (Crete) are being renewed.

THE *doyo* season (the Japanese dog-days) commenced on the 19th inst.

THE International Telegraph Convention concluded its sittings at Buda-Pesth this week.

ON Saturday last Reuter telegraphed that Italy was expected to abandon Kassala at an early date.

IN an interview at Paris, Li Hung-chang declared that China desired to hold the balance

equal between England and France in arranging a share for both countries of the trade of South-West China.

THE *Kawabiraki* at Tokyo has not yet taken place owing to its promoters' dreading bad weather.

THE Directors of the Grand Hotel, Limited, Yokohama, have had their remuneration raised to \$400 each per annum.

NO news from Europe came over the wires for four days this week, owing to the break-down of the over-land telegraph in Japan.

MR. CARL FASKE, second mate of the Danish steamer *Ask*, died suddenly in Hongkong on July 14th: it is feared from sun-stroke.

H.M.S. *Grafton*, with Rear-Admiral Oxley on board, arrived at Singapore on the 16th July; she was expected at Hongkong on the 23rd inst.

MRS. HARRIET BECHER STOWE, the author of the famous anti-slavery novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," has just died at her home in America at the age of 85.

THE Grand Hotel, Limited has declared a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year. Mr. Lowder and Mr. Jas. Walter have been re-elected Directors.

MR. HAMAGUCHI KICHIYEMON has been elected to represent in the Lower House the Fourth Division of Tokyo, in succession to Baron Kusumoto Masataka.

THE Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting held on the 20th inst., unanimously agreed to petition for the entire abolition of export duties.

MR. TAKADA HIDRO, Staff Engineer in the Japanese navy, is allowed to wear the 5th class of the order of the Legion of Honour presented to him by the French Republic.

THE citizens of Hiroshima have presented 500 yen to Prof. W. K. Burton, of the Home Department, for his distinguished services to that town in connection with the Water-works.

DETAILS of the rising in Formosa are coming in slowly. The rebels belong to some gangs of bandits that fled to the inaccessible hill-country at the beginning of the Japanese occupation.

A CASE of double suicide occurred in Yokohama on Monday, a good-looking Tokyo girl throwing herself into the Creek with a young married man, whose acquaintances she had recently made.

FROM American papers we learn that the Porte, on the demand of the Powers, has named Prince Samos, who is a Christian, Governor of Crete. The situation is therefore ameliorated.

CAPTAIN MATSUDA YAKICHI, of the *Tsuruga Maru*, which was sunk in Bushu Bay on the 10th of June, involving the death of four persons, has had his certificate suspended for six months.

A GALE on the 20th and 21st did an enormous amount of damage. The train service between Yokohama and the South is interrupted by "wash-outs;" and telegraph wires are down all over the country.

THE damage to the *Kobe Maru* from skimming a rock near Shimonoseki is much more serious than was imagined, remarks a Shanghai contemporary, and her repairs will probably take at least ten days. Had she been a yard farther

out she would have gone clear; had she been a yard farther in she would probably have torn out her bilge and sunk. She was saved by being built of steel with a double bottom.

A FIRE broke out on the 14th inst. at 3 a.m., in the silk factory of Isshinsha, Inaba Province. The flames started in the drying room and 325 *kwamme* of cocoons, 32 *kwamme* of silk, and one building, were consumed.

THE First National Bank held its regular meeting of shareholders on the 19th inst. The net profits of the Bank were yen 235,437.936; to this was added yen 50,000 brought over from last year. A dividend of 12 per cent. was declared, the balance carried forward being yen 54,035.932.

THE yacht races on Saturday provoked good sport. *Mary* won the "Daimyo Cup," presented by Mr. Scidmore; *Ronin* won the "Insurance Cup"; *Vega* won the "French Residents' Cup"; *Warata* won the dinghy race; and *Sodeska* was the winner of the Mosquito Club prize.

MESSRS. SUZUKI BUNTARO, M.D., Amatani Senmatsu, M.D., Morishima Kutara, and Fujimama Kan, have been ordered to Germany to conduct medical researches; Mr. Namba Seigai, and Dr. Otani Shiukan, to the United States and France for electrical investigations. They leave Yokohama on the 26th inst.

H.M. THE KING OF KOREA, on hearing the news of the sad calamity in the Sanriku districts, sent an expression of his deep sympathy with His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, through the Korean Minister in Tokyo. H.M. the Emperor returned his thanks to H.M. the King of Korea through the Minister of the Imperial Household.

THE Boston (U.S.A) Corps of the Honourable Artillery Company, now visiting England, has been greatly fêted, and was present at a special review at Aldershot, held in the presence of Lord Wolseley and the Duke of Connaught. At a banquet to the Corps yesterday evening, the Prince of Wales was present and the most cordial speeches were delivered.

VISCOUNT AOKI, Japanese Minister at Berlin, being interviewed on July 8th, said that Japan was in no wise disturbed by the splendid reception that had been accorded Li Hung-chang in Germany, but regarded it simply as an honour paid to the envoy of a great Empire, and devoid of political importance. The reported Triple Alliance between China, Japan, and Russia was a fiction.

THERE is not much change in the Import trade. Business continues to be done in most descriptions of Yarn, at about late rates, and a good demand has sprung up for Shirtings, more especially the heavier kinds. Fancy Cottons have been moved to some extent, the principal lines in request being Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns. The Woollen trade is still dull. There is not much doing in the Metal market, but large arrivals continue to be landed. The Kerosene trade is quiet, but prices remain unchanged, and arrivals of Oil continue on a fair scale. A considerable movement in Brown Sugar has taken place at late quotations, but there is not much demand for White sorts, which are well held. Nothing done in the Silk trade but a few direct shipments, and stock continues to arrive in fair quantities. Nothing to report in the Waste business. There is a good demand in the Tea trade for grades Good Medium downwards, and prices are unchanged. There is plenty of leaf to draw upon, settlements to date being a good way behind those of last season. Exchange has continued steady.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Formosan question is discontentedly discussed by papers of all complexions. Four articles have appeared ventilating the general dissatisfaction, two in the *Mainichi* and one each in the *Yiji* and the *Kokumin*. All lay special stress on the urgent necessity of sweeping alterations in the *personnel* of the Formosan officials, who are denounced as incompetent to grapple with the very difficult task imposed on them by the present condition of the island. One of the *Mainichi's* articles contains a statement, said to have emanated from Li Chun-shang, a Chinese immigrant in Formosa, whose meritorious services during the campaign for the subjugation of the island were rewarded with a decoration. The statement is that the present disturbances are attributable chiefly to the vindictive spirit engendered among the natives by the wholesale slaughter resorted to on the occasion of the last rebellion. Hence he foresees that the insurrection will be followed by an outbreak in a fresh quarter, and that rebellion will succeed rebellion until the natives are completely driven from the island. But the views of this Li Chun-shang are greatly discredited by news that the *Kokumin's* Formosan Correspondent sends from Chang-hwa, under date the 20th instant. He alleges that Li, for all his decoration, is a man of most doubtful loyalty. Thus, on the occasion of the sharp fight that took place at Lo-Kiang on the 8th inst. between the Japanese troops and the insurgents, Li Chun-shang and another Chinaman mustered a force of over 1,000 natives, ostensibly to co-operate with the Japanese in suppressing the insurrection. But it was noticed that a considerable portion of his men fought at the side of the insurgents, and when he was called upon to give an explanation of such treacherous conduct on the part of his people, his reply was vague and entirely unsatisfactory. The *Kokumin* reports its opinion on the Formosan problem, namely, that any natives open to suspicion should be rigorously dealt with and that the rest should be driven out of the island, for the conciliatory policy originally adopted is the primary cause of the present trouble. The same paper, on the authority of an anonymous officer, is inclined to form a comparatively low estimate of the fighting capacity of the troops in Formosa. Their pluck, says our contemporary, is not so conspicuous as it was during the war, and the cause is to be sought in the partiality shown by the Military Authorities when distributing compensation to the families of those that fell on the field and rewards to the survivors, the share allotted to the latter being beyond comparison greater than the provision made for the relatives of the killed.

The *Nichi Nichi* has devoted its leading columns in several successive issues to a discussion of the two great diplomatic problems now always linked together when Eastern affairs are considered, that is to say, the problems of Russia and England with special reference to the Far East and to Japan. The Russian problem was discussed last week and the English has occupied our contemporary's space this week. Having premised the extreme improbability that Korea will be abandoned to the control of Russia alone, Russia being pledged not to attempt any such monopoly, and England, China, and Japan, being also bound to safeguard their own interests and secure the peace of the world by preventing Russia from wielding unchecked influence in Korea, the *Nichi Nichi* proceeds to observe that the public labour under a delusion when they imagine that Russia is absorbed in encroaching upon others' rights and territories. Our contemporary holds that the southern expansion of Russia is dictated by sheer necessity, and that the growth of the Great Northern Power, must not be regarded as the outcome simply of ambition and greed. An analogous case may be found in the perpetual unrest of the working classes in obedience to impulses that they can not resist. The *Nichi Nichi* next describes how steadily and by what

different processes from those adopted by England, for example, Russia has pushed forward her frontier, and then comes to the great point, namely, in what relation Japan and Russia should stand toward each other. "Japan," it declares, "should go hand in hand with Russia in solving the Eastern problem, and should strive to establish a good understanding with her northern neighbour, for it is conceivable that a failure of *entente* might at any moment involve the two Powers in war. What a State should rely on is the national resources and national defence: no artifice nor tortuous policy will avail under circumstances such as those that now exist. The true programme of a State is to trust the trustworthy, and to prepare itself so as to be able to control any situation that may arise in the natural course of events."

Briefly stated, the *Nichi Nichi's* argument about the second problem is this:—England will find it difficult to maintain an attitude of isolation. It is impossible for her single-handed to check the southern expansion of Russia, nor is she competent to become mistress of the situation in the Orient without the co-operation of another State or States. The conclusion of the article is devoted to discussing Anglo-Japanese relations. "The procedure of England used to be actuated by considerations of self-interest alone. But she made a markedly new departure in the matter of Treaty Revision between the two countries, abandoning her traditional selfish principles in that particular case, and taking the lead of all the Western Powers in concluding with an Eastern nation a convention that involved several concessions on her part. That magnanimous action has won the hearty gratitude of Japan, and the significant departure that England made in this special instance shows that she is not wedded to any invariable line of policy, but is ready to strike out a new course when the advisability of such a proceeding presents itself. That is a point to be kept in mind by the Japanese people."

The *Kokumin*, always ready to welcome any growth of intimacy between Counts Matsukata and Okuma, shows itself correspondingly mortified whenever any obstacle interferes with their *rapprochement*. In the first of two articles devoted to discussing this prominent topic of domestic politics our contemporary avows the belief that the primary cause of the *entente* between the two statesmen was the isolation in which they found themselves, and the bitter experience that they suffered owing to the disloyalty of their former colleagues in power, especially Marquis Ito. Another article is directed against Satsuma statesmen and Baron Ito's party. The *Kokumin* believes that, taking advantage of Count Matsukata's sincerity and warm sense of friendship, these politicians have threatened him with entire severance of intercourse, should he persevere in his present course. The *Kokumin* writes to know why, if these Satsuma statesmen have any sympathy with their distinguished fellow-clansman, they do not bring pressure to bear on Marquis Ito so as to induce him to adopt Count Matsukata's views and admit that financier, as well as his close ally, Count Okuma, into the Cabinet. It further asks why, if they find it impossible to intercede in that manner, they do not silence the counter-agitation of Baron Ito's party, and leave Count Matsukata free to do as he likes. Merely to utter threats against the Count without adopting either of the above alternatives can not be regarded as other than very cruel and unfriendly conduct on the part of his distinguished fellow-clansmen.

Mr. Sugiura Jyuko, ex-member of the Diet, who writes editorial articles for the *Tokyo Asahi*, is a noted Chauvinist. His sensitive patriotism is greatly wounded by the War-Commemoration postage stamps, specimens of which have appeared in the *Official Gazette*. The supreme excellence of the Japanese spirit of nationality, he writes, is centered on the Court. Every subject must constantly preserve a feeling of profound reverence towards the Court, and must be strictly on his guard against any act

calculated to bring indignity upon Imperialism. In these degenerate times, he deplores to observe that the point is not as strictly observed as it ought to be. The stamping of bank notes with a picture of the Empress Jingō is an instance of the violation of that great duty. But the indignity done to the ancient Empress is thrown into the shade by the new stamps bearing likenesses of the late lamented Princes Arisugawa and Kitashirakawa; likenesses that will be exposed to the ignominy of being polluted with saliva and defaced by post marks. Just now, when the people are awakening from their infatuated imitation of things foreign, why has the Government repeated the vicious error made in the case of the bank notes, and shown itself heedless of subjecting the Imperial Court to ignominy? Mr. Sugiura fails to understand such conduct. Was there no better way of showing reverence for the memories of the lamented Princes? From a sentimental as well as a national point of view, the issue of stamps bearing such devices is strongly denounced by the writer, and with the grandiloquence that often accompanies impotence, he warns the Authorities against being again guilty of such an irreverent solecism.

The *Yiji* reverts once more to the suggestion that the all-important portfolio of Foreign Affairs must be occupied as soon as possible by a statesman of the first calibre, and that Count Okuma is the best available candidate for the post. If, however, private considerations preclude the giving of the seat to the Count, then the Premier himself must assume it, either in addition to his present duties or by resigning the latter.

The enforcement of the District Self-government System in three cities and thirty Prefectures, where, last April, the preparatory step was taken of abolishing small districts and forming in their place one large district, as approved by the Diet, gives much uneasiness to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Our contemporary's doubts are inspired by the provision in the new system that gives to large land-owners—namely, men possessing estates valued at ten thousand *yen* and upwards—the right of returning one-third of the number of members of the District Assembly, no limit of time being fixed during which the estates must have been in possession of their nominal owners. Without such a limit the manufacture of "large land-owners" will not be a difficult task, and is not unlikely to be largely resorted to in the heat of party competition. An abuse of the kind would also affect the election of members of the Local Assembly, for, according to the provisions of the Local Self-Government System, their election is made by the City Assembly and Councillors and by the District Assembly and Council. In view of the fierce spirit of party rivalry that exists, a provision opening the way to such abuses is dangerous and calls for speedy amendment.

The *Tokyo Economist* undertakes to explain the reason why the outflow of specie has of late exceeded the inflow, and why the import of goods exceeds the export. Last year, while the balance of trade was much in favour of exports, specie left the country to the extent of more than 20 million *yen*. That was due to the result of the War, which necessarily involved a drain of specie from the country. Another cause materially affecting the trade was an extraordinary issue of convertible notes, over and above the prescribed limit, the volume of the currency, which stood at a little over 167,251,000 *yen* in January of 1895, having swollen to above 194,618,000 *yen* at the end of that year. Such are the *Keisai Zasshi's* explanations. They satisfy our contemporary, but may not be equally convincing to the public at large.

Count Mutsu is said to be improving in health at Honolulu. He is staying at the Waikiki Villa, but in accordance with medical advice has refused to see visitors.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE KOBE LAUNDRY CRISIS.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* says that there is reason to believe that the Kencho authorities are contemplating some form of action in the laundry question. The officials have been making investigations as to the formation and attitude of the Laundrymen's Guild, and the consequent combination of European residents culminating in last Friday's public meeting and appointment of committee. Special inquiries were made as to the proceedings at the meeting, and as to the feeling of the foreign community. It was explained that the Laundrymen's Guild had proclaimed certain regulations and declared a boycott against all who should disagree with them; and that the foreigners, determined not to be at the mercy of a dictatorial guild, had resolved to make some arrangement independent of the Japanese laundrymen. Japanese labourers are growing far too fond of combining, striking, boycotting, and generally annoying their patrons and employers; and unless the authorities can devise some method of checking the evil, it will be for foreigners to devise means of their own. What the Kencho authorities contemplate doing in this question we cannot ascertain; probably they will severely admonish the refractory washermen and get the regulations altered. It is not easy to see how any compulsion can be used towards the obdurate washermen; any man has a perfect right to ask what price he likes for his services, to refuse a lower price, and to decline entering on a contract at all. There is no really satisfactory remedy if the labourers themselves have not the common sense to see what harm will result from their dictatorial arrogance; the only way will be to dispense with them.

The *Kobe Chronicle* learns that at the advice of the Kencho authorities, eighty-three laundry keepers of Kobe have signed the following agreement in the presence of Mr. Okuza, a public notary, as witness:—

1.—Contracts between laundries and customers shall be regarded as being for four months, and only be terminated on four months' notice or payment in lieu of notice; and in case any washerman takes another one's customer without such notice, the proceeds of the contract shall be divided as under:—2.50 yen shall be deemed the estimated proceeds of washing for one person for a month. Of this sum, 1.50 yen shall be paid to the washerman who has lost the customer, 75 sen to the washerman who has taken the customer, and 25 sen to the laundry guild.

2.—The commission hitherto paid by laundries to house-boys or amahs of foreigners shall be abolished. Under whatever name or disguise it may be, such commission should not be paid.

3.—Any washerman who has violated the preceding articles shall be fined 50 yen. On complaint of violation of rules, a committee of three members elected from among the laundrymen shall investigate the case; and if the committee finds a washerman guilty of a violation, there shall be no appeal nor refusal to pay the fine. In case of refusal the fine shall be compulsorily enforced.

THE NEW "PROMETHEUS."

THE latest addition to the "Blue Funnel" Line, the *Prometheus*, arrived from Kobe to-day. She has been specially designed for cargo carrying; derricks and windlasses appearing everywhere on the vessel. The *Prometheus* is the largest ship now in the "Ocean S.S." fleet, and she is a spar-deck vessel, with raised poop fore-castle and centre-castle. The principal dimensions are—Length 430 feet, beam 49 feet, and depth of hold 31.6 feet; net register tonnage 3,340, gross 5,304 tons. She is expected to carry about 7,500 tons deadweight on a mean draft of 24 feet 7 inches. Her free-board is 7.3 feet. Besides the cargo space, below decks, the capacity of the centre castle is 29,378 cubic feet. This space, however, we learn, will be mostly used for sheltering deck passengers when carrying coolies up and down the China, and Malay coasts, and for the pilgrim service to the Red Sea. The *Prometheus* in addition to the usual fore-and-aft water-ballast tanks, which are capable of storing 1,040 tons, has a deep ballast tank abaft the engine-room, in a position usually allotted to spare

bunkering. This tank is capable of holding 727 tons of water, thus making her total water ballast capacity equal to 1,767 tons. The engines are of the triple-expansion type, with cylinders 29, 50, and 82 inches in diameter respectively, with a stroke of 5 feet. She indicates about 4,000 h.p., and has made 13½ knots speed. The ship after which the *Prometheus* was named was a comparatively new vessel sold a short time ago to the Japanese.

CONFERRING HONORARY DEGREES.

ON the 24th June, the honorary degree of D.C.L., was conferred upon Mr. Thomas F. Bayard, United States Ambassador to England; Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies; Mr. John Morley, member of Parliament, late Chief Secretary for Ireland; Professor Francis Andrew March, professor of the English language at Lafayette College, Pa., and five others. The large circular hall where the degrees are conferred was filled to overflowing long before the time for the ceremonies to commence. A majority of the audience was composed of ladies in bright costumes, and very few undergraduates were present. Consequently the traditional interruptions and chaff were of the mildest character. Mes. Bayard and Chamberlain occupied seats on the Chancellor's right after the conclusion of the picturesque procession, in which the high officials of the University took part. The Chancellor spoke in Latin, stating upon whom the degrees were conferred. The name of Mr. Bayard was well received, but the other recipients were all eclipsed by the cheering which greeted the name of Mr. Chamberlain. Officials bearing wands of office went to the door and escorted into the presence of the Chancellor the nine recipients of the degree. All the latter wore the red doctor's gown, and were headed by Mr. Bayard. The degree was conferred upon each in turn, in a long Latin speech, which was frequently interrupted by cries from the undergraduates of "Cut it short," "That's quite enough," etc. There was only slight applause and no comments when Mr. Bayard received his degree, but when Mr. Chamberlain was similarly honoured he was welcomed with cries of, "How's Mr. Kruger?" "Where is your orchid?" Mr. Morley was well received, on the whole, but was slightly disconcerted just as he was ascending the steps to shake hands with the Chancellor by the cry of "Remember Mitchellstown." Professor March's name was the last on the list.

PADEREWSKI.

THE break-down of the great pianist Paderewski is regarded as final. His cancelling of all his English engagements is held to signify permanent retirement from the pianistic field. That he overworked himself recklessly is very evident from the story of his extraordinary industry, playing every day and every night, without any noteworthy interval, during months, until he became "a bundle of uncontrollable nerves." It is curious to observe that the first emphatic warning of his break-down came in the form of an almost overwhelming attack of stage fright. This virtuoso, who had played so often before great audiences and whose assurance of winning applause was so certain that anything like nervousness seemed out of the question, confessed to a friend that on the occasion of his last recital in Carnegie Hall, he had felt himself almost paralyzed by stage fright.

HON. ARTHUR SEWALL, OF MAINE.

THE Democratic nominee for the office of Vice-President of the United States is much less generally known than is the Republican nominee. The former is probably, not Mr. "Sewell" as spelled in Reuter's telegram, but Mr. Arthur Sewall, of Maine. He is a leading Democrat in local politics, but is not prominent in national politics, except that for several years he has been a member of the Democratic National Committee. He is a mere figure-head on the ticket, to which he can not add much weight; but the Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, the Democratic nominee for President, is a man of national reputation.

He was for several years a member of the House of Representatives from Nebraska, but is a comparatively young man. He is an eloquent speaker, and has been called "the silver tongued orator of the prairies," a name appropriate to the platform on which he stands.

LI HUNG-CHANG AND BISMARCK.

A HIGHLY-COLOURED description of the meeting of Li Hung-chang and Prince Bismarck appears in the American press. Not content with describing the clothing of the two famous old men, the lively journalists of the States invent a conversation for them. Here is a part of the performance:—

"You are the greatest and more celebrated statesman of your country," said Bismarck. Li was gazing at Bismarck's rugged face and eagle eyes. "Now that I have seen your serenity's piercing eyes, I for the first time understand your success," he said. Bismarck replied: "Your loftiness, too, has had great successes." But Li deprecated them with: "Not nearly so great as yours." "Well," responded Bismarck, "we all try to do our duty."

Li is much crippled. He stood as long as he could, and when he was about to sink with fatigue Bismarck invited him to sit. Then the two old men fell to discussing their ailments.

"I sleep badly," said the Prussian, in response to the Chinese statesman's eager enquiries.

"I, too, suffer great pain," said Li.

"But I have no pain," retorted Bismarck.

"It is in my face," continued Li. "It hurts me," and he invited Bismarck's attention to his homely face, which is still further twisted by neuralgia. At luncheon they talked politics. With several German reporters present, and taking stenographic notes, Li talked recklessly for a man who has a yellow jacket to lose.

"The purpose of my visit," he remarked, "is to ask your serenity's advice."

"What advice?" asked Bismarck.

"How can we best reform China?"

"I cannot judge from here."

"How can I act successfully against the court in Peking?"

"One cannot act against a court. No Minister can resist the will of the ruler. He only executes it or gives advice."

"But how can the ruler's will be carried out?"

"Only on the basis of the army. It may be quite small, not more than 50,000 perhaps, but it must be good."

"We have men," replied the former Viceroy, "but training is wanted. Nothing has been done in this direction. For thirty years I have striven in vain against this lethargy. I have now seen the finest army in the world—that in Germany. Though I shall no longer be able to expend means of my own, which were at my disposal as Viceroy, I shall do what I can to act up to your serenity's advice. We must reorganize, and we must do it with the help of Prussian officers and on the Prussian model."

"The army," remarked the Prince, "need not be distributed all over the country. It is only necessary to have it at one's disposal at any moment and to create means of communication in order to throw the force quickly and easily from one point to another."

DEATH OF MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, the authoress of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," died at Hartford at 12 o'clock on July 1st. According to an American exchange, when the death signal came, her daughters were at her bedside, but the dying woman showed not the least sign of consciousness. She suffered no pain, but passed away peacefully and quietly, as if going to sleep. After the first attack on Friday she rallied somewhat, but her case was considered hopeless after the first two days. She was born at Litchfield, Conn., on June 14th, 1812, being the daughter of Rev. Lyman Beecher, a Presbyterian clergyman, who held a distinguished position among theologians and pulpitorators. Her mother was Roxanna Foote, a granddaughter of General Ward, who served under Washington in the Revolution War.

THE BRITISH FLEET.

THE *China Mail* in announcing the departure of the *Spartan* from Hakodate, on the 27th June, for the Behring Sea, says that Mr. Barret Hamilton, one of Lord Salisbury's Secretaries

embarked on her. He has been specially sent out from home to conduct an enquiry relative to the Fishery question. He will be up in the seal district for about six weeks. In consequence of the departure of the *Spartan*, the *Linnet* will probably be retained at Hakodate instead of proceeding to be Behring Sea to relieve the *Swift*. The *Spartan* will likely count as the second ship at the Fisheries. H.M.S. *Redpole* has permission, on the representation of H.M. Consul, to remain at Amoy in consequence of a threatened riot.

THE FINAL VERDICT.

HERE is what will be, we believe, the final verdict of the British nation about the recent Transvaal troubles, for, after all, history still recognises only one axiom in international affairs, "the end justifies the means":—

Mr. Labouchere is beginning to tire us with his continual attacks on Mr. Rhodes and on Mr. Beit. Mr. Rhodes is responsible for the Jameson raid; the whole business was a miserable fiasco, and reflects anything but credit on every one connected with it; but when this is all proven the other side of the shield deserves a glance; for, after all, it is the brighter side. If to-day the British possessions stretch in an unbroken line along the central plateau of Africa from Cape Town to Lake Tanganyika, the praise is due to Mr. Rhodes, and the achievement will surely be held in the future to outweigh all his failures and faults. Nor is it fair to speak of Mr. Beit as a German financier occupied selfishly and unscrupulously in building up his own private fortune.

It is an old maxim that it is difficult to enrich one-self without enriching one's country. Henry Bessemer made a million for himself, but more than a hundred million for the steel industry of Great Britain, and Mr. Beit's fortune is simply a similar sign of ability the effects of which are not confined to his own person. It is within the truth to say that there is no industry in the world so splendidly organized as the gold-mining industry on the Rand. We have seen the best coal-mines in Great Britain, the finest steel works in Pittsburgh, but we have never seen such perfect machinery, so perfect an organization of labour, as can be found in any of the twenty or thirty best mines in or about Johannesburg. The praise for this is due to Mr. Beit, more than to any one else, and this achievement will perhaps be held in the long run to outweigh any of his mistakes. What has Mr. Labouchere put to his credit save that now and then he moves us to laughter?

A CORRECTION.

In an article published by us last issue two corrections have to be made. We wrote:—"No one would pay an ounce of gold on account of an obligation dischargeable with sixteen ounces of silver, when twenty-one ounces of silver could be obtained abroad for the same ounce of gold." Here "twenty-one" is a mistake for "twenty-nine." Further on we said:—"The tendency would be to carry silver as copiously and quickly as possible to the States, there to purchase gold with it at a price nearly 24 per cent. below the price ruling in Europe." Here "24" should have been "80."

THE TELEPHONE.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Legation in Tokyo showed much conservatism in the matter of telephones. It didn't like them at all, and kept them out of the sacred compound until a few months ago. The Queen herself has been even more conservative. Only now has her Majesty permitted the installation of this immense convenience at the four Palaces. The Pope was a little more liberal. Already he has a telephone in the Vatican. What is more, His Holiness is said to have sanctioned confession by telephone, but will not yet allow absolution to be granted instrumentally.

MINING DISASTER IN PENNSYLVANIA.

THROUGH the caving in of the roof of one of the galleries of the Red Ash Vein, Twin Shaft, Pittston, Pennsylvania, at the end of June, 100 men were buried alive. About forty were English-speaking miners, and thirty Poles and Huns, the others being Italians. The roof had been reported dangerous some weeks before, and the men were engaged in propping up the sides at the time.

THE LATE SIR AUGUSTUS HARRIS.

FROM American Papers we learn that the late Sir Augustus Harris submitted to an operation some week ago, but never recovered from the shock.

THE "FUJI-KAN."

A HOME paper says:—The new Japanese battleship *Fuji* is now lying in the Victoria Dock in London, and alongside her is a large floating

crane to hoist her machinery and other heavy weights on board. The military mast has already been stepped in its place and the fighting tops fitted. Work on board her is being expedited in every way.

"A PUBLIC NUISANCE."

IN the Consulate-General Court of the U.S. on Thursday, Mr. McIvor sent Charles A. Luther to gaol for thirty days for being drunk and disorderly on the public highway on the 16th July. Defendant had only been discharged from the U.S. gaol two days—where he had served 20 days' for a similar offence—when the police had again to apprehend him.

BICYCLING IN THE UNITED STATES.

REFERRING to the recent road race between Dayton and Cincinnati, at Chester Park in the latter city, the *Commercial Gazette* of June 14, says:—"Five of the winners rode 'Dayton' wheels in the race, and they attribute no small part of their good luck to the running qualities of those speedy and sturdy machines."

KOBE, SHANGHAI, AND HONGKONG.

FROM Kobe papers we learn that the foreigners in that port have subscribed \$6,389, towards the relief of the sufferers in the north-east of Japan. Shanghai has telegraphed \$4,000, and Hongkong's list has already reached \$2,000. H.E. the Governor and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Burdon, D.D., heading the fund.

DEATH OF A NOTED GEOLOGIST.

SIR JOSHUA PRESTWICH, Professor of Geology at Oxford, formerly President of the Geological Society and Vice-President of the Royal Society, and the author of many valuable geological works, died on June 23rd, aged 84 years.

MARSHAL YAMAGATA AND THE RUSSIAN MISSION.

Various rumours are circulated by Opposition papers with respect to the alleged cool treatment accorded Marshal Yamagata in Russia. One paper alleges that the Marshal was denied the honour of attending the ceremony of coronation, the Russian Court only acknowledging the mission of Prince Fushimi. These papers learn that the idea of despatching two separate missions to Russia originated with the late M. Hitrovo, but that Baron Nishi neglected to arrive at an understanding on the matter with the Russian Court, and that an objection on the part of the Japanese Cabinet was overruled owing to some researches of Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who found that Holland had despatched, on the occasion of a certain ceremony held during the reign of one of the English Georges, two separate missions of honour. Mr. Kaneko apparently overlooked the fact that the relations between Holland and England were of a special character, and that one of the two missions despatched was sent in a private capacity. All these absurd rumours are conclusively contradicted by a special letter that the *Tokyo Asahi* has received apparently from a person in the suite of Marshal Yamagata. The letter describes the doings on the 26th May rather minutely. At 7 a.m. on the 26th, it says, the Marshal, accompanied by his suite, repaired to the Legation of the Turkish Ambassador, which all the Ambassadors and Delegates of other Powers had agreed upon as a common rendezvous, the Turkish Ambassador being *doyen* of the *corps diplomatique*. At 8.30 a.m. the great ceremonies began, and the Marshal returned to his residence at 4 p.m. It was feared at first that the Marshal would be unable, at his age and in his enfeebled condition, to sustain the continued strain that the ceremony imposed upon him, for all present on the occasion were required to keep standing until the close. The Marshal's suite were therefore very much relieved and delighted when they found him bearing the strain without feeling particularly exhausted. It is said that of all the delegates despatched by Asiatic Powers, the Marshal alone was present at

the coronation within the cathedral, for national usage did not admit of the Ambassadors of China, Korea, Turkey, Siam, and so forth uncovering during the ceremony.

The *Nippon* gives a conversation which Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and a great friend of its editor, had on this subject with Count Katsui. The latter asked Mr. Komura, in his usual outspoken manner, whether it was true that Marshal Yamagata had been received coolly at the Russian Court, and that he had been admitted to the ceremony merely in the capacity of a Field-Marshal? Mr. Komura replied that he could not reply definitely, as details had not yet reached the Foreign Office, but that the Marshal did not receive any specially warm treatment in Russia would appear probable. The Count further observed that if it was really necessary to despatch an Ambassador in addition to Prince Fushimi, he regretted that the choice should have fallen on the Marshal instead of on Prince Shimazu of Satsuma. The relations between that great house and Russia are very cordial, as might be inferred from the fact that it was on Prince Shimazu that the present Czar first called when he arrived in Japan on his famous tour.

AN APPOSITE CRITICISM.

Were we asked to name the most prominent characteristic of the Japanese artist, we should say that it has always been complete subordination of self to the uses of his time. He worked solely to brighten the lives of his contemporaries. It was thus that the decorative element found so large a place in the field of his endeavour. He turned his hand in whatever direction the mood of the moment tended. To every sphere of society, to every domain of domestic life, to every usage of etiquette and courteous intercourse, he willingly devoted his talents. Whether to his complaisance and versatility is to be ascribed the genesis of the spirit of art that pervades the nation, or whether those qualities in him were the outcome of that spirit, we shall not here pause to consider. Our immediate object is to draw attention to a criticism by Mrs. Meynell that indicates an emphatic *rapprochement* between the aim of the artist in modern Europe and the aim of the Japanese artist in all ages of his history:—"The talent which has quite lately and quite suddenly arisen, to devote itself to the use of the day or week, in illustrated papers—the enormous production of art in black and white—is assuredly a confession that the Honours of Mortality are worth working for. Fifty years ago, men worked for the honours of immortality: these were the commonplace of their ambition; they declined to attend to the beauty of things of use that were destined to be broken and worn out, and looked forward to surviving themselves by painting bad pictures. So that what to do with their bad pictures, in addition to our own, has become the problem of the nation and of the householder alike. To-day men have begun to learn that their sons will be grateful to them for few bequests. Art consents at last to work upon the tissue and the china that are doomed to the natural and necessary end—destruction; art shows a most dignified alacrity to do her best, daily for the 'process' and for oblivion. Doubtless this abandonment of hopes so large at once and so cheap costs the artist something; nay, it implies an acceptance of the inevitable that is not less than heroic. And the reward has been in the singular and manifest increase of vitality in his work which is done for so short a life. Fittingly, indeed, does life reward the acceptance of death, inasmuch as to die is to have been alive. There is a real circulation of blood—quick use, brief beauty, abolition, recreation. The honour of the day is for ever the honour of that day. It goes into the treasury of things that are honestly and completely ended and done with. Who of the wise would hesitate? To be honourable for one day—one named and dated day separate from all other days of the ages—or to be for an unlimited time tedious?"

NOTIFICATION RELATING TO THE SALE OF THE HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT'S MINES AND SMELTING-WORKS.

A notification over the signature of the Minister of the Imperial Household was published in Friday's *Official Gazette*, relating to the sale of the Sado Gold Mine, the Ikuno Silver Mine, and the Smelting-Works at Osaka. It runs as follows:—

The two Mines and the Smelting-Works shall be sold as they stand on Oct. 31st of the current year. The details of these properties are as follows:—

Sado Mine:—(1) The right of working the two lodes of Aikawa and Hyakushiyaku, and the subordinate lode of Yudo. (2) The buildings, plant, tools, and implements, ground, and forests belonging to the Mine.

Ikuno Mine:—(1) The right of working the five lodes of Omori, Kanagase, Kamikobata, Akenobu, and Nakase. (2) The buildings, plant, tools, and implements, ground, and forests belonging to the mine.

Osaka Smelting-works:—The buildings, plant, tools, implements, and ground.

Persons desirous of purchasing the above mines and smelting-works should submit tenders, after duly inspecting the properties and pursuing documents in which detailed statements of the establishments are entered. Such documents may be obtained at the offices concerned. But it is required, by way of preliminary, that permission shall be obtained either from the Imperial Estates Bureau or from the Sado and the Ikuno Mines Office and the Smelting-works Office, and that, before obtaining such permission from the Smelting-works, security amounting to 10,000 yen, either in cash or Government Bonds, or Bank deposit-notes, shall be handed over, such security to be returned when the inspection permit is given back. The period of inspection shall be from August 1st to September 10th of the current year.

Applicants must submit tenders, drafted according to a form specified by the Imperial Household, to the Chief of the Imperial Estates Bureau between 8 a.m. and 12 noon of September 16th, together with security, amounting to 150,000 yen, either in cash or unregistered Government Bonds. The tenders shall be opened at 1 p.m. on the same day at the Imperial Estates Bureau in the Akasaka Detached Palace, Tokyo, by the Chief of the Bureau, in the presence of the Chiefs of the Imperial Treasury and of the Investigation Section, or their proxies. Tenders that lack intelligibility, or tenders the signatories of which do not appear on the occasion of opening, or tenders put in by proxy, will be rejected.

The highest tender, provided that it be above the upset price, shall be accepted. But should it happen that there are two highest tenders of equal amount, the tenderers must be invited to submit supplementary tenders. Should the tenders decline to submit supplementary tenders, or should the supplementary tenders be again found equal, then the successful tender shall be determined by lot. In the event of the highest bidder's withdrawing his tender, the next highest shall be accepted. But should all the tenders be below the upset price, the applicants shall be invited to submit new tenders. The contract for taking delivery must be concluded within 7 days from the day on which the successful tender is accepted, and at the same time, as security for the fulfillment of the contract, a sum of money corresponding to one-tenth of the price offered must be paid to the Chief of the Estates Bureau, either in cash or in unregistered Government bonds. The security of 150,000 yen lodged as the time of bidding, shall be confiscated should the tender be withdrawn; and the contract security of one-tenth of the tender, shall be confiscated if release from the contract be sought, or if it be not implemented. The price offered must be paid in one sum, and in addition to the objects specified above for sale, the successful tenderer will be under obligation to purchase the crude ores, the partially reduced ores, and the stores in stock on October 31st, at the following rate:—

The price of crude ores from the Sado and Ikuno mines shall be one-half of the remainder obtained by subtracting the cost of smelting from the proceeds accruing from the smelted ores. The price of partially reduced ores at the two mines, prepared for carriage to the Smelting-works, shall be determined according to the process prescribed at the respective Mining Offices, the cost of transport being deducted. The price of partially reduced ore whether lying at the two mines or at the Smelting-works, which have no yet been included in the category of partially reduced ores, shall

be determined in the same way as that of crude ores produced from the Sado and Ikuno mines. The price of coal extracted from the Yudo colliery, subordinate to the Sado mine, but not yet entered into the books kept at the Mining Office, shall be the expenses actually incurred in the work of extraction.

The cost of substances expended in estimating the prices of crude ores and partially reduced ores, shall be determined in accordance with the purchase prices paid at the Smelting-works in connection with the latest operation of the kind.

The successful tenderer shall be under obligation to implement any contract that either of the two mines or the Smelting-works has already entered into with a third party, provided that the fulfillment of such contract falls subsequently to October 31st.

We read in the Tokyo papers that the special gift to be made to the people of Sado and Ikuno by way of farewell present is 70,000 yen and 50,000 yen respectively. In view of the magnitude of the investment, the number of bidders must be very small. It is presumed that they will be practically limited to the three millionaires of Tokyo, Iwasaki, Mitsui, and Furukawa, and to Messrs. Sumitomo and Fujita, in Osaka. The reason why a deposit of 10,000 yen is required to obtain the privilege of inspecting the Osaka Smelting-Works is reported to be that the several rare machines are at work there, especially the plant for smelting copper. But it is difficult to imagine that any valuable secrets exist in such operations now-a-days, and, moreover, the condition as to a deposit need not deter anyone, seeing that the money is to be handed back immediately on restoration of the permit.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

The relations between Count Matsukata and Count Okuma appear to be growing more and more intimate. On Friday morning the latter called at the former's residence and paid a visit lasting over two hours. The meeting is regarded as a sequel to the interview between the two statesmen a few months ago in Kyoto, when Baron Iwasaki was supposed to have brought them together.

The *Mainichi* has it that a Convention containing stipulations between Japan and Russia with regard to the integrity of Korea, was concluded in St. Petersburg by Marshal Marquis Yamagata, and that it consists of 27 articles, according to some, and of only 7, according to others. Our contemporary summarizes its gist thus:—

1. That the King shall return to his own Palace.
2. That Japan and Russia shall station an equal number of troops in Korea, subject to increase, on condition of previous mutual notice.
3. That Japanese gendarmes shall guard the Seoul-Fusan telegraph line.
- 4.—That Korea shall be supported and assisted in her domestic and foreign policy, conjointly by Japan and Russia, provided always that such support or assistance shall not impair her dignity as an independent country.

We reproduce this statement for what it may be worth.

Various comments are made on a general meeting of the principal Korean refugees in Japan held at Suma, a short time ago. The *Kokumin's* version is that the meeting was primarily instigated by the pro-American, otherwise called the "English Language" faction in Korea, which is led by "Philip Jaishon" and the brothers Li, men whose idea is to make themselves masters of the situation with the assistance of America. But they lack a leader, and seem to be of opinion that they must persuade Pak Yong-ho to come back and direct the movement, for Pak and these pro-American politicians are related in several ways. It was to discuss this question that Pak Yong-ho, Prince Wi-hwa, Li Chun-yong, the ex-Home Minister, the ex-Ministers of War and of Justice, and the ex-Chief of Police met at Suma. Information has not yet been obtained as to what conclusion was reached by the meeting. There is a general conviction that Pak, while fully sensible of the dangers

attending the step, is anxious to bring about a secret understanding between Japan and America with regard to Korea, and to have the safety of his own person guaranteed by the American Minister in Seoul. It is said that the Korean politicians attending the meeting thought it advisable for Pak to take with him a man of acknowledged ability, and that the choice fell on the ex-Chief of the Police Board. An interesting feature of this affair is the apparent removal of the barriers that used to separate Pak Yong-ho from the members of the last Cabinet and also from the grandson of the Tai Wön-kun. Pak incurred the enmity of all these persons when he was in power for being won over to the Queen's side; he caused the late Kim and his colleagues to be expelled from the Cabinet, and brought about the arrest of the Tai Wön-kun's grandson. Mr. Fukuzawa is credited with having persuaded the two parties to forgive and forget their old differences in the face of grave troubles, and to take counsel together in the interests of their native country. It is even reported that Mr. Fukazawa himself was present on the occasion of the Suma assembly.

The *Mainichi's* version of this affair is entirely different. It says that the two parties are reconciled in appearance only, being secretly as antipathetic as ever. Pak's going down to Suma instead of staying in Tokyo was entirely due to a wish on his part to dissociate himself from the party of the ex-Korean Ministers, for he has become persuaded that his only chance of recovering his position is to sever all connexion with those inimical to the present Government. How that result was to be achieved by the attending conference, the *Mainichi* does not explain. It declares, however, that the motives of the other Koreans present at the meeting were equally insincere, for, so far from desiring to promote Pak's prospects, they believe that his restoration to power would be fatal to their own prospects, since they must then have to be content with a subordinate rôle. Hence, under pretext of holding a conference with Pak, they went to meet him at Suma, their real aim being to make him an object of suspicion to the Soul Government. The *Mainichi* evidently believes, or desires to be credited with believing, that nothing like effective union is possible to the large party of Korean refugees now sojourning in Japan.

INDUSTRIAL TOPICS.

Bamboo and bamboo wares constitute an important item in the miscellaneous export commerce of Japan. Bamboo for shipment abroad is grown in districts adjoining Kyoto and Osaka, and in Shikoku, and in Kyushu, the varieties differing somewhat according to localities. In Hiroshima the black and the spotted varieties grow; the former is produced in Kochi also and in many parts of Kyushu. Bamboo grown in Yamaguchi, Oita, and Ehime belongs to the cheap varieties. The cultivation of black bamboo is carried on greatly in Kochi, where a *tan* ($\frac{1}{2}$ of an acre) of bamboo yields 30 to 60 yen per year. Bamboo is exported to most countries of Europe and also to America and Australia. The bulk of the bamboo shipped from Kobe—whence nine-tenths of the total are exported—goes to England, the varieties being black, spotted, white, and so forth. To France and Germany the black and white sorts of the best quality are shipped, while long bleached angling bamboos are in demand for New York.

A report from Sasaka, the largest sericulture centre in the northern half of Shinshu, has reached the *Nippon*. It describes the unusual hardships to which the sericulturists of Nagano *Ken* are now subject. Other districts this year are equally badly off. The output in Shinshu is so meagre that it is said the like has not been experienced these two decades. The first trouble came in the shape of a severe frost early in May, when the mulberry leaves suddenly turned black. New leaves eventually appeared and enabled the alarmed sericulturists to re-

cover their equanimity, and things went on tolerably well until the fourth stage of the worms, when disease overtook them, killing off four-fifths of their number. The produce of cocoons was thereby lessened by as much as 70 to 80 per cent. compared with an average year, and business of almost every description in Nagano, Uyeda, and so forth has been seriously affected, from bankers down to *jinrikisha*-men and restaurant girls. The foregoing description applies to the northern half of Shinano, and a few short notes are given in conclusion that have special reference to Susaka. In that town about 3,600 reeling pans worked by machinery are set up, distributed among 80 factories. Owing to the high market price of cocoons, the reeling season, which usually commences in the latter part of June, was postponed to the beginning of the current month. The market, however, shows no sign of going downward, the ruling price at present being 3½ yen per *kwamme* for best, though the quality is far below the usual standard. The cocoons purchased by the respective factories do not exceed ½ to ¾ of an ordinary year. Under the circumstances, 10 factories have decided to suspend operations altogether, another 10 are still irresolute, while those opened have reduced the number of pans and operatives by one half. Hope now is centered on the summer and autumn reelings, but even should a satisfactory result be obtained, it is questionable whether the market price of cocoons will fall to the usual level. Altogether, the year must prove one of extraordinary distress to the people of Nagano Ken.

CURRENT TOPICS.

We read in the *Yiji* that illiteracy among Japanese recruits is as follows:—

Percentage of literate and illiterate persons among Japanese recruits			
	1891.	1892.	1893.
Graduates of the higher common schools...	4.10	4.67	6.86
Men possessing the qualifications of graduates as above	7.95	7.93	8.62
Graduates of primary common schools	20.63	23.35	25.40
Men possessing the qualifications of graduates as above	17.89	17.82	19.65
Men that could read and calculate a little	34.14	32.81	33.96
Men that could neither read nor calculate	26.61	24.09	25.59
	100.00	100.00	100.00

The rate of illiteracy shows a marked diminution, namely from 26.61 in 1891 to 15.52 in 1893; but still, compared with Germany, where the ratio among recruits was only 0.22 in 1894, the difference is significant.

The people of Iwate are reported to be highly dissatisfied with the small outlay that the Home Office has made for the relief of the sufferers by the recent calamity. The amount that the Governor of that Prefecture originally intended to obtain from the Central Government was 900,000 yen, but owing to urgent representations on the part of members of the Local Assembly and other leading men of the district, it was increased to 1,000,000 yen. The Government, however, declined to sanction the application of the Governor, on the ground that any outlay over and above the limit of the Second Reserve Fund would be illegal. The result is that the sum was cut down to 375,600 yen approximately. Naturally, the people of the Prefecture are much incensed against the Home Office and the Governor. The first meeting of an extraordinary session of the Local Assembly to deal with affairs relating to the seismic calamity commenced on the 15th inst., and a stormy debate is expected to occur in the course of the proceedings.

The arable land devastated by the Wave is estimated not to exceed 500 *cho* (1,250 acres) throughout the Prefecture, and being, moreover, dry fields, not wet, the land-tax receipts of the Treasury will be affected only very slightly.

Japanese cement manufacturers have been taken by surprise. An Imperial Ordinance has been issued authorizing the War Department to dispense with the ordinary processes provided in the Law of Finance, when purchasing cement for the construction of military water-works at Hiroshima. The cement manufacturers, abusing the advantage that their limited

number gives them, have hitherto formed a ring, and have extorted a price fully 10 per cent. above ordinary market rates. Hence the special powers now delegated to the War Office. The measure has well answered its purpose: already prices have been reduced to their proper level.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha advertise the opening of a new foreign service, to Seattle in Oregon, the terminus of the Great Northern Railway. The *Mike Maru* is to make the first voyage. She will start from Kobe on the 1st proximo and from Yokohama on the 5th, reaching her destination *via* Hawaii. Mr. Iwanaga, a Director, and Mr. Masnjima, a consulting lawyer, of the Company, are now in St. Paul, Minnesota, concluding a contract with Mr. Hill, President of the Railway. The contract is expected to be signed and exchanged in a day or two.

The *Shogyo* learns that the Authorities have decided to appropriate 2½ million yen by way of bounty for the encouragement of navigation in the Budget for the coming fiscal year. The total bounty to be given during the 30th fiscal year, according to the present law, amounts to more than 7 million yen, if the various projects contemplated of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and other companies be carried out. Such a sum seeming disproportionate to the resources at the disposal of the Treasury, the authorities are thinking, it is said, of imposing some restrictions on the method of granting bounties.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha has submitted a written programme for a service of steamers to Formosa, compiled at the instance of the Governor-General's Office. The principal points in the programme are that steamers of at least 2,000 tons displacement shall ply between Kobe and Kelung thrice a month; that the number of services along the coast of Formosa shall be increased to six a month; and, lastly, that steamers of at least 4,200 tons displacement shall ply between Tamsui, Amoy, Swatow, and Hongkong three times a month. A special subsidy from the Government is thought necessary for the service to China and to Formosan harbours in the vicinity of the savage districts.

MR. YAMADA TAIZO ON FORMOSA.

Mr. Yamada Taizo, M.P., who is identified with the Liberal Party, accompanied their Excellencies the Premier and the Minister of the Navy on their tour through Formosa. He has submitted a report to his Party on the result of his inspection:—

EXISTING CONDITION OF ADMINISTRATION:— Nothing can yet be said about the existing administration in Formosa beyond the undisputed fact that it has fallen into the hands of Japan. It is true that the new system came into force from April 18th, but it exists merely on paper, and its practical effects can not yet be judged. Matters regarding camphor, opium, sugar, indigo, and so forth have yet to be investigated. In short, a publicist who goes to Formosa with the avowed purpose of observing the administrative condition of the new dependency, is destined to meet with utter disappointment.

FORMOSA A NON-TAXED COUNTRY:—In March last a notification was issued over the signature of Admiral Count Kabayama, then Governor-General of Formosa, that all taxes and duties hitherto imposed having been irregular in nature as well as questionable in regard to the mode of collection, would be abolished, and that the taxes and duties to take their place would be scheduled and duly enacted. These matters still being in the investigation stage, the Formosan people are at present entirely exempted from payment of any tax.

MONOPOLY OF INDIGO ABOLISHED:—The Government Indigo-Monopoly was abolished on July 30th, 1895. The monopoly having been maintained for several centuries, the natives are said not to be particularly gratified at the liberal step taken by their new masters; they have been accustomed to the unjust methods for so long.

OLD LAND TAX:—The land-tax was levied at the rate of 24 taels 4.68 mace per plot of the 1st class, corresponding to a little over 9.1 *tan* in Japanese measure; 20 taels 4.1 mace for 2nd class land, and 10 taels for 3rd class land. There was another kind of inferior taxable land that was taxed at a rate not exceeding 10 *sen* per plot. The land rates were of two different descriptions, one at the rate of 10 per cent. the other at 15 per cent. of the land-tax. In Taipei, Kelung, Tamsui, and the adjacent districts the assessment on land aggregated, in Japanese currency, between 270,000 and 280,000 yen, that of Tainan and its vicinity was nearly equal. Consequently, it will not be much beyond the mark to say that the revenue from the land-tax was about 800,000 yen a year.

CAMPOR AND OTHER PRODUCTS:—Researches into the produce of the important staples of Formosa are not yet complete, but it is generally believed by officials or business men concerned in their manufacture or sale, that the yearly output of camphor must lie between three and four million yen, that of tea being about three millions, and that of sugar about four millions. The export duties on sugar at the Taku customs are said to amount to about 280,000 yen. This sugar mostly goes to Hongkong where it is refined and then shipped abroad. Competition with the Hongkong sugar refineries will, it is considered, be very difficult. In Formosa there are three refineries, but their aggregate output does not generally amount to more than 300,000 yen a year. The extent of the indigo crop is yet unascertained, while the crop of hemp is believed to amount to about 1,000,000 yen. Gold dust is found not far from Kelung, the price per 14 to 15 grains ranging between 2 and 20 taels. The annual yield is estimated at between one and two million yen. Coal is considered to be abundant and its extraction easy, the inferiority of its quality being the greatest drawback.

THE SAVAGE BORDER AND HAKKAS:—The distinction between places inhabited by savages and Chinese can be noticed at once. The savage villages are embowered in trees, while the Chinese towns are entirely destitute of trees or verdure. The so-called Hakkas, who so often disturb the tranquillity of Formosa, are of two species, namely, the true Hakka, and the remnants of Chinese troops and banditti. The Authorities are devising measures to extirpate them altogether within two or three years.

COMMUNICATIONS:—The only facility of communication on land at present is by railway service between Kelung and Taipei, a train being run twice a day. However, the enjoyment of this facility was previously denied to the public at large, and it was only from the 25th ult. that ordinary folks were allowed to participate in the conveniences afforded by the line. The telegraph is confined to the transmission of official messages, and as messages for Japan have to go *via* Hongkong, the charges are very high. The work of laying a submarine cable between Formosa and Kyushu is now going on, and should be completed within the year, provided no untoward accident happens. Postal services and steam services are extremely defective, subjecting the Japanese in the interior to considerable disadvantage. These causes tend to push up the market price of commodities to an abnormal figures.

CHINESE IN FORMOSA:—The sentiment entertained by the Chinese living in the island toward their new masters is not uniform. The lower classes who are already naturalized have, it is needless to say, no desire to leave the island, but ordinary labourers do not seem to have any fixed idea on the matter. They are merely intent upon laying by as much money as possible till the period arrives when they are to decide whether they shall become Japanese or leave the island and continue as Chinese subjects. They evidently think that it will be time enough then to make a decision. Of the merchants, those of means and position seem inclined to become Japanese subjects, while poorer men have no such disposition. The aborigines are said to be entirely convinced of the invincible strength of the Japanese troops. In short, taken as a whole, the inhabitants of Formosa

are overjoyed at the present non-imposition of taxes and also at the upright and fair manners of the Japanese officials.

JAPANESE AND CHINESE MERCHANTS IN FORMOSA:—The Japanese merchants now carrying on business in the new dominion are inferior in every respect. They are deficient in foresight, being merely intent on realizing as much profit as possible in the shortest limit of time. Then they intend to return to Japan. They are constantly being undersold by the Chinese.

A PEEP INTO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ISLAND:—At present, laws and regulations issued either from the Central Office or Local Offices, are first sent to the Headman of each village, who in turn brings them to the notice of the people living in his jurisdiction. This method is far from perfect in working, and consequently not a small portion of the people remain ignorant of enactments issued by the Authorities. A great difficulty will therefore be experienced when taxes are imposed, a step the Authorities intend to take within the present fiscal year.

THE OPIUM QUESTION:—Mr. Yamada entertains strong doubts as to the practicability of subjecting over 100,000 opium smokers to medical examination, which opinion he bases on his own observation of the state of affairs in the island. We may note in this context that a certain vernacular paper writes that the Government's original idea on the subject has undergone a change and that it is contemplating enforcing a strict prohibition policy. A recent utterance of the *Nichi Nichi* on the subject also seems to indicate a coming change.

COMPLAINTS OF OFFICIALS:—The unusually high prices of commodities in Formosa are evoking loud complaints from the officials in the service of the Governor-General's office. Wherever he went, writes Mr. Yamada, complaints came to his ears, and he fears that this mood may affect the efficiency of the service.

THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S POLICY:—The following are said to be the main points of the new Governor-General's policy:—To facilitate communications; to Japonicize the Chinese in the island; to strengthen the military defences; to construct roads between the various towns of importance; to develop and encourage existing industries.

Mr. Yamada writes, in conclusion, of the non-efficacy of ordinary umbrellas for the purpose of shelter from the sun in Formosa, and also of an instruction of the Governments forbidding Japanese women to walk abroad without their *obi*. There are already over 2,000 prostitutes in Formosa, most of whom come from Kyushiu.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FORMOSAN INSURRECTION.

We translate the following from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the 22nd instant:—

With reference to the outbreak of the insurrection in Formosa some reckless fables have been published by the *Japan Gazette*. We are aware that they deserve no attention, but almost an identical account has appeared in the *Hong-kong Daily Press*. The assertions advanced are, that our military men and civil officials behave with great cruelty and that the administration of Formosa is a failure. The ventilators of these calumnies have, of course, their own reason for what they do. We, however, have received what we believe to be a true account of the origin of the insurrection, and we proceed to re-produce it.

"About 7½ miles from Ten-liu, in the Tai-chung district, there is a mountain called Shan-ping-tung. Behind it stand ranges of high mountains. For many years past this region has been the resort of lawless folk, whom the Chinese authorities, unable to reduce to order, were wont to leave unmolested, while the well-to-do inhabitants of the district made a habit of providing for the security of their lives and properties by paying toll to the bandits. The insurgents on the present occasion are not men who, from having once been peaceful law-abiding people, have turned

rebels. They are the bandits that for a long time past have lain concealed in the mountain fastnesses about Yuen-lin, wielding considerable power. In the spring of this year, our troops, garrisoning the district, set themselves to clear away these Yuen-lin bandits, but the latter had such a thorough knowledge of the natural advantages offered by the ravines and forests of the locality, that little impression could be produced upon them, and they were left alone. As is generally the case with semi-barbarous people, the immunity these bandits enjoyed inspired them with a feeling of contempt for our military force, and they began to make raids upon the hamlets and farms in the vicinity. Thus, on the 12th of June, they visited a Japanese wine-shop, not more than 150 yards from a police station and behaved with great violence, after which they fired several shots and then retired to their hiding-places. On the 14th an attempt was made by a detachment of our troops to dislodge them from Shan-ping-tung, but in the result our men found themselves surrounded by the bandits. A movement made against them in greater force on the 21st of June ended in their disappearance and the burning of their place of residence. A week later (28th of June), a body of them, numbering some 300, armed with rifles, attacked the gendarme station at Liu-pa-pu, and then proceeded to assault Tsi-tsi-chie and Yuen-lin. Thus, briefly speaking, the origin of the insurrection is that these men, bandits by profession, grew presumptuous on account of their too lenient treatment at our hands, and proceeded to lawless acts that ended in open rebellion."

COUNT OKUMA ON CURRENT AFFAIRS.

The "Sage of Waseda" continues to supply "copy" to some of the Tokyo papers. His most recent utterances deal with the journey of the ex-Foreign Minister to Hawaii, the visit of the Premier to Amoy, the relative excellence of Oiso and Suma, and other non-political subjects. The Count views Count Mutsu's journey in the light thrown upon it by the *Kokumin*, a fact that shows the *Kokumin* to be in the confidence of the Count. He is positive that the journey of the ex-Foreign Minister to Hawaii has a political meaning. It is a curious phenomenon, but none the less real, that the two first class Powers of the world, Russia and the United States, irrespective of the difference in their systems of Government, continue to maintain relations of most cordial intimacy. The case is entirely different between Japan and Russia, and on many points the two can not proceed smoothly together. But both the Government and the people of Japan unite in declaring against any entanglement with Russia. Count Mutsu's journey, on the alleged plea of recruiting his health, is an outcome of the universal sentiment of the nation. His real business is to soften the feelings of Russia toward Japan through the intercession of America, and to facilitate the consummation of the proposed understanding between Russia and Japan with respect to Korea. This is apparent to any one with sufficient discernment to view things a little below the surface. As to the Premier's visit to Amoy, the affair possesses no deep meaning at all. It was simply to ingratiate himself with the subordinate officials who accompanied him, enabling them to obtain a larger allowance for travelling expenses, Amoy being a port under the control of a foreign country. Nor was his visit to Formosa for any other purpose than that of comfortably viewing the new dominion. We do not believe that Count Okuma has expressed any such crude opinions.

The visit of H.I.H. the Crown Prince to Nikko has been postponed indefinitely.

The University of Kyoto, shortly to be built has no connection with the Imperial University Tokyo. There are six colleges in the Tokyo University, but the Kyoto will be confined to three, Law, Engineering, and Medicine.

MR. FUKUZAWA ON THE POSITION OF THE JAPANESE WOMAN.

One of the "Hundred Essays of the Aged Fukuzawa" discusses the position of women in Japan. Mr. Fukuzawa is desirous of reverting once more to this familiar topic of discussion, seeing that a certain section of the public, especially outsiders, in treating of the position of Japanese women, are prone to ignore one factor. They overlook the fact that, while apparently powerless and servile, women wield, in some respects, a most powerful influence. Leaving aside the cases of henpecked husbands, for such are not so numerous in Japan as elsewhere, the influence of a mother over her children is almost unlimited, and a son grown into manhood is obliged to obey her behests, lest disobedience call down upon him the odium of being an undutiful child. A father's influence in this respect can not be compared with that of a mother. Even before a couple are blessed with offspring, the servility of the wife toward her husband is in many cases merely superficial, for in reality she frequently holds the sovereignty of the house in her own hands. For instance, when a merchant is about to transact business with a new house, the character of the mistress of the latter constitutes one of the most important conditions for securing the confidence of the former. When the mistress is reputed to be trustworthy, then the merchant will be ready to advance money or goods. Again, when tastes as to diet and raiment differ between husband and wife in consequence of their having been born and brought up in separate places, the taste of the wife generally prevails. All these things and many others of a like kind may be adduced as proofs that, though apparently subordinate to men, the real position of women is greatly different from what superficial observers suppose. According to circumstances, Japanese women wield even greater influence than their Western sisters. It follows that writers who attempt to uphold the cause of women, should duly pay attention to these points and, ceasing to wrangle about the relative influence of the two sexes, should rather strive to improve the outward appearance of the relationship between women and men. They should, for instance, endeavour to induce men to moderate their public treatment of women, taking care at the same time to preserve the characteristic refinement and modesty of Japanese women, and should make the stern sex descend a little from its apparently lofty pedestal, so that the two sexes may assume an appearance of equality not in excess of what is becoming. Let the husband be careful in his language and demeanour towards his wife, and let him when mentioning his wife's name, either orally or in letters, attach an honorary prefix. Then, without in any way affecting the importance of the husband, an ennobling and refining influence will be imparted into the domestic atmosphere, and vulgar traits will be eliminated altogether. In short, the question of women's influence in Japan being mostly confined to external affairs, it would not be difficult to achieve the desired result.

Commenting on the above, the *Woman's Magazine* says that Mr. Fukuzawa's arguments in regard to women's position and female education are not particularly new. They are simply an exposition of plain, matter-of-fact ideas compiled with his usual vigorous common sense. Yet it is these common-sense opinions that are most useful in elevating the status of women and in promoting female education. Theories and arguments that transcend common sense and sound strange to ordinary people are positively injurious. Consequently, the editor of the *Woman's Magazine* values the arguments set forth by Mr. Fukuzawa because of the sound basis of common sense that they rest upon. They will the more naturally appeal to the common-sense of the people. He earnestly hopes that the time will come when Japanese fathers and brothers, unconsciously obeyed modern usages and a better creed, will be led to look more carefully after the education of their daughters and sisters.

COUNT OKUMA IN THE "FAR EAST."

Count Okuma has contributed a short essay to the *Far East* on "The Current Political Questions in America." The essay was written in Japanese, and has been translated, apparently with great skill, by the new magazine. Here is what the distinguished statesman has to say about the protection policy adopted by the Republicans:—

They say that the wages for labour in Japan are exceedingly cheap and have no parallel in the world; that, should the goods manufactured by this exceedingly cheap labour find their way into market in the United States in increasingly great quantities, the high-priced goods manufactured there by the expensive labour of Americans would before long cease to be marketable. It is indeed true that our labour is cheap compared with that of Western countries, especially that of the United States. But it should be remembered that it is not much over thirty years that Japan has been opened to the world: and as to our industries it is hardly a decade since they began to be more or less modernized. But there has been, meanwhile, a notable advance in wages: the wages for labour to-day are incomparably higher than the wages of twenty, or even five, years ago. At this rate of increase it is not hard to see the future in Japan. We are a progressive race. Our industries, manufacturing, and other arts, have made long and rapid strides. We are trying to develop them by making use of machinery and other agencies of the present day civilization. Labour here will soon become without doubt as costly as that in the West, if not more costly. But some Americans seem to be at a loss what to do with their industries—those Americans who are but superficially informed as to our present, or rather our recent past, rate of wages. Even suppose for the sake of argument that the Japanese goods produced by the present comparatively cheap labour should continue to find their way into the American market. When examined minutely they amount now to only about \$23,700,000 (gold) worth, while her whole import amounts to \$732,000,000 worth—the Japanese goods forming a mere thirtieth part of the whole. Besides, this thirtieth part is made up almost altogether of raw materials by the use of which the American manufacturers make large profits. When we take these facts into consideration we see no reason for the alarm which some of the American politicians are feeling or trying to make their countrymen feel. If there are any goods that injure American industries they are English, German, and French goods and not Japanese. We are greatly surprised to see Americans take Japan for their industrial competitor. It is further argued that the trade between the United States and Japan is one-sided; that Japan merely sells her goods into America, while she buys hardly anything more than kerosene oil and raw cotton: and that American gold and silver therefore go out to Japan never to return. It is certainly true that Japan exports her goods into America to the extent of thirty-two million dollars' worth, while the American goods she imports amounts only to four millions and a half of dollars. But America is merely reaping the fruit of what she sows. It is but the natural consequence of her political policy. The American goods are comparatively dear because of her high protective tariffs: they are so dear that with the exception of rock oil and one or two other articles, it would not pay us to import them. They are, indeed, meant for home consumption and not for export, for so long as they are protected it would be impossible for them to find a market beyond the borders of the United States of America. Should they by any possibility become unprotected and cheap, the Japanese would be only too glad to import them because of easy and inexpensive transportation. But on account of their costliness we are obliged to return the gold and silver to America indirectly through Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans. This is no more than the present state of affairs. What would be the consequence should the United States take further measures to "protect," as they say, their own industries, especially against new Japanese industries, it is too deplorable to imagine. She will buy as before, but will not be able to sell: gold and silver will continue to go out of her borders and not come in. It is evident, then, that some of the American politicians not only mistake their country's true rival, but also err in their policy of developing American industries. The world's movement is not to be easily altered by the actions of a solitary nation—still less by the actions of a single handed political school or party. The Japanese industries will surely develop up to the limit of their capacity, whatever be the measures they are met

with in other lands. But for the Americans to try to help their industrial development by the artificial policy of making their goods so dear as to be unfit for exportation, is, it seems to me, not to read the signs of the times.

We find it impossible to agree wholly with the Count's dictum in the matter of wages. Undoubtedly wages in Japan have undergone a marked increase during the *Meiji* era, but that "labour here will soon become as costly as that in the West, if not more costly," we can not agree. The whole manner of life in Japan must be changed before any such result is attained. How long a period is to be assigned for that change? How many years must we wait before a factory hand, content to live on four or five *yen* worth of rice, fish, and vegetables monthly, demands a *yen* for his day's work?

JAPANESE TORPEDO CORPS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which has been busying itself of late to obtain information with reference to military and naval development in Japan, writes that the number of Torpedo Corps hitherto in existence is four, namely, one for Yokosuka, one for Sasebo, one for Kure, and one for Takeshiki. It is now on the *tapis* that two or three additional corps should be organized, but their districts have not yet been fixed. In the matter of torpedoes, attention has been paid chiefly to the eastern coast of the empire, and especially to the south-western. From a defensive point of view that choice is doubtless correct, but it is thought probable that the importance of fortifying the northern coasts will now be taken into consideration, and that the new corps will be stationed in accordance with that programme.

THAT ARMY OF A HUNDRED THOUSAND.

"We do not say that there are exactly 100,000 troops available at the first call nor that they are all in Vladivostok; but there are within a few thousands of this total, well equipped and within easy reach of the port." Such is the dictum of one of the local English journals that have, for a long while past, credited Russia with having collected an army of 100,000 men at Vladivostok. This particular authority, it will be observed, now begins to weaken. He leaves himself, in the first place, a margin of "a few thousand." Then he shuffles a little farther out of the dilemma by saying that the hundred thousand—minus a few thousands—are "not all available at the first call," nor are they all in Vladivostok. But they are "within easy reach of the port." Where, then, are they, and how are they maintained? Distributed throughout the Vladivostok section of Eastern Siberia, will doubtless be the answer to the first question, but as to the second, the means of maintaining 100,000 men, we do not quite see what reply can be given. If Russia had a hundred thousand troops within easy reach of Vladivostok, she would be obliged to devote the services of a fleet to keep them supplied. When Mr. Henry Norman visited Vladivostok there were about 2,600 men there. He noted, however, that 30,000 could probably be concentrated at the place in a short time. From 30,000 to 100,000 is an immense leap. Whence have the men come? Whenever news is circulated that five hundred or a thousand Russian troops have passed Nagasaki *en route* for Vladivostok, it is immediately assumed that so many men have been actually added to the military force in the Far East, and no one seems to take notice of the fact that many other time-expired men must be carried away from Vladivostok. British transports are perpetually conveying troops to and from India, but who would be so silly as to place all the outward drafts in the category of re-inforcements? We entertain very little doubt that Russia has considerably increased her forces in and about Vladivostok since the summer of 1894. Had she not done so, she would have been acting in an extremely fatuous and short-sighted

manner. Probably she could now march an army of 25,000 or 30,000 men across the Tumen, without leaving Vladivostok unprotected. But when folks talk of a hundred thousand, it is plain that they have very little conception of military matters. Of course we shall be accused, as indeed we have already been accused, of sneering at Russia's preparations and capacities. We do nothing of the kind. Our opinion of Russia's potentialities and of her recent efforts to augment them is free from any particle of contempt or depreciation. We merely prefer reasonable reflections to thoughtless exaggerations. In 1894, we laughed at the idea of Russia's detaching a number of ships from her "Mediterranean Fleet," for service in the Far East. Our amusement was limited to the fancy that Russia possessed, at that time, in the Mediterranean, any naval force upon which such drafts could be made. Of course we were charged with ridiculing her capacity altogether, just as now we are credited with denying *in toto* her military strength in Vladivostok. There is no *via media* for some writers.

THE WAR-COMMEMORATION POSTAGE STAMPS.

The *Official Gazette* publishes specimens of the postage stamps to be issued in commemoration of the war. It will probably be found strange, but no one acquainted with the Japanese will hesitate to call it characteristic, that these stamps, instead of bearing any legend or device suggestive of the *successes* achieved by Japan, remind the public of her *greatest losses* only, the deaths of their Imperial Highnesses Princes Arisugawa and Kitashirakawa. We do not think that had an artist in the West been invited to design a stamp commemorative of his country's brilliant victories, he would for one instant have conceived the notion of limiting himself to a portrait of the most illustrious among his compatriots that perished in the war. Yet, when we have said that about the new Japanese stamps, we have said everything. There are four stamps—all intended for postal cards—two red and two bluish gray; the former, two-*sen* stamps, the latter, five-*sen*. The likenesses, which are excellent, show the head and neck, so that the Grand Cordon of the Chrysanthemum and a portion of the uniform are seen. These portraits are enclosed in circular bands, or frames, within which are inscribed "Imperial Japanese Post," in Roman characters, below; and *Dai Nippon Teikoku Fubin*, in ideographs, above; the legends being divided by chrysanthemum scrolls in the case of the five-*sen* stamp, and by the numeral "2" in the case of the two-*sen*. Above the circular band in the five-*sen* stamp is a sixteen-petalled chrysanthemum, flanked by the ideographs *go sen*; below, the same chrysanthemum is repeated and is flanked by the numeral "5" and the abbreviation "Sn." The field of this stamp is wood-grained, notches are cut on each side near the corners, and the edges are bevelled, so that the stamp seems to be in relief. In the case of the two-*sen* stamp, a sixteen-petalled chrysanthemum interrupts the circular band, above; the ideographs *ni-sen* support the band below, and the corners are filled with scrolls of the seven-leaved Paulownia. The edge is bevelled as in the five-*sen* stamp. Of the two-*sen* stamp, five millions are to be issued; of the five-*sen*, two millions. The designing is chaste and artistic, and the technique is undoubtedly excellent. We may add that these new post-cards will be issued from the 1st proximo. For collectors the chief interest in these stamps will centre upon the specimens issued by the *Official Gazette*. These are marked "*mi-hon*" (specimen) and can be detached from the sheet. The number printed will not exceed the circulation of the *Official Gazette*, so that they should ultimately be in great demand. They are really beautiful stamps, and in conjunction with their predecessors, the *Ginkon-shiki* stamp, they do great credit to Japanese designers and artisans.

THE SUN & THE SOLAR ECLIPSE OF AUGUST 9TH.

The spectacle is one of which, though the man of science may practically state the facts, perhaps only the poet can render the impression.—LANGLEY.

IT is a truism in astronomy that it is easy to see what one knows to exist. The planet Neptune was seen and its position measured on two nights by LALANDE, but as the observations did not agree, on the assumption that the planet was a fixed star, the second observation was laid aside as erroneous. Though the planet had thus been seen it was not observed until fifty years later, when, in 1846, ADAMS and LEVERRIER, by mathematical research, had discovered its position. Then it was easy to see that it had a disc such as no fixed star could have, but this was not observed until it had been demonstrated by much abstruse mathematical labour.

In 1877, with the 26-inch refractor in Washington, HALL discovered Deimos and Phobos, the minute attendants of Mars, but they have since been seen with much smaller telescopes and by much less skilled observers. The same is true of the fifth satellite of Jupiter, discovered by BARNARD at the Lick Observatory in September, 1892. It needed the great power of the 36-inch refractor and most skilful observation to discover the satellite, but it may be now seen with less favourable equipment, aided by the knowledge of where and how to look that encourages patient, painstaking observation. Nor does this truth hold good in astronomy only. At the University of Pennsylvania recently, the negative of a ROENTGEN shadow picture was recovered. It had been taken in 1890, but it was cast aside as a curious failure by Professor GOODSPEED, who now has to say, "We can claim no merit for the discovery—for no discovery was made." From every-day life numerous illustrations of this truth might be drawn. This well-known tendency casts no doubt on the reality of the observations; it simply shows that stimulus to careful observation is needed. It shows how the teaching of the great ethical philosopher, CHRIST, penetrates to the root of all knowledge:—"Take heed therefore how ye hear, for whosoever hath to him shall be given."

Now all this applies directly to the matter of solar eclipses. The red clouds and flames that form a beautiful and striking feature of the eclipsed sun were so little noticed before 1842 that they were considered as a new discovery, and they might well even now be missed by one ignorant of their existence. Prof. YOUNG, in his book on "The Sun," says:—"A total eclipse of the sun is unquestionably one of the most impressive of all natural phenomena." Many may have in Japan this year the opportunity of a life-time: what shall they see, and how shall they see it? It would be better to say, "what *will* they see?" For the amount of instruction

given will depend upon the amount of knowledge possessed.

Before speaking of the constitution of the sun, and the phenomena of the eclipse, a few words may be said about the occurrence of eclipses. The moon must pass at least twice each year between the sun and the earth. If at that time the moon is near the earth, the cone of shadow will reach the surface of our globe, and there will be a total eclipse. If the moon happens to be at a distant point of its orbit, the apex of the cone falls short of the earth and there is an annular eclipse. The belt of shadow cast on the earth may be over 250 miles in width and the eclipse may last for nearly eight minutes, but such favourable conjunctions are rare, and about three minutes is the average duration. Total eclipses favourable for observation occur on an average only about once in two years. An eclipse was visible in Japan in 1887, but after this year another will not be visible for more than forty years.

Passing on to the consideration of the sun itself, we see at the time of an eclipse that it consists of three fairly well defined parts. The glowing white globe, which is the sun as ordinarily seen, is called the photosphere, the globe of light. Next above this is the chromosphere, the globe of colour, and the associated prominences, the red clouds and flames seen in an eclipse. Beyond this is the corona, the crown of white light, the most remarkable feature in an eclipse, seen to extend in irregular outlines to distances greater than the diameter of the sun. In estimating distances this diameter is a convenient measure, for miles are far too short for such vast spaces. The diameter of the sun is about 32' of arc, or about 853,000 miles. The moon's mean distance from the earth is 239,000 miles: were this distance nearly doubled and the space from the centre of the earth to the moon's orbit filled in, that globe would be equal in size to the sun. Using this measure, the depth of the chromosphere is only some 12", or about 1/150 of the sun's diameter. The prominences are of heights up to 13' of an arc, but generally the heights are less than one-tenth of the sun's diameter. It is not necessary to speak further of the central photosphere. It can be seen at any time, and the eclipse helps only indirectly in solving the many problems connected with the nature of its spots and its eruptions. The chromosphere was not closely observed until 1842 during the eclipse visible in Southern Europe. The prominences were unusually brilliant and caused much discussion. Some doubted their connection with the sun, others considered the whole sight an optical illusion, and it was not until so late as 1860 that the chromosphere and its prominences were given a place as a part of the sun. Photography was at that time first employed with success in an eclipse, and its application left no doubt as to the real connection between the

chromosphere and the sun. But no one supposed at that time that we should be able to reach out to determine of what this far away sphere was composed. The spectroscope, invented a few years before, enabled astronomers during the eclipse visible in India in 1868, to determine that the chromosphere consisted chiefly of hydrogen. All the observers made the mistake of identifying a yellow line in the spectrum with sodium. This mistake could not have been corrected until the next year, and other errors might have followed in its train; but happily at this time LOCKYER and JANSSEN discovered independently that the chromosphere could be observed without an eclipse. JANSSEN, in India, the day after the eclipse, observed the chromosphere and corrected the mistake made the previous day. It was soon certain that the yellow line was caused by an unknown substance, to which the name of helium was given because it was supposed to exist in the sun only. Not until last year was its presence in a terrestrial substance discovered. Since that time the astronomer has been free during the golden seconds of an eclipse to devote his attention to other problems. In appearance the prominences are like jets, horns, or trees of flame, or like red clouds detached from the sun. They rise sometimes with a speed of 250 miles a second, proving an energy of eruption very far beyond that with which we are otherwise acquainted. Hurricanes on this little world of ours travel at a speed of 100 miles an hour. These hurricanes of fiery vapour on the sun move sometimes with a velocity of a million miles an hour. Such a hurricane would sweep from the north pole to the south pole in 48 seconds, tearing off and carrying with it the whole surface of the globe in a mass of glowing vapour. It was difficult to conceive that a body mainly gaseous, as the sun probably is, should be able to confine the gases previous to such a violent eruption. The number of prominences seems to vary in general with the number of sun spots. This year is about half way between the maximum and minimum years, so there will be probably no special display. The corona has, of course, been in all eclipses, but it was not until so late as 1869 that it was definitely declared that it was a real phenomenon of the sun, and not a display caused by our own atmosphere: so slowly has our knowledge of the sun advanced. The observation of its spectrum containing the line of an unknown substance showed clearly that the corona had an independent and real existence. The appearance of the corona has been described in various ways. YOUNG describes it thus: "The moon appears of almost inky darkness, with just sufficient illumination at the edge of the disc to bring out its rotundity in a striking manner. It looks not like a flat screen, but like a huge black ball as it really is. From

behind it stream out on all sides radiant filaments, beams, and sheets of pearly light forming an irregular stellate halo, with the black globe of the moon in its apparent centre. The portion nearest the sun is of dazzling brightness, but still less brilliant than the prominences, which blaze through it like carbuncles. Usually there are several "rifts," as they have been called, like narrow beams of darkness extending from the very edge of the sun to the outer night, and much resembling the cloud-shadows which radiate from the sun before a thunder-shower. But the edges of these rifts are frequently curved, showing them to be something else than real shadows. Sometimes there are narrow, bright streamers as long as the rifts, or longer. These are often inclined, occasionally are even nearly tangential to the solar surface, and frequently are curved. Speaking roughly, the corona shows a disposition to assume the form of a quadrilateral or four-rayed star, although in almost every individual case this form is greatly modified by abnormal streamers at some point or other." The inner corona extends to a distance of about 3', or one-tenth of the sun's diameter, and there it unites in a more or less definite outline with the outer corona. The form of the outer corona is irregular and varied. Its visible extent appears to depend upon the clearness of our atmosphere at the time of observation. In the eclipse of 1878, LANGLEY had the unusual opportunity of observing from Pike's Peak at an elevation of 14,100 feet. He saw the coronal streamers extending to a distance equal to 13 or 14 diameters of the sun, and capable of reaching over one-tenth of the 93 million miles that separate the earth from the sun. The corona was there visible for four minutes after totality. It is important, therefore, to observe from as great an elevation as possible. The shape of the corona varies much from eclipse to eclipse. It would be natural to suppose that the extended form is caused by increase in solar activity. But the truth seems to be just the opposite of this, if the number of sun spots may be taken as an index of solar activity. The corona of 1878 was observed to be like that of 1867, and these were years when sun spots were at a minimum. The eclipse of 1889, at the end of the next eleven-year period, was waited for to test the truth of the theory. The corona, as observed in California on New Year's day, 1889, was of the same strongly marked type. This type of corona with the extended streamers is considered therefore to correspond to a minimum of solar activity.

It seems, then, that the activity of the chromosphere varies directly as the number of sun spots, and that the extent of the outer corona varies inversely with the number of spots. The brilliancy of the inner corona, however, seems to increase with the number of spots. This connection between the form of the sun and the

number of its spots makes a chain of coincidences that may connect the earth with the sun. Observations extending over many years show beyond dispute that the maxima and minima of sun spots occur in eleven-year periods. It is also certain that magnetic disturbances on the earth increase and decrease in the same period. These are the facts. We can speak with no such certainty about the origin of the spots, the cause of their periodicity, and the nature of their connection with terrestrial magnetism. These coincidences, unexplained though they are at present, show that no truth can be neglected as unimportant. SCHWABE, at Dessau, began about 1825 to make records of the sun spots on every clear day, and after twenty-five years of patient observation he was able to announce the law of their periodicity. He says of himself that, "like SAUL, he went to seek his father's asses and found a kingdom."

How shall we account for the presence of this luminous corona at such a vast distance of ten million miles from a body less than a million miles in diameter? Our own atmosphere becomes exceedingly rare at a height of five miles above the earth; if it reached a hundred thousand miles its extent would be comparable with that of the corona. But the corona is in no sense an atmosphere, and its real extent must not be considered as limited to that which men with weak eyes and surrounded by their own clouds have seen. We can perhaps hope for no better conditions for observation than those given to LANGLEY on the top of Pike's Peak, but we must believe that with better atmospheric conditions a still more vast corona would be seen.

A theory of electrical repulsion has been elaborated to account for the extent and other phenomena of the corona, but we doubtless need to know far more than we do of electricity here upon our own planet before such a theory can be established. The outer corona probably consists of particles shining by reflected, and by their own, light. These particles are thrown up and suspended at such vast distances by a force that we have otherwise no means of knowing. The particles do not gravitate towards the sun and do not rotate with it. The material must be in a state of excessive tenuity for comets pass through it without retardation.

Efforts have been made to do with the corona what is done so successfully with the chromosphere—to examine it without an eclipse. The efforts have not met with much encouragement, but, considering the many advances made within the last thirty years, it would be rash to say that astronomers will be unable in this particular case to control their circumstances.

We may now consider the phenomena of an eclipse with special reference to the coming obscuration. On August 9th, the sun rises eclipsed at London, which is

therefore the western limit of the path of shadow. It is then more than nine hours later in the day in Japan, and it takes the shadow about two hours to travel from London, so that, at Poronai, the eclipse begins at five minutes past three in the afternoon. By the standard time of the 135th meridian it will begin some thirty minutes earlier. Totality will last over two minutes and a half; but from the first contact of the moon with the edge of the sun until the time of complete separation may be as long as two hours, the time varying with the relative positions of the earth and the moon. The moon may be so near to the earth as to hide not only the photosphere of the sun but also a belt with a width of about $1\frac{1}{2}'$ of an arc, thus covering the chromosphere and the lower prominences. In such a case, however, totality lasts nearly eight minutes; during this eclipse, as the duration of totality is much less, the chromosphere and prominences to a height of about 25" will be covered except just before and just after totality. For some time after the beginning of the eclipse there is nothing special to see. The image of the sun coming through a small hole in a shutter, or through the spaces in thick foliage, is seen as a crescent instead of circular as usual. The partial eclipse, approaching more or less to being total, may be seen at a distance of 2,000 miles from the shadow belt. About ten minutes before totality the darkness becomes perceptible, and the remaining light is intensely white. The temperature falls, sometimes as much as six degrees, and dew may form. The air quivers and bands of light and shade appear on every white surface. Then, if the western horizon is visible, the moon's shadow is seen advancing like a heavy thunderstorm, an awe inspiring sight. Travelling at the terrific speed of from 1,000 to 5,000 miles an hour, the shadow suddenly envelops all, and the swift change gives the appearance of intense darkness. The appearance during totality is best described by an eye witness. Gen. MYER, who saw the eclipse of 1869 at an elevation of over 5,000 feet above the sea, wrote: "To the unaided eye, the eclipse presented, during the total obscuration, a vision magnificent beyond description. As a centre stood the full and intensely black disc of the moon, surrounded by the aureola of a soft bright light, through which shot out, as if from the circumference of the moon, straight, massive, silvery rays, seeming distinct and separate from each other, to a distance of two or three diameters of the solar disc; the whole spectacle showing as on a back-ground of diffused rose-coloured light." If the totality is of short duration, the light of the corona is three or four times as great as that of the full moon. In order to best see the corona from the very first, the observer should have his eyes bandaged for about ten minutes before totality, so that he can

at once see the faint light of the outer corona. This would be to sacrifice the sight of the approaching shadow, but every astronomer who *observes* the eclipse has to forego the pleasure of *looking at* it. On the horizon light from beyond the shadow appears, and in the sky the stars come out. In the coming eclipse, on the east of the sun will be Jupiter so near as perhaps to appear within the rays of the corona. Three or four times farther, toward the east is Venus, and, very little farther, Mercury. Mercury is so near the sun that it is seen at other times only in the morning or evening twilight. In 1878 two observers thought that they saw one or two planets near the sun within the orbit of Mercury, but there have been no other observations of such a planet or planets. In the eclipse of 1882 a small comet, visible to the naked eye, was seen near the sun, the first and only observation of that wandering star.

Such, prosaically enough stated, are some of the facts that will serve to deepen an impression of the vision of the eclipse. The opportunity now so near at hand is one that comes often only once in a life-time. He who can should witness this revelation of the great forces of nature and all pervading order. He should enjoy for a short moment the beauty that is for the present veiled by the great glory of the sun, and ponder, on the revelation of a glory not far from every one of us and yet hidden save in brief glimpses of the unseen. "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot attain unto it."

MR. MORETON FREWEN ON FREE SILVER IN AMERICA.

MR. MORETON FREWEN'S admirable essays on questions of currency and finance have deservedly won for him such a reputation that great interest attaches to his opinion of the probable effects of free silver coinage in the United States:—

Scheme, and readjust, and tinker with tariffs as you will, you cannot make a silk purse out of such a sow's ear; you cannot restore the balance of trade to the United States unless her currency legislation is such that it drags up the exchanges between Europe and Asia; whereas every further movement, in America or elsewhere, toward gold monometallism drags those exchanges down. In short, gold monometallism in the United States involves an increased competition for the industries of white men everywhere, at the hands of the yellow races of the Orient; and there is not a consular report which comes to us from the Far East but emphasises this statement. What, then, is the argument for single-handed free coinage in the United States? It is this. Either free coinage will establish bimetalism for the whole world, or, failing this, there will be such a gold premium in New York as to-day assists exporters in Russia, in all Asia, and in nine-tenths of South America. This gold premium, unlike a protective tariff, will stimulate the exports of the United States, while acting, just as a protective tariff does, to reduce imports; therefore, either free coinage will give bimetalism to the whole world, or, failing this, it will tend to secure that excess of American exports over imports which is the only possible alternative to further gold loans, leading up to ultimate insolvency.

There is this further point, that if America copies our gold standard, "confidence will be restored," and we will lend her more money; thus aggravating in the future the very disease from which she

suffers. On the other hand, if she goes to free coinage, we shall, in a panic, return her securities, and thus sell her back her railways and industrials at half-price, just at that very moment when, her legislation having sent the rupees, the tael, and the yen to nearly, or quite, par, the export trades of the Orient will be cut into, and the exports of the American farm, mine, and factory will take their place. In other words, because of the insane injunctions of a portion of the London press, our investors there will be so misled as to sell American stocks to Americans at that very moment when America prosperity is about to set in.

In the first place, then, free coinage in America would bring the Asiatic exchanges promptly to par—for the moment, at least—and, assuming that there would be panic sales of American securities held here, perhaps £40,000,000 sterling of American gold would flow into Europe. This great flood of gold would be likely to inflate prices in Europe to some extent, to thus increase the exports from the United States, and also to reduce the gold premium at Buenos Ayres and elsewhere, thus checking exports of wheat, &c., which compete with similar exports to Asia, and until gold prices here had risen, would greatly contract exports from Asia to Europe. Thus a double influence favourable to the balance of trade in the United States would be exerted. The United States would export more to England because Asia would export less, and thus America's gold, as well as her securities, would go back to her. Secondly, because England, selling more goods to Asia, the rupee, the dollar, and the yen being at par, England could then also buy more produce from the United States. Thus, while free coinage in the United States might, in the first place, tend to displace gold, there would almost simultaneously be exerted an even more powerful tendency for gold to be shipped west from Europe in order to liquidate what it seems to me must be an immense trade balance in favour of the United States. As to the absurd idea one frequently encounters, that Asia will dump silver upon the American mints and carry off gold, it is hardly necessary to examine this fallacy. It is for the objectors to show why Asia should give the metal which to her is alone money, in order to buy the other metal which is not money; and why also the white metal should be withdrawn from the hoards of the Orient at that moment when it appreciates, in order that it may be exchanged for the yellow metal, which has just depreciated almost one-half in terms of rupees.

Although we have always been in general accord with Mr. FREWEN'S bimetallic views, there are in the above extract one or two points that we fail to follow. He finds it almost unnecessary, for example, to dispute the "absurd idea," the "fallacy," that were free coinage of silver legalized in the United States, "Asia would dump her silver upon the American mints and carry off gold," and his contemptuous attitude towards that peril is dictated by the thought that the Orient would not be so foolish as to sell the metal which to her is alone money for another metal which is not money to her at all. That is somewhat misleading. The truth, as we conceive, is that the Orient would buy gold with its silver in the United States, not for the purpose of using the gold direct as money, but for the purpose of re-purchasing with it a larger stock of silver money. Under the system enunciated in the new Democratic platform, any person carrying 16 ounces of silver from the East to America could obtain for them an ounce of gold. That ounce of gold he might carry back to the East or to Europe, and there sell it for 29 ounces of silver, thus netting some eighty per cent. on the transaction, and finding every 16 yen or taels originally in his possession converted into 29 of the same monetary tokens. It is not likely that the process would continue for any length of time. With a great financial

power like America standing in the market and offering a certain gold price for all the silver brought to her, things must soon adjust themselves everywhere to the new standard. Moreover, since the American mints would not be under any obligation to buy silver with gold, and since neither banks nor private individuals would be disposed to part with the gold in their possession, the supply of the yellow metal available for these "dumping" transactions would be limited. Still, there can be no doubt that with so huge a profit in sight, a prodigious onslaught would at first be made on America's stock of gold. At the same time, speculators unable to buy gold in the States, would invest their silver in products and manufactures for exportation. An article to-day costing 29 ounces of silver would be purchasable for 16, so soon as silver became legal tender at that ratio, and thus profits not realizable by direct transactions in the two metals, might be secured, to a slightly reduced extent, by the medium of commodities. Of course, prices in the States would soon rise in the presence of such appreciating factors, but, so long as gold stood at a premium, the export trade must be stimulated and the import correspondingly depressed. Mr. FREWEN puts all this very clearly, but seems to attach undue importance to the industrial competition of the Orient. That is a minor point, however. What surprises us is that a sound exponent of bimetalism, like Mr. FREWEN, does not denounce extreme experiments such as that now contemplated by the American Democrats. It is true that the essay quoted above was written early in June, that is to say, before the Democratic platform was published. But its language leaves no room to doubt that Mr. FREWEN was then prepared to advocate a heroic attempt on the part of the United States, single-handed, to restore silver to its old place.

THE NURSERY OF LABOURERS IN JAPAN.

The latest number of the *Tokyo Economist* contains an interesting article on the future of Hiroshima Prefecture, which it declares is the nursery of labourers in Japan. The writer devotes his attention chiefly to describing the lives of the factory girls of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Mill, established on the banks of the upper reaches of the river Sumida, Tokyo. In that mill there are now 2,096 girls employed, of whom 70 to 80 per cent. come from Hiroshima, and 10 to 20 per cent. from Niigata and Miye. The girls are paid at the rate of 8 to 16 sen per diem, according to ability, but pay the company 6 sen for food and boarding a day, being lodged in a dormitory built in the compound of the Mill. They serve on a three years' contract, and receive three yen by way of out-fit expenses and a small sum for travelling. For three years they work diligently and live thriftily, so that on their return home, at the expiration of their contracts, their savings generally amount to over 100 yen. A larger number of Hiroshima girls are employed at the Osaka mills. Hiroshima has also sent more than 20,000 contract labourers to Hawaii, and a small number are living in New Caledonia, Queensland, and

Guadalope. It is said that the remittances sent through the post by Hiroshima labourers in Hawaii amounted to 594,000 yen last year. The amount of money earned by male and female labourers from Hiroshima, either at home or abroad, must accordingly reach a large figure. The *Tokyo Economist* makes some interesting observations regarding these diligent and thrifty people. The districts of Aki, Saiki, and Yamagata, in Hiroshima Prefecture, are the places where the prisoners taken by Prince Yamatodake over 17 centuries ago—when he drove out the aborigines that occupied the eastern portions of the main island of Japan—were made to settle. Descended from such ancestors, the inhabitants of Yamagata and other districts are regarded with contempt by the citizens of Hiroshima, who call them *hoito*, an Ainu word meaning beggars. The reason for the use of this epithet is that their ancestors of the people in question, having been vanquished by the newcomers, were obliged to sustain themselves by begging food and raiment from their conquerors. The miserable condition to which they were reduced gradually made them submissive and diligent in habits, traits that still distinguish the inhabitants of those particular districts.

SMART AND THE "SATURDAY."

The *fin-du-siècle* self-content of to-day's reviewers is well illustrated by a *Saturday's* notice of Christopher Smart's "Song to David." Smart wrote this grand poem when he was in a lunatic asylum, and in 1791, when the first edition of his collected works was published, the editor excluded the poet's one and only really fine production on the ground that it bore "melancholy proofs of his estrangement of mind." Hence it happened that until this year of grace 1896, the Song only once found its way into print, in the "Golden Treasury." Mr. Stott, the publisher, has now brought it out in all the technical glories of modern typography and binding. Yet, rare as are Smart's readers, and rarer still the persons familiar with "A Song to David," no thesaurus of quotations lacks these two gems:—

The crocus burnishes alive
Upon the snow-clad earth,
and
Use all thy passions! love is thine
And joy, and jealousy divine.

But what we set out to notice were the *Saturday Review's* comments, "anything more unlike the eighteenth century than the 'David' could not be imagined;" and again, "who would conjecture that lines like these were by a contemporary of Johnson?" Does not such criticism delightfully betray the smug self-satisfaction of our time? The eighteenth century, indeed! The century that gave us Collins' "Odes," Pope's "Dunciad," and the Kobinoo of English poetry, Gray's "Elegy!" Has this age of ours reached a moral and intellectual standard so much higher than that of our forefathers in the days of Smollet, Johnson, Goldsmith, Sterne, Fielding, Horace Walpole, and Gibbon? It is true that theology has ceased to be autocratic; that science has exposed new worlds to us; that philosophy has passed from ontology to positivism. But has not that growth of knowledge been accompanied by the stunting of sentiments without which humanity would be a poor affair after all? It is scarcely possible now to conceive a man of nearly seventy standing bareheaded for an hour under pouring rain in a provincial town, as Johnson did, twisting his face into expressions of penitential grief for a sin of unfilial disobedience committed fifty years previously. And remember that Windsor audience of shopkeepers and labourers that listened, evening after evening, as the village blacksmith, seated on his anvil, read aloud "Pamela;" that audience that "raised a great shout" over the happy union of the hero and heroine, and, procuring the church keys, set the parish bells ringing for joy. Are such events imaginable in this *nil-admirari* epoch, and has human nature been enriched by their disappearance from the range of sane possibilities?

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

A telegram from Taipei, dated 11.25 p.m. on the 17th instant, says:—"Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi, having effected a junction with Sato's two companies, is engaged attacking the headquarters of the insurgents at Ta-pin-ting, and in its neighbourhood. On the 15th instant, the two companies detached from the same corps under Major Suzuki, drove away a large body of insurgents from the San-pei-chow district. In that engagement, Captain Ishikawa and Lieut. Nakane were wounded, and the killed and wounded among non-commissioned officers and privates totalled ten. Captain Ishizuka's detachment, having been attacked by a large body of insurgents, retreated temporarily to Poh-chiang. Subsequently, on the 13th instant, he found himself surrounded there by about a thousand of the enemy, whom he is now engaged in repulsing. Hwai Yung, who led a band of natives to assist our forces in that quarter, has had many casualties. Major Matsui, having been re-inforced by a company from Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force, and being thus at the head of four companies of infantry and one battery of artillery, marched from Tsi-tsi-chie on the morning of the 16th instant, in the direction of Pu-li-sho. In the mountainous regions between Tsi-tsi-chie and Peh-tien, and to the eastward of Tuen-lin, Yung-tsing, and Shou-ton, bodies of a hundred or two hundred rebels are observed here and there, their apparent purpose being to combine for purposes of attack. Lieut.-Colonel Masuda's two companies are now at Chia-i, where, on the 10th instant, a force of about 400 rebels appeared at the front gate, but withdrew to the east and south the following day, in which direction, at a place called Chu-show, a little over a mile away, another force of 300 insurgents are posted. Their programme appears to be to effect a junction with the rebels that escaped from Yuen-lin, and make an attack on Chia-i."

Another telegram from Taipei, under date 9.50 p.m. on the 17th instant, says:—"The following report has been received from the Sixth Mixed Brigade:—News having come that the rebels in the vicinity of Ka-tan-sui show signs of advancing, two additional bodies have been sent thither from Feng-shan. Last night precautions were taken against a possible attack at Tai-nan, but nothing unusual occurred. The precautionary measures have not, however, been relaxed."

It is impossible to follow the above movements accurately in the absence of maps, and unfortunately no map sufficiently minute exists. Briefly speaking, the insurgents may be said to be scattered through the hilly country to the east and south of Yuen-lin, their movements in the latter direction taking them to the vicinity of Tainan, on the south-west coast. The country is extremely difficult from a military point of view. A series of hills and forests, virtually pathless and almost wholly unexplored by the Japanese, afford great advantages to the insurgents, whose direction of approach or attack is always uncertain, and whose whereabouts must generally be exceedingly perplexing to discover. The Japanese have evidently been obliged to divide their forces into a number of small bodies, acting more or less independently, but at the same time regulating their advance so as to avoid dangerous isolation. Under such circumstances, a considerable period may be required to stamp out the rebellion.

It is to be presumed that all moderate people have largely discounted the plainly exaggerated accounts of Japanese cruelties published by several of the local foreign journals. We do not ourselves believe that the Japanese have behaved immaculately. Very far from it indeed. Our information goes to show that since the second outbreak of rebellion, when such atrocities were perpetrated by the Hakka rebels, the Japanese soldiery and the military coolies have betrayed a bullying and intolerant demeanour that can not have failed to provoke the hostility of the natives. But there are three things to be remembered. The first is that at the outset the

Japanese were blamed for leniency, and it was confidently predicted by foreigners on the spot, that their toleration would be misconstrued and abused. The second is that the wildest accusations of barbarous and wholesale inhumanity were preferred against the Japanese on a previous occasion, were accepted as true by a local foreign journal, were "written up" in terms of the most ludicrous and hair-brained hyperbole, and were ultimately found to be quite baseless. The third is that even before the Japanese landed in Formosa, the great difficulties they were destined to encounter in pacifying a country where the effective use of force on a drastic scale is scarcely possible, were foretold by every writer acquainted with the circumstances. Something of those difficulties they are encountering, and to allege now that the fault lies entirely with their own maltreatment of men that have never yet been amenable to lawful authority, and were never expected to become amenable to Japanese authority until some terrible lessons had been taught them, is surely unreasonable. Finally, it should be observed that, so far as can be ascertained at present, the insurgents now in arms against the Japanese had not been previously within reach of the cruelties laid to the latter's charge. On the contrary, they seem for the most part to be remnants of Liu Yung-fu's braves and of the Hakkas associated with them, that fled to the hills after the taking of Tainan last year, and remained in hiding until the hardships of such an existence, or the receipt of some substantial encouragement from without, induced them to take the field. We note that all the accusations preferred against the Japanese on this occasion come from one source. The same writer has made his voice heard in Hongkong, in Shanghai, in Kobe, and in Yokohama. By and by the truth will be known, but it does seem harsh and unjust that judgments so hostile to the Japanese should be based on every scrap of evidence obtainable. In such matters the *Japan Gazette* remains conspicuous. It is the boss victim of hysteria in the Far East.

A lengthy report has been received from Taipei concerning the progress of the insurrection in Formosa:—

A telegram from Major Sato, despatched from Ta-pu-lin on the forenoon of the 5th instant, has at length furnished information about the state of affairs in the vicinity of Chia-i, the elucidation of which had hitherto defied all efforts. Major Sato says:—"On the 2nd instant, about 200 of the insurgents came to Ta-pu-lin, but were immediately driven back by our fire. They retired to a distance of about 2½ miles and posted themselves on our north, east, and south. On the 3rd instant, an officer's reconnoitering party was sent out eastward from Ta-pu-lin, to a distance of about 200 metres. Some 300 rebels were found in the vicinity. They opened a hot fire from the 4th instant. Captain Fumichi, with four half-companies, was sent to attack the rebels at a distance of about 2½ miles on the north and east of Ta-pu-lin. The insurgents were driven back. On the 5th instant, the Twelfth Company dispersed the insurgents gathered on the east of Ta-pu-lin, at a distance of about 2½ miles."

It is apparent from the above that Major Sato did not find himself in sufficient force to undertake an offensive campaign on any thorough scale against the rebels, and that he was obliged to be content with occasional sorties against them from Ta-pu-lin. We may mention that Ta-pu-lin is a position on the high road running from Tai-wan to Chia-i and thence to Tainan. It is 11 miles from Chia-i, which lies on its south, and 18, as the crow flies, from Yuen-lin, on the north-east, where the rebellion first broke out. This road from Tai-wan to Chia-i runs nearly parallel to the range of hills forming the western boundary of the unexplored part of Formosa, and is at a distance of only a few miles from that boundary. It is plain that the rebels had been lying concealed in the unexplored territory up to the time of the insurrection, a fact apparently inconsistent with the theory that Japanese ill-usage is responsible for the outbreak, since the people among the mountains eastward of the boundary can not have had any regular contact with the Japanese.

The report then proceeds:—

In accordance with the plan of campaign, the Third Battalion of the Eighth Regiment reached Tai-chang at 8 p.m. on the 6th instant, and the Second Battalion arrived at Miao-li simultaneously. The garrisons of these two places were then relieved, and ordered to proceed against the insurgents.

This part of the report is dealing with the movements of the re-inforcements sent from Tai-pei to assist in quelling the rebellion. Miao-li is a town of importance some 60 miles north of Yuen-lin.

The First Company was despatched to Ko-lung. Apparently the head-quarters of the insurgents were at Lin-pa-pu and in its vicinity. Several reports had reached Pu-li-sho that the rebels were advancing from Tsi-tsi-chie, and that the situation was critical, and that signs of a march against Lo-chiang and Chang-hwa (places due west of Tai-wan, on the road leading from that town to the coast-wise route running north and south), but these rumours did not prove true, nor were any insurgents assembled in these districts. Nevertheless, intelligence came to hand that about a thousand rebels collected at Yuen-lin were about to move against Chang-hwa. A junction having been effected at Nan-tow between the forces of Lieut-Colonel Imahashi and Major Matsui, the rebels in that vicinity were completely dispersed.

On the 6th instant, the Miao-li garrison that had returned to Taiwan, and the greater part of the Suzuta Battalion arrived at Tai-nan, and the programme of the Commandant of the Second Brigade, for the distribution of forces was thus complete.

The Commandant of the Second Brigade, having re-inforced Lieut-Colonel Imahashi with two battalions of infantry, a battery of artillery, a squadron of ten troopers, half a company of engineers and a special sanitary corps, directed him to march through Chang-hwa with the object of effecting a junction with the forces on the south (i.e. the forces in the districts originally menaced by the insurgents), and to attack the rebels at Yuen-lin. On the 7th instant this force left Tai-wan, and reaching Chang-hwa, marched southward from that place the following morning. Major Inuzuka, of the Gendarmes, was also directed to join the expedition with his detachment which had been in Peh-tow, and a farther reinforcement of 30 men was added. Moreover, on the same morning, the Commandant of the Second Brigade sent another company to Pu-li-sho, with orders to guard the communications in the direction of Tsi-tsi-chie. At the same time, to keep touch with Pu-li-sho, Major Matsui with two companies was despatched to the vicinity of Won-tu-lin, and to the engineers belonging to the main body was entrusted the duty of repairing the line of telegraph to the south of Chang-hwa.

At the time of despatching the main force against the rebels, the Commandant of the Second Brigade ordered Captain Nakamura's Company to move from Miao-li to Tai-wan, and the Company left Miao-li at 6 a.m. on 7th instant. (Apparently to act as a reserve.)

Lieut-Colonel Imahashi's force started from Chang-hwa at 6.30 a.m. on the 8th instant, and moved in the direction of Peh-tow. At 9.40 a.m. the scouts discovered that bodies of insurgents were collected in the neighbourhood of Yuen-lin (not the place of the same name where the rebellion originally broke out), and they were dispersed by heavy fire. They numbered some 800 and had three banners. In this fight, the expeditionary force had one man wounded. A halt was made at Yuen-lin, and while steps were being taken to cut off the retreat of the rebels, it was learned that Lo-chiang was seriously menaced. Two companies were immediately sent to its relief. The same morning, the telegraph between Chang-hwa and Lo-chiang was cut. Meanwhile, a report had been sent from Captain Ozakiwara, who was stationed in Chang-hwa, to the Commandant of the Brigade, that Lo-chiang was actually attacked by the rebels, and that the town was in flames, and the Commandant despatched orders to Lieut-Colonel Imahashi to detach a force for the relief of the place.

Lo-chiang, as we have already explained, lies due west of Chang-hwa, at a distance of 7 miles. It stands at the junction of the north-and-south coast-wise road and the road passing inland to Chang-hwa and Tai-wan. To reach Lo-chiang while Lieut-Colonel Imahashi's force was south-east the rebels must have moved round his right flank.

Captain Ozakiwara succeeded, by various devices, in establishing communication with Lo-chiang, and ascertained what had happened there. His report was this:—"On the 8th, at 7 a.m., about 600 rebels moved against Lo-chiang from

the Yuen-lin road and from the sea-coast on the west. They attacked the town, and having set the southern part on fire, surrounded it on the north, east, and west. The garrison, assisted by the gendarmes, the police, and the local officials, opposed the insurgents, and after a sharp struggle drove them off, a portion of them flying towards the Yuen-lin road and a portion towards the sea-shore. At 11 o'clock Major Yoshihiro, commanding the Lo-chiang Brigade (who had apparently accompanied the expeditionary force and been sent back to relieve Lo-chiang) marched into Lo-chiang at the head of Lieut. Kaiho's detachment, together with the Chang-hwa gendarmes. The casualties in this affair were 1 killed, and a Captain, a Lieutenant, a commissariat officer, an ensign, 8 soldiers, 2 policemen, and a civil employé wounded. Seven insurgents were taken prisoners, and they left fully a hundred dead upon the field, but the number of their wounded is unknown."

On the morning of the 9th, Lieut-Colonel Imahashi sent Major Suzuta with two companies of infantry and a gun to Lo-chiang, and from Tai-wan four half-companies were despatched by the Third Regiment to Chang-hwa, two of the half-companies remaining in the latter place, and two moving on to Lo-chiang. When Lieut-Colonel Imahashi resumed his southward march, he placed these re-inforcements on the strength of the Chang-hwa garrison under the command of Major Yoshihiro. Meanwhile, the Matsui battalion stationed in Won-tu-lin, was engaged dispersing the rebels in that vicinity, and the communications between Pu-li-sho and Tai-chang remained undisturbed.

On the 10th at 10 a.m. Lieut-Colonel Imahashi's force attacked Peh-tow and took possession of it. Some fifteen hundred rebels had been assembled there, but they fled during the night of the 9th, and the number that actually opposed Imahashi's force did not exceed three or four hundred. The whole retreated in the direction of Yuen-lin, according to the statements of the natives.

Through a length of fully 17 miles the telegraph line, from Tai-chang to Kwei-tsz-tow, is destroyed. Nothing is left of it. The telegraph to the south of Chang-hwa is also seriously damaged.

The above account may be regarded as an accurate résumé of the operations up to the 10th instant.

We now have telegrams from Tai-pei, dated at noon on the 20th. Major-General Tachimi says:—

On the 18th instant Lieut-Colonel Imahashi drove the rebels away from Ta-pin-king and Oro-sho. In the former place they numbered about 150 and in the latter from 300 to 400. The insurgents at Oro-sho were all armed with rifles, apparently, and the rebel Chief, Kangi, seems to have been in command there. They retreated chiefly in the direction of Ais-san. It can not be confidently affirmed that there are no more insurgents in the neighbourhood of these places, but their strength is probably too much broken to warrant any renewed offensive movements on their part. In this engagement, Lieut-Colonel Imahashi's force had one private killed, an officer and three men wounded. He will remain for the present in Yuen-lin.

It will be observed that whereas the minute report published in these columns yesterday, described the course of the campaign up to the 10th instant, the above telegram takes up the story from the 18th. We shall, no doubt, have full particulars by-and-by of the operations between the 10th and the 18th. On the latter date Yuen-lin—not the Yuen-lin mentioned in yesterday's telegrams, but the town among the hills where the insurrection originally broke out—had been recovered, and Lieut-Colonel Imahashi was engaged in, clearing away the insurgents from places in its neighbourhood. Major-General Tachimi's report continues:—

Two companies, under the command of Major Naito, were sent to Peh-tow.

According to intelligence received from Major Matsui and Captain Ishizuka, the latter assumed the offensive on the morning of the 17th instant, and at 9.40 a.m. recovered possession of Pu-li-sho. During this engagement the inhabitants of Ai-ting and Sheu-fang, places in the neighbourhood, showed a most friendly spirit towards our men and rendered them great assistance. In the fight Lieut. Yuge was killed, and one first-class private and a few common soldiers were wounded.

Major Matsui's force, marching out of Lin-pa-pu on the 16th instant, advanced through a most arduous district, and driving the rebels before them, entered Pu-li-sho on the 18th, thus effecting a junction with Captain Ishizuka's force.

The casualties sustained by him from the 16th to the 18th were 2 killed, 11 wounded, and 1 missing. Three horses also were lost.

The Matsui Battalion is to remain in Pu-li-sho. According to a report received from Lieut-Colonel Masuda in Chia-i, the insurgents in Ko-shun-sho fled in anticipation of an attack. Neither insurgents nor inhabitants are now to be seen at that place. Scouts sent out subsequently have brought news that the majority of the rebels are at Nai-ko-sho (a place to the eastward of Chia-i), and that another body have retreated to Un-sui-kei.

Thus the rebels have been everywhere driven off, and all the positions in the district are once more in our occupation.

It does not follow, of course, that the insurrection is completely crushed. To stamp it out altogether, it would be necessary to capture or kill all the rebels, which is virtually impossible so long as the scene of the conflict is in the immediate neighbourhood of the hill country. It may be that they have been killed or wounded in such numbers as to be practically eliminated for all really mischievous purposes, but we observe that in almost every case the accounts of the various fights have not included any statement of rebel losses, from which we infer that the struggle has been of a guerrilla character, and that the insurgents have run away too quickly, or kept under cover too carefully, to have a large list of casualties.

HARBOURS.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* declares that Obama, Tsuruga, Nanao, Fushiki, Naoyetsu, and Niigata in the Hokuriku districts, are ports for loading and unloading cargoes. But of these, the last three, though generally regarded as such, can not properly be called harbours. Indeed, along the whole coast of Hokurikudo there is no good anchorage, Ebisu, in Sado Island, being the only one in the vicinity. It is by nature a very good harbour, open toward the south and entirely sheltered from the north wind that so greatly disturbs the Sea of Japan, especially in winter. It is usual with steamers visiting Niigata, Naoyetsu, and Fushiki to hasten to Ebisu for shelter whenever they are overtaken by storms, for, between October and April, large steamers often find it impossible to discharge or take in cargoes at those places. Tsuruga is somewhat better off, but it has one serious defect, namely, being directly exposed to the north wind. Obama is a Tsuruga in miniature. The *Tokyo Shimbun* considers Nanao to be the best harbour along the coast of Hokurikudo. Strange to say, it omits to explain why this particular harbour is so much better than the others.

A few details about Funakoshi Harbour, Chikujen, Kyushiu, are given in the *Fiji*. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha recently despatched thither Capt. Arai and a foreign employé of the Firm to investigate the geography of the harbour and to ascertain whether it affords a safe anchorage to steamers of large size. The report submitted by them speaks in favourable terms of Funakoshi. It says that the basin is deep, and affords safe anchorage for more than 10 vessels of 1,000 tons displacement or so, and that six or seven vessels of under 5,000 tons displacement, even at low-tide, can lie there. When a pier and other necessary accessories have been constructed, Funakoshi will become one of the best harbours along the western coast of Kiushiu. It is far better than Kuchinotsu, Misumi, and Moji, and is, moreover, nearer by more than 60 miles to China. The Government is inspecting the various harbours along the north-western coast of Kyushiu to discover which is the best as a special port of export, and it is generally believed that the choice will fall on Funakoshi.

From Gifu six lengthy telegrams were received regarding the recent floods. The 5th, dated 22nd, at 12.40 p.m., ran:—The three large rivers, Kiso, Nagara, and Ibi have overflowed into 21 districts, and 54 embankments are damaged.

THROWN SILK.

The question of establishing factories for throwing silk, is stated by the *Tokyo Shimpō* to be attracting attention in Japanese industrial circles. To prepare silk for weaving purposes, the thread has to be twisted into one of the forms technically known as "singles," "tram" or "organzine," the last being popularly known as "thrown silk," and consisting of two, three, or more "singles" twisted together in a direction contrary to that in which the singles themselves are twisted. The Japanese are said to be behind the time in the art of throwing, though why that should be the case when the best modern machines are procurable by any one ready to pay for them, we do not understand. Italy at one time was the only country in the world where the manufacture of organzine was understood, and readers of English history know that when the brothers Lambe obtained, in 1719, a patent for their famous throwing mill at Derby, it was openly acknowledged that they had procured their models clandestinely from Italy. Consciences, however, especially commercial consciences, were not so tender in those times as they are at present, and legislators revelled in magnificent ignorance of economical principles. In Japan's case, also, the silk throwing enterprise is to be developed by Italian ingenuity, for, according to the *Tokyo Shimpō*, a leading merchant of Milan contemplates establishing a throwing factory on a large scale somewhere in the interior; a project that is spurring the Japanese to similar enterprise. Of course, if Japanese manufacturers seriously think of developing a large export trade in silk fabrics, the treatment of the silk before it goes into the loom is of prime importance. It will not do to rely on cheapness of labour. The proper course is to derive full competitive advantage from cheap labour, instead of employing it merely to mitigate the penalty of inferior machinery. Never have the comparative benefits of first-class and third-class machinery been more forcibly illustrated than by the history of the silk trade in England herself, for, just 70 years ago, the loom then used in France, according to a statement made by Mr. Ellice in the House of Commons at that time, could produce five times as much ribbon as the English loom with the same manual labour, and the improved German velvet-loom did forty-eight times as much work as the English. Given equally good machinery, the Japanese should be able to make a strong bid for the command of the fancy-silk-goods market of the world. They possess, as compared with the artisans of other countries, precisely the advantages though perhaps in a greater degree, that the French possess over the English, namely, that the art of designing has been developed to an extraordinary extent among them, that their artists have remarkably good taste, and that their colours are conspicuously bright and lustrous as well as chaste and sober. Moreover, skilled labour is wonderfully cheap in Japan, and the silk is produced at the doors of the factories. The Japanese have been so successful in cotton spinning, under far less advantageous circumstances, that we see no reason to predict defeat for them in the matter of silk weaving.

SUSPECTED DOUBLE SUICIDE IN YOKOHAMA.

About half-past six o'clock on Monday morning two bodies were found floating in the Creek at Takashimachō, Yokohama. They were the corpses of a man and a woman of the artisan class. The police have discovered that the man was named Sakamoto Matsugoro, aged 26. Upon him was found a letter addressed to one Mogi Yei-taro, dated the 19th inst., which stated that his prospects were hopeless and the future contained nothing worth living for. In a *portemonnaie* was found 31 *sen* 1 *rin*, and another letter addressed to the Mogi family. Sakamoto, the dead man, was married and had a son by his wife. The girl was afterwards found to be the wife of the dead man's brother.

PROPOSALS.

It is a generally accepted theory—accepted among men, at least, and, so far as we know, among the best of women—that to have refused many offers of marriage is very far from being a crown of credit for a girl. Plainly, the root of this belief is the postulate that no man asks a girl to marry him unless he thinks that her conduct towards him has justified the petition. It is admitted that men are not always gifted with the fine faculty of strictly adjusting action to encouragement, or of discerning how much of the favours they receive are only a reflection of their own self-assertion. Still, on the whole, men do not put their fate to the great test without a strong hope of success, and so far as their hope has been educated by the lady's previous attitude towards their addresses, she is responsible. That being the every-day creed of folks that move upon old-fashioned planes of behaviour, it is pleasant to find the idea strongly endorsed by a woman whose nobility of thought has been acknowledged by all English-speaking peoples however brief the period during which she has addressed them. Mrs. Meynell is one of the great literary lights of our time. She has flashed suddenly upon the horizon, and has at once commanded universal admiration. Here is what she makes a lady say to the man whose suit has just been refused:—

Why wilt thou chide,
Who has attained to be denied?
Oh learn, above
All price is my refusal, Love.
My sacred Nay
Was never cheapened by the way.
Thy single sorrow crowns thee lord
Of an unpurchasable word.
Oh strong, Oh pure!
As Yea makes happier loves secure,
I vow thee this
Unique rejection of a kiss.
I guard for thee
This jealous sad monopoly.
I seal this honour thine; none dare
Hope for a part in thy despair.

"How incomparably noble, strong, passionate, and pure," says a critic, "those words of consolation to the one lover who has come so near as to be denied." The one lover! Thus Mrs. Meynell's conception of the true woman is that not twice in a lifetime does she allow the wrong man to fancy himself the right.

GERMANY AND PRINTING AFFAIRS.

Here are two interesting items from *The Stationary Trades Journal*:—

In the German printing trade an agreement has recently been arrived at, which practically amounts to "splitting the difference" upon the demands made. A joint conference of representatives of employers and journeymen was held at Leipzig, April 15th-17th, when a nine-hours working day, instead of 9½ hours, was conceded. The piece rates are to be increased by 2 pfennigs (=68 per cent.) per 1,000, and the weekly time wage from 20s. to 20s. 6d. Fifteen minutes each, in the morning and afternoon, and at least an hour at mid-day, to be allowed for meals. In towns of less than 20,000 inhabitants, the present working hours may be maintained if desired by a majority of both employers and journeymen.

It is certainly disagreeable to read in an *Evening News* interview with Mr. W. D. Ross, of *Black and White*, that he attributes the high standard attained by that paper and the *Cycling World*, to the superiority of the machinery used—all made in Germany, and not only so, but rollers and ink as well. "English high-class printing machinery is not in the same hemisphere as the German, which is perfection. A German machine is finished like a watch. Above all, it has absolutely no vibration; vibration ruins fine work. When I came here there was one English machine, the best this country could produce, but it had to go. It would print 15,000 copies fairly well, but after that it smudged and blurred, and was perfectly hopeless. A German machine will print 500,000 copies, and the last will be as clean and clear as the first. That one English machine made more noise than six Germans." This frank expression of opinion will do no harm, if it causes English makers to see what amount of truth there is in it, and to recognise the fact that good machines are made outside, and that printers will go where they can get the best for their purpose. Mr. Ross adds, "the Briton thinks himself supreme, and doesn't worry," but there is likely to be a great deal of worry if German makers really can build better machines than we are able to do.

THE SEISMIC WAVE.

For the information of those that kindly subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by the Seismic Wave in the north-east, we beg to state that the sums hitherto received by us aggregate \$4,203.62, of which total the second installment (\$1,122.12) has now been handed over to the Committee engaged in distributing the relief after the manner described by us in a recent issue. Full details of the various disbursements made by the Committee will be published later on, together with the acknowledgements of the recipients. We may add that the subscriptions sent to us (excluding the subscriptions of the Presbyterian Missionaries in Kanazawa, which were forwarded direct to the scene of the disaster) numbered 149, the average amount subscribed thus being a little over \$28. It appears that those intending to subscribe have, for the most part, sent in their names. We shall therefore cease to publish the list after to-day, but should any subscriptions reach us at a later date, they will of course be duly acknowledged and handed to the committee of distribution.

We are asked to state that Admiral Sir Alexander Buller, K.C.B., has presented, through His Excellency Baron Sannomiya, the sum of 100 *yen* to the relief fund for the sufferers by the Seismic Wave.

THE FLOODS.

The vernacular papers contain many telegrams this morning regarding the floods. From Tochigi Prefecture comes news that at Kodakiyama one person was drowned, one injured, and one is missing. In the Enya District a river overflowed, drowning one person. Many embankments have been damaged in Shiga Prefecture. In Fukushima the Abukuma-gawa rose eighteen feet above its ordinary level, and on the 22nd July was still increasing in volume. Nine houses were carried away, one person drowned, and many bridges destroyed. A telegram from Osaka says that the Yodogawa rose ten feet above the normal, and over 200 houses were immersed by the flood above their lower storey: there were several accidents but no loss of life. The Sekiyado river, in Chiba Prefecture, rose 16 ft. at Chiba, but at Kinoshita at noon the water was only 11 ft. above the ordinary level. News from Aomori is to the effect that the floods have damaged the railway track between Hachinohe and Shiriuchi. The railway bridge at Owani was damaged, and a portion of the track between Aomori and Oshaku is washed away. About 120 yards of the bridge on the Kidzuga-gawa at Nara, was washed away, but the six pedestrians who were crossing the bridge at the time were saved.

The heavy rainfall of the 20th and 21st has damaged the roads at Nagano. The overflowing of the Kisogawa, according to a telegram from Tsu, has reduced the villages in the neighbourhood to a pitiable condition. Many houses have been destroyed through the bursting of the embankments of the Ebigawa. At Gifu seven houses and one school-building were carried away by the flood, and much destitution prevails in consequence of the flooding of the food-stores. The embankment of the river was breached in 60 different places. A Toyama dispatch says that the Jinzoo-gawa rose fully 14 feet above the normal level, and after it had broken its banks the western part of the town presented the appearance of a lake studded with small islands. Communication was established with the higher portions of the town by means of boats.

On the Nara Railway, the Tamamidzu and Kidzu section has been damaged. On the Sanyo Railway, the Himeji and Mitsuishi section was interrupted, and the telegraph line broke down. On the Oshiu Railway, the overflowing of the Kitagami-gawa stopped all trains at Hanamaki station. According to a report from Hanamaki, the overflowing of the Kitagami-gawa caused a flood 10 feet deep. Nearly all the lines to the north were more or less damaged.

THE GREAT QUESTION IN AMERICA.

Naturally the American papers received by last mail are full of the great question now agitating the electorate in the States. The Republican Party's declaration about the currency problem was this:—

The Republican party is unreservedly for sound money. It caused the statement of the law providing for the resumption of specie payments in 1879; since then every dollar has been as good as gold.

We are unalterably opposed to every measure calculated to debase our currency or impair the credit of our country. We are therefore opposed to the free coinage of silver, except by international agreement with the leading commercial nations of the world, which we pledge ourselves to promote, and until such agreement can be obtained the existing gold standard must be preserved. All our silver and paper currency must be maintained at parity with gold, and we favour all measures designed to maintain inviolably the obligation of the United States and of our money, whether coin or paper, at the present standard, the standard of the most enlightened nations of the earth.

There is nothing ambiguous about this declaration, as it appears to us. The Republicans distinctly announce themselves bimetallics, but in common with the scientific leaders of the bimetallic movement, oppose the idea of attempting to re-habilitate silver without an international agreement. But the declaration is not comprehensive. It does not make any engagement, for example, that some law, like the Bland Act or the Sherman Act, will not be passed ordering the coinage of millions of silver dollars having a nominal value of only fifty odd cents and a legally created fictitious value of 100 cents. Neither does it say anything about the cancellation of legal tenders on redemption. These omissions were held to indicate a "straddling" scheme for placating the free-silver men, and ultimately, as the telegraph has informed us, the Republican leaders were compelled to come out "flat-footed" for gold.

Senator Teller's resolution, proposed by way of substitute for the above, and rejected by 818½ votes to 105½, ran as follows:—

The Republican Party favour the use of both gold and silver as equal standard money, and pledges its power to secure the free, unrestricted, and independent coinage of gold and silver at our mints at the ratio of 16 parts of silver to 1 of gold.

Mr. Teller seems to be a man of very high reputation. We read of him in an American Republican contemporary:—"He is the one man in the silver movement who has been able to command respect. Mistaken though he is, no one can doubt that he is acting from sincere conviction. No personal or property interest, no damalogical desire to catch the votes of a constituency that has been led into false ideas, has prompted him. One could shed tears at seeing so earnest a man become the victim of a great political heresy. But, while he holds the views he does, no Republican could wish him to remain in the party. The Republican Party can not afford to retain in its leadership men who do not believe in its principles."

The utterances of the Republican Platform on the subject of Protection are simply a repetition of the stereotyped phrases that have for so long a time served to drive men from the paths of sound finance:—

We renew and emphasize our allegiance to the policy of protection as the bulwark of American industrial independence and the foundation of American development and prosperity. The true American policy taxes foreign products and encourages home industry; it puts the burden of revenue on foreign goods; it secures the American market for the American producers; it upholds the American standard of wages for the American working-man; it puts the factory by the side of the farm and makes the American farmer less dependent on foreign demand and price; it diffuses general thrift and founds the strength of all on the strength of each. In its reasonable application it is just, fair, and impartial, equally opposed to foreign control and domestic monopoly, to sectional discrimination and individual favoritism.

We denounce the present Democratic tariff as sectional, injurious to the public credit, and destructive to business enterprise. We demand such an equitable tariff on foreign imports which come

into competition with American products as will not only furnish adequate revenue for the necessary expenses of the Government, but will protect American labour from degradation to the wage level of other lands. We are not pledged to any particular schedules. The question of rates is a practical question, to be governed by the conditions of the time and of production; the ruling and uncompromising principle is the protection and development of American labour and industry. The country demands a right settlement, and then it wants rest.

We believe the repeal of the reciprocity arrangements negotiated by the last Republican Administration was a national calamity, and we demand their renewal and extension on such terms as will equalize our trade with other nations, remove the restrictions which now obstruct the sale of American products in the ports of other countries, and secure enlarged markets for the products of our farms, forests, and factories.

Protection and reciprocity are twin measures of Republican policy, and go hand-in-hand. Democratic rule has recklessly struck down both, and both must be re-established; protection for what we produce; free admission for the necessities of life which we do not produce; reciprocal agreements of mutual interest which gain open markets for us in return for our open market to others. Protection builds up domestic industry and trade, and secures our own market for ourselves; reciprocity builds up foreign trade and finds an outlet for our surplus.

As to the other planks in the platform, they are summarized thus by *Public Opinion*:—"The platform also condemns the Democratic administration of the pension bureau, declares for a vigorous and dignified foreign policy, the control of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States, demands that the Nicaragua canal be "built, owned, and operated by the United States," and that the Danish Isles be purchased for a naval station in the West Indies. The platform declares that the United States should exercise all proper influence to bring the Armenian atrocities to an end. The Monroe doctrine is reaffirmed, with the declaration that, We have not interfered, and shall not interfere, with the existing possessions of any European power in this hemisphere, but those possessions must not, on any pretext, be extended. We hopefully look forward to the eventual withdrawal of the European powers from this hemisphere, to the ultimate union of all of the English-speaking part of the continent by the free consent of its inhabitants. Sympathy is expressed with the Cubans in their "heroic battle against cruelty and oppression," and it is declared that—the government of Spain having lost control of Cuba, and being unable to protect the property or lives of resident American citizens, or to comply with its treaty obligations—we believe that the Government of the United States should actively use its influence and good offices to restore peace and give independence to the island. The platform favours enlargement of the navy and the coast defences, restriction of immigration, the enforcement and extension of the civil service law, protection of the right of voting, condemns lynching, demands the creation of a national board of arbitration to settle disputes between employers and employed in interstate commerce, restoration of the free-homestead policy, the admission of the remaining Territories to Statehood as soon as consistent with the interests of all concerned, and representation in Congress for Alaska. Temperance and the rights of women are thus dealt with:—We sympathize with all wise and legitimate efforts to lessen and prevent the evils of intemperance and promote morality. The Republican party is mindful of the rights and interests of women. Protection of American industries includes equal opportunities, equal pay for equal work, and protection to the home. We favour the admission of women to wider spheres of usefulness, and welcome their cooperation in rescuing the country from Democratic and Populistic management and misrule."

THE KAWA-BIRAKI.

The tea-house owners of Ryogoku Bridge and its vicinity showed superfluous discretion on Saturday. A few showers in the forenoon alarmed them so much that they decided to abandon the projected "opening of the river" in the evening. It was too late, of course, to announce the change of programme through the press, and numbers of people proceeding to the place under the clear sky of a beautiful moon-light evening, had to come home disappointed, and submit to a good deal of jeering from urchins assembled on the canal bridges. Those that had engaged boats through *funa-yado* or *machi-yai-faya* received notice of the postponement, but those that went independently were disappointed. The fête is now fixed for next Saturday, but the *Kawa-biraki* in Tokyo is gradually coming to be classed with a tailor's to-morrow in point of untrustworthiness.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A DANGEROUS DOG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL,"

SIR,—I should like to call the attention of your readers to what I consider a dangerous dog.

Yesterday, while walking past the premises owned by Messrs. Kuhn & Komor, I was attacked from behind by a large dog, presumably belonging to that firm. Fortunately it seized my elbow, and being on the bone it merely grazed the skin, otherwise I should have had a most serious bite.

I would advise any who may come across this animal to give it a wide berth, as I consider it dangerous to be at large, without being muzzled.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. R. BORTHWICK.

H.M.S. *Undaunted*.

July 17th, 1896.

[This is not the first complaint that has reached us about this dog. That he is a savage and dangerous brute is certain, as residents on the Bluff have reason to know. Persons have been prevented from using the narrow street next the Dispensary through the attitude the animal assumes.—Ed. J. M.]

MR. MORTON FREWEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL,"

SIR,—With much surprise I read your strictures on Mr. Morton Frewen's views regarding the results that the passage of a free coinage by the United States Congress may engender.

The proposition that you traverse is that "Asia will not hasten to dump her silver upon the American Mints"—assuming "that any person carrying 16 oz. of silver from the East to America could obtain for them an ounce of gold. That oz. of gold he might carry back to the East or Europe, and there sell it for 29 oz. of silver thus netting some eighty per cent. by the transaction." Do you really suppose such a procedure possible? Will the West continue to give 29 oz. of silver for an ounce of gold when 16 oz. can be sent to the U.S. Mints and be coined into 16 dollars that will represent 16 gold dollars? Is it possible, think you, that the European will play into the hands of the astute Asiatic, allowing him to net a profit of eighty per cent.? Let me give you my idea. Mr. McKinley was nominated by the Republican Convention with a whoop of victory—and on general principles his election was thought to be a foregone conclusion—that is by the goldites; the silver men, who had the courage of their convictions withdrew from the convention; the speech of Mr. Teller was worth "a thousand men," speaking from the stump, for the silver advocates. The Democratic party have nominated their candidate on a distinct declaration that they are for free coinage of silver on the ratio of 16 to 1, irrespective of the money policy of any other nation. Mr. McKinley will not be elected. He will be snowed under. Mr. Bryan, the Democrat, will win; that I am persuaded of. Now for the result to follow. The announcement of his election will be immediately followed by a rise of silver—for the American people and all the world besides will know that the Democracy will act upon their declaration. By the time that Congress will have assembled, prior to the passing of a free coinage bill, silver will be nearly on a par with gold, only awaiting the event of its passage to be at par. All the efforts of the Act will have been discounted

gradually. Gold, as it will be depreciating in terms of silver, will hasten to invest on a rising silver market, and will be in as active circulation as it ever was. Hoarding will be discounted, silver will become a favourite investment as an appreciating commodity. The United States will have set the pace and all the world will follow. Do not delude yourself with the idea that McKinley will be elected. The American people are for free silver, and the people will vote for Mr. Bryan in defiance of old party affiliations or party traditions. I have ever maintained that the United States would attend to this business, now the fruition of my anticipation is clearly in sight.

Yours truly, X.
Yokohama, July 21st, 1896.

(An appreciation of 80 per cent. in the gold price of silver within a space of, say, six months, seems to us to be the reverse of "gradual." At any rate, how much "dumping" will have happened within these six months? "X." does not appear to have read our first article on this subject.—Ed. J.M.)

CHRISTOPHER SMART.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your notice of Christopher Smart you overlooked the fact that the "Song to David" was published by Beeton's in 1870, in their great "Book of Poetry."

Yours truly, B.
Yokohama, 22nd July, 1896.

THE SEISMIC-WAVE DISASTER.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following sums towards the relief of sufferers through the terrible disaster in Iwate, Aomori, and Miyagi Prefectures:—

Messrs. Sieber & Co.	\$25
Mr. C. Ginsami	25
Captain Brinkley	25
Marquis C. de Nembrini Gonzaga	10
C. R.	25
Mr. G. Lowther	25
Dr. E. Baez	25
Mr. E. Chigssone	15
St. Andrew's House, Shiba, Tokyo	15
Lord Dormer	100
Mr. Gustave Gilbert	20
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.	100
Mr. W. B. Walter	25
Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.	50
Rev. Clay MacCauley	20
Messrs. J. Witkowski & Co.	25
Messrs. Nahlholz & Osenbüngen	50
Mr. F. Nahlholz	15
F. L. E.	5
Standard Oil Company of N.Y.	100
Mr. F. H. Trevithick	20
Bishop Bickersteth	50
The Eastern Press, Ltd.	10
Mr. L. T. Corke	10
Rev. T. M. MacNair	10
Mr. A. de Flesch	20
Mr. Andre Conil	10
Rev. W. T. Austen	5
Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Society	50
Messrs. Frazer & Co.	100
Messrs. C. & J. Favre-Brandt	100
Mr. M. Wollheim, Mexican <i>Chargé d'Affaires</i>	50
Mr. J. C. Hall	10
Mr. E. W. Rutter	10
Mr. F. Gillett	20
Mr. B. H. Chamberlain	10
Mr. W. B. Mason	10
Messrs. Raspe & Co.	100
Mr. E. Powys	10
Mr. Geo. H. Scidmore	10
Dr. J. N. Seymour	10
Professor G. Droppers	15
Mr. W. F. Page	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh	20
Rev. Jno. C. Ballagh's children	20
Mr. C. V. Sale	200
The Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	50
The O. & O. S.S. Co.	50
Dr. Divers	20
Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd.	100
Messrs. Butterfield & Swire	100
China and Japan Trading Company, Ltd.	50
Mr. A. J. Lines	10
Prof. Henry T. Terry	15
Mr. Fred. G. Woodruff	5
Messrs. H. MacArthur & Co.	25
Mr. S. Y. French	10
Captain Munter	25
Mr. E. H. House	25
Messrs. Denning	5
A.C.S.	10
Dr. D. Macdonald	10

Captain Baron d'Achenthal	25
G.E.M.N.	20
Messrs. North and Rae, Limited	25
Mr. L. Muraour	10
Mr. E. J. Moss	25
W.R.H.C.	10
Rev. J. Popper	5
H.H.	5
W.	10
Messrs. Langfeldt & Co., Limited	100
Rev. G. M. Meacham	40
J.A.M.	5
Mr. R. Paget	20
Mr. J. Conder	10
Rev. F. W. Voegelien	10
Dr. C. H. H. Hall	10
H.M.	5
O.	25
Etalissements Orosdi-Back	200
Messrs. Bavier & Co.	100
Mr. E. H. Hampden	15
Dr. A. G. Smith	25
Mr. Tom. Thomas	10
Miss Mair	10
Dr. Scriba	25
Rev. H. Loomis	10
J.N.C.	10
"Star in the East," 640, S.C.	100
Messrs. S.S. & Co.	100
H.W.L.	20
E.C.F.	50
Mr. F. Hellyer	10
Mr. C. B. Siedman	10
E. and L.G.	6
Kanda Bashi Church	5
Dr. Ludwig Riess	15
Mr. Y. Duer	10
Messrs. R. Isaacs & Bro.	100
Lutheran Church, Saga	7.50
Mr. Müller Beeck (Nagasaki)	20
Members of the C.M.S. Mission Tokyo	40
Rev. G. W. Van Horn	10
Rev. G. H. Hudson	9
Mr. A. Stein	30
F.F.	25
Mr. F. L. Smelser	1
Tsukiji Union Church Congregation	117
Tsukiji Union Church Sunday School	20
Rev. W. J. White	10
H.E. Count d'Orbini	50
Mr. W. Silver Hall and family	20
Mr. G. Elliott Gregory	10
A Friend	1
Mr. H. L. Layman	10
J.G.D.	5
Chas Haas	10
J.H.	25
X.	20
Rev. C. K. Harrington	10
Rev. J. L. Dearing	10
Rev. Clarence E. Rice	10
Tokyo Lodge, No. 2015, E.C.	50
Unknown	10
Mr. J. E. Beale	10
Mr. Henry A. C. Bonar	25
A Missionary	25
Miss Irving	5
Miss Montgomery	5
Miss Pratt	5
Dr. Scriba	.62
Mr. John McDonald	10
X.	20
A.S.G.	21
H.M.W.	5
C.A.C.	5
A.M.C.	2
Mr. H. J. Owen, Tokyo	10
Archdeacon and Mrs. Warren	20
J.M.Mc.	10
Rev. A. Oltmans, Nagasaki	20
Rev. A. Oltmans' children	3
Rev. A. Pieters, Nagasaki	10
Rev. H. V. S. Peeke, Nagasaki	10
Tennis Bat	12.50
W.	10
Europeans "Soya Maru"	24
Presbyterian Missionaries in Kanazawa, Kaga	60
Presbyterian Missionaries (South)	104
Mr. T. M. Laffin	20
Tsukiji Literary and Musical Society	20

The Rev. Rothesay Miller acknowledges receipt of \$114.20, from the Aoyama Gakuin, Tokyo, for the Relief Fund, as organized by the Y.M.C.A., by the Protestant Churches of Tokyo.

A hail-storm was reported from Gumma-Ken on the 20th inst. The greatest damage was done at Koidzumi Mura, Saha District, where 247 tan of mulberry trees and vegetables were destroyed.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in the Grand Hotel, Limited, was held on Monday afternoon. There were present, Mr. J. F. Lowder in the Chair; Messrs. Jas. Walter, B. C. Howard, C. K. M. Martin, R. Howie, H. Cummings, B. Martinelli, C. Braccialini, and J. Toindé, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said that he thought it might be taken for granted that the accounts for the half-year were completely satisfactory, hence the small attendance. If any present were not satisfied, then he would be pleased to answer any question that might be raised, for in the absence of others he did not feel it incumbent upon him to enter into unnecessary explanations.

Mr. HOWIE proposed, and Mr. CUMMINGS seconded, that the accounts presented be passed.—Carried.

The same gentlemen next proposed that the retiring directors, Messrs. Lowder and Jas. Walter be re-elected.—Carried.

Mr. CUMMINGS proposed and Mr. HOWIE seconded, that Mr. Keil be re-elected auditor.—Carried.

Mr. HOWIE proposed that the remuneration to the Directors be increased by \$100 each. The Company was sufficiently prosperous to pay better for work that was well done. The work of the Directors of the Company was no sinecure, and therefore he had great pleasure in proposing that the Directors' fees for the coming year be raised to *yen* 400 each.

Mr. CUMMINGS accorded.—Carried. The CHAIRMAN, replying on behalf of his brother-directors, said that he felt obliged for this token of their appreciation. The work of directors in limited liability companies in Yokohama was mostly done gratuitously. Their directors therefore appreciated the kindness shown in presenting them with something worthy of their acceptance. He could assure them that the work of their directors, as Mr. Howie had remarked, was no sinecure; they met at the hotel regularly every Monday afternoon to see how the business was progressing and to consider the best means for developing it. He was greatly obliged for their vote.

This closed the business of the meeting. Report of the Directors, to be submitted at the Fourteenth Semi Annual Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders, to be held at the Grand Hotel, Yokohama, on Monday, the 20th day of July, 1896.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half year ended the 30th June, 1896, accompany this Report.

The net profit for half year including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1895, and providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, bonus to Manager, interest, and writing off bad and doubtful debts, amounts to \$44,283.63 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year \$25,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account \$19,283.63
\$44,283.63

A sum of \$15,000 having been written off for depreciation for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1895, it is not considered necessary to write off anything for the half-year under review.

Two heavy payments, presently falling due, for a new steam launch, and a new boiler, will absorb some \$8,000 of the balance carried forward; and as this sum, with the proposed dividend, will exhaust the cash at the credit of the Company, it is not deemed prudent to declare a higher dividend than that proposed. Moreover, in view of having to meet these payments, which represent permanent additions to our assets, and should therefore be distributed over a longer period of time than a year, it is intended to withhold the usual annual payment of \$5,000 towards the reduction of the debt of the Company, now standing at only \$25,000.

Messrs. Walter and Lowder retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election. The Directors have been fortunate enough to secure the co-operation of Mr. B. C. Howard, who has accepted the office vacated by the retirement of Mr. Rickett, on his departure from Japan.

Mr. Keil retires from the office of Auditor, and the Directors have much pleasure in recommending his re-election for the current year.

According to Article 86 of the Articles of Association, the amount of the Directors' fees for the current year will have to be decided at this meeting.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 21st day of July, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER, J. Directors.
JAMES WALTER, J.
Yokohama, 9th July, 1896.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1896.

ASSETS.	
Chartered Bank of I. A. and China	\$ 34,899.63
Cash in hand	354.97
Fire Insurance Policies	1,375.35
Ground	60,000.00
Buildings	141,600.05
Furniture	35,118.08
Electric Light Plant	18,183.41
Steam Launch	1,023.13
Wines in Stock	6,382.20
Provisions in Stock	3,280.43
Bills receivable	4,851.11
	\$331,797.70
LIABILITIES.	
Stock, 2,500 Shares, at \$100	\$250,000.00
Mortgage	25,000.00
Bills payable	23,514.07
	\$308,514.07
Balance, Profit	44,283.63
	\$331,797.70

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1896.

Dr.	
To General Expenses	\$31,158.11
To Fire Insurance	2,459.44
To Interest	614.83
To Directors' and Auditor's Fees	900.00
To Bad Debts written off	218.25
To Bonus to Manager	500.00
To Balance, Gross Profit	\$44,283.63
Balance available for Division:	
Dividend 20 per cent.	\$55,000.00
Carried forward to new account	\$9,283.63
	\$44,283.63
Cr.	
By Balance, brought forward from Dec. 31st, 1895	\$ 6,848.61
By Working Account	63,639.09
By Rent Account	775.10
By Share Transfer Fees	31.00
By Share Warrant Fees	4.50
By Sales of old Materials	347.00
	\$71,007.30
By Balance	\$19,283.63
	\$90,290.93

E. & O. E.
J. F. LOWDER, }
JAMES WALTER, } Directors.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1896.
I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KELL, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 10th, 1896.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE.

After another year of varied experiences, the ladies of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society and the preachers of the Japan Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church have gathered again at Aoyama, Tokyo.

The W.F.M.S. Conference meets in the chapel of Aoyama Jo Gakuin, but both conferences assembled in Goucher Hall on Wednesday morning, July 15th, for the usual opening service the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

After Holy Communion, Bishop Joyce presiding, the roll of the Japan Conference was called, and 69, out of a total membership of 88, answered to their names.

The Bishop announced the transfer of K. Ishizaka and T. Fujiwara, who were present, from the California Conference; and of George F. Shepherd, who is expected in September, from Northern New York.

The Conference was organized by the unanimous election of the following:—

English Secretary	J. W. Wadman.
Japanese Secretary	K. Nakada.
Statistical Secretary	M. S. Vail.
Treasurer	E. R. Fulkerson.
Interpreters	S. Ogata and Y. Takasugi.

J. W. Wadman was appointed Conference Reporter; therefore any report of proceedings in the *Japan Mail* after this one will be from his pen.

In accordance with the connexionism of Methodism, each year the conference receives its proposition of profits of the Book Concerns in New York and Cincinnati. This year the Bishop presented a draft for \$595, gold.

In the afternoon, the Statistical session was held to receive from the pastors' reports of church property, the number of members, probationers, baptisms, Sunday Schools, and so on, and to receive the monies contributed during the year for the Benevolences of the Church, Foreign and Home Missions, Church Extension, Education, Bible Societies' Committee, Tract Society, Episcopal Fund, and Conference Claimants' Fund (for worn-out ministers and the widows and children of deceased ministers).

The members are gathered together after a year of more than usual encouragement, and they are in the best of spirits, full of hope and waiting together for a fresh baptism from on high for the great work to which they will soon, in his strength, again address themselves. They are also very much pleased that Bishop Joyce has consented to remain in Eastern Asia (Japan, Korea, and China) for two years, and that they will enjoy his Episcopal supervision for that time.

The daily meetings are: 6 a.m. Prayer meeting; 8.30 to 12, Conference Session; 5 p.m., a meeting for the promotion of holiness, conducted by the Bishop; 7.30, an anniversary meeting.

These with Cabinet meetings (for the stationing of the Conference), committee meetings, and special sessions of Conference, will make full and busy days while the dog star burns in the heavens.

On next Sunday, at 9 a.m. the Conference Love Feast will be held, and at 10 a.m. Divine Service, with preaching by Bishop Joyce.

Visitors are cordially welcome to all conference sessions (the conference probably will not close before next Wednesday), as well as to the public services.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Washington, U.S.A., June 19th.

Congress has adjourned, and a good riddance for the whole country except hotels, restaurants and other places of personal comfort here in Washington. It was a do-nothing body, with two unusual features; it was the shortest "long session" for fifty years, and the most extravagant, the appropriations footing up more than five hundred million dollars. The most sensational incident was the speech of Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, delivered in the Upper House early in the winter. So wild, so radical, so anarchistic, so denunciatory was it, that not a Senator attempted to notice it even to the last day of the session, though some parts of it were levelled in bitter attack on other members, and stinging thrusts at the President. Mr. Cleveland unsparingly used the veto, but in some instances he was overridden by the constitutional two-thirds in the legislative branch. One of the measures so treated was the river and harbour bill, made up by scandalous log-rolling among the representatives, each wanting a slice to influence his district, and all uniting on the principle of the old conplot:

"Tickle me, Jimmie, tickle me true,
You tickle me and I'll tickle you."

The bill was also bad in providing for contracts that will extend over several years, and amount to nearly one hundred million dollars. Pension legislation was almost as reckless as ever, and at the present rate not only the Treasury but the country will be looted in a few years. One act was peculiarly vicious in opening the doors for all kinds of matrimonial gambling. Years ago the wife of a pensioner got a divorce and married another man. Sometime afterwards both men died, and last Fall she came up with all the serene assurance of widows, "who know what they want and are not afraid to ask for it," and requested that she be put on the rolls as the widow of her first husband so that she could draw the widow's pension. The chief of the executive refused his approval, but the gallantry of the legislators or the wives of the widow brought up the necessary two-thirds to her support. A significant incident in the Lower House was the resolution of thanks to Mr. Reed, introduced by a Democrat, and passed unanimously. This is the routine compliment given the Speaker, but it was in marked contrast with the treatment he received at the end of his first term in wielding the gavel several years ago, when most of the Democratic minority angrily refused to endorse what they considered Reed's overbearing conduct. It is a triumphant vindication of Mr. Reed's bold and sensible course in making a legislative body attend to the work it was chosen to do.

The adjournment leaves all foreign complications in the keeping of Mr. Cleveland. The legislative branch sought to make him show his hand on the Cuban question, when they passed a resolution authorizing him to recognise Cuban belligerency, but the document has been placidly kept in the White House desk. The Venezuelan matter is under the cover of the learned commission and their corps of experts. There is no intimation when a decision will be reached as to the true boundary, but a rumour is floating in the journalistic sphere that Lord Salisbury and Mr. Cleveland are on the high road to an amicable agreement. Poor little Hawaii, that three years since filled our land with all the woes of a rejected maiden, is now unnoticed, though a plank may be put in the platforms about her.

The future course of our home politics is as uncertain as a Western cyclone or a Japanese earthquake. The Republicans after wrestling with their agony of doubts in St. Louis, have declared for gold, and a modified high tariff. There was considerable kicking against the demand for a re-enactment of the McKinley bill that caused such a hubbub all over the world in 1892. The

majority of the rural voters down south and through the west are against that barbarism. Twenty-five delegates bolted with Senator Teller.

The Democrats meet a month from now in Chicago, and unless they are tamed down in the meantime the larger part of them will be crazier for free silver than ever rampant agitators in Japan were for treaty revision. Cleveland, Carlisle, and generally the recognized leaders in the North are firmly opposed to this venture, but their influence has exercised no check on the headlong career of the masses of their followers. After a long silence, Mr. Cleveland made an earnest appeal yesterday through the press to all good Democrats to rally in favour of sound money, even though the odds seem against them. But he said, "A cause worth fighting for is worth fighting for to the end. If sound money Democrats suppose there is danger of a mistake being made, such danger should stimulate their activity in averting it" for the interests and good "of the grand old organization so rich in honourable traditions, so justly proud of its achievements, and always so undaunted and brave in its battles for the people's welfare." But his critics say his clariion call came too late; all admit that so far the silverites are ahead. But the merchants and manufacturers and substantial men generally are against the scheme. They have always borne the expenses of the campaigns, and if their advice is not heeded the silver politicians will be left without the sinews of war. There is an ominous look in dispatches that the business men of two flourishing Southern towns, Savannah and Birmingham, have determined to bolt the ticket if free silver is declared for at Chicago. These warnings liberally lubricated by political "soap" may do a vast deal more with obstinate delegates than sound reasoning and clear cut logic.

It is undeniable that there is a wide sentiment in this country for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. If the vote were taken now, the best observers would fear the result, but it is hoped that argument and discussion will have great effect before November. Our business stagnation will continue, as both sides claim that it is due to silver. One doctor would cure by feeding the patient with more silver, while the other would cut it off entirely. It seems strange that all the western world has recovered from the depression except ourselves and with our vast natural resources we should have been among the first. While England has a comfortable treasury surplus, we are daily running behind.

A most interesting experiment is being tried in this city,—the equipment of an electric road by one of the large railway companies, the Pennsylvania, for handling its own local passenger traffic. The line runs from the heart of Washington to Mt. Vernon, the house of George Washington, a distance of seventeen miles, with a branch of five or six miles to Arlington, the National Cemetery. It parallels the steamroad for seven miles, and all local passenger trains for that section have been taken off. This is said to be the first undertaking of the kind by a steam corporation in the United States, and if it is successful steam will be abandoned for all suburban traffic in our cities.

Another rival is promised, however, for the subtle current in street transportation, air-motors. A new design has been invented, which it is claimed, will make their use much cheaper than underground trolley or cable and just as efficient. There is only one horse car line here, and that must change to rapid transit in three months or lose its charter. The directors have announced that after years of weary search they have found air-motors that will meet all demands of safety, speed, and fair expenses. The company's patronage does not warrant the enormous cost of any sort of surface system, and overhead trolleys are forbidden in Washington by congressional enactment.

Professor Langley's flying machine created almost as much sensation in the scientific world as the Röntgen rays, when it was flashed over the wires that he had solved the problem of air navigation. He has a laboratory on an island on the Potomac river some miles below the city, and he has always jealously guarded all knowledge of his progress. He is the director of the Smithsonian Institution, and his scientific specialty is the study of the sun, its landscapes and its dark spots. This labour on the question of floating in the atmosphere was a diversion. When he saw how curiosity had been aroused he gave some of the results of his latest effort and appeared confident that the ultimate goal would be reached in a comparatively short period. This machine has not been exhibited, but has been described as a metal bird with mammoth outspread wings, and with the power placed in the body. The whole weighed about twenty pounds, and was several hundred times heavier than its own bulk of air.

He set the propeller going and raised the ship aloft, and it circled round and round, steadily ascending like a condor, until it was three or four hundred feet up, and, then the steam being exhausted, it slowly sank until it settled on the surface of the water, without breaking any of its parts. Again it was sent up, and again it made its voyage without damage.

A figure interesting to old foreign residents in Japan was called into public view in Washington a few days ago. Judge Bingham, now eighty-one, formerly U.S. Minister in Tokyo for twelve years, came on here from his home in Ohio to testify in a will case, whether he thought the writing in dispute was that of his friend Judge Advocate-General Holt or a forgery. These two gentlemen had high regard for each other, and corresponded for a long term.

This will contest is a very curious one, and in many respects without legal precedents. The lawyers are treading new ground, and the decision will be famous in the annals of jurisprudence. Judge Holt spent most of his life in Washington, where he enjoyed the acquaintance and intimacy of some of the leading public men of this land, as General Grant, General Sherman, Senator Sherman, Senator Sumner. Two years ago, he died, leaving neither wife nor child, but as no will could be found, his nephews and nieces claimed the estate, worth \$200,000, as heirs-at-law. A few months after a will drawn up in due and regular form came through the mail to the registrar's office, with nothing to indicate where it came from except the post-mark of Washington. The address was in a disguised hand the letters being awkwardly printed with a blunt pen, or small brush perhaps. It was dated 1873, and witnessed by General Grant and General and Mrs. Sherman, all dead now. It was very short, and bequeathed all the property to two ladies, one a relative of the Judge's wife, and the other his god-child. Of course a lawsuit followed, and it is now in its fifth week, the best lawyers being engaged in each side.

This morning's paper announces the arrival at San Francisco of Mr. Hoshi Toru, who comes to replace Mr. Kuriuo as Japanese representative here. Lucky he will be if he can display the tact and urbanity of Mr. Kuriuo, and step at once so easily into American life and usages. Japanese are quick to learn all forms and ceremonies.

The following clipping interests all shipbuilders here and naval officers. S. Takakura and A. Sakurai, two officers of the Construction Corps of the Imperial Japanese Navy, are on a visit to this city. They are graduates of French naval schools, and are making a personal inspection of the resources of the American shipbuilding plants. It is gathered that the purpose of the Japanese Government is to give this country contracts for perhaps two cruisers, but these will be of only second class, like the *Charleston*. The Japanese will procure their big battle-ships and first-class cruisers from the older British and French shipbuilders. This is accounted for by the fact that the Japanese naval officers were educated in Europe, and are strongly prejudiced in favour of European methods of construction.

LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

St. Louis, June 22nd, 1896.
The work of the great National Republican Convention is done. William McKinley of Ohio, is the nominee for President of the United States, and Garret A. Hobart of New Jersey, the nominee for Vice-President. Both were nominated on the first ballot. McKinley, as predicted, had a complete "walk over" and received 661 votes, making a two-thirds vote of the Convention. The other candidates, Reed, Morton, and Allison did not have "a ghost of a show," and received only a small vote, and little applause. When McKinley's name was mentioned by Governor Foraker, the 20,000 people in the great Auditorium arose to their feet and waved flags, banners, hats, and handkerchiefs and yelled for 30 minutes.

Though tickets to the great convention were hard to be had, your correspondent was given a pass to all its sessions, and spent most of the three days in watching the proceedings of the history-making body. While some very sensational things developed, as a whole there was comparatively little excitement manifested, which was doubtless due to the cut and dried programme of Mark Hanna and the McKinley crowd. The great fight of the convention centered on the money question.

The platform came clearly for a gold standard, which displeased the delegates from the Western States. Senator Teller from Colorado

lead the fight for the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, but the odds were against him, and the convention came out for gold. When the vote was announced, Senator Teller and a number of delegates from the far Western States left the convention, and bolted the party. This has given the political situation in this country a new phase. Three months ago McKinley's election was conceded, but now it is doubtful. The Democratic Convention will meet in Chicago on July 7th, and is morally certain to declare for the free coinage of silver, which will at once make the campaign solely, almost, on the money question. That being so, the causes of dissatisfaction will be forgotten, and States which ordinarily would have gone for the Republican nominee will go Democratic. It is now claimed that the Republicans can not carry a State West of the Mississippi river, as the West is solidly for silver. Senator Teller is being urged for the presidency on the Democratic ticket, but it is hardly probable that that convention will nominate other than a regular Democrat of free silver stripes: it may be Bland of Missouri. Just what will be the outcome of this rather sudden change in the political front of our nation's politics, will be watched with absorbing interest. The logical and most likely candidate to be successful this year is McKinley, but it may be that the new issue will work a miracle in stemming the tide of public opinion and forcing it another way.

It has been a very busy week for our great city. We have had visitors and statesmen from every State in the Union, but now business will resume as usual. The town has been ablaze with bands and marching corps and uniforms, inasmuch that nearly everything gave way to convention talk.

The great auditorium in which the convention was held is to be used next Saturday by the Sunday Schools of the city for a great rally day. There will be 50,000 Sunday School children who will meet and sing Sunday School songs together. It will be an impressive sight, and produce as much enthusiasm for Christ as the convention did for McKinley.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. CAREY HALL, Esq., Assist.-Judge.
TUESDAY, July 21st.

A CLAIM AGAINST CAPT. PYNE.

This was a claim for \$166.15, brought by C. F. Pope against W. E. Pyne, for stores, etc., supplied in 1894.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for plaintiff.

The petition of plaintiff stated that on or about the 21st March, 1894, the plaintiff, at the request of the defendant, supplied the defendant with sundry stores and labour to the value of \$166.15, but the defendant refused, and still refuses to pay the price of the said supplies or any part thereof. Plaintiff therefore asked that defendant be ordered to pay the sum of \$166.15, together with interest thereon at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, from 21st March, 1894.

In his answer, the defendant admitted that on or about the 20th March, 1894, he was indebted to the plaintiff for the amount claimed, and for security of the debt he gave plaintiff an order to take possession of certain sails, from the British schooner *Arctic*, of which he was then the owner, and to hold said sails as and for security for the debt. The security was accepted, and possession of the sails was taken by the plaintiff. Subsequently the plaintiff parted with the security without the consent of the defendant. The plaintiff still held, to the best of his (defendant's) knowledge, the order to repossess himself of the above mentioned security.

Mr. Lowder said that defendant admitted the debt, but in his answer made one allegation of fact, which he would have to prove, namely that the sails were pledged to plaintiff as security for debt, and that plaintiff afterwards parted with the pledge without consulting the defendant. The defendant pleaded that plaintiff in parting with the sails without defendant's sanction, had performed an action whereby the debt was discharged.

His Honour—I understand that he pleads a set-off.

Mr. Lowder—Then the debt being admitted and this being his allegation, I ask that he opens his case.

W. E. Pyne, defendant in the case, on being sworn, said—On or about the 21st March, 1894, certain repairs were done to the *Arctic's* sails by Mr. Pope, on credit, at his house. When these sails were finished, he obtained from me a promissory note for the amount of his bill. Then he sent the sails on board and the ship went to sea. On my return to Yokohama, when the promissory

note became due, I told Mr. Pope that I was unable to pay him the cash. I forgot the date of this transaction. I offered Mr. Pope the *Arctic's* sails as security for the debt, which he accepted. I then gave him an order to take possession of the sails. He took possession of them and the sails were taken to his house. He kept them until the *Arctic* went to sea under Capt. Brown's charter, in March, 1895. When Capt. Brown chartered the *Arctic*, Mr. Pope was very well aware of the fact, and he and Brown came to some arrangement, I believe, to do some more work upon these sails, while they were in Pope's possession. After finishing this work, at Brown's request, Pope sent the sails on board the schooner, allowing the charterer to go to sea, leaving the bills unpaid. Then he threatened to hold me responsible for the ship's debts that he had contracted with Brown. The ship could not possibly go to sea without sails, and if Pope had insisted on getting his bill paid before parting with these sails, according to my agreement with the charterer, Brown would have had to redeem them, as he had to find a complete fit out, or break his agreement with me, which, under the circumstances would have been best for all concerned. Pope would have been paid for his sails, and I should not have lost my schooner. Brown agreed with me to fit the vessel out solely at his own cost. At the same time Brown knew that Pope held the sails as security for a debt that I owed him. Brown had a perfect right to pay this debt, for I let him have a lot of articles to assist him with the outfit, valued at over \$600, the receipt for which, signed by Brown, is in possession of this Court.

His Honour—In what case was that?

Defendant—In an *Arctic* case.

His Honour asked Mr. Lowder if he objected to this paper being produced.

Mr. Lowder had no objection. It was not evidence.

His Honour—Quite so.

Defendant, continuing—Pope, I believe, insured the sails for \$700. When the *Arctic* arrived at Hakodate, Pope gave his power of attorney to a man there to arrest her for this debt, although he might have done so in Yokohama. He did not communicate with me about the matter. When the *Arctic* arrived in Yokohama, Pope did not repossess himself of the sails.

In answer to Mr. Lowder, defendant said the debt was incurred through repairs to sails.

Mr. Lowder then handed defendant two bills, dated March, 1894, for \$166.15, which showed that the debt was not on account of sails, but for tar and other articles.

Defendant—I have certainly made a mistake. The sails are not mentioned here: I do not remember signing these bills, but they certainly bear my signature. I thought I signed a bill for the sails. Have you any other bills of mine?

Mr. Lowder (laughing)—I am not under examination. Do you think you need continue the case?

Defendant thought he would continue the case, and in answer to Counsel said the vessel went to sea in the early part of 1894, and she returned in the September of that year. In March, 1895, he chartered the ship to Brown, though at that time she had no sails beside those in the possession of Pope. I told Pope that Brown was responsible for the repairs to the sails. I cannot remember whether I told Pope to deliver the sails to Brown. The sails were delivered on board in March, 1895, and the vessel returned to Yokohama on the last day of October that year. A suit for wages was entered in this Court, on behalf of the crew. The *Arctic* was arrested, with everything on board. The sails, together with the vessel, were sold by order of this Court and the proceeds went to satisfy the demands of the crew.

Mr. Lowder—You being the defendant in the case?

Defendant—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Then these sails have been sold, and you received the proceeds?

Defendant—I never saw the proceeds.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Lowder—But they went to pay your debts, I suppose.

Defendant—They called them my debts.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Lowder—But those debts were paid by the proceeds of the sale of the schooner and her sails?

Defendant—I suppose so.

Mr. Lowder—Then how can you say that this debt of Mr. Pope's has been discharged?

Defendant—Why, because he could have enforced payment of it against the charterer.

Mr. Lowder—It does not follow.

Defendant—From my point of view it does: he parted with his security?

Mr. Lowder—Did you ever ask for the return of the security?

Defendant—No, I did not.

His Honour said it was unnecessary for the other side to lead evidence. He would not call upon them.

Mr. Lowder—I can bring evidence, if your honour pleases, to prove the rate of interest prevailing here. But it is common knowledge that it is 7 per cent.

His Honour—Quite so, the only doubt is as to how long the interest should run.

Mr. Lowder—The petition says the debt was incurred in March, 1894.

His Honour—Judgment must be for plaintiff, with costs.

JAPAN'S INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

The Oriental Society (To-ho Kio-kwai) held a meeting of the offices of the Japan Educational Society in Tokyo at 1 p.m. on Sunday, 28th ult. Speeches were made by two prominent men, viz., Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Masuda Takashi, President of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. The address delivered by the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce was of such importance to the commercial world that we have gone to the trouble of having a careful translation made. Mr. Kaneko spoke as follows:—Amongst our manufacturing industries cotton spinning is the only industry in this country that has been established on the same basis as in western countries, and at present our competition with Europeans in this industry is already active in the markets of the East. Should we be defeated in this competition it will certainly have a great effect on our manufacturing industry and commerce. The failure of this industry would prevent the development of our commercial prosperity in future. Therefore those who are cautious regarding our foreign trade should not overlook the importance of studying the future of this industry. The cotton spinning industry of this country was first started at Kagoshima by Prince Shimazu, then *Daimyo* of that province, during the Keiwo era (1865-7). The spinning machinery then introduced from England consisted of 6,000 spindles, and the object was to give employment to the *shitoaku*, retainers of the clan. Some years afterwards another factory was opened by Prince Shimazu in Sakai, Izumi province. During 1880 (3rd year *Meiji*) Mr. Kajima Mahei started a similar factory in the vicinity of Tokyo. The latter venture is now known as the Takenogawa Cotton Mill. But at that period the object of these mill-owners was to replace hand labour by machinery. Their object has been almost accomplished, for there is very little or almost no hand-spun yarn on the market now. The time has now come for the country to compete with the imported yarn. Between 1867 and 1877 the value of various foreign goods imported to Japan aggregated 246,000,000 *yen*, of which 89,000,000 *yen* were for cotton yarn, this staple representing 35 per cent. of the total import. The Government then purchased various spinning machinery from England, which the authorities disposed of to different people who were given special facilities for repayment. Thus an impetus was given by the Government to the cotton spinning industry and the result was so far successful. During 1887 the quantity of cotton yarn imported into Japan was 47,439,693 *kin*, but the import was reduced to 12,350,000 *kin* in 1895. The low count yarn manufactured in this country—under 20's—has prevented the import of Indian cotton yarn. The quantity of Indian yarn received here during 1890 amounted to 13,970,000 *kin*, but it was greatly reduced in 1894, the total quantity received during that year being 2,330,000 *kin*. These figures show that we have already attained the desired result in the matter of competition, and that we have succeeded to a large extent in competing with the imported article, but there still remains the work of stopping the import of 2,000,000 *kin* of Indian cotton yarn. This we can do by increasing the manufacture of low count yarn on one side and on the other in competing with the English yarn by manufacturing fine counts. The import of English yarn of finer counts, from 30's upwards, does not show any remarkable change, though in the low counts—in which a much larger business is done—Indian yarn has been beaten by the home made yarn. During 1890 upwards of 17,900,000 *catties* of English yarn were imported, while in 1894 imports of the same yarn amounted to 13,600,000 *catties*. It is natural that things should develop from coarse to fine. Formerly the people were accustomed to wear cotton cloth made with very coarse yarn, but of late cotton cloth of very fine thread has become popular. This explains why so large a quantity of fine yarn is being imported from England. In making fine counts, like the Eng-

lish yarn, the raw cotton produced in the United States is required, China and India cottons not being fit for the purpose owing to coarseness of fibre. Accordingly, we feel the necessity of providing ourselves with ready means to import American cotton, in connection with which special banking facilities will be required. In order to accomplish these things the co-operation of Government and people is very important. It is also a very important question to decide how many spindles are required in this country to ensure a full supply of cotton yarn.

It is only two years ago that an expert said that 600,000 spindles would suffice, but according to the present view one million spindles will not be enough. Unless the country's civilization should take a retrograde movement the demand for the cotton yarn will increase year by year, and if this is so it is hardly necessary to add that a large number of spindles will be required. We can not tell exactly how many spindles are needed in Japan at present, but so far as statistics show there is still a spare space remaining open for the supply of cotton yarn. The present demand for cotton yarn is calculated to amount to 78,220,000 *catties*, altogether. Eight parts of this are now supplied by home made yarn, and the remaining two parts by foreign yarns. This then is the space yet open to the native manufacturer.

In the next place, the main object of our cotton spinning industry is to compete with European manufacturers in Eastern Markets. Having obtained the approval of the Diet in the preceding year the Government promulgated the law concerning the abolition of export duty on cotton yarn. This law was enforced on and after the 1st July, 1894. Again, the law effecting the abolition of import duty on raw cotton came into force in April last. An advantage amounting to 10 per cent. was thus obtained by the cotton spinners in competing with foreign spinners. These laws were made for the benefit of our cotton spinners. The recent statement on the export of our cotton yarn shows that the values in 1893, 1894, and 1895 were 59,000, 955,000, and 1,034,000 *yen* respectively. The sudden increase in 1894 is due to the abolition of the export duty in the latter half of the year. During February of this year the export of cotton yarn amounted in value to 213,000 *yen*. We may therefore expect that the export of home made yarn this year will be between one and a half million and two million *yen*.

As stated above, we have already achieved the advantage of exporting our cotton yarn, and as markets have been opened for our cotton yarn there only remains now that we should maintain the competition with foreign yarn in the markets of the East. We cannot, however, hope that goods that have been shipped abroad in bad order will find a ready sale, so we must make full investigations as to the consumption in the principal markets, such as Korea, China, and Hongkong. During 1894 Korea imported cotton yarn to the value of upwards of 108,000 *yen*, of which more than 68,000 *yen* worth was imported from Japan. Almost 60 per cent. of the whole consumption in Korea was supplied from Japan. For the same period China imported cotton yarn valued at 31,522,583 *yen*, of which 872,805 *yen* worth was shipped from Japan,—that is 2.78 per cent. of the whole consumption. In 1895 the total value of cotton yarn imported into China amounted to 31,234,778 *yen*, of which the amount supplied by Japan was 683,087 *yen*. If these figures are correct, we have still large opportunities in China. Hongkong being the largest market in the Far East, all merchandise from Europe and Japan is gathered there first and thence distributed in the Straits Settlements, the southern islands, and Australia. During 1894 cotton yarn valued at 19,831,207 *yen* was imported into Hongkong, of which India supplied over 91 per cent., and England the remaining 9 per cent. The value of our cotton yarn shipped to Hongkong in the same period was 9,812 *yen*. We have then the chance of supplying 37 per cent. more to Korea, 98 per cent. more to China, and even far greater quantities to Hongkong. It will be seen that there are immense opportunities left open to us in supplying cotton yarn in competition with India and England. Turning to the market in Australia, we have much to do still. During 1894, Australia imported cotton yarn to a total value of 22,837,020 *yen*. Should the demand for our cotton yarn extend in that country the spinning industry of Japan would advance by leaps and bounds even if the demand from Korea, China, and Hongkong were lost. But I shall not dwell upon this point at present.

How many spindles are owed by our rival countries? Let us count them. England owns 45,270,000 spindles, and India 3,649,736 spindles, but we have only 984,557 spindles, a far smaller number than either of the rival countries with

whom we have to compete in the eastern markets. Now let us see what advantage or disadvantage we may have in this commercial competition to be undertaken in China and Hongkong. We hardly need say that the freight from England to China is far greater than the freight we shall have to pay to ship our cotton yarn to China or Korea. India, too, has to pay a higher freight than we pay. The freight on one bale of cotton yarn from Bombay to Shanghai is about 1.90 *yen*, while the freight from Japan to Shanghai is 70 *sen*. The rate of freight we are paying is only one-third of that paid by Indian shippers. As to the quality of cotton yarn we may add that whereas the Indian yarn is of a yellowish brown colour, our cotton yarn is pure white and bright, and Chinese consumers prefer ours to the Indian yarn. In the matter of freight we have already a great advantage, and in addition to this our manufactured yarn excels in quality that produced by our Indian rival and is liked more by the larger consumers. But the Indian spinners have the advantage of being in a position to buy the raw material much cheaper than we can, as a large quantity of raw cotton is produced in India, and they have also the advantage of being able to command much capital at a cheaper interest than we are able to. Moreover, they have the advantage of experience in this industry. On our part, however, we have some other advantages. Labour is cheaper here, and we have an abundant supply of cheap coal. Besides, our people are always ready to replace old machinery by modern and more improved types, whenever they find it beneficial to do so. I should think therefore there is some prospect of being able to compete with India and England in the Eastern market. In the meantime, I must point out that the mode of packing demands improvement, as the packing at present is too rough and the wrappers are liable to wear off before the goods reach their destination. This is one of the greatest faults in connection with the export of cotton yarn from this country.

Strictly speaking, the cotton spinning machinery is European machinery introduced into this country, and the cotton spinning industry is an European industry started in Japan. Cotton yarn is the first merchandise manufactured in this country by machinery after European style to be exported abroad. I should think that no other industry offers such promising results as the cotton spinning industry. As the people are now earnest to a degree concerning the export trade, the Government authorities should give an impetus to the development of such a well paying industry, and the people on their side should work zealously to maintain its growth. I hope that cotton yarn will become one of our important products in the markets of the East in future.—*Kobe Herald*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, July 17.

Grave complications are apprehended in Crete owing to the aggressive attitude of the Turkish troops and the deadlock which has arisen between the Governor of the island and the military chiefs.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Curzon has stated that the Powers have remonstrated with the Porte, urging that the troops in Crete should remain on the defensive.

Great uneasiness is felt at the short supply of water in Egypt.

London, July 20.

(Delayed by interruption of lines.)

In an interview at Paris, Li-Hung-Chang declared that China desired to hold the balance equal between England and France in arranging a share for both countries of the trade of South-West China.

The trial of Dr. Jameson has commenced.

The murders of Christians in Candia (Crete) are being renewed.

(“SPECIAL” TELEGRAM TO THE “JAPAN MAIL.”)

Hakodate, July 17.

H.M.S. *Alacrity* left this port yesterday for Akkishi.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams, supplied to the “Japan Herald,” the “Japan Gazette,” and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, July 18.

It is expected that Italy will abandon Kassala at an early date.

The British Government has appealed against the acquittal of Major Lothaire.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.15
 " " " New York 4.89
 (Tel. trans.)

(FROM THE "DAILY PRESS.")

London, July 9.
 The Japanese Minister at Berlin, being interviewed, said that Japan was in no wise disturbed by the splendid reception that had been accorded Li Hung-chang in Germany, but regarded it simply as an honour paid to the envoy of a great Empire, and devoid of political importance. The reported Triple Alliance between China, Japan, and Russia is a fiction.

London, July 10.
 The Bostonian Corps, of the Honorable Artillery Company, now visiting England, has been greatly fêted and was present at a special review at Aldershot, held in the presence of Lord Wolsley and the Duke of Connaught. At a banquet to the Corps yesterday evening, the Prince of Wales was present and the most cordial speeches were delivered.

(FROM THE TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, June 29.
 The Porte, on the demand of the Powers, has named Prince Samos, who is a Christian, Governor of Crete. The situation is therefore ameliorated.

Paris, July 1st.
 An explosion, caused by fire, has occurred in an arsenal near Metz. It is believed thirty persons were killed and a hundred and fifty were wounded.

Paris, July 4.
 The body of the late Marquis de Morés has arrived at Gabés.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Toyama, July 21.
 The river Jin-zoo over flowed last night. The devastations are extensive.

Pekin, July 21.
 The China-Japan Commercial treaty was signed to-day by the respective plenipotentiaries.

Söul, July 21.
 Cheng Sheng-u, who brought a false accusation against the Korean Cabinet, including Kim Ka-chim and others, has been fined yen 5,000 for the libel, and sentenced to banishment.

Work on the railway between Söul and Ninsen will begin in October.
 Cho Pyong-sik and Chhim Sö-kun have forwarded their resignations.

Toyama, July 23.
 The stream of the Jin-zoo is steadily increasing. Already the flood has reached a height of 16½ ft. and more than 10,000 houses are inundated.

Gifu, July 22.
 The river Nagara rose over 9 ft. this morning, but at 5 p.m. decreased to 7 ft. The embankments are destroyed in more than one place.

The number of houses immersed in water is 4,977. In the Atsumi district 4,681 people are receiving Government assistance.

Tsu, July 23.
 In Miye Prefecture much desolation has been caused through the recent heavy rains.

Nagano, July 21.
 The overflow of the Chikumagawa has caused an inundation in several places.

Fukui, July 22.
 The Kudzuryo has overflowed, doing much damage to embankments, and sweeping away bridges.

Kobe, July 22.
 The Mitsuyoshi and Yoshinaga line of the Sanyo Railway is blocked owing to the recent heavy rains.

One section of the Sanyo Railway interrupted by the heavy rain has been repaired as far as Nawa Station.

Later.
 The Sanyo railway line is repaired as far as Ueno Station, but repairs on the Mitsuyoshi and Yoshinaga line are not yet finished. No damage occurred on the Okayama and Hiroshima section.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 238.

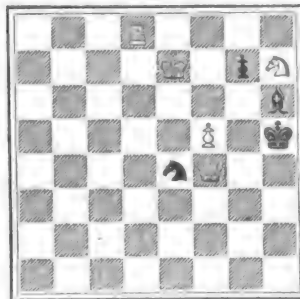
WHITE.
 1—Kt to B sq.
 2—P to B 3 ch.
 3—Q to R sq., mate
 3—Q takes Kt, mate
 3—R to K 2, mate
 2—Kt to Kt 3
 3—P to B 3, mate
 2—Kt to Kt 3
 3—Q takes Kt, mate.
 Correct answers from W.H.S., J.D., Shogi, W.d.H., and Omega.

BLACK.
 1—K to Q 7
 2—K takes Kt
 if 2—K takes P (B 6)
 if 2—K takes B (K 6)
 1—K to Kt 5
 2—Kt takes Kt
 1—P takes P
 2—Anything

PROBLEM No. 240.

By KAREL KONDELIK, Prague.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME No. 529.

The following is one of the most notable games, with a brilliant finish, in the tournament at Vienna among the leading masters.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. B. Englisch.
 1—P to Q 4
 2—P to Q B 4
 3—Kt to Q B 3
 4—Kt to B 3
 5—P to K 3
 6—P to Q Kt 3
 7—B to Q 2
 8—B to R 2
 9—Castles
 10—Kt to Q Kt 5
 11—B to Q 3
 12—Kt takes B
 13—P takes P
 14—R to Q B sq.
 15—B to R 5
 16—Kt to K sq.
 17—B to K Kt 4
 18—B to K 2 (b)
 19—Kt to B 2
 20—Kt to R 3
 21—Kt to B 4
 22—Kt to R 5
 23—P to Q Kt 4
 24—Q to Kt 3 ch.
 25—Q to Kt sq.
 26—Kt takes B
 27—B to Q B 3 (c)
 28—Q to Kt 3
 29—P to K Kt 3
 30—P to Q R 4
 31—R to R sq.
 32—R to R 2
 33—K R to Q R sq.
 34—K R P takes P
 35—P takes P
 36—B takes Kt
 37—K to B sq.
 38—K to K sq.
 39—Q takes P
 40—K to Q 2
 41—Q to R 2
 42—K takes Q

BLACK. A. Kaufmann.
 1—P to Q 4
 2—P to R 3
 3—Kt to K B 3
 4—P to Q Kt 3
 5—B to Q Kt 2
 6—B to Kt 5
 7—Q Kt to Q 2
 8—Castles
 9—B to Q 3
 10—R to R sq. (a)
 11—P to Q R 3
 12—P takes Kt
 13—Kt takes P
 14—P to K 4
 15—P to K 5
 16—P to K Kt 3
 17—P to K B 4
 18—Kt (Q 2) to B 3
 19—R to Q B sq.
 20—Q to Q 2
 21—P to Q Kt 4
 22—B to R sq.
 23—Kt to Kt 3
 24—B to Q 4
 25—B to B 5
 26—Kt takes Kt
 27—P to Q 4
 28—Q to Q 3
 29—Kt to Kt 2
 30—R to Q R sq.
 31—P to R R 4
 32—P to R 5
 33—R P takes P (d)
 34—R to K R sq.
 35—R to R 3
 36—Q R to K R sq.
 37—Q takes Kt P (e)
 38—P takes B
 39—R to R 8 ch.
 40—Q takes B P ch.
 41—Q takes Q ch.
 42—Q R mates.

(a) Generally speaking, it is unwise to allow such an exchange, and Black could afford to waste a little time by retreating his bishop instead.

(b) The bishop should have been kept on the diagonal. B to R 3, followed presently by P to K Kt 5, seems better.
 (c) It appears necessary to at once capture the piece; but then Black's pawns would be strong and well advanced.
 (d) One of the prettiest finishes we have seen recently now occurs.
 (e) There is much that is charming in all Black's moves at this point. If now P takes Q, mate follows easily at once.

FROM THE "SYDNEY MAIL."

INTERCOLONIAL MATCH.

Mr. Charlick's awards on the unfinished games have come to hand. He gives wins to Victoria at Boards 4 (Younkman) and 8 (Noall), wins for Scott Board 6, and Mackenzie Board 9, and draws at Board 2 and 7. Victoria, therefore, wins by the odd game, as shown by the following table:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.	VICTORIA.
1. E. N. Wallace ... 1	1. R. K. Esling 0
2. W. Crane, Jun. ... ½	2. W. Tullidge ½
3. J. L. Jacobsen ... 0	3. — Wilson 1
4. G. B. Hall 0	4. — Younkman ... 1
5. A. W. Britton ... ½	5. R. L. Hodgson ... ½
6. P. M. Scott 1	6. E. B. Loughran ... 0
7. W. H. Jonas ½	7. J. Stanley ½
8. P. B. Walker 0	8. — Noall 1
9. C. Mackenzie ... 1	9. M. Heaver 0
10. S. Henderson 0	10. — Haviland 1
4½	5½

We give below the games at the first two boards. The *Weekly Times* writes highly of Mr. Wallace's "masterly play," but the *Leader's* annotations are confined to Mr. Esling's "antics." All blame to the Victorian, and no praise to the champion.

GAME No. 530.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

VICTORIA. Mr. E. K. Esling.
 1—P to Q 4
 2—P to Q B 4
 3—Kt to Q B 3
 4—B to B 4 (a)
 5—P to K 3
 6—Kt to Kt 5 (b)
 7—P takes Q B P
 8—P to Q R 3
 9—B to K 5?
 10—P to Q Kt 4 (c)
 11—P takes Kt
 12—K to K 2
 13—Q to R 4
 14—B to Q 4
 15—P to B 3
 16—B takes Kt
 17—Kt to Q 4 (e)
 18—P to K B 4
 19—P takes P
 20—K Kt to B 3
 21—Q to B 2
 22—P takes R
 23—R to R 2

NEW SOUTH WALES. Mr. E. N. Wallace.
 1—P to Q 4
 2—P to R 3
 3—Kt to K B 3
 4—P to B 4
 5—Q to Kt 3!
 6—Kt to R 3
 7—B takes P
 8—Castles
 9—Kt to K 5
 10—Kt takes Kt P! (d)
 11—B takes P ch.
 12—P takes P
 13—P to Q R 4
 14—Q to B 3
 15—Kt to B 4
 16—Q takes B
 17—R to Q sq.
 18—P to R 4! (f)
 19—B to Kt 5 ch.
 20—P to Q Kt 4 (g)
 21—R takes Kt (h)
 22—Q takes Q P
 23—Q takes P ch.

And Mr. Esling resigns.

(a) This revival of an ancient development has found favour with the masters, but we doubt if it is as useful as the well tried fianchetto development.
 (b) Altogether premature.
 (c) White has played five successive weak moves. His neglect to develop the King's pieces meets with swift punishment.
 (d) Nicely played. The Pawns and position gained more than balance the piece sacrificed.
 (e) B to Q 5 was threatened.
 (f) A strong stroke, which maintains the pressure.
 (g) Nicely timed, the object being to deprive White's R of the Q's protection.
 (h) A beautiful finishing touch to a capably played game on Mr. Wallace's part.

GAME No. 531.

RUY LOPEZ.

Mr. Crane, N.S.W. Mr. Tullidge, Vict.
 1—P to K 4
 2—Kt to K B 3
 3—B to Kt 5
 4—P to Q 4 (b)
 5—Kt takes P (c)
 6—Kt to Q B 3
 7—P to K Kt 3
 8—B to B sq.
 9—Kt to Kt 5
 10—B to Q 2
 11—Q takes B
 12—Q to Kt 5 (f)
 13—B to B 4
 14—Castles Q R
 15—Kt takes Kt ch.
 16—Kt to B 3
 17—B to Kt 3 (g)
 18—Q takes Q ch.
 19—R to Q 2
 20—R takes R
 21—R to B sq.
 22—Kt takes P ch. (i)
 23—B takes P
 24—R to B 7 ch.
 25—B takes P
 26—B to Q 3
 27—B takes P
 28—R to B 8

1—P to K 4
 2—Kt to Q B 3
 3—P to B 4 (a)
 4—P takes K P
 5—Q to R 5 (d)
 6—Kt to Q B 3
 7—Q to R 6
 8—Q to K 3
 9—B to Kt 5 ch.
 10—B takes B ch.
 11—K to Q sq. (e)
 12—Q to R 2
 13—R to B sq.
 14—P to Q 3
 15—P takes Kt
 16—P to Q 4
 17—Kt to Kt 5! (h)
 18—K takes Q
 19—R takes P
 20—Kt takes R
 21—Kt to Kt 5
 22—P takes Kt
 23—R to Kt sq. (i)
 24—K to Q 3
 25—Kt to B 3
 26—Kt to K sq.
 27—B to K 3
 28—K to K 2

29—R to B 3
30—B to Kt 6
31—P to Kt 3
32—P to B 4
33—K to B 2
34—P takes P
35—K to B 3
36—P takes P ch.
37—B to B 5
38—B to Q 3
39—R to K 3
40—P to Kt 4

Adjudicated a draw.

(a) A variation which should not yield a safe defence.
(b) The position has merged into a "Vienna" game, with White as second player, and a move (B to Kt 5) ahead.
(c) B takes Kt should have been played.
(d) Black might have gained the K P by exchanging Kt, followed by P to B 3 and Q to R 4 ch.
(e) White has slightly the better position.
(f) More promising was 12—B to R 3.
(g) Badly played. 12—B to K 2 made everything safe.
(h) A strong move, which gains a P.
(i) Best, otherwise the passed P will slowly but surely win for Black.
(j) If 12—Kt to K 6, 12—R to B 7 ch.—K to K sq., 13—B to Kt 3—Kt to B 4, 14—R takes B P!—Kt takes Q P, 15—B to Q 5—R to Kt sq., 16—B takes P and draws with ease.
(k) Black has played this "long and difficult" ending with great judgment.

GAME No. 532.

The following is one of the 34 games played simultaneously by Mr. Pillsbury at Hastings:—

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE.
Mr. Pillsbury.
1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—R takes B
5—P to Q 4
6—P to Kt Kt 3
7—P takes P
8—Q to B 3
9—B to K 3
10—P to K 5
11—Castles
12—R to K sq.
13—Q to B 2
14—B to K B 4
15—B takes Q Kt P!
16—P to K 6!
17—B takes Kt
18—K R to B sq.
19—Kt takes Q P!
20—R takes B

BLACK.
Amateur.
1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4
3—B takes Kt? (a)
4—P takes P
5—Q to R 5 ch.
6—P takes P
7—Q to K 2
8—P to Q B 3
9—P to Q 4
10—P to Q Kt 4?
11—P to K R 4
12—B to Kt 5
13—P to R 5
14—P to Kt 4
15—Q to Q sq. (b)
16—B takes P
17—P takes B
18—Q to Q 2
19—R to Q sq. (c)
20—P takes R

White gave mate in three moves.

NOTES.

(a) Not good. P Q 3 is the correct reply.
(b) It is doubtful whether he could safely take either of the Bishops. If, for example, P takes K B, 16—Kt takes Q P, followed by P K 6, with a strong attack. And if 15—P takes Q B, 16—Kt takes Q P, followed by Kt B 6 ch., &c., and Q takes K B P, also gives White a fine attacking game.
(c) The Knight cannot be taken for obvious reasons, and if R takes B, White wins very easily by R takes B ch., &c.—Morning.

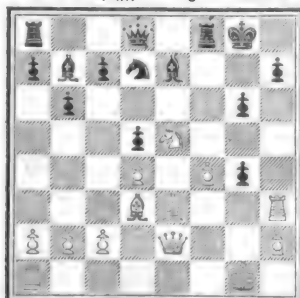
GAME No. 533.

The following game was played between Steinitz and Mongredien in the British Chess Association's Tournament of 1862:—

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

WHITE.
Steinitz.
1—P to K 4
2—P takes P
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—P to Q 4
5—Kt to B 3
6—B to Q 3
7—Castles
8—B to K 3
9—Kt to K 5
10—P to B 4
11—Q to K 2 (e)
12—Q Kt takes Kt
13—R to B 3
14—R to R 3
15—P to K Kt 4 (g)

BLACK.
Mongredien.
1—P to Q 4 (a)
2—Q takes P
3—Q to Q sq. (b)
4—P to K 3 (c)
5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to K 2
7—Castles
8—P to Q Kt 3
9—B to Kt 2 (d)
10—Q Kt to Q 2
11—Kt to Q 4
12—P takes Kt
13—P to B 4 (f)
14—P to Kt 3
15—P takes P



16—R takes P (h)
17—B P takes Kt
16—Kt takes Kt
17—K takes R

18—Q takes P
19—Q to R 5 ch.
20—Q to R 6 ch.
21—Q to R 7 ch.
22—Q to R 3 ch.
23—R to K B sq. ch.
24—Q to K 6
25—B to K Kt 5
26—B takes Kt P ch.
27—Q takes R ch.
28—R to B 8 ch.
29—Q takes Q mate.

(a) Not commendable, but pronounced by Mr. Potter to be "far removed from drawish tendencies."

(b) 1..... Q to Q R 4 is equally good and the game is continued:—
4—P to Q 4 Kt to K B 3
5—B to Q 3 Kt to B 3
6—K Kt to K 5 B to Kt 3

(c) The following is the main variation in this opening:—
4—P to Q 4 Kt to K B 3
5—B to Q 3 Kt to B 3
6—B to Q Kt 4 B to Q 3
7—Kt to B 3 P to K 3
8—Castles P to K 3
9—Q to K 3 Castles

(d) By the last few moves Black deviates from standard play, allowing his opponent to gain valuable time in forelaying a powerful attack.

(e) The intention probably is to play:—If 11..... Kt takes Kt: 12—Q takes Kt, Kt to Q 3; 13—Q, R to Q sq.

(f) White threatens:—14—B takes P ch., K takes B; 15—R to R 3 ch., winning in a few moves.

(g) The first move of a remarkably beautiful combination, terminating in checkmate 14 moves afterwards.

(h) When Mr. Steinitz sacrificed the Rook thus he probably foresaw the whole succession of moves which ended as it did: the time limit of 12 moves per hour allowed him opportunity for mature deliberation.

(i) 16—R to B 4 has been suggested as preferable, but White wins, though perhaps not so artistically.

TELEGRAPHIC MATCHES.

Mr. William Simpson, who is among the oldest of the surviving members of the "old brigade," acted at the last two telegraphic matches between Victoria and New South Wales as director of play in Melbourne. His experiences have prompted him to write the following letter, in which, after putting on record some comment that is, perhaps, rather too much tinged with the spirit of the "laudator temporis acti," he offers some very valuable practical suggestions:—

"Having since the year 1870 assisted in the conduct of each and every telegraphic chess match which has taken place between New South Wales and Victoria, I venture to write a few lines, in the hope that they may be of service to the present generation of chess-players.

"The matches of 1895 and 1896 were both unsatisfactory by reason, among other things, of so many games being left unfinished when play ceased at 11 p.m.

"Commencing at 10 a.m., ceasing at 11 p.m., which two intervals of an hour each, and the result only three or four games finished, makes one exclaim, 'Le jeu ne vaut pas la chandelle.'

"I trust the present controllers of proceedings at the telegraph matches will not be offended if I suggest that they should return to the system in vogue before they appeared upon the stage. It might be well also if they were to serve a short term of apprenticeship at 'Simpson's' (my namesake's) divan in the Strand in London. There the rule is 'silence'; here the practice is 'gabble.' How can a man play chess when there is a perfect buzz of audible comment going on in front of him, in rear of him, and at each side of him?

"If these intercolonial matches are to be of service to the game, the players should be in a room into which no person save the captain, the umpire, and the messengers should be permitted to enter. Other persons than those mentioned might ventilate their opinions over duplicate boards in as loud voices as possible, provided that the voices were not loud enough to disturb the players. The earlier matches, and the blindfold exhibition by Mr. Blackburne, were conducted in the manner here indicated with satisfaction to all concerned in them.

"No player should be eligible for the office of captain. It is quite enough for a player to attend to his own game. The loss of time caused on the 25th ult. by Mr. Crane in Sydney and Mr. Esling here having to leave their respective boards to adjust differences was serious; and no one will doubt that the quality of their play was deteriorated thereby.

The players should be relieved from keeping time. We want chess-players, not conjurers who can perform a great number of antics simultaneously. It happens now that one man forgets to stop his clock, and another forgets to start it; so the time record is not worth a brass farthing.

In the match between Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Fisher no one was allowed to enter the room but the two umpires and the players. The umpires recorded the moves, and started and stopped the clocks. The combatants had nothing to distract their thoughts. A duplicate board was in another room.

"If I could I would relieve the players by telegraph of all recording, but I fear it is not possible

to do so. The trouble, however, might be much reduced, by supplying each player with a ticket-book, numbered move 1 and onwards. Then all that a player would have to do would be to jot down his move on a ticket and give the ticket to a messenger.

"The messenger should carry the ticket to the operator's assistant, who from a dial should take the time and mark it on the ticket, which should then be handed to the operator. The operator after telegraphing the move should return the ticket to his assistant, who should record the move; and the ticket might then be handed to a messenger, who might make the move on a duplicate board.

"The work of recording should be done as indicated on the accompany tabular form:—

Number of Move.	White.	Black.	Ans.	Time in Minutes.	Totals in Minutes.
1.....	A	...	...	10 15	...
2.....	a	...	...	10 17	2..... 2
3.....	B	...	...	10 24	...
4.....	b	...	...	10 25	3..... 3
5.....	C	...	...	10 29	...
6.....	c	...	...	10 30	4..... 4
	&c.			&c.	

"An assistant to the telegraph operator, three messengers, a captain and an umpire would be all the officials needed. Every other person, no matter how eminent he may be, or may think himself, should for the time being be only one of the public, and should show his sense and good manners by abstaining from all interference with the officials and their duties.

"Adoption of the methods which I have suggested might enable 10 games to be disposed of from 10 a.m. till 11 p.m., with two adjournments of an hour each, but I am disposed to think that not more than seven games could be got through.

"The question 'What is number so-and-so's time?' is continually being asked. To answer it the player's clock has to be referred to. By the plan I advocate the record would supply the answer, and none of the players would need to be disturbed."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 30th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, July 27th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 27th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 30th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Aug. 7th.
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Wednesday, July 29th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Aug. 6th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 8th.

* City of Peking left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 11th.
† Yarra (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 19th. ‡ Am-press of Japan left Hongkong on July 22nd. § Doris left San Francisco on July 21st. ¶ Capita left Hongkong on July 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 26th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 27th.
For Portland	per O. & N. Co.	Thursday, July 30th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, July 31st.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 31st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 2nd.
For Victoria, &c.	per N. D. Lloyd	Tuesday, Aug. 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 7th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Conch, British steamer, 3,500, Stock, 19th July,—Batoum, Oil.—Samuel, Samuel & Co.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Muramatsu, 19th July.—Hakodate 15th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 19th July.—Kobe 18th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Iwanaka, 20th July.—Otaru 17th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, D. Davies, 20th July.—London via ports, and Kobe 19th July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 20th July.—Otaru via ports, 17th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 20th July.—Hongkong via ports, 12th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Prometheus, British steamer, 1,492, Hannah, 20th July.—London via ports, and Kobe 19th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Woolwich, British steamer, 2,106, Raeburn, 20th July.—New York via ports, and Kobe 19th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 21st July.—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe 19th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,411, Nakajima, 21st July.—Yokkaichi 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, N. Trennt, 21st July.—Otaru via ports, 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, Gove, 22nd July.—Hongkong via ports, 11th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 22nd July.—San Francisco 2nd July, via Honolulu 10th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kaifu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Pender, 22nd July.—Kobe 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hasegawa, 23rd July.—Otaru 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Yoshizawa, 22nd July.—Hakodate 11th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, S. Kawamuro, 23rd July.—Hakodate 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 24th July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 24th July.—Hongkong via ports, 17th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Gowing, 25th July.—Kichu 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Iwanaga, 18th July.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Osborn, British steamer, 2,033, P. Rettie, 18th July.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 18th July.—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 19th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 20th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Maria Rickmers, German steamer, 5,500, E. Berg, 20th July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 20th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, McIvor, 21st July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 21st July.—Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Nakajima, 21st July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 21st July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Iwanaga, 21st July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophia Rickmers, British steamer, 2,048, P. Brunst, 21st July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Exe, British steamer, 2,064, Henley, 22nd July.—Otaru, General.—Browne & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Shimadzu, 22nd July.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Conch, British steamer, 3,846, Scott, 23rd July.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 23rd July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 23rd July.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 23rd July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 23rd July.—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sunda, British steamer, 2,650, E. H. Gordon, 24th July.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 24th July.—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, Gove, 24th July.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Kaifu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, C. Young, 24th July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Major and Mrs. Hankam, Mrs. G. K. Moore, Mr. C. A. Forboth, Mr. and Mrs. Gleissman, Miss H. Kirke, Mr. Walter Elkan, Mr. and Mrs. Graefson, Mr. W. L. Lassener, Mr. John Coldcott, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Hunt, Mr. C. Kipp, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuske, Dr. H. Laning, Mr. G. W. Colton, and Mr. R. H. Carper in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. F. R. Allen, Mrs. C. F. R. Allen, Mrs. Gorham, Mr. J. Henderson, Mrs. J. Henderson, Miss Bella Henderson, Mrs. McDonald and child, Mr. R. E. Gill, Mr. J. S. Anderson, Mrs. H. C. du Bose, Mr. G. du Bose, Master W. du Bose, Master P. du Bose, Mr. E. C. Sydenstricker, Mr. J. B. Gomery, Lieut. Rees, Mrs. Rees and child, Mrs. O. Mordhorst, and Mr. J. D. Ross in cabin; 5 in second class; 1 European, and 11 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. E. Kunhardt, Mr. Felix Fabian, Mr. Pierre Boissaye, Rev. Geo. P. Pierson, Mrs. Pierson, Mr. Stephen P. Harwood, Mr. Jas. G. Harwood, Mr. H. D. Hawks, Mr. V. Gilpin Robinson, Mrs. V. Gilpin Robinson, Mrs. B. Whartenby, Miss Belle Smith, Mrs. Jessie Lewis, Miss Ida Noyes Lewis, Miss M. H. Hennessey, Mr. G. E. Boardman, Mr. L. Matsumura, and Mr. H. Watanabe in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai:—Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Reid, 2 children and infant, Mrs. Johnson and 2 children, Mr. G. H. Heath, Mrs. McMittel and child, Mr. M. Wolff, Rev. and Mrs. Caldwell and 3 children, Mr. G. A. Goodwin, Mrs. Peterson and son, Mr. K. Gadelius, Mr. S. Nakahashi, and Mr. O. A. Mader in cabin; Mr. Sugimoto and Miss Bullock (for San Francisco) in second class. From Chefoo:—Staffs Wassfall in cabin. From Nagasaki:—Mr. A. Von Shaden, Miss Wells, Mr. Glover, Mrs. Okamoto, and Mr. K. Nambu in cabin. From Jinsen:—Mr. and Mrs. Uchida in cabin. From Kobe:—Mrs. Nichol and child, Mr. L. T. Healing, Rev. Story, Mrs. Todd, Rev. C. Rauback, Messrs. Finkura, R. Hughes, Katayama, A. Hansell, J. Tanabe, O. Watanabe, K. Nakano, Toyonaga, Maekawa, Tsubowo, Fusama, E. Noble, Abraham, K. Yamamoto, J. Matsumoto, J. Tanaka, and S. Shikata in cabin; Mr. E. L. Brown in second class.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Surgeon-Captain Edey, Hon. Audley Coote, Mrs. Gunseid, Mr. and Mrs. Lord, Mr. Onodera, Mr. F. Reiz, Mr. Lehmann, and Miss Woodward in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bird, Mr. Reinold, Mr. Sadler, Mr. Smith, Mrs. M. Pell, Mr. G. H. Medhurst, Mr. E. S. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thomas, child and amah, Mr. J. W. Geen, Mrs. Esdale, Mr. G. H. Howard, Mrs. Menpes, 2 children, and infant, Dr. Abercrombie, Miss M. Gaffray, Mrs. James Esdale, Mr. Krell, Mr. Z. Ukita, Mr. J. H. Cleft, Mr. G. Longley, and Mr. J. W. Ford in cabin; 3 Europeans, 2 Chinese and infant in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Sander, Miss Clark, Captain Nanri, Mr. T. Bunge, and Mrs. Nakahara Yo in cabin; Mr. K. Komada and Mr. S. Sugawa in second class. For Simonoseki:—General and Mrs. Katsuda in cabin; Mr. M. Yasujima in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Jordan and 3 children in cabin. For Tientsin:—Mr. Denby, Minister Plenipotentiary of U.S.A. to China, and Mrs. Denby in cabin; Mr. Shien in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. C. Sanders in second class; 58 passengers in steerage in all for ports.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Warren Gregory, Mr. R. H. Carper, Mr. Ah Sue, Mr. E. R. Gunther, Mr. S. H. Pell, and Mrs. Briggman in cabin.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain Gove, reports:—Left Hongkong the 11th July at 4 p.m., Amoy the 13th at 2 p.m., Foochow the 15th at 11 a.m., Kobe the 21st at 12 noon, arriving at Yokohama, the 22nd July, at 6 a.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 2nd July at 4:30 p.m. Arrived at Honolulu the 9th at 2:25 p.m. and left the 10th at 10:40 a.m.; had light variable

winds and fine weather to the 20th; thence to Cape King fresh southerly winds with heavy swell; thence to port variable. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd July at 11:50 a.m. Passage, 19 days, 1 hour, and 52 minutes.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 62 bales; Waste Silk, 68 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	TRA.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	DA.	MOORE.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	65	761	257	—	408	1,491	—
Yokohama	4,111	1,255	250	—	277	5,893	—
Amoy	—	4,834	—	—	593	—	5,427
Total	4,176	4,831	2,016	507	593	685	12,811

	TRA.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	DA.	MOORE.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	32	—	—	—	—	32
Yokohama	—	37	—	—	—	—	37
Total	—	69	—	—	—	—	69

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	TRA.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	DA.	MOORE.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	941	956	—	—	—	—	1,897
Yokohama	4,086	11,793	3,811	—	45	10	19,744
Hongkong	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Foochow	7,151	1,614	1,176	—	—	—	9,941
Amoy	—	—	4,702	—	—	—	4,702
Total	12,178	14,338	9,189	59	54	—	35,764

	TRA.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	DA.	MOORE.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	48	—	—	—	—	48
Yokohama	—	52	—	—	—	—	52
Total	—	100	—	—	—	—	100

Tea 14 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement \$11 Gold per ton.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns—Business done in all descriptions except plain doubles, which are nominal in price. Shirtings—Good business, especially in glb. Fancies—Something done in Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns; remainder quiet. Woollens dull and stagnant.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.40	to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 45 inches	2.70	to 3.15
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 39 inches	1.70	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95	to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 39 inches	0.16	to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.95	to 9.05
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0.75	to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35	to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65	to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25	to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Flannel—	\$0.30	to 0.471
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35	to 0.41
Medium	0.30	to 0.321
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25	to 0.271
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds. per lb.	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$35.50	to 37.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	30.00	to 40.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	43.00	to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00	to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	47.50	to 49.50
Nos. 2/60, Plain	66.00	to 69.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	81.00	to 85.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	105.00	to 108.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	76.00	to 81.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	92.00	to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	118.00	to 125.00

METALS.

Large arrivals continue. Dealers sort up their stocks from these supplies and refuse to contract ahead. Quotations for Bars unchanged, Sheet and Plate lower; Galvanized higher, Wire Nails and Tin Plates sick.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50

Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized iron sheets	9.40 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Pin Plates, per box	5.30 to 5.40
Fig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.67 1/2

KEROSENE.

Quotations unchanged with quiet market, in spite of news from home that prices there have advanced. Fair quantity of arrivals, but present deliveries are poor.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Considerable sales at quotations. Takao lower. Daitong the turn dealer. White—Less demand, but prices fairly well-maintained.

Brown Takao	\$3.75 to 3.80
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.05
Brown Daitong (New)	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton	3.50 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White Mahued	7.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Nothing done, and no purchases by foreign buyers. Direct shipments are fair and small. Market generally demoralized. Supplies coming in freely and stock rolling up.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 14	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

Nothing doing and no quotations yet for New fibre.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

No change in prices; good demand of late, chiefly in the lower half of the scale. Stock large, market easy. Settlements and shipments still lag behind last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	\$28 to \$30
Choice	26 to 27
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	20 to 22
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	15 to 16
Common	13 to 14

EXCHANGE.

Exchange steady, but for some days past telegraphic communication has been interrupted.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/2 1/8
— 4 months' sight	2/2 1/4
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/8
— 6 months' sight	2/3 1/4
On Paris—Bank sight	2.78 1/2
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ..	2.82 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 % d
— Private 10 days' sight	1 1/2 % d
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	188
— Private 30 days' sight	190 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand ..	53 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	55 1/2 to 1
On Germany—Bank sight	2.25 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.30
Bar Silver (London, 21st inst.)	31 1/2

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No. 5.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 1ST, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 1ST, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE is staying at Nikko.

THERE is no Korean news of importance this week.

THE China-Japan Treaty of Commerce has been concluded at Peking.

THE Irish Land Bill has passed through Committee in the House of Commons.

CUSTOMS officials and policemen in Formosa are allowed to carry arms for self-defence.

So severe is the drought at Kurojo, Niigata Prefecture, that water is selling at 30 *sen* per gallon.

THE baseball team of the U.S.S. *Olympia* beat the shore nine at Yokohama on Saturday by three runs.

THE Turks are massed before Heraklion, seeking to enter the town, but the Governor opposes their entrance.

THE Wedding of Prince Charles of Denmark and Princess Maud of Wales has been solemnized. H.M. the Queen was present, but withdrew after

the ceremony, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales presiding at the wedding breakfast.

CHINA has refused the requests of Russia and Germany to establish banks in Peking to transact Government business.

By Imperial Notification No. 272, the Provisional Yokohama Harbour Construction Bureau will cease to exist on July 31st inst.

THE weather has been very hot throughout the week the temperature being above the normal for this time of the year.

THE Emperor is despatching a Chamberlain to Honolulu, by the *Mitsue Maru* to inquire into the health of Count Mutsu.

THE "Spray Cup" has been won by *Mary*, Mr. Laffin's yacht. This boat carries off the prize in every race she enters.

THE Czar has recovered from the attack of jaundice from which he was suffering and has made his state entry into St. Petersburg.

CHARLES VEITCH, an Englishman, long in the employ of the Tobe Common School, died on Sunday in Yokohama from heat apoplexy.

MAJOR-GENERAL TSUNODA, Prof. W. K. Burton, and some graduates of the Engineering College, have left by the *Saikyo Maru* for Formosa.

TELEGRAPHIC communication with the outer world is still greatly interrupted, the cable between Nagasaki and Shanghai being damaged.

A TELEGRAPH station will be opened on the 1st August at Futakawa, in the Atsumi district of Mikawa province, but for domestic service only.

NEGOTIATIONS have been concluded with German, French, and Russian bankers for a Russian three per cent. gold loan of four hundred million francs.

MR. GREGORIE DE WOLLANT, Secretary of the Russian Legation at Tokyo, has been promoted First Secretary of the Russian Embassy at Washington.

THE Goldite Democrats have resolved to hold a convention in September, when they will adopt a platform and nominate a candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

MESSRS. LANGFELDT and Co., after declaring a dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent. resolved to apply \$50,000 of their surplus assets to increasing the capital of the company.

LAING's column in the Matappo hills was attacked whilst laagered. After some fighting, the Matabeles were defeated with a loss of ninety killed. The British lost four whites and twenty-five friendly killed.

MR. KURINO, the new Minister to Italy, telegraphs that on the 15th of July, the Marquis Rudini organised a new Cabinet, and on the 20th Viscount Venosti was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs.

THE Tokyo Chamber of Commerce have invited Marquis Ito and Saigo, and Viscounts Enomoto and Takashima, Lieut.-General Katsura, and Vice-Ministers Kitagaki and Kaneko, to the Kamei, Yanagi-bashi, on the 1st inst.

LORD SALISBURY, in laying the Venezuela papers on the table of the House of Lords, deprecated arbitration at the present stage, and said he was confident that after the Commission had learned the facts the diplomatic question would be easily adjusted.

MARSHAL MARQUIS YAMAGATA returned to Tokyo on Tuesday. He was enthusiastically received by the populace, and a most cordial

audience was accorded him by their Majesties the Emperor and Empress. The Marshal is greatly emaciated.

THE rates of passage money by the newly established Pacific line of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are as follow:—From Kobe or Yokohama to Seattle—First-class, *yen* 240; second-class, *yen* 170; third-class, *yen* 50. To Honolulu—First-class, *yen* 170; second-class, *yen* 100; third-class, *yen* 35.

THE condition of the import trade in Yokohama is causing some alarm in view of the increasing number of godowns packed to the door-sill with unsaleable goods. The commercial activity of last autumn caused importers to buy freely; prices afterwards went up at home and things appeared roseate. With the New Year, trade opened fairly brisk, but as the year advanced the high hopes entertained at the beginning gave way slowly to despondency more or less acute. The scores of companies projected at the termination of the war are calling in subscriptions on the shares allotted to applicants, but in dozens of cases these demands must go by default. The land-tax and other imposts due in September, the recent disastrous storms throughout the length and breadth of Japan, and the depression in the principal staples of export—tea and silk—have brought matters to a crisis, and now nobody has any money to spare. Besides, the demand for many imported goods has dwindled to nothing since March. Yarns have actually been sold in Yokohama at figures that leave a substantial margin of loss; nothing can be done in Shirtings and T-cloths; Fancies are equally "off," and Woollens are somnolent. Tin Plates, that moved fairly well last week, are now depressed, dealers suffering from depletion, and "deliveries" are few and far between. Kerosene is weak, holders being inclined to come down a point or so to keep the market moving. Brown Sugars have been fairly in demand at quotations, but Formosa sorts are neglected, though Whites are enquired for. The Silk trade is in a desperate plight: the American demand has fallen to next to nothing, politics absorbing all attention on the other side. Waste Silk is equally lifeless—no settlements, no quotations. Tea is very quiet: prices being lower and easy for the second crop, though in all verity they are quite high enough considering the quality of the leaf now on offer. Exchange remains unaltered owing to absence of news from abroad.

WRECK OF THE GERMAN GUNBOAT "ILTIIS"

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

We have received a telegram from Nagasaki, stating that the steamer *Wosang*, that arrived at that port yesterday from Chefoo, brings a report that news reached Chefoo at noon on the 28th July from a place on the south-east of Shantung Promontory, of the complete wreck of the German gunboat *Ilitis*, in which the captain and officers were all drowned and only eleven of the crew saved. Two German cruisers, on receipt of the news, immediately left Nagasaki to search the scene of the wreck, but difficulties are anticipated on account of the fogs known to be now prevalent on the China coast.

The place indicated in the telegram is not quite plain, being "se promontory." But, from the position of Chefoo for receiving the first news of the occurrence, doubtless the south-east of Shantung Promontory is meant.

The *Ilitis* was a well-known vessel in Japanese waters, and had seen considerable service in the Far East.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The chief topics of discussion during the week were the return of Marshal Yamagata from his mission to Russia, and the disastrous inundations that visited Gifu, Niigata, and other prefectures.

The rice market has undergone considerable fluctuations, owing to climatic conditions, (which are most critical for the growth of the young plants), the recent floods, and also the collapse of the "bull" combination in Osaka. At the Tokyo Exchange the quotation, as compared with the figure ruling a short time ago, fell by as much as 1½ yen per koku in time bargains, and the drop was similarly great in Osaka. But the stock market has shown a slight change only.

The return of Marshal Yamagata has elicited much comment from the press. Opinions differ as to whether he started on his long journey with a fixed diplomatic problem to solve with Russia, and if so, whether that part of his mission was achieved with success. The *Nichi Nichi* places no credit in the alleged secret part of the mission, and its opinion is shared by the *Kokumin*. The *Chuo*, however, takes the opposite view. "While attending the Coronation Ceremony of the Czar, the Marshal," says the organ of the National Unionists, "held conferences on the Korean problem with the Sovereign and the Ministers of Russia, who met Japan's proposals in an affable and favourable manner, the result being that a definite understanding was arrived at between the two Powers on this subject." The *Chuo* is confident that the conscientiousness and prudence of the Marshal, and also his established prestige, alike as a soldier and a statesman, could not have failed to attract the confidence and sympathy of Russia. He probably achieved this *rapprochement* without resorting to any subtleties of diplomacy.

As to the other point raised in connection with the mission of the Marshal, namely, his alleged cool treatment in Russia, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that his treatment, when compared with that accorded to the Chinese Ambassador, may have been relatively cool. But such relative coolness was not confined to Japan's Ambassador alone; the same was the case with the Ambassadors of the Western Powers. No one that comprehends the special relations existing between Russia and China wonders at this, for is not China seeking to prolong her existence by courting in the humblest and most respectful manner the favour and protection of Russia? On the other hand, is not the motive that leads Russia to extend kindness to China easily conceivable? If treatment alone is concerned, even the Korean Ambassador received as warm a reception as the Chinese, though on a smaller scale. Do those that murmur about the relatively cool reception given to the Japanese Ambassador, extend their umbrella to a comparison with the Korean Envoy's case also?

The *Kokumin's* view of this affair is somewhat different. It can not profess complacency when it observes the want of cordiality displayed towards Japan's Ambassador, the conqueror of China, on the one hand, and the peculiarly warm reception accorded to the Representative of the vanquished Empire on the other. It holds that from such a display of partiality alone Russia's unwillingness to effect an *entente* with Japan is easily inferable. Further, it observes that two reasons underlie the earnestness with which the public welcome the return of the Marshal; namely, because men are anxious to learn his opinion about Russia's true disposition towards Japan, and because his presence is expected to exercise considerable influence on domestic politics.

The loss that the recent floods inflicted upon Gifu, Niigata, and other localities, must reach an enormous figure. The *Chuo* estimates that

the damages suffered by the cultivated lands in Gifu aggregates 70 million yen, exclusive of injury to roads, embankments, and so forth. A more trustworthy report is to hand from Niigata, whose Governor informs the Home Office that the loss caused by the floods in that prefecture is put at 9,147,153 yen in all. Naturally therefore many papers have something to say about the calamity.

The *Nichi Nichi* argues that, unlike the case of a phenomenon such as a seismic wave, disasters incidental to the outbreak of inundations can be effectively provided against in advance, and quotes as typical instances India and Holland, where, subsequently to the construction of durable and extensive preventive works, calamities from floods or tidal waves are practically unknown. Japan is in urgent need of some provision of the kind, for, according to official investigations, the average yearly damage suffered by the country from floods alone amounts to over 13 million yen, and the casualties to life aggregate 1,000. These statistics cover the period up to 1893. With the consent of the 9th session of the Diet, the Government has issued a Law relating to the Control of Rivers and Riparian Construction, and a large appropriation has been voted in the case of such specially unruly rivers as the Tone, the Mogami, the Shinano, the Oi, and six or seven others. But years must elapse before the contemplated works can be completed. The *Nichi Nichi* naturally feels much uneasiness at this prospect, though it thinks that patience is essential, in view of the magnitude of the enterprise. At least, however, the repair of the damages wrought by the present floods must be promptly attended to, for otherwise the calamity may be repeated next rainy season, namely, in the autumn of the year. At the same time, the Authorities should exercise great caution in the conduct of the affair, remembering the fact that the repairs undertaken in the sequel of the disastrous earthquake in Gifu and Aichi—repairs involving an enormous outlay—were rendered nugatory by the floods that visited those districts in the year but one afterwards. Our contemporary further urges the members of the Diet and publicists in general to deal with this grave question in a non-political and impartial spirit.

The *Mainichi* endeavours to make this occasion a pretext for convoking an extraordinary session of the Diet. The disbursement of only 450,000 yen, it says, by way of relieving the sufferers in the Sanriku Districts and providing for their future subsistence, has evoked loud complaints from the poor survivors and from their fellow provincials. What, then, can the Home Office do in the presence of another disaster following immediately on the heels of the first. There only remains a small sum of the Second Reserve, while any extraordinary appropriation from the Surplus is out of the question, the Liberals having voted against such a procedure as unconstitutional. On the other hand, the dilemma demands prompt measures. Hence the only way open is to convene an extraordinary session of the Diet.

The Liberals are apparently in an embarrassing situation, if we may judge from an article in their organ, the *Tokyo Shimbu*. In lieu of the positive and confident tone usually adopted by that journal, its language is ambiguous and halting. The question, it writes, whether an extraordinary session shall be convoked or not, is simply a practical point. If investigation of the damages can be promptly made, then there may be occasion to convoke the Diet; but if, on the contrary, two or three months must elapse before complete inquiries can be carried out, then the matter may be dealt with at the commencement of the coming regular session. There is, however, a mean route between these two extremes, namely, an extraordinary disbursement from the Surplus. The people are bound to repose confidence in the Government, just as the latter is bound to respect its responsibilities. Hence, when an occasion of great urgency arises, the people may suffer the Go-

vernment to meet the emergency by administrative process, of course with full responsibility for the step taken. The *Tokyo Shimbu* regards this as the most convenient expedient, and wishes to know whether it does not commend itself for adoption by the Authorities.

The *Fiji* offers a useful practical suggestion to the City Authorities of Tokyo with respect to the frequent interruptions of the water supply. This it considers specially baneful to health in the hot season, for the lower organisms found by microscopic examination to be present in tens of thousands in every cubic centimetre of the head waters of the Tamagawa, are known to multiply with fearful rapidity in summer, wherever a small quantity of water collects in a temporarily stagnant aqueduct. The aqueducts, being at present wooden, naturally require frequent repairs. But the Authorities must be previously taught, by long experience, when the conduit in a particular section of the city will have to be reconstructed, and should thus be able to avoid replacing old conduits with new during the hot season, and should also undertake work before the old conduits have become very rotten. The *Fiji* considers such want of precaution on the part of the Authorities to be entirely inexplicable, when the citizens have begun to pay so much attention to the hygienic condition of their dwellings, and when, in consequence of their care, the ravages of epidemic diseases have been remarkably abated.

With resolute persistency the same paper reverts once more to the opium question in Formosa. It has reason, it says, to keep this question constantly before the public, for it has received the alarming intelligence that signs of the fatal practice's gradually spreading to the Japanese settlers themselves are becoming apparent. The same cause that degraded the original Chinese settlers into opium smokers seems to be acting upon the Japanese immigrants with similar potency. That cause is the unwholesome climatic conditions in the island. The severe heat prevailing there is so enervating to the Japanese that the labouring classes are obliged, after the fatigues of the day, to have recourse to alcohol. This naturally leads to the copious use of water, and consequent derangement of the digestive organs. The trouble is fatal. The same labourers find, however, as their Chinese predecessors did, that opium is not only refreshing, temporarily, to the fatigue of mind and body, but also does not involve the subsequent use of bad water. Hence they regard it as the lesser of the two evils. Thus there is reason to apprehend the gradual and natural spread of opium among the Japanese labouring classes. The *Fiji's* contention is that the strict prohibition of the use of opium is a question of urgent necessity.

In another article the same paper urges the Authorities to deal with insubordinate Chinese, and also with all of suspicious loyalty, in a thoroughly drastic manner.

The *Tokyo Shimbu* writes of Count Okuma with unreserved severity. It rebukes him as greedy of power even at the expense of the national interests, and declares that the recent active exchange of calls among statesmen not in the Government, is primarily traceable to the Count's ambition to assume the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, though he knows well that the implacable hostility existing between him and the cabinet in power precludes his admission even were he to surrender his own views.

The *Official Gazette* of the 30th ult. contains several notifications concerning Formosa. One permits the wearing of weapons by Customs Officials and Police for self defence. Another gives the names of the localities where prisons will be established. Another deals with druggists; a fourth alters the appellation of the National Language Schools.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

BICYCLE-MAKING IN JAPAN.

THE *Mainichi* says that there are at present four bicycle workshops of note in Japan, one in Yokohama, one in Kyoto, and two in Tokyo. All were opened some three or four years since; Mr. Kajino's workshops in Yokohama and Mr. Sasaki's in Azabu, Tokyo, being the pioneers. One other big workshop is that of Mr. Morita in Honjo, Tokyo. The output of either shop does not exceed 130 vehicles or so per annum, the mechanics employed being 17 in one and only 10 in the other. They are not adepts at the work, their experience dating only a few years back. At present many different kinds of bicycles are manufactured in the workshops of Tokyo and elsewhere, the price of the machines varying very much. From a catalogue published by the Morita shop, a pneumatic tire of the first class costs 120 yen; a second class machine, 100 yen; but one of special make costs 150 yen. The pneumatic tire being difficult to repair, is not in favour with Japanese riders who prefer substance to fashion. They like the solid-tire bicycle which is more durable and costs less to keep in repair. The latter sell, for a first class machine, at 105 yen; second class, 95 yen; third class, 80 yen; fourth class, 70 yen. The high, thin-tired machines, though much in vogue formerly, are not now so popular, being difficult to manage and very liable to get out of order. Their price is comparatively low, a first class machine costing 65 yen; a second class 55 yen; and a third class 45 yen. Both the Tokyo shops are patronized by the Post Office, and one is under the patronage of the Metropolitan Police. Generally speaking, bicycle riding is not so popular in Tokyo as in Yokohama, riders in the former city being mostly confined to employees of mercantile and banking corporations, head clerks of large shops, young peers, and school teachers. In Tokyo the home-made machine and foreign makes are pretty closely balanced in point of numbers. With the increase of riders the patronage accorded to Japanese machines is on the increase. It is said that the Yokohama Bicycle Works have received an order from America for 100 bicycles.

THE JAPANESE SOLDIER.

From the *Kobe Herald's* reproduction of portions of Captain G. F. Elliott's report to the United States Naval Department on the subject of the Japanese soldier, we take the following:—

The quiet, soldierly discipline of the Japanese troops astonished all foreign officers who had the opportunity of observing them while disembarking on the march, occupying camps near, or while billeted in cities not their own. Japanese infantry regiments are homogeneous physically; the men do not vary more than 2 in. in height, seven years in age, or more than 20 lb. in weight. In the field they are not burdened with overfleshy men, neither with the 'faithful old soldiers' whose pride has outlived their strength. Forced marches did not leave a fourth of the regiment straggling in the road, and the endurance of the men could be counted on nearly as a unit. Undoubtedly they are brave, but have not been tried in large bodies up to a demoralising loss, although small parties on one or two occasions were cut off and fell together like true soldiers. Whether they will be subject to panic under heavy reverses is not known. They are fairly well set up, but do not show it as much as the regular foreign soldiers; good weight-carriers, but I believe slow marchers, although for short distances they get over the ground very rapidly on a trot, having what is known as good wind. Drill has in a great degree eliminated the native peculiarity of being pigeon-toed. In marching they step too much from the knees, and do not move out from the hips; this I think, is due from the use of the *kimono* in early life.

With regard to the rifle used by the Japanese and the nature of the wounds caused by it, Captain Elliott goes on to observe:—"All rifles are made at the arsenal in Tokyo, and are called by the inventor's name, Murata. They are of two patterns. The one used by the great majority of the troops was a single-loading bolt gun of .44 calibre, sighting to 1,400m, without wind gauge; the other a magazine gun of .315 calibre. The stocks are very short and the cheeks wide." As to the effect of the rifle bullet wounds, Captain Elliott reports:—"While in Tientsin, China, I visited several times the hospital under charge of Dr. Irwin, surgeon to Viceroy Li Hung-chang. Wounded Chinese soldiers were treated here during the winter. Surgeon-Major James, of the British Army, had charge of some of the wards, and was much interested in wounds made by the small calibre enveloped bullet. He kindly gave me every opportunity to see and much informa-

tion in regard to these wounds. I saw about thirty of the wounded. In no case were bones shattered to any extent, even at the exit of the ball. The puncture was clean; no bullet was found in the patient, so the casing was unknown whether of steel or a softer metal. They did not seem to deflect on striking, but cut their way through in the line of flight. Thirty patients testified they had received their wounds at distances varying from 150 to 400 yards. They healed readily, often by first intention. None of the wounds were in the leg, for the men had made their own way from the battlefield on foot or in carts to the railroad, more than 200 miles, and were several weeks on the road. All suffered more from frostbitten feet than the bullets. Out of thirty cases I saw I think probably the old .45 calibre lead ball would have left on the field nine of them dead."

NAGASAKI POST OFFICE.

THE Nagasaki paper says that on the 24th instant, it received its Kobe and Yokohama exchanges dated the 7th and 4th inst., respectively. To the wrapper of each was attached a slip of paper explaining that "the mail was delayed." It now appears that the whole mail was taken to Vladivostok and brought back thence on board the steamer *Taiyick*. We do not know who is responsible for such a piece of crass blundering, but the Communications Department should enquire into the matter. One prominent local firm, at least, has been put to serious inconvenience by this latest insane freak of the Postal Authorities. The Postal Service of Nagasaki is daily becoming worse and worse, letters and telegrams addressed to private residences are taken to places of business, telegrams get to their destination in the Settlement hours after being received at the Post Office, and a species of dry-rot appears to pervade the whole system. As far as we can gather, the local employees are overworked, various causes having rendered the staff as it is at present totally inadequate to the amount of business to be got through. Such complaints are general throughout the Treaty Ports of Japan. One of the causes of the lamentable breakdown in the Post Office is the smallness of the wages given: good men are not attracted to the service, and youths of any promise quickly leave it for better paid employment.

THE TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

THE Rev. Père L. Froc, S.J., writing from Sicawei Observatory, says that the coming eclipse of the sun on August 9th, will be visible in Shanghai under the shape of a partial eclipse. The obscuration will be greater the more one goes north; for instance, in Peking the moon will encroach on the greater part of the sun, whilst at Hongkong, but a small part will be obscured. As for the time, the more one is stationed in the W. the sooner the eclipse will be seen on the same parallel of latitude, or, to speak more accurately, on a line N.W.-S.E. parallel to the trajectory of the eclipse; thus Hankow will see the beginning of the eclipse before Nagasaki. The Rev. Father has drawn up the following computation regarding the duration of the phenomenon at Yokohama:—

AT YOKOHAMA (FLAGSTAFF OF THE HOSPITAL.)

	Day.	h. m.
Beginning of eclipse	August 9th	1.58.1 p.m.
Middle do. (max. phase)	"	3.10.6 "
End do.	"	4.16.5 "

To observe properly the phenomenon it is necessary to have good astronomical telescopes. The following methods may be recommended. 1.—To watch the progress of the eclipse through smoked glass. 2.—To observe the sun reflected in dark liquid, for instance water mixed with ink. 3.—To pierce a hole in thick paper or pasteboard and to watch the brilliant spot projected by this paper on a table or a sheet of white paper. Before the eclipse a white circle will be seen, during the eclipse the circle will change as the sun into a horned image. If watching the sun under trees, the little brilliant circles which are usually seen there, will, when examined carefully, appear horned.

THE REV. SYDNEY SWANN AT HENLEY.

KOBE's late Chaplain, the Rev. Sydney Swann, rowed in the second heat of the Diamond Sculls at Henley on the 8th June, but was beaten by a length by Mr. Vivian Nickals. The final heat for the Diamond Sculls was won by R. Guinness of the Leander Club, the present holder of the trophy, who beat R. K. Beaumont, of the Burton-on-Trent Club, the sculler who beat the American candidate, Dr. McDowell. In the final heat of the Grand Challenge Cup, the Thames Rowing Club had the favourable side of the river, but there was no question what the result would be. The Leanders were clear at the quarter, and won as they liked by two and three-quarters lengths in 7 m. 4 secs. In the sixth heat for the Thames Challenge Cup, for eight oars, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, beat Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In the seventh heat the crew of the Société d'Encouragement du Sport Nautique of Paris beat the Molesey Boat Club. In the final heat for the Wyfold Challenge Cup, for four oars, Trinity College, Oxford, beat the London Rowing Club. Time, 9 m. 41 secs. In the final heat for the Visitors' Challenge Cup, for four oars, Caius College, Cambridge, beat Magdalene College, Oxford. In the final heat of the Stewards' Challenge Cup, for four oars, the London Rowing Club beat the Thames Rowing Club.

"THE PANTHER."

THE Austrian man-of-war *Panther* arrived in Hongkong harbour on the morning of July 20th from Pola. The *Panther* is a torpedo cruiser, 224 feet long, 34 feet broad, and draws 14 feet. She is armed with two 4½ inch 2½-ton Krupp guns, ten machine guns, and four torpedo launching tubes. Her engines indicate 5,500 horse power, with a speed of eighteen knots an hour. She left Pola on the 1st May, calling at Port Said, Suez, Aden, Massowah, Bombay, Colombo, and looked in at Palo Way en route. The *Panther* is bound on a long cruiser which will last about two years. She has a complement of about 190 officers and men all told, and among them are a number of apprentices for the benefit of whose training the cruise is made.

POSTAL DELINQUENCIES.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* has started a Post Office pillory in which it will publish all records of Japanese postal delinquencies that come to its knowledge. At the end of a certain period it will present the list, nicely pasted together, to the head of the Postal Department in Tokyo "as a token of esteem, and a mark of appreciation of the valuable service he has rendered to us, to his country, and to humanity in general, in showing what limits of stupidity and indifference can be attained by a Japanese official when he really tries." That is pretty tall talk.

THE ARMY OF OFFICIALDOM.

IN the *Courier d'Haiphong* the *Daily Press* finds a cartoon entitled "Les Travaux de l'Empunt." The central figure is an Annamite bricklayer putting a few bricks together, and surrounding him, superintending the work, are twenty-three European officials whose titles, given at the foot, range from the Director of Public Works, through Engineers and Conductors of various classes, down to the Overseer of the sixth class.

"NEUCHWANG," "ON-WO" COLLISION.

THE *Hongkong Telegraph* says that it is rumoured in Chinese shipping circles that the owners of the steamship *Neuchwang*, which, in April last, ran down the *On-wo* near Woosung Bar, have agreed to pay to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. the full amount of their claim for damages caused by the collision.

HYOGO GAS COMPANY.

MESSRS. BROWN & CO., the General Agents of the Hyogo Gas Co., Limited, on Friday distributed warrants for an interim dividend of \$6 per share for the six months ended 30th June, 1896.

DEATH OF MR. WIRTH.

MR. HARRY WIRTH, the proprietor of Wirth's Circus, that recently played in Japan, died on board the steamer *Kwonglee* on the voyage from Shanghai to Hongkong.

DEATH FROM SUN-STROKE.

GENERAL DE MOULIN, the newly-appointed Governor of Acheen, died on the 8th inst. in Acheen of sun-stroke.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Mr. Ishikawa, an official of the Finance Department, has returned from an extensive tour through the Sanin and Sanyo districts and Kyushiu, where he went to report upon the ports that will be opened for special exports. The ports previously selected by the Authorities for the purpose were Shimizu, in Shizuoka Ken; Sakaye, in Tottori Ken; Nanao in Ishikawa; Shimonoseki in Yamaguchi and Moji on the opposite coast; Karatsu, in Nagasaki, and Otaru in Hokkaido. Mr. Ishikawa's report is believed to confirm this selection. With respect to Shimonoseki and Moji, however, the opinion of the Central Staff Board is against their opening, and the Financial Department may be obliged therefore to abandon the idea of selecting them. The establishment of Shimizu as a special export outlet is attended with drawbacks, for the principal commodity to be shipped thence is tea, which, so far as matters go at present, requires firing at Yokohama, and can not therefore be shipped direct to foreign countries. Hakata affords a poor anchorage, being very shallow. But a scheme of re-construction is on the tapis, and the opening of the port may only be postponed till the completion of that work. Karatsu, mentioned in this article, is not the harbour commonly bearing that name, but is situated on the Bay of Karafusa, a little west of the present Karatsu. The bay is sheltered by Oshima and is the terminal point of the Karatsu Railway. A pier will be built in water over 30 ft. deep at low tide, and as the bay is free from storms all the year round, steamers of 10,000 tons can always lie close to the pier. All these ports, after being declared special export outlets, are to be converted into regular open ports on the morrow of the enforcement of the revised Treaties, and the Authorities are deliberating the subject with great caution. Consequently, their decision may not be made known sooner than the fall of this year.

Surgeon Murata, who went officially to Cuba some months ago, has written home, and his letter is printed in some of the Tokyo papers. He arrived at Havana on June 4th. He broke his journey at New York, where he attended a meeting of the Cuban Independence Support and Charity Society. There he learned with surprise that this Society had forwarded no less than 25 million dollars to the rebel army. His description of the Spanish Government Hospital at Havana and the treatment afforded wounded soldiers, shows that he estimates the status of Spanish surgery as very low. He inspected a ward under the direct care of the Surgeon-Major-General, reputed as one of the most celebrated surgeons in the whole Spanish Army. One ward contained over 70 patients, but not one showed any signs of recovery. The surgery and nursing were slovenly and negligent; the nurses were apparently mere labourers, judging from their dirty limbs and manners. No consideration was paid to the poor wounded soldiers, their wounds being roughly treated both by the surgeon and his nurses. Surgeon Murata was shocked to see one patient suffering from tetanus lying side by side with patients afflicted with other diseases. But that is only a part of what he saw, for he can not bring himself to describe even more surprising things that he came across. He intends to leave for home in the latter end of July.

The Kagoshima *Yoshikan* (a higher middle school) is to be shortly abolished, there being no adequate funds to enable it to be converted into a higher school such as the Regulations of the Educational Department require.

The *Fomiori* has been writing a good deal about the alleged intrusion of Chinese troops within the neutral boundary at Weihaiwei, an intrusion in direct contravention of the provisions of the Shimonoseki Treaty. It now learns, from a trustworthy quarter, that the affair has attracted the attention of the Japanese Government and that the latter has enjoined its Representative in China to bring the matter to the notice of the Chinese Government. After the

usual procrastination, that Government has promised to attend to the matter. But it has not yet ordered its force to retire beyond the neutral line, and urges as a pretext that arrangements have not yet been completed. It has also excused itself by alleging ignorance of the doings of the troops at Weihaiwei, pretending that the trouble must have been caused by the Commander of the troops misreading the Shimonoseki Treaty.

The same paper says that the Chinese have erected a stone monument in a certain place in Shantung that was occupied by the Japanese troops during the war, the monument bearing an inscription that alludes to the Japanese troops and the invasion in highly contemptuous terms; stigmatizing the troops as *wob keu*, the *wob* being the same ideograph as that used in *wob jin*, and *keu* meaning banditti.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce is to despatch one or two veterinary experts to England to purchase horses for breeding purposes. The appropriation provided for the purpose in the Budget is 46,250 yen, and the Department estimates that it can purchase 20 head or so, as recommended by the Horse Improvement Investigation Committee.

The discussion carried on by the medical Board of the Department of Education as to whether fencing should be included in the regular course of common schools, has concluded. The opinion of the Board is that though boys of and above 15 years of age should receive training, the practice would be injurious to younger lads.

The question of school hygiene has begun to receive proper attention from the Department of Education, which has organized a special board, with Dr. Miyake at the head, to attend to the matter. Nine Councillors have been appointed, Dr. Baelz being one. According to researches made by Mr. Mishima, a graduate of the medical College of the Imperial University, and manager of the Board, the physical condition of common school pupils is very alarming. He says that in a certain common school in Fukushima, 50.6 pupils out of 100 are not of sound health; in a certain common school in Hyogo the rate is 60 per 100, while pupils in a higher course of the same school are physically unsound at the rate of 40 per cent. Again, in a certain normal school in the vicinity of Tokyo, the average sick rate during the five years ending in 1895 was 50 per cent. In a certain normal school in Shikoku, the sick rate between April and November last year did not fall below 60 per cent.

The laying of a submarine cable between Ohama, on the coast of the Province of Osumi, and the island of Oshima, a distance of 260 nautical miles, was successfully completed on the 24th inst.

Government experts and merchants of Tokyo and Yokohama directly interested in the manufacture or sale of tea, met at the Seiyoken, Ueno, on Saturday last, to discuss the best means of rescuing the industry from decay. One of the resolutions arrived at was the voting of 2,000 yen to be spent on advertisements in American papers.

The citizens of Osaka have found powerful allies in the Army and the Navy with respect to their harbour reconstruction scheme. The War and Naval authorities had so much experience as to the relative convenience that Ujina afforded during the late war for the embarking and debarking of troops and ammunition, that they are said to be strongly in favour of the reconstruction of Osaka harbour. In that case the military transportation would be considerably facilitated in the event of emergencies. It is said that the Committee has decided to increase the expenditure to 20 million yen.

We read in the Tokyo papers that Mr. Kawashima Jun, M.P., will receive the appointment of President of the Central Industrial Bank, and that Mr. Narukawa, now Governor of Miye Ken, will be Vice-President. Both these gentle-

men held office for a long time in the Department of Finance when Count Matsukata was Chief, and are therefore on good terms with that statesman. It would appear, according to the *Hochi*, that Mr. Kawashima is the candidate best qualified and available for the post. He and the late Mr. Kato Sai, then Director of the National Banks' Bureau, were sent, several years ago, to Europe to investigate matters relating to industrial banks in whose establishment Count Matsukata was very much interested. Mr. Kato has since died, and Mr. Kawashima remains the best informed person upon this subject.

Various regulations and usages with respect to Japanese Government Bonds, that the Bank of Japan recently investigated in compliance with the request of the London Stock Exchange, have been completed, and versions have been printed in Japanese and English. As copies will be sent to London by next mail, it is expected that these Bonds will appear on the Stock Exchange list by about October.

The project of uniting the Naniwa and the Shirokawa Railways with the Kwansai is on the eve of consummation. The preliminary arrangements having been completed, the Kwansai Company decided at its last general meeting to raise an additional capital of 4,200,000 yen with which to purchase the two lines, and also to negotiate a loan of 700,000 yen to be used for certain necessary works contingent on the purchase of the lines.

THE "NICHU NICHU" & NATIONAL EDUCATION.

The *Nichi Nichi* has just concluded a series of articles on National Education that extended over four successive issues. After dwelling at length on the importance of elementary education, the articles give the latest common school statistics. From these we gather that, at the end of 1894, the attendance in common schools was 3,501,071, an increase of 163,511 pupils over the previous year. During the year, the number of children that attained a school-going age aggregated 7,320,191, of whom 3,501,071 attended schools, or an average of 61.72 per 100 children. This average in other years had been:—1890, 48.93; 1891, 50.31; 1892, 55.15; 1893, 58.73.

The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that the above is not a bad record. While expressing satisfaction at this feature, it can not but entertain great doubts on another, and equally important, point, namely, whether the education in common schools is conducted in an equally satisfactory manner; in other words, whether teachers are uniformly capable. The *Nichi Nichi's* doubt is reasonable, for so insufficient in numbers are the candidates for teachers that the Authorities have not concerned themselves much about their capabilities. The necessity for training capable teachers was seen long ago, and in every prefecture, as also in Hakkaido, an ordinary normal school has been maintained at the public expense. The statistics of graduates from ordinary normal schools throughout the country, during the last few years, are as follow:—1890, 942; 1891, 1,304; 1892, 1,142; 1893, 1,176; 1894, 1,205. These figures show a steady, though slight, increase, but not in a degree proportionate to the wants of common schools. Consequently, to supply the deficiency the Educational Department issued, ten years ago, regulations relating to the licensing of common school teachers, and after five years reissued them. These regulations were compiled with the special purpose of attracting recruits from the public at large. At the same time, a special lecture course was introduced at each normal school so as to more perfectly equip school teachers for the discharge of their duties. In 1894, the total that successfully passed through the licensing examination was 11,241, or more accurately, 10,036, as 1,205 were graduates of normal schools. Still the numbers were far from adequate. At the end of 1894, there were in Japan 24,046 schools containing altogether 59,939 classes. But there were only 37,565

licensed teachers, that is to say, about 1.5 teachers per school, and compared with the number of classes, the number of teachers lacking were 22,374. This deficiency had to be supplied with temporary licensed teachers. One of the reasons for the lack of teachers in common schools is that large numbers of them leave the service. In 1894, over 9,000 teachers were added to the ranks, but as 2,453 teachers left at the same time, the actual addition was only 6,735. In 1893, 3,221 left the service, and in 1893, 12,703. In these figures teachers that attained a pension age, and also those dismissed on account of delinquencies, are included, but such cases are very small, the great majority being composed of men that resigned. These resignations were decidedly due, in most part, to the meagre emoluments granted them. The *Nichi Nichi* again falls back on statistics to prove this contention:—

AVERAGE MONTHLY STIPEND OF LICENSED TEACHERS.

	Yen.		Yen.
Yokyo	11.938	Gumma	12.260
Miyagi	10.521	Kyoto	11.132
Shiga	10.644	Tottori	7.642
Kagawa	8.809	Saga	8.836
Kanagawa	11.043	Tochigi	10.965
Fukushima	11.516	Osaka	11.350
Gifu	8.530	Shimane	7.455
Ehime	9.636	Kumamoto	8.448
Niigata	8.91	Shizuoka	10.781
Iwate	10.599	Hyogo	10.018
Fuku	8.070	Okayama	10.732
Kochi	8.630	Miyazaki	8.325
Saitama	10.625	Yamanashi	10.158
Aomori	8.315	Nara	9.334
Ishikawa	7.642	Hiroshima	8.248
Nagasaki	9.378	Kagoshima	10.110
Chiba	12.906	Nagano	12.073
Yamagata	9.471	Miyagi	10.751
Toysama	9.000	Yamaguchi	9.148
Fukuoka	9.764	Okawa	11.841
Ibaraki	11.591	Hokkaido	12.533
Akita	9.139	Aichi	10.209
Wakayama	8.678	Tokushima	8.630
Oita	8.058		

The average monthly stipends of common school teachers ranging from yen 12.906 to yen 7.455, it is not surprising that so many give up the work in disgust. The *Nichi Nichi* calculates the average yearly emolument of licensed teachers throughout the country at 118 yen, and that of temporarily licensed teachers at 64 yen, or a monthly salary of 9.83 yen and 5.33 yen respectively. In other words, many licensed teachers receive only a little over 1 yen more per month than the lowest grade police constable or goaler, while the salary of a temporary licensed teacher is more than 3 yen per month less than this. The income of a school teacher is therefore less than that usually enjoyed by a jinrikisha-puller or a *bello*. The obvious inference is that young men of ability and ambition avoid becoming common-school teachers, or quit the service as soon as possible. It follows that, in order to enable teachers to remain in the service, the only efficacious measure that can be adopted is to give them better pay. The *Nichi Nichi* acknowledges that something has been done in the way of the law providing a sustenance for the survivors of teachers, and also the law granting additional salaries to teachers of long service, but this is far from sufficient. The last law, enacted quite recently, grants additional payment of 15/100 of present salary to teachers who have been in the service over five years, with the further addition of 10/100 when they have served another five. By this system, a teacher drawing 10 yen a month is entitled to 1 1/4 yen additional pay when he has served five years, and 2 1/4 yen when he has continued in the service for 10 years. The *Nichi Nichi* wonders whether such petty additions can serve the purpose that prompted the law? The Tokyo journal urges the Government to improve the pay of teachers as quickly as possible: with improved pay will come improved service, and with improved service a general raising of the scale of common-school education, and also a constant supply of teachers in sufficient number for all the common schools in the Empire.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

The *Fiji Shimpō*, generally well informed on such subjects, has a significant note with reference to the frequent meetings that have taken place of late between Count Okuma and Count Matsukata. "As yet," says our contemporary, "no attack has been openly made upon the present Government by Count Matsukata, but he has not hesitated to express his political views to several influential friends in private circles, and to criticise the Cabinet's procedure. Nevertheless, he has not entirely severed his relations with the Government, and in view of the fact that no fitting occupant has yet been found for the all-important post of Foreign Minister, it is probable that some Cabinet changes may be witnessed on the return of Marquis Yamagata to Tokyo, which event will take place about the 2nd or 3rd proximo. Count Okuma and Count Matsukata may then be seen entering the cabinet. Should nothing of the kind occur, it is said that Count Matsukata will definitely join the Opposition."

The *Kokumin* prints the following intelligence regarding Korean refugees in Japan and their doings. The ex-Home Minister, Mr. Yu, is compiling a history of the unification of Italy and the downfall of Poland. This book will be printed in Chinese and colloquial Korean. The grandson of the Tai Wōn-kun has removed from Tsukiji to Mita. In spite of the intervention of Mr. Fukuzawa, the relations between him and the other Korean refugees, are not very cordial, he being distrusted by a section of the latter. Pak Yong-ho's relations with Prince Wi-hwa are very intimate, the two living together since Pak's return from America. They are now in Kyoto. Besides these, there are in Akasaka the ex-chief of the Police Bureau and two or three others, while in the vicinity of the Dangozaka, Hongo, there are four captains of *Kumrentai* are living. The *Kokumin* says that the first topic of conversation that ensues whenever a Japanese friend calls on these refugees relates to the rumour of an understanding between Japan and Russia, or one between the former and England.

Below the apparently smooth surface of the Japanese political sea an undercurrent is running that is likely to eventually disturb the surface. This undercurrent is the growing intimacy of Count Matsukata and Count Okuma, who met again on the 22nd instant. The Opposition papers say that these meetings indicate the conclusion of a firm coalition between the two statesmen; that they are conferring how to face the political crisis that may break out upon the return of Marshal Yamagata; and that their endeavours are countenanced, if not actively furthered, by Count Inouye. We are told that the people of the Kei-Han districts are desirous of having Count Matsukata enact a special rôle, that is, take the direction of national finance; and they also say that foreign affairs should be undertaken by Count Okuma, as they are convinced that Japanese diplomacy is closely connected with economic affairs and ought to be directed by a statesman of Count Okuma's calibre. A deterrent to Count Matsukata's assuming a more open attitude is said to be his relations toward his fellow clansmen of influence. He is on good terms with Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima, and can have their support. At the same time Marquises Saigo and Oyama, the seniors of the warrior statesmen of Satsuma, are bosom friends of Marquis Ito and act with him in everything. Can Count Matsukata hope to obtain their coöperation? Hence the necessity for Count Matsukata's forming an alliance with Count Okuma. Indeed, each statesman has need of the help of the other, as neither are great powers alone. The position attributed to Count Inouye is peculiar. The *Yomiuri* learns from a trustworthy source, that the Count has done much towards bringing Counts Matsukata and Okuma together, and that the Count's motive may be inferred from his well known dissatisfaction at the entry of Count Itagaki into the Cabinet. The name of Count Goto is even mentioned in this context, for we read in the *Kokumin* that the latter

lately visited Waseda twice, and always late in the evening. We may note here that Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, now the most influential leader in the Liberal Party, has been summoned from his retirement in Kochi, and he and Mr. Kono Hironaka, another influential leader of the Party, waited on the Premier a day or two ago together. These are supposed to be indications of big changes looming on the political horizon.

MR. MASUDA TAKASHI ON COTTON FABRICS.

Mr. Masuda Takashi, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, contributes a long article on Cotton Fabrics to the *Oriental Economist*. He aims to clear up the situation and demonstrate the bright prospects of this industry in the East. After sketching the history of cotton manufacture in the West, he proceeds to show how important is the position these goods occupy in the markets of the East. He observes that, in 1895, the imports of cotton fabrics constituted over 30 per cent. of the total imports into China, and a little above 11 per cent. of the total imports into Japan; in 1890, they were over 51 per cent. of the imports into Hongkong; a little below 10 per cent. of those into Singapore in 1894; and in 1894 over 34 per cent. of those into Bombay, and over 40 per cent. of those into Korea. Cotton fabrics being such an important factor in the import trade of the East, Mr. Masuda argues that any country that supplies the largest amount of them controls the Eastern markets. He gives a lengthy account of the development of cotton spinning and weaving in England, and concludes with some interesting observations on the prospects of cotton weaving in the East. Mr. Masuda is of opinion that Japan will have no difficulty in becoming a leader among cotton-weaving countries. To demonstrate this, he refers to the astonishing progress that the allied industry, spinning, has attained in recent years, and observes that with respect to the relative advantages England and Japan enjoy in regard to carrying on this industry and exporting the output, Japan is better situated than England. In the first place, neither has an advantage over the other in the matter of procuring raw cotton and coal, though in machinery, skill of mechanics, and cheapness of money, England enjoys the greater advantage as compared with Japan. But it must be remembered that machines are easily procurable, that after the lapse of, say, 10 years, Japanese mechanics, judging from their characteristic skill in handicrafts, will become just as adept as the English mechanics, while as to cheapness of money, the matter need not cause any serious anxiety since the rate of interest will attain a worldwide level with greater development of means of communication and systems of exchange. Then, as a set-off to the advantages that England now enjoys, Japan is close to the doors of the greatest market for cotton fabrics in the East, and has, besides, command of the cheapest labour. In short, Japan is already qualified to enter the markets now monopolized by England, or at least to speedily become a leading cotton-weaving centre. Mr. Masuda thinks that after Japan, China will enter the same industrial field. Thus far the oppressive policy of the Government and the ignorance of the people have acted as deterrents to the development of new industries in the interior of the Middle Kingdom; but when, as the result of the Shimonoseki Treaty, Japanese capitalists and others start manufactories on Chinese soil, and when Chinese capitalists, who are at present troubled by the lack of safe channels of investment, discover how profitably and safely a manufacturing business can be carried on, in all probability, they will hasten to invest in manufactures and with characteristic shrewdness will attempt to push the industry to greater perfection and avail themselves of the cheap and diligent labour of their countrymen. The precedent afforded by the extraordinary development of filatures owned and managed solely by Chinese is an indication that China may one day become a great cotton-weaving centre. It behoves Japan, therefore, to anticipate this step and occupy the field before her.

CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN DURING THE PAST YEAR.

From "the Annual Report of the American Board's Mission coöperating with the Kumiai Churches of Japan," for the year ended July 1896, we gather that the story of the year has been somewhat chequered. The Board had to carry on its labours with largely reduced grants, and that fact alone must have sufficed to import a tone of despondency to the report. It is not a question simply of tone, however: facts also are given. The strong growth of a spirit of business enterprise throughout the nation is declared to have interfered with people's interest in religious questions, a change attested by the circumstance that no less than 12 men connected with the Kumiai Ministry left that body during two years and went into commerce. It would seem, however, that this loss of earnestness was only temporary, for "during recent months there has been a steady gain in attendance and membership at various places." Dr. Greene writes in perhaps the most desponding strain of all. "In common with other parts of our mission field," he says, "Tokyo station has to record a year of scant progress. The minds of the people are absorbed in other matters and religion receives relatively little attention. The congregations in the churches and preaching places, while not on the whole noticeably smaller than last year, have been far from satisfactory. The year has been one of much discouragement." Evidently, things did not fare similarly with all the missions, for the recently published report of the Methodist Episcopal Conference says:—"The members are gathered together after a year of more than usual encouragement." But whatever the record of actual progress may be, we gather plainly enough from the report that "the day of distinctively foreign missionary service in Japan is passing." That is a point of very great interest. Two incidents from this excellently compiled little volume are worth quoting. The first is this:—

Tokyo station has to record a year of scant progress. The minds of the people are absorbed in other matters and religion receives relatively little attention. The congregations in the churches and preaching places, while not on the whole noticeably smaller than last year, have been far from satisfactory. The year has been one of much discouragement.

Persecution has been showing its good fruit. Last fall a young man was obliged to give up his position as teacher in a village school, because of his Christianity. Largely through his influence one of the lady teachers in the same school was led to Christ, and at once persecution began. Her mother forbade her to return home, and her fellow teachers indulged in all kinds of petty annoyances that were very trying. Fortunately, the neighbouring evangelist became interested in her, and through his representations the ladies of the station were induced to request her services as helper, and accordingly she resigned her position in the school.

Great was the indignation of the villagers when the facts of the case were brought to light. A public meeting was called, the teachers in the school were forcibly reprimanded for their shameful conduct, and every means possible was used to retain the young girl, but she decided to leave. Since then the way has opened for her to go to Kobe College, and a recent letter tells of her happy entrance there.

The second incident is that the methods of the Salvation Army were adopted in Osaka. The account given of this affair reads somewhat comically, but we re-produce it as it stands:—

How to reach the hundreds of thousands that are congested in this busy city is an ever recurring problem. For twenty years, at irregular periods, the Christians have tried to meet this problem in a practical way by banding themselves into societies, clubs, and associations, and thus moved forward with concentrated effort against this mass. The latest move is 'Missionary Army' whose rank and file are made up of a few active Christians from seven Kumiai churches, one Presbyterian and one Methodist church of the city.

Five members of any church can form a 'company' but every man must be a 'combatant.' Every Monday except the first in the month, several companies assemble at one of the churches and scatter in the neighbourhood about 3,000 hand bills, informing the community of a rally at the church that evening, where two or three volleys would be fired by prominent officers of the army. These officers are the pastors of the churches.

These are some of the shots fired: 'Is there a God?' 'What is God?' 'What is Man?' 'Why is he here?' 'Where is he going?' 'Sin and its Punishment.' 'Change of Heart.' The first Monday in the month is kept for a general muster, when every combatant must answer to the roll-call and when the heaviest artillery is fired.

Scattering the 3,000 leaflets every week in the vicinity of the churches is a feature of the 'movements' of the army. They have printed on them not only the names and addresses of the pastors, the places and time of meeting, but also a brief statement of the main teachings of Christianity. This is a most interesting movement, and although it may,

like other associations, give place shortly to some other form of Christian activity, it will sow a quantity of Gospel seed and do good in its day.

MR. ITO HEIZAYEMON THE ARCHITECT.

The *Yomiuri* gives a brief biography of Mr. Ito Heizayemon, the celebrated architect of Nagoya. Architecture has been a hereditary pursuit in his family for over three centuries. The founder of the house was chief architect to Tokugawa Yoshinao, a son of Iyeyasu, who received the fief of Owari in 1609. From the time of the 3rd Heizayemon, the fame of the house was widely spread, he having determined to undertake the building of temples and shrines not in the fief of his liege lord alone, but in all other places. The construction of the Higashi Hongwan Temple at Nagoya was his first great work. The porch (*sanmon*) of that temple, the mausolea of the Emperors Saga and Kameyama, and also the Hokkedo, in the premises of the Tenryu Temple, Kyoto; various edifices in the premises of the Chionin, Kyoto; the Tsushima Shrine, Owari; and also the superintendence of the erection of the Higashi Hongwan Temple, were the principal architectural works undertaken by the predecessors of the present head of the family, the 9th Heizayemon. Mr. Ito Heizayemon, born in 1830, was initiated into the art when young, under the direct guidance of his father. At the age of 18, he accompanied his father to Koya, where the latter was entrusted with the building of a certain temple. From 15 to 20, he devoted himself exclusively to the practice of wood modelling, and then he was promoted to be a draughtsman. For six years he and his father remained in Koya, and then he went to Kyoto, where he stayed for more than a decade, studying and investigating the architecture of the old religious edifices in the city and its suburbs, and also assisting his father in architectural work. The eighth Heizayemon died in 1877, and Mr. Ito succeeded to the hereditary honours, changing his name to Heizayemon. The works which he has undertaken are too numerous to be given in detail. Suffice it to say that all the important official buildings in Nagoya, the Kencho of Miye, the new edifices of the Higashi Hongwan Temple, Kyoto; the Branch Office of that Temple at Shanghai; the State Shrine at Yoshino, may be given as some of the noteworthy works constructed by this unique artist of Japan. The *Yomiuri* says that he has built already 43 temples, 36 shrines, 11 government offices, 15 school-buildings, and 47 residences or other miscellaneous buildings. He once travelled through a particular locality of China with the express purpose of investigating Chinese architecture. Rewards and certificates of merit have been frequently received by him, for he has exhibited models at several local and national exhibitions. The people of Hokkaido are very greatly indebted to him for the improvement he effected in their dwelling houses, for when he proceeded there, some eight years ago, to erect temples in various districts by special request of the Central Office of the Hongwan Sect, he was so much struck with the rude and unsightly appearance of the buildings in Hokkaido, that he spared no pains to transmit a knowledge of architecture to the carpenters of that northern district. Besides his central office in Nagoya, he has branch offices in Kyoto and Hakodate. The central establishment is composed of three buildings, one, 7 x 14 *ken*; another, 5 x 12 *ken*; and the third, 4 x 8 *ken*. He employs over 120 artisans. He is now engaged in designing or superintending the construction of nine buildings, the chief of them being the main edifice of the Houn Temple, Kyoto; the main edifice of the Minaguchi Shrine, Omi; a Japanese dwelling house for Mr. Elliot, Sydney, Australia; the main edifice of the Nanjen Temple, Kyoto; and several edifices for the Kōmpira, Sanuki.

Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, left Tokyo by the 6.20 a.m. train from Shimabashi on the 29th inst. for his residence at Numadzu.

THE HOKURIKU RAILWAY.

A correspondent kindly furnishes us with the following notes of a trip on the above railway:—The first passenger train to run over the newly completed section of the Hokuriku railway between Tsuruga to Fukui, left the latter place at 7 o'clock on the morning of July 13th. A number of complimentary tickets had been distributed in Fukui and other places along the road, and about 400 persons availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded to take a ride on the first train.

The section just opened is about 40 miles in length. After leaving Fukui it follows the main road towards Tsuruga for about 15 miles, or a little beyond the town of Takefu. It then turns to the left up a narrow valley to Imajo, a village on the old Takefu-Yanagase road. From Takefu to Imajo there is a good deal of up-grade, and on the way one rather long tunnel. After leaving Imajo, the road strikes through the mountains, and soon comes out near the shore of Tsuruga Bay at an elevation of perhaps a thousand feet or more. Here it passes through a number of tunnels with short spaces between, and as the train darts in and out exquisite views of Tsuruga Bay are obtained. There are thirteen tunnels on the road, but only three or four of them are of any considerable length. From the carriage windows one can see in two or three places great lines of white boulders, narrow at the railway but gradually broadening until they reach the shore, some two miles or so below. These mark the course of the torrents which during the long continued rains of last summer brought such destruction among the farms and villages along the sea coast there. The road-bed of the railway was also much damaged at that time, and for that reason the opening of the road was considerably delayed. Now, however, everything seems to be thoroughly repaired and in good order.

After following the shore of Tsuruga Bay for a short distance the road again turns inland, and finally comes out of the hills just before reaching the town of Tsuruga, at the head of the bay. From the easy running of the train, the road-bed seemed to be well made, only a few places leaving the impression of roughness.

This road will be a great convenience to travellers to and from Fukui and Kanazawa. The hard *jirikisha* ride of eight or ten hours over the hills from Tsuruga to Fukui has been shortened to something less than three, and Fukui itself has been brought within twenty hours of Yokohama. Kanazawa, too, is now only a day's ride by *jirikisha* from the railway. Work on the Fukui-Kanazawa section of this road is being pushed forward, and it is expected that in a year or a year and a half trains will be running into Kanazawa.

On the 15th of July, two days later than the date referred to above, the Tsuruga-Fukui section was opened for traffic with befitting ceremonies.

THE OPPOSITION.

The politicians belonging to the Opposition in the eastern and northern districts, writes an organ of the *Shimpo-to*, have determined that the Cabinet shall be held responsible for its administrative blunders. In pursuit of that aim a large number of them intend to come to the capital during the next session of the Diet, and organise a strong agitation. They are supposed to be particularly concerned about the Government's foreign policy. The six prefectures in that part of Japan sent two thousand delegates to the conference at which the above resolution was taken.

We hear constantly of these great movements in the vista, but they generally dwindle greatly as to their dimensions before the time of action arrives. Nevertheless, it is not to be denied that in the Korean policy of the Government plenty of room exists for diversity of opinion.

MARSHAL YAMAGATA.

Marshal Yamagata has returned from his mission to Russia. His Excellency looks emaciated as compared with his condition when he started a few months ago. His health, impaired from the first, has been affected by the strain that his duties imposed, and also by the voyage across the Indian Ocean. The Marquis, on reaching Tokyo, proceeded at once to the Palace in a carriage that had been sent by the Imperial Household to convey him. He was received in Audience by both the Emperor and the Empress, and graciously thanked for the labours he had undergone. He then had the honour of dining with Their Majesties, and subsequently he proceeded to his private residence at Meiji-dai, at half-past 1 p.m. The *Chuo*, which presumably enjoys special access to the Marshal on account of its relations with Viscount Shinagawa, the Leader of the National Unionists and one of the trusted friends of the Marquis, gives a long account of interviews that its representative had with a member of the Marshal's suite and also with the Marshal himself. Of the many things related by the member of the suite to the *Chuo*'s representative, one had reference to the story of the awkward position in which the Ambassadors of China, Turkey, and Korea, were placed since their national usages did not permit them to uncover their heads, the consequence being that they were precluded from being present at the coronation ceremony. The story is confirmed. Li Hung-chang was almost idolized in Russia, but his ignorance of etiquette frequently involved him in embarrassing situations, so that the Russian officers appointed to receive him got into a serious scrape on one occasion. The account of the interview between Marquis Yamagata and the *Chuo*'s representative is to the following effect:—When asked about the authenticity of the rumour that the Marshal had been coolly treated in Russia, His Excellency smiled, and emphatically denied the allegation. He then described his journey and the reception accorded to him in the various countries through which he passed, including Russia. Not being in sound health at the time of leaving Japan, his intention had been to avoid fatiguing ceremonies and publicity as far as possible, in the hope that his journey might prove the means of setting him up. But he was not allowed to adhere to any such programme.

So soon as he set foot in San Francisco, he was most cordially welcomed, and the hospitality extended to him grew more enthusiastic as he proceeded eastward. His whole progress was like a continuous fête. Though he declined all receptions that he could without discourtesy avoid, it was not possible, under the circumstances, to pay much attention to his health. Arrived at Havre, the same hospitality awaited him, so that he began to be very doubtful whether he should have strength to conclude his journey. It had been his original intention to stay a while in Paris both for purposes of recreation and also to procure an outfit for the Coronation Ceremony. But messages reached him from Berlin to the effect that the Kaiser, anxious about the ill-health of the Marshal, desired that he should come on as quickly as possible to Berlin, where better physicians were available than those in Paris. It thus became impossible for him merely to pass through Germany, and he stayed in Berlin for four days. During that brief period the German Foreign Minister was extremely courteous to him, and he was also received in audience by the Emperor. He consulted a noted physician in Berlin as to the condition of his health, and was told that there were reasons to doubt his capacity to attend the ceremony, so greatly was his strength reduced. At all events, he received injunctions to be strictly careful about his diet, to abstain from alcohol in all forms, and to observe a fixed routine. The suggestion as to the danger of attending the Coronation Ceremony, it was, of course, impossible for him to obey. In point of fact, he took part in every stage of the great pageant, though to do so he had to appear for hours in uniform every day during a

period of three weeks. As soon as the ceremony was over he found himself unable to bear any further strain, and consequently determined to hasten home, though Viscount Aoki was kind enough to make arrangements for his sojourn in the suburbs of Berlin during medical treatment. On returning to Japan, he was surprised to hear an absurd rumour that he had been coolly treated in Russia. For international reasons and on his own account, it was his duty to emphatically deny that wholly false story. In point of fact, he enjoyed a most warm reception at the hands of the Russian Court and Government. As to the ceremony, words failed him to convey any idea of its splendour. Sufficient to say that it was an assembly of over 300 of the world's princes, in the sense that the Japanese of old time used to speak of an assembly of 300 *Daimyo* as the grandest spectacle conceivable. Conspicuous among the group were the ambassadors of Germany, England, France, America, and Austria. All the rest seemed to be personages of inferior rank, and failed to attract the attention of the masses. Japan, however, certainly seemed to be classed with the Great Powers, primarily because of her Sovereign's high qualities, but also on account of her recent successes in war. He was convinced by what he saw in Moscow of the potency of military fame. Russia being a country with systems differing from those of other European Powers, soldiers and courtiers enjoy predominant influence. Consequently, the Marshal received the treatment that would be accorded to a royal prince elsewhere. Guards of honour were stationed in front of his temporary residence. The French Ambassador also, being a Marshal, was similarly treated. On the first occasion of Marquis Yamagata's audience with the Czar, a gorgeously decorated coach drawn by six horses, so magnificent that he at first supposed it to be a carriage of the Czarina's, was sent to convey him to the Palace. At the same time, a carriage drawn by four horses came for the accommodation of his suite. The whole thing was so splendid that he received the impression of having a State procession organized in his honour. What perturbed him most from the time of leaving Japan was the possibility that Czar might allude to the Otsu incident when receiving him in audience. As soon as the formal greeting was over, His Majesty asked the Marshal without hesitation whether he had met him in Kyoto. The Marshal felt embarrassed how to answer, so he simply replied that he had failed to enjoy the honour of meeting the then Czar, which, ill-health having compelled him to be absent. The conversation then took another turn.

The Czar seemed to be really fond of Japan and its scenery. One hot evening, during a ball, he spoke to the Marshal and asked whether he did not feel the heat as much as though he were in Nagasaki. Every day, during the ceremony, the Marquis met Royal Princes and Ambassadors who had come to attend the great pageant, and on each of such occasions he exchanged greetings with them all, a procedure in itself subjecting his weakened constitution to no small strain. On one occasion the Marshal met Earl Li, and accosted him heartily, saying how desirous he had long been of meeting him. Li made a suitable reply, and also asked after the health of Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu. Even such a simple conversation took much time, as it had to be carried on through the medium of interpreters. Several Ambassadors are said to have expressed surprise that a Field Marshal of the victorious country should hold a long colloquy with an aged official of the vanquished empire. The Marshal briefly referred, in conclusion, to the difference of treatment extended by the Russian Court and Government to Royal Princes and foreign Ambassadors.

MR. G. DE WOLLANT.

Mr. G. de Wollant, hitherto Secretary of the Russian Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed First Secretary of the Russian Embassy in Washington. We offer him our sincere congratulations.

THE SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR AND THE SEISMIC WAVE RELIEF FUND.

We mentioned in a previous issue that the pupils of the School of the Morning Star had contributed a considerable sum for the relief of the sufferers by the Seismic Wave, and that a collection made for the same purpose on the occasion of the School's graduation ceremony had been added to the amount. In order to explain the method adopted for the distribution of the money, the following letter, from Monseigneur Berlioz, Bishop of Hakodate, to M. L'Abbé Heinrich, Director of the School of the Morning Star, has been handed to us for publication:—

Evêché de Hakodate, Japan, le 21 Juillet, 1896.

CHER MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR.—Avant mon départ de Kamaishi, je vous ai déjà accusé réception de la somme de \$189.90, produit de la quête, faite à l'occasion de votre Distribution des Prix, en faveur des malheureuses victimes du raz de marée du 15 Juin dernier. Depuis lors, j'ai reçu par l'intermédiaire de M. Beuf, deux nouveaux dons, l'un de \$6, et l'autre de \$12, ce qui porte le montant des offrandes au chiffre de \$207.90.

Une telle somme témoigne bien haut en faveur de la générosité de l'assistance d'élite qui a fait honneur à votre invitation, comme aussi des nobles sentiments que vous avez su inculquer dans le cœur des chers élèves de la si méritante et déjà si florissante Ecole de l'Étoile du Matin. M. le sous-Préfet de Tono et M. le Maire de Kamaishi, à qui j'ai fait part de votre bienveillante attention, s'en sont montrés bien touchés, et ils m'ont chargé d'être l'interprète de leur reconnaissance auprès des bienfaiteurs de la malheureuse population confiée à leur sollicitude.

Jusqu'à présent nous avons distribué pour \$132 de secours dans les départements d'Iwate et de Miyagi. A Kamaishi, \$400 ont été mis par nous à la disposition de la Mairie et de l'Hôpital de la Croix Rouge. Le reste a été réparti suivant les indications du petit Comité que nous contrôlons et qui est présidé par M. Murai Gizo, Directeur du Télégraphe de Kamaishi, et M. Murai Gembai, Architecte au service des Mines. Après avoir pourvu aux besoins les plus urgents, ces Messieurs m'ont conseillé de réserver quelques ressources pour l'automne prochain. A cette époque la situation des nécessiteux se dessinera plus nettement qu'aujourd'hui, car beaucoup de ceux qui sont présentement dans l'indigence auront réussi alors à se créer un *modus vivendi*. Mais pour ceux qui n'auront pas cet avantage ce sera la misère dans toute son horreur; les distributions de riz auront cessé; l'attention publique pourra être portée ailleurs, et puis l'approche de l'hiver aggravera encore les difficultés de la situation. Tel sera le cas des vieillards privés de leurs soutiens naturels—et on m'en a signalé plusieurs. Les estropiés eux aussi n'auront pas d'autre ressource que la charité publique. On m'a parlé enfin de quelques orphelins remeillés provisoirement dans des familles qui elles mêmes sont dans le besoin; là aussi quelques secours seraient avantageusement placés.

Dieu à l'automne, Dieu veuille que nous arrivions à amasser assez de ressources pour faire face à toutes ces nécessités, ou du moins aux plus pressantes!

En vous priant de faire parvenir aux généreux souscripteurs l'expression de notre reconnaissance et de notre sincère dévouement, je vous offre.

Cher Monsieur le Directeur, la nouvelle assurance de mes meilleurs sentiments.

A. BERLIOZ, évê de Hakodate.

TEMPERATURE THIS YEAR.

The season called *Doyo*, otherwise the dog days, set in on the 20th inst. We read in the vernacular press that the temperature since that time has been much above what it was last year. The comparative records of the thermometer are given as follow, but with singularly unscientific carelessness we are not told whether the figures represent average temperatures, or only temperatures at a certain hour—certainly they are not maxima:—

1895.		1896.
July 20th.....	72.0° F.	80.2° F.
July 21st.....	76.5° F.	81.7° F.
July 22nd.....	72.7° F.	85.8° F.
July 23rd.....	85.8° F.	87.8° F.
July 24th.....	79.2° F.	91.2° F.

The two succeeding days, 25th and 26th, were much hotter in Tokyo than any of those tabulated above. The *Miyako Shimbun* says that on the 24th the heat was so severe that five or six tram-car horses dropped in their tracks, and many others becoming incapable of working special veterinary arrangements had to be made by the Company. Poor brutes! It is terrible to think of them dragging those heavy cars under such blistering suns as we have had lately.

MR. HATOYAMA, M.P., AND THE
TECHNICAL COLLEGE AT
WASEDA.

WE have refrained from commenting on the remarks attributed to Dr. HATOYAMA at the recent graduation ceremony of the Technical College at Waseda, because we were unable to suppose that he had been correctly reported. None of the vernacular papers contained more than the briefest epitome of his speech, and as the only journal that published anything like a comprehensive résumé was the *Japan Gazette*, no means of verification presented themselves. By direct reference to Dr. HATOYAMA, however, we have at length obtained assurance that, while a few inaccuracies occur in the *Japan Gazette's* version, it is sufficiently accurate on the whole.

Dr. HATOYAMA is President of the Technical College—a private institution, founded and largely supported by Count OKUMA. In that capacity he addressed the students, and the gist of what he told them was that the statesmen of their country were quite incompetent, that; the Constitution existed on paper only and could not be worked in practice; that the judiciary consisted of men having no proper qualifications to discharge their functions—mere dummies, in short; that the barristers were a parcel of sharks, uneducated; and that the graduates of the College, whom he was addressing, might regard themselves as the future saviours of this most unfortunate situation. There is only one way of accounting for such a sweeping indictment: either Dr. HATOYAMA'S judgment is warped by the pain of some bitter disappointment, or his faculty of discrimination is for the moment inoperative. Among the statesmen he denounces are men at whose feet he has hitherto been content to sit as a willing subordinate. His own political chief belongs to the older school of officials whose dotage Dr. HATOYAMA finds so conspicuous. Count OKUMA himself is one of the signatories of the Constitution now declared by Dr. HATOYAMA to be unworkable. The Judiciary and the Bar alike include many experts whose opportunities of acquiring knowledge have been fully equal, and in some cases superior, to those enjoyed by Dr. HATOYAMA. Finally, Dr. HATOYAMA is a Japanese: what warrant does he possess to set himself on a pinnacle so far above the rest of his countrymen? We shall not discuss this phase of the matter. Dr. HATOYAMA evidently laboured under the influence of some vertigo, and will by and by recognise the extravagance of his utterances.

But apart from the question of Dr. HATOYAMA and the objects of his criticism, we can not, in the interests of the Japanese public, too strongly denounce the fatal error of pouring such notions into the minds of students just as they emerge

from college. The curse of modern Japan is the half-educated youth, wholly without experience, who imagines that a little book knowledge suffices to equip him for a leading place in political, legislative, and literary fields. From the ranks of such callow fledglings the *soshi* are recruited, as is also the army of agitators that disturb the tranquillity of the country. We have often heard it said that the College at Waseda is a nursery of *soshi*. Who shall deny it, when the graduates are launched into life, their ears tingling with addresses such as that of Dr. HATOYAMA? Be Japan what it may, these graduates as well as the faculty of the College are Japanese, and although, in their eyes, the framers and administrators of the laws seem to fall below the standards furnished by the library at Waseda, it is their first duty as true citizens to respect the statutes of the realm and to assist those administering them, instead of sneering at the former and intriguing to replace the latter. No one denies Count OKUMA'S great abilities or underestimates the services rendered by him to his country. But if he has any regard for the character that historians will write of him, he should endeavour to make Waseda College an institution for turning out lads not merely possessing scientific and literary attainments, but also grounded in the first principles of good citizenship, love of law and order and a wholesome respect for those duly placed in authority. We can conceive no greater abuse of a commanding position and large resources than that a man should pervert a college into a political instrument for his own purposes; into a place for manufacturing young men who shall be elements of sedition in the country. No statesman has a shadow of right to deliberately disturb the moral equilibrium of the rising generation. Count OKUMA has only to consider what would be his own verdict were the Imperial University, the Colleges of Law, the *Keio Gijuku*, and other great educational institutions in Japan, conducted on the lines of the Waseda Semmon Gakko. In a few years the whole nation would be thrown into a fever of unrest; all peaceful exercise of authority would become impossible, since respect for authority would not exist; instead of engaging in productive pursuits, the young men men of the country would be occupied everywhere in promoting political agitation, and anything like national union for purposes of foreign affairs would be out of the question. More than once we have listened with profound amazement to the utterance of Professors and well known publicists at Waseda graduation ceremonies, and have marvelled what estimate of patriotism and public duty could exist in the minds of men so flagrantly violating the dictates of each. Another reflection, too, has suggested itself, and suggests itself with redoubled force as we read Dr. HATOYAMA'S ad-

dress; it is that the Japanese now in power must be endowed with very remarkable administrative faculties since they succeed in preserving order despite such disturbing factors. Still, nothing is more disheartening in the national outlook than to see men like Count OKUMA and Dr. HATOYAMA deliberately perverting a great educational institution into a hotbed for forcing political mushrooms.

THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS" AND
VISCOUNT MIURA.

IT must remain an enigma why the *North China Daily News* persists in affirming that the murder of the Queen of KOREA was a crime planned by Viscount MIURA at the instance and with the approval of the Japanese Government. The idea that a Cabinet presided over by Marquis ITO, and including men like Count MUTSU, Marquis SAIONJI, Marquis SAIGO, Marquis OYAMA, Viscount ENOMOTO, and so forth, can for an instant be suspected of planning or countenancing such a barbarity, is extravagant in the extreme, and we have not the least hesitation in affirming that any newspaper attempting to ventilate such an accusation is guilty of a brutal slander, only a shade less heinous than the crime itself. From the very commencement of the war the Korean correspondent of our Shanghai contemporary astounded all readers of that journal in this country by his extraordinary stories. Nothing seemed incredible to him, provided that it made for the discredit of Japan, and though his assertions, palpably untenable from the first, were again and again falsified by events, he continued to be allowed free access to the columns of the leading Shanghai journal. Recently he repeated his worst calumny in an even more offensive form than usual, and his letter elicited a brief protest from us. That protest and the Shanghai journal's rejoinder to it, are contained in the following paragraph, to which we invite attention as an illustration of the methods that have become fashionable in the Far East:—

As a rule we take no notice of the outbursts against ourselves of the *Japan Mail*, for after all it is the business of that journal to attack any one who does not approve of everything done by its Japanese pay-masters. But the following which we find in the *Mail's* issue of the 27th inst. must be noticed because the writer has the audacity to impugn the honesty of our correspondent in Korea;

The Korean correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* continues to disgrace that journal by his displays of shallow prejudice and singular gullibility. In the sequel of various remarks not worth detailed reference his latest letter says that, were the king to return to his palace, "he would be killed (unless he had a strong foreign guard) by some fanatical *soshi*, if not by an agent of the Japanese Government, as was his consort." No person of the most ordinary honesty can any longer pretend to think that Viscount Miura acted as the Japanese Government's agent in the events culminating in the Queen's assassination.

Now Viscount Miura was the Japanese Envoy to Korea, and therefore the agent of the Japanese Government. A Japanese Court has declared in so many words that he compassed the death of the Queen of Korea, and he has never been punished by the Japanese Emperor or Government. He was a retired military officer when he was sent to Seoul as Japanese Envoy, and on his recall he was

allowed to go quietly back into retirement, retaining his rank and title. On which side is the dishonesty? The fact is the *Japan Mail* cannot forgive our correspondents—for we have had more than one in the last two years—for telling the truth about the Japanese occupation of the peninsula. The usefulness of the *Japan Mail* is a thing of the past. The Japanese Government does not now require such an organ; that Government should see for itself that to keep a through-thick-and-thin advocate does it more harm than good; if only for the repulsion the *Mail's* servility inevitably excites in all independent foreigners in the Far East. The Japanese Government can stand now on its own bottom.

Observe the spirit of this assailant. So conscious is he of the weakness of his case that he can not avoid gross personalities and the imputing of venal motives. To that stereotyped refuge of writers whose facts and knowledge are insufficient to controvert the *Japan Mail*, he flies at the very outset of the argument. His Korean correspondent not only repeats the foul calumny that the Japanese Government planned and compassed the assassination of the Queen of KOREA, but also affirms that the same Government would very likely now cause the King of KOREA to be assassinated were he to venture out of the shelter of the Russian Legation. Were grosser or more brutal slanders ever uttered against the Cabinet Ministers of a civilized country? Assuredly not. Yet because we briefly protested against them, we are declared to be venal, to be "a through-thick-and-thin advocate," and to be guilty of a servility that inevitably excites repulsion in all independent foreigners in the Far East." It is impossible to be more solemnly silly than the Shanghai paper shows itself in this matter. "Independent foreigners" forsooth! Does independence consist in publishing and endorsing the blackest calumnies, and in heaping insults upon the head of any one that ventures to contradict them? Yet the *North-China Daily News* would have been wiser had it confined itself to the resource of the proverbial controversialist without a case, abuse and personalities, for when it ventures into the realm of argument it becomes still more unhappy. Its one proof of the Japanese Government's complicity in the murder is this:—"A Japanese Court declared in so many words that Viscount MIURA had compassed the death of the Queen of KOREA, and he has never been punished by the Japanese EMPEROR or Government." Now the fact is that a Japanese preliminary tribunal declined to remand Viscount MIURA for trial, for though it was shown that he had used language inciting to the murder of the QUEEN, it could not be proved that the murder had been committed by any of those to whom the language had been addressed. After that, how could the EMPEROR or Government of Japan punish Viscount MIURA criminally? Could they ignore the verdict of the Law Court and sentence him, without trial to fine or imprisonment? A pretty uproar such an arbitrary act would have excited! Only one

kind of punishment was possible, an administrative punishment, and that was inflicted: Viscount MIURA was deprived of his post; dismissed from the public service. These are simple and well-known facts. If the *North-China Daily News* bases its abominable slander against the Japanese EMPEROR and the Japanese Cabinet—and we now have its own confession that it does base it—on the Japanese Government's alleged failure to punish Viscount MIURA, will it be so good as to state what penalty could have been lawfully inflicted other than diplomatic disgrace and deprivation of office. The truth will not be brought one hair's breadth nearer by personalities and vituperation against the editor of the *Japan Mail*. Let our contemporary burn or batter us in effigy, if it pleases, just to calm its nerves, and then try to think quietly over the unpardonable slander for which it is attempting to obtain credence on grounds that have not the shadow of substantiality.

THE IMPERIAL CHINESE CUSTOMS AND THE SILVER QUESTION.

A CORRESPONDENT, signing himself "X.," addresses us on the subject of an article that appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of May 30th with reference to the great loss that the appreciation of gold has caused to the foreign employés of the Imperial Chinese Customs. It would seem that our article was not very carefully read by "X.," for he charges us with errors that we did not commit. Thus, he writes:—"It is not a fact that the leading mercantile firms and shipping houses have done nothing to ease the situation for their employés," and he then refers to the liberal spirit evinced by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the evident implication being that we made some assertion in the contrary sense. But we did not. What we said was simply that the catastrophe of an immensely augmented burden of sterling debts and of interest, when expressed in terms of silver, had "fallen upon nearly all business concerns and residents in the East." "X." accuses us of another mistake also. "It is not a fact," he writes, "that the Indian Government has done nothing to relieve the situation for its silver-paid employés," and in support of his denial he quotes the cases of the Hongkong and Singapore Governments, both of which have granted a favourable rate of exchange to members of the Colonial Service. Admitting the force of these examples for the general purposes of our correspondent's argument, it is only just to remind him that our allusion was to "the servants of the British Crown in India," not to those in Hongkong or the Straits Settlements.

Such points are comparatively trivial, however. More important is the misapprehension that we discountenance public criticism of such a question. We do not

by any means assume that position. But there is criticism and criticism, and there are good and bad seasons for criticism. Criticism like that published by the *North-China Daily News* last May seemed indiscreet in tone and ill-timed. For the writer led his readers to suppose that it was entirely within the competence of the Inspector-General to correct the grievance complained of, and that his failure to correct it might fairly be counted an act of injustice. Now that certainly is not the case, as "X." himself, we make no doubt, will agree. Sir ROBERT HART has been proverbial for generosity when means to be generous were at his disposal. But a moment has arrived when the Government that he serves finds itself in great financial straits, and when the only revenue on which it can rely as a means of extricating itself from its difficulties, is precisely the revenue that would have to be cut into if the silver grievance of the Customs employés received practical recognition. Thus the season is most inopportune for ventilating that grievance, and the manner of its ventilation in the columns of the *North-China Daily News* appeared to us more likely to provoke umbrage than to promote a settlement. For the rest, we entirely agree with our correspondent. No policy could be more unworthy or less sensible on the part of a government than to turn a deaf ear to the legitimate complaints of its servants, and by taking advantage of circumstances beyond their control, to reduce them to such a condition that their zeal and their energy are maimed by financial anxieties. But surely to offer truisms of that kind for the consideration of Sir ROBERT HART is wholly superfluous. A man whose great skill as an organizer and administrator has been established by years of successful work, does not require to be reminded that a spirit of discontent among subordinates is fatal to the efficiency of a service. If such a spirit exists among the foreign employés of the Chinese Customs, the columns of the press can not be better employed than in making known its existence, though we are persuaded that Sir ROBERT HART is already fully cognizant of all the facts, and that, were means available to apply a remedy, he would not lose a day in employing them. In our previous article we explained pretty fully the weak points, as we conceive them, in the employés case. That ground need not be again traversed, especially as we agree with "X." in thinking that, within the limit of its capacities, the Chinese Government ought to bear some part of the heavy loss that has fallen upon its servants. But we must emphatically repeat our previously expressed conviction that no time could be worse chosen than the present for pushing such complaints, and that, hard as it may be to wait, and painful as has been the long patience already exercised, the Customs employés will best consult

their own interests and promote the permanency of the fine service to which they belong, by not placing the Inspector-General in a dilemma at this crisis. It is greatly to be regretted that an opportunity was not created for disposing of the question before the war broke out. Possibly Sir ROBERT HART is open to criticism for not appreciating the importance of taking some definite action three years ago. But without understanding the obstacles that then presented themselves, we are obviously incompetent to form any intelligent judgment.

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

IF Japanese troops have really been guilty of cruelty and excesses in Formosa, it is well that the facts should be published, and that the condemnation of the world at large should be invoked. But before we credit the statements thus far recorded, it is a duty imposed by justice to scrutinise them carefully; a duty all the more imperative when we remember that sweeping and terrible accusations of a similar character, brought against the Japanese on a previous occasion, were proved to be Chinese fabrications, entirely without basis in facts, and so clumsily invented that they bore intrinsic evidences of falsehood. Let us see, then, what warrant we have for crediting the things now written.

In the first place, we observe that not a single European or American witnessed the atrocities complained of: they rest entirely upon Chinese testimony. There were only two foreigners at Hoon-nim (Yun-lin) when the trouble commenced: "the rest had left the district a week or so prior to the outbreak." Of these two, one, Mr. OLLIA, was killed by the insurgents; the other, Mr. PATEL, barely escaped their rifles. It is true that the Amoy correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*, after describing the alleged atrocities in general terms, says:—"Some of the foreign residents of Anping have come over in the *Thales*, and this is their *vivâ voce* testimony." Anping is sixty miles from the scene of the insurrection. Not one of the foreigners in question could have had any information except what was derived from Chinese sources. We know, from the letter of another correspondent who refers to the death of Mr. OLLIA, that "no positive details of the tragedy have been obtained, owing to the present isolation of the disaffected districts." It finally results, therefore, that the cruelties alleged against the Japanese soldiery immediately preceding the insurrection are attested by Chinese witnesses solely.

Let us now turn to the insurrection itself, as described by two correspondents on the strength of Chinese testimony. At the outset we are asked to believe that everything like disaffection against the

new administration would have disappeared before now had not Japanese petty officials, soldiers, and coolies goaded the people to desperation by acts of barbarity and outrage. Is that credible? A foreign correspondent, who witnessed the original campaign for the subjugation of the island, as well as the rebellion that subsequently broke out, has placed on record his deliberate opinion that the great mistake made by the Japanese was excessive leniency. He predicted that they would suffer for forbearance, sure to be misinterpreted, and he described the treacherous ferocity of the inhabitants, who disguised themselves as peasants and worked peacefully in the fields whenever a considerable force of Japanese was in sight, but ran for their concealed arms and ruthlessly butchered any detachment too small to offer effective resistance. Then came the insurrection of last January. No one, at that time, suggested or imagined that the rebels had been goaded by Japanese excesses to take the field. Quite a different notion prevailed, namely, that the measures taken by the Japanese to stamp out the spirit of disaffection had been insufficient. The wholesale murders of peaceful Japanese and the barbarous methods pursued by the insurgents in January are matters of history, and it is further on record that repetitions of such outbreaks were foretold, in view of the intractable temper of some of the inhabitants. With these facts before us, can we believe that the Hoon-nim bandits consisted solely of men who had been driven to desperation "by the constantly occurring visits and raids of Japanese soldiery and gendarmes"? The Japanese Authorities allege that the bandits were remnants of the old insurgents and that Hoon-nim and its vicinity had for years been a focus of disaffection. Which of the two explanations seems the more credible? Moreover, it does not appear reasonable to imagine that the "constant-occurring visits and raids" referred to could have been acts of purely wanton cruelty perpetrated by Japanese soldiers and gendarmes. If such things were done, they must have been prompted by lawlessness on the part of the Formosans; a conclusion that throws additional light on the true character of the Hoon-nim bandits.

Coming now to the incidents of the insurrection itself and of the three days immediately preceding it, here is the story told:—The depredations of the bandits in the hills—comparatively a small body—"proving at last annoying to the Japanese," measures were concerted to exterminate them. On the 22nd of June, "a force of about one hundred and fifty Japanese troops arrived at Hoon-nim and gave out that they were on their way to Po-li-sia." These men were "a detachment of the main expeditionary force sent to continue the work of devastation." They marched out of Hoon-nim, and failing to dislodge the bandits from the hills, obtain-

ed re-inforcements and renewed the attack. But again they found themselves unable to grapple with the bandits. Accordingly, they changed their tactics; directed their line of march against the villages lying along the base of the hills; burned and pillaged these, to the number of from 70 to 90, so that "thousands of the inhabitants, rendered homeless, childless, and generally indifferent to their future, joined the robbers, who, it appeared, were well supplied with arms and ammunition; and the whole force, now enormously increased, swooped down on the plains, boldly attacking their late aggressors, and forced as many as escaped death to retreat to Khaghi," which place the rebels invested on July 1st. Now this story appears credible enough at first sight. But in truth it abounds with absurdities. Hoon-nim is an outpost of Khaghi (Chia-i), which place lies four days' march distant in a south-westerly direction. Po-li-sia is two days' march to the north of Hoon-nim. "The main expeditionary force"—a very large force, since 150 men constituted a mere detachment—must have left Khaghi not later than the 17th of June, and must have been within a day's march of Hoon-nim on the 22nd. What became of that force? Where was it when Hoon-nim was attacked by the rebels on the 25th? Had it turned back, without any apparent reason, without attempting to rout out the bandits, without even coming in sight of an enemy—had it turned back and retreated precipitately to Khaghi? And what became of the detachment of 150 men? Between 10 and 11 p.m. on the 22nd, it marched out of Hoon-nim. That night it reached a village 8 miles distant, and finding only women there, slaughtered them and burned the place. The next day, it burned three other villages, and "killed about 200 people, sparing no male, not even children." Then, so far as the particulars of their proceedings are concerned, these 150 soldiers disappear from the stage. We are simply told that they "burned and pillaged from 70 to 90 villages." It took them a day (the 23rd) to burn 3 villages; how long must the burning and pillaging of from 70 to 90 have occupied? And supposing that the villages were only a mile apart, that is to say, supposing the interior of Formosa to be one of the most thickly populated spots on the face of the globe, then it appears that this phantom detachment must have covered a distance of from 70 to 90 miles in one day, the 24th—for on the 25th the rebels had assumed the offensive—not merely flying, or bicycling, but burning and pillaging some four-score villages, besides "several farmsteads," and "killing without mercy as many of the inhabitants as came within reach." Then the rebels attacked Hoon-nim—on the 27th it is said, though we know that it was on the 25th. They did not proceed to extremities that day, and during the night

the Japanese garrison obtained a reinforcement of 33 men from Tanlak. Next day, the whole garrison together with the Japanese camphor merchants were slaughtered, only 10 escaping to Tanlak, though the force defending the place must have numbered fully 60, according to the above account, and the rebels mustered only 500. The method said to have been pursued by the rebels is also worth noting. They piled firewood round the houses and temple in which the Japanese were barricaded, threw oil on the firewood and set it on fire! That is what 500 Formosan rebels did while 60 Japanese soldiers and gendarmes were plying them with rifle bullets at a range of a few yards. Meanwhile, where was the "main expeditionary force" that had marched from Khaghi 10 days previously to exterminate these very rebels? Thenceforth, it was a walk over for the insurgents. Post after post was taken, 210 Japanese soldiers and gendarmes being killed at three places, and a general slaughter taking place at three others, all these operations requiring only half-a-dozen days. Such are the wild exaggerations and ridiculous impossibilities gravely strung together for the information of the public. Coming as the details do from Chinese sources, we are not surprised that they should be inconsequential and extravagant, but we are surprised that they should be repeated without scrutiny by responsible foreign correspondents.

Whether Japanese soldiers, petty civil official, and coolies have or have not been guilty of cruelty in Formosa, we do not pretend to say. Our own information goes to show that after the insurrection of last January, much roughness was shown by the soldiers towards the people, and some lawlessness by the military coolies, while neither the local officials nor the junior officers made any vigorous attempt to restrain these excesses. But between roughness and murderous cruelty, between lawlessness, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, and wholesale butchery, rapine and pillage, such as are now charged against the Japanese, there stands a very wide gulf. Until such charges are substantiated by evidence other than that of the Chinese themselves, and until the evidence in support of them, from whatever source it come, ceases to be intrinsically extravagant and incredible, no one is justified in believing them, or in publishing them without all reservation.

CHOLERA.

It is most satisfactory to think that little, if any, fear need be entertained, of an outbreak of cholera this year. We read in a Tokyo newspaper that the total number of cases up to the present has been only 130, throughout the whole country, and that they have all been sporadic. No symptoms of an epidemic have been observed anywhere, and as we are now approaching the end of July, and have passed through a week of the dog days, the prospect is most encouraging.

THE PHYSICAL BASIS OF LIFE.*

IN reviewing a work by an expert on an extremely technical subject, two courses are open to the reviewer. He may limit himself strictly to the field of his author, and within this field may critically examine the value of the fruits of the new research. That method is obviously unsuitable for the general reader, for the reason that the review becomes usually a degree or two more formidable than the original work, itself already beyond the comprehension of all but a select few. The other method consists in a presentation of the fruits of the new research in a popular manner, and a consideration of the bearing of the work on the general scientific and philosophical conceptions of the time. This latter course is the one that, without further apology, we shall choose in dealing with Dr. LOEW's book.

The course of physiology from its brilliant beginnings with HARVEY to the present day, has been the explanation of what used to be called "vital phenomena" in mechanical—chemical and physical—terms. Throughout this period, among physiologists that consider the philosophical aspect of their science, there have been two schools, the school that considered that all vital problems would ultimately be found to be explained in chemical and physical terms, and the school that considered that there must remain an irreducible residuum of distinctively vital phenomena. Those that held the mechanical theory pointed to each advance that was made in physiology as an indication of the correctness of their view; while the vitalists replied that the explanation in mechanical terms of some of the functions of living organisms left the essential question as to the true nature of vital activity entirely untouched. Professor LOEW's book is an initial attempt to answer this question, to describe the nature of vital activity in terms of molecular physics. There have indeed been other attempts of this kind, but they have all been hitherto fanciful operations on the "high priori road." Dr. LOEW is the first to attempt an answer based upon a sufficient quantum of actual research, and it is for this reason that the importance of his little book can hardly be overrated.

He approaches the problem from a consideration of the chemistry of living matter. The difficulty of this study is enormous, for the reason that the primary property of living matter is its sensitiveness to changes in its environment. The first result of an attempt to examine living matter by chemical reagents is that the substance we are examining undergoes the remarkable series of changes known as "death," and we are arrested at the very outset of our research. Of the

* *The Energy of Living Protoplasm*, by Oscar Loew, Ph.D., Professor in the Imperial University, Japan; London, 1896.

chemical constituents of living bodies immediately after death we have a fair knowledge, but of the chemical nature of actual living matter our knowledge is, and probably must always be, largely a matter of inference.

We know that the indispensable chemical constituents of living matter are bodies known as albumens, and the solution of the problem of "vitality," if it is to be solved by mechanical conceptions, lies in understanding the difference between "passive albumen," as we meet with it stored up in seeds and eggs and throughout animal and vegetable organisms after death, and "active albumen" as it exists in living cells, the essential constituent of living matter, on which "vital" activities depend. The nature of this difference Dr. LOEW believes he has determined to consist in the difference between a stable and a labile chemical compound. In stable chemical compounds the atoms are placed in comparatively fixed positions relatively to each other, and a change in the relative positions is not brought about except by a force sufficient to cause disruption of the whole compound. On the other hand, "a labile position exists if in a molecule one atom is influenced simultaneously by the affinities of two neighbouring atoms, and thus becomes subject to an oscillatory movement and possessed therefore of kinetic energy in the form of continuous atomic motion." By research into the physiology of plants, Professor LOEW has shown that such a labile albuminous substance does actually exist in vegetable cells; and he argues that the chemical characteristics of this labile proteid will satisfactorily account for the phenomena of vital activity. Actually established facts are that:—

"The transition of living protoplasm into dead protoplasm exhibits a far-reaching resemblance to the transition of a labile substance into an isomeric stable form by atomic migration."

"There exists, widespread in the vegetable kingdom, a highly labile proteid serving as reserve material, which undergoes chemical change by the same influences as those that cause the death of the cells"

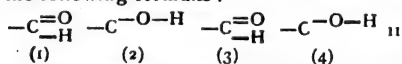
Dr. LOEW continues:—"The evidence drawn from the information supplied by nature leads to the very same conclusions as those that I had already reached by deduction. They are (1) that a great activity, in the form of oscillation of certain atoms in labile position, exists in the proteids of living protoplasm, and (2) that this ever active chemical energy, leading to respiration and in turn intensified by it, is especially well adapted to do chemical work, since atoms can be set in motion by others already in motion, just as molecular motion (heat) can be imparted to other molecules, i.e. conveyed by impact . . .

I conclude that the peculiar mode of motion in the labile proteids is also the source

of vital activity. This energy is the necessary link in the chain of constructive and destructive metabolism. It must, on the one hand, help radiant energy to construct carbohydrates from carbonic acid in green plants, and on the other, lend its aid to burn up carbohydrates, fats, and amido-acids in the respiration process. . . . What I have attempted has not been an explanation of complicated vital functions, but merely that of the nature of the energy emanating from the proteids of living matter."

That the *functions* of living matter are explicable in mechanical terms, physiologists of all schools alike admit. Dr. LOEW'S merit lies in his offering us a plausible explanation of the mechanical basis of *vital energy*, of that *activity* in which, as is well said by BUNGE (one of the foremost of the vitalistic school), "lies the riddle of life."

Let us turn to consider a difficulty in connection with Dr. LOEW'S hypothesis—a difficulty involved in the whole conception of *lability*. The difficulty will be best explained by a concrete example. "One of the most interesting labile atomic groups," says Dr. LOEW, "is the aldehyde group, —C—O—H , in which the oxygen exerts an attracting influence upon the hydrogen connected with the carbon atom, this being generally tetravalent, but sometimes only bivalent. The hydrogen atom is thus ever oscillating between the carbon and the oxygen, as may be indicated by the following formulæ:—



The hydrogen atom may be conceived as oscillating between the carbon atom and the oxygen atom, as the contact-breaker of a faradic battery oscillates between the electro-magnet and the connecting point to the longer circuit. The defect in the analogy we have chosen serves to point the difficulty of which we have spoken. The oscillation of the contact-breaker depends on two forces that alternately become effective in opposite directions, the force of the electro-magnet overpowering the force of the spring, and the force of the spring when the electro-magnet has ceased to act. But can we find any similar play of alternating forces in our hypothetically constructed labile compound? It does not seem so. It is certain that the attractive force between two chemical atoms increases enormously as the distance between the atoms diminishes. Let us suppose our hydrogen atom to be placed initially between the oxygen atom and the carbon atom in such a manner that the pull is equal in both directions. If the hydrogen atom now moves in the direction of, say, the carbon atom, the attraction of the carbon atom at once becomes much greater than that of the oxygen atom, and the —C=O form should be permanently

assumed. The position of the hydrogen atom between the oxygen and the carbon rather resembles that of the historic donkey between the two bundles of hay. If the animal once abandons the mean position so that the attractive smell of one of the bundles becomes stronger than that of the other, his choice is irrevocably determined. No perpetual oscillation between two bundles is possible.

Does, then, Dr. LOEW conceive that in a labile group something takes place analogous to the changes in the faradic battery when the contact-breaker is vibrating? that the movement—to return to our example—of the hydrogen atom towards the carbon atom brings about a state of molecular forces within the group whereby the opposite form of the group becomes preferable; and conversely, that when the hydrogen atom has moved back past the mean position and approximated itself to the oxygen atom, the opposite phase now becomes superiorly attractive? That would seem to be implied, for in that way only would be rendered possible the persistence in the group of an oscillatory movement whereby kinetic energy is preserved in the form of continuous atomic motion. But if that is Dr. LOEW'S view, he has not expressed it clearly; nor does he anywhere indicate his conception of the mechanism by which this changing play of the intramolecular forces may be supposed to be kept up. To return to our original rough analogy, unless something can be imagined more or less similar in its mode of working to the alternate play of electric and mechanical stresses in the faradic battery, the hypothesis of the oscillating atom in the labile group seems difficult to maintain.

Another criticism we feel impelled to make is that Dr. LOEW'S theory does not, at first sight at any rate, appear to throw any light on the phenomena of death and of generation. Yet any theory of vital activity that fails in these points can hardly be called fruitful. For death is the true enigma of existence. Immortality is comprehensible, while of death we understand nothing, though we are convinced of its reality by the remorseless logic of facts. If this oscillatory movement be conceived as once started in the labile group, what should suffice spontaneously to bring it to an end? And how explain the phenomena of generation produced by the fusion of two sexual elements? The ovum contains within its plasma the germ of countless future existences, yet, after a few trifling changes, it will inevitably perish unless its energies are reinforced by union with the sperm cell. In what way do the vital energies of these two cells reinforce one another to render possible the phenomena of development? We cannot, at first sight at any rate, see how Dr. LOEW'S hypothesis will help us to solve this fundamental problem of biology.

Here, with regret, we must leave Dr. LOEW'S book. We have tried to give it what he asks for in his preface, "impartial consideration and positive criticism." We ask him to give the same to the difficulties we have pointed out in connection with a hypothesis that is of the greatest interest, but necessarily tentative, breaking as it does untried ground. If it can be sustained, it will unquestionably prove to be of the greatest possible assistance to the progress of biological science. Especially interesting and valuable would be the bearing of this view of the nature of vital energy on WEISMANN'S new theory of Germinal Selection. This also we commend to Dr. LOEW'S consideration.

M.E.P.

COAL IN JAPAN.

The output of coal in Japan, writes the *Tokyo Economist*, totals about three million tons a year, of which one half is consumed at home and the remainder is shipped abroad, chiefly to Hongkong, Shanghai, Chefoo, Newchwang, Singapore, and San Francisco. The exported coal is obtained from Miike and other collieries in Kyushu and also from the collieries of Hokkaido. In Hongkong, where about 600,000 tons of Japanese coal was imported last year, it is used by steamers and factories. The possible rivals of Japanese coal in Hongkong are the collieries of Tonquin and Australia, but they need not be regarded with any dread. Cardiff coal, so long as the silver price of gold does not appreciate, can not be exported East for ordinary use. In Shanghai, Newchwang, and Singapore Japanese coal is used for steamships, factories, and in the kitchen. In San Francisco it is used for generating gas. The price of the article is a great obstacle to extending its sale in San Francisco, and at present a reduction is out of the question, as ships that would carry coal to San Francisco find it difficult to get a return cargo. Coal mining has made remarkable progress during the last two decades, for whereas the output amounted to only a little over 560,000 tons in 1875, the supply was over 3,307,000 in 1893; the figures for 1894 are not yet obtainable, but those engaged in the business estimate the output at 10 to 20 per cent. higher than the previous year. The capacity of Japanese collieries is still a matter of conjecture. Some eight or nine years ago great doubts were entertained upon the matter and mining was suspended in coal fields owned by the Navy in Kyushu. Smokeless coal is produced in Wakayama and Kumamoto, but only in small quantity.

THE SHANGHAI LIBEL CASE.

The suit for libel instituted by the *Institution St. Joseph and Philomène Agoutin* versus John Dant Clark and Thomas William Kingsmill, proprietors of the *Shanghai Mercury*, has been heard and concluded in Shanghai by Sir N. J. Hannen, Chief Justice, and Messrs. F. Mann, W. Roberts, H. Wilcockson, J. H. Craven, and R. Macgregor, Jury. Mr. H. S. Wilkinson and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson appeared for the plaintiffs, the defendants being represented by Mr. W. V. Drummond, with whom was Mr. Sharp, and Mr. Gedge (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master). The Jury found that gross negligence had been proved, and the apology of defendants was insufficient, and awarded the plaintiffs £1,000 damages, with costs. The Jury suggested, that a full apology, dictated by the plaintiffs' legal adviser, be published in all the papers in which the libel had appeared. His Lordship entered judgment in accordance with the finding.

TIMBER.

The timber usually shipped to Tokyo for ordinary use mostly consists of *sugi* from Kishyu, and constitutes 43 per cent. of the total lumber brought to the Fukagawa lumber-yard. Next to Kishyu, Bishyu, which sends fir (*hinoki*) grown in Kiso and Hida, and Enshyu, whence it is carried down by the Tenryu, are noted timber centres, though their aggregate total falls below that of Kii. Besides these, Oshyu supplies pine, and Hokkaido a species of hard wood called *shioji*. The demand for timber has grown considerably in Tokyo, despite the marked diminution in fires of late, sales amounting every year to over 5 million *yen*. The supply can not keep pace with the demand, and naturally the market appreciates. The excess of demand over supply has specially raised the price of fir, so that boards formerly rejected are now used in building work. Hard oak timber has also considerably decreased, and its place is taken by the hard wood produced in Hokkaido. Railway carriages are mostly made of this wood. The extensive purchase of timber during the war still further pushed up prices, and though at present, owing to people's refraining from fresh building of any magnitude, deterred by the price of timber, the market presents a dull aspect, nevertheless, quotations are as high as ever; 20 per cent. higher than the average, compared with the prices ruling previously to the outbreak of the war. Recently a small quantity of Oregon pine has been imported, and it is quite probable that the import of this timber will be greatly increased after a regular service is opened by the Yusen Kaisha between Japan and Seattle. The diminution in the supply of timber, or rather the increase of demand, has attracted many capitalists to this question, and Messrs. Okura Kihachiro, Moroto Seiroku, and Dokura, are planting trees on an extensive scale.

One of the chief demands for Japanese timber comes from China, where sleepers are wanted for the projected railways. The Japanese Consul at Tientsin recently forwarded two reports on this subject. Lately three firms in England, France, and Russia secured contracts to supply 240,000 sleepers; the English have to supply 103,000, the French, 60,000, and Russia the rest. The French firm has already received a consignment of Japanese timber; and the English firm has given an order to Japanese merchants for a part of its contract. The export of timber from Russian Siberia being forbidden owing to the enormous quantity required in the construction of the Siberian Railway the contract made by the Russian firm in Tientsin must ultimately come to Japan. In short, whether a contractor be European or Japanese he must depend for his supply on Japan. The English and French firms obtained the sleepers from Japan at a rate of 7 *mace* (1 *mace* corresponding to about 1.43 Japanese *sen*) per sleeper delivered at Taku, where one sleeper is to be delivered to the Chinese Authorities at the rate of 7 *mace* 5 *fan* (1 *fan* corresponding to 1.43 *sen* in Japanese currency).

OBITUARY.

In Count Kamei, who died on the 18th inst., the peerage has lost a distinguished member. The deceased was the third son of Lord Tautsumi Tetsuo, a court noble, and was born in 1850. At the age of eleven he was appointed an attendant of the Emperor, then a few years older than the Count. When 17 years old he was adopted by the ex-Lord of the fief of Hamada, Iwami Province. Next year his adopted father retired from active life and Count Kamei succeeded to the estate. In 1876, he resigned from the Court service, with a view to prosecuting his studies, and in August, 1877, started for London, where he remained for three years, devoting himself to the study of æsthetics at University College. For a few years after his return home he busied himself with Chinese literature and chemistry. In 1883, he was appointed an official of

the Foreign Bureau of the Imperial Household, and was shortly afterward promoted to the office of Chamberlain. But his thoughts turned westward again, and in 1886, we find him prosecuting his favourite study, æsthetics, at the University of Berlin, where he remained for about five years. When the China-Japan War broke out, the deceased decided to accompany the Second Army, to take photographs of the battle scenes. He reached the Liaotung Peninsula on October 6th, 1894, and marched in the rear of the Second Army to Chinchow and Port Arthur, never omitting to photograph every scene or place that struck him as useful in compiling an account of the war. When the Second Army was quartered for the winter at Chinchow, the Count obtained leave to return to Japan, and presented a number of photographs to the Emperor, then at Headquarters in Hiroshima. In March of last year, he again started for the Peninsula in company with the Guards, but returned after a few weeks, in consequence of the conclusion of the Treaty of Peace at Shimonoseki. He had taken altogether above 600 photographs of scenes of the War. His merit was acknowledged in his lifetime, and a high class decoration was conferred upon him. Early this year, disease appeared in his respiratory organs; it gradually grew worse, and he finally succumbed. While confined to bed, he compiled a domestic law to be observed by his descendants; this obtained the approval of the Minister of the Household a few days before his demise.

STATISTICS ON DOUBLE SUICIDE.

Mr. Kure Bunso, a well-known statistician, gives in the *Waseda Bungaku* the result of his inquiries into the causes of double suicide, basing his figures on the cases that have appeared in the vernacular papers from January last year, to May. The total is 44. These he classifies as follows:—Species: 36 were due to previous agreement between the parties, the rest are uncertain. Reasons:—16 were attributable to the presence of obstacles preventing the parties from being legally united; 12, to destitution caused by prodigality; 2, to pregnancy; 6, uncertain. Results:—Consummation of death by both parties due to mutual consent, 17; survival of both, 12; survival of the girl, 1; survival of the man, 6; in forced double suicide, consummation of death of both parties, 3; survival of both, 3; survival of girl, 1; survival of man, 1. Mode of suicide:—Edged tools 12; poison, 9; pistols, 4; use of poisons succeeded by lethal weapons, 3; drowning, 3; hanging, 2; run over by trains, 1; uncertain, 2; in forced suicide, edged tools 7, poison, 1. Professions:—Men, merchants 10; medical students, 6; artisans, 5; farmers, 4; servants, 3; soldiers, 2; jinrikisha-puller, 1; male procurer, 1; unknown, 4; in forced suicide, artisans, 5; merchant, 1; unknown, 1; soldier, 1. Women, prostitutes, 32; daughters or wives of farmers, 4; *geisha*, 3; artisans' wives, 1; kept mistress, 1; servant, 1; female student, 1; no fixed occupation, 1. Married or unmarried:—Men, unmarried, 9; married, 7 (of whom five had children of their own, and one an adopted child), unknown, 20; in forced suicide, unmarried 4; married 4:—

Age.	Mutual Consent.		Forced Suicide.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 20.....	2	11	—	3
21—25.....	18	21	6	4
26—30.....	10	2	2	—
About 30.....	4	1	—	—
Unknown	2	1	—	1

Generalizing the above, the writer observes that the uniformity in the rate of double suicide points to a corresponding uniformity in the cause, while the preponderance of double-suicides in the two months of November and December shows that poverty, brought about by prodigality, is an important factor. That the resolution taken by parties about to commit suicide is firm, is proved by the fact that in general one-half of the number achieve their purpose. The relative preponderance of death in the cases of medical students must be due to their easy access to poisons and to their com-

paratively dissolute life; while that of mechanics, especially in forced suicide, must be due to their familiarity with edged tools. Two-thirds of the females were prostitutes. Double suicide by ordinary folks deserves more pity, especially when it is remembered that not a few legally married couples are at times driven to resort to this extremity in consequence of the intervention of parents. With respect to double suicides in the prostitute quarters, a word of explanation is needed to show the difference that exists between pre-Restoration times and to-day. Double suicide was chiefly prevented by the enforcement of strict regulations in pre-Restoration days. For instance, when parties failed to achieve death, both the man and the woman were exposed for three days at Nihonbashi, and were then degraded into *Eta* (pariahs). Moreover, all the furniture owned by a girl was confiscated and given to the *Eta*. The loss that a brothel-keeper incurred when one of his girls participated in a double-suicide was very serious, and he naturally kept up a strict system of inspection over the rooms occupied by the girls. When a girl survived her partner no legal punishment was visited on her, the presumption being that her brain must have been deranged; when a man survived, the case was entirely different. He was presumed to have forced suicide on his partner, and on that ground, was sentenced to death. About half a century ago a double suicide of the latter description happened in a certain Yoshiwara. Fortunately for the man, two razors were found in the room where the double suicide was attempted. It was judged therefore that the case must have been one of mutual consent, and the man was sentenced to banishment, not to capital punishment. Some persons argue that the relative greater frequency of suicide among girls belonging to small brothels must partly be due to the greater misery to which they are subject. A most natural conjecture!

THE POST OFFICE AGAIN.

A subscriber writes to us from Takow, in Formosa:—"The Japanese post here is so irregular and untrustworthy that there is not a particle of use in continuing to send me the *Daily Mail*. It comes to me, sometimes, the copy of the 15th, say, a week before that of the 1st of the same month, and occasionally whole weeks are missing altogether. From receipt of this, therefore, will you kindly discontinue sending me your *Daily* issue, and instead send me the *Weekly Mail*, addressing it so and so, care of so and so, Amoy." It is unnecessary for us to comment on this. We have already invited the attention of the Post Office Authorities to the apparent impossibility of getting letters or papers transmitted to Formosa with anything like regularity, and now there is the humiliating fact that a subscriber asks us to make use of the Chinese post in preference to the Japanese. It is true that a regular mail service has not yet been established to Formosa, and pending its establishment delays in transmission would not surprise us. But the complaint of our correspondent goes far beyond a mere question of delay: it suggests unpardonable carelessness. We can assure the postal authorities that the service is perpetually criticized, and with justice, within Japan itself, and that unless some efficient measures of re-organization are taken, the Japanese post will entirely lose its reputation. There is, of course, much material for constructing an excuse in the case of mail matter bearing addresses in Roman letters. It would be unreasonable to expect that the staff of every post office in Japan should be competent to deal promptly with such matter. But between great centres of foreign correspondence like Tokyo and Yokohama, regularity may fairly be expected, yet it is precisely between Tokyo and Yokohama that deviations from regularity are most frequently recorded.

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* alleges that the Formosan insurgents received aid from the mainland. It even descends to particulars, and assures its readers that the arms sent over from China to be used by the rebels were packed in coffins. That must have been an extremely expensive method of transport; for it can scarcely have been pretended that coffins filled with rifles were mere empty shells, and coffins containing corpses pay a very high freight. However, there is the alternative that the strange packing-cases were carried across by junks the masters of which were in the secret. The story is difficult to reconcile with intelligence published at the time of Marquis Ito's visit to Amoy, namely, that the Chinese at that place had no manner of sympathy with Formosan insurgents, and were only anxious that good order should be restored and trade pushed.

In the same journal—which, for the moment, appears to have a monopoly of Formosan news—we read that, according to telegraphic despatches from Major-General Tatum, the insurrection in central Formosa has been completely subdued, and it is considered that the duty of preserving order can be amply discharged by the Second Brigade alone. "Now that quiet has been restored, operations of general cleansing are to be undertaken. The rebels will be killed; their arms confiscated, and severe measures adopted." That sounds ominous, but what else can be expected? If gentle means effect nothing, a different policy is inevitable. That insurgents surrendering will not be put to death is proved, however—if any proof be needed—by intelligence contained in another paragraph, also of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*:—"The insurgents that surrendered to our troops at Tai-tung are all to be sent by *Fusan Maru* to the mainland. The *Fusan Maru* carrying a batch of them, touched at Keelung on the 21st instant, and thence steered for Amoy."

It has been announced with much assurance by journals whose record does not entitle them to ready belief, that the insurgents in Formosa obtained a supply of small-arms, and that these were carried across from Amoy packed in coffins. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* denies the story emphatically. It says a considerable number of weapons of all kinds have long been in the possession of the inhabitants of Formosa who were obliged in former times to protect themselves against the native tribes and the bandits. Recently the Japanese Authorities concluded that, in the interests of public peace and good order, these weapons ought to be confiscated. Large quantities of rifles, ammunition, and swords were seized accordingly, but there is no doubt that many other weapons were cleverly concealed by their owners. When the insurgents assembled in the vicinity of Yuen-lin, they mustered several thousands strong, but not more than one man in every three had a rifle. Nevertheless, owing to the extreme difficulties presented by the nature of the country, the officer in command of the garrison at Yuen-lin, though he had a force of some four hundred men, was obliged to confine himself to defensive operations.

It has also been stated that there were signs of a renewed outbreak in the north, near Taipei, that the temper of the people was generally bad, and that the civil administration of the island was in a confused condition. These tales seem to have been circulated by persons having an interest in deceiving the public—we quote from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Trustworthy intelligence shows that, in contradistinction to the disturbed state of the central districts, the north remained perfectly tranquil, and at no time were any indications of disaffection observable.

Another report circulated was that the well-known Formosan, Lin Wei-yuen, now residing in Amoy, had been engaged in a plot to recover Formosa from its conquerors, and had secretly assembled a number of adventurers whom he caused to be conveyed to the island for the purpose of assisting the insurgents. That, too, is emphatically denied by our contemporary, which says that no one having any

knowledge of Lin could credit such a report. Lin is the richest man in Formosa. He was formerly called Lin Pang-pien, and everybody in the island was acquainted with him by reputation. He has no concern at present except to remain secure is the possession of his large property, and, with so much at stake, a certainly abortive insurrection is the last thing with which he would be likely to associate himself. It is true that he was forced by the insurgents to give them money and rice during the first struggle against the Japanese, but he acted in that matter entirely against his will, and is not at all disposed to risk the confiscation of his wealth for the sake of killing a few Japanese soldiers.

Finally, the *Nichi Nichi* deals with the story published by some of the vernacular newspapers to the effect that Li Chun-shang and Ku Hien-yung were in secret collusion with the rebels, and that, during the severe struggle at Lo-chiang, they brought up a force of over a thousand natives, organized under the pretence of being friendly volunteers, who, however, though making at first as though they would assist the Japanese, were ultimately found fighting in the ranks of the rebels. That version is entirely opposed to the facts. It is known from a letter sent by an official of the Civil Administration that Ku Hien-yung did actually march to the assistance of the Japanese at Lo-chiang, at the head of a thousand volunteers. The Japanese, however, did not wait for his arrival, but, though greatly outnumbered, attacked the rebels, and after an engagement lasting nine hours, put them to flight. Ku's loyal action on that occasion was doubtless attributable, indirectly, to the fact that he has a Japanese decoration, but those that know him well assert that he is a man of most upright and faithful spirit, and that the last thing to be expected of him is treachery of any kind.

There has been no telegraphic news from Formosa since the 21st. The *Tokyo Asahi*, commenting on the fact, notes that the cable between Nagasaki and Shanghai is interrupted, which of course explains the silence. On the 20th, however, the state of affairs was that the insurrection had been completely broken, and that the Japanese had recovered and garrisoned all the places from which they had been obliged to retreat during the days of their first surprise. It would appear that the surviving rebels fled to the mountains, and our contemporary predicts that a campaign of extermination will now be undertaken against them. Of course that is almost inevitable, but we do not imagine that any movements on a large scale can be organized by the Japanese before autumn. The pursuit of the insurgents into their mountain fastnesses must, under any circumstances, be a work of immense tediousness and difficulty. It has hitherto been supposed that the hill districts of Formosa are virtually inaccessible for troops acting on the offensive. Such, at any rate, was invariably the experience of the Chinese in their attempts to subdue the aborigines. Doubtless when the so-called "campaign of extermination" is in progress, we shall hear terrible tales of atrocities perpetrated by the soldiery. If the Japanese Generals are wise, they will have a foreign correspondent attached to their troops, so that public need not be obliged to rely on Chinese inventions and exaggerations.

With regard to the troops that will form the permanent garrison of the island, it was the original intention that three Brigades should be stationed there, that is to say, a Division and a half. To that programme the Diet gave its consent last session. But to cope with the insurrection in January an additional Mixed Brigade was sent from Japan. These troops ought to have returned after tranquillity had been restored, but it was considered expedient to keep them in the island, and recent events have demonstrated the necessity of having four Brigades in permanent garrison there. The expenditures involved in the change of programme will be submitted to the next Diet in the form of a Supplementary Budget, but in the meanwhile they will probably be defrayed from the First Reserve. We take this information from the *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

KOREAN NEWS.

The following notes are taken from the latest Korean correspondence published by vernacular papers:—

The new Japanese Minister to Korea presented his credentials to the King on the 16th inst., at the Myong-ye Palace. That routine being duly concluded, the Minister intends to open negotiations with the Korean Government on various subjects, in the following order:—Damage suffered by the Japanese merchants in the interior of Korea owing to the late insurrections; the grant of a charter to Japanese capitalists for constructing a railway between Seoul and Fusan; the opening of Mokpho and the Tadong for foreign commerce; and, lastly, the extension of the Japanese settlement at Ninsan. The first matter will be taken up in a day or so—the date of the letters is the 17th inst. The indemnity to be demanded from Korea is said to be the same as that estimated by Mr. Komura, the predecessor of Mr. Hara.

The Korean Government has issued a notification relating to the construction of railways. It consists of seven articles, and provides that the gauge adopted shall be 4 ft. 8½ inches, English measure; that the fares and rates of freight shall be determined by the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry, and that foreigners to whom charters have been, or may be, granted for laying railways in Korea must consult the said Minister before fixing the above charges.

The French Minister, not contented with having secured for his countrymen a concession to construct the Seoul-Wiju railway, is now, with the support of the Russian Minister, pressing for a similar concession in the case of the Seoul-Mokpho line. He argues that a charter for that road not having yet been granted to any one, though the Seoul-Fusan line is understood to have been promised to certain Japanese, he can not see any reason why his request should be refused. All the Cabinet Ministers, with the sole exception of Li Kwan-yong, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, are disposed to give a favourable hearing to this application. Li is said to be very much perturbed about it, for he learns that the construction of the Seoul-Mokpho road by French capitalists would seriously affect the proposed enterprise of Mr. Omiwa and others to whom he is orally pledged not to concede the Seoul-Fusan line to any other nationals. Mr. Omiwa and Baron Ozaki were to reach Seoul on the 17th inst. to definitely conclude the negotiation between the Korean Government and the Japanese projectors of the Seoul-Fusan Railway.

The Seoul statesmen, who were reported, only a short time ago, to have asked Russia for a loan, are said to be now perplexed by an offer of 5 million yen from France. Impeccuous as the Government is, it is believed to have declined the kind offer of France, and the latter has consequently changed its ground and made a similar offer to the Korean Bank, which is still in an embryonic condition. Opinions are divided with respect to the latter offer. The Finance Minister sees no reason why the Bank should not accept it, but the Organization Committee of the Bank and some of the Cabinet Ministers hold that, as the primary object of the Bank is to farm the land tax, the acceptance of such an offer would defeat the Bank's original purpose by giving the creditor a lien on the proceeds of the tax. The scheme for the organization of the Bank is still in the hands of Mr. Brown, now all powerful as an adviser in the field of Korean Finance. It is said that the practical preliminaries will be definitely settled on the arrival of two Englishmen from Shanghai, who are to be appointed Councillors of the Bank, and that one of the two was to arrive within a few days. An Kei-su is urged to become President of the Bank, but he recommends that Kin Sung-han, who is spoken of as Vice-President, should be placed at the head of the enterprise. The shrewd An anticipates trouble in connection with the officious offer of France, if not from other causes.

The abuse of forwarding documents to the King impeaching one influential Korean or

another, and sometimes even a whole batch, has just been illustrated by a memorial from Chông Sông-u, arraiging An Kei-su, "Philip Jaisou," Pak Ting-yong, and several others, in connexion with the affair of October. The impeachment collapsed miserably, for when the accuser was brought face to face with each of the defendants in the High Court, he not only failed to substantiate his charges, but had even to admit the total baselessness of the accusations. His wife also confessed that her husband had been instigated by certain friends to send in the memorial. In view of this overwhelming evidence, all the defendants were declared entirely free from blame, and their accuser was found guilty of libel. It is believed that the signal failure of the present case will put a stop to the repetition of such mischievous schemes.

Li Pâm-chin left Ninsen for his destination (Washington) on the 16th inst., in a French man-of-war, taking with him his wife and two children. There is reason to believe that the impeachment affair was his last effort to recover power.

CHINESE NOTES.

Speaking of the allegation that infanticide is not known in the north of China, the editor of the *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—"A winter or two ago we saw two little twin baby girls (infants) exposed on a mound" under circumstances that gave conclusive evidence of deliberate exposure.

Chefoo is apparently too small to have a newspaper. The publisher of the *Chefoo Express*, finding himself unable to avoid giving offence to "several residents for whom he entertains the highest respect," has decided to give up the issue of his paper.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* reprints the whole of the questions propounded to the students in the Imperial Medical College, Tientsin, at their summer examination. Evidently the foreign residents of Tientsin take no small interest in the success of the college. It is worthy of note that in answering 40 questions on anatomy, surgery, physiology, and materia medica, the leading student, Mr. King Hun-gen, obtained 1,523 marks out of a possible 1,600.

The new mint in Nanking has been completed and the work of coining silver dollars, subsidiary coins, and copper cash will commence, it is said, during the current month.

A biscuit 54 inches in circumference and an inch and a half thick is something to bite into. That is the size of the *Kuoaping* baked in Shantung. It is made of wheat and baked brown on a griddle.

The Viceroy of Nanking recently gave a very magnificent banquet to the officers of the two German men-of-war that were sent to that place in connection with the attack on Mr. Krause, a German drill-instructor. Nothing seems to have been spared on the Viceroy's part to show consideration for his guests. The most interesting feature of the affair is contained in the following paragraph, which we take from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

After the banquet, the Viceroy made a eulogistic speech dwelling on the friendly relations always maintained between their respective countries, and the gratitude felt by China to Germany for the latter's help in the Liaotung Peninsula affair, thereby further cementing the friendly ties which bound the two Powers. Special stress was also laid on the recent understanding between H.E. Li Hung-chang and the German foreign Minister at Berlin. The speech, which was a rather long one, ended with a toast to the health and long life of the German Emperor, and the guests, and "the earnest hope that Germany and China would henceforth be always found side by side on the political chessboard of the Far East." All this was translated into German by Yü Taotai, and the reply made by the Captain of the *Prinzess Wilhelm* was quite as enthusiastic as his predecessor's, concluding with the usual toast to the health of H.I.M. Kuang Hsü, their host, and so forth.

The annual examinations commenced at the chief town of Hupeh on the 29th June. No less than eleven thousand students presented themselves for the ordeal. A sad accident took place in connection with it. A boat containing

18 students was upset coming up the river, and eleven of the youths were drowned.

The Mahomedan rebellion in Kansu seems to be developing much larger proportions. The General-in-chief of the Imperial Forces has apparently received commands to carry on a war of extermination. At one place in the disaffected region he slew three thousand tradespeople and sold their wives and female children. Such action, if indeed it has been taken, must provoke terrible resistance. The Mohammedans across the border in Russia are expected to take a hand.

An irruption of bandits has taken place from Shantung into Hsichon. They have been joined by some 3,000 local *confreeres* and are devastating and burning on a large scale, the two thousand men under the command of the Taotai being unable to cope with them. Fresh troops have been despatched from Nanking. The Shantung bandits are supposed to be old soldiers that deserted, carrying their arms with them, on the occasion of the Japanese invasion of that province.

A writer in the *N.-C. Daily News*, signing himself "Ob.," combats the generally received idea that steam communication with Yunna via the West River is impossible. The difficulty hitherto alleged is the existence of rocky rapids, where junks have to haul themselves up. But a steamer can haul herself up as well as a junk. A steam-capstan forward and a stern wheel would enable her to negotiate such obstacles much better than a junk can. There are, however, flats where the water shallows to 18 inches, so that a flat-bottomed craft would be essential. Over the first half of the way from Canton to Paksik, a steamer might travel full speed night and day, but the second half would be more difficult. The river assumes noble dimensions at times. Thus, just above Kuaiyunjen, there is a reach 720 feet across with a uniform depth of 10 fathoms and a current of only a knot. "Ob." denies that the provinces through which the West River runs are as poor as frequent reports of famines have led people to imagine. He attributes these calamities to the mismanagement and greed of the local officials, abuses that would speedily be corrected were quick steamer communication established with Canton.

Foreign missions in Chêngtu are exhibiting a phoenix-like propensity. They are re-constructing with brick and stone the buildings that mob tore down last year, so that the result of the anti-Christian riots is merely to re-invigorate missionary effort.

Here is an interesting paragraph from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

The Emperor, according to a report from Peking, which we give with all reserve, has sanctioned the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, to demand from each Customs Taotai and from each Viceroy and Governor of provinces, except those of Kueichou and Kansu, which are too poor and have to be subsidised by other provinces, the sum of five million taels each. By this means it is expected the sum of 100 million taels can be raised by the autumn of 1897 as an emergency fund to pay off the debt of China to Russia.

According to present estimates, the Peking-Tientsin line will be open for traffic by March next.

German military instructors are working at Wuchang as well as at other places already recorded. One has been drilling and teaching there for some weeks, and two others are on their way thither. This was to have been expected when the great Viceroy Chang was transferred to Wuchang. If the Chinese do not make a good showing in their next war, it will not be because they lacked first-class military instruction.

On the 28th inst., at 3 p.m. a meeting of the *Jiyu* to was held to discuss their views on the Yokohama Water-works question and the proposed route of the Tokaido Railway. They defended the Government's measures against the arguments of Messrs. Shimada and Otani, whose lecture meeting was held at the Minatoza on the 24th inst.

RAILWAYS AND TELEGRAPHS IN KOREA.

The *Chuo's* correspondent writes from Ninsen as follows:—

SOUL-NINSEN RAILWAY.—Engineers are expected from America about the end of the month and will at once commence surveying. It is thought that the laying of rails will begin by March or April.

SOUL-WIJU RAILWAY.—The charter for the construction of this line has been secured by certain French capitalists. The stipulations were definitely decided about a week ago.

SOUL-WONSAN RAILWAY.—A charter was given two or three days ago to French capitalists, whether identical or different from the above group, we do not know; the agreement will be duly signed without delay. Though ostensibly to be built by French capitalists, the work is really undertaken by Russians. This is an open secret.

SOUL-FUSAN RAILWAY.—Germans have lately applied through the German Minister, with the backing of the Russian Representative, for the concession of this line. It is true that the Foreign Minister gave Mr. Omiwa an oral promise that he would give him the charter, but a promise of that kind can not be depended upon, especially as the Foreign Minister possesses no influence in the Cabinet, and is merely holding his seat by favour of the Minister of Finance. To what nation the right of constructing this line will ultimately be given is therefore still unknown.

SOUL-NINSEN TELEGRAPHS.—As everybody knows, a Japanese military telegraph connects the two places, and this line is also accessible to the public at large. The Korean Government has, however, decided to construct its own line between the places, has finished the survey, and moreover has set up the posts. Mr. Nienstead, a foreign telegraph expert in the employ of the Korean Government, is to superintend the installation of the wire brought to Ninsen by the *Genkai Maru* a week ago. The line will be opened about the end of the month. Though ostensibly put up by the Korean Government, the construction of the line is really undertaken by Russia, with the consent of the Korean Government. When the work is completed, Russian telegraph experts will be stationed at Soul and Ninsen.

SOUL-WIJU LINE.—The military telegraph constructed by Japan and presented to Korea after the War was laid over the route taken by the old Chinese line. These two lines are now to be availed of in reconstructing the telegraph between Soul and Wiju, and thence to Peking. The reconstruction has been finished as far as Phyang-yang, and offices at Soul and Haicheng will be opened shortly.

WONSAN-HAN-HUNG LINE.—Construction has already been undertaken between the two places, while a prolongation from Ham-heung to Kyông-heung, where junction will be made with the Russian line, will be undertaken as soon as the re-construction of the Wi-ju line is completed.

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

The Plenipotentiaries of China and Japan affixed their signatures to the new Commercial Treaty between the two empires on the 21st instant, and the ratifications are to be exchanged in Peking within three months from that day. Pending the latter event, the contents of the document will doubtless remain private. We learn, however, from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the Treaty secures for the Japanese access to the interior of China for purposes of trade; invests Japanese Consular tribunals in China with extra-territorial jurisdiction, and guarantees most-favoured-nation treatment to Japan, none of which privileges are reciprocal.

THE INUNDATIONS.

The latest intelligence as to the inundations is as follows:—An official despatch from the Governor of Nagano *Ken*, dated the 26th inst., says that, according to the latest investigations, the floods caused 109 casualties to life, washed away 342 houses, wrecked 223 others, and flooded 14,788 houses in all. The area of devastated lands was 2,745 *cho* (6,862 acres), and a further area of 10,239 *cho* (25,597.5 acres) was inundated. Bridges to the number of 514 were carried away, embankments were destroyed throughout a length of 18,982 *ken* (37,964 yards), and roads to the extent of 25,610 *ken* (51,220 yards).

The damage done in the province of Mino was even more serious. Mr. Ono Kamesaburo, member of the Diet for a district of that province, has forwarded the following figures to the Central Office of the National Unionist Party, basing them on investigations carried up to the 24th inst.:—Suffering families, 60,928; total number of sufferers, 288,398; arable lands devastated, 67,235.5 *cho* (168,088½ acres); embankments broken, 20,820 *ken* (41,640 yards); casualties to life, 109; number of persons receiving relief, over 180,000.

These figures are exclusive of the province of Hida, where also the disaster is reported to have been serious. At various places landslips buried dwellings, and more than 30 persons were killed or wounded. The overflow of the river Kiso is reported to have spread ruin far and wide.

The injury done by these floods to farms, embankments, and roads in Miyagi Prefecture was more considerable than that inflicted by the seismic wave, as is shown by the following returns, carried up to the morning of the 25th inst.:—Houses washed away, 342; wrecked, 223; flooded, 14,788; embankments broken, 18,982 *ken* (37,964 yards); roads destroyed, 25,610 *ken* (51,220 yards); bridges washed away, 514; lands devastated, 2,745 *cho* (6,862.5 acres); lands flooded, 10,239 *cho* (25,597.5 acres).

Niigata, Miye, Tochigi, Toyama, and other districts also suffered, though fortunately to a less extent than the above-mentioned places.

The wide tract of country west of Gifu, between the two rivers Nagara and Yebi, is converted into a big lake. Travellers coming from the west have to leave the train at Tarui, whence they must walk, or proceed by *jinrikisha*, about 7½ miles, as far as the bank of the river Yebi. Boats are there in waiting to convey them to the bank of the Nagara, a distance of another 7½ miles. The charge for one person is about 2 *yen*, and as a boat rowed by five men usually carries 12 passengers, the disaster must for a short while prove a very profitable source of business to owners of boats. So exorbitant are the charges that a traveller reports having been obliged to pay 20 *yen* for the exclusive use of one boat. A district between Uyeda and Nagano, in Shinano Province, has also been temporarily converted into a lake.

SMART CAPTURE OF A BURGLAR.

On Monday afternoon last, the 27th July, Mr. J. H. Curtis, of No. 132, Bluff, reported to the police that during his absence in the country, his house had been entered, and two watches, a black silk coat, and nine other articles—including a revolver—had been stolen. The Kagacho Police officials put the matter into the hands of Mr. Nakajima, the divisional head detective, and this officer at once set to work to discover the thief. On Wednesday evening, as he was pursuing his investigations in China Town, he came across a lad named Nakamura Kin-suke, carrying a revolver. The detective arrested the lad on suspicion, and on arrival at the Police-station a confession was obtained. On the strength of this a straw-stack in the vicinity of the race-course at Negishi was searched on Thursday morning, and all the other stolen articles were found hidden there. Mr. Nakajima is to be complimented on his work.

THE DAMAGE TO THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY'S LINE.

Persons intending to travel in a northerly direction may be interested to know that the delay resulting from the damage done to the Railway bridge at Shirakawa by the recent flood does not exceed 3 or 4 hours. On arrival at Shirakawa by train, passengers hire *jinrikisha* and go on to Izumisaki, distant 3 *ri*, which place they reach in about one hour and a half, in time to catch the train succeeding the one by which they would have travelled had no interruption taken place. The demand for *jinrikisha* at Shirakawa for people travelling northward, and at Izumisaki for those going southward, being great, it is well to telegraph ahead if possible. Passengers are allowed to walk along the railroad if they please, and in that case the distance is only 2 *ri*. Baggage can be sent by cart if there are no *jinrikisha*. The river rose to a great height at Shirakawa, weakening the supports of the railway bridge and sweeping the other large bridge away. Passengers row cross the river by means of narrow planks over which *jinrikisha*, sometimes heavily laden, are carried.

MURDEROUS CRIMES IN AMERICA.

Judge Parker, writing in the *North American Review*, tells an appalling story of the increase of murderous crimes in the United States:—"When we go to facts, we find that during the last six years there have been 43,902 homicides in the United States, an average of 7,317 per year. In the same time there have been 723 legal executions and 1,118 lynchings. These startling figures show that crime is rapidly increasing instead of diminishing. In the last year 10,500 persons were killed, or at the rate of 875 per month, whereas in 1890 there were only 4,290, or less than half as many as in 1895. This bloody record shows a fearful increase of the crime which destroys human life. We are all alike anxious for a remedy, but before we can obtain one we must know the cause. We can easily recognize that the greatest evil of any civilized age is confronting us, not only in the shape of crimes committed by individuals, but also of crimes committed by masses of men who are endeavouring by bloody and improper means to seek a remedy—I mean those who band themselves together as mobs to seek protection which they fail to obtain under the forms of law."

The cause of this very evil state of affairs is attributed by Judge Parker to uncertainty as to the final process of justice: in other words, to the facilities afforded by the appellate-courts for procrastinating punishment or obscuring proofs of guilt. "Courts of Justice," he says, "look to the shadow in the shape of technicalities rather than to the substance in the shape of crime." Here is the remedy that he proposes:—

To destroy the greatest of all promoters of crime, I would remodel the appellate-court system. I would organize in the States and in the nation courts of criminal appeals, made up of judges learned in the criminal law, and governed by a desire for its speedy and vigorous enforcement. I would have sent to these courts a full record of the trial, and they should be compelled to pass upon the case as soon as possible, according to its merits, and ascertain the guilt or innocence of the accused from the truth and the law of the case manifest on the record. I would brush aside all technicalities that did not affect the guilt or innocence of the accused. I would not permit them to act on a partial record, or on any technical pleas concocted by cunning minds. I would provide by law against the reversal of cases unless upon their merits innocence was manifest.

Judge Parker truly asserts that the certainty of punishment, not its severity, is the real deterrent of crime. But it will be apparent that the fervour of stating his case carries him beyond his mark. For if the courts of criminal appeals that he projects are to be restrained by so many vetoes, if they are to be forbidden to reverse any case unless on its merits innocence is manifest, then obviously there must exist some still higher tribunal to supervise them, and thus the clumsy system of repeated references is once more

constructed. However, that is not the Judge's intention. He aims at speedy finality, and his proposal has elicited wide approval.

In connection with this subject, it may interest our readers to learn that Theodore Durrant who, nearly sixteen months ago, murdered two girls in a church in San Francisco under shocking circumstances referred to at length in these columns at the time, remains still in prison. He was convicted and sentenced to be hung six months ago, but his case being appealed and stays being granted, it is expected that the affair will last another year, and that delay and technicalities will ultimately save his neck from the halter.

THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

A question of some interest but no great importance is raised by a vernacular contemporary. The present House of Representatives was elected in September, 1894, and since by law the term for which it sits is four years, the members are entitled to retain their seats until September, 1898. But according to the Law of Election, the 31st of July is the fixed day for a general election. Hence, in order that these two provisions may not clash, it will be necessary for the Emperor to exercise his prerogative of dissolving the House, which will probably be done in July of the year after next. Such are the facts advanced by our contemporary, but we do not appreciate the difficulty ourselves. That the 31st of July is not an unalterable date for holding a general election, is proved by the fact that, after a dissolution, the Diet has to be re-invoked within 3 months, which provision could not be observed if the 31st of July had to be awaited before holding new elections. It is better to alter the routine of dates so as to suit existing conditions, than by adhering rigidly to a mere technicality, to violate the right of every member to sit for a full term of four years.

GRACIOUS GOODNESS!

On the evening of the 24th instant, Mr. F. Schroeder, a gentleman of chequered experience and uncertain nationality, now editor of a periodical called the *Eastern World*, without which no library is complete, was obliged by the police to leave a public meeting in the Minato-za, Yokohama. It is an awful incident, not unlikely to have international consequences. We dare not trust ourselves to write about it. An impartial local contemporary has devoted two whole columns of genial oburgation to the dreadful story, but our tea-pot would be shattered to fragments if we attempted to put such a storm into it. The shocking contingencies involved should not, however, be hidden from our readers. We therefore quote the final paragraph of the two graceful columns alluded to above:—"Illiberal and despotic laws administered by ill-disposed and ignorant policemen, and enforced by judges, some of whom are not altogether above suspicion, open a vista that may well serve to dismay the timid, or what is better, possibly serve to stimulate the oppositeness of the intrepid, if any such there be." Merciful providence, if haply it should fall out that Mr. F. Schroeder's oppositeness has been stimulated!

SHOCKING FATALITY NEAR URAGA.

News is published in the Tokyo papers this morning of a shocking fatality that has just come to light in Kanagawa *Ken*. A tunnel at Hashimidzu, connecting with the village of Otsu in the Miura district—a tiny fishing hamlet lying at the head of a deep indentation of that name in Tokyo Bay, and a few miles below Uraga—caved in at 8.40 a.m., on the 23rd, as a consequence of the heavy rains of the 20th and 21st. Twelve persons were passing through at the time and all were buried. The police proceeded to the spot and with the aid of ready helpers succeeded in rescuing alive two of the entombed persons. The others were all dead when reached.

DRAMATIC NOTES.

The *soshi* actors, we read in a recent number of the *Waseda Bungaku*, are approaching more and more in style to the performances of *bona fide* actors. This must be partly due to the reaction that has occurred in public taste against the rough and ready performances of *soshi*, leading to a significant decline of public patronage; and partly to the presence of many itinerant actors of the old school who used to pass themselves off as *soshi* actors, but who, as soon as the public began to exhibit signs of weariness at their simple and artless performances, have returned to their old paths and hastily put upon the stage performances better suited to the public's purer taste. The *bona fide soshi* actors also have taken some lessons in dancing, and are ambitious of displaying their new talents so as to demonstrate that they are not much behind the actors of the old school as to pose and step. In short, the characteristic marks of *soshi* performances are destined to disappear, and the question now is whether, by eliminating the defects of the *soshi* actors and of the actors of the old school, a new style can be inaugurated.

The objects kept in view by Danjuro when he speaks of the necessity of improving the stage, are refinement and realism, the former comprising classicism, moral instruction, and the rejection of vulgarity and immodesty. It is from the importance that he attaches to refinement that Danjuro is so greatly inclined to stage historical plays, his realistic tendencies making him fastidious as to costumes and surroundings. His detestation of vulgarity and immodesty leads very frequently to changes in the passages of the old drama, and this often, in the eyes of some critics, destroys their charm and tends to misrepresent the individual characteristics of the *dramatis personae*. His intention to cleanse a play no doubt is good, they write, but he often carries his reforming experiments to an extreme. Danjuro says:—"What I dislike most are the characters of *Sanemori* in the *Nunobiki* play and *Moritsuna* in the *Omi Genji* play, for as they are faithless warriors, I cannot take pleasure in representing them. I have played the two characters only once." We have to remember that it is Danjuro's grasp of the spirit of a character that makes him so successful in his effect upon the minds of spectators. He lays due stress on the necessity of actors learning dancing. He says that Japanese dancing is not such a simple thing as foreign dancing. In Japan, dancing and acting, though apparently different things, are closely related, and every actor must be well trained in the first art. An actor who has no training in dancing is comparable to a wrestler that has no strength. We may refer in closing to the opening of a special theatre at Misakicho, Tokyo, for the *soshi* troupe lead by Kawakami. It was opened at the end of last month, and the plays are reported to have drawn full houses.

AN INEXPLICABLE ASSERTION.

Mr. F. Schroeder alleges that, on the 27th instant, he addressed to this office the following letter by post:—

To the Editor of the *Japan Mail*, Yokohama.

Sir,—Referring to a paragraph in your to-day's issue, I beg to inform you that I am a German subject, and that I am registered in the German Consulate at Yokohama as such.

Yours truly,
F. SCHROEDER.
He further affirms that since, "for reasons of his own, the editor of the *Japan Mail* did not insert the letter," he, Mr. Schroeder, was obliged to send it to two of our local contemporaries. Mr. Schroeder had better make investigations. If he sent such a letter by post, it has not, up to this moment, reached us. As to our having any "reasons of our own" in connection with Mr. F. Schroeder or his affairs, the idea is laughable.

The scorching heat of these last few days has caused the price of artificial ice to rise considerably. At present the rate is 60 *sen* per 10 *kwanme*; natural ice is one *yen* less.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I recently saw your Editorial on the Customs Service, a critique on an article in the *N.-C. Daily News*.

While the general spirit of your article is not unfavourable, it is marred by mistakes. Seeing that the Customs Service contains in its ranks the relatives of many residents in China and Japan, and has openings for many more, I do not understand why you should discountenance public criticism—conducted in a friendly spirit.

It is not a fact that the Indian Government has done nothing to relieve the situation for its silver paid employees: it is a fact that the Straits and Hongkong Governments have both granted a favourable rate of exchange to members of the Colonial services: it is not a fact that the leading mercantile firms and shipping houses have done nothing to ease the situation for their employees. The leading Bank in the East has appreciated the difficulties of the times, and the engineers, instructors, *et hoc genus omne*, engaged by the Chinese authorities have all obtained most favourable rates of pay. I do not accuse the Inspector-General of any breach of contract—nevertheless the unwritten understandings and the traditions in the service have during the past ten years been much upset. Not only is the rate of promotion very slow, but salary has fallen 50 per cent. in sterling value—except in the case of a very few. Is it too much to hope from the Government that part of this heavy loss should be borne by it? Is it not natural for an employer to endeavour to so provide for his servants that, freed from undue anxiety, they may devote their best energies to their work? It is quite believed that the difficulties contended against are known to the Inspector-General, but long continued inaction must lead to continued discontent and this to general inefficiency. I do not venture to suggest remedies. As the leader in question pointed out, these should not present insuperable difficulties. But we do desire a just consideration of the case alike by the Government and by the Press.

I am, &c.,

Shanghai, July 9th, 1896.

X.

MAJOR-GENERAL TACHIMI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I note that you invariably speak of the gallant Major-General now in Formosa as "Tachimi." Linguistically this is the correct pronunciation, as the Major-General himself confesses; but for centuries the family has been known under the name of *Tatsumi*, and the veteran prefers to be so called. I write this as an acquaintance of his, so am sure that this is the correct reading.

Yours, etc.

Tokyo, July 24th, 1896.

F. W. E.

HOW IS JAPAN CONCERNED IN THE PROBLEM OF "FREE SILVER?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I must say that your editorial comments upon Mr. Morton Frewen's quoted opinion as to the effect of the legislative restoration of silver to its constitutional status as the unfettered regulator of the volume of the currency—and by consequence of the concurrent "value" of the dollar—in the United States of America, are a surprise to me, a newcomer to Japan. The article is appropriate to a paper published in the American "East," but to me quite out of place in the home of the Silver Standard. For a journal which I am informed holds a brief for the Government at Tokyo to watch its interests in the forum of the outer world, and, therefore, whose plain duty it is to inform the public mind of Japan of the trend of any world-movement which in its possible course can effect the prosperity or the safety of this country, I should have thought that it would be more to the purpose for you to study this question and declare its tendencies in the light of Japanese rather than American interests. If you fondly imagine that Japan is less vitally interested in this question than Colorado, you are sadly out of touch with the scope of the movement, and indeed it seems to me from a perusal of the article above referred to, and

one which I noted in an issue of your paper about a week ago, that you have a very narrow conception of this tremendous business, this stupendous conspiracy for the social (and eventually the political) subjugation of the civilized world to the direct and personal rule of an oligarchy as organized and definite in its *personnel* as the Council of the Rich who governed the city of ancient Carthage. The restoration of Silver to monetary sovereignty over the United States (which will sooner or later happen) will mean more to the whole world, and especially to Japan, than the restoration of the Bourbons meant to France and Europe three quarters of a century ago. The incident of the very limited consequent re-shuffling of the relative supplies of the precious metals will be a detail of almost insignificant economic affect by comparison with the cataclysmic effects of the re-establishment of the universal circuit of an automatic currency exchange. It is futile for you in Japan to waste brain power upon such speculations (which do not concern you), as are ventilated in the two articles of your paper to which I have referred; think out rather what it means for those of your constituents who are interested in the foreign trade of this very spot—for the restoration will come and the whole fortunes of the Orient will be transformed by it—and when it comes, if Japan is prepared (if she shall not have entangled herself in the web of the golden spider,) she will benefit by "free silver," but all those who put off preparation will find themselves in worse case than they of the parable who at midnight, rubbing their heavy eyes, cried weakly "give us oil."

Yours, &c.,

REGINALD FENTON.

Yokohama, 22nd July, 1896.

[It is pleasant to encounter such very fresh enthusiasm as that of our correspondent. People at this end of the world are not so blind as he seems to imagine, but for the moment the great question is, will the United States take the heroic step advocated by the silver men. We do not "hold a brief from the Japanese Government to watch its interests," but if we did, our advice would be "go slow." The world has not yet been much moved by the enunciation of the Democratic programme. Silver remains just where it was. What we have to consider first is the probability of America's legalizing the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. When an extraordinary event is on the tapis, thoughtful people set themselves to debate, in the first place, the probabilities and improbabilities of its happening, and having reached some conclusion on that point, they then proceed to consider the effects likely to be produced by the event in any particular direction. If Mr. Fenton had been a reader of the *Japan Mail* for the past 15 years he would alter his notion as to our being "out of touch with the scope" of the silver movement. The *Japan Mail* has been the one and only journal in the Far East that appreciated and predicted the dimensions the silver question was destined to assume. But in 1881, when we began to write on the subject, it was a case of preaching in the wilderness. As for Mr. Fenton, he seems to us to have a very faint notion of the whole world's vital interest in the financial affairs of the United States.—Ed. J. M.]

RAILWAY MISMANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I ask you to publish the following statement of an experience of the present management of the railway between Yokohama and Tokyo?

My family intending to go to Nikko by the train leaving here at 12.55 to-day, their baggage was sent to the station by my boy, the luggage arriving there about ten minutes after 12 noon, and a considerable time before the ticket office was open. As soon as the necessary tickets were obtainable my boy purchased them, but was utterly unable to induce the baggage men to check, or to take charge of, the packages.

When my family arrived at the station they made every effort to get the matter attended to, but were treated with absolute insolence by all concerned, being told repeatedly that the baggage had been sent too late! An appeal to the station-master was without effect, and the luggage was finally left behind, and, only with the greatest difficulty, was a receipt for it obtained, while any information as to when it would be sent on was refused entirely.

I may add that luggage arriving long after that of my family was duly checked in the usual manner.

Now, in this particular case, there was no chance for any misunderstanding due to want of knowledge of the language of the officials. My boy is an exceptionally bright and well-mannered servant, while two of my family speak Japanese like natives, and every effort was made by these to secure the attention to which they were entitled.

I can not account for what I do not hesitate to characterize as an outrage on the part of the railway officials, unless, which I am loth to do, I am to ascribe it to what, in most countries, would have ensured courteous treatment, the fact that the

ladies of my family were unaccompanied by a male escort.

I am induced to make these personal matters public in the hope that the proper authorities may be induced to instil into the management of the public thoroughfares a little of that civility and courtesy heretofore supposed to be national characteristics, and to suppress the carelessness, insolence, and neglect of duty of which the minor officials of the railways are now constantly guilty.

I am, Sir, sincerely,

STUART ELDRIDGE.

Yokohama, July 28th, 1896.

MR. LAFCADIO HEARN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A copy of the *Japan Mail* has been sent to me announcing that I have been engaged to teach in the University. The announcement is, at least, premature—unless an agreement can be made without the consent of both parties thereto.

Very truly yours, L. HEARN.

Matsue, Izumo, July 27th, 1896.

[Mr. Hearn's engagement is matter of general belief. But we apologise if we have been premature.—Ed. J.M.]

JAPANESE POSTAL SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a further somewhat striking instance of the vagaries of the Postal Officials, may I bring the following to the notice of your readers. A letter addressed most clearly in "type-writing" to Mrs. Susan Gillet, Kenosha, Wisconsin, U.S.A., was found this morning in the Post Office Box reserved for the use of Messrs Mollison and Co., and in which all letters addressed to myself are usually deposited. The letter is under the regulation 15 grammes in weight, and bears 5 *sen* in stamps, two of 2 *sen* each, and one of 1 *sen*, the proper fee to carry it to its destination. On careful examination of the office marks, it appears to have been posted at Yokosuka on the 24th inst., then to have reached Kyoto on the 27th, and finally Yokohama on the 29th, and it may be that the officials thought that by delivering it to me they were ridding themselves of a troublesome customer already bandied about sufficiently, and will feel hurt at having it returned to them for re-forwarding.

To ordinary minds it would seem that the presence on the letter of the extra stamps, in excess of the requirements of an ordinary local letter, should have drawn attention to it specially, even had it not been so very clearly addressed, but then the minds of the Postal officials are apparently superior to such very ordinary considerations.

I may add that, in addition to the above letter, postal matter in printed covers addressed to Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., Tientsin, China, Messrs. Carlowitz and Co., Shanghai, China, Messrs. A. Meier, and Co., Post Box, 164, Yokohama, and E. Whittall, Esq., Yokohama, which arrived by the Mail from San Francisco this morning, were also found in the Post Box No. 145 reserved for Messrs. Mollison and Co.'s letters.

Yours truly,

FRANK GILLET.

Yokohama, 30th July 1896.

[We subjoin a postscript. A gentleman went from Tokyo to Yokohama on the 29th to visit a friend whom he had forewarned of his coming by means of a letter posted in Tokyo on the 28th. The letter had not reached its destination at noon on the 30th. Another gentleman wrote from Yokohama to a friend residing at Negishi. The letter reached the addressee in eleven days, having travelled to Nagasaki in the interval.—Ed. J.M.]

IMPERIAL RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IMPERIAL RAILWAY BUREAU FOR THE 27TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI.

In continuation of the annual report for the present fiscal year beginning with April, 1894, and ending at the close of March, 1895, the following report is now made on the general condition of works and of financial features, including also a brief account of private railways, during the year under review. The report is sub-divided as follows:—

- General remarks.
- General condition of construction works.
- Railway lines and appendages.
- General condition of traffic.
- Financial affairs.
- Private railways.
- Grant of temporary charters.
- Existing state of affairs.
- Volume of traffic.
- Business accounts.

APPENDIX.

- No. 1.—Statistics of Passenger Traffic.
- No. 2.—Statistics of Goods Traffic.
- No. 3.—Locomotive Mileages and the amount of coal and oil consumed.
- No. 4.—Table showing Estimates and Settled Accounts of Expenditures in connection with the Railway Loan.
- No. 5.—Detailed Statement of Estimates and Settled Accounts of Revenue in connection with the Working Capital of Railways.
- No. 6.—Detailed Statement of Estimates and Settled Accounts of Expenditures in connection with the Working Capital of Railways.
- No. 7.—Detailed Statement of Estimates and Settled Accounts of Expenditures in connection with the purchase of materials needed by State Railways.
- No. 8.—Detailed Statement of Estimates and Settled Accounts of Receipts in connection with the sale of Railway Materials.
- No. 9.—Table showing details of Consolidated Railway Fund.
- No. 10.—Table showing details of Profit and Loss Account.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In reviewing the affairs of the State Railways during the 27th fiscal year, we find that the continuation works of the On and the Hokuriku Lines were the principal new construction works undertaken during the year, and the progress of these works, owing to the vigilance of the overseers, advanced very steadily, especially on the Aomori-Hirosaki section, so that that section was opened for traffic in December of the present fiscal year.

Private Railways have striven to extend the scope and area of their business, while applications for new Companies have been forwarded in rapid succession. Already during the year under review 157 miles have been opened for traffic after having been inspected by the Bureau. The total mileage of railways throughout Japan reaches over 2,100 miles, and railway communication from Hirosaki westward to Hiroshima has been completed, thereby considerably promoting facilities of communication.

During the first half of the year the War between Japan and China broke out, and troops were almost incessantly being conveyed by railway; Headquarters were also removed to Hiroshima and the increased railway travelling of military or civil functionaries and of private persons caused great activity on the lines. There never has been a time since the opening of railways in Japan when their merits have been more appreciated than during the war.

In glancing over the business features of the State Railways, however, though the business result was extremely satisfactory during the year, the chief cause that brought about such a result can not be regarded as a permanent feature. For, though receipts were unusually augmented, the volume of goods carried, owing to the War, was less, and that despite the transportation of stores and ammunition. Passengers showed a large increase in number, but as many of those who took passage by train were connected with the War, the increment of ordinary passengers is small, all things considered, and the permanent passenger traffic has not risen in volume.

The chief reason why receipts were out of proportion to the number of passengers and the quantity of goods carried was due to the fact that the mileage for one passenger and for one ton of goods was far in excess of ordinary years. The business features of the present year presented an exceptional phenomenon and cannot be compared with other years.

In private railways also, owing to the increased demand which the War entailed upon their services, to favourable market prices of coal, and also owing to insufficiency of steamers and the consequent suspension of maritime transportation, the condition of their business was very satisfactory. At the same time the War having tightened the money market, private Railways were obliged to postpone the date of payment of subscription, or, in consequence of the rise in the market price of commodities, postpone works of construction, and in these ways, must have suffered not a little in respect of development.

GENERAL CONDITION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

The new construction works during the year under review were the continuation of the Hokuriku and the On lines and the doubling of the Kyoto-Kobe section. All were started in the preceding year, as also the construction of the southwestern branch from Shinagawa and the direct line from Kanagawa-Hodogaya; both of which

were undertaken in compliance with the request of the Department of War.

Of repairs and protection works, the repair of the portion that suffered from flood, and cuttings undertaken to provide against landslips principally engaged attention. In many places, the extension of sidings or construction of new buildings, in consequence of greater activity in the traffic, were undertaken.

NEW CONSTRUCTION.

HOKURIKU LINE (Tsuruga-Morita).—The construction of this line was started in the preceding fiscal year and, as it has since been steadily carried on, considerable progress has been made. Tunnelling, however, has given much trouble owing to the unexpected hardness of the ground. At the Hawara Tunnel, for instance, which measures 3,174 ft. the rate of boring per diem does not exceed 3 or 4 ft.; while at the Yamanaka Tunnel, which is 3,795 ft. long not only is the ground extremely hard but as the interior slopes at 40, an abundance of water floods the excavation. This water collects at the eastern mouth and renders pumping necessary. Three steam pumps are in use there. On March 3rd of the present fiscal year, explosives were applied to the rocks with a view to open out a space for a side way about 820 feet from the Western mouth of the tunnel. Fragments of the rocks struck the supporting works and destroyed them to an extent of about 100 ft. This debris blocked the passage, and 36 workmen then working in the tunnel were imprisoned. Exhumation was at once commenced, but only after the lapse of several hours was the work completed. Of the workmen, 35 were fortunately safe, only one being killed. Owing to this occurrence the boring of the tunnel is still incomplete. Of the contractors who engaged to bore nine other places, excepting the two tunnels of Hawara and Yamanaka, three have been released from their contracts, so that progress has been considerably interfered with. Still of the whole thirteen, five tunnels have been completed, while six have been bored through. As to bridges, out of 54, 36 have been completed (3 during the preceding year), while at the Hino-gawa, the Ashiwa-gawa, and three other places the work of building has almost been completed. At the Asamizu-gawa and nine other places temporary bridges have been constructed for the purpose of examining the condition of rivers when in a swollen state. It is only at the Kuzuryo-gawa and two other places that work has not yet been started.

For the construction of the upper portion of these bridges bricks have been made mostly between Tsuruga and Tanukikochi (4½ miles north of Tsuruga), and between Imasho and Morita, while between Imasho and Tanukikochi, owing to the close vicinity of quarries, stone has been used. For the foundation of bridges, in places where the nature of the ground is particularly solid, as between Tsuruga and Sabaye, concrete has been laid upon the natural bed; but as the ground is somewhat soft in places north of Sabaye wooden piles were first driven in, upon which the concrete was laid. Out of the 157 culverts, already 146 (of which 18 were finished during the preceding year) have been completed, one is in process of construction, while 10 are not yet taken in hand. With regard to the construction of the upper works, in 34 places between Kashiwai and Kitayuo and also in the vicinity of Fukui, masonry has been used, owing to contiguity to stone quarries. In other places bricks have been employed. Out of 10 other places not yet undertaken it is intended to make use of masonry at four places and bricks in six places. As to foundations, natural ground has been used at three places, concrete at 115 places, and piling and concrete in 29 places. Notice should here be made of the difficulty of transporting materials. Echizen, it should be remembered, is hilly, with the exception of the north-western district, and roads running from Tsuruga district to Nankyo district, which is contiguous, are carried over steep hills. All important materials needed in the construction of railways that are brought from Tsuruga for that part of the line lying north of Hojyo, must be carried over these hilly roads. Yet to depend upon such land transportation would involve not only great expense, but would at times be practically impossible. Consequently it was found necessary to make a long detour and to avail of the sea route to Mikuni, whence the transportation is made along the streams of the Kuzuryo, the Ashiwa, and the Hino rivers. This route is attended with another inconvenience, namely, the occasional suspension of voyages in winter between Tsuruga and Mikuni owing to the roughness of the sea; while even in summer the diminution in the volume of the streams frequently interferes with the transportation of materials needed for the railways. Again, bricks used for supports, cement, sand, and other substances used in the construction

tion of tunnels in the hilly places of Tsuruga have to be carried on the backs of men over hills steeper than 1 in 12, and the difficulty experienced in this direction is beyond description. To add to the troubles, owing in the War, the transportation of ordinary goods was suspended many times, and the supply of materials not being uniform, no small obstacles were experienced in the continuous execution of the works.

Despite such untoward incidents that greatly interfered with the progress of the works, much has been completed during the year. With regard to earthworks, altogether 144,527 *tsubo* have been undertaken in the form of embankments, cuttings, deviation of rivers and ditches, and the levelling of station yards; in masonry, 3,388 *tsubo* of stone-work in bridge-works and culverts, 33 complete works, 10 temporary bridges, and culverts in 128 places. Three tunnels have been completed, eight are still incomplete, while 7,671 ft., against 9,352 ft. in the previous year, of widening have been completed. Pipes were laid at 594 places, rails to the extent of 8 miles and 56 chains, while in the construction of station premises and other buildings 458 *tsubo* have been covered. In detail, nine-tenths of the earth-works, bridges, and culverts have been completed; five-tenths of the tunnelling, four-tenths of the permanent way and the construction of stations and other buildings; while all the drainage pipes have been laid. It may therefore be said that seven-tenths of the work for the whole line have been completed. It is calculated that with the exception of the two tunnels at Habara and Yamanaka and the bridge over the Kuzuryo, and also the two flood openings in the vicinity, the whole will be completed by August or September of next fiscal year.

O-U LINE (Aomori-Ikarigasaki Section).—The work on this line was started during the previous year, the Aomori-Hirosaki section having been opened for traffic on December 1st of the present fiscal year. For the sake of convenience, the report on this line has been subdivided into the Aomori-Hirosaki and the Hirosaki-Ikarigasaki sections. On the Aomori-Hirosaki section by the end of the preceding year, about eight parts of the earth-works, bridges and culverts were completed; and during the present year, the work was duly completed by November. In the Oshaka tunnel the work was temporarily suspended owing to the walls giving way. The work of restoration was commenced, but the nature of the ground being sandy, considerable trouble was experienced. At last, on July 27th, restoration was complete and the work of construction was steadily undertaken according to the original programme, so that the earth-works were completed in September and the tunnelling next month. Prior to this, the laying of rails had already been finished between Aomori and the eastern mouth of the Oshaka tunnel on August 12th, and though, for facility of transportation of construction stores the laying of rails between the western mouth of the Oshaka Tunnel and the Yamatozawa-gawa was necessary, this could not be undertaken in consequence of the temporary break-down in the tunnel, so that, between Tsurugasaka and the western mouth of the tunnel, materials were transported along the ordinary highway. As soon as the construction of the earthworks was completed, rails were laid, and during the month of August 15 miles and 40 chains were laid between the western mouth of the Oshaka tunnel, and the Yamatozawa-gawa, situated to the south. The interior of the tunnel was also completed in due time, and the whole work was completed in November of the present fiscal year. The section was opened for traffic from the next month, December. According to the original design, stone work to provide against the inflow of water was to be constructed between Hirosaki and Ikarigasaki, but as the earth-works and bridge work incidental to that scheme were judged to be too costly it was decided to alter the route to the one now taken. Consequently, in gradient and other designs, corresponding alterations were effected, and at last the work of construction was started on July 1st of the present fiscal year. At the outset the progress of the work was rapid and steady, but in August, owing to rain, and later in winter, snow and chilly weather, progress was more or less impeded. Considerable trouble was experienced in obtaining suitable earth for No. 1 embankment which had to pass through rice fields, while at No. 5 cutting an obstruction to the progress of the work appeared. The upper layer of ground was sandy, quickly followed by a peaty layer, which in turn rested on a rocky foundation. Again, in the construction of the Karasushi Tunnel, owing to the presence of boulders in the upper soil, which was hard and sandy in nature, recourse had frequently to be had to explosives. Fortunately there was not much water to be encountered and the heading went on at the rate of 19 ft. 4 in. a day. This fell to

7 ft. 7 inches when coming to the lower strata of peat. In bridge-works, the constant rain during the month of August and the rising of the water of the Hiragawa and other rivers, the washing away of Nos. 1, 2, and 3 scaffoldings at the Hiragawa and the Yamatozawa-gawa, and also the filling up of the basement holes, progress was much impeded, but at last, at the end of the fiscal year, with which this report deals, the basement works of the three rivers, Yamatozawa, Inari, and Sawa, were completed. In the construction of such culverts, bricks were used. For others it was originally intended to use stone, but as the supply of bricks was sufficient, and as it was easier to use bricks rather than stone in the construction of culverts leading into rice fields which afforded no pathway for transportation of stone, bricks have been used in place of stone.

The principal works undertaken in the 29th fiscal year were as follows:—In earthworks, in all, 53,434 *tsubo*, that is, eight parts, in the form of embankments, cuttings, and masonry for providing against landslides: 6 parts of one tunnel; 7 parts of bridge work and culverts; laying out the sites of two stations covering 1,841 *tsubo*; 218 *tsubo* of cuttings; and temporary platforms to an extent of 1,470 ft., that is, seven parts.

O-U LINE (Fukushima-Yonezawa line).—Work on this line having started in Feb., 1894, was continued during the following year, but did not amount to much owing to limit of time. The work was continued in the year under review, and the remaining portion of embankments, cuttings, and culverts started during the preceding year was completed. Rails were laid up to the compound of the Niwasaka Station, while to the west of the same station rails were laid a short time after. The whole length of rails, from the starting point at Fukushima was 5 miles 9 chains.

Arrangements were made to take in hand the work on sub-section A of the 2nd section (commencing at a distance of 5 miles 9 chains and terminating at 6 miles 55 chains), having been completed, work was duly commenced on July 21st of the year. The section is short, but the work of construction is very arduous. In front of the eastern mouth of No. 18 tunnel (993 ft.), the line passes along a precipitous cliff overlooking the Natsukawa at a height of 200 ft. On one side it almost touches the foot of a steep hill, and durable masonry works are required on both sides. The work on the river side required the erection of scaffolding along the face of the cliff. It was at first intended to cut the tunnel from both ends, but as the nature of the ground at the eastern mouth was extremely bad and liable to crumble during excavation, this idea was abandoned, and instead a shaft was dug out at the side of the bank of the river and excavation was commenced from there and from the western mouth. Progress was greatly interfered with through storms, and the prescribed period of the construction was delayed. At last, it was completed by February. Other works were duly completed, and sub-section A of the 2nd section having been finished, the rails were laid to Yoshigawara, a distance of 6 miles 55 chains. Sub-section B of the 2nd Section commenced on Sept. 25. This sub-section, starting at a distance of 6 miles 55 chains, extended for 8 miles 30 chains. The physical features of the land became more and more difficult and the work correspondingly laborious. Under the circumstances, progress could not go on at the rate originally estimated. The construction of No. 2 tunnel (2,020 ft.), was attacked from both ends and also from the place where the body of the tunnel was exposed; yet, owing to various incidents, as, for instance, a landslide from the hill-side in consequence of the storms in December, the cutting that was to have been finished by January was considerably delayed; while when the widening and bricking up of the tunnel was in process, the place where the body of the tunnel was exposed, suddenly gave way on March 9th—probably due to the loosening of the ground occasioned by the thawing of snow,—and more than one chain of the cavity was filled with *débris* and other portions threatened to come down. The removal of the *débris* and the restoration proved a heavy task, so that it was only during the latter half of this fiscal year that the cutting was completed. No such impediment occurred in No. 3 tunnel (811 ft.), and at the end of the year all, excepting 100 ft. of widening and 3 parts of the brick lining, had been finished. The cutting of No. 4 tunnel (1,056 ft.), was finished and widened for above 300 ft.; but the brick lining has only just been taken in hand. As the cutting between Nos. 4 and 5 tunnels was wholly through rocks, and as fragments of blasted rocks scattered on every hand in a very dangerous manner, thereby temporarily putting a stop to the conveyance of stores at the west of No. 5 tunnel, the work of this tunnel was markedly interfered

with. On Feb. 28th the cutting and brick lining were completed. Culverts and drains for this sub-section were finished, and the bridge-work and abutments for No. 2 and No. 4 bridges—(No. 5 is not yet commenced)—have been completed, and only the placing of girders along the bridges remains. Reviewing the rate of progress on this sub-section, seven parts may be said to have been completed, leaving only three parts to be subsequently taken up.

On this line the most arduous work is encountered in the construction of tunnels through the Itaya Pass in the fourth sub-section. Two tunnels, No. 15 and 16, are to be constructed there, and more than two years must elapse, it is estimated, before the completion of the work. As soon as the work was fairly started at sub-section B of the 2nd section, arrangements were made, and, in the latter part of Oct., 1894, work was commenced. No. 15 tunnel curves around the front of the pass and is situated along the bank of the Matsugawa for a length 1,501 ft. At one place the tunnel is exposed. A shaft has been excavated at a place where the strata is thinnest, and the work is carried on from three different places. The cutting is through soft rock and no particular difficulty is encountered in excavation. No accident has yet occurred, and the work is going on at a very satisfactory rate. No. 16 tunnel is 5,362 ft. long, and as the route at the eastern mouth is curved the work was at first extremely inconvenient. Consequently a shaft was sunk in a direction perpendicular to the cavity and the work was subsequently commenced from there. The rocks at the entrance are of medium hardness and fortunately no great trouble is encountered in the excavation. In the latter part of March of the year under review, the left upper side of the eastern mouth collapsed, in consequence of the thawing of snow, and the mouth of the cavity was blocked. The presence of the shaft made it possible for the men to escape and no material impediment was experienced in the progress of the work. The subterranean route of this tunnel passes under the main peak of the Itaya Pass, but as the configuration of the land is of uniform thickness it is not possible to sink a lateral shaft. Still, the two extremities of the tunnel being too far apart and the progress of the work liable to be suddenly obstructed, to say nothing of the inconvenience of slow excavation, at a depression in the hill side about 34 chains from the two mouths, a perpendicular shaft 330 ft. deep, is about to be sunk. Already over 280 ft. have been excavated. The farther the boring goes the harder the rock becomes and the work is not as easy as lateral excavation. Especially is it difficult to remove the *débris*, the difficulty increasing as the work advances. For a distance of 3 chains 50 links, at a place where the tunnel will debouch at its western mouth, the route passes under the bed of the head waters of the Haguro, and therefore under very thin strata. It being necessary to alter the direction of the water course, a tunnel 249 ft. long was constructed for a distance of 15 miles 23 chains and the deviation was effected, while to effect the deviation of some small tributaries of the Haguro a small tunnel 137 ft. long, was constructed across the top of the main tunnel for a distance of 15 miles 22 chains. Notwithstanding these precautions, the water constantly percolates through the main tunnel and greatly obstructs the progress of the work. At a distance of 15 miles 63 chains, the route against comes face to face with the river Haguro, and a deviation of the river bed was effected by constructing a tunnel 257 ft. long. In regard to No. 16 tunnel, the cutting has been finished for 1,815 ft., the widening for 1,418 ft. (upper portion), 695 ft. (middle portion), and 371 ft. (lower portion). Of the materials needed in the work of the Itaya Pass, those that were obtainable in the vicinity were availed of as much as possible, but they only included a small portion of the total needed, and nine out of ten parts had to be hauled over the Niwasaka. In such transportation beasts of burden were generally used, but sometimes it was necessary to have recourse to coolies. The only road that could be traversed by the carriers was a mountain path stretching 10 miles, which ascends gradually to the hamlet of Itaya. At places it was very steep, so that no beast of burden could carry a full load. Moreover, as one day is spent in the transportation of one load, the supply of materials was necessarily insufficient. From the hamlet to the eastern mouth of the tunnel, a light railway has been built and no trouble is encountered in the carriage of material after that point. At the western mouth, however, the ordinary mode of conveyance must be depended upon for a distance of over 2 miles, passing, in the interval, the famous Itaya Pass, and great difficulty is encountered in transportation. In winter the road between Niwasaka and

this place is turned into a field of snow from three to seven feet deep, and till the months of March or April the passage is much obstructed by frost and thaw. However, snow-sleds can be run, and thus the transportation of materials is fairly maintained. But all these obstacles can not but interfere with the progress of the work.

LIGHT RAILWAYS.—For convenience of hauling timber used in the work, a light railway has been laid from the compound of the Niwazaka station. This is entirely separate from the main track, but by turning to the right or to the left, it traverses the woods, crosses the Matsugawa by means of No. 1 temporary bridge, winds along the bank of the river and reaches, after passing No. 2 temporary bridge, the foot of the eastern mouth, 200 ft. below the top of the cliff. Here an incline is constructed and communication is made with the eastern mouth of the tunnel. The line stretches farther along the Matsukawa, passes under the western mouth of the tunnel, gradually ascends along the back after passing Nos. 3 and 4 temporary bridges, and at last reaches Yoshigasawa. (These four bridges were washed away during the storms of December of this year and the water in the Matsugawa rose; but they were subsequently re-constructed.) The road builders encountered the greatest difficulties in carrying the railway over a gorge on a scaffolding. The difficulty and danger encountered in the construction of this scaffolding and the laying of the rails, were beyond description. By means of this scaffolding, or trestle-work, the line made a detour along the cliffs and the steep banks of the Matsukawa, and thus the extremity of subsection B, of the 2nd section, was at last reached, via Kwannon-hira, a distance of 8 miles 30 chains. The direct distance between the starting point at Niwazaka and the other extremity is 3 miles 60 chains. By means of the light railway the supply and distribution of materials was effected. When, in the middle of February of the present fiscal year, the permanent line was opened to Yoshizasawa, and transportation to that place began to be relied upon, the light railway between Niwazaka and Yoshizasawa became useless for an extent of 1 mile 78 chains; so it was taken down with a view to further the work of the 3rd section. When the work of constructing the Itaya tunnel was started in September of this year, the transportation of light materials commenced, and the work of laying rails from the Itaya railway materials storage ground onward was taken in hand from the first part of October. The route which the line takes being along the mountain side or the brow of a precipice, the construction of trestle-work rather than excavation was more needed. Passing several temporary bridges the line reaches the two mouths of No. 15 tunnel and the eastern mouth of No. 16 Tunnel, a distance of 1 mile 40 chains from the starting point. In connection with the western mouth of No. 16 tunnel, a light railway is laid from the storage ground at Nikensuke and along the side of the Hagiogawa, and the line, after passing two or three temporary bridges, reaches the mouth, a total length of only half a mile.

The survey of the Fukushima-Yonezawa section has been undertaken on two or three occasions but with respect to that portion between Niwazaki and Sekine, in the middle of which the steep pass of Itaya occurs and which passes along on the east the Matsukawa, and on the west the Hagiogawa, in both cases passing along the cliffs—in consequence of the topographical difficulties, a more accurate survey has to be undertaken before the work of construction can be actually started. Therefore in April of this year, the final survey was undertaken from Jinai, Niwazaka-mura, a distance of 5 miles 9 chains, and was gradually carried on till Sekine was reached, a total distance of 16 miles 61 chains. To sum up, the principal works undertaken during the fiscal year under review were in earthworks; embankments and cuttings in 37 places aggregating 30,777 *tsubo*; masonry, 3 places, totalling 315 *tsubo*; bridge-work, 4 places (superstructure unfinished); culverts in 12 places; tunnelling, 7 places aggregating 7,397 *tsubo*; drain pipes, 24 places; laying of railway, 6 miles 50 chains; buildings, 437 *tsubo*.

REPAIRS.

TOKYO-KOBE.—Owing of the occurrence of a severe earthquake shock on June 20th, 1894, the railway for a distance of 2 miles 76 chains, stone work for 3 miles 37 chains, and embankments for 23 to 24 miles were damaged or gave way; while with regard to bridges and culverts, the piers of the Rikugo iron bridge were damaged, and drain pipes and brickwalls along a distance of 24 miles were cracked. In buildings, a brick chimney of the Engineering Building, Shimbashi, was cracked in the middle, and the broken portion was set at a different angle to the remaining lower portion, while the top of a chimney at the same station came down, so that traffic was interfered with for

a while. Repairs were at once undertaken and things restored to their former state. On Aug. 10th, a storm caused the swelling of the rivers; the river Sakawa in particular, having been swollen to an extent of 9 ft. above its normal height. At a distance of 56 miles 20 chains, crib-works provided along the embankments to weaken the impetus of water were washed away, and the rushing current struck against the base of the embankment, destroying submerged works and stone-work constructed for the protection of the embankment at a distance of 61 miles 20 chains. It was feared that the damage would reach the railway, but fortunately the water fell after the 11th, and by the 18th had returned to its usual level so that the line escaped damage. For all that the work of restoration proved no easy task. The cutting on the side of Saita Hill, between Kambara and Okitsu, owing to the steep gradient in the strata of the rocks and therefore susceptible to the action of storms beating in a slanting direction, and even to the vibration of trees growing close by, was a source of danger. Further cutting took place and the gradient was made less steep. Again, on the Ejiri-Shizuoka Section, at a distance of 115 miles, close by the foot of Minami Kunozan, the line, though rather high above sea-level is lower than the highway by which it runs parallel; and therefore, at times of heavy rain, water used to wash on to the track, converting it into a veritable stream, and not unrequently interfering with the passage of trains. Consequently for a distance of 27 chains the track was elevated, its gradient altered, and the original ditch of two spans was widened into one of 4 ft., while another ditch was made on the other side. Owing to the increased activity of traffic and the consequent insufficient accommodation provided by the present railway buildings and also to the insufficiency of sidings at stations, not a few have been either enlarged or built. The principal works of the kind are the addition or removal of sidings along the main tracks or sidings in the premises of stations at Fujisawa and 23 other stations; the new or additional building of waiting rooms at Suzukawa and 15 other stations; a flying bridge at Sumiyoshi and one other place; a water tank and ticket printing shop at Shimbashi, the removal of three official buildings in the old Railway Board's premises at Reimanzaka to the premises at Shimbashi, the construction of a goods car house at Kiyosu and of Station-masters' houses at Kambara and two other places; and the additional construction of iron work-shops and of a turn table at Kobe. Earthworks, repairs, and supplementary works totalled over 13,508 *tsubo*; masonry over 2,243 *tsubo*; extension of subsidiary lines, 5 miles 60 chains; new or additional construction or removal or repair of various buildings at 89 places over 1,951 *tsubo*. There were other works of minor importance, but these need not be mentioned here.

DOUBLING THE LINE.—The doubling of the line between Osaka and Sannomiya continued from preceding year and has advanced rapidly. The work between Nishinomiya, referred to in the previous report, has already been completed, and was opened to traffic on April 16th of this year. Between Osaka and Nishinomiya the laying of rails has been completed in the main, but owing to the want of materials for the three big iron bridges to be constructed over the Muro, Shimokanzaki, and Shimoyuzo rivers, and to the consequent suspension of work, the line is not yet completed. Although only nine-tenths are finished, the opening of this section for traffic will be consummated before long. Between Mukomachi and Suita, work was started in June of this year, and the additional construction of bridges at 22 places and of culverts at 15 places has been taken in hand. In December, the greater part was finished, while at the end of the fiscal year additional work was done to the abutments of 13 bridges, only the girders now remaining to be fixed. Well-holes for the abutments and piers of two bridges are now being sunk. On the whole, therefore, eight-tenths of the work on the Omi-Kyoto section was started in July and as earth-works predominate in this section seven-tenths have been completed. The throwing of a bridge over the Kamogawa, one of the greatest bridge-works in Japan, is in process of construction, that is to say, two abutments and seven piers are finished.

TEMPORARY MILITARY RAILWAY WORK.—Work undertaken in compliance with the request of the Department of War incidental to the conveyance of troops, was the construction of the south-western branch from Shinagawa and the direct line joining Kanagawa and Hodogaya. To obviate the inconvenience of making a detour, which was inseparable when Shinagawa has to be reached by the Akabane line from the military railway station at Aoyama, the south-western branch of the Shinagawa line was forked out to a distance of

79 chains from the Akabane line, and, after an oblique cutting through the south east of Shinagawa, was directly joined on to the Tokaido line between Omori and Shinagawa. The line was over 72 chains in length. Work was commenced in the latter part of July of the present year and was completed within a month. Between Kanagawa and Hodogaya, in order to avoid the delay of going on the Yokohama, from Kanagawa Station, at a distance of 16 miles 40 chains, a line branched out, and going straight south-westward, effected junction at Hodogaya Station at a distance of 20 miles 26 chains. This special branch having been constructed through wet land, embankments were wanted, and thus more or less difficulty was encountered. The prolongation was 1 mile 68 chains, and the work, started in the middle of August, was completed by the latter part of September. Besides the above, other works were brought about by military needs; as, for instance, the construction of temporary military waiting houses and of special branch lines at Nagoya and Osaka, while at Kobe a special line was laid to the military reserve magazines, besides the construction of three turn-tables. The work between Ofuna and Yokosuka merely consisted of the prolongation of the sidings at Ofuna and Zushi Stations, and additional constructions at Ofuna and Kamakura Stations.

In the Ofu-Taketoyo branch section, owing to the destruction of Kamezaki Stations—a station-master's house, and other accessory buildings—by fire on March 7th of the present year, temporary buildings have been erected to meet the immediate requirements. Other works undertaken were the adjustment of the surface of railway embankments and the construction of a passengers' bridge between Handa and Taketoyo, the replacing of timber at two places and the replacing of wooden girders at two culverts, and so forth.

In the Mayebashi-Tsuruga and the Nagahama-Fukaya Sections, besides the prolongation of a siding at Kinomoto Station and the replacing of wooden cross beams at the Koshiyagawa and three other rivers by iron beams, there are no works to be mentioned.

TAKASAKI-NAOYETSU.—This line also suffered damage from the strong seismic shock of June, the damage being especially heavy at Karuizawa, where the walls of a brick engine building and the offices were much injured. Subsequently, in the early part of August, a heavy rain-fall prevailed for several days in Shinshu, thereby causing the overflow of the rivers. On the 10th the embankment situated at a distance of 98 miles 10 chains, between Miyoda and Komoro was buried beneath the water, and earth was washed away. Next day the tank between Toyono and Mure was inundated and broke through the railway, destroying the embankment to the extent of over 60 feet. On the 13th the Hinazawa-gawa, situated between Sakashiro and Matsushiro, rose, and owing to the embankment at its upper course having been broken, the low ground north of the line at Sakashiro Station was submerged, and embankments in several places were washed away to the extent of about 330 feet. Moreover, the cutting and stone work gave way and the passage of trains was temporarily suspended. Besides these repairs, new or additional construction work and also reconstruction of permanent bridges, waiting rooms, and other buildings have been undertaken, the chief being as follows:—The slope of the cutting at a distance of 150 miles 20 chains and 150 miles 26 chains in the Mure-Kashiwabara section, having been made too steep the stones and earth are liable to come down; cracks appeared in the brick arches of Nos. 2 and 3 between Yokogawa and Karuizawa the interstices gradually growing wider; consequently the abutments and piers were further strengthened and the lower portion of the arches received an additional inner ring of bricks and the interstices were filled with broken stones. Taguchi-Sekiyaama is a section where the snowfall is heavy and snow-sheds 140 *ken* long were constructed in two places, to prevent the snow from accumulating on the track. The wooden waiting room at Yokogawa station having begun to decay, it was reconstructed with brick. An iron water supply vessel, a brick water reservoir, and the coal platform were also constructed at Yokogawa, as well as a 5-chain siding. At Karuizawa station the 1st class and the 2nd class waiting rooms were reconstructed, goods buildings at Tano, Shinaroi, Mure, Kashiwabara, and Arai built; goods building and lading and unloading platforms were constructed at Naoyetsu station; an engine building at Nagano was extended; a station-master's houses was constructed at Arai; and lastly, culverts were constructed at two places, while at six places wooden girders in culverts or bridges were replaced by iron.

RAILWAYS AND ACCESSORIES.

At the end of the 27th fiscal year, the State lines had 580 miles of railway, 122 stations, and 2,957 vehicles, and these, compared with the preceding year, show an increase of 23 miles in railways, 5 in stations, and 317 in vehicles, as detailed below:—

Section.	Length. m.c.	Total Prolongation. m.c.	Vehicles.			
			Stations.	Engines.	Cars.	Waggons.
Tokyo-Kobe (Bamba- Otsu inclusive).....	377.54	393.34	80	131	558	689
Ofuna-Yokosuka.....	10.03	12.07	3	3	16	10
Obu-Taketoyo.....	12.01	14.13	3	1	7	1,700
Maibara-Kanagasaki (Fukaya-Nagahama inclusive).....	40.68	45.68	9	4	26	30
Takasaki-Naoyetsu.....	117.10	127.33	22	18	60	228
Aomori-Hirosaki.....	23.80	25.51	5	3	21	54
Total.....	580.69	757.47	122	260	678	2,957
In process of construction.....	—	—	—	7	—	151
Total at the end of the preceding fiscal year.....	557.49	698.37	117	241	647	2,640
Balance, increase.....	23.20	59.10	5	19	31	317

The increased length of route and increased number of stations was due to the Aomori-Hirosaki section having been opened for traffic, while increase in the total prolongation was due to the laying of a double track and sidings and also the prolongation of sidings in station yards, all in consequence of the opening of the Aomori-Hirosaki section. The increase in the number of vehicles was occasioned by the greater activity in traffic, which necessitates the purchase or building and setting up of new vehicles. Even after all these additions the needs of the public are far from being met. The following figures show the relative rate of increase in rolling-stock during the last three years, as compared with that of passengers, and extended to the length of railways:—

	Passengers as extended to the length of railways.		Goods as extended to the length of railways.		Rolling stock.
	25th fiscal year.....	26th fiscal year.....	25th fiscal year.....	26th fiscal year.....	
25th fiscal year.....	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3
26th fiscal year.....	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3
27th fiscal year.....	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3

During the 24th fiscal year the damage done by the Gifu-Owari earthquake considerably diminished the number of passengers and the quantity of goods conveyed, and the length of traffic having been much shortened, it would not be proper to compare the result of that year with the following years. The foregoing table shows how deficient is the stock of vehicles; the following is a detailed statement of the rolling stock as distributed over the various lines:—

Description.	Tokaido.	Shinyetsu.	O-u.	Hokuriku.	Total.	At end of the previous fiscal year.	Relative increase.
Engines.....	339	18	—	—	357	243	47 per cent.
Imperial carriages.....	3	—	—	—	3	3	—
First class.....	3	—	—	—	3	3	—
First and second.....	37	—	—	—	37	37	—
Second class.....	77	—	—	—	77	77	—
Second and third.....	6	—	—	—	6	6	—
Third class.....	34	36	—	—	70	34	104 per cent.
Third and Brake van.....	49	—	—	—	49	49	—
Parcel and Brake van.....	61	—	—	—	61	61	—
Post.....	36	—	—	—	36	36	—
Covered waggons.....	68	20	—	—	88	88	—
Open waggons.....	182	45	15	—	242	207	16 per cent.
Carriage trucks.....	4	—	—	—	4	4	—
Horse vans.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Little vans.....	73	—	—	—	73	73	—
Fish vans.....	39	—	—	—	39	39	—
Oil vans.....	20	—	—	—	20	20	—
Timber trucks.....	30	—	—	—	30	30	—
Stone vans.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballast trucks.....	127	33	30	—	190	150	26 per cent.
Good brake vans.....	137	—	—	—	137	137	—
Snow ploughs.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Break-down Vans.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	846	306	112	93	1,357	1,040	30 per cent.

CONDITION OF TRAFFIC.

Details of the passenger and goods traffic and receipts therefrom on Government lines during the year under consideration are given below. Compared with the previous year, the gross traffic receipts* show an increase of 16 per cent. over the previous year; coaching receipts, 12.7 per cent., and wagon receipts, 27.8 per cent. As to the volume of traffic, the number of passengers shows an increase of 3.04 per cent.; and of goods, a diminution of 5.4 per cent. The train mileage shows an increase of 12 per cent., passengers 13.4 per cent. on an average; and that of one ton of goods, 39 per cent. The causes underlying these results will be classified under the various lines.

TOKYO-KOBE (including branch lines).—On this line, passenger receipts show an increase of 12 per cent., goods receipts 38 per cent., and the gross traffic receipts 16 per cent. Yet the number of passengers shows an increase of only 3 per cent., whereas the volume of goods shows a diminution of 8.3 per cent. This apparently anomalous

* The receipts being earnings for traffic during the year, do not coincide with those given in the Section of Finance.

phenomenon was entirely due to the effect of the Japan-China War, and the reason that receipts show an increase is due to the distance of the average traffic mileage as compared with that of the previous year. This will be apparent if the result of the two years as to average mileage per passenger and that per ton of goods is compared:—

	Average mileage per passenger.		Average mileage per ton of goods.	
	Miles.	Chains.	Miles.	Chains.
26th fiscal year.....	23	66	53	69
27th fiscal year.....	27	41	78	57

During the previous year the average mileage per passenger shows an increase of 3 miles 55 chains, that is, 46 per cent. This explains why receipts, as compared with the volume of traffic, increased so much. The addition in the average mileage of traffic was due to the transportation of troops and war material for long distances, and, after Headquarters were advanced to Hiroshima, greater activity prevailed among Government functionaries and private persons in regard to railway travelling for long distances; and lastly to the facilities that goods trains carrying war necessities afforded for the conveyance of goods to a distance. This point will be made clear when the appended tables are examined, for they show that in spite of the diminution in goods carried by down trains, goods traffic by up trains greatly increased.

TAKASAKI-NAOYETSU LINE.—This line's coaching receipts increased 12.3 per cent.; goods receipts, 11.5 per cent., and the total traffic receipts 12 per cent. over those of the previous year. However, passengers show an increase of only 3.45 per cent. in number, while goods show a diminution of 1 per cent. in volume. On this line the volume of traffic has not been materially affected by the War, but the average mileage of traffic, as compared with that of the previous year, was much increased owing to the distance that goods and passengers were conveyed. The average mileage per passenger and per ton of goods, as compared with the corresponding figures of the previous year, are as follows:—

	Average mileage per passenger.		Average mileage per ton of goods.	
	Miles.	Chains.	Miles.	Chains.
26th fiscal year.....	21	75	32	53
27th fiscal year.....	23	65	34	44

In other words, the average mileage per passenger was increased by 1 mile 70 chains, and that per ton of goods by 1 mile 69 chains.

The Aomori-Hirosaki section was completed in November of the present fiscal year and was opened for passenger traffic from the 1st of December, the goods traffic commencing from the 11th of the same month. The season being winter and snow prevailing, and as the year was closed in four months from the opening of the line to traffic, the result cannot be taken as an indication of the general condition of traffic on this line. Still, as this section is considered to be better patronized by passengers than all the other sections of the O-u line, and as the district through which the railway passes is very rich in products, the line will prove, without doubt, one of the most profitable yet opened. The volume of traffic during the year under review is given in detail in an appended table. The volume of traffic concerning only the transportation of troops and war material (estimated) conveyed during the year in connection with the Japan-China war totalled 174,595, and fares 246,656 yen; while the war material aggregated 43,445 tons, and freights 258,708 yen. The total receipts were 505,364 yen. Compared with the total number of passengers and the quantity of goods conveyed during the year under review, troops corresponded to 1.2 per cent., fares 5.8 per cent., war material 4.3 per cent., and freights 16.3 per cent., corresponding to a total of 8.35 per cent. of the gross receipts.

OPENING OF LINES FOR TRAFFIC.—On December 1st, of this year the Aomori-Hirosaki section of the O-u line was opened for traffic, and passenger trains were run three times a day. Subsequently, on the 11th of the same month, goods traffic commenced between the three stations of Hirosaki, Nanioka, and Oshaka, and goods trains were run once a day, or twice when circumstances required.

CHANGE OF TIME TABLES.—During the year 23 principal changes were effected in the time tables of the railways, in consequence, in most cases, of the conveyance of troops. On April 16th, 1894, for instance, the time of service was changed on the Tokaido line, and ten additional departures on the trunk line and seven on the branch lines were effected. On the 16th and 17th of August, owing to the conveyance of troops between Ofuna and Yokosuka, passenger trains were made to stop both at Shizuoka and Hamamatsu, and the time of one train running between Ofuna and Yokosuka was altered. Between the 23rd and 25th of the same month, owing to the conveyance of troops

between Toyohashi and Nagoya, Hiroshima and Ujina, the time table was altered. Between the 29th of the same month and 6th of September the conveyance of troops from Nagoya and Tsuruga to Hiroshima caused an alteration in the time table. For 8 days from Sept. 22nd the conveyance of troops on a large scale caused either the stoppage of trains or a serious alteration in the running of trains, and this also happened between Nagoya and Kobe on the 30th; subsequent to October 11th the alteration in the departure of a mixed train from 8.45 a.m. to 7.25 a.m. was made. Subsequent to the 17th of the month, the 6.20 a.m. train that used to start from Shimbashi at 6.20 a.m. and run to Osaka, was made to proceed to Kobe, where it effected junction with the 2.10 a.m. train to Hiroshima. The 4.40 train, that used to start from Osaka, started from Kobe so that it might effect junction with the Hiroshima train that used to reach Kobe at 1.40 a.m. In consequence of these arrangements the 11 p.m. Kobe train to Osaka, and the 12.20 Osaka train to Kobe were suspended. From the 22nd of the same month the 3.10 p.m. Numazu train to Shizuoka was altered to 4.50 p.m.; while between the 21st of that month and the 6th of the next, owing to the conveyance of troops of the 2nd Military Division, trains were either suspended or times of departure rearranged. Subsequent to the 20th of November, owing to the passage of military trains backwards and forwards three times each way, the time tables were altered and seven additional trains were started. Between March 3rd and March 6th, 1895, the conveyance of troops involved alteration in the time of trains; while between the 24th and 27th of the same month the conveyance of troops of the Imperial Guards caused some dislocation, which was repeated between the 28th of March and 2nd of April in consequence of moving the troops of the 6th Division.

On the Shinyetsu line the alteration of the time table was effected simultaneously with that at Shimbashi, on April 16th, 1894, and four additional trains were run. Also, for the conveyance of troops, alterations in the time table were effected between Sept. 24 and Oct. 9th; between Oct. 10th and 24th; and between Oct. 25th and Nov. 9th. On Dec. 1st, the time table was again altered, owing to it being found unnecessary to run as many trains as before, and the scarcity of passengers during the winter season. From Feb. 3rd, 1895, the service was interfered with by a heavy snowfall in Echigo, and passenger trains, both first and third class, between Nagano and Naoyetsu were reduced by one, but this train was restored on April 4th.

Between Aomori and Hirosaki the time table was altered on Dec. 28th and reduced to two passenger trains and one goods train per diem, due to snow.

EXPRESS TRAINS.—During the year under review the number of express through trains run, in consequence of the journey of the Emperor and Empress to the South, was 11; that for ordinary passengers, 104; and that for goods, 885. This extraordinary increase in express goods trains, more than double that of the previous year, was chiefly due to the undertaking of double track work between Kyoto and Kobe, the opening of the Aomori line for traffic, and the running of ballast trains by the Kwaansai Railway Company in the vicinity of Furuwatari.

CASUALTIES.—The principal casualties during the year under review were—Tokaido line, the collapse of stone walls on April 3rd, 1894, between Yamakita and Oyama, rendering the line temporarily impassable, so that between Oyama and Numazu trains were obliged to suspend traffic 11 times. On May 4th, of the same year, the line between Shizuoka and Ejiri was flooded and damaged, the result being the stoppage of two trains on that section and also two on the Ejiri-Suzukawa section. On the Shinyetsu line a heavy rainfall on August 13th and inundations in the vicinity of Sakashiro, damaged the track, making the passage of trains very dangerous. Consequently, four trains between Uyeda and Karuizawa and two trains between Nagano and Toyama were stopped. But this year no particular interference was occasioned by snow on this line. Between Aomori and Hirosaki, from December 13th, 1894, the severity of the weather caused the storage tank to freeze and interfered with the departure of express trains five times. On the 18th snow drifted to a height of over 6 ft., and the passage of the last train was interfered with. Subsequently between January 13th and March 18th, trains with snow ploughs were obliged to stop three times on the road, owing to the accumulation of snow, and on each occasion the despatch of a relief car was necessary.

The number of casualties in connection with the passage of trains, and persons who violated the Regulations were as follows:—

	Tokyo-Kobe.	Takasaki-Nagoya.	Aomori-Hiroaki.	Total.
Derailed—				
Engines	22	4	—	26
Passenger cars ..	25	—	—	25
Goods cars	48	2	1	51
Collisions—				
Engines	6	1	—	7
Passenger cars ..	11	1	—	12
Goods cars	16	—	1	17
Accidents to vehicles—				
Engines	147	39	—	186
Passenger cars ..	157	23	—	180
Goods cars	161	36	5	202
Accidents to tracks—				
Natural calamities	25	17	—	42
Other accidents...	53	17	—	70
Accidents to trains—				
Natural calamities	13	9	—	22
Other accidents...	64	19	—	83
Pointmen's errors.	60	3	—	63
Breaches of Regulations—				
Engines	148	6	—	154
CASUALTIES TO LIFE IN CONSEQUENCE OF ACCIDENTS OR NEGLIGENCE.				
Passengers—				
Accidents—Wounded—				
Deaths	3	2	—	5
Negligence—				
Deaths	1	—	—	1
Wounded	1	—	—	1
Railway Staff—Accidents				
Deaths	4	—	—	4
Wounded	8	—	—	8
Negligence—				
Deaths	9	4	—	13
Wounded	7	—	—	7
General Public—Suicide				
Deaths	19	3	—	22
Carelessness—				
Deaths	20	4	—	24
Wounded	8	4	1	13
Causes not determined—				
Deaths	70	1	—	71
Wounded	4	—	—	4
Total—				
Deaths	123	12	—	135
Wounded	31	6	1	38

Of the casualties brought about by accident the most noteworthy was the collision of a train with an engine at Bamba on November 16th, causing the death of two conductors on the spot, the wounding of two firemen, a chief conductor, and a pointman.

COMMUNICATION BUSINESS.—Of the telegraphic messages dealt with during the year, railway messages numbered 1,214,972, or an increase of 387,945 over the preceding year; while messages dealt with on behalf of the public at large were 138,068, or an increase of 7,666. Receipts from the latter kind of messages totalled 7,909,558 yen, an increase of 751,907 yen over the preceding year. Money needed on account of maintenance of telegraphic instruments at various stations was 3,848,273 yen, an increase of 1,383,878 yen. At the end of year the total length of telegraph wires was 52 ri 2 cho and 64 ken; in other words, an increase of 37 ri 12 cho 40 ken. Telegraphic, telephone, and block instruments, are set at 118 places, an increase of 12 places. There are 153 Siemens printing instruments, an increase 15; 74 block instruments, an increase of 38. Telephones total 16, and are numerically the same as at the end of the preceding year.

FINANCE.

Before making a statement as to the construction expenses of the railways and profit and loss account, during the year under review, a few remarks ought to be made. In the reports for the preceding years, the financial affairs having been compiled with the chief attention devoted to capital account and to profit account, matters relating to estimates and settled accounts were necessarily wanting in clearness. Yet the adjustment of the credit and debit accounts must be based on fixed rules concerning estimates and settled accounts. Owing to this reason and also to the enforcement of the Government Railways Materials Fund Law from the present year, a radical departure has been made in the features of the financial account. Consequently, from the present year estimates and settled accounts of various revenues and expenditures, and also details of receipts and payments, will be stated in detail, together with the condition of the Capital Account and Credit and Debit Accounts.

ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS OF RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION EXPENSES.

The estimated installment of construction expenses for the year under consideration was 1,520,000 yen, with another estimate of 1,802,444 yen brought over from last year's account; that is to say, a total estimate of 3,322,444 yen. Against this estimate, a sum of 2,661,532 yen has

been settled during the year, so that the balance of 660,912 yen is to be carried forward to next year's account. Detailed statement of this account is shown in Table 4. Of the estimates for the present year, travelling expenses constituted 6,120 yen and miscellaneous items, 13,432 yen; while of the estimates brought over from the previous year's account, travelling expenses were 637 yen and miscellaneous expenses, 8,380 yen; total travelling expenses, 6,757 yen, and miscellaneous expenses, 21,812 yen. However, judging from the result of preceding years, when the sum disbursed on account of these two items far exceeded the estimate, the foregoing estimate was not thought likely to meet the actual needs during the year under review, and therefore the extraordinary outlay of 13,861 yen on account of travelling expenses, and of 8,741 yen on account of miscellaneous items were applied for and sanctioned.

ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE RELATING TO WORKING OPERATIONS.—In consequence of the non-existence of estimates for the year under review, the estimates for the preceding year were adopted, and the estimated revenue was therefore 6,436,612 yen and estimated expenditures (after deducting 50,000 reserve fund) 3,653,111 yen. Besides the above there was a sum of 160,000 yen each for Revenue and Expenditures which, submitted to the Diet as a supplementary budget, which were approved, and intended to be applied for repayment to the Sanyo Railway Company, to which a large sum was to be refunded on account of the transportation of troops. Again, a certain sum was brought over from the previous year's account as "receipts and outlays yet unsettled," and this amounted to 54,045 yen for revenue and 150,290 yen for expenditures. Taking all these items together, the total Estimated Revenue for the year was 6,650,657 yen, and estimated expenditures 3,963,401 yen. Against these two estimated accounts, receipts duly settled as Revenue for the year amounted to 6,404,033 yen, and receipts yet to be settled 366,437 yen; while for Expenditures, outlays settled amounted to 3,558,397 yen, and those yet to be settled, 263,379 yen. Balancing these accounts, the Revenue exceeded the estimates by 209,813 yen, and the Expenditures fell short of the estimate by 141,625 yen. Details are enumerated in Tables Nos. 5 and 6. Receipts accruing from the sale of construction stores, which, in consequence of the enforcement of the Government Railways Construction Stores Fund Law, are to be appropriated this year into Revenue of Construction Store Fund Account, were included in the previous year's account in the Estimates of Operating Revenue. Yet, while in miscellaneous receipts a diminution of no less than 1,380,000 yen is apparent, Revenue has shown, as mentioned above, a surplus; and this must chiefly be due to the traffic receipts having increased, as compared with the previous year, by 1,509,146 yen. Again, in expenditures, despite the purchase of stores being totally transferred to Store Fund Account, the revenue, as compared with the previous year's estimate, which included that item, did not exceed 140,000 yen. It will be seen from the above that the Railways are steadily developing and the amount of Revenue and Expenditures is equally going up.

ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS CONCERNING REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES OF GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS CONSTRUCTION STORES FUND.—The estimates this year for the Fund were 2,298,480 yen for Revenue and Expenditures respectively. But owing to the non-existence of the budget, while at the same time the Law for the Government Railway Construction Stores Fund was to be enforced from the present year, there were no previous estimates available for this year. The result was that the above mentioned sum, both for Revenue and Expenditures, was announced to be disbursed as outlays over and above the Budget. The sums disbursed for six months since the outlays were disbursed was 1,596,275 yen, and there remained only 702,205 yen, that is to say, a little over one-third of the whole sum. Yet the estimated cost of materials still to be purchased during the year amounted to 1,761,048 yen, that is to say, a deficit appeared of no less than 1,058,843 yen. This deficit was chiefly caused by the necessity of purchasing rolling stock and also rails and so forth needed for the construction of double tracks and branch lines, and was also attributable to the rise in the market price of commodities. Commodities generally rose by 10 to 20 per cent, this appreciation being especially significant in coal which is most necessary for conducting railway work. Thus, whereas to tons of coal cost last year about 29 yen, the price rose to as much as 60 yen this year, in other words, the appreciation was more than double the old rate. Consequently an application was for-

warded that the deficit might be made good. The application was acquiesced in; so that the total amount spent over and above the budget amounted to 3,357,323 yen this year. The accounts duly settled during the year amount to 3,014,999 yen, leaving a sum of 127,784 yen yet to be settled. The two items of disbursement, that is, a sum of 3,142,783 yen being subtracted from the total estimated outlay, there remains a sum of 214,540 yen, as shown in Table No. 7.

Receipts actually settled during the year amount to 2,110,535 yen, and those still to be settled to 111,504 yen; total, 2,222,039 yen, as shown in Table No. 8.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS. RAILWAY OPERATIONS.

Gross receipts during the year under review were 7,274,964 yen, while gross expenditures were 4,099,577 yen; the two items being balanced, a net profit of 3,175,377 yen remains:—

RECEIPTS.	Yen.
Receipts duly settled	6,494,033
Receipts still to be settled	366,437
Cash, Fixed Working Fund, brought over ..	283,100
Prices of Materials	131,384
Total	7,274,964

DISBURSEMENTS.	Yen.
Outlays duly settled	3,558,397
Outlays to be settled	263,379
Amount of Fixed Operating Fund	200,000
Price of Materials sold and accounts duly settled	69,225
Price of Materials sold and accounts yet to be settled	8,586
Total	4,099,587
Balance, Net Profit	3,175,377

Of the foregoing items, details relating to Receipts duly settled and Receipts yet to be settled, and Outlays duly settled and those yet to be settled, are shown in tables Nos. 5 and 6. In Receipts, a sum of 283,111 yen in cash belonging to be Fixed Working Fund was brought over from the 26th year's account, of which a sum of 147,188 yen represented the amount of previous year's outlays not yet settled, so that the balance of 135,922 yen really belongs to the Working Fund. As to the price of materials, amounting to 131,384 yen, 13,135 yen were brought over from the previous year's account, while 118,249 yen represented the materials used during the present year. Of this total a sum of 59,885 yen represents a sum that went to the Government Railways Stores Fund Account, 322 yen to the Construction Expenses, while 17,604 yen represent a sum that went to other quarters, so that the remaining 53,573 yen represents a sum for which sales had not been adjusted at the end of the present year. Besides the above there was another sum of 32,007 yen representing the repair of property at workshops.

In the section of outlays, a sum of 200,000 yen Fixed Working Fund, as compared with the sum of 2,000,000 yen Working Fund at the end of the previous year, shows a diminution of 1,800,000 yen. This was due to the enforcement of the Government Railways Stores Fund Law and because of the transference of the fund to that account.

A sum of 69,225 yen representing the price of materials sold whose account is settled, and another sum of 8,586 yen on account of materials sold but which account is still to be settled, are sums transferred from the total price of materials used, that is, 131,384 yen, to the Railway Stores Fund Construction Expenses, and other accounts. Of the foregoing Receipts and Expenditures the credit and debit account, at the end of the present year are as follows:—

CREDIT.	Yen.
Working Fund	200,000
Contractors yet to be paid in cash	263,379
Total	463,379
DEBIT.	Yen.
Cash	43,369
Materials used	53,573
Purchasers of materials yet to be paid ..	8,602
Contractors yet to be paid in cash	357,835
Total	463,379

Remarks.—The reason the item headed "Purchasers of materials yet to be settled" is greater by 16 yen than the sum representing the "Price of materials sold, with account yet to be settled" given in the Section of Expenditures in the Receipts and Expenditures Account, is because wear and tear and depreciation of workshops, buildings, and machines, and also interest are included over and above the original price of materials. Profits for the present year as compared with the aggregate sum of Fixed Capital and Fixed Working Fund

altogether amount to 40,591,454 yen, a little over 7.8 per cent.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS CONSTRUCTION STORES FUND.

The present account begins this year, when the total receipts amounted to 7,127,883 yen and disbursements to 7,121,946 yen, the profit of 5,937 yen being as follows:—

RECEIPTS.	YEN.
Receipts duly settled	2,110,535
Receipts yet to be settled	111,504
Cash belonging to the Fund, brought over	1,030,942
Value of stores	3,874,902
Total	7,127,883
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Outlays duly settled	3,014,999
Outlays yet to be settled	127,784
Fund	1,800,000
Amount previously received	165,445
Value of stores whose prices have been duly settled	1,884,414
Value of stores whose prices have yet to be settled	107,046
Value of stores to be included in Loss Account	22,258
Total	7,121,946

Balance, net profits

Of the above items; those headed "Receipts duly settled" and "Receipts yet to be settled," belong to the Revenue, and those headed "Outlays duly settled" and "Outlays yet to be settled" are shown in detail in tables Nos. 7 and 8. The amount of 1,030,942 yen in cash belonging to the Fund is a portion of 1,800,000 yen received at the beginning of the year from the Railway Operating Account. The amount of 3,874,902 yen as value of stores in stock consists of 709,058 yen brought over from the previous year's account, and the amount of 3,101,479 yen as value of stores purchased during the present year, and lastly a sum of 4,365 yen representing the value of coal in stock. Of that sum total, if 1,991,460 yen, representing the stores sold toward construction and traffic, and 22,258 yen, representing the value of stores to be included in loss account, that is to say a total of 2,013,718 yen, be subtracted, the remainder, 1,861,184 yen, represents the sum to be carried over to the next year's account.

The amount of 1,800,000 yen was the sum divided and transferred at the beginning of the year from the Fixed Working Fund of 2,000,000 yen, of the Railway Operating Account in accordance with the Government Railways Construction Stores Fund Account. The amount of 165,445 yen headed "Previously received" was the sum which, in accordance with the Railways Bonds Account Law, was previously received from the Construction Expenses; but during the present year it has not been settled at all. The amount of 1,884,414 yen representing the value of stores for which accounts have been settled, consists of 1,154,060 yen representing stores sold to the Working Fund, of 707,996 yen to the Construction Expenses, and of 52 yen to the Railway Route Investigation Expenses, and of 22,306 yen to the Department of War. The amount of 107,046 yen value of stores account yet to be settled, consists of 73,904 yen representing stores sold to working expenses, 29,514 yen to the Construction Expenses, 4 yen to the Railway Route Investigation Expense, and 3,624 yen to the Department of War, all which payments have not yet been received. The amount of 22,258 yen, as value of stores to be included in loss account, consists of 21,797 representing the diminution in value of stores as a result of reappraisal during the present year, of 363 yen representing stores entirely lost or damaged, and of 98 yen representing stores which, becoming useless, were included in the loss account with a view to their sale.

Of the foregoing account the pure credit and debit at the end of the year are as follow:—

	CREDIT.	YEN.
Total amount of Fund	1,800,000	
Sum previously received	165,445	
Contractors yet to be paid in cash	127,784	
Total	2,093,229	
	DEBIT.	
Cash	120,541	
Stores	1,861,184	
Buyers of stores who have not yet paid their accounts	110,258	
Contractors yet to pay in cash	1,246	
Total	2,093,229	

Comparing the profit realized during the present year with the Fund of 1,800,000 yen, the ratio stands at about 33 per cent. This, as compared with the traffic profits, is exceedingly small; but it

ought to be remembered that the account of this Fund was specially established for the purpose of purchasing and keeping in stock construction stores, so as to meet requirements of traffic and construction, and is specially intended to provide conveniences in connection with the use of stores for the two accounts of traffic and construction. Hence the present account does not keep the realization of profit in view.

CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL.

The total brought over from the previous year's account was 36,103,252 yen. During the year under review the settled account of 647,405 yen has been adjusted for the purpose of supplementing Railway Property, while the sum settled with Railway Bonds during this year and last totalled 3,140,797 yen, so that the consolidated capital existing at the end of this year, aggregates 40,391,454 yen, as shown below.

Tokaido.—Sums defrayed on Tokyo-Kobe Section Ofuna-Yokosuka Section, Obu-Taketoyo Section, and Maibara-Tsuruga Section as old and new industry promotion funds, and also a sum defrayed in accordance with the old Railway Finance Regulations and the Government Railways Finance Law as Construction Expenses and Supplementary Expenses:—

Sum brought over from the previous year's account	Yen.
Sum increased during the present year as Supplementary Expenditure	30,225,421
Total	606,729

Total

Shinyetsu Line.—Sums defrayed on Takasagi-Yokogawa Section, Yokogawa-Karuizawa Section, and Karuizawa-Naoyetsu Section as Construction Expenses and Supplementary Expenses in accordance with the Railway Finance Regulations and the Government Railways Finance Law.

Sum brought over from the previous year's account	Yen.
Sum increased during the previous year as Supplementary Expenditure	5,877,830
Total	40,677

O-u Line.—Sum defrayed on Fukushima-Aomori Section during the 26th fiscal year, and this year in the shape of Construction Expenses in accordance with the Railway Bonds Finance Law.

Sum for the first time included in the Consolidated Capital during this year	1,994,119
Hokuriku Line.—Sum defrayed on Tsuruga-Toyama Section, the same as above.	
Sum for the first time included in Consolidated Capital during this year ...	1,646,678

Grand Total of Consolidated Capital at end of the year

Formerly it was only after the completion of a given section and its opening for traffic that the Construction Expenses were included in the Consolidated Capital, but from this year the method has changed, so that as soon as Construction Expenses are adjusted, they are to be included in the Consolidated Capital. Consequently, the sums with regard to the two lines of the O-u and Hokuriku coming under the previous year's account have been included. However, the two lines being still in process of construction, it is not yet possible to give the cost of construction per mile and other comparisons. Therefore, by deducting from the grand total of the Consolidated Capital, amounting to 40,391,454 yen, a sum of 3,640,797 yen on account of the two special lines, and by distributing the remaining 36,750,657 yen into various items, the amount required per mile and the ratio it bears to the aggregate capital are shown below, as is also a comparison with those of the previous year:—

Items.	Average amount per mile on open lines.	Ratio borne to the aggregate amount of capital.
	End of 27th year.	End of 26th year.
Preliminary Surveys	366	350
Superintending Work	3,414	3,415
Right of way	3,042	3,082
Earthworks	20,516	19,456
Bridges (including culverts)	16,247	15,585
Tunnels	5,763	5,765
Permanent Way (including drains, fences, boundary posts, and telegraphs)	20,455	20,332
Stations	3,373	3,308
Transportation (including construction trains)	2,923	2,924
Wharves	202	212
Locomotives	4,273	3,866
Other Rolling Stock	4,820	4,686
Buildings	721	707
Shops and Machinery	2,467	2,361
Construction Plant	317	178
General charges	1,001	1,001
Total	65,861	64,707

It will be seen that the average cost of construc-

tion per mile at the end of this year was 65,861 yen, which, compared with that of the previous year, shows an addition of 1,160 yen per mile. Again, the average construction cost per mile, at the close of the year, of different sections open for traffic is shown and compared in the following table:—

Sections.	Total length of open lines..... Miles.	Average cost per mile.
Tokyo-Yokohama	558	65,861
Kobe-Otsu	58 (double)	163,558
Tsuruga-Ogaki	58 (of which one mile is double)	146,246
Takasagi-Naoyetsu	49	71,681
Yokohama-Ogaki	110 (exclusive of 25 miles double)	35,699
Ofuna-Yokohama	20	49,033
Otsu-Nagasaki	48	34,312
Yokogawa-Karuizawa	7	281,524

The above lines were already completed, and the more or less augmentation in cost of construction of various sections is due to a deficiency in fixed property having been supplemented.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

From the commencement of railway business till the end of March, 1894, the grand total of capital of the Government Railways was 39,567,731 yen. The capital increased during the present year as follow:—

Defrayed from the Treasury during the present year with Bonds	Yen.
Defrayed with Bonds issued for the 26th year's account	2,661,532
Amount settled for supplementary works of existing lines during the present year	39,243
Total	647,405

When the above is added to the total capital at the end of last fiscal year, we get 42,915,911 yen, of which the following have been deducted during the year:—

Amount paid to the Treasury on account of sale of stores belonging to construction expenses of old lines	56,787
Sales of stores during the previous year but account settled this year, and duly paid into the Treasury	13,724
Of the amount of Public Bonds, a remnant entrusted during the previous fiscal year to Paymasters and duly paid into the Treasury this year	184,196
Of the amount of Public Bonds, a portion that was miscalculated and settled during the previous fiscal year and paid into the General Revenue this year	37
Total	254,744

The foregoing amount being deducted, there remains a sum of 42,661,167 yen, which is the grand total of Railway capital at the end of the 27th fiscal year. This total is divisible into five parts, namely, fixed capital, fixed working capital, Government Railways Construction Stores Fund, price of stores belonging to old construction not yet settled, and advance payment and unsettled stores belonging to the expenditure on the Railway Bonds, as follows:—

1. Fixed Capital	40,391,454
2. Fixed Working Capital	200,000
3. Construction Stores Fund	1,800,000
4. Old Construction Stores, price yet to be settled	11,461
5. Railway Bonds Expenditure, advance payment	165,445
Unsettled stores price	92,807
Total	42,661,167

Of the foregoing items the first having been detailed in the Consolidated Capital Section and the second and third in Receipts and Disbursements Section, no further details are needed here. The items coming under the 4th and 5th heads have already been set out as Construction Expenses, but as the account of stores for works is not yet settled, they could not be included in the consolidated capital. It follows, therefore, that the amount of money settled on account of expenditure and the amount included in the consolidated capital do not tally with each other. The productive capital and the non-productive capital of the foregoing grand total being distinctly set forth, the result is as follows:—

Productive Capital	40,055,953
Amount belonging to Consolidated Capital	38,055,953
Total of Government Railway Stores Fund	1,800,000
Fixed Working Capital	200,000

Capital not yielding profit	2,605,214
Amount belonging to the Consolidated Capital	2,335,501
Unsettled price of Stores belonging to Old Construction	11,461
Advance payment of unsettled stores } belonging to expenditure on Bonds }	165,445 92,807

Total 42,661,167

Out of the productive capital, consolidated capital amounting to 38,055,953 yen has to be taken and analysed, when it is found to be a sum settled on account of the whole portion of the Tokaido Line and the Shinyetsu Line, and also a sum settled at the Aomori Out-office of the O-u Line. The amount settled at that Out-office represents the construction Expenses of Works coming under the control of the Office, and though the portion opened for traffic during the year was the Aomori-Hirosaki section of 23 miles, there being no special heading set apart for the Construction Expenses of the Aomori-Hirosaki section, the account has been included in the Settled Account mentioned above. Of the non-productive capital a sum of 2,335,501 yen consolidated capital represents the amount settled on account of the whole portion of the Hokuriku Line, and also the amount settled on account of a portion of the O-u Line, that is to say, at the Fukushima Out-office; but as the two have not been opened for traffic during the year the sum has been temporarily included in the non-productive capital.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

The total mileage of railways opened for traffic was 581 miles at the end of the year, an increase of 23 miles over that of the previous year. Traffic receipts for the year as compared with those of the previous year show an increase of 434,958 yen, working expenses an increase of 239,321 yen; that is to say, an increase in profits of 195,637 yen. Details are as follows:—

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.		Yen.
Traffic Receipts—		
Coaching Receipts	4,295,838	
Goods Receipts	1,430,530	
Miscellaneous Receipts	93,045	
Total	5,819,413	

DISBURSEMENTS.		Yen.
Working Expenses—		
Maintenance Expenses	519,838	
Locomotive Power	1,058,313	
Traffic Expenses	500,406	
Several charges	103,139	
Total	2,181,696	

Balance, Profit 3,637,717
The rate that working expenses for the year under review bear to traffic receipts is a little over 37 per cent., which, as compared to the rate for the previous year, shows an increase of about 1 per cent. Transportation and communication have in general, been very much developed this year, but as the transportation of troops and military stores involved, side by side with an increase of receipts a corresponding increase of expenditures, this fact, and also the rise in the market price of commodities, must have brought about a comparative increase in expenses during the year.

INCREASE AND DECREASE OF REVENUE AND WORKING EXPENSES AND THEIR CAUSES.

The average amount of Receipts and Expenses per diem and the same per mile of open line on various lines during the year, and also as compared with the corresponding results for the preceding year, are as follow:—

AVERAGE RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES PER DAY.			
	Receipts.	Expenses.	
	97th year.	96th year.	97th year.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Tokaido	13,979	13,019	5,063
Shinyetsu	1,927	1,733	863
O-u	115	—	157

Total 15,944 14,752 5,977 5,322

AVERAGE RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES PER MILE.			
	Receipts.	Expenses.	
	97th year.	96th year.	97th year.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Tokaido	11,570	10,775	4,190
Shinyetsu	6,011	5,407	2,691
O-u	1,740	—	2,379

Total 10,282 9,650 3,855 3,481

The O-u line, in other words, the Aomori-Hirosaki Section, having been opened for traffic on December 1st, 1894, the average per diem was obtained for 122 days, while the average per mile was obtained by calculating the average amount per one-third of the whole line of 23 miles, that is, 8 miles.

Open lines at the end of the year totalled 581 miles, but the average traffic mileage was 566 miles.

In the above table the four sections of Tokyo-Kobe, Ofuna-Yokosuka, Obu-Taketoyo, and Maibara-Tsuruga distinctly set apart till the previous year, have been combined in a new denomination of Tokaido Line; Shinyetsu Line to a new denomination for Takasaki-Naoyetsu section, while O-u line means Aomori-Fukushima section, which is still in course of construction, only the Aomori-Hirosaki section having been opened for traffic from Dec. 1st, 1894. Earnings for various lines show a more or less increase this year, a fact that is probably due to the development of railway traffic, though for the Tokaido Line the transportation of troops and military stores must also be taken into account in this connection.

In regard to the Working Expenses on various lines, that for the Shinyetsu Line, because of the absence of casualties properly so called and therefore owing to diminution in maintenance expenses, the amount spent on that line shows a decrease. The total for the whole, however, considerably increased in consequence of the rise in the market price of commodities, especially coal, the heaviest item in the working expenses, and also in consequence of the transportation of troops and military stores.

Gross receipts for the year were 5,819,413 yen, which are subdivided into coaching, goods, and miscellaneous receipts.

Receipts.		Rate of Various Receipts to Gross Receipts.		Receipts.	
97th year.	96th year.	Com-parison.	97th year.	96th year.	Comp.
Coaching.....	4,295,838	3,677,086	7.38	7.39	*0.01
Goods.....	1,430,530	1,206,397	2.46	2.48	*0.02
Miscellaneous.....	93,045	100,972	0.16	0.19	*0.03
Total.....	5,819,413	5,384,455	1.000	1.000	—

The causes that have brought about such a marked increase, as compared with the previous year's result, in coaching and goods receipts have already been explained in detail. The decrease in the amount of miscellaneous receipts was due to the fact that while the profits accruing from the construction and repair of materials for the Nippon Railway Company and Ryomo Railway Company, and also the profit accruing from the sale of stores, were included in this item in the previous year's account, the former has been included this year in Work-shops Receipts, and the latter in the Stores Fund Revenue. The gross expenditures for the year were 2,181,696 yen, which are subdivided into maintenance, locomotives, traffic, and general expenses:—

Maintenance.		Locomotives.		Traffic.		General.	
97th year.	96th year.	Com-parison.	97th year.	96th year.	Com-parison.	97th year.	96th year.
519,838	610,494	*200,656	1,058,313	775,386	*282,927	500,406	306,580
103,139	—	—	103,139	—	—	—	—
Total.....	2,181,696	2,044,375	10,000	9,750	*2,500	70,14	—

The figures bracketed show the ratio toward Gross Expenditures, while the other figures show the ratio toward Gross Receipts. This year, as compared with last year, the two items of maintenance Expenses and General Charges show a diminution. The former was due to the postponement of maintenance works, except those that were absolutely unavoidable on account of risk, owing to the extraordinary activity of railway operations brought about by military needs, and also to absence of calamity or accidents. Diminution in the item of general charges was due to the transference of a portion of superintending expenses incidental to imported stores and of miscellaneous allowances, both of which were heretofore defrayed out of the present expenses, to the stores fund account, and also to the marked diminution in the amount of grants of money allowed to retiring officers and experts. On the other hand, the two items of locomotive power and traffic expenses show an increase, the former to the mileage of locomotives in operation having reached 4,926,585 miles, that is, 800,457 miles more than in the previous year, and to a rise in the market price of coal.

By dividing the traffic receipts and working expenditures under their respective heads, and by finding the respective units by dividing them by their proper divisors, and also by comparing the result with that of the last two years, the following table is obtained:—

Receipts.		Receipts per mile in operation.		Receipts per mile in operation.	
Average mileage open for traffic.	Coaching.	Goods.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	
Miles.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	
27th fiscal year	566	7,590	2,528	10,118	10,282
26th fiscal year	558	7,128	2,341	9,469	9,650
25th fiscal year	551	6,328	1,850	8,178	8,313
Average	7,016	3,239	100	9,415	—

WORKING EXPENDITURES.		Tariff.		Genl. charges.	
Maintenance.	Locomotive.	Per mile in operation.	Per mile in operation.	Per mile in operation.	Per mile in operation.
Divisor.	Working mileage.	Divisor.	Working mileage.	Divisor.	Working mileage.
97 year.....	566	918	4,926,585	2.93	5,726,368
96 year.....	558	2,148	4,116,198	2.18	5,483,483
95 year.....	551	1,854	3,958,099	2.02	4,580,938
Average	575	2,197	4,000,000	2.04	5,263,463

Details of Receipts and Expenses of the various sections for the year under review are given in table No. 10.

NET PROFITS.

A sum of 3,637,717 yen representing the net profit accruing from traffic, together with another sum of 5,937 yen representing net profit arising from Stores Fund, and the total being compared with the gross capital of 42,661,167 yen, and the productive capital of 40,055,953 yen at the end of the present year and also to the results of the last four years, the following table is obtained:—

	Rate of Net Profit to Gross Capital.	Rate of Net Profit to Gross productive capital.
	per cent.	per cent.
27th fiscal year	8.5	9.1
26th fiscal year	8.7	9.5
25th fiscal year	6.4	7.2
24th fiscal year	4.6	5.1
23rd fiscal year	6.3	6.8

In computing the ratio to the productive capital, those figures computed up to last year to show ratio borne towards the construction expenses and amount of settled accounts have been made use of.

In order to show the relative rate of yearly increase of gross capital and that of gross receipts, and also to show the relation which the capital duly settled bears to the revenue during the last four years, the increase of mileage and also amount of capital is shown below:—

	Increase of Mileage in Operation.	Increase of Gross Capital.	Rate of Increase of Gross Capital.	Relative Increase of Gross Receipts.	Relative Rate of Increase of Receipts.	Rate of Gross Receipts compared with Gross Capital.
	Miles.	Yen.	Per Cent.	Yen.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
97th.....	581	3,603,437	0.72	434,958	0.81	1.26
96th.....	558	3,073,418	0.54	303,833	0.75	1.36
95th.....	551	2,723,257	0.47	276,491	0.74	1.53
94th.....	544	2,613,416	0.40	203,603	0.44	1.13
93rd.....	534	2,416,669	0.35	144,374	0.37	1.00

The net profits given in this section being 3,637,717 yen, there is, as compared with the amount of the net profit given in the section of Receipts and Expenditures Account (3,175,355 yen), a balance of 462,340 yen, the cause being attributed to difference in the manner of making up the accounts. The relation between the two systems of accounts will be explained below.

Items included in property and receipts in the traffic account but not in the account of receipts and expenditures, and also items not included in loss account in the former, but included as such in the latter:—

Supplementary Expenses	647,405
Amount of Receipts not settled last year and settled this year (prices of stores excluded)	42,821
Amount of expenditure not settled this year (construction work cost excluded)	244,821

Total 935,047
Items not included in loss account of receipts and expenditures account, but included as such in the other, and those that are included in receipts in the former, but not included as such in the latter:—

Amount of expenditures not settled last year and settled this year (prices of stores and wages excluded)	114,857
Amount of receipts not settled this year (working receipts excluded)	357,850

Total 472,707
Balance increase of net profit of traffic account 462,340

PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

GRANT OF CHARTERS.—During the year under review provisional charters have been granted to the Kyoto Railway Company and 25 others, representing 903 miles of railways and 39,530,832 yen of capital; while permanent charters have been granted to the Hatsuse Railway Company and 4 others, their aggregate mileage and capital amounting to 257 miles and 10,627,559 yen. The number of companies to which temporary charters have been granted this year shows an increase of 20 over that of the previous year, mileage by 811 miles, and amount of capital by 36,502,242 yen. The number of companies to which permanent charters have been granted diminished by 6, but mileage shows an increase of 111 miles and the amount of capital by 5,017,809 yen.

ISSUE OF TEMPORARY CHARTERS.

Name of Railway Co.	Locality.	Route.	Mileage.	Gauge.	Capital.	Date of Surveys.	Period of Construction.
Kyoto...	Kyoto ...	Kyoto, Maizuru, Yobe, Miyazu, Wadayama	101.51	3.6	5,100,000	July, 1894	18 months.
Hankoku...	Sonezaki-mura ...	Kanzaki-Fukuchiyama ...	63.60	3.6	4,000,000	do	do
Kiwa...	Gojyo, Nara...	Gojyo-Wakayama ...	31.20	3.6	1,400,000	do	do
Kisetsu...	Osaka ...	Minatomachi, Osaka, to Wakayama ...	40.00	3.6	2,800,000	do	do
Sanuki...	Tadotsu ...	Marugame-Tadotsu ...	17.19	3.6	500,000	do	12 months.
Sobu...	Honjo, Tokyo ...	Sakura-Seito ...	15.00	3.6	300,000	do	12 months.
Hoshu...	Nomehashi, Fukuoka...	Seito-Choshi ...	30.00	3.6	900,000	do	18 months.
Shimofusa...	Sahara, Chiba ...	Ikari-Yogeta ...	2.10	3.6	198,512	do	12 months.
Omi...	Hikone, Shiga ...	Sakura-Sahara ...	20.00	3.6	500,000	do	18 months.
Hokuetsu...	Tokyo ...	Hikone-Fukagawa ...	26.00	3.6	1,000,000	do	do
Chikuho...	Wakamatsu, Fukuoka	Naoyetsu, Shibata, Niitsu, Numatare ...	98.45	3.6	3,700,000	do	do
Bantan...	Himeji, Hyogo ...	Izuka-Harada or Tarisu ...	21.00	3.6	1,224,834	do	do
Kwansai...	Yokkaichi, Miye ...	Yamaga-Yoshii ...	17.00	3.6	522,486	do	do
Sakata...	Sakata, Yamagata ...	Ikuno-Wadayama ...	13.40	3.6	500,000	do	12 months.
Koya...	Kaimachi, Osaka...	Tsuge-Nara ...	31.57	3.6	1,540,000	do	do
Chugoku...	Okayama ...	Sakata-Shinsho ...	31.00	3.6	1,000,000	August, 1894	18 months.
Shinkawa...	Shimotaniabe, Kyoto	Sakai-Hashimoto ...	22.00	3.6	1,500,000	September, 1894	12 months.
Kozuke...	Takasaki ...	Okayama-Yonago ...	92.00	3.6	5,000,000	do	18 months.
Zuso...	Tokyo ...	Kizu-Shijo, Sugara-Yawata ...	22.40	3.6	800,000	do	12 months.
Kano...	Nanao ...	Takasaki-Shimonida ...	20.60	2.6	315,000	do	do
Isoninato...	Mito ...	Tsushitani-Oni ...	10.50	2.6	180,000	do	do
Nishinari...	Fukuoka, Osaka ...	Tsuhata-Nanao ...	34.70	3.6	700,000	do	18 months.
Chinyetsu...	Takaoka ...	Mito-Iwamachi ...	7.64	3.6	200,000	do	12 months.
Iga...	Nabari, Iga ...	Kawagita-Sonezaki ...	4.56	3.6	300,000	October, 1894	do
Toyokawa...	Toyohashi ...	Takaoka-Shirohata ...	19.00	3.6	350,000	November, 1894	do
Seiwa...	Matsuzaka ...	Kashiwara-Uyeno ...	22.00	3.6	1,000,000	do	do
Hatsuse...	Nara ...	Toyokawa-Oni ...	16.40	3.6	400,000	December, 1894	do
Chikuho...	Wakamatsu, Fukuoka	Sakurai-Matsuzaka, Kawai-Tsu ...	72.00	3.6	3,600,000	do	18 months.
Iyo...	Matsuyama ...	Nara-Sakurai ...	12.17	3.6	500,000	July, 1894	3 years.
Nippon...	Uyeno, Tokyo ...	Kotake-Sajifukuro ...	3.32	3.6	123,590	do	2 years.
Kwansai...	Yokkaichi ...	Izuka-Utsu ...	4.48	3.6	150,000	November, 1894	do
		Tachibana-Marimatsu ...	2.62	2.6	23,969	August, 1894	do
		Tomobe-Senju ...	59.45	3.6	2,200,000	November, 1894	5 years.
		Tahata-Senju ...	3.09	3.6	450,000	do	2 years.
		Mito-Iwanuma ...	140.27	3.6	5,640,000	do	7 years.
		Tsuge-Nara ...	31.57	3.6	1,540,000	January, 1895	5 years.

At the end of the year applications for temporary charters numbered 51, representing 2,000 miles, and 103,091,831 yen, while companies that applied for permanent charters numbered 4, their total mileage aggregating 77 miles, and their capital 2,178,512 yen.

Existing Conditions:—Existing joint stock railway companies at the end of the year numbered 29, their capital totalling 86,693,200 yen (of which 63,928,649 yen were paid in) and their mileage 2,190 miles, of which 1,538 miles were in operation. Compared with the corresponding figures of the previous year, one has been added to the number of companies, 11,880,200 yen to capital, and 257 miles to total mileage and 157 miles to railways open for traffic. This was due to permanent charters having been granted, or additions to capital licensed, or the opening of lines for traffic approved, by the Authorities. The existing companies which, by permission of the Authorities, have increased their capital, were the Nippon (10,000,000 yen), the Chikuho (1,200,000 yen), the Iyo (30,200 yen), the Naniwa (100,000 yen); total, 11,330,200 yen.

The sections, mileage, and date of opening for traffic during the year by permission of the Authorities, are as follow:—

LINE OPENED.

Name of Companies.	Sections.	Mileage.	Date opened.	Name of Companies.	Sections.	Miles.	Date opened.
Sanyo ...	Itozaki-Hiroshima ...	46.22	June 10, 1894	Sobu ...	Honjo-Ichikawa ...	6.40	Dec. 9, 1894
Kansai ...	Yokkaichi-Kuwana ...	7.30	July 5, 1894	Kawagoe ...	Kokubunji-Kumegawa...	5.00	Dec. 21, 1894
Sokei ...	Ichikawa-Sakura ...	25.00	July 20, 1894	Chikuho ...	Kotake-Sachifukuro ...	3.42	Dec. 28, 1894
Bantan ...	Himeji-Teranai ...	19.00	July 26, 1894	Bantan ...	Teranai-Hase ...	4.00	Jan. 15, 1895
Kyushu ...	Kumamoto-Kawajiri...	3.05	Aug. 11, 1894	Kyushu ...	Kawajiri-Matsuhashi...	6.39	Jan. 28, 1895
Nippon ...	Hachinohe-Minato ...	1.54	Oct. 1, 1894	Kawagoe ...	Kumegawa-Kawagoye...	13.40	Mar. 21, 1895
Koku ...	Shinjuku-Ushigome...	3.40	Oct. 6, 1894				
Anome ...	Tachikawa-Anome ...	11.40	Nov. 9, 1894				
				Total ...		157.32	

The present condition of the various railway companies carrying on business either at the end of the 27th fiscal year or at the end of the 28th (1894) year are shown in the following table:—

It must be borne in mind that for the six companies, Nippon, Hankai, Iyo, Kwansai, Kushiro, and Sobu, the figures was carried to the 27th year, while for others the figures relate to the present fiscal year.

PRIVATE COMPANIES.

Name of Companies.	Capital.		Reserve.	Debt.	Loans.	Construction Expense.		Open Lines.	Rolling Stock.		
	Gross.	Paid up.				Open Lines.	Incomplete Lines.	Mileage of	Engines.	Carriages.	Waggons.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Mile. Chains.			
Nippon ...	30,000,000	22,586,940	906,416	578,000	—	21,205,009	245,119	596.65	92	236	1,313
Hankai ...	400,000	400,000	51,500	—	—	423,575	—	6.22	6	41	34
Ryomo ...	1,500,000	1,500,000	20,776	—	—	1,514,334	—	52.17	5	27	59
Iyo ...	175,200	158,150	4,422	—	—	155,591	—	10.19	4	22	19
Sanyo ...	13,000,000	7,793,769	60,600	2,000,000	280,000	9,436,705	16,163	191.46	38	179	408
Koku ...	1,350,000	945,000	29,273	—	400,000	1,348,049	—	26.37	5	28	91
Osaka ...	3,000,000	2,598,955	35,000	—	—	2,079,822	303,654	38.47	10	60	116
Sanuki ...	330,000	330,000	8,810	—	12,000	320,913	9,891	10.15	4	31	18
Kyushu ...	11,000,000	6,480,765	32,000	1,500,000	—	6,417,233	1,058,806	146.25	26	68	410
Kansai ...	6,500,000	4,699,153	8,500	—	35,980	3,069,313	828,914	66.35	10	70	78
Hokkaido ...	5,000,000	5,000,000	120,573	1,100,000	—	5,439,814	—	204.71	29	47	786
Chikuho ...	370,000	2,654,100	53,900	600,000	—	3,008,332	82,189	34.20	21	19	700
Kushiro ...	200,000	200,000	—	—	—	169,996	—	26.67	2	2	19
Settsu ...	240,000	196,800	893	—	—	200,101	—	8.35	4	20	20
Saigu ...	1,100,000	968,000	2,400	—	—	936,789	—	23.58	3	38	26
Sano ...	145,000	145,000	495	—	8,760	150,217	—	9.54	2	6	32
Sobu ...	1,200,000	1,192,690	734	—	—	1,070,046	—	31.40	5	35	56
Bantan ...	1,000,000	951,250	459	—	120,000	540,534	388,437	23.00	3	18	44
Anome ...	150,000	106,105	282	—	—	121,936	—	11.40	2	9	23
Kawagoe ...	300,000	269,960	—	—	20,260	252,370	—	18.40	2	12	19
Total ...	80,290,200	59,176,637	1,302,035	5,778,000	877,000	57,860,939	2,933,173	1,537.33	273	968	4,301
Total at March, 27th year.	61,965,000	48,861,915	1,035,805	6,593,000	—	50,390,265	2,020,590	1,367.77	211	802	3,463
Increase ...	18,315,002	10,314,722	266,228	62,000	—	7,470,674	912,583	169.56	62	166	838

Volume of Traffic.—The number of passengers and quantity of goods dealt with by the respective private companies either during 1894 or the 27th fiscal year are shown in the following table. Generalizing and comparing it with the previous year's results, passengers show an increase of 21.1 per cent., fares thereof 26.7 per cent., goods 35.2 per cent., freights thereof 35.7 per cent. (as children travel at one-half fares, adults have been reckoned without discrimination, whereas two were reckoned as one in the previous year's account and the comparison can not be exactly accurate). The chief reason of the increase was due to the opening of 157 more miles this year as compared with the previous year; the extraordinary activity in the transportation of military stores and troops in consequence of the war, the favourable condition of the coal market; and also the insufficiency of marine transportation, by which facilities afforded by overland transportation were much more availed of than in ordinary years. Consequently, ordinary passenger and goods traffic was more or less affected by the War and some companies which exclusively dealt in them could not help but increase their receipts.

Name of Companies.	Mileage of trains.	Passengers.					Goods.			Charges.		
		1st class.	2nd class.	3rd class.	Government service.	Total.	Effects and Parcels.	Goods.	Total.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total.
	Miles.						Ton.	Ton.	Ton.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Nippon	2,561,141	8,388	210,559	5,678,898	744,639	6,942,484	2,411	666,729	666,140	1,890,196	1,389,675	3,279,871
Hankai	113,937	7,632	159,843	2,016,098	8,481	2,192,054	171	10,922	11,093	119,282	1,486	120,768
Iyo	112,012	982	18,504	817,005	8,561	845,112	2,033	21,113	23,146	24,535	4,253	28,788
Ryomo	230,991	456	21,342	1,037,360	13,998	1,073,156	466	83,011	83,477	149,357	64,987	214,344
Sanyo	1,128,054	16,610	123,022	4,390,732	196,891	2,727,255	999	276,762	277,761	712,074	337,387	1,049,461
Sanuki	142,445	1,105	10,723	667,056	2,576	681,460	—	13,343	13,349	39,833	1,588	41,421
Kansai	267,071	498	16,661	683,079	9,189	709,427	179	86,830	87,015	187,273	73,156	260,429
Kobe	137,027	2,302	28,048	805,268	9,174	844,792	83	98,484	98,567	99,947	47,923	147,870
Osaka	303,100	3,026	39,498	1,546,500	12,960	1,601,984	151	129,892	130,043	231,432	62,830	294,262
Kyushu	721,346	3,336	42,489	2,406,606	86,264	2,638,785	252	293,587	293,839	488,645	205,210	693,855
Hokkaido	632,276	510	13,730	430,412	15,974	460,626	56	482,780	482,836	157,431	439,487	596,918
Chikuho	284,683	5,141	—	431,253	4,116	440,510	15	99,107	99,122	57,019	415,149	472,168
Kushiro	31,463	—	—	4,206	—	4,206	—	23,639	23,639	846	10,942	11,788
Settsu	109,525	979	16,229	561,242	1,698	580,048	251	16,312	16,568	26,111	2,019	28,130
Sangu	104,816	319	15,496	507,284	3,237	526,336	142	6,903	7,045	91,523	4,691	96,214
Sano	21,759	—	—	100,058	—	100,058	2,029	25,013	27,042	5,793	9,558	15,351
Sobu	69,170	311	5,914	172,211	16,558	194,994	69	1,767	1,836	37,037	2,117	39,154
Bantan	39,193	1,309	—	111,448	2,211	114,968	17	13,617	13,634	14,924	6,730	21,654
Aomoe	12,305	—	510	37,144	393	38,047	10	1,260	1,306	3,377	610	3,987
Kawagoye	14,105	19	628	40,088	90	40,825	2	682	684	2,242	218	2,460
Total	7,036,479	52,923	723,256	20,444,038	536,910	21,757,127	9,342	3,443,379	3,453,137	4,338,877	3,080,016	7,418,895
Total at March, 27th year	5,764,072	47,901	625,540	17,086,601	205,731	17,965,778	5,064	2,400,024	2,405,088	3,424,262	2,270,439	5,694,701
Increase	1,272,407	5,022	97,716	3,357,437	331,179	3,791,349	4,278	843,355	848,049	914,615	809,577	1,724,192

Receipts and Working Expenses.—The amount of receipts and working expenses of the respective private companies during the 27th fiscal year or the 27th year (1894) are shown below. Generalizing and comparing the result with that of the previous year, Receipts show an increase of 23.5 per cent.; expenses, 27.9 per cent., and net profits, 21.1 per cent. Comparing the rate of net profit and cost of construction, that of the Hankai Company was largest, 19.9 per cent., and that of the Tanko Tetsudo, Hokkaido, smallest, 4.1 per cent.; the average rate being 7.9 per cent., which shows an increase of 1.2 per cent. over that of the previous year. This may be taken as a good indication of the progress of railway enterprise. Railways opened for traffic this year and also special railways, as for instance, the Kushiro railway, built for the purpose of conveying sulphur, regarding ordinary traffic as a secondary matter, have been excluded in computing the foregoing percentages.

Name of Companies.	Receipts.			Expenses.					Balance, Profit.	Distribution of Profits.				
	Traffic Receipts.	Other Sources.	Total.	Maintenance.	Locomotives.	Traffic.	General.	Total.		Dividend.	Reserves.	Rewards.	Carried to next Account.	Others.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Nippon	3,369,049	87,755	4,008,786	345,796	494,073	326,952	101,458	1,268,275	2,740,511	2,016,606	169,555	29,945	386,711	13,694
Hankai	120,768	390	123,347	7,012	15,566	10,881	5,332	38,791	84,556	6,800	8,500	6,950	1,106	
Ryomo	225,855	816	226,671	23,111	39,819	23,118	11,171	97,219	129,452	116,250	6,432	6,562	208	
Iyo	28,788	89	29,352	1,572	6,146	4,421	2,357	14,496	14,856	10,875	1,208	1,338	56	1,379
Sanyo	7,071,513	45,339	7,116,851	107,338	192,410	96,180	38,944	434,872	681,980	453,090	30,000	0	9,240	120,000
Kobe	161,957	2,721	164,678	7,300	19,875	14,923	4,713	46,811	117,867	95,850	5,485	4,101	94	30,037
Osaka	297,136	15,222	312,358	19,258	46,685	24,602	12,147	102,692	209,666	181,000	3,500	12,900	2,266	15,779
Sanuki	41,420	1,139	42,559	4,035	8,959	5,438	2,646	21,078	21,481	19,341	1,073	1,028	39	2,501
Kyushu	724,706	34,291	758,997	59,852	51,694	67,874	21,481	240,901	518,096	423,771	25,000	16,000	15,825	21,373
Kansai	261,973	12,206	274,179	25,039	44,276	25,928	9,420	104,663	182,487	162,000	9,100	2,700	441	12,337
Hokkaido	641,065	238,782	879,847	165,742	129,041	89,763	34,783	419,330	460,517	780,000	31,968	44,756	1,522	57,390
Chikuho	497,210	9,272	506,482	34,949	74,657	46,420	31,931	189,957	318,525	162,702	20,900	0	22,873	43,000
Kushiro	11,870	208	12,078	4,569	3,471	1,597	805	10,442	2,230	0	0	0	2,230	59,550
Settsu	29,464	808	30,272	1,638	8,080	4,177	2,401	16,290	13,190	11,238	659	1,292	1	
Sangu	102,624	10,101	112,725	10,589	19,497	12,879	11,659	54,624	58,101	39,644	2,400	1,900	197	1,500
Sano	15,474	6,839	22,313	2,183	2,897	3,490	1,743	10,313	5,167	4,070	735	280	0	12,460
Sobu	39,154	6	39,762	6,777	5,945	6,756	5,606	25,084	14,678	12,000	474	0	1,944	322
Bantan	33,129	—	33,129	6,237	6,884	6,378	4,449	23,948	9,181	7,000	459	0	722	
Aomoe	3,987	932	4,919	1,093	2,164	1,291	89	4,637	282	0	0	0	282	
Kawagoye	2,460	3,397	5,857	492	1,604	798	399	2,993	2,864	0	0	0	2,864	
Total	7,679,602	1,031,513	8,711,115	734,280	1,213,743	773,866	393,533	3,125,422	5,585,693	4,564,397	336,968	129,752	448,627	561,068
Total at March 27th	5,857,558	1,885,101	7,042,659	738,172	809,869	599,700	295,470	2,443,210	4,599,449	3,695,564	230,361	104,554	127,805	568,079
Increase	1,822,044	153,588	1,668,456	96,108	403,875	174,166	8,063	682,212	986,244	868,833	106,607	25,198	320,822	7,011

NOTE.—In the second column the figures coming opposite the letter S. in the line of the Nippon Railway Company represent Government subsidy; figures marked by a dagger (†) mean "sum brought over from the previous year's accounts," while those marked by the asterisk (*) mean that in the figures given directly above so much was brought over from the previous year's account.

In the last column the figures given for the Iyo, the Kobe, the Kyushu, the Hokkaido, and the Sano lines represent interest on company's debts; the figures given for the Osaka line and the lower figures in that of the Sangu show the sum liquidated; the two figures for the Chikuho's line represent interest on debts and temporary loans; those for the Kansai's line, emergency fund; the five figures in the Sanyo's line, present interest on debts, charges on rolling stock borrowed, interest on old loans, loss incidental to sale of shares, and sum appropriated for repairing damaged tracks, respectively. The upper figures for the Sangu's line is a contribution to the Great Shrines and Parks Fund.

TABLE NO. 1.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

Remarks.		Tokyo-Kobe.		Takasaki-Naoetsu.		Aomori-Hiroamae.	Total.	
		At March, 1895.	Compared with last year.	At March, 1895.	Compared with last year.	At March, 1895.	At March, 1895.	Compared with last year.
Average operating mileage ...	Miles	429,360	—	117,10	—	7,57	554,23	7,57
*Mileage of passenger trains ...	Miles	2,395,114,000	169,645	183,540	-4,751	6,236	2,584,890	171,180
Mileage of passenger cars ...	Miles	39,042,219	3,844,000	2,011,216	-58,532	51,688	32,105,223	3,337,156
Average no. of cars per train ...	Miles	12,054	54	10,96	—03	8,29	12,42	50
†Total number of cars used ...	Miles	247,125	5,264	21,900	1,523,37	2,331,4	270,356	8,118
Daily average mileage per car ...	Miles	121,567	11,180	91,841	-9,737	38,834	118,752	9,050
Number of Passengers carried:—								
1st class ...	Persons	86,550	5,896	—	-77.	—	86,550	5,819
2nd class ...	Persons	755,733	42,694	27,169	395	2,172	785,074	45,261
3rd class ...	Persons	12,560,669	266,545	1,376,201	46,542	75,492	14,012,362	388,579
Total ...	Persons	13,402,952	315,135	1,403,370	46,860	77,664	14,883,906	439,659
Average no. of passengers per day ...	Persons	86,720	863	3,845	129	649	41,207	1,634
Passenger Mileage:—								
1st class ...	Miles	3,556,639	412,147	—	-895	—	3,548,942	403,555
2nd class ...	Miles	24,459,109	2,799,495	704,029	56,907	43,476	25,063,046	2,606,910
3rd class ...	Miles	340,855,658	53,787,052	32,650,152	3,602,946	1,207,725	370,676,291	54,561,097
Total ...	Miles	368,871,406	56,999,294	33,414,181	3,658,958	1,251,201	399,288,879	57,661,544
1st class mileage ...	Miles	41,09	2,10	—	-11.62	—	41,00	2,03
2nd class mileage ...	Miles	32,36	1,98	28,12	1,71	20,02	31,93	1,68
3rd class mileage ...	Miles	27,14	3,79	29,72	1,87	16,00	26,45	3,24
Total ...	Miles	27,52	3,69	23,81	1,87	16,11	26,83	3,17
Average no. of passengers per mile ...	Persons	858,939	132,726	285,286	31,239	163,230	720,364	95,331
Average no. of passengers per train mile ...	Persons	154,01	13,87	182,050	24,02	200,64	154,47	12,94
Average no. of passengers per car mile ...	Persons	12,28	.60	16,61	2,23	24,21	21,44	.56
Coaching Receipts:—								
Passenger receipts ...	Yen	3,765,967,635	373,530,507	448,104,494	490,400,565	14,933,109	4,229,005,229	437,504,172
Parcels and luggage receipts ...	Yen	171,440,130	56,899,525	7,979,820	2,071,840	265,430	179,685,380	59,236,795
Postal service receipts ...	Yen	49,938,686	8,152,594	3,949,385	-837,795	178,416	54,066,487	7,493,216
Total ...	Yen	3,987,346,451	438,582,626	460,033,699	50,274,610	15,376,946	4,462,757,096	504,234,182
Daily average receipts ...	Yen	10,924,237	1,201,596	1,260,366	137,738	127,082	12,311,685	1,466,416
Average receipts per operating mile ...	Yen	9,284,775	1,021,266	3,927,716	429,239	1,993,769	8,051,340	808,925
Average receipts per train mile ...	Yen	1,665	.070	2,506	.330	2,466	1,726	.086
Average per car mile ...	Yen	.1327	—0002	.287	.0307	.2065	.1390	.0014
Average per passenger ...	Yen	.01020	—00061	.01350	.00003	.01194	.01059	—0005,1
Average per passenger mile ...	Yen	.2810	.0215	.3204	.0253	.1923	.2841	.0216
Average daily receipts per car ...	Yen	16,135	1,466	21,006	.897	11,553	16,507	1,412
‡Total tonnage of parcels and luggage carried ...	Tons	6,833.	2,021	581.	205.	17.	7,431	2,243
Average receipts per ton ...	Yen	25,090	1,287	13,735	-1978	15,164	24,181	.964
Mileage of passenger trains ...	Miles	2,083,795	87,765	—	—	—	2,083,795	87,765
Mileage of goods trains ...	Miles	999,593	185,158	87,764	5,752	1,298	1,088,655	192,268
Mileage of mixed trains ...	Miles	622,637	163,759	367,079	-9,503	12,472	1,002,188	166,770
Total ...	Miles	3,706,025	436,682	454,843	-3,751	13,770	4,174,638	446,701

* Half of mixed train mileage added to the total Passengers train mileage.

† Number of vehicles multiplied by the number of days they were employed.

‡ Mails not included.

The foregoing apply to the corresponding cases in goods traffic, mails excepted.

TABLE NO. 2.

GOODS TRAFFIC.

Remarks.		Tokyo-Kobe.		Takasaki-Naoetsu.		Aomori-Hiroasaki.	Total.	
		At March 1895.	Compared with last year.	At March 1895.	Compared with last year.	At March 1895.	At March 1895.	Compared with last year.
Average operating mileage ...	Miles	440,39	—	117,10	—	7,6	564,55	7,6
Mileage of goods trains ...	Miles	1,310,911.	267,037.	261,303.	-9,000.	7,534.	1,579,748.	265,571.
Mileage of waggons:—								
Down trains ...	Miles	10,844,160.	1,766,943.	1,224,421.	74,054.	18,948.	12,087,529.	1,859,945.
Up trains ...	Miles	10,749,509.	1,764,952.	1,080,853.	46,599.	19,368.	11,849,730.	1,830,919.
Total ...	Miles	21,593,669.	3,531,895.	2,305,274.	120,653.	38,316.	23,937,259.	3,690,864.
Empty waggon mileage, down trains ...	Miles	2,321,751.	-836,390.	636,152.	8,449.	8,842.	2,966,745.	-763,405.
Empty waggon mileage, up trains ...	Miles	1,538,701.	982,244.	207,287.	-55,266.	2,905.	1,748,893.	929,883.
Total ...	Miles	3,860,452.	145,848.	843,439.	8,883.	11,747.	4,715,638.	166,478.
Ratio, empty waggon mileage to total waggon mileage ...	Per cent.	17.9	-2.7	36.6	-1.6	30.7	19.7	-2.8
Ratio, empty waggon mileage to total waggon mileage, down trains ...	Per cent.	21.4	-13.4	52.0	2.3	46.7	24.5	-12.0
Ratio, empty waggon mileage to total waggon mileage, up trains ...	Per cent.	14.3	8.1	19.2	-6.2	15.0	14.8	6.6
Average no. of waggons per train ...	Waggons	16.47	—83	8.82	.74	5.09	15.15	—16
Total no. of waggons used ...	Waggons	548,620.	45,895.	63,145.	—	3,885.	615,650.	49,780.
Daily average mileage per waggon ...	Miles	39,360	3,432	36,508.	1,911	9,348	38,881	3,102
Tonnage:—								
Ordinary goods, down trains ...	Tons	50,285.	—	44,796.	—	1,502.	96,583.	—
Special contract goods, down trains ...	Tons	266,892.	—	32,931.	—	—	299,823.	—
Total ...	Tons	317,177.	-75,236.	77,727.	-9,019.	1,502.	396,406.	-82,753.
Ordinary goods, up trains ...	Tons	68,654.	—	79,002.	—	6,394.	154,050.	—
Special contract goods, up trains ...	Tons	458,787.	—	9,055.	—	—	467,842.	—
Total ...	Tons	527,441.	10,713.	88,057.	7,255.	6,394.	621,892.	24,362.
Grand total ...	Tons	844,618.	-64,523.	165,784.	-1,764.	7,896.	1,018,298.	-58,351.
Average tonnage per day ...	Tons	2,314.	-177.	454.	.5	71.	2,839.	-111.
Tonnage mileage:—								
Ordinary goods, down trains ...	Miles	2,491,676.	—	1,403,912.	—	34,028.	3,929,616.	—
Special contract goods, down trains ...	Miles	23,491,532.	—	516,126.	—	—	24,007,658.	—
Total ...	Miles	25,983,208.	7,559,275.	1,920,038.	-61,248.	34,028.	27,937,274.	7,529,055.
Ordinary goods, up trains ...	Miles	2,807,170.	—	3,630,467.	—	95,806.	6,533,443.	—
Special contract goods, up trains ...	Miles	37,689,580.	—	173,707.	—	—	37,863,287.	—
Total ...	Miles	40,496,750.	9,957,005.	3,804,174.	314,700.	95,806.	44,396,730.	10,367,511.
Grand Total ...	Miles	66,479,958.	17,516,280.	5,724,212.	250,452.	129,834.	72,334,004.	17,896,566.
Average mileage of ordinary goods per ton ...	Miles	44.55	—	40.67	—	16.44	41.75	—
Average mileage of special goods ...	Miles	84.31	—	16.43	—	—	80.60	—
Average mileage of down train ...	Miles	81.92	34.97	24.70	1.83	22.66	70.48	26.67
Average mileage of up train ...	Miles	76.78	17.68	43.20	.01	14.98	71.39	14.41
Average mileage per ton ...	Tons	78.71	24.85	34.53	1.86	16.44	71.03	19.83

GOODS TRAFFIC.—CONTINUED.

Average tonnage per operating mile	Tons	150,924	39,766	48,873	2,139	18,351	128,096	30,470
Average tonnage per train	Tons	50,713	3,807	21,906	1,056	17,233	45,788	4,365
Average tonnage per waggon	Tons	3,079	.368	2,483	—023	3,389	3,022	.333
Average tonnage per up train	Tons	2,396	.366	1,568	—157	1,796	2,311	.316
Average tonnage per up train	Tons	3,767	.368	3,520	—146	4,947	3,747	.350
Average tonnage per freighted waggon	Tons	3,749	.336	3,916	—138	4,887	3,763	.295
Average tonnage per down train	Tons	3,049	—064	3,204	—167	3,307	3,063	—078
Average tonnage per up train	Yen	4,397	.773	4,355	—167	5,819	4,395	.696
Goods receipts ordinary goods	Yen	370,822,830	105,106,678	235,101,488	23,728,525	6,407,500	612,331,818	135,242,708
Special contract goods	Yen	962,059,653	208,969,258	15,173,629	2,002,539	—	977,233,282	210,971,792
Total	Yen	1,332,882,483	314,075,931	250,275,117	25,731,064	6,407,500	1,589,565,100	346,214,495
Average receipts per day	Yen	3,651,733	860,454	685,685	70,496	57,725	4,395,143	988,675
Receipts per operating mile	Yen	3,025,926	713,019	2,136,821	219,689	905,654	2,814,946	585,171
Receipts per train	Yen	1,017	.041	.958	.127	.850	1,006	.060
Receipts per waggon	Yen	.0617	.0053	.1086	.0058	.1672	.0664	.0050
Receipts per freighted waggon	Yen	.0752	.0042	.1712	.0049	.2412	.0827	.0035
Receipts per ton	Yen	.02003	—00072	.0412	.00200	.04935	.02198	—00086
Ordinary goods	Yen	.07022	—	.04653	—	.04935	.05852	—
Special contract goods	Yen	.01571	—	.02446	—	—	.01579	—
Average receipts per ton	Yen	1,5814	.4727	1,5590	.1357	.8115	2,5610	.3915
Ordinary goods	Yen	3,1523	—	1,9011	—	.8115	2,4431	—
Special contract goods	Yen	1,3216	—	.4115	—	—	1,2730	—
Average receipts per day per waggon	Yen	2,430	.403	3,963	.407	1,649	.2582	.385

TABLE No. 3. LOCOMOTIVE RUNNING AND CONSUMPTION SHEET, No. 3.

Section.	Total Mileage.	Coal. Cwt.	Coal per Mile.	Oil.	Oil per 100 m.
	miles.			pt.	pt.
Tokyo-Kobe	4,052,698	1,180,221	32.61	490,881	12.11
Ofuna-Yokosuka	82,883	21,374	28.88	7,908	9.54
Obu-Taketoyo	42,994	7,620	19.85	3,531	8.21
Maibashi-Tsuruga	140,170	38,392	30.68	19,050	13.59
Takahashi-Naoetsu	584,727	231,991	44.44	88,619	15.16
Aomori-Hiromae	23,113	6,818	29.65	2,310	9.99
Total	4,926,585	1,485,716	33.78	612,299	12.43

Mileage of Nagahama-Fukuoka section, Aoyama-Shimbashi, and Aoyama-Hodogaya is included in the mileage of Tokyo-Kobe.

TABLE No. 4. ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS RELATING TO RAILWAY BONDS EXPENDITURES.

(5)

Items.	Estimates for the 26th fiscal year.	Settled accounts for the 26th year.	Balance carried forward to the next year's account.	Estimated amount at the beginning of 27th fiscal year.	Estimated amount at the end of 27th fiscal year.	Settled accounts for the 27th fiscal year.	Balance carried forward to the next account.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Salaries and allowances	—51,600,000	—28,719,199	—22,889,801	—24,000,000	—46,880,801	—36,740,282	—10,140,519
Officers of <i>sonin</i> rank	12,800,000	6,315,626	6,484,374	7,200,000	13,684,374	8,524,595	5,159,779
Officers of <i>hanjin</i> rank	38,800,000	22,403,573	16,396,427	16,800,000	32,013,427	27,023,732	4,980,740
Grants of money to retiring officers	—	—	—	—	245,000	245,000	—
Special Gifts	—	—	—	—	907,500	907,500	—
Casualties	—	—	—	—	30,455	30,455	—
Travelling	—15,316,000	—14,678,715	—637,285	—6,120,000	—20,618,285	—16,433,130	—4,185,155
Interior	15,316,000	14,678,715	637,285	6,120,000	20,618,285	16,433,130	4,185,155
Miscellaneous Wages	—26,572,000	—18,192,011	—8,379,989	—13,432,000	—30,553,136	—30,388,457	—164,679
Wages to Employees	26,572,000	18,192,011	8,379,989	13,432,000	30,497,136	30,332,457	164,679
Rewards	—	—	—	—	56,000	56,000	—
Office Expenses	—28,058,000	—17,630,117	—10,427,883	—12,319,000	—22,746,883	—18,237,998	—4,508,885
Furniture, &c.	6,651,614	4,158,961	2,492,653	2,140,000	4,932,653	4,594,152	388,501
Books and Printing	654,002	411,599	212,403	202,000	1,554,403	794,582	759,821
Stationery	2,877,974	2,128,950	749,024	573,000	3,777,024	3,261,817	515,207
Consumed Articles	2,662,168	2,194,434	367,625	1,275,000	3,912,625	3,538,593	374,032
Communications	1,563,508	768,084	795,424	543,000	1,518,424	1,180,235	338,189
Clothing	31,535	19,495	12,040	14,000	126,000	78,795	47,245
Miscellaneous	13,017,199	7,818,485	5,798,714	6,482,000	6,295,714	4,789,824	2,135,890
Fukushima-Aomori Railway	—1,529,631,000	—691,169,152	—888,461,848	—767,543,000	—1,589,059,948	—1,280,350,789	—319,609,159
Right of way	143,003,000	101,628,512	41,374,488	28,596,000	60,970,488	36,516,771	24,453,717
Earthworks	350,220,000	60,722,399	298,497,601	227,405,000	190,854,701	145,718,534	45,136,167
Bridges	148,439,597	70,827,207	77,612,390	108,741,000	135,853,390	104,490,296	31,363,094
Culverts	147,975,403	60,395,714	87,579,689	12,039,000	99,618,689	51,201,586	48,417,103
Drain-pipes	6,141,000	4,931,932	4,209,368	4,950,000	9,159,368	3,873,558	5,285,810
Tunnelling	72,864,000	30,099,495	42,764,505	45,974,000	348,747,505	321,109,963	27,637,542
Permanent-way	29,517,000	284,109,895	11,407,105	171,210,000	152,617,105	130,353,601	22,263,504
Stations	41,760,000	976,726	40,783,274	25,146,000	65,929,274	20,472,390	45,456,884
Rolling-stock	177,534,000	—	177,534,000	76,080,000	253,614,000	250,812,488	2,801,512
Machine-shops	17,232,000	—	17,232,000	9,954,000	20,686,000	—	20,686,000
Buildings	13,815,000	10,000,650	3,814,350	3,934,000	22,748,350	19,646,641	3,101,709
Transportation	77,272,000	59,650,952	17,621,048	39,225,000	189,835,668	171,378,169	9,757,499
Construction Engines	10,371,000	3,804,926	6,566,074	5,940,000	13,040,674	11,843,276	1,197,398
Construction implements	18,617,000	2,840,940	15,776,060	4,977,000	20,708,840	8,825,536	11,903,304
Fences and boundary posts	1,725,000	1,189,104	535,896	996,000	2,031,896	1,181,756	850,140
Telegraph wires	4,148,000	—	4,148,000	2,376,000	6,524,000	2,926,224	3,597,776
Tsuruga-Toyama	—1,388,820,000	—467,166,725	—621,653,275	—696,586,000	—1,611,685,028	—1,278,381,808	—332,303,220
Right of way	160,000,000	18,196,453	141,803,547	10,200,000	188,003,547	183,307,444	4,696,103
Earth-works	319,306,000	80,561,338	238,744,662	127,440,000	237,380,415	168,845,996	68,534,419
Bridges	189,200,000	24,495,887	164,704,113	187,997,000	249,863,544	157,706,726	92,156,818
Culverts	116,882,000	7,036,887	109,845,113	4,640,000	114,222,680	50,366,683	63,856,007
Drain-pipes	10,360,000	3,798,647	6,561,353	712,000	10,323,353	6,510,125	3,813,228
Permanent-way	214,952,000	70,229,518	135,722,482	285,071,000	37,793,482	331,042,257	39,751,225
Stations	260,549,000	227,835,609	32,713,391	12,074,000	194,787,391	99,377,542	5,499,849
Rolling-stock	4,500,000	222,990	4,277,010	16,880,000	21,157,010	4,907,000	10,249,955
Machine-shops	37,900,000	—	37,900,000	50,800,000	138,700,000	130,739,549	1,975,451
Building	7,400,000	55,403	7,344,597	8,992,000	18,336,597	—	16,336,597
Transportation	5,920,000	4,476,087	1,443,913	400,000	14,143,913	7,556,523	6,587,396
Construction trains	49,607,000	15,992,402	33,604,598	20,000,000	128,607,598	121,040,192	7,567,406
Construction plant	4,440,000	690,486	3,749,514	2,024,000	5,473,514	5,096,227	677,287
Fences and boundary posts	7,400,000	4,467,876	2,932,124	500,000	6,932,124	6,154,079	778,045
Telegraph wires	411,000	107,140	303,860	840,000	2,643,860	699,635	1,944,225
Total	3,040,000,000	1,237,555,919	1,802,444,081	1,520,000,000	3,322,444,081	2,661,532,401	660,991,617

TABLE No. 5. ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS RELATING TO OPERATING RAILWAY REVENUE.

Items.	Estimates.			Settled Accounts.			Balance.	
	Unsettled receipts brought over from previous year's accounts.	Estimates for the year.	Total.	Settled accounts for the year.	Unsettled receipts carried over to the next account.	Total.	Remainder.	Excess.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Traffic Receipts...	—37,879 777	—5,007,344.000	—5,134,723 777	—6,320,510.051	—323,364.170	—6,643,870.221	—	—1,509,146.444
Coaching ...	17,039 677	3,798,495.000	3,815,534 677	4,617,837 426	172,176.23	4,790,013 656	—	974,478.979
Goods ...	20,340.100	1,298,667.00	1,319,007.100	1,702,358.675	151,183 94	1,853,542 615	—	53,453 515
Miscellaneous ...	—	182.000	182.000	313 950	—	313.950	—	131.950
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	—16,665.562	—1,490,260.000	—1,515,933.562	—173,523.005	—43,076.383	—216,599.388	—1,384,467 884	—85,133.710
Miscellaneous ...	15,010.147	1,499,268.000	1,514,287.147	95,344 283	34,474.980	129,819.263	1,384,467 884	—
Work shops ...	1,646.415	—	1,646.415	78,178.722	8,601.403	86,780.125	—	85,133.710
Total ...	54,045.339	6,595,612.000	6,650,657 339	6,494,133 056	366,436.553	6,860,469.609	1,384,467 884	1,594,280.158

TABLE No. 6. ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS RELATING TO OPERATING RAILWAY EXPENDITURES.

Items.	Estimates.			Settled Accounts.			Balance.
	Unsettled receipts brought over from previous year's accounts.	Estimates for the year.	Total.	Settled Accounts for the year.	Unsettled Expenditure Carried over to the next year's account.	Total.	
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	
Salaries and Allowances ...	—2,192.214	—386,274.000	—388,466.214	—347,861.273	—6,084 792	353,946.065	—34,520.149
Salaries to officers of <i>chokumin</i> rank ...	—	9,000.000	9,000.000	5,646 496	—	5,646.496	3,353 504
Salaries to officers of <i>sonin</i> rank ...	29.032	43,467.000	43,496.032	28,429 490	—	28,429.490	15,066.542
Salaries to officers of <i>hannin</i> rank ...	2,163.182	276,444 500	278,607.682	267,447.462	2,507.292	269,954.754	8,652 928
Salaries to officers on retired list ...	—	90.000	90.000	—	—	—	90.000
Grants of money to retiring officers ...	—	1,888.000	1,888.000	976 000	—	976.000	912.000
Grants to relatives of deceased officers ...	—	423.000	423.000	423 000	—	423.000	—
Salaries and allowances to foreign employes.	—	46,980.000	46,980.000	40,905.000	—	40,905.000	6,075.000
Casualties ...	—	456.000	456.000	85 825	—	85.825	370.175
Rewards ...	—	7,525.500	7,525.500	3,948.000	3,577.500	7,525.500	—
Office Expenses ...	—873.709	—15,405.000	—16,278.709	—9,870.000	—939.873	10,809.972	—3,468.737
Furniture, &c. ...	43.625	1,193.000	1,236.625	540.634	25.008	565.642	670.983
Books and printing ...	85 700	2,967 532	3,053 232	1,808.881	509 748	2,318.629	734.603
Stationery ...	243.523	4,380.000	4,623 523	3,966.551	125 227	4,091.778	540.745
Various stores ...	203.758	2,545.000	2,748 758	1,549 488	119 429	1,668.897	1,079.861
Communications ...	27 700	605.000	632 700	240.177	6 500	246.677	386.023
Miscellaneous ...	269.403	3,795.468	3,974.871	1,764.388	153.961	1,918.349	2,056.522
Repairs ...	—138.484	—10,307.100	—10,445 584	—7,506.092	—345.290	7,851.382	—2,594.202
Repairs ...	138.484	10,307.100	10,445 584	7,506.092	345.290	7,851.382	2,594.202
Various Repayments ...	—38,104.694	—760,000.000	—798,104.694	—594,145.178	—106,561.847	700,707.025	—97,397.669
Various Repayments ...	38,104.694	760,000.000	798,104.694	594,145.178	106,561.847	700,707.025	97,397.669
Undertaking Expenses ...	—108,980.671	—2,641,125.100	—2,750,105.771	—2,599,013.921	—149,447.002	2,748,460.923	—1,644.848
Works Expenses ...	37,326.042	520,106.808	557,432.850	542,723.929	14,626.123	557,350.050	82.798
Workshops Expenses ...	—	150,274.329	150,274.329	131,700.248	18,568.081	150,274.329	—
Materials ...	49,885 369	1,446,833.534	1,496,718.903	1,421,197.193	74,862.235	1,496,059.428	659.475
Travelling ...	963.300	34,054.381	35,017.681	32,579 210	2,294.850	34,874.060	143 621
Miscellaneous ...	9,512.379	363,443.359	372,955 738	359,808.960	12,885.305	372,694.265	261.473
Casualties ...	87.400	1,218.63	1,305.723	1,124.118	181.605	1,305.723	—
Right of Way ...	4,435.461	33,462.867	37,898.328	32,540.702	5,357.626	37,898.328	—
Repairs to Telegraph ...	1,741.189	8,410.163	10,151.352	8,844.251	1,307.101	10,151.352	—
Miscellaneous ...	5,029 471	81,959.926	86,989.397	67,127.840	19,364.076	106,491.916	497.481
Losses made good ...	—	1,361.470	1,361.470	1,361.470	—	1,361.470	—
Total ...	150,289.772	3,813,111.200	3,963,400.972	3,558,396 563	263,378.804	3,821,775.267	141,625.695

TABLE No. 7. ESTIMATES AND SETTLED ACCOUNTS RELATING TO RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION STORES.

Items.	Approved expenses over and above the Estimates.	Settled Accounts.			Balance.
		Settled Account for the year.	Unsettled expenses carried over to the next account.	Total.	
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Railway Construction Stores—					
Purchase of Stores ...	3,314,740.248	2,975,107.619	126,371.640	3,101,479.259	213,260.989
Sundries ...	42,531.979	39,840.461	1,412.178	41,252.639	1,279.340
Repayments ...	51.060	51.060	—	51.060	—
Total ...	3,357,323.287	3,014,999.140	127,783.818	3,142,782.958	214,540.329

TABLE No. 8. SETTLED ACCOUNT RELATING TO THE RECEIPTS FOR SALES OF RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION STORES.

Items.	Settled Accounts.			Receipts over and above the Estimate.
	Settled Accounts for the year.	Unsettled receipts carried to the next year's account.	Total.	
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Receipts for construction stores sold ...	—2,096,574.197	—110,258.090	—2,206,832.287	—2,206,832.287
Price of stores sold ...	2,096,574.197	110,258.090	2,206,832.287	2,206,832.287
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	—13,960.729	—1,245.600	—15,206.329	—15,206.329
Indemnifications ...	340.760	5 600	346.360	346.360
Broken contracts ...	12,866.407	1,240.000	14,106.407	14,106.407
Sundries ...	753.562	—	753.562	753.562
Total ...	2,110,534.926	111,503.690	2,222,038.616	2,222,038.616

TABLE No. 9.

CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL.

Items.	Shinetsu.			Ou.	Hokuriku.	Total.
	Takasaki-Naoetsu.	Yokogawa-Karuiawa.	Total.			
Items.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Salaries and allowances	—	—	—	38,983.606	26,475.875	65,459.481
Travelling	—	—	—	7,658.457	13,153.388	31,111.845
Miscellaneous salaries	—	—	—	30,466.575	18,113.893	48,580.468
Office expenses	—	—	—	20,625.139	15,242.256	35,867.395
Preliminary surveys	39,422.495	13,643.084	53,065.579	—	—	293,401.780
Superintendence	117,812.241	74,464.101	192,276.342	—	—	789,287.706
Right of way	249,487.586	14,579.371	264,066.957	138,115.341	201,503.897	2,036,408.062
Earthworks	1,035,359.535	106,072.599	1,141,432.125	206,440.933	249,407.334	6,323,595.537
Bridges	427,116.899	125,672.875	552,789.774	175,317.593	177,060.325	8,131,284.122
Culverts	141,106.285	14,380.152	155,486.437	111,597.300	57,403.872	1,344,748.783
Drain pipes	53,996.976	763.675	54,760.651	8,805.190	10,308.772	200,174.100
Tunnelling	70,098.954	752,459.534	822,558.488	351,200.458	410,271.775	3,976,452.671
Permanent way	179,350.842	155,773.882	335,124.724	385,936.321	191,406.218	6,105,968.540
Stations	126,764.704	7,989.383	134,754.087	51,349.116	5,130.045	1,908,560.770
Piers	132.990	—	132.990	—	—	112,807.760
Rolling stock	463,221.283	419,456.851	882,678.134	193,942.068	104,217.749	5,373,188.466
Machine shops	69,263.089	6,178.784	75,441.873	—	55.493	5,375,251.062
Buildings	72,132.655	16,483.872	88,616.527	29,647.291	12,032.160	444,311.750
Transportation	174,037.526	264,478.139	438,515.665	231,029.121	137,032.594	1,265,927.256
Construction trains	20,016.870	9,092.323	28,109.193	15,641.410	5,786.713	196,895.233
Construction plant	23,013.072	5,193.981	28,207.053	11,666.476	10,621.955	324,342.959
Fences and boundary posts	3,715.999	119.250	3,835.249	2,370.860	806.775	53,280.879
Various charges	39,131.773	4,457.702	43,589.475	—	—	558,432.376
Telegraph wires	9,658.190	405.705	10,063.895	2,926.224	46.475	77,326.380
Total	3,026,841.964	1,991,665.218	5,018,507.182	1,994,119.389	1,646,677.924	40,391,454.381

CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL AT THE END OF THE 27TH FISCAL YEAR.

Sections.	Tokaido.							
	Tokyo-Yokohama.	Kobe-Otsu.	Yokohama-Otsu.	Osaka-Tokotoyo.	Ofuna-Yokosuka.	Otsu-Nagahama.	Tsuruga-Ogaki.	Total.
Items.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Preliminary Surveys	24,829.675	68,888.585	100,879.327	29,356.046	9,114.705	4,204.190	3,063.675	240,336.201
Superintendence	74,882.680	202,163.621	47,594.021	198,118.204	49,552.516	7,889.782	16,810.540	597,011.264
Right of way	255,957.733	394,747.662	88,455.143	463,973.852	120,725.349	23,977.694	104,884.434	1,432,721.867
Earthworks	404,976.072	789,628.284	619,127.235	1,068,941.488	340,016.968	50,591.394	384,033.704	4,726,315.145
Bridges	653,701.466	2,252,886.714	178,605.098	2,611,608.643	1,060,032.761	21,091.183	447,587.655	7,225,513.520
Culverts	15,680.779	422,310.158	85,357.157	186,084.984	87,325.119	9,781.017	113,721.957	1,020,261.147
Drain pipes	23,521.169	14,352.603	9,486.420	48,668.609	12,611.700	946.794	10,612.192	126,199.487
Tunnelling	—	523,579.228	531,943.315	1,111,241.967	—	153,521.649	72,135.791	2,392,421.950
Permanent way	527,728.353	941,831.470	624,090.988	624,491.594	433,991.553	97,704.354	331,602.902	4,581,501.277
Stations	233,584.892	954,573.057	141,721.298	276,013.957	63,094.119	20,544.731	57,095.468	1,747,227.522
Piers	—	1,622.452	102,284.197	8,768.121	—	—	—	112,674.770
Rolling stock	355,981.700	1,098,649.470	718,389.413	1,931,979.656	77,980.120	—	9,380.141	4,192,350.515
Machine shops	168,053.681	370,134.092	95,075.290	65,037.932	11,452.791	—	—	709,753.786
Buildings	35,840.754	154,807.730	31,250.514	63,101.516	14,871.892	3,302.986	10,779.930	314,015.322
Transportation	225.098	829.516	2,237.154	353,662.201	50,189.961	8,905.970	37,297.412	459,347.912
Construction train	5,224.811	17,531.420	37,339.331	94,909.627	2,381.036	4,030.970	4,939.822	146,357.917
Construction plant	66,668.930	15,870.483	—	95,614.392	1,014.091	559.145	3,012.434	182,379.475
Fences and boundary posts	4,336.356	33,557.692	820.920	5,071.078	1,321.901	228.862	80.277	40,267.095
Various charges	51,811.568	140,310.598	112,866.464	110,103.654	167,99.091	2,825.402	29,006.124	514,842.901
Telegraph wires	1,040.995	18,755.455	4,865.789	31,158.930	3,112.680	1,220.589	4,015.348	64,289.786
Total	2,944,047.321	8,517,200.288	3,512,389.083	11,377,907.357	2,413,309.259	420,326.712	1,646,969.886	30,832,149.886

TABLE No. 10.

RAILWAY WORKING ACCOUNT.

Items.	Traffic Revenue.				Working Expenses.					Net Profit.
	Passengers.	Goods.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Maintenance.	Locomotive.	Traffic.	General.	Total.	
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	
Tokaido Section.....	3,836,757.066	1,176,953.891	88,501.037	5,102,211.994	401,469.577	913,105.825	443,631.815	89,628.095	1,847,835.312	3,254,376.682
Shinetsu Section.....	449,665.111	249,069.353	4,544.238	703,278.712	108,357.683	141,961.492	51,410.151	13,098.698	314,828.024	388,450.688
Ou Section.....	9,415.410	4,506.925	—	13,922.335	10,010.107	3,245.753	5,364.337	412.558	19,032.755	5,110.420
Total.....	4,295,837.587	1,430,530.179	93,045.275	5,819,413.041	519,837.367	1,058,313.079	500,406.303	103,739.351	2,181,696.091	3,637,716.050

LANGFELDT & COMPANY, LIMITED.

INCREASING THE CAPITAL.

The 11th ordinary semi-annual general meeting of shareholders in Langfeldt and Company, Limited, was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Chamber of Commerce. There were present Messrs. F. J. Lowder, in the chair, F. Retz, F. H. Bull, O. Keil, H. Klengen, Jas. Walter, E. Berger, R. Bleifus, H. Mahi, and J. Feick, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the first business was the adoption of the report and passing of the accounts of the Directors for the past half-year. They all had doubtless read them, and as they were so satisfactory he thought no questions would be asked.

Mr. KLINGEN moved, and Mr. WALTER seconded, that the report and accounts be passed.—Carried.

REPORT.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1896, accompany this Report.

The Net Profit for the half year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1895, and after providing for General Expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, Interest, Depreciation and Losses, amounts to \$60,786.89 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a Dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year \$10,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account..... \$50,786.89

According to Article 35 of the Articles of Association, the Amount of the Directors' Fees for the year ending June 30th, 1897, will have to be settled at this meeting.
Mr. T. Meyerdiria having resigned the office of Director on leaving the country, Mr. F. H. Bull has accepted the invitation of the Board to fill the vacancy thereby occasioned; and Mr. Cecil Guinness has assumed the duties of Auditor vice Mr. Baker, who has left the port.

J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
O. KEIL, }

Yokohama, July 21st, 1896.
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1896.

ASSETS.
Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery, and Coal ... \$156,646.81
Plant, Fixtures, and Furniture ... 2,009.79
Cash in hand ... 2,907.41
Fire Insurance Policies ... 730.16
Sundry Debtors ... 21,045.92
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ... 6,524.37
\$190,364.46

LIABILITIES.
Capital, 1,000 Shares at \$500 ... \$500,000.00
Sundry local Creditors ... 4,000.00
Bills Payable to Bank ... 21,647.89
\$525,647.89
Balance, Profit ... 60,786.89
\$586,434.78

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1896.

To General Expenses ... \$8,076.14
Rent ... 2,368.00
Fire Insurance ... 812.53
Directors' Fees ... 250.00
Auditor's Fees ... 150.00
Interest ... 1,632.19
Balance, available for division to be dealt with as follows:
Dividend at the rate of 10% for the half-year \$10,000.00
Rent carried forward to new account ... 50,786.89
\$60,786.89

By Balance forward from 31st Dec., 1895 ... \$14,094.75
June 30 By Gross Profit on trade ... 60,590.00
By Share transfer fees ... 20.00
\$74,704.75

July 1, 1896. By Balance ... \$50,786.89
E. & O. E. }
J. FRICKS, Secretary. } J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.
O. KEIL, }

Yokohama, June 30th, 1896.
I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

Yokohama, July 15th, 1896.
The CHAIRMAN said that the question of the Directors fees for the year ending June, 1897, had to be decided at that meeting. When the Company was first started the directors fees were fixed at \$500 a year apiece, and in addition there

was a managing director who had a fixed salary of \$3,000 a year, a free house, and all provisions at cost price. As many present were aware, the business of the Company at first was not so prosperous as some of the shareholders had expected, and in consequence the directors' fees were cut down to \$200 a year apiece, and there was no managing director at all. Subsequently it was found necessary to have a managing director, and one of their board of directors, Mr. Keil, very kindly took the position at a fixed salary of \$1,200 per annum, the other directors' remuneration remaining at \$200 annum. I give you these figures merely as information that may guide you in the matter.

Mr. WALTER—There are four directors, are there not?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, three directors and one managing director.

Mr. BERGER—Does Mr. Keil take a director's fee?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, he takes the \$200 and thus brings up his salary to \$1,200, or \$100 per month.

Mr. WALTER—It is clear that \$200 a year as a director's fee is a mere honorarium for the amount of business that this Company is doing. I should be glad to move that the directors' fees be raised to \$300 per annum to each director.

Mr. KLINGEN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I have great pleasure in thanking you, gentlemen, on behalf of myself and my brother directors for the substantial appreciation of our services that you have shown. This closes the meeting. I shall now call to order

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

The CHAIRMAN said that this extraordinary general meeting of shareholders had been called to consider the following resolution:—

That the capital of the Company be increased to \$150,000 by the creation of 500 new Shares of \$100 each: that the said Shares be paid for out of the balance of undivided profits at the credit of the Company as shown in the accounts for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1896, and that the said shares be distributed among the members in proportion to the shares registered in their names respectively on the date of such distribution.

Those shareholders who had followed the history of the Company since its establishment will bear in mind that our trade has been developed greatly within the past two years. I will say in passing that this addition in large measure is due to the manner in which our interests have been protected, guarded, and developed, through the energy of your Managing Director, Mr. Keil—(hear, hear)—and those who have served with him. Perhaps you do not know, but I as a Director do know, how hard the servants of the Company have worked for it: all those in the service of our company have never spared themselves where its interests were concerned. From small beginnings we have thus worked our way to very large undertakings. A glance at our balance-sheet will show you that we now have assets, realisable assets, tangible assets, that can be converted into money to the amount of \$50,000 or \$60,000 over the amount of our capital. We, and when I say we, I mean more particularly our managing director, have long felt the absolute necessity for increasing our capital; and your Board of Directors consider this to be a convenient time in which to appeal to the shareholders to assist us to increase the capital. This can be done through the means of our assets. As I said just now, we have a balance of over \$50,000 on paper, which, when realised, as they can be within a few months, could be divided among shareholders as a dividend. We cannot declare it now because they are not realised, and your Directors have thought it better to credit each shareholders with \$50 per share *pro rata*, in the form of new shares, and thus raise our capital to \$150,000. The result of such a step may be that in the market our shares at the outset may not stand so high as they do now. But that is not a matter for the Board of Directors: they have only the interests of the Company to serve, and those interests demand that the capital should be increased to \$150,000. I need hardly warn you that if this resolution is carried it will have to be confirmed at another meeting convened at not less an interval than 14 days. Any amendment that you may like to make to the resolution must be made now, no amendment is possible at a subsequent meeting. I now beg leave to submit the resolution to the meeting.

Mr. BLISFUS seconded.—Carried.

Votes of thanks to the directors, employes, and chairman closed the meeting.

EXPERIMENTS FOR THE IMPERIAL IRON FOUNDRY.

(CONCLUDED FROM JULY 15TH.)
PROF. NORO'S REPORT.

The following is a *résumé* of a report by Prof. Noro on the result of experiments that he carried on at Kamaishi between the latter part of July and the first part of October, 1895, the objects of the experiments being:—

1. Experimental founding of crude wrought iron in accordance with the puddling process.

2. Experimental founding of crude wrought iron in the mass, and spongy iron obtained direct from iron sand ores in accordance with a process newly devised by the experimenter.

3. Experimental founding of crude wrought iron in the mass and spongy iron from iron sand ores by the use of a "stuck" furnace.

4. Experimental founding of iron articles with lamp steel made at the Tokyo Arsenal and the wrought iron previously mentioned. The main object kept in view in the first, second, and third experiments was to manufacture cheaply crude wrought iron or spongy iron, to be used for making steel according to the Martin process, as in Japan iron suitable for this purpose is very scarce. Ordinary iron ores, being liable to contain certain obnoxious ingredients, such as sulphur, are not directly adapted for the manufacture of wrought or spongy iron, but the iron sand ores specially found in Japan are of excellent quality; and that they are adapted for the purpose was successfully proved at the Tokyo Arsenal. The experiment of making crude wrought iron from those ores by first deoxidizing them was originally conducted at the Kamaishi mine.

EXPERIMENTAL MANUFACTURE OF CRUDE WROUGHT IRON ACCORDING TO THE PUDDLING PROCESS:—The following table gives the result obtained at the different experiments, each experiment having been repeated three to five times:—

Quantity of Pig-iron used. Catty.	Quantity of Wrought Iron obtained. Catty.	Quantity of Coal consumed. Kwamme.
1st Experiment.		
1,362	1,042	360
2nd Experiment.		
1,321	1,123	300
3rd Experiment.		
1,824	1,445	380
4th Experiment.		
1,358	1,107	340
5th Experiment.		
1,822	1,327	380
6th Experiment.		
1,827	1,470	320
7th Experiment.		
1,825	1,463	420
8th Experiment.		
1,082	1,486	300
9th Experiment.		
2,347	1,894	400
10th Experiment.		
2,271	1,811	180

It will be seen from the above that the proportion of loss of iron was inordinately great, and this was chiefly ascribable to the inexperience of the mechanics, to the smallness of the furnaces used,—two in number,—and to their being of an old style; while the proportionately greater quantity of coal consumed was due to the defective construction of the furnaces and to their having been left to cool on each occasion. Taking all these things into consideration, the result obtained must be said to be decidedly satisfactory.

EXPERIMENTAL MANUFACTURE OF CRUDE AND SPONGY WROUGHT IRON OBTAINED DIRECT FROM IRON SAND ORES ACCORDING TO A PROCESS RECENTLY DEvised BY THE EXPERIMENTER:—In this experiment a perpendicular deoxidizing furnace, somewhat resembling a chimney in shape, was constructed at one end of the reverberatory smelting furnace, the object of the deoxidizing furnace being to utilize the waste heat from the other furnace and to supply heat from outside. The experiment had three objects; namely, 1st, to place iron-sand ores mixed with charcoal powder in the deoxidizing furnace, to deoxidize them by heating the material from the outside, or to use them for the purpose of making Martin steel; 2nd, to remove them to the smelting furnace and, by making them fuse somewhat, to make spongy iron; 3rd, to make them fuse entirely, resulting in a crude wrought iron mass. The experiment was repeated five times, with no particular modification in the relative quantities of raw materials. The time required for deoxidization differed from 6 to 9 hours, while fusing was effected in from one to two hours. In one case, when 1,000 catties of ore, containing about 58 per cent. of iron, were used, 538 catties of wrought iron were obtained, that is, about 52 per cent. of the total quantity of iron in

the ore; in another, for 700 catties of ore used, 253 catties of crude wrought iron and 100 catties of spongy iron were obtained. The experiments were incomplete, but were definite enough to show that the process could be utilized in the following cases, viz.:—

1.—To remove the deoxidized iron-sand ore at once to the Martin steel furnace without fusing.

2.—To fuse the ore at once into a crude wrought iron, or into spongy iron, and to use it in making Martin steel.

3.—To manufacture refined wrought iron from crude wrought iron. One special advantage of the new process is the economizing of fuel and the simplification of machinery.

THE MANUFACTURE OF CRUDE WROUGHT IRON AND SPONGY IRON FROM SAND ORE BY THE USE OF A STUCK FURNACE:—The following table shows the results obtained from the later and more complete experiments:—

Order of Experiments.	Quantity of ore. catty.	Flux.	Quantity thereof. catty.	Quantity of charcoal packed in furnace. catty.	Quantity of charcoal subsequently put into furnace. catty.	Nature of output.	Quantity thereof. catty.
5th Ex.	270	Limestone	37	68	195	Spongy	93
6th Ex.	270	do	36	68	170	do	98
7th Ex.	270	do	46	68	119	do	98
8th Ex.	300	Slugs	30	68	230	Crude wrought	48
9th Ex.	200	do	25	67	200	do	48
10th Ex.	300	do	25	67	200	do	69

These experiments, compared with the process in which coke is used, were considerably better in result, the spongy iron and crude wrought iron produced being perfectly satisfactory material for manufacturing Martin steel. When compared with the smelting of iron-sand by the process hitherto in vogue in Japan, the quantity of charcoal consumed was extremely small. The new process may be utilized with profit in districts where sand-ore and charcoal are not scarce, and by manufacturers that have only small funds at their disposal.

THE CASTING OF RAILS AND OTHER OBJECTS WITH LAMP STEEL MANUFACTURED AT THE TOKYO ARSENAL, AND WITH CRUDE WROUGHT IRON MANUFACTURED ACCORDING TO THE VARIOUS PROCESSES ABOVE SPECIFIED:—Repeated experiments have proved that though when casting plate iron the lamp steel manufactured at the Arsenal is somewhat harder, rails that did not differ in any way from the samples provided at the Agricultural and Commercial Department could be produced. This was the more satisfactory when the inexperience of the mechanics employed upon the work is taken into consideration. Unusual consistency in the material and a defective rolling machine were at the root of the trouble in the experimental manufacture of plate iron with the same lamp steel. The following table gives the result of the experiments:—

Order of Experiment.	No. of Experiments carried on each occasion.	Quantity of material. catty.	Quantity of output. catty.	Quantity of coal consumed. catty.
1st Ex.	2	1,615	1,399	3,500
2nd Ex.	1	881	392	3,000
3rd Ex.	2	1,054	771	3,000
4th Ex.	2	1,430	1,018	2,661
5th Ex.	3	1,002	891	3,000
6th Ex.	3	1,251	919	2,250
7th Ex.	3	2,247	1,813	3,500
8th Ex.	3	1,795	1,322	3,500

A comparatively large quantity of coal was consumed, because the furnace was suffered to cool down on each occasion. The objects manufactured were rails, plate-iron, ball-iron, and two kinds of square iron. In concluding this report, it may be mentioned that the substitution of coke made from small coal supplied by the Yubari Colliery, Hokkaido, for charcoal, at the Kamaishi Foundry, gave very excellent results, in spite of the fact that the coke was extremely brittle. This proves that home-made coke is well adapted for foundry work.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

(Delayed by interruption of lines.)

London, July 24.

The Irish Land Bill has passed through Committee in the House of Commons.

The Goldite Democrats have resolved to hold a convention in September, when they will adopt a platform and nominate a candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

The Turks are massed before Heraklion, seeking to enter the town, but the Governor opposes their entrance.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, July 24.
The British Squadron has arrived at Muroran.
Hakodate, July 26.
Her Majesty's ship *Spartan* has arrived here from the Behring Sea.
Hakodate, July 29.
Her Majesty's ship *Plover* has arrived here.
Hakodate, Aug. 1.
H.B.M. Squadron arrived here last evening.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, July 21.
A strong force under the command of Colonel Carrington attacked the Matabele stronghold in the Matoppo hill, and after a determined resistance, the position was carried, sixty of the enemy being killed. The British loss in killed and wounded was slight.

Fighting has been renewed in Canea. British and French warships have arrived at Heraklion.

London, July 22.
The Royal Wedding of Prince Charles of Denmark to Princess Maud of Wales was solemnized yesterday. H.M. the Queen was present, but withdrew after the ceremony, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales presiding at the wedding breakfast.

The disturbances in Canea continue. British, Austrian, and Italian sailors have been landed. The situation is serious.

Exchange on London at Paris..... 25.14½
" " " " New York..... 4.89
(Tel. trans.)

London, July 23.
Two bands of Greeks, numbering about four hundred men, have entered Macedonia.
Loing's column in the Matoppo hills was attacked whilst laagered. After some fighting the Matabeles were defeated with a loss of ninety killed. The British lost four whites and twenty-five friendlies killed.

London, July 24.
Exchange on London at Paris..... 25.15
" " " " New York..... 4.88½

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, July 16.
H.E. Li Hung-chang will be the State guest of England during his stay of four weeks, and will reside in a large mansion which has been taken for him by the Government.

A British Vice-Consul on leave will be attached to His Excellency during his stay in England.

London, July 18.
Lord Salisbury, in laying the Venezuela papers on the table of the House of Lords, deprecated arbitration at the present stage, and said he was confident that after the Commission had learned the facts the diplomatic question would be easily adjusted.

China has refused the requests of Russia and Germany to establish banks in Peking to transact Government business.

London, July 20.
Negotiations have been concluded with German, French, and Russian bankers for a Russian three per cent gold loan of four hundred million francs.

In a test Cricket Match between Australia and All England the latter were beaten by three wickets.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Gifu, July 31.
A heavy thunder-storm has been raging from two o'clock this afternoon.

Kyoto, July 31.
Heavy rain, followed by a thunder-storm was experienced last night and this morning.

Bakan, July 30.
A man has been attacked with small-pox here.
Nagasaki, July 30.
The *Okinawa Maru*, which is laying the

submarine cables, has already placed 238 miles in position between Ohama, Isumi Province, and Oshima.

Soul, July 30.
The Japanese Minister, Mr. Hara, visited the Foreign Office yesterday and demanded a consultation regarding the indemnity that is to be paid for injury done to Japanese tradesmen in the interior. He paid three special visits to the Foreign Office, and is most insistent.

Soul, July 30.
Mr. Waeber, Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* at Soul, has been promoted Minister Plenipotentiary.

Kyoto, July 31.
A great meeting of mat-traders from Kiushin and other prefectures was held to-day. It was resolved to establish an agency in Kobe.

Otsu, July 31.
A violent thunder-storm, accompanied with heavy rain, broke over the town about one o'clock last night. The *débris* washed from Otaniyama has blocked the Government road.

Bakan, July 31.
The *Otaru Maru* left to-day for Formosa. Among the passengers were Rear-Admiral Tsunoda, Surgeon-General Ishiguro, Professor Ishibashi, Professor W. K. Burton, and others.

Soul, July 31st.
Mr. Waeber, the Russian Minister, acting on instructions from his home Government, has asked the King to return to the palace, but the King has refused.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 239.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 5	1—B to Kt 7
2—R takes P, mate	1—B to B 6
2—Q takes P, mate	1—B to Q 5
2—Kt to R 3, mate	1—B takes P
2—Kt takes B, mate	1—R to Kt 6
2—Q to Q B 6, mate	1—R to Kt 7
2—R to K R 4, mate	1—Kt moves
2—Q to Q 3, mate	1—K B P moves
2—B to Kt 8, mate	1—Q B P moves
2—Kt takes P, mate.	

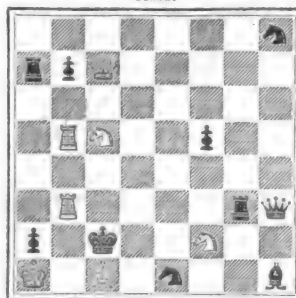
Correct answers from W.D.C., Omega, and J.D.

This nice little specimen of Planck's work contains a trap; into which some of our solvers have fallen, viz., 1—R to K R 3. Black's reply 1—B to B 3 upsets this little arrangement. Curiously enough, one of the correct solvers (in commenting on the problem) calls the R on R 2 "its one weak point!" He evidently did not even see the snare. Perhaps "the heat has blinded his chess-eye!"

PROBLEM NO. 241.

By S. LOYD.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME NO. 534.

The following game was played by Mr. W. Steinitz during a short visit to Berlin, en route to the tournament at St. Petersburg. Mr. Steinitz was opposed by five players of the Berlin Club.

GIUOCO PIANO.

WHITE.	BLACK.
W. Steinitz.	The five allies.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—P takes P	6—B to Kt 5 ch.
7—Kt to B 3 (a)	7—Kt takes K P
8—Castles	8—B takes Kt (b)
9—P takes B	9—Castles (c)
10—P to Q 5	10—Kt to R 4 (d)
11—B to Q 3	11—P to K B 4 (e)
12—R to K sq.	12—P to Q 3 (f)
13—Q to R 4	13—Kt to B 4 (g)
14—Q takes Kt	14—Kt takes B (h)
15—B to Kt 5	15—Q to Q 2
16—R to K 7	16—P to Q Kt 3
17—R takes Q	17—P takes Q
18—B takes B P	18—R to B 2
19—B to K 7	19—Kt to B 4
20—B takes P	20—Kt to K 5
21—Kt to K 5 (i)	21—Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) Mr. Steinitz's new attack, as adopted by him against Bardeleben and Schlechter in the Hastings tournament.
(b) According to the "Modern Chess Instructor," the best for Black in Castles, and if R takes Kt, P to Q 4, to B to Kt 5, P to B 3, if B to Kt 5, P takes B, to Q Kt takes P, P to K R 3, and wherever the Knight may retreat will proceed with B to Kt 5, and have the advantage.
(c) The instructor, however, gives the following continuation as winning for White, after P to Q 4, to B to R 4, P takes B, 12 R to K sq., P to B 4, 13 P to Q 5, Kt to K 5, 14 Kt to Q 4, Kt to Q 3, 14 Q to R 5 ch., K to B sq., 15 R to K 5, B to Q 2, 16 Q R to K sq.
(d) But here they should have played Kt to K 5.
(e) If Kt takes Q B P, 12 Q to K sq., Q to B 3, 13 B to Kt 5.
(f) Any attempt to save the pawn would have been still more unfavourable.
(g) P to B 3 was, perhaps, better.
(h) If P to Q Kt 3 White purposed playing 15 Q to Kt 5, giving up the Q for three minor pieces if B to R 3.
(i) Prettily played. If now Kt takes B, 20 Kt takes R, Kt takes Kt, 21 R to K sq., followed by Q R to K 7 and wins.—*Salisbury News*.

GAME NO. 535.

Played at Birmingham in a simultaneous exhibition.

SCOTCH OPENING.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Blackburne.	Mackenzie.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—B to B 4
5—B to K 3	5—Q to B 3
6—P to Q B 3	6—Kt to K 2
7—Kt to Q 2	7—Kt takes Kt
8—P to K 5	8—Q to Q Kt 3
9—Kt to B 4	9—Q to R 3
10—P takes Kt	10—P to Q 4
11—Kt to Q 2	11—B to Kt 3
12—B to Q 3	12—B to Q 2
13—Castles	13—Castles Q R
14—Q to Kt 3	14—P to K B 3
15—P takes P	15—P takes P
16—P to Q R 4	16—Q R to Kt sq.
17—P to K Kt 3 (a)	17—P to B 3
18—Q to B 2	18—P to K R 4
19—P to R 5	19—P to R 5
20—K R to K sq. (b)	20—P takes P
21—B P takes P	21—R takes R P
22—B to K B 4	

And Black announced mate in five moves (c).

NOTES.

(a) If 17 P to R 5, Black plays 17.....Q to Kt 5 winning White's Q P.
(b) White dare not take the B at move 20 because Black obtains an overwhelming attack by 20 P takes Kt P.
(c) The game is well played by Black.

GAME NO. 536.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Rev. J. Owen	Gesa Maroczy
(Liverpool.)	(Buda-Pesth.)
1—Kt to K B 3	1—P to K Kt 3
2—P to Q 4	2—B to Kt 2
3—P to R 3 (a)	3—P to Q 3 (b)
4—B to Q 3	4—P to R 4
5—P to B 3 (c)	5—B to Kt 5 (d)
6—P to K R 3	6—B takes Kt
7—Q takes B	7—P to Q B 3
8—Kt to R 3	8—Kt to Q 2
9—Kt to B 4 (e)	9—Q to B 2
10—P to Q 5?	10—Kt to B 4
11—B to B 2	11—Kt to K 2
12—P to K 4	12—P takes P
13—P takes P	13—Kt to Q 2 (f)
14—B to Kt 3	14—P to Q Kt 4
15—Kt to K 3	15—P to B 4
16—Q to K 2	16—R to Q Kt sq.
17—Castles	17—P to B 5
18—Kt to B 2	18—P to Q R 4
19—Kt to R 3	19—Q to B 4
20—P to B 4	20—P to Kt 5

21—Kt to Kt 5
22—K to R 2
23—P to R 3
24—B to B 2
25—B to K 4 (h)
26—P to Kt 4 (i)
27—P takes P
28—Q takes Kt
29—K takes Kt
30—B to K 3
31—B takes Q
32—P to K R 4
33—K to Kt 2
34—Q to Kt 4 (k)
35—K to R 3
36—Q to B 8 ch.
37—Q to B 7 ch.
38—Q takes R (l)
39—Kt takes P
40—Q to Kt sq.
41—R to Kt 2
42—Resigns.

NOTES.

- (a) 3 P to K 4 would be more mettlesome.
(b) Obtaining a favourable form of the "Indian Pianchetto."
(c) White makes but little of his opening.
(d) Herr Maroczy's methods of play are certainly original, but he is evidently a master in the art of developing a game of chess.
(e) The proper post for the Knight was on Q B 3, which would have saved that piece from a chapter of accidents.
(f) Very well played.
(g) To make way for the Knight.
(h) B to Kt sq. is still less satisfactory.
(i) B to Q 4 might be tried here, the text move is rather desperate.
(j) The beginning of a really magnificent and far-seeing combination.
(k) To 34 Q to Kt sq. threatening Kt to B 3, the reply would be B to Q 7.
(l) The depth of Black's calculations is now seen by his remarkably fine 38th move. Of course, if K to R 4 threatening mate, 39 Q to Kt sq., and Black cannot afford to win the Q, as Kt to B 3 would arrest the advance of the Kt P.

GAME No. 537.
VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. I. Gunsberg.
1—P to K 4
2—Q Kt to B 3
3—P to K Kt 3
4—B to Kt 2
5—K Kt to K 2
6—P takes P
7—P takes P
8—P to Q 3 (b)
9—P to B 3
10—P to Q R 3 (c)
11—B to Q 2
12—Q to B sq.
13—Kt to Q sq.
14—Kt to B 2
15—Castles
16—K to R sq. (f)
17—P takes P
18—P to Q B 4 (g)
19—K to Kt sq.
20—B takes Kt (i)
21—Kt takes P
22—Q to K 3 (j)
23—Q R to B sq.
24—K R to K sq.
25—Kt to K 2
26—Q takes Kt
27—Q to B sq.
28—P to B 5
29—Q takes B

BLACK. W. H. K. Pollock.
1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4
4—Castles
5—P to Q 4 (a)
6—P to B 3 (a)
7—Kt takes P
8—B to K Kt 5
9—B to K 3
10—B to Kt 3 (d)
11—P to Q R 4
12—R to B sq. (e)
13—Kt to Q 4
14—P to B 4
15—P to H 5
16—P takes P
17—R to B 4
18—R to R 4 ch.
19—Kt to B 5 (h)
20—P takes B
21—Kt to Q 5!
22—R to R 3
23—Q to Kt 4
24—Q takes P
25—Kt takes Kt ch.
26—R to Kt 3
27—B to R 6
28—B takes B
29—Q takes Q mate.

NOTES.

- (a) This makes a very lively game of it. White, of course, is bound to take the Pawn, or submit to an inferiority of position without the Pawn plus.
(b) To show the hopelessness of taking the Knight 8 B takes Kt, P takes B; 9 Castles, B to R 6; 10 R to K sq., Kt to K Kt 5; 11 Kt to K 4, Kt takes B P; 12 Kt takes Kt, Q to Q 4, and wins.
(c) Almost a lost move; B to Kt 5 seems better.
(d) Kt to Q 4 is more aggressive. The text move provides for 11 B to Kt 5, P to K R 3; 12 B takes Kt, Q takes B; 13 Kt to K 4, Q to K 4, followed by P to B 4.
(e) This has considerable influence on White's game, and makes it almost impossible for him to stir the Kt from K 3, on account of the attack on both sides by Kt to Q 5.
(f) It would be highly dangerous to attempt to win a second Pawn at this point.
(g) Of no avail. He should have defended himself with P to K Kt 4 here, or B to R 3, followed by K to Kt 3.
(h) A successful bid for brilliancy.
(i) If 20 P takes Kt, Q to R 5 and wins.
(j) The position is very curious. White obviously dare not move a Knight; 22 R to K sq. is probably his best.
We are indebted to the "Baltimore News" for the score and notes. The game is a fine specimen of Mr. Pollock's brilliant attacking style.

GAME No. 538.

THE TOURNAMENT AT SIMPSON'S.
Appended is an instructive specimen from the above Tournament—

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.
WHITE. F. J. Lee.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—B to B 4
5—Kt to B 3
6—P to K 3
7—B takes Kt

BLACK. R. Teichmann.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to Q B 3
5—P takes P
6—Kt to Q 4
7—R takes B

8—B takes P
9—P takes Kt
10—Castles
11—Q to K 2
12—Kt to Q 2
13—P to B 4
14—R to B 3
15—R to R 3
16—R to K B sq.
17—P to K 4
18—P to K 5
19—P takes B
20—Kt to B 3
21—Kt to K 5
22—P takes P
23—Q takes P
24—Kt takes B
25—R to Q 3
26—R to K sq.

8—Kt takes Kt
9—B to Q 3
10—Castles
11—Q to B 3
12—Q to R 3
13—P to K B 4
14—B to Q 2
15—Q to B 3
16—P to B 4
17—P to Q Kt 4
18—Q to B 2
19—P takes B
20—Q to B 3
21—K R to Q sq.
22—Q R to B sq.
23—B to B 3
24—R takes Kt
25—Q to B 2
26—Resigns.

The game illustrates the danger of playing openings by rote, in imitation of a successful expert, without personal investigation of the reason that prompted such variation—e.g., 4... P to B 3—an inferior defence—is made on the off chance that it might be possible to defend the Gambit pawn. Black was fortunate enough to have this opportunity by White omitting to play 5. P to K 3 instead of bringing out the K Kt. In reply to this Black should have continued 6... P to Q Kt 4; 7. P to Q R 4, B to Q 2. As a matter of course, White would have obtained a temporary attack; but a pawn ahead is a substantial advantage not to be dissipated.

Lee, perceiving his error, had to resort to the inferior 7. B takes Kt in order to regain the pawn, whereupon Black should have had little difficulty in maintaining an even position. Passing over 8... Kt takes Kt, which strengthens White's centre, and 11... Q to B 3 instead of 11... Q to B 2, he could still have kept an even game had he moved 12... P to K 4, opening his game, and liberating the queen's bishop. He further weakened his position with 13... P to K B 4, and after White got his looks in play, Black was quite helpless.

After the one mistake of 5. Kt to B 3 Mr. Lee played the game with commendable skill.

GAME No. 539.

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. F. Griesbach.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q 4
4—P takes P
5—Q takes B
6—B to K B 4
7—Q to Q Kt 3
8—Kt to B 3
9—Castles
10—B to K 3
11—Q R to Q sq.
12—B takes B
13—P to K 5
14—Kt to K 4
15—Q to Kt 5 ch.
16—Kt to Kt 5
17—B to Q 3
18—P to R B 4
19—Q to B 4 ch.
20—R to B 3
21—R to Kt 3
22—R to K 5
23—R to K 6
24—P takes P
25—P takes R
26—R to R 3 ch.
27—B takes Kt
28—R takes Kt

BLACK. X.
1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 3
3—B to Kt 5
4—B takes Kt
5—P takes P
6—Q to B 3
7—P to Q Kt 3
8—B to B 4
9—Kt to K 2
10—Kt to Q 5
11—B to Q 2
12—P takes B
13—Kt takes P
14—Q to Kt 3
15—Q Kt to B 3
16—Castles
17—P to B 4
18—P to R K 3
19—K to R sq.
20—Q R to Q sq.
21—R to B 3
22—Q to K sq.
23—P takes Kt
24—Kt to R 4
25—Kt takes Q
26—K to Kt sq.
27—Q to B 2
28—Resigns.

Black having chosen an inferior variation with 3... B to Kt 5 (the correct moves being either 3... P takes P, or 3... Kt to K B 3) got into difficulties early, leaving White the choice of various favourable continuations, one of them besides that in the text being 5. P takes B, P takes P; 6. Q takes Q ch., K takes Q; 7. P to K B 4, &c.; but the game would then have been won by a slow process, thus depriving the reader of such a sparkling specimen as the above game. Black defended an uphill game ingeniously enough, as may be gathered from the following enumerated features of interest—

11... B to Q 5 is better than 11... B to Q 3 as White would reply 12. Kt to Kt 5. 13. P to K 5 to make room for the Kt is the initiation of a fine attacking combination, culminating in 21. R to K sq. threatening R to K 6. 23... P takes Kt is immediately destructive, although not easily transparent. Better would have been 23... R to Q 3. 24... Kt to R 4 is as good as anything else, the game being equally over after 24... R takes R. White finished now with the brilliant sacrifice of the queen, and Black resigns, for if 28... Q takes B mate follows in three moves.

GAME No. 540.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. Lohman.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Q 3
5—Q Kt to Q 2
6—P to K 4
7—Kt takes P
8—B takes Kt
9—P to B 3
10—B to K 3
11—P to K R 4
12—B to Q 2
13—P to K Kt 4
14—Q to K 2
15—Castles Q R
16—Q to B 4
17—Kt to K 5
18—P to Kt 5
19—P to Kt 6
20—Kt to B 7
21—B takes Kt
22—Q to K 2
23—Q R to K sq.
24—K to Kt sq.
25—B to B 4
26—B to Q 6
27—Q takes Q
28—R takes B
29—Kt takes B

BLACK. M. Cresswell.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Q 3
5—Kt to B 3
6—P takes P
7—Kt takes Kt
8—B to K 2
9—B to B 3
10—Kt to K 2
11—Kt to Q 4
12—P to K R 3
13—P to B 3
14—Q to Q 3
15—Kt to B 5
16—B to Q 2
17—Kt to Q 4
18—B to K 2
19—P to K B 4
20—Q to B 2
21—R P takes B
22—R to K Kt sq.
23—B to B sq.
24—K to B sq.
25—Q to Q 2
26—Q to K 3
27—B takes Q
28—B takes B
29—Resigns.

A fundamental principle in close openings has been disregarded by Black, viz., 5... Kt to B 3 before playing P to Q B 4. Logically, if White tries to establish a strong centre, Black's object should be to prevent or to break it, and that is the reason for P to Q B 4. Lohman, with good judgment, opens his game with 6. P to K 4, thus converting the game into a French Defence, in which the advance of the Q B P, neglected by Black, is essential. After the initial mistake Black could have still somewhat mended matters with 8... Kt to K 2 and Kt to Kt 3 or Q 4, whereas he lost time by moving the developed K B twice more, enabling White to institute an immediate powerful king's side attack, which, however, could have been somewhat lessened with 17... B takes Kt; 18. P takes B, Q takes P; whilst in retiring 17... Kt to Q 4 he enabled White to practically terminate the game with 19. P to Kt 6. The ending is very prettily played by Lohman. He disdains justly to win the exchange; but takes off the knight, as the open king's file is of more value. For the final combination he has to play 24. K to Kt sq. before attacking the queen with B to B 4, otherwise Q takes B ch., and the bishop's move is followed by 25. B to Q 2, and the game is over. If 25... B takes B, then 26. Kt takes B, and mate in two moves follows.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE
From America per O. & O. Co. Friday, Aug. 2th.
From Europe, via Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Wednesday, Aug. 5th.
From Hongkong per F. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 8th.
From Europe, via Hongkong per M. M. Co. Wednesday, Aug. 13th.
From Canada, N.C. per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Aug. 17th.
From America per F. M. Co. Tuesday, Aug. 18th.
From Hongkong per C. P. R. Co. Thursday, Aug. 20th.

1 Dair left San Francisco on July 31st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America per O. & O. Co. Saturday, Aug. 1st.
For Portland per O. R. & N. Co. Saturday, Aug. 1st.
For Hongkong per F. & O. Co. Sunday, Aug. 2nd.
For Victoria, B.C. per N. F. Co. Tuesday, Aug. 4th.
For Europe, via Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Friday, Aug. 7th.
For America per F. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 9th.
For Europe, via Shanghai per M. M. Co. Sunday, Aug. 9th.
For Canada, N.C. per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Aug. 17th.
For America per C. P. R. Co. Friday, Aug. 21st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ixion, British steamer, 1,968, Nish, 25th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 24th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th July,—Vancouver, B.C., 12th July, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, Gender, 26th July,—London via ports, and Kobe 25th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 26th July,—Hongkong 12th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July.—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubenge, 28th July.—Marseilles 21st June, Hongkong 19th July, Shanghai 22nd, and Kobe 27th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Robert Glegg, 28th July.—London via ports, and Kobe 27th July, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 30th July.—San Francisco 11th July, via Honolulu 18th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Courfield, British steamer, W. J. Sheldrige, 30th July.—Cardiff 5th June, Coal.—R. Isaacs and Bros.

Humber (1), British store-ship, Commander Frank W. Wyley, 30th July.—Akaishi 27th July.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 30th July.—Hongkong via ports, 22nd July, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, Inman Sealby, 30th July.—Hongkong via ports, 22nd July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ellen Rickmers, German steamer, 5,000, Hess, 30th July.—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe 29th July, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Knight of St. John, British steamer, 2,347, A. J. Billett, 30th July.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Plover (6), British gunboat, Captain Galloway, 26th July.—Hakodate.

Salasia, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 26th July.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 27th July.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th July.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 28th July.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Woolwich, British steamer, 2,106, Raeburn, 28th July.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,800, Day, 29th July.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Linslet (5), British gunboat, Commander Bearcroft, 29th July.—Hakodate.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, D. Davies, 30th July.—Havre, London, and Hamburg, via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 31st July.—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Marshall Allen, Captain and Mrs. J. F. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. F. Anderson, Mrs. A. P. Bowes, Mrs. D. E. Brown, child and nurse, Prof. W. H. M. Christie and son, Mr. Henry Cecil, Mr. W. H. Decker, Mr. T. M. Garland, Mr. J. R. Gleason, Mr. E. H. Grimani, Mr. H. B. Hitchings, Mr. J. T. Hoyt, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. Stanley Leathes, Mr. J. A. Norcross, Mr. and Mrs. Nutter, Mr. W. Nutter, Jun., Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Noble, Mrs. Post, Mr. Richardson, Mr. J. Calder Turner, Mr. T. Wooyeno, Mrs. H. A. MacLeod and 2 children, and Miss Effie Tucker in cabin.

Per British steamer *Myrmidon*, from Shanghai:—Mrs. Bois, 2 children and nurse in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—Marshal Marquis Yamagata, Mr. Tsudzuki, Colonel Ikeda, Lieut.-Colonel Tojo, Dr. Hirai, Mr. Kawasaki, Mr. Kadji, Mr. Terasaki, Mr. Kojima, Mr. Eugend, Mr. Poular, Mr. and Mrs. Meiten, Mr. Bent, Mr. Albares, Mr. Mounier, Mrs. Tenny, Mr. Lee Leng Bee, Mr. Pokotelow and boy, Miss Wassilief, Mr. Gradwell, Mr. Van Nicrop, Mr. G. Thomas, Mr. H. Botel, Mrs. Miotto, Mr. Tsuruya, Mr. J. B. Perl, Mr. and Miss Zialliacus and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Collins, Miss Schmidt, Mr. Fukuda, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hori, Miss Lots, Mrs. Toyama, Mr. Georgeani, Mrs. Sauze and 3 children, Mr. Kei Chow, Mr. Vingit Poon, Mr. Ch. Fun, and Mr. Grantoff in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Glenesk*, from London via ports:—Mrs. Cain, 4 children and nurse in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Clara Sutto, Mrs. Dr. Cushing, Lieut. V. S. Nelson, Lieut. H. F.

Barroll, Lieut. Lucien Young, Lieut. and Mrs. C. E. Colohan and child, Lieut. and Mrs. John Gibson, Captain S. A. Day, Ensign B. F. Hutchinson, Mr. A. A. Grieg, Mr. H. J. Holm, Mr. Paul De Witz, Mr. W. F. Sands, Mr. J. R. Duff, and Mr. Chas. Duff in cabin, and Mr. E. Prinz in European steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. and Master Haskell, Mr. R. Henderson, Mr. Bhesawai, Mr. M. Irving, Mr. W. Gage, Mrs. A. Campbell, 3 children and nurse, Mrs. Davis and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Gregson, Mr. and Mrs. Kragh and 2 children, Miss A. Ballard, Mr. G. Duff, Mr. T. Brower, Mr. R. Ehlers, Mr. E. S. Bell, Captain Welman, Mrs. Grant and infant, Mr. and Mrs. S. Rosendale, Mr. G. Miller, Mr. C. Holliday, Mr. and Mrs. Liddell and infant, Mr. H. Wilcox, Mr. E. Smith, Captain Froberg, Mr. E. Irwin, Miss T. Stewart, Surgeon-Major Heuston, Mr. T. Okamoto, Mr. H. Walker, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Braidwood in cabin. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. F. Deacon, Miss Archer, Mr. and Mrs. Suenson and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. W. Shearer and 2 infants, Mr. Igarisheff, Mr. and Mrs. M. Gillem, Admiral Dunlop, Mr. J. Hawes, Mr. D. Hay, Mr. S. Shikato, Mr. Botel, Mr. J. Geen, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. MacEwen, Misses MacEwen and maid, Mr. Kolod, Mr. Abakumoff, Mr. M. M. Konosseswitsch, Mr. R. Allen, Captain J. P. McEwen, Mr. A. Heath, Mr. M. Matsuyoshi, and Mr. F. Bailey in cabin; 14 passengers in second class, and 313 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. E. Finlason, Rev. H. Taylor and family, Miss J. Giffin, Miss N. Clark, Mr. G. E. Stewart, Lieut. R. R. Belknap, U.S.N., Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. Jubier, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. James, Colonel Preston, Miss Slade, Dr. V. Adriance, Mr. A. W. Frances, Mr. Y. Okita, Mr. Alfred Williams, Mr. L. M. Oberkotler, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Gagan, Mr. James Flood, Mr. Lon Foo Kai, and Mrs. Quan Yuen and daughter in cabin; Mr. S. White and Mr. N. Van Horn in European steerage, and 190 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. G. Suchi, Mrs. G. Suchi and child, Mrs. V. Colomb, Mr. Colomb, Mrs. Colomb and child, Mr. A. A. Delmége, Mrs. A. A. Delmége, Miss Waters, Miss R. N. Martin, Messrs. F. J. Bailey, da Roza, G. Remedios, A. Souza, Schwob, M. Delbourgo, R. Finch and boy, Mrs. R. Finch, Mr. W. James Hancock, Mr. Raud, Mrs. Raud and 2 children, Miss E. Hawes, Mr. Ch. Strähler, Mr. Sato, Mrs. Sato and child, Messrs. O. Hayashi, K. Nishimura, S. Schieno, Consul-General Lu Hein Sang and boy, Messrs. Lo Joson, A. Laing, Chow Lung, J. M. Cotta; Shozo Tomonaga, Ogawa, Lam Pak Tsun, and Ku Mo Cheong in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. W. Reid, Mr. W. G. Bird, Mr. W. J. Tyack, Surgeon-Major S. Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Heffer, Bishop and Mrs. Joyce, Rev. I. H. Correll, Rev. E. R. Fulkerson, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Nazer, Mrs. C. W. Van Petten, Mr. F. L. Crompton, Mr. R. H. Woolfall, Mr. C. Radclyffe, Mr. J. McD. Gardner, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Currie, Mr. M. Peden, Miss Kidwell, Mr. and Mrs. M. Mess, Mr. V. E. Abraham, Lieutenant D. Power, and Mrs. G. K. Moore in cabin; Messrs. Chow Kong Sing and Chan Tsy Ming and infant in third class.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. A. Katayama, Admiral Tsunoda, Engineer I. Ishiguro, Mr. A. Ishibashi, Mr. M. Ihara, Mr. Senda (Governor of Miyasaki), Mr. S. Megata, Mr. and Mrs. Notting, Master Drummond, Mrs. S. Tejima, Mr. G. Mitsui, Mr. M. Kawabuchi, Colonel Akimoto, Colonel Kuratsuji, Miss Case, Mr. T. Yokoi, Mrs. S. Baba, Master S. Takata, Mr. S. Kimura, Mr. Y. Nishimura, Mr. C. Morioka, Mrs. T. Nakamitsu, Mr. T. Kashimura, Mrs. Kashimura, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Mr. N. Koga, Mr. U. Hayakawa, Mr. W. Somekawa, Mr. Y. Kawakata, Mr. S. Kobayashi, Mr. S. Yamaguchi, Mr. K. Kashiwagi, Mr. Maltan, Mr. Y. Tamano, Dr. Moriya, Colonel Kaburaki, Mr. T. Machida, Mr. Yamagata, and Mr. Fukuhara in cabin; Mr. D. Satow, Rev. N. Clark, Miss Clark, Mr. S. Kadono, Mr. K. Okura, Mr. Y. Kusumoto, Mr. T. Tsukamoto, Mrs. and Master Akimoto, Messrs. Tejima, K. Ito, T. Tsurumi, J. Itami, and Masters M. and J. Shibayama in second class. For Shimonoeki:—General Isechi, Mrs. Isechi, Master M. Isechi, Mr. and Mrs. Nagai, and Mr. M. Hosoki in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Ono, Mr. and Mrs. Sasaki, Mrs. I. Motomura, and Mr. C. Hirose in second class. For Nagasaki:—Messrs. I. Kaneko, A. Ferguson, and K. Nambu in cabin; and Mr. S. Asakura in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr.

H. D. Hawks, Mr. N. Nabekura, Miss Monti, Miss H. von Holton, Mr. W. S. Simpson, Mr. E. W. Monkhouse, Mr. R. E. Bredon, Mr. O. A. Madar, and Mr. Barnes Dallas in cabin; Mr. K. Inouye and Mr. K. Kimura in second class; 138 passengers in steerage in all for Kobe and ports.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 61 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 59 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$2,000.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 11th July at 4.05 p.m. Arrived at Honolulu the 18th at 2.46 a.m. and left the same day at 5.27 p.m. Crossed 180° meridian on the 22nd. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th July at 5.42 a.m. Had fine weather and light breezes throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain I. Sealby, reports:—Left Hongkong the 22nd July, Amoy the 24th, Nagasaki the 27th, and Kobe the 29th at 6.40 p.m.; thence to port, light winds and smooth seas. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th June at 5.11 p.m. Passage from Kobe, 22 hours and 31 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Poor business all round. Yarn—A small sale at about previous rates. Grey Cloth not a single sale reported in either Shirtings or T-Cloths. Fancies—Nothing done since the sale of 3,000 pieces. Turkey Reds at a fractional decline. Woollens—Somnolent.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—3 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—4 1/2 yds, 45 inches	2.70 to 3.15
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 44 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
	0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 42 inches	7.95 to 9.95
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 43 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.20

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	
Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pileas, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.50 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$35.50 to 37.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	39.00 to 40.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	43.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	47.50 to 49.50
Nos. 1/60, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nom. 81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nom. 105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	76.00 to 77.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	92.00 to 97.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	118.00 to 125.00

METALS.

Quotations unchanged except for Tin Plates which are unusually depressed. Market generally very quiet. Dealers generally seem full to repletion [with what they have already bought], and deliveries "hang fire" woefully.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Tin Plate, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.67 1/2

KEROSENE.

Weak market and poor business. Holders want to be moving; and we shall probably see lower prices ere long.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.30
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—A fair business at quotations. For-mosa sorts neglected. White—A moderate demand at previous rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$3.75 to 3.80
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daiteng (New)	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton	3.45 to 4.25
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White Refined	7.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A few small purchases have been made, and the market may be said to have opened on the basis of quotations given below. The only transaction for America has been a parcel Kaimeisha Filature (from alien cocoons) at \$660. Settlements for the season to date are only about one-tenth the quantity at 31st July, 1895.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$750 to 760
Filatures—Extra 11/15, 12/16 den.	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	740
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	680 to 700
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	710 to 730
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	690
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 11	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

Still a blank. No settlements or quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Quiet market of late. Prices lower and easy. Quotations are now for second crop leaf; which looks indeed quite dear enough at the money asked for it. Settlements are now 30,000 piculs behind the figures of last season to end of July.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$24 to \$25
Finest	22 to 23
Fine	20 to 21
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

The interruption in the cable has prevented news reaching us from London, and in the absence of advice from the world's financial centre, rates remain unaltered.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2½
— — Bills on demand	2/2½
— — 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/3½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.78½
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ..	2.82½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	par.
— — Private 10 days' sight	1 1/10 p.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
— — Private 10 days' sight	73½
On India—Bank sight	187
— — Private 30 days' sight	189½
On America—Bank Bills on demand ..	53½
— — Private 4 months' sight	55½ to 1
On Germany—Bank sight	2.25½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.30
Bar Silver (London, 30th ult.)	31½

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 30th.

Latest mails advices from Hongkong bear dates up to the 21st instant, and report the following changes in the share market:—

	18th July.	21st July.
H. & S. Banks	185 1/8 B.	187 1/8 B.
National Bank Founders'	\$115 S.	\$100 S.
North Chinas	Tls. 200 S.	Tls. 195 N.
Yangtze Insurance	\$152.50 Sa.	\$145 Sa.
Straits Insurance	\$28 50 S.	\$27 50 S.
Indo-China	\$55.50 S.	\$55 S.
Douglless Steamships	\$64 50 S.	\$64 50 B.
China Sugars	\$11 50 S.	\$11 N.
Luzon Sugars	\$67 50 S.	\$68 S.
Oliver Freehold A Share	\$8 Sa.	\$7 S.
do. B do.	\$3.75 Sa.	\$3.50 S.
Hongkong Lands	\$73 B.	\$76 B.
H. & W. Wharfs	\$52 N.	\$54 B.
Hongkong Hotels	\$23 B.	\$26 B.
Hongkong Electric	\$7 S.	\$6.75 S.
Dakin Crickshanks	\$6.56 S.	\$1 B.
Campbell Moores	\$5 N.	\$6 Sa.

The Report and Accounts of the H. C. & M. Steamboats have been distributed amongst shareholders. Besides paying a dividend at the rate of

6 per cent. (\$1.20 per share) and after allowing for repairs to the "Honam," the sum of \$17,000 is carried forward to a new account.

The crushings at the Raub Mines during the month ending 6th instant, gave an output of 1,000 ounces of smelted gold, being the yield from 2,550 tons of stone.

Local stocks remain unchanged. Grand Hotels are wanted at \$160, Japan Breweries at \$225, Langfeldts at \$185, and Debentures of most local Companies at quotations.

A BERLIN MANUFACTURER of SPIRITS requires an AGENT in YOKOHAMA and HYOGO, for the sale of his Spirits in Cases and Casks. Please address, stating full Particulars and references: J.W. 8566, care of RUDOLF MOSS, Berlin, S.W.

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37.



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taries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet
to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best
medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a
short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a
quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an ex-
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create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies
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Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels
in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of
Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing
could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls,
butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-
spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas-
and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up
the small remaining 'stock.'"
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.]

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YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 8TH, 1896.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXVI.
西曆八月十三日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 8TH, 1896.

DEATHS.

On the 3rd inst., at Karuizawa, ALDORTH CRESSWELL, youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. W. Silver Hall, of Tokyo, aged three and a half years.

The Sisters of St Infant Jesus, of Yokohama and Tokyo regret to announce the loss that they have just suffered by the death of their beloved Sister Sr. EMMANUEL, who expired, after having received the sacraments of the Church, on the 4th instant, at the age of forty-nine years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE House of Commons has passed the Irish Land Bill.

THE *Ronin* has won the "Petrel Cup" this year.

MORE floods have occurred this week in the districts recently inundated.

RUMOURS are again current of several impending changes in the Cabinet.

MR. W. BARRIE, Supt.-Engineer of the N.Y.K. was assaulted in a dastardly manner in his private house on Thursday evening, by some

stokers recently dismissed from the service of the Company.

THE run on the new War-commemoration postage-stamps has been phenomenal.

THE thermometer at Shizuoka on the 1st inst., registered 94° Fah. in the shade.

LIEUTENANT THOMPSON, Queen's Edinburgh Rifles, has won the Queen's Prize at Bisley.

MR. CECIL RHODES has offered to come to London and stand his trial if the prosecution desire him to do so.

THE German gunboat *Illis* has been lost off the South-east Promontory, Shantung. Only ten persons were saved.

DETAILS of the recent fighting in Formosa come to hand very slowly, and even then require careful analysis to understand.

SEVENTEEN graduates of the Law College of the Imperial University were lately engaged by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

H.I.H. PRINCE FUSHIMI arrived at Shanghai on the 5th by the M.M. steamer. He is expected here on the 12th inst.

A TYPHOON has done an immense amount of damage at Shanghai and Hongkong. Some Europeans have lost their lives.

THE *Milke Maru*, the inaugural steamer of the N.Y.K.'s American service, left Yokohama for Tacoma, on Wednesday.

THE author of the attack on President Faure is named Francois. He is a lunatic, is poor, and his object was to attract attention to himself.

LIEUT.-GENERAL KATSURA, Governor-General of Formosa, now staying in Tokyo, will not return to the island until about the latter part of October.

REUTER announces that Li Hung-chang has bought artillery in Germany, and rifles in France, but intends to have the new Chinese navy built in England.

THE Imperial Meteorological Central Observatory Authorities have established a branch Observatory at No. 4, Kaigandori, Ichome, Yokohama, from 1st inst.

AT Okuzawa, Koma district, Yamanashi Ken a deposit of gold has been discovered, and the finders have applied to the authorities for permission to work it.

AN important letter despatched by the President of the Doshisha, Kyoto, to the Prudential Committee of the American Board Mission, has been published this week.

AGITATION still proceeds against the elimination of Yokohama from the Government's new double-railway scheme. The Government says that the plans are not yet completed.

DETECTIVE NAKAJIMA, of the Settlement Police, has succeeded in running to earth two burglars, who lately got away with various foreign property from houses on the Bluff and in China Town.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, opened the Yokohama Silk Conditioning House on Wednesday, in the presence of a large and distinguished company of Japanese and foreigners.

MARQUIS ITO, in a speech delivered before an assembly of Tokyo and Yokohama merchants,

declared that the Government did intend to repeat the Hokkaido blunders in opening up Formosa. Private enterprise, not Governmental, was to be solely encouraged.

THE insurgents of the eastern part of Cuba are divided amongst themselves on the election of a successor to the late José Maceo in the command held by the deceased. It is said that many are in consequence going over to the Spaniards.

MR. JAMES WALTER, Chairman of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, in a speech at a luncheon given on Wednesday, appealed, in the interests of public morality, that steps be taken to stop the import of the vile potato spirit now flooding the country in such large quantities.

MR. MAYEDA MASANA made a brief address concerning the matting traders of Japan, at the Gonikai meeting held on July 29th. He pointed out that the dealers themselves are much to blame for putting a bad article on the market. He urged the formation of a Union to see to the raising of the standards of quality.

THE news from Korea speaks of various resignations of Cabinet Ministers being sent in but not accepted; of a petition to the King for his return to his own palace; of the arrival in Seoul of \$40,000 deposited by the late Queen in the Hongkong and Shanghai bank; and of the overflow of the Han river at Seoul.

SIR MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY, Secretary of State for the British Home Department, has advised Royal clemency being extended to Dr. Jameson—who has received 15 months' imprisonment—and his fellow prisoners—whose terms vary from 10 to five months—all of whom therefore have been returned to Holloway Gaol as first class misdemeanants.

FRANCE, RUSSIA, GERMANY, and AUSTRIA are in favour of the blockade of Crete to prevent the landing of Greek volunteers and the supply of arms to the insurgents, leaving the Turks free to restore order in the island. To this proposal Great Britain dissents, though agreeing to joint mediation of the Powers to induce Greece to fulfil her duties towards the Porte, and to bring the Cretans to accept a reasonable compromise. The German and Austrian press accuse Great Britain of acting in a spirit of selfish isolation to disturb the concert of Powers.

VERY little can be said about the Import trade, which remains much as reported last week. In Yarns and Manchester goods the business done is retail in character. Dealers in Metals hold aloof, the season, as usual, telling against much work in this department. In Kerosene, business is as dull as it can be, and further arrivals from America and Europe tend to a decline in values. The Sugar trade is not great; Browns go off slowly at gradually weakening rates, but for the business done in Whites prices have been fairly maintained. In the Silk market a few purchases have been effected, but these are only retail in extent. Directly a few small bargains were concluded in Filatures and Re-reels, holders tried to force up prices, thus at once checking whatever tendency there might be to operate; while news came from Shanghai that the trade is stagnant, and that holders are inclined to except less money. In Waste Silk nothing has been done, but samples of new fibre have arrived and been shown round. There is very little moving in the Tea trade, and the leaf on offer remains unchanged in value. Exchange has been steady and unaltered till yesterday, when rates declined one-sixteenth all round.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Exceptional dullness has characterized the writings of the vernacular press during the week. In no journal do we find anything striking or interesting. Such unusual torpor may have been induced by the heat of the dog days, or it may be the calm that precedes the storm.

The *Nippon* has a long article, the writer of which employs the *nom de plume* of "Nichinan." He treats of the nobility of Japan. After casting a shower of invectives and rude jests at the nobles, he advises the Government to adopt two measures for keeping the number of titled persons within a reasonable limit. The first is to reduce a title by one degree each generation, so that a Prince would revert to the ranks of the *heimin*, or commoners, in the sixth generation. This system which "Nichinan" declares to be in force in China, would effectually lessen the number of title-bearers. The second measure recommended is to create life peers. "Thus and thus alone, Japan's peerage can be purged of unworthy members." These are hacknied contentions, but being brought forward again just at the time when the granting of so many patents of nobility to soldiers, statesmen, and other worthies is yet fresh in public memory, they may have roused some little interest. The same paper has also something to say about Princes and Princesses of the Blood, but that part of its writing we need not take the trouble of reproducing, so entirely worthless is it. Years ago similar views about Japanese peers were ventilated in the columns of the *Nippon-jin* by Mr. Kikuchi Kumataro, reputed to be one of the deepest thinkers among the rising generation, but being evidently out of touch with the spirit of the nation, they remained unheeded.

The *Nichi Nichi* has only two articles of any importance; one entitled "On the Guild of Exporters of the more important Staples," and the other "The Administration of Formosa." An epitomized reproduction of the latter deserves attention:—Nothing is more urgently required in Formosa than to increase facilities for communication, especially those between Japan and the new territory. As yet, there are only a small number of merchants in the island, but few though they be, they are in no enviable situation, so considerable are the difficulties to be overcome in carrying merchandise from Japan. They are unable to make any confident calculations, and are often obliged to lose opportunities for securing large profits. Under these circumstances, consumers have to pay exorbitant prices for things of Japanese production, and the mere problem of living is beset with hardships unknown under ordinary conditions, while comforts are practically inaccessible. Of course, while things remain thus, anything like brisk immigration must be altogether out of the question. The ships now plying between Japan and Formosa for the benefit of the public are only three in number and of small size, and the service is limited to three trips monthly. It is essential that steps be taken to increase the number of ships to six or seven, of from two thousand to twenty-five hundred tons, and to arrange that there shall be at least ten sailings each way per month. Further, a regular service must be established along the coast of Formosa; that is to say, between Kelung, Tamsui, and Taku (a distance of about 240 miles); between Formosa and the Pescadores, and between Formosa and Amoy, Hongkong, and other places in China. On land a grand trunk railroad, traversing Formosa from north to south ought to be built, preferably as a State road. But should financial considerations forbid the Treasury to undertake the construction, the Government may fall back on private enterprise, under strict provisions as to the completion of the work in the shortest possible space of time. Another matter demanding urgent attention is the making of ordinary roads communicating with the proposed railway on both sides, there being now no roads in

Formosa worthy of the name. The article further urges the Authorities to find means for laying another cable between Japan and Formosa in addition to the one now nearly laid, and then goes on to argue that some of the powers vested in the Governor-General should be transferred to the local Governors. In our contemporary's opinion, somewhat less centralization of power is necessary to enable the local Governors and their subordinates to act more vigorously and efficiently. The number of prefectural offices and the force of police should also be increased, and it is of pressing importance that the Authorities should endeavour to restore a thorough *entente* between the civil and military functionaries, whose differences are now a source of much embarrassment. Numerous other improvements and changes are suggested by our contemporary, but we shall limit ourselves to merely indicating them. They are, a radical alteration in the *personnel* of the Civil Administrative Office; the adoption of strict sanitary measures, there being four sick persons out of every hundred, whereas the ratio in Japan does not exceed three per cent.; the encouragement of the study of the Japanese language, and the establishment of a sound system of taxation, so as to make the island self-supporting. We have spoken of this article as one, but in point of fact it has extended over four issues of the *Nichi Nichi*, and is not yet concluded. We may therefore have occasion to refer to it again.

A well-known publicist whose social standing renders the *Tokyo Asahi* a scarcely suitable vehicle for the expression of his opinions, says that those who from the platform of the Press discuss Japan's foreign policy, may be divided into two classes; namely, men that advocate the necessity of forming an alliance with England, and men that look for a similar union with Russia. Since the Liaotung fiasco, the majority of the vernacular journalists have ceased to think it possible to maintain peace in the East by Japan's unaided efforts, and have devoted themselves to looking for a Foreign Power with which Japan might form an alliance for offensive and defensive purposes. Surely, says the writer, this is like groaning when one has no disease. Japan's present circumstances do not seem to justify her in assuming an aggressive attitude towards any Power. No alliance looking to that end comes within the field of practical politics. Neither has she any cause to seek an alliance with a Great European Power for defensive purposes. Further, without any exercise of very profound reflection, one can understand that neither England nor Russia would be prepared to involve herself so closely with Japan as to accept a share in all the latter's belligerent risks. Anything of that kind is no better than the unpractical fancy of political dreamers. Under the circumstances, Japan's best policy it to stand alone, boldly erect, taking all possible measures to make herself respected by foreign Powers. We (*Yapan Mail*) may note that the view expressed by the above writer seems to be obtaining increased allegiance daily among Japanese publicists.

The *Kokumin* has an article entitled "Russia and the Sôul-Fusan Railway," the gist of which is as follows:—The Sôul-Jinsen railroad is to be built by Americans, the Sôul-Wiju line by Frenchmen, and the road, or roads, to the north of Gensan by Frenchmen also. If now the concession for the Sôul-Fusan line be denied to Japanese, it will be a bitter blow to our country's prestige. Whether the Korean Cabinet will grant the Japanese application seems to depend entirely upon Russia's volition. From Russia's standpoint, it is natural that she should exert her influence to bring about the rejection of the Japanese proposal, if she thinks the Ito Cabinet capable of going to war on occasion, for then the possession of such a line would be of great military value to the Japanese. But if, on the contrary, she judges the Japanese Cabinet unwilling to fight under any circumstances, she

will urge the Korean Ministers to have the line constructed by Japanese promoters. Hence the question of the railway lies, not between Japan and Korea, but between Japan and Russia. Under the present aspect of affairs, our contemporary regrets to say that the proposed railroad, though built by Japan, may one day confer advantages, not on its builder, but on Russia, for what would become of it should the great Northern Bear take Korea wholly within his embrace? It goes without saying that this article is profusely embroidered with abuse of the present Government, but that kind of thing is so hacknied in the columns of the *Kokumin* that we omit it. Perhaps, however, we ought to assure our readers that we have not travestied the *Kokumin's* interpretation of Russia's attitude towards the Sôul-Fusan railway.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Foros Choho* have each a leader relating to Marshal Marquis Yamagata. Both write in a remarkably similar strain, though in a very different style. The former adopts a statesmanlike tone, self-contained and dignified, whereas the latter adopts the language of a political agitator. Neither journal attaches any political importance to his Excellency's return from the Coronation fête. They grant that he is a sincere patriot, but refuse to count him a great statesman. Nothing in the way of political change, they emphatically allege, will result from his return, and they advise their readers not to be troubled by rumours pointing to the possibility of the Marshal's influence being exercised to cause a Ministerial change.

The *Kokumin* urges Japanese noblemen to take upon themselves the work of encouraging and patronizing science, art, literature, and the drama. If they pursue their present courses they will forfeit all their dignity in the eyes of the people. This old-fashioned advice is addressed, if we do not mistake, to peers now playing rather a prominent part as buyers of shares, bonds, lands, and objects of virtu.

The *Chu-o Shimbun* reproduces an opinion said to be held by a certain diplomat, that Japan will not do well to insist on the letter of the Shimonoseki Treaty in the matter of Chinese import duties. If China yields to Japan with regard to these duties, the most-favoured-nation clause, formidable in the eyes of the Peking Government, will immediately come into play and deprive China of one of her chief sources of revenue. In that event, not China alone but also Japan will suffer, for Japanese manufacturing industries hereafter started in China will encounter terrible competition from American and European manufactures imported free of duty. Again, a concession by Japan on this item of the Treaty may, in the future, purchase more valuable concessions on China's part in other directions. This question is one that persons having pretensions to diplomatic skill ought to reflect upon profoundly.

The *Kokumin* advances the strange opinion that official life makes a man silly, whereas non-official life sharpens his wits. For example, Count Matsugata has made a great advance in knowledge and perceptive power because he has been out of office for some time. Marquis Ito and Count Kuroda, on the contrary, have taken many retrogressive steps because they have been so long in office, surrounded by none but adulators and flatterers.

The same paper assumes the air of a statistical prophet, and reminds its readers that an act of violence by Russia against Korea may be expected soon, inasmuch as the Great Northern Power's history shows that it deals a blow against some foreign country once in every period of about twenty years. In support of this view, our contemporary, points to 1828, 1853, and 1877 as the years in which Russia attempted the occupation of the Balkan Peninsula.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* passes severe criticisms upon Counts Okuma and Matsugata, but the feeling of antagonism now existing between the

Liberal Party, of which the *Tokyo Shimbun* is the organ, and the old Progressionists is so bitter that their attacks upon each other do not fall within the category of reasonable discussion, and need not be reproduced.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpō* (Home and Foreign Commercial News), warmly congratulates the Nippon Yusen Kaisha upon the inauguration of the American service, and gives a hearty send off to the *Miike Maru*. Our contemporary says, in this context, that the sailing of the *Tosa Maru* for London and that of the *Miike* for Seattle are two important facts to be specially noted in the history of Japanese navigation. It predicts that the public will soon see the Yusen Kaisha's line to Australia opened, and concludes by declaring that the State ought to extend as much aid and protection as possible to a company so thoroughly imbued with the spirit of maritime enterprise.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A REVOLUTION IN THE MANUFACTURE OF IRON.
THE following very interesting matter is taken from a recent issue of *Fairplay* :—

Industrial revolutions are wrought so quietly that to the common crowd they frequently appear startlingly sudden. And an industrial revolution is in process just now that, if the auguries are sound, will play the dickens with the iron and steel trades of the world. The satisfactory part of the prospect is that the impending change is to be all in favour of this country. Some vague and inaccurate statements have been circulated lately about some experiments in the manufacture of iron proceeding in the neighbourhood of Glasgow—so vague that the general public merely stared, and so palpably inaccurate that the "trade" merely grinned. I happen to know a little more about the matter than my neighbours, though I have thought it more discreet to let them expose their ignorance. The fact is that a small but powerful and wealthy syndicate are working out now two separate ideas which if carried out, as I believe there is every reason to believe they will be, will both solve the land problem in Scotland and Ireland, and give us the supreme mastery of the steel trade of the world. The first of the processes has reference to the utilisation of peat bogs in the manufacture of fuel. Of course, everybody who has been in a Highland shanty or an Irish cabin, knows that peat makes a splendid smokeless fire, and most people who have been abroad, and kept their eyes open, have seen peat on sale and in use even in the towns of Germany and Holland. Now, dried peat, as we see it stacked against a Highland cottage, is one thing, and a peat bog is another. The problem to solve is how to convert the sodden mass of the bog into combustible material, at a cost which will make it cheaper than coal? This problem has been solved by an invention, the principle of which is kept secret, but the point of which is the utilisation of the natural gas in the peat-moss as fuel to dry the whole mass.

By a clever arrangement of furnaces the slimy mass of bogs is converted into a hard, dry material absolutely free from sulphur, which, when converted into charcoal, is as near as possible pure carbon, and superior to the best oak charcoal. So far good, and if works are erected on Irish and Scotch peat bogs it is claimed that the fuel can be delivered into the towns for sale at a lower price than the best coke, and without its deleterious constituents. But that is only one part of the design; as the charcoal made from peat is absolutely free from sulphur and phosphorus, its utilisation in the smelting of iron and the manufacture of steel is of the very first importance. When you smelt iron ore with coal or common coke you impart to the iron some of the impurities in your fuel, and your iron requires to go through a purifying process before it can be turned into steel. If, however, you can employ pure fuel in your smelting operations you should have as a result pure iron ready for adaptation to the highest purposes. Peat carbon is a pure fuel, and by smelting ores with it a pig iron is obtained which is both malleable, ductile, and tensile in the highest degree. This pig in fact is pure charcoal iron, and thus we are on the way to making steel direct from ordinary iron ores without any intermediate processes.

This means a very big thing indeed, and the remarkable thing about smelting with peat carbon is that it produces as good results in iron from the commonest ores as from the best Swedish or Spanish ores. This is the claim, and the aim—that the enormous deposits of low-class and (at present) almost worthless iron ores in Ireland and Scotland can be used to make pig-iron as good as is now smelted from the best and dearest imported ores. Here is a double result in the utilisation of native products. A third result claimed is that peat charcoal is more beneficial and more economical to use in the hardening of armour-plates than the ordinary Harvey process, and that by it a harder plate can be produced in a third of the time. Now, these claims are not mere chemical theories

and laboratory illusions. The processes are now actually in operation on a practicable scale in an experimental works which the syndicate have started in the West of Scotland, with the object of obtaining an exact record of costs, etc., before operations are begun on a scale to revolutionise the iron trade. In that syndicate are included a Cabinet Minister of great influence in the Midlands, one of the foremost steel manufacturers in Scotland, and a territorial magnate of Argyllshire with thousands of acres of peat moss at disposal. It is not intended to offer the process on royalties, but to erect works for the manufacture of peat-carbon steel, and a Company will be formed out of the syndicate.

We commend the above to the notice of the officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, who are now so zealously and industriously engaged in making arrangements for the establishment of an iron foundry in Japan.

JAPANESE WAR-SHIP ORDERS.

THE London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* has learnt how the orders for the vessels included in the new Japanese naval programme are to be distributed, the programme itself having been worked out in detail and approved by the Japanese Parliament. It has been decided that out of fourteen vessels (excluding torpedo-boats) twelve are to be constructed in England and two in the United States. The twelve include four ironclads and four first and two second-class cruisers. The vessels ordered in the United States are second-class cruisers. An effort will be made to build the remainder of the vessels included in the programme in Japan itself. We (*Japan Mail*) give this note for what it may be worth.

RIVERS, THE BEACH COMBER.

RIVERS, the ex-circus hand, who came from Shanghai a year or so ago as a super in a theatrical company, went on the beach at Yokohama very quickly. After passing several terms in the U.S. Consular jail here, he wandered down to Kobe. Again his life at a treaty port was varied with periods of incarceration in the American lock-up. Next Nagasaki received the unwelcome visitor and there the local police found him a thorn and a weariness whenever he was out of jail. In some mysterious way he managed to get to Shanghai. But Shanghai will not have him, the Mixed Court there, before which he appeared on the old charge—"drunk and incapable"—informing him that he would be sent back to Nagasaki, to which he replied, "Oh, Lord, Lord, that's awful."

THE LOSS OF THE "ILITIS."

THE *Nagasaki Shipping List* has been supplied by Mr. G. Müller Beeck, H.I.G.M. Consul at that port, with the following list of the officers of the ill-fated gun-boat *Ilitis* :—

Commander—Capt.-Lieut. Braun.
1st Officer—Lieut. Von Holback.
Lieut. Franstaedter.
Lieut. Praske.
Dr. Hildebrandt.
Assistant Paymaster—Loss.
Engineer—Hill.

The *Ilitis* was in Japan in October last, under the command of Capt.-Lieutenant Ingenohl. In May last a portion of the officers and crew were relieved, including the captain.

H.M.S. "EDGAR."

At ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, July 28th, the *Edgar* left Hongkong for England. Unfortunately, a heavy shower of rain fell soon after the buoy was left, and consequently the hundreds of sailors who had mounted the rigging of the men-of-war in the harbour to give their departing friends a warm send-off got drenched, but nevertheless there was no mistake about the heartiness of their lusty cheers, and, judging by the ringing responses, the *Edgar* men warmly reciprocated the friendly feeling evinced. —*Daily Press*.

THE LOST "NARONIC."

A TELEGRAM appearing in the American press says:—A dispatch from London stated that word had been received at the White Star Company's office in London that a bottle has been picked up recently at Hoylake, near Birkenhead, containing a piece of paper with this message :

"Struck an iceberg; sinking fast; mid-ocean, *Naronic*—Young." No word of the find was received at the White Star office in New York. The *Naronic* was one of the largest of the freight steamers of the line and was lost in mid-ocean with all on board in February, 1893. She left Liverpool on February 11th of that year, bound for New York with a cargo and crew of ninety and a company of cattle-men. In the following October the captain of the Norwegian ship *Emblem* reported at Buenos Ayres that on July 21st, south-west of the Azores, he picked up one of the *Naronic's* boats, bottom side up and covered with barnacles. It had a hole knocked in the bottom. No other trace of the lost steamer was ever found.

DETECTING A THIEF.

DETECTIVE NAKAJIMA has run another thief to earth in the person of Mihori Tatsugoro, who stole a clock and other articles valued at \$80, from Lai Ping-won, compradore of the M.M., during the confusion caused by a recent fire in China Town. The man happened to pawn a blanket that was among the treasure trove, and this led to his arrest. Most of the stolen articles were recovered.

NARROW ESCAPE OF MISSIONARIES.

SEVERAL of the missionaries staying on Mount Hiezan, near Kyoto, had a narrow escape last week, says the *Kobe Herald*. During the storm that was raging two trees about a foot from Dr. Gordon's tent were struck by lightning. A long scar from the top of each tree to the base now marks the course of the electric fluid. The shock was felt by the occupants of the tent.

SIR JOHN PENDER'S SUCCESSORS.

ADMIRAL SIR LEOPOLD HEATH has been elected Chairman of the Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company, in place of the late Sir John Pender. As regards the Eastern Telegraph Company, the Marquis of Tweeddale is elected Chairman in the same succession, and Mr. Denison Pender, the Manager Director, becomes Vice-Chairman.

H.M.S. "GRAFTON" AND THE WHALE.

DURING the outward voyage of H.M.S. *Grafton* a somewhat curious incident occurred. A large whale (about 60 feet long) was caught on the ram of the ship one day out from Colombo. Between Aden and Colombo heavy weather and a strong monsoon were experienced and the ship rolling, the main top-mast, which was rigged with a big semaphore, was carried away.

THE LOSS OF THE P.M. "COLOMBIA."

It appears that the P.M. steamer *Colombia* was going at the rate of 14 knots when she struck the rocks near Pigeon Point, Pescadero, California, on the morning of July 14. There was a dense fog at the time, and Capt. William A. Clark mistook a fog-whistle at Ano Nuevo for the signal from Pigeon Point, which place is 38 miles from the Golden Gate.

CAPTAIN NORMAN JOY.

CAPTAIN NORMAN JAY, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, who is reported drowned in the recent typhoon in Hongkong, was formerly an officer on the blue-funnel steamer *Memnon*, and has recently been making a good living as an artist in Hongkong. He was a brother of the well-known artist in London.

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

NAGASAKI contributed \$799 towards the relief of sufferers by the Seismic Wave. Admiral Alexieff, the officers and men of the Russian fleet at Vladivostok, subscribed over \$1,000 for a similar object.

THE "ZAROGOSA."

THE Mexican cruiser *Zarogosa* is making a cruise around the world. She is commanded by Admiral A. O. Monasterio, and carries a number of naval cadets, for whose benefit the trip is being undertaken.

LIEUT. MORRISSEY.

LIEUTENANT RICHARD MORRISSEY, R.N., late of H.M.S. *Mercury*, has been appointed to H.M.S. *Mersey* at Navigating Lieutenant.

FORMOSA.

August 3.

Detailed accounts thus far received of the operations undertaken for the suppression of the rebels in Formosa extend only to July 10th, and were published in our issue of July 22nd. Later news, by telegraph, placed us in possession of the main facts down to July 20th, by which date the insurrection was virtually suppressed, Yun-lin (or Hoon-nim) having been recovered and the insurgents driven back to their mountain fastnesses, whence their final dislodgement and extermination remained to be accomplished. The last movement of Japanese troops recorded in our detailed account was that, at 10 a.m. on the 10th of July, Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force attacked Peh-tou and took possession of it. Some 1,500 rebels had been assembled there originally, but the bulk of them fled during the night of the 9th, so that the number actually opposing Imahashi's attack did not exceed 400. Of the movements between the 10th and the 15th, we have no exact record, but on the latter date we find the Japanese forces working in four bodies, and routing out the rebels from place to place, until finally, by the 20th instancé, the plain districts are completely relieved of the bandits' presence, and the Japanese garrisons are once more in possession of their former stations. To attempt to unravel these operations without the aid of a map would be a hopeless task. We have had a map prepared, with the intention of publishing it for our readers' assistance, but there is no possibility at present of obtaining the local pronunciations of the place names. Only the Chinese pronunciations of the ideographs are within our reach, and these differ so radically from the terms used locally that identification is generally impossible.

With regard to the doings of the Japanese during the fortnight immediately previous to the outbreak of the insurrection, we find a very interesting account in the *Fiji Shimpō*. It is to be observed that to these doings the whole cause of the insurrection is referred by foreign correspondents relying on Chinese information. Hence the story told by Mr. Mogi Keijiro, the *Fiji's* correspondent, actually present with the forces, is specially worth consideration. Speaking of the state of affairs at Yun-lin, the correspondent quotes Hwang Tang-yung, formerly an Inspector-general in the Chinese army. "Yun-lin," this officer is represented as saying, "has always been a nest of bandits. There are practically no law-abiding citizens there. They are always ready to rebel when an opportunity occurs. The most influential man among them is Chien I, at one time a general in the army of Liu Yung-fu. It is this man's habit, once a year, to visit Teu-liu (Tew-lak?), when all the inhabitants send him presents of money, half of which he divides among the lower orders to court popularity, and the remainder he keeps for himself. The officials bribe the bandits to leave them undisturbed, and the well-to-do folks purchase immunity from robbery by large payments. Thus the bandits have grown so powerful that the officials of the Chinese Government, previously to the Japanese occupation, never attempted to meddle with them. If they are to be dealt with, it must be in the most thorough manner. In January of this year, when the insurrection took place at Taipei, the leader of the northern rebels planned with Chien I that an insurrection should take place at the same time in the central districts. The rapid suppression of the northern rebellion, however, and the severance of communications with the central districts, defeated this scheme. Chien I escaped to the hills, where he lay concealed, from time to time making raids into the plains."

From this point the *Fiji's* correspondent takes up the narrative as follows:—"Our troops made two or three attempts to rout out the bandits, but these, whenever a detachment of any size appeared, would disperse and engage in peaceful occupations, only to re-assemble and resume their raids and robberies when they saw the coast clear. Thus it fell out that no really effective steps were taken against them, and

things culminated in the recent disturbance. For the bandits gradually acquired confidence from the immunity they enjoyed, and whereas at first they had not ventured farther into the lowlands than a village several *ri* distant from Teu-liu (Tew-lak), they made their appearance by and by in Teu-liu, and committed daring outrages there. On the 9th of June, they burglariously entered houses, and on the 12th of that month they fired a volley at the offices of the local administration. After that, strict measures of precaution were adopted, day and night, the head of the local administration and the officer in command of the garrison and of the gendarmes acting in concert. Three of the bandits were arrested, and they confessed, on being examined, that they had come to reconnoitre the position, under orders from their chief, Chien I. Subsequently, over a hundred suspicious characters were apprehended, and some twenty of them were proved to be connected with the bandits. Considerable information having thus been obtained, Captain Furuichi, the Commandant of the garrison, placed a detachment of 20 soldiers and 2 gendarmes under the command of Lieutenant Nakamura and sent them to search Ta-ping-ting. This detachment fared very badly. It was surrounded by the brigands, and lost full half of its number in killed and wounded, Lieutenant Nakamura himself being killed. Intelligence of this disaster having reached Chia-i, Colonel Ito set out from that place on the 15th of July with a company of infantry, and arrived in the neighbourhood of Ta-ping-ting, where the bandits were assembled, on the 17th. But before proceeding to attack the place, he decided to await the coming of his artillery. Meanwhile, the bandits, seeing the resolute measures about to be adopted against them, decamped, for the most part, during the night, or went into hiding. On the 18th, Colonel Ito's force searched the various hamlets in the vicinity, and apprehended several bandits, who were decapitated or bayoneted, the houses where they had been found concealed being all burned. The bandits, finding it impossible to lie *perdu* in the face of this vigorous search, assembled once more in Ta-ping-ting and made preparations to fight, which fact being communicated to Colonel Ito, he advanced, on the 21st, to Lin-pa-pu, and delivered an attack from the bandits' rear, whereupon the bandits fled to their mountain fastnesses. Colonel Ito's force then scoured the district westward of Chin-hung-lin, after which his troops were withdrawn. This was on the morning of the 23rd of June. The next day, Mr. Matsumura, head of the local administration, assembled the principal men of the villages in his district, and explained the situation to them in a conciliatory manner, with the result that they expressed regret for having connived at the concealment of the bandits, and gave in a list of the ringleaders. But no sooner were the bandits assured that the Japanese troops had been withdrawn than they emerged from their mountain fastnesses, and assembled once more in Ta-ping-ting. A reconnoitering party sent out on the 25th found a number of the bandits at Lin-tsz-tow, a place some 5 miles south of Tew-lak. Two of these were killed, and the detachment, pushing on to the neighbourhood of Ta-ping-ting, found the place in a state of military defence. On the 27th, over 30 bandits attacked the gendarmes in Liu-pa-pu, and, the following day, the attack being renewed in force, the gendarmes were driven from Liu-pa-pu, losing 4 killed and having 7 wounded. The bandits numbered over 300. They levied supplies of provisions from the villages around and made all dispositions for a campaign. On the 30th, at three in the morning, a cannon was fired, and immediately afterwards the bandits were seen approaching Tew-lak from the four points of the compass. What happened at this crisis is obscure, but communications seem to have been temporarily severed between the garrison and the civil administration. At 7 o'clock, the bandits renewed their attack with great resolution, and as the garrison's outposts were seen to be gradually losing

ground, the chief of the civil administration waited upon Colonel Ito and Captain Furuichi, the two senior officers of the garrison, whereupon Captain Furuichi said that, in view of the enemy's strength, the civil officials had better beat a retreat if they hoped to get away at all. Mr. Matsumura, the chief of the civil administration, replied that so long as the garrison stood its ground, the civil administration need not desert its post. Before this difference of opinion was adjusted, some of the bandits succeeded in getting into a house only three or four metres from the head quarters of the garrison, and their fire from thence struck down one of the military coolies. By degrees the enemy developed such strength that resistance became hopeless, and a retreat commenced in the direction of Ta-li-wu. Galled by the fire of bandits lying concealed in the forests, they reached Peh-tow that night, and, the following day, pushing on through Chang-hwa, arrived finally at Tai-chung."

To the above account, which contrasts curiously with the stories circulated from Chinese sources, and yet contains incidents that may easily be recognised as the bases of the latter's exaggerations, the correspondent adds this strange paragraph:—"With regard to the origin of this outbreak, the Japanese civil administrators and military men entertain strong suspicions against the foreigners residing in the Yun-lin district. It appears that a number of the bandits have been in the habit of attending the missionaries' services every Sunday, and there is proof that religious encouragement was given to them, for a banner taken from them at Ta-ping-ting bore the device 'We pray the Lord of all things to grant us victory.' Pere Leniran (?), for example, a Roman Catholic missionary in Tew-tai, can bring together at any moment two thousand converts of whom a very large proportion are bandits. Perhaps the strangest thing is that, three days before the bandits attacked Liu-pa-pu all the foreigners in the district, as if by common agreement, removed to An-ping, a British subject, Mr. Ollia, alone remaining, and he was killed. It is rumoured that, at the outset, this Mr. Ollia went about the place on horseback, directing the rebels, but that finally, being mistaken for a Japanese on account of his dress, he was killed by the rebels. These stories are not to be lightly credited, of course, but granting that the alleged relations between the foreigners and the bandits have no political significance, it does not follow that there may not be a strong commercial tie between them. We are not disposed to attach too much credit to the rumours that the rifles and ammunition used by the bandits came to them through foreign hands, or that the pistols in their possession were transmitted to the foreigners who concealed them in their personal effects."

Apropos of the above statement concerning the missionaries, it is worth noting that *The Times* correspondent in Hongkong, on the strength, avowedly, of information supplied by missionaries, has sent a telegram to that journal, accusing the Japanese of having burned villages and slaughtered innocent people.

August 4.

For the sake of completing the detailed narrative of the movements of the force sent from Taipei to subdue the rebels in the central districts of Formosa, we translate here the record from the 11th of July, inclusive, as given in official despatches:—"Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force arrived at Tsz-tung-kang on the 11th instant, and a detachment under Major Suzuta was at once sent in the direction of Ta-pu-lin. This detachment formed a junction with Major Sato's force at Ta-li-wu. As for Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force, considerations of commissariat transport, and a reconnaissance of the enemy's condition, suggested the advisability of a direct advance against Yun-lin. Orders were accordingly issued for a general advance on the 11th instant, the immediate programme being to cooperate with Major Matsui's two companies of infantry and one battery of artillery which had marched from Tai-tsi (Chip-chip) to drive out the rebels in the neighbourhood of Liu-pa-pu.

With regard to the movements of the Third Mixed Brigade in the Tai-tung district, Staff-Captain Shiba reported that the troops reached Hwa-lien river on the 5th instant; that 200 Chinese soldiers surrendered to them; that Liu's followers as well as the remnant of the brigands were practically broken; that the operation of seizing arms and ammunition was now going on, and that order had been restored in the country between the Hwa-lien river and Pi-nan-hsien.

On the 13th instant, Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force, having encountered but slight resistance, entered Yun-lin and Teu-liu. It was ascertained that some 400 rebels were lying concealed in a bamboo grove about 2,000 metres distant, and artillery was used to drive them out.

On the 14th Liu-pa-pu was taken, and a junction was effected there with Major Matsui's force, which had marched from Nan-tow *via* Chio-shui. Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's troops halted for a time in Liu-pa-pu and Yun-lin.

Pu-li-sho having been invested several days previously by a large force of rebels, and the garrison having been compelled to retreat to Peh-kang-chi, the commandant of the Brigade ordered Captain Ishizuka to recover the post, Major Matsui's force being directed to move against it at the same time *via* Tsi-tsi (Chip-chip) and Shui-sho.

On the afternoon of the 10th instant a body of rebels attacked Chia-i but were driven off, and the country in the neighbourhood of Tai-nan was reported quiet.

The casualties in the above operations were: At Nan-tsu, on the 13th instant, 2 killed and 4 wounded; at Liu-pa-pu on the 14th instant, 4 wounded; at Peh-kang-chi, also on the 14th instant, 1 man killed and 2 (including a gendarme), wounded.

Concerning Formosa, we find in the *Yiji Shimpō* an article so sensible and statesmanlike that our readers can not fail to be interested in it:—"In order to give to Formosa the blessings of secure life and property and to establish there public place and good order, measures must be taken, first, for completing the land and sea defences; secondly for constructing roads; thirdly, for improving and protecting the harbours; fourthly, for building railways and erecting telegraphs; fifthly, for inaugurating works of sanitation; sixthly, for opening regular lines of steam communication by sea; and seventhly, for organizing an efficient force of police and gendarmes. All these things will require an expenditure of over a hundred million *yen*, to meet which the income now derived from the island is totally inadequate. On the other hand, the economical conditions now existing in Japan do not warrant the withdrawal of so much money from the national treasury; the country can not afford more than to contribute a certain sum annually towards the achievement of the desired result. How many years would be needed to complete the work in that manner? It is to be feared that the development of the island's resources could never be completed. If, for example, bandits raise an insurrection as they have just done, they can, of course, be easily subdued for the moment by employing military force; but what then? Experience has shown that police and gendarmes are not competent to preserve the public peace or to prevent such disturbance, and the bandits, taking advantage of that state of affairs, defy the administrative authority of Japan. There are certain foreign countries that have long turned longing eyes upon Formosa and are most anxious to gain possession of it. If, in view of these repeated disturbances and failures to administer the island, the world finally decides that Japan is not competent to hold it, what a bitter disgrace that will be to her. Were it really true that the Japanese are thus incompetent in practical affairs, there would be no help for it, but in truth the question is wholly one of finance: if money were forthcoming the necessary measures could be adopted at once. It is essentially a case for the Japanese to show what kind of stuff they are made of. As to finding the required funds, it has to be acknowledged that hundreds of millions of *yen*

are not to be lightly spoken of. To impose such a burden upon the people is out of the question for the moment. The only feasible course is for the Government to take the really bold step of raising a loan, domestic and foreign, on the security of the island. If Formosa be placed in pledge, there would be no difficulty in obtaining hundreds of millions of *yen*. Foreigners would be delighted to go in for such an investment. Then, if with the funds thus procured the requisite measures were resolutely inaugurated, they could be carried within sight of completion in five or six years. But supposing that after spending so much money and taking such pains, the results obtained were comparatively insignificant, then the Japanese would have no one to blame but themselves. It would have been conclusively demonstrated that they are without capacity for colonizing or administering countries beyond the sea. They would have to resign themselves to that fact, sell Formosa, pay off the debt, and wash their hands of the whole affair. The basis of territorial aggrandisement is profit. If it be practically demonstrated that no profit can be secured by holding a place, then there is no occasion to hold it. To continue the wavering, half-hearted measures adopted up to the present in Formosa, is merely to incur the reproach of administrative incompetence and to bring humiliation on the country. Now is the time to come to a final decision on the subject.

August 5.

Further movements of the Japanese troops in Formosa are officially detailed by telegraph. They make a veritable Xenophon's *anabasis*, though the good old Greek never perplexed, however much he wearied, us with his "parasangs" and "stadia," whereas these Formosan records are both tiresome and tangled. However, as we have kept our readers up to date thus far, it will be well to continue the history.

A telegram dated 12.30 p.m. on the 27th July, says:—"Major Naito's force—two companies of infantry and a detachment of engineers—left Liu-pa-pu on the 26th, and cleared the rebels out of the district along the upper part of the Tsin-shui, through a distance of some 17 miles. At the same time the two companies under Major Suzuta were to conduct a second search in the neighbourhood of Tai-hei-mo. There has been nothing unusual to report with respect to Pu-li-sho since the date of the last telegrams. A certain number of rebels are daily captured. No rebels remain in or about Yun-lin, or in the lowlands."

Another telegram, dated 4.10 p.m. on the 30th July, says:—"On the 27th instant, Major Suzuta's force marched out of Yun-lin, and Major Naito's out of Liu-pa-pu, and the two, acting in co-operation, drove the rebels out of the uplands of To-wan, and came together again in Yun-lin on the 29th. The casualties during this operation were Surgeon Kuwabara and 6 non-commissioned officers and men killed, and Lieutenant Toyama, Ensign Akimoto, and 27 non-commissioned officers and men wounded. On the same day (29th) a small force of rebels again attacked Liu-pa-pu, but they were driven back by the garrison. It would appear that the inhabitants of the Liu-pa-pu and Ta-ping-tung districts are all rebels, and that resistance is to be everywhere expected in that quarter. Up to to-day, the total casualties in Lieut.-Colonel Imahashi's force have been 115 killed and wounded."

In the *Tokyo Asahi* it is stated that the Peninsular and Oriental S.S. Company applied for permission to establish a service of steamers between Kobe, Nagasaki, Kelung, and Hongkong, but the Japanese Authorities refused the application, being anxious that the service should be undertaken by Japanese ships.

The same journal says that very possibly the Government may decide to issue Formosan Bonds, placing them on the Home and Foreign markets, in order to procure funds for the speedy and thorough development of the island.

ARMS USED BY THE REBELS IN FORMOSA.

In the *Yiji Shimpō* we find a statement purporting to be a report compiled by certain Japanese officials who had received orders to make inquiries as to the source from whence the rebels in Formosa obtained arms. The report runs thus:—"Having been instructed to watch the movements of Lin Chao-tung, Lin Toh-hsin, and U O-chin, we found, after continuous observation, that Chao-tung opened a shop by the sea-shore in Yen-hai-tsun, and that Toh-hsin and O-chin were despatched to Canton and Hongkong, where, in the course of a month, they obtained several hundreds of pistols and carbines which they caused to be packed in boxes for purposes of transport. Their professed business being to trade in deer-skins with the native tribes, they caused three boats manned by natives to leave the island, for the purpose of receiving the arms, but what part of the coast they chose for landing, we have not been able to find out. It appears that they arrived from the south with the weapons towards the end of June, and succeeded in getting them transhipped at some Chinese port, the name of which all our endeavours have failed to elicit. They had procured 600 breech-loading carbines of German make and 300 pistols, together with a supply of ammunition. Both pistols and carbines were packed in boxes and sent by junks, and although we have not been able to ascertain the port at which they were transhipped for Formosa, our information goes to show that they were transferred to three small junks which had left Formosa for the purpose, under the command of the rebel leaders Hu Lin and U Lin, 10 carbines or pistols being packed in one box. These small junks were able, with a southerly wind, to run over from the neighbourhood of Chung-wu in some 5 hours."

COUNT MUTSU.

Count Mutsu is expected to return to Japan by the mail reaching Yokohama on the 18th instant. Many people imagined that His Excellency's stay in Honolulu would be much longer, or, at all events, that he would not take the risk of spending any portion of the very hot season in this country. But Count Mutsu himself never contemplated a long absence from Japan. We learn that on the outward voyage His Excellency's health showed marked improvement, and that, during his sojourn in Hawaii, the improvement has been fairly continuous, though not so conspicuous. It seems a pity that the Count cannot persuade himself to abandon politics completely for a year or so, when he would be able to re-enter the Cabinet with health fully restored. There can be no such thing as entire rest for a man of his prominence so long as he is in Japan.

FLOODS AND THE RICE CROP.

A letter from Niigata states that the recent inundations appear to have done so much damage to rice-fields that the harvest will be reduced to something less than half a usual crop. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpō*, from which we take the above information, states that such a reduction in the crop is difficult to believe, but that Tokyo and Hokkaido, which import some 350,000 *koku* of rice from Echigo annually, will certainly be unable to obtain that quantity from the inundated province this year. The Prefect of Niigata, Mr. Asada, once Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, has done wisely in issuing instructions to the local officials to advise rice dealers not to export their grain until the misery of the poor sufferers has been alleviated to a reasonable extent. Mr. Asada states that unless such a course is taken the poor and starving will rise against the rice merchants, whom they at no time love.

THE CABINET AND FOREIGNERS.

The *Kokumin* has a curious article on the subject of the present Cabinet and foreigners. "The Ito Cabinet," we read, "is clever in pleasing foreigners, but unskilled in using them for its own purposes. Hence it meets with many *contresens* in its foreign policy. The Russians in Korea have succeeded in employing for their own purposes not a few Americans and other foreigners. In China, they have Germans, Americans, and Danes working in their interests. Have we not seen how, in the Chefoo affair, they made use of an American. When China was about to engage an English naval officer as chief organizer of her new navy, Russia interfered, and compelled her to employ a Dane. Moreover, the Russian Government pays money from the secret service fund to editors of foreign newspapers and periodicals and gets them to advocate the Russian cause. The remarkable success of Russia's foreign policy is due not merely to her diplomatic skill in treating international questions, but also to the fact that she has so many allies and supporters in all parts of the world. The methods pursued by the Ito Cabinet suggest that to show friendship towards the Representatives of the Great Powers is deemed sufficient. We see no evidence of any attempt to make use of the services of foreigners so that Japan's interests may be boldly pushed. Had our Government made skillful use of foreigners in Korea, things would not have fallen into their present evil condition for Japan, even though an alliance with foreign Powers might not have proved possible. Did not the indifferent treatment shown by our officials towards Creelman, the *World's* correspondent, result in the circulation of damaging statements about atrocities committed at Port Arthur? Had proper steps been taken to utilize that correspondent, no such disgraceful intelligence would have found its way into print. So in the case of Mr. Beckett, a member of the British House of Commons, that visited Japan: he was not treated with sufficient hospitality, and consequently when he returned to England he spoke ill of Japan, alleging that Japan's victories over China were due entirely to the latter's weakness, and could not be taken as any indication of Japan's fighting capacity. Yet again, when Mr. Porter came here lately as a delegate of the Republican Party in America to conduct inquiries of the greatest moment to Japan, since they must affect the question whether or no Japanese manufactures should be excluded from the United States, special steps should have been taken to treat him courteously, but the matter was neglected. It would seem that the Ito Cabinet either looks up to or dreads foreigners, but as to using them adroitly in the interests of the country, we observe nothing of the kind. Such incapacity suggests little hope that the country's proper place among the nations will be secured or its prestige asserted."

The *Kokumin* seems to be slightly at fault. Probably it is right, in the main, about Mr. Creelman. If that gentleman's estimate of a special correspondent's importance had received practical recognition in Japan, if he had been specially presented to the Emperor, as he desired, and otherwise bowed down to, the Port Arthur atrocities might have remained an unwritten page of history. But Mr. Beckett's case was different. He told one story to the Japanese in Tokyo, and has been telling, the telegraph says, a different story in London. Of course he had a perfect right to change his opinion. We do not venture to suggest that he deserves blame for doing so. We merely note the plain inference that his treatment by the Japanese can not have had anything to do with his conclusions about the lessons of the war, since he must have modified those conclusions after he left Tokyo. It is very strongly to be doubted, however, whether he really used the language attributed to him by the telegraph. Mr. Porter belongs to a wholly different category. He came here simply to boom protection by demonstrating that the United States have still need of that vicious system in order to prevent fatal competition on the part of Oriental industries. His business was to vitalize that

skeleton, and no treatment accorded to him here would have turned him from his purpose.

JAPANESE ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.

While the Opposition papers are wrangling over the alleged concessions to Japan contained in the Treaty of Shimonoseki and the Treaty of Commerce, shrewd Japanese merchants are pushing their enterprises in China, according to the latest correspondence the *Fiji* has received from its Shanghai correspondent. The pioneer in the new field is an oil refinery firm managed by Mr. Shirakawa Shinji, the raw material used being cotton seed. From July of last year this enterprising Japanese began to undertake the work. He succeeded after much difficulty in leasing a plot of ground in the American settlement, at Shanghai, and set up a plant. But it was not until April last that he put his machinery in motion, the market rate of cotton-seed leaving fallen by that time to what he considered a paying figure. At present some 25 Japanese are employed, but these will be increased shortly by a batch of fifteen workmen. The Refinery now yields in 24 hours 3 *koku* of refined oil, which the proprietor intends to sell at Shanghai for kitchen use, for though quotations for this oil at Osaka are now about 24 *yen* per *koku*, as against 21 *yen* at Shanghai, he thinks it more profitable to place the oil on the latter market. He intends to ship home the oil-cake. Mr. Shirakawa at the outset encountered trouble with the Chinese Authorities, as indeed he anticipated. The oil refined by him is so strikingly superior to the discoloured and sticky oil hitherto manufactured by the Chinese, that it awakened the jealousy of the latter, who, in their usual way, caused the Authorities to issue an edict prohibiting the use of pure refined oil in the preparation of food, on the alleged pretext that it was injurious to health. The Taotai even ordered the seizure of oil purchased from the refinery. Mr. Shinagawa protested that his oil did not contain lime, that it was perfectly harmless, and succeeded in getting back the seized oil. The capital invested in the business is a little over 10,000 *yen*, and as yet the Refinery is not subjected to any tax other than the ordinary duties on industry. What those duties are we do not understand.

The Tokiwa Spinning Mill, projected by a number of Osaka capitalists, has concluded a contract to purchase a plot of ground in Shanghai measuring over 12,000 *tsudo*. The ground being low, the proprietor, according to the stipulations, is to raise it to a certain level, before the transfer is effected. The earthwork is to be completed in greater part during the current month, and the Company expects to commence the erection of the first shop and subsidiary buildings early next month. The company is specially eager to hasten the erection of the buildings as the mills projected by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and others are more than half completed. The Company has purchased another plot of ground over against the site occupied by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s Mill and has obtained the title-deeds. The ground, however, being a graveyard, objections have been raised against its use, and the matter is now before the local law court. It is expected, however, that the work of preparation will begin early next year, and the mill will be set in operation by April or May next.

Messrs. Miyake Zenzaburo and Shiraiwa Ryuei have projected a towage business between Shanghai and several newly open ports on the Yangtze-kiang. The former started this business in conjunction with certain Chinese in whose name the ships were registered. On her first cruise, when the first vessel arrived at a port up the stream, she was seized by the Chinese Authorities. The reason for such procedure is not clear. Mr. Shiraiwa's scheme has received the approval of the Japanese Consul, but the consent of the Chinese Customs is not likely to be obtained so readily.

ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL TOPICS.

A certain business-man of note, writes the *Mainichi*, entertains doubt as to the benefit that the free import of machinery into China will confer on Japan. The insertion of this clause in the Treaty of Shimonoseki is traceable to the trouble that Japan previously experienced in China in connection with the import of spinning machinery. The Chinese Government objected to its import, and though Mr. Otori, then Japanese Representative in Peking, repeatedly opened negotiations on the subject with the Chinese Government, no definite issue was arrived at. Warned by this experience, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries obliged Earl Li to assent to the insertion of the clause in the Treaty of Shimonoseki. But, asks this business-man, did they really think at that time that the insertion of such a provision would prove beneficial to Japan? Did it not enter into their minds that the development of the spinning industry in China would seriously impair that of Japan, for China commands almost inexhaustible supplies of the cheapest labour? The position might be viewed with equanimity if Japan were able to supply the machinery needed by China, but at her present stage of development she cannot do much in that way, and the lion's share of benefit will fall to other Powers.

The Clock Factory in Osaka has thus far been unfortunate, not succeeding in realizing any profit. The losses in the first half-year are above 6,000 *yen*. The chief causes of the trouble are said to be the lack of hands and the consequent meagreness of output. In order to place the business of the Company on a better footing, it has been decided to reduce the salaries of the foreign experts and give them in compensation a small share out of the first profits. Moreover, it has been decided to gradually supersede foreign mechanics by Japanese.

The following is a return for the special commercial ports of Shimonoseki, Hakata, Kuchinotsu, Otaru, Yokkaichi, Moji, Karatsu, Misumi, Fushiki, Kushiuro, and Mororan, showing the business done in rice, barley, wheat, flour, coal, and sulphur:—

	Coal, Yen.	Rice, Yen.	Others, Yen.
1890	1,399,094	—	1,042
1891	1,757,212	487,478	—
1892	2,119,350	253,848	—
1893	2,937,921	1,114,009	487
1894	4,489,723	542,507	43
1895	5,173,552	764,324	198
1896 (1st half)	2,942,080	1,347,756	291

In coal Moji, Kuchinotsu, and Shimonoseki stand far above the others, while rice is exported from Shimonoseki, Moji, and Fushiki, the first port shipping the most.

THE NEW STAMPS.

It would seem as though the philatelic mania had bitten Japan as sharply as it has bitten any other country, though we imagine that in the case of the Japanese it is chiefly a question of speculation. With the exception of pigs and rabbits, it is not on record that the people of Japan have ever developed any marked taste for an object neither artistic nor decorative. Why they took to pigs and rabbits with such gusto is a point remaining to be elucidated. Roses which followed rabbits, and orchids which succeeded roses, are intelligible fancies. But pigs and rabbits! To us, owing doubtless to some moral lacuna, stamps appear to belong to the same category as pigs and rabbits from an art collector's point of view, but they have so long held their place in public esteem that it seems futile to hope for their relegation to a becoming rank. The specimen stamps recently published by the *Official Gazette* were so eagerly bought up that within two days of the *Gazette's* issue, not a copy was to be obtained. We ourselves, though we had sufficient prescience to recommend our readers to buy these specimens, did not have sufficient energy to follow our own

advice, and thus we became speedily acquainted with the feverishness of the demand excited by the appearance of the official journal. We are informed, though we do not vouch for the truth of the story, that a certain Foreign Representative instructed his staff to purchase a hundred copies of the *Gazette* for him, but with difficulty secured ten. There was a similar rush for the stamps themselves when they were offered for sale on the morning of the 1st instant. All the stamps constituting the first batch issued by the Government were sold off by 8 o'clock, and the vendors had to procure new supplies. The reason of this haste was, of course, a desire to pass the stamps through the post on the first day of their issue. One-*sen* Silver-Wedding stamps bearing the postmark of the day of the celebration, now sell for ten *sen*; a margin of profit quite wide enough to tempt speculators in this country. We see no reason why similar value should attach to correspondence between passage through the post and date of issue in the case of the war-commemoration stamps, but other folk evidently think differently.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the number of the new war-commemoration stamps sold throughout the empire on the 1st instant—the day of issue—was 3,117,800, and that not a solitary stamp is now to be procured at any post office. Our contemporary says nothing as to the denominations of the stamps thus disposed of, but presumably the chief run would be upon the five-*sen* stamps, as only two millions each, or four millions in all, are to be issued of these. The demand for the stamps being still brisk, it has been decided that the next batch, consisting of 1,466,800, will be distributed very soon, but that the third batch will not be issued until November. It would be interesting to know what the Treasury nets by a transaction of this kind. The face value of the total issue—ten million two-*sen* stamps and four million five-*sen*—is four hundred thousand *yen*, of which certainly three hundred thousand ought to be pure profit.

AN ARMY SURGEON ON OPIUM.

Mr. Fujita, an Army Surgeon, in an interview with a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, stated that from a medical standpoint he cannot by any means agree with the prohibition of opium smoking in Formosa. The chief argument of those that advocate the prohibition of opium is their fear that the habit may be introduced among the Japanese; this fear in his opinion is utterly groundless. To quote the Surgeon's words:—"The people of Formosa and the Japanese are entirely different in nature. The former are dull and solitary, the latter active, gregarious and pleasure-seeking. Opium is enjoyed in the solitude of a close room. This form of pleasure therefore suits the Formosans well, but it would fail to attract the Japanese. *Saké* is best enjoyed in a group, amid the cracking of loud jokes and clatter of merry voices; it brings, so to speak, the social qualities into play; while opium gives pleasure to solitary men only. The Japanese delight in *saké* with its necessary concomitant, a merry crowd; they are by nature unsuited for the solitary vices of opium smoking." Proceeding to discuss the effect that opium has upon a man's life and the increased amount of labour he is able to perform in consequence of its use, the surgeon states that the drug has not the sustaining powers ignorantly attributed to it. He says that all the Chinese labourers of Formosa indulge in opium smoking twice or thrice a day. But the labours they perform, such as the carrying of sedan-chairs or palanquins over mountains and across rivers, or cultivating the soil under a burning sun, can undoubtedly be done equally well, if not better, by Japanese labourers, who do use not opium. It would really be advisable not to resort to prohibitory measures at once, but to find means whereby the bad habit can be prevented from reaching the young.

PROBABLE MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

The *Hochi* prints an article on some alleged facts foretold by a person who is said to be gifted in the art of political meteorology. It says that some changes in the Ministry may be expected within a fortnight or three weeks. The Tokyo paper is in high spirits at the prospect, and prints the following rumours respecting several Japanese statesmen, declaring them to be not entirely groundless. Marquis Ito, it says, is quite prepared to leave the Cabinet: although there is a strong suspicion that this is a rumour started by some interested people. The only possible candidates for the position of Prime Minister are Marquis Yamagata and Count Kabayama and Marquis Saigo. The Tokyo paper, commenting on this, says it seems very strange to be talking of a new premier while Marquis Ito is still in office. The new Foreign Minister has been decided upon, but the person that the Cabinet have selected has not yet given his consent. Marshal Marquis Yamagata will not make such high demands upon the Cabinet as the public are disposed to imagine, for various all sufficient reasons. The coalition known in Japanese politics as the Choshu Union, will again be formidable in the political world, especially in the cases of Marquis Yamagata and Count Inouye.

The reason why Viscount Takashima has not yet set out on a tour in Hokkaido must of course be chiefly due to the urgency of Formosan affairs. The Budget for the coming fiscal year is still in process of construction and this also engages the Viscount's attention. That two or three Ministers of State are fearful of losing their portfolios in the near future, and that these Ministers are just now busily engaged in paying calls on their elders, is patent to all the political world: they devote more attention to paying calls than to seeing the work of their Departments efficiently carried out. When a certain follower of Count Matsukata told him that a great personage of Satsuma extraction had said, "Matsukata gives me no small amount of trouble," the Count replied with a smile that he was already sixty years old. Such are the *Hochi's* political rumours. They seem to be chiefly remarkable for confusion and mystery.

COMPARISONS.

To show the quality of the information possessed by the An-ping correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, we may note that, writing under date of July 14th, he says:—"Confirmation has come to hand of the fall of Lok-kung into rebel hands." Now we know from Major-General Tatsumi's official despatches that the rebels made their attack on Lok-kung on July 8th, the very day on which the force sent from Taipei to quell the insurrection moved out of Chang-hwa, a town 7 miles due east of Lok-kung. After a protracted fight—protracted because Lok-kung had only a small garrison, no fear having been entertained that the insurgents would attempt its capture it in the face of a strong movement against their own fastnesses by the Japanese Brigade—the rebels were completely beaten back, leaving 100 dead upon the field, and the next morning re-inforcements entered the town. Thenceforth the expeditionary force drove the rebels steadily from place to place, and by the 14th the insurrection was virtually crushed. Yet on that very day the *Hongkong* journal's correspondent talks of "confirmation having come to hand of the fall of Lok-kung into rebel hands." Evidently his Chinese informants are ill-supplied with trustworthy news.

The *North-China Herald's* Amoy correspondent says that, during the first six days of the rebellion, 210 Japanese were killed at three places, and a general slaughter took place at three others. Now we know from Japanese official reports that, up to the date of the latest advices (July 20th), the casualties on the Japanese side totalled 51 killed and 73 wounded. Evidently the Chinese informants of this correspondent also are ill-supplied with trustworthy news.

CABINETS.

As a certain interest attaches to the public's idea of the manner in which the statesmen of the day are likely to group themselves, we reproduce three hypothetical cabinets suggested by the *Kokumin Shimbun*:

MARQUIS ITO AND HIS ADHERENTS.

Prime Minister—Marquis Ito.
Minister of Foreign Affairs—Count Inouye.
Minister of Home Affairs—Count Itagaki.
Minister of Finance—Count Matsukata.
Minister of War—Marquis Oyama.
Minister of the Navy—Marquis Saigo.
Minister of Agriculture & Commerce—Baron Ito.
Minister of Communications—Viscount Watanabe.
Minister of Justice—Viscount Yoshikawa.
Minister of Education—Marquis Saionji.
Minister of Colonization—Viscount Takashima.

CABINET OF COMPROMISE.

Prime Minister—Marquis Yamagata.
Minister of Foreign Affairs—Count Okuma.
Minister of Home Affairs—Count Inouye.
Minister of Finance—Count Matsukata.
Minister of War—Marquis Oyama.
Minister of the Navy—Marquis Saigo.
Minister of Education—Count Itagaki.
Minister of Communications—Count Goto.
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce—Viscount Enomoto.

Minister of Justice—Viscount Yoshikawa.
Minister of Colonization—Viscount Takashima.

CABINET OF ALL THE POLITICAL PARTIES.

Prime Minister—Marquis Yamagata.
Minister of Foreign Affairs—Count Okuma.
Minister of Home Affairs—Count Inouye.
Minister of Finance—Count Matsukata.
Minister of War—Marquis Oyama.
Minister of the Navy—Count Kabayama.
Minister of Education—Count Itagaki.
Minister of Communications—Mr. Shirane.
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce—Viscount Shinagawa.
Minister of Justice—
Minister of Colonization—Viscount Takashima.

TREATY REVISION.

The *Fiji Shimpō* says that the work of Treaty Revision is now practically concluded with nearly all the Great Powers. Signatures have actually been appended in the cases of England, the United States, Germany, Russia, Denmark, and Belgium, and it is expected that the French and Dutch Treaties will be signed within a week, agreement having been come to on every point and the drafts having been accepted. There will then remain only Austria-Hungary, Switzerland, Spain, and Portugal. Negotiations with Austria-Hungary are already progressing, in the hands of Mr. Takahira, and do not promise to present any difficulties. The *Fiji* remarks that as the increased rates of import duties will be leviable immediately after the conclusion of the last treaty, it is to be hoped that all possible expedition will be employed, so as to get the whole business settled before the close of this year.

FOREIGN EXPERTS FOR THE IRON FOUNDRY.

We read in the *Tokyo Shimpō* that the journey of Mr. Oshima—a well known Japanese mechanical engineer—to Europe is for the purpose of selecting and making an agreement with the two foreign experts who are to be employed in the new Iron Foundry. Permission to engage these gentlemen and an appropriation on account of their salaries and travelling expenses were voted in the last session of the Diet. We do not know why the expense should be incurred of sending a professional man specially to Europe to engage them: the Japanese Government surely has correspondents that might be trusted to that extent. Probably Mr. Oshima's mission is connected with some other business also.

A process for separating gold from sea-water at a cost of \$1 for each \$10,000 of metal obtained, every ton of water yielding 2 to 4 cents worth gold, is claimed by Prof. Hunnicke. The calculated mass of the ocean being 1,320,000,000,000,000 tons, the possibilities of this new source of wealth are open to computation.

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

ANOTHER account, of considerable length, has now been published with reference to the alleged atrocities committed by the Japanese in Formosa. It is from the pen of "an occasional correspondent" of the *Hongkong Telegraph*. He writes from Anping, and in common with the correspondents whose letters have already been referred to in these columns, he derives his information wholly from Chinese sources. On the other hand, we ourselves being without any intelligence except that furnished by the Japanese, which we put aside for the moment, nothing remains but to scrutinise the tales obtained by these foreign correspondents from their Chinese informants. Doing so, we find that the gravest contradictions exist, and that all are disfigured alike by obviously incredible assertions.

The first correspondence—commented on by us yesterday—made Hoon-nim (Yun-lin) the scene of the disturbance, and said that the trouble had its origin in depredations committed by bandits having their fastnesses in the hills. A party of Japanese soldiers sent to rout out these bandits, fell into an ambuscade, and failed to accomplish their object, whereupon they turned their arms against the peaceful villages lying along the base of the hills, and destroyed from 70 to 90 of them, together with several farmsteads, killing every one of the inhabitants and burning the villages. Driven thus to desperation, the people joined the hill bandits, and the whole swept down into the plain, attacking Hoon-nim, in the first place, and then taking town after town till they reached Khaghi. Now, in the latest account (*Hongkong Telegraph*) Hoon-nim and hill bandits disappear altogether. The scene is laid at a totally different place, Tau-lak, and the story commences with an incident that would be extravagant even in the pages of BOMBASTES FURIOSO. On the night of June 20th, burglars break into a Chinese shop. Next day, the inhabitants of the town warn the Japanese gendarmes that a similar burglary will probably be again committed. The gendarmes taken no notice. On the night of the 22nd the expected burglary comes off; still the gendarmes take no notice. "Encouraged by this carelessness" another burglary is planned for the night of the 23rd. But on this third occasion, a Japanese shop being the projected victim, "steps are taken to prevent any possible attempt on the part of the gendarmes to come to the assistance of their countrymen." What are the "steps"? "A lighted torch is put at the gate of the gendarmes's office and a strong guard is posted in the opposite house." That is quite enough to terrify Japanese gendarmes! They confine themselves to peering over the high wall that surrounds their quarters. But, the next day, these

gendarmes, whom a lighted torch and the semblance of some Chinese robbers in an opposite house had sufficed to scare into inaction, suddenly wake up and arrest every one they can find, to the number of 200. These things happen on the 24th. "Petitions are then sent in by the friends of some of those arrested, giving security, and about 150 are released, but the rest are beheaded without trial." All done in one day: two hundred persons arrested; a hundred and fifty petitions received and examined; a hundred and fifty persons released and fifty beheaded! Moreover, on that very same day, a party of thirty-five soldiers is sent out upon the most colossal raid in history. There is no mistake about the number, 35, for we are explicitly told that when this same party was ultimately attacked and exterminated by the infuriated Chinese, it aggregated 60, having received a reinforcement of 25 in the interval. Observe what this squad of 35 giants accomplish. Between the 24th and the 29th they burn more than 70 villages, and massacre all the inhabitants, men, women, and children. Nothing so stupendous has ever been recorded outside the pages of a fairy tale. Finally they arrive at Lim-kee-poo. But they do not burn it. They send for the most influential man and "demand of him the surrender of the robbers." What robbers? We have hitherto had no hint that the 35 Japanese are in pursuit of a band of robbers: we have been led to suppose that they are engaged simply on a raid for burning villages and massacring innocent folks. And observe what the head-man of Lim-kee-poo is represented as answering. "He replies that he can not give up the robbers, as he is not in a position to fight them in their stronghold, and moreover his town is as much in fear of them as any other." So then it is a question of hill bandits after all, and bandits of such a character that every town in the plain is in dread of them. These bandits, their stronghold, and the headman's expression of fear ought to have been kept out of the story. However, the 35 giants threaten that they will burn the town unless the robbers are given up. At first the citizens don't believe the threat, for there is foreign property in the place, and foreign property is sacred. But the arrival of a reinforcement of 25 gendarmes dispels this hope, especially since the new comers "are hidden in a private building." Why they went into hiding we are not told, neither is it easy to divine. But that is only one among the many mysteries of the tale; not at all more curious than the notion that men who had been burning villages at the rate of 20 per diem for four consecutive days, should have hesitated 24 hours before adding another to the list. The 25 men in hiding settle the question. The citizens seeing no chance of saving their town otherwise, fall upon the Japanese and kill 49 out of the

60. Eleven escape, and what men they were these eleven! Flying for their lives from Lim-kee-poo to Tau-lak, "they shoot every native they meet, whether man, woman, or child." Considering that they have just burned down 70 villages in the very district through which they are now flying, and massacred all the inhabitants, men, women, and children, there ought not to be many left to slaughter. It is not usual, too, that half a score of men in such a dire plight should exhibit such ferocious aggressiveness. However, we had a precisely similar story during the insurrection last January: Chinese invention evidently is not fertile. After this slaughter by the flying eleven, "the rebels kill every Japanese they catch." "From Lim-kee-poo the rebellion spreads from village to village as each sees the futility of expecting Japanese mercy, and realizes that unless they rise and follow the example of Lim-kee-poo, they will meet the same fate as the others." What a region for villages, to be sure! Over 70 have been laid in ashes, but there remain an apparently limitless number. The villagers are "an unorganized rabble." Here let the correspondent speak for himself:—

To show that the rebellion was not a pre-arranged one, but one to which the rebels have been deliberately goaded by a continual system of cruel, inhuman, and barbarous oppression, I might point out that there is no supreme chief, the headman of each village being the leader of the inhabitants thereof. Their actions are individual, each village doing its own work in killing all the Japanese it can lay hold of, for mere self-preservation. As soon as one village has done its part, its headman writes a letter to the next, reminding the village of what awaits it unless its inhabitants rise, and asking them to do their "duty." So the word has gone from village to village, until now, that is twelve days after the commencement of the rebellion, the following towns have fallen into the hands of the Chinese:—Pai-li-chia, Po-tan-ah, Tau-lak, Lam-tau, Chiangwha (reported, but not yet confirmed) Hun-lin, Lim-kee-poo, Tung-twa-tun, Chui-tong-hun, Tar-lee-boo, Twa-pai-nar, and Lok-kung (reported, but not yet confirmed). The rebels are now advancing in three parties or columns, one going north, another west towards the coast, and the third south towards Tainanfoo, from which it is now only 55 miles distant.

At the beginning of the above paragraph the rebels are an unorganized rabble, each village acting for itself and doing its killing on its own account. At the end of the paragraph, the whole of the villagers are advancing in three columns, one going north, another west, and the third south! Then there are other marvellous tales: how any coolie not strong enough to carry the sick and wounded is beheaded; how sixty men are beheaded because they use the corners of the streets as closets, and so forth, one tale after another each more wild than the last. If any of these things are to be credited, they must at least be embodied in a story not intrinsically ridiculous. We repeat that we do not profess to know what has really happened, but until we have some better authority than Chinese rumours, abounding in evident impossibilities, inconsistencies, and exaggerations, we intend to reserve judgment.

YOKOHAMA RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

IT is decidedly unpleasant, but perhaps wholesome, for the Railway Authorities to hear complaints of the nature now preferred against their employés at the Yokohama station. "An Old Resident" has sent to the *Japan Gazette*, and Dr. ELDRIDGE has addressed to us, letters that decidedly call for attention. It is true that in the case described by "Old Resident," right was technically on the side of the Yokohama ticket-collector. A lady missed the connecting train that should have carried her direct from Akabane, on the Japan Railway Company's line, to Shinagawa on the State line between Tokyo and Yokohama. Thus her only method of avoiding a night's detention was to push on from Akabane to Tokyo, drive across to the Shinagawa terminus of the Tokyo-Yokohama line, and there enter the train for Yokohama. Sometimes that route is deliberately chosen by persons wishing to break the journey in Tokyo. But they are of course obliged to purchase a fresh ticket at Shimbashi in order to ride thence to Yokohama, for a through ticket over the roads of the Japan Railway Company and of the State is issued on the supposition that its holder strikes the State line at a station (Shinagawa) nearer than Shimbashi to Yokohama. Under ordinary circumstances, no traveller provided with a through ticket from Karuizawa (the place where the lady entered the train) to Yokohama, would be allowed to pass the wicket at Shimbashi by exhibiting such a ticket, unless an explanation were offered, when, as a matter of course, he or she would be expected, on arrival in Yokohama, to pay the fare from Shimbashi to Shinagawa. How the lady in question passed the wicket at Shimbashi we do not know. Unless she went through without showing her ticket at all, it is difficult to imagine how she could have escaped some inquiry and explanation. At all events, there is no manner of doubt that in Yokohama one of two courses only was properly open to her; either to pay the cost (a very few *sen*) of a second-class ride from Shimbashi to Shinagawa, or to ask for an interview with the station-master and lay her case before him. The ticket-collector could not have had any competence whatever to remit the additional payment technically due on her ticket. That discretion could have been exercised by the station-master only, in consideration of the fact that unpunctuality on the part of the Japan Railway Company's officials had compelled the lady to travel *via* Shimbashi. Had the ticket-collector accepted her ticket, he himself would have been responsible for the insufficient payment. Ignorant of that, the lady, according to the account given by "An Old Resident," declined to pay, when asked by the ticket-collector, and added, more-

over, that she ought to receive the difference between the cost of her *jinrikisha* ride across Tokyo and the price of a ticket from Shimbashi to Shinagawa. What happened then? Did the lady endeavour to force her way through the wicket? Very likely she did, since she supposed herself to be sinned against rather than sinning. But if she did so, what course was the ticket-collector to take? These are questions that our readers can answer for themselves. The fact is, however, that something in the nature of a struggle ensued, and the unfortunate lady, already wearied and worn out by a long, tedious journey, had her bundles shaken out of her arms, to the serious detriment of her lunch-basket's fittings. Of course, the first feeling of every one hearing the story is indignation that a petty railway official should have ventured to lay hands on a lady. Had any Englishman been present at the time, the official would probably have had painful cause to rue his rough zeal. But the incident requires a little more careful consideration. Transfer the scene to England, for example. Is it conceivable that a lady travelling in England would defy the verdict of a ticket-collector at a wicket, and attempt to pass the wicket by means of a disputed ticket? However firm might be her belief in the justice of her case, she would quietly ask to see the station-master, or agree to observe any other routine prescribed by the ticket-collector. But that is not the rule of conduct observed by all foreigners in Japan, and allowance must be made for the fact when difficulties arise. We ourselves have seen a party of foreigners utterly refuse, and persist in their refusal, to show their tickets to a railway guard because they had not been accustomed to have them examined at the station where the demand was preferred. Such arbitrary conduct would not be thought of in Europe or America. On the other hand, there is not the least doubt that Japanese often exhibit towards foreigners a demeanour that would be absolutely rude were their own countrymen concerned. Here is an instance, the more apposite in that it relates to these very railway employés in Yokohama. One night, a foreigner went to the station-master's office and asked whether the departure of the next Tokyo train was likely to be delayed. The answer was given civilly enough, but as the foreigner closed the door of the office, one of the employés called out "*gooro naito*," and the sally elicited a chorus of laughter from his fellows. Now as to the abstract fact of being bidden "good night," by whatever degree of person, no one would be such a churl as to complain. But had a Japanese traveller entered the railway office under similar circumstances, not a man there would have dreamed of saying "*sayonara*" or "*oyasuminasai*" to him as he went out. Such a greeting would have been grossly rude, and the manner in which the thing

was done in the case we are describing was distinctly insolent. As an almost invariable rule the treatment experienced by foreigners on railways in Japan is essentially courteous and obliging: too much so, indeed, for we have more than once heard Japanese complain that no such attention is ever paid to them as to foreign travellers. In Yokohama, however, the case appears to be different. The employés of the railway seem to have lost something of their natural courtesy, and to have replaced it with a little of the rough and bumptious spirit characteristic of open-port Japanese in general and of Yokohama Japanese in particular. We shall not pursue the subject. There is a loss of the sense of proportion in taking, as the theme for a long dissertation, one or two rare exceptions to a general rule of great civility and helpfulness. The interest of the question lies, however, not in the incidents themselves, but in the relations they suggest, and it is for the purpose of directing attention to these that we write. The incident described by Dr. ELDRIDGE belongs to a different category. We fail altogether to discover any explanation, and can only hope that the railway authorities will make a searching investigation. Possibly it would be advisable to arrange so that a longer interval shall elapse between the sale of tickets and the departure of the train, though we have never before heard of any such difficulty as that described by our correspondent.

THE DOSHISHA.

WE print elsewhere the letter addressed by the President of the Doshisha to the Prudential Committee of the American Board Mission. The letter has not been published previously. It may be well to explain, although the facts are probably known to many of our readers, that the Doshisha is an educational institution in Kyoto almost attaining the dimensions of a university. It was conceived, many years ago, by an eminent Japanese Christian, the Rev. JOSEPH NISHIMO (commonly written "Neeshima"), who succeeded in enlisting the sympathies and coöperation of the American Board Mission, and thus obtained not only funds to erect several handsome and commodious buildings, but also the assistance of a large staff of thoroughly competent foreign instructors. No one residing in Japan needs to be told about the quality of the men sent to the Far East by the American Board; they are worthy of all praise. The Doshisha prospered from the outset, and grew, after a time, to be one of the most respected educational institutions in the empire. But there was always in its constitution an element inevitably destined to become a stumbling block. This element it shared with many similar institutions established by foreign missions in Japan, and the story

of the Doshisha consequently derives larger interest from its bearings on the general field of missionary enterprise. Are such institutions intended primarily for educational purposes, or does the idea of propagandism enter appreciably into their origin? The question can not be lightly answered. When we consider the fact that each of the great sects of Christianity has established in Japan a school, or college, supported by the funds of the sect, conducted under the auspices of the sect, and having its faculty chiefly composed of members of the sect, it becomes difficult to suppose that propagandism is not a prime object. On the other hand, whatever differences of dogma may hold men apart, all can agree on the value of education as a means of elevating mankind, and from that point of view it is easy to believe that the schools and colleges established under missionary auspices in Japan, are honestly intended to be vehicles of general culture rather than instruments of propagandism. But they can never be purely secular institutions. They can never be devoted to intellectual development only. The people that pay for their establishment and support expect that they shall contribute to the spread of Christianity, and the men engaged as teachers are impelled by conscience and conviction alike to conduct the moral instruction of the students on Christian lines. The natural result has been that these institutions have actually proved a potent means of winning converts, as many as a hundred, or even a hundred and fifty of their students being baptised into one form or another of the Christian faith every year. But although it has been customary with some critics to charge the Japanese with being purely imitative, the criticism certainly does not find justification in the field of religion. There the nation has shown a determination to think for itself, and has declined, for the most part, to answer PILATE'S great question as orthodox Christianity would have it answered. This independent tendency was bound to display itself in the schools, and it did so at the Doshisha, producing a dilemma of much perplexity. One of the Professors, himself a graduate of the college and a man of brilliant parts, possessing a powerful pen and remarkable eloquence as a speaker, broke away from the tenets of orthodoxy, accepting HEGEL'S conception of GOD, refusing to acknowledge the divinity of CHRIST in the ordinary acceptance of the term, and regarding the immortality of the soul, not as an unquestionable fact, but merely as the universal hope of humanity. These doctrines he enunciated from the platform—not from his professorial chair, which had nothing to do with theology—and the question at once arose, could it be maintained that an institution where such philosophy found free expression, was an instrument of

Christian education in the sense understood by the American Board Mission and by the persons subscribing for its support? The Missionaries answered in the negative, and required that the Professor should be dismissed. The Trustees of the Doshisha declined to accede. Their view of "moral culture founded on Christianity" did not exclude discussion of the great problems agitating human thought at the close of the nineteenth century, neither did they think that a man could not be a good Christian because he denied anthropomorphism, refused to regard CHRIST as anything more than the greatest ethical teacher of all time, and considered the immortality of the soul as an inborn hope, not as an established fact. The *impasse* thus created was of immense difficulty. On the one hand, the Trustees of the Doshisha could scarcely doubt that they were acting in the best interests of the college as an educational factor. Moreover, they thought that their attitude was in accordance with the spirit of Mr. NISHIMA, the founder of the institution, for in his public announcement at the time of establishing the college, that remarkable man had stated:—"We do not mean to establish this University in order to propagate Christianity; but as we are convinced that there is a living power in the principle of Christianity in moulding the spirit and conduct of our young men, we do mean to apply this principle in education, and to produce men whose character is formed by this principle. * * * This University is not the organ of any religion or of politics in any sense. And it is taken for granted that our object could not be attained by relying on the power of any one party or locality." It must have seemed to the Trustees that an announcement like the above precluded them from interpreting Christianity in the sense attached to it by any one sect, and that what they had to think of and hold by was the principles of the Christian religion not the technicalities of its creed. On the other hand, the missionaries of the American Board, looking at the matter from their point of view, could not be expected to concede the term "Christian" to a college where ideas like those of Professor UCHI-TA obtained enunciation, nor could they conscientiously associate themselves with the teaching faculty of such an institution. A Committee sent out from America to investigate the question did not accomplish anything, for while the members are understood to have satisfied themselves individually about the Christian character of the Doshisha, the Committee as a whole deemed it necessary, in deference to American public opinion, to require that the Trustees of the College should subscribe to certain indicated tenets, and the Trustees declared their inability to take any such step. In fact, while acknowledging that much of the success achieved by the Doshisha has been due to

foreign workers, the Japanese claim that the result would have been different had not their own moral teaching possessed the force derivable from personal conviction only; in other words, had not freedom of conscience been substituted for the routine of belief and conventionalism of exposition that impair, according to their view, the vitality of missionary propagandism in Japan. As to the great interest of the whole question, we need say nothing. Neither need we express any judgment about the points at issue. Our purpose is simply to state the case, giving due weight to the difficulties that confront both sides. An earnest effort to restore coöperation is said to be now on foot, but its success looks problematical. We may mention, in conclusion, that a paltry question of right of property, constituting a mere side issue, has been magnified by some critics into the main feature of the schism. Any one taking the trouble to read the explanations furnished by President KOZAKI'S letter will see that the action of the Doshisha Trustees in this matter does not offer any room for censure. For the rest, however the affair ends, we ourselves are persuaded that the Doshisha will continue to act as a powerful factor of Christian influence and moral culture in Japan.

"THE PRABUDDHA BHARATA,"
OR "AWAKENED INDIA."

IF Christianity did not count a single convert in Japan, its propagandists could still claim the great credit of having created a religious awakening in this country. Their attempts to destroy Buddhism have galvanized that religion into life, and although some may not regard such a result as a blessing, it is, nevertheless, a most undoubted blessing. In India, too, the old faiths appear to be blossoming into renewed youth. The esoteric doctrines, first presented to the Western world by Mr. SINNET, aroused men's keenest interest; then ensued a kind of Buddhist revival, counting apostles among earnest men in the Occident itself, and now we have the Hindu faith introducing itself bodily to public observation. *The Prabuddha Bharata*, the first copy of which lies before us, is the organ of the new movement. Curiously enough the editor of this interesting periodical tells us that to contact with Christianity Hinduism owes the stirring among its dry bones. "I came not to destroy but to fulfil" seems to be receiving its supreme verification at the close of the nineteenth century. "Christian Missionaries," says *The Prabuddha Bharata*, "in their eagerness to vilify the Hindu, have opened an ancient magic chest, the very smell of whose contents caused them to faint. Oriental scholars, the LIVINGSTONES of eastern literature, have unwittingly invoked a deity, which it was not in their power to

appease. As philologists are succeeded by philosophers, COLEBROOKS and CALDWELLS give birth to SCHOPENHAUERS and DEUSSENS. The white man and his fair lady stray into the Indian woods, and there come across the Hindu sage under the banyan tree. The hoary tree, the cool shade, the refreshing stream, and above all the hoarier, cooler, and the more refreshing philosophy that falls from his lips enchant them. The discovery is published; pilgrims multiply. A SANVASIN from our midst carries the altar fire across the seas. The spirits of the Upanishads makes a progress in distant lands. The procession develops into a festival. Its noise reaches Indian shores and behold! our motherland is awaking." Among the clashing of discordant creeds, the noisy war of intellect and faith, that has deprived our era of all sense of religious rest and confidence, the quiet, peaceful attitude in which Hinduism offers itself has an emphatic attraction. "Really speaking, all religions are simply different phases of the same Truth, different methods of approaching GOD. 'I am in all religions as the string in a pearl garland' says the LORD. What humanity is to man, what existence is to living beings, that, Vedantism is to religions: it is their common essence, their inner unity, and as such, it can possibly have no quarrel with the past. On the other hand, it approves of the existing differences, and even welcomes their multiplication, so that no man might be left godless for want of a religion suited to his nature."

Is that the true interpretation of the NAZARENE'S comforting assurance, "In my Father's house are many mansions"? We have sometimes thought so. Yet if men accepted such a doctrine, the result would surely be moral numbness. There can be no agreement to differ in a world of intellectual activity. The more sincerely and strongly each holds by his own creed, the more anxious must he be to win his brother to the same view. We shall never witness that reconciliation of faiths towards which so many good men are labouring to-day. Nor yet will the Japanese ever succeed in constructing for themselves a skeleton of Christianity, jointed and articulated in such strict accord with the dictates of moral science that all must agree to recognise and worship its cold perfection. Flesh and blood will be wanted sooner or later, and then by degrees will ensue the same discordant conceptions of form that are troubling the West so greatly. Buddhism and Hinduism—closely allied creeds—appeal momentarily, for the sake of their tolerance and restfulness, to minds tired of the clamour of dogmas and disgusted by the incongruous fierceness of mutual condemnation and bigotry of self-confidence that unessential variance of views has produced among men worshipping the same GOD and following the ethics of the same

JESUS. But civilized men are irrevocably condemned to intellectual warfare in matters outside the purely objective sphere. It would be very delightful could we hope to reach the ideal society of the Vedānta; "not a millenium upon earth, nor a reign of angels, where there will be nothing but thorough equality of men, and peace, and joy; but one where religious toleration, neighbourly charity, and kindness even to animals form the leading features, where the fleeting concerns of life are subordinated to the eternal, where man strives not to externalise, but to internalise, himself more and more, and the social organism moves, as it were, with a sure instinct towards GOD." Such a condition is impossible in this world. We are no nearer it to-day than our remote ancestors were when the Crown of Thorns was woven. There is no common creed large enough to hold all sorts and conditions of men within its pale; no universal balm for every conscience.

"Alone, each heart must cover up its dead;
Alone, through painful toil, work out its rest."

The Prabuddha Bharata may, perhaps, have a "mansion" for some still wandering in the wilderness of doubt. At all events it has much interest for every thoughtful person. It offers its teachings mainly in the form of stories. We select one by way of specimen. KRISHNA, wandering one moon-lit evening by the banks of the Jumna, accompanied by the gopis and RADHA RUKHMAIN and SATYABAMA, observes a dead calf. He tells the beautiful maidens that it can be restored to life if each of them will speak out sincerely what she most desires:—

This was agreed to, and the ladies began one after another to speak out their hearts. One gopi said 'I should most like to undisturbedly enjoy the music of thy magic flute, O, my Krishna! That I value above all others.' Another said 'I wish to swim with thee in this delightful moonlight in this Jumna which flows on like melted silver.' A third said 'I have always been longing, and desire is now intensified, O! Krishna, for as much independence as man has longing to set at naught all social superstitions about woman's modesty, weakness, and so forth, all of which merely mean woman's slavery, to wear male attire, and walk about with a stick in hand and shoes and turban just wherever I please. Woman's life, as it is, is simply a curse.' A fourth said 'I should like to be a rishi saying his prayers on the Himalayas and performing ablutions on evenings like these at the very birthplace of the Ganges.' Another said 'I wish to go about helping the poor, looking after the sick and the wounded and carry consolation and peace to desolate homes. What selfish enjoyment could be desired in this world so full of misery?' 'I should like to be a great orator' said another 'delivering, on evenings like these, eloquent speeches on the reform of society, advancement of civilisation, and so on, and be talked about everywhere.' 'These do not please me' said another, 'I should like to be the very harmony that reigns in this hour, the inner calm that pervades the world this splendid evening.' The turn passed on—one wanted wealth, another jewels, another beauty, and so on—till it came to Satyabama and she said 'my only wish, at all times, is to have you my Krishna, incomprehensible cunning Krishna, all for myself.' Then followed Radha saying 'Beautiful as our bodies are, I wish that we should cast them off and be the very Love that binds us both. I wish to be all Love and nothing else. There is nothing sweeter or more beautiful.' Last came Rukhmani's turn and she said, 'My Lord, what a curious drama you have caused in so short a time! All my sisters here have spoken the truth, but what pleased one did not please the rest, and that is because the things desired have no intrinsic

virtue of their own. One thing, however, is common among all here, namely a desire for happiness and that too for that kind of happiness, knowing which the mind does not wish to know further and where it permanently abides. It is this stability, this fullness of knowledge and this happiness that all seek alike, but they seek for them exactly where they are not. The large catalogue of things now desired by them itself shows that it is not in the power of any external thing to give what they seek. I have learnt this, sit calm: and in the 'myself' or rather the self that alone remains (for the 'my' is a changing external thing) are all the three—permanence, bliss and knowledge. All I desire is, that I should desire nothing and be the self alone.' No sooner were these words spoken, than the calf, which had already begun to show signs of life, rose up and danced with joy before the lovely group.

THE SŌUL-WIJU RAILWAY.

The editor of the *Korean Repository* writes thus about the Sŏul-Wiju Railway:—"It may be set down on the credit side of Korea's account that a railroad is to be built between Sŏul and Wiju by a French syndicate. The contract was signed on the third of July. The name of the company or syndicate is the Five-Lille Co. The work is to commence as soon as the survey can be made and is to be completed in twelve years. The general terms of the contract in other particulars are the same as those between the Government and the American syndicate which is to build the Sŏul-Chemulpo road. That means that Korean labour will be used as largely as possible, that the Government gives the whole site of the road-bed, but no mining or other concessions, and that in fifteen years, or at the expiration of any subsequent ten years, the Government shall have the option of purchasing from the syndicate. We wish there had been in both these contracts some provision for assessment of the value of these roads when the time comes for the Government to purchase, but that is a good way ahead now and the advantages to be reaped by the Government meanwhile will be so tangible that she perhaps can afford to be liberal in the term of contract. Those who look at Korea merely as she is to-day may wonder how such a road will be made to pay. The through traffic from Wiju to Sŏul is of course little or nothing. Pyeng Yang is still a closed mouth, and the people of that place get goods largely across country from Wonsan. It seems then that this road will succeed through what Korea is going to be and not what she is. In the first place it will be surely mean the opening of Pyeng Yang, and it is difficult to estimate the effect of this move. The northern people are exceptionally energetic and business-like, and it would mean more than the opening of any two ports in the south. There are, to be sure, vast capabilities in the south along the line of rice culture and exportation, and as Japan becomes more a manufacturing people the rice fields of southern Korean will be drawn upon to a greater extent, but while the south is thickly populated and the cultivable land is mostly utilized it is not so in the north. There we find a great variety of possibilities as yet unrealized. A railroad in the south would give an outlet to present products, but in the north it would mean the opening up of resources at yet untouched. Coal, gold, and lumber are as yet practically virgin soil, and the building of this road will give an impulse to the exploitation of these fields and the north will vie with the south for the honour of being called the treasure house of Korea. Then the possibilities of wheat culture, fruit culture, sheep and cattle raising, and other kindred industries will draw people northward, and the railroad will thus be both the cause of good things and their effect. It will not be what we would call a terminal road. That is it will not depend on its termini for its trade, but it will be a distributor from Pyeng Yang as a centre, opening up a vast and productive territory.

At Okuzawa, Koma district, Yamanashi Ken, a deposit of gold has been discovered, and the finders have applied to the authorities for permission to work it.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

It will be remembered by readers of last month's summary that the *Nihon Shukyo* was stated to have invited an expression of public opinion on the following six questions: (1) What kind of a religion should be chosen? (2) What should be the attitude adopted towards existing religious sects in Japan? (3) Can the sacred writings and the articles of belief of religious sects be retained? (4) How should religious bodies be constituted? And how should places of worship be erected? (5) What are the best methods of propagandism? (6) How best may households and society generally be taught and reformed? Eleven answers to these questions had been received up to the time of the publication of the last issue of the *Nihon Shukyo*, which we now proceed to give in a condensed form. Dr. Kato Hiroyuki replies:—The choice of a religion to suit the times in which we live is a function which only philosophers can perform. The religious devotee is expected to believe certain dogmas implicitly. This belief I regard as mental slavery, a slavery to which learned men in modern times give no encouragement whatever. However desirous we may be to choose a religion, the task is impossible. What we select will be philosophy and not religion. Beyond this I have nothing to say on the subject.

Mr. Naito Chiso, the well-known Chinese scholar, observes:—(1) There is no necessity for choosing a religion, since we already have one. Respect for our national institutions and for the never-ending Imperial Dynasty is our religion. The Emperor is our God. (2) It is not essential to institute a persecution of religious sects; all that is required is to cause the light of nationalism to shine brightly: thus that which is heterodox will become orthodox. (3) As Sacred Writings I would recommend the Imperial Rescripts bearing on education. (4) The schools and colleges of the empire should be converted into temples where the Imperial Rescripts should be read. No other method or organisation is necessary. (5) School teachers and Buddhist and Shinto priests should unite in preaching the doctrines of nationalism. (6) The instruction of households and society generally must be entrusted to the Education Department.

Mr. Shaku Soyen, head of the Engakuji Sect, is of opinion that before the questions put by the *Nihon Shukyo* can be satisfactorily answered, it is necessary that a large meeting of leading Buddhists and Christians should be held, and that, after shaking hands with each other, they should discuss the various topics in a friendly manner.

Mr. Kitano Gempo, of the Shiba Seishoji, writes to say that it is beyond his knowledge or capacity to reply to the questions—*Mushiki mono nite bumpitsu ni fuji suru koto atawasu*. He concludes his short letter by complaining of want of leisure, which probably was the real reason of his not giving his opinion on subjects with which he is well acquainted.

Mr. Ebina Danjo, a Christian, replies as follows:—(1) The religion to be chosen is Christianity of course. By Christianity I mean the religion founded on the life and teaching of Christ, the Son of God; I am not in favour of making the rites and dogmas of the ancients binding on any Christian Church. Each church should be at liberty to decide on its own formularies. Rites and ceremonies and articles of belief must be adapted to locality, education, sentiment and to the age in which men live. (2) I would allow existing sects to fight their own battles. The fittest will survive. (3) I would retain the Old and New Testaments, and two maxims, Love God and love your fellow-men. (4) Existing Christian churches in Japan furnish good models of properly constituted religious bodies. (5) Unless funds are available, it is vain to talk about methods of propagandism. The use of foreign money for the purpose of spreading Christianity among the Japanese is a national disgrace. This practice must be discontinued before Ja-

panese Christians will be at liberty to discuss freely modes of propagandism. (6) It is not to be supposed that the Christianity which will be received into our Japanese households will be an exact counterpart of the Christianity known to Europeans and Americans. The Christianity to be taught here must assimilate to itself certain Shinto, Buddhist, and Confucian truths, in order to assume a character suited to our national requirements. Mr. Ebina describes these truths as 天賦ノ真理, *Tenpu no Shinri* (Heaven-taught truths).

Mr. Tanimoto Yutaka, a teacher in the Higher Normal School, Tokyo, thus expresses himself:—(1) The characteristics which, in my opinion, the religion to be chosen must possess are, (a) Thorough harmony and even approximate identification with the educational principles of our nation; (b) accord with the ever progressing truths of science; (c) ability to render familiar to ordinary ears well established metaphysical ideas. In my opinion none of the existing religions fulfils these conditions. A new form of faith is needed. (2) With the exception of absolutely injurious forms of belief and worship, which ought to be forbidden, I would be for leaving existing sects alone. Let those accept their teaching who are so inclined. Their influence can only last for a short time. (3) The choice or compilation of sacred writings is not a task that could be easily accomplished. The fixing of certain articles of belief, however, and the selection of a few appropriate ceremonies is desirable. (4) On this subject I have come to no definite conclusion beyond the opinion that religious bodies should be permeated with nationality. (5) Religious propagandism and school education should be made to assist each other in every way possible. (6) There must be an endeavour to produce good impressions on people by inquiry as to their condition, by assisting them in various ways, and by teaching them to help each other.

The Rev. Arthur Lloyd sends the following answer to the questions put by the *Nihon Shukyo*. (1) Christianity is the only religion based on Divine Revelation. (2) The answer to this question is given in Matt. xiii., 24-30. (3) The Bible is ample as a rule of faith. (4) I would draw your attention to Ephes. iv., 11-16 as furnishing an adequate reply to this question. (5) Ephes. iv. 15. (6) The carrying into practice the teaching of the Sermon on the Mount.

Mr. Yamaji Yakichi, the editor of the 護教, *Gokyo*, thus replies: (1) Christianity pure and unaltered. (2) Leave the sects alone. That which God has not planted will be rooted up. (3) Without articles of faith there is no religion. (4) Religious bodies should be comprehensive and thoroughly united. (5) Living amongst the people and being supported by them. (6) The reform of individual hearts, and, by their means, the reform of households and society.

Mr. Watarase Tsunekichi, the Editor of the *Kirisutokyo Shimbu*, thus expresses his opinion on the topics under discussion:—(1) That part of Christianity which possesses living power should constitute our religion. (2) The time for the sects to be all brought under one control has not arrived. The sects must be left to develop themselves in a natural manner. There is no use in trying to force the situation. Natural development is the only kind of development that will last. Let Shintoists, Buddhists, and Christians each work on their own lines and borrow as much from each other as they feel disposed. This will prove the best preparation for centralism and union in the future. (3) Sacred writings being the original source of existing religions, must be considered indispensable. Yet, since the stream of truth flows through all the works of nature, it is not advisable that a man should confine his attention exclusively to sacred books. Men's belief is not to be restricted within narrow bounds. Still, from time to time, the preparation of articles of faith, designed to show the character and tendency of religious belief, may prove beneficial. (4) To me it appears that a church has two functions, one being the service of God and the instruction and spiritual nourishment of members by making them acquainted with the

teaching and character of Christ; the other, the cementing of the members together in one body, consisting of brothers and sisters whose hearts beat in accord. (5) I am in favour of relying on the unconstrained efforts of individual believers in the matter of propagandism. The practice of employing itinerant preachers is a good one. Every church should employ two or three of such evangelists. (6) In the case of a church whose members are all active propagandists of the Gospel, households and society generally will reap the benefit of instruction. Men able to solve the social problems which everywhere present themselves will make their influence felt on every hand.

We cannot find space for the answers of Mr. Anezaki Masaharu, of the Literary Section of the Imperial University; and of a student called Kugimiya. Mr. Anezaki is in favour of great liberty being permitted in religious matters. He is for allowing people to use what sacred books they please, and sees no use in articles of faith. Churches should be organized on the principle that members all have great liberty. In the attempt to improve society, he is in favour of making use of music, poetry, and romance, and thinks that, in addition to this, the influence of an Association of pious women would be found to be most powerful. Mr. Kugimiya is evidently a Christian; with slight modifications his views resemble those already given.

The editor of the *Awoyama Hyoron*, a Christian organ connected with the Awoyama Gakuin, earnestly advocates a revival of the faith of the early Christians. The nineteenth century, says this writer, will be remembered as an age of criticism and free inquiry, but there is no denying that some of the chief elements of religion have been well nigh lost. Religious minds and scientific minds should combine in the endeavour to restore the religious feelings that characterised the ancient Christians. We know that it has been customary for a long time to extol reason at the expense of sentiment, to speak of religion as though it were nothing more than theology; but men's minds will never be satisfied with the merely intellectual qualities of religion, that is, with philosophy; they want more than that: they need religious emotion. Forms of faith lose their influence on men's minds when they become the mere exponents of certain religious theories. You have only to compare the Unitarianism of to-day with the Unitarianism of Boston years ago to acknowledge the truth of this remark. Religious sects that make theology the foundation of their religion have no power whatever. The essence of religion is devotional feeling, and in order to maintain the position of religion in the world this feeling must be fervent. It is only those that have never experienced any real religious feeling who lay undue stress on the necessity of rendering prominent the philosophical aspects and the political bearing of forms of faith. Pitiable, indeed, are the views of such men!

In the pages of the *Seikyo Shimpō*, Mr. Kitakawa Sadayuki refers to the absurd reports that have recently gained currency relating to the Greek Church and Japanese Government. According to certain foreign newspapers, says Mr. Kitakawa, an agreement has been come to by the Russian and Japanese Governments whereby Japan is to be allowed to maintain her ascendancy as a naval power in the East. In return for this she promises to make the Greek Church form of the Christian faith the established religion of Japan. Marshal Yamagata is said to have effected this arrangement during his late visit to Russia. We do not believe, continues Mr. Kitakawa, that there is any truth in the report. It no doubt originated in the mistaken notion that the Greek Church is a mere Government organ and that the Czar is the head of the Church. The connection of the Russian Government with the Greek Church is confined to solely temporal affairs. The Emperor is not the head of the Church in a spiritual sense. His relation to it is political and not religious. The 日新報, *Nichi-shu Shimpō*, in referring to

this report, expresses the opinion that there may be some truth in it. So low are popular notions concerning religion, says this organ, that we are not surprised to find that proposals to convert a creed into an article of barter between one State and another have been made. No such reports would be believed were men's ideas about religion raised to a higher level. To intelligent men, observes the *Nichi-shu Shimpō*, it ought to be plain that religion has an important part to play in the consolidation of an empire and that it is quite impossible for it to fulfil its functions when degraded to the level of an instrument for furthering State interests in foreign countries.

The Editor of the *Uchushinkyo* (the *Universalist*), writing under the title of "The Religion of this Life," insists on the importance of religious teachers becoming aggressive. In the busy world of competition in which we live, says this organ, the seclusive habits of many of the representatives of Christianity are a great obstacle to its progress. Christianity is eminently a religion suited to the every-day life of men and women of the world. To make its influence felt it is necessary that its professors should mix with their fellow-men.

In a contributed article published in the same number of the *Universalist* from which we have just quoted, Mr. Nunokawa contends that the following are the three most urgent topics of discussion among religious thinkers:—(1) Is religious feeling in Japan deep or shallow? (2) What will be the future of religion in this country? (3) Can Buddhism and Christianity amalgamate?

In the pages of the *Hakko*, issued by a Literary Society connected with the Tsukiji Rikkyō-gakko, Mr. Takahashi Goro contributes a learned article on the limits of the intelligence of birds and animals. After quoting numerous instances of the display of remarkable sagacity on the part of these living creatures, from Japanese, Chinese and foreign works, Mr. Takahashi answers the question, "Have birds and beasts a religion?" in the negative.

Among the articles published in No. 78 of the *Shinri*, are the following:—"The Seismic-wave disaster and the Christian," by the Rev. E. Schiller. "The doctrine of the Chinese philosopher (列子) Licius" (concluded), by Dr. Faber. "Religion among the Semites," by the Rev. Dr. Christlieb. Mr. Schiller discusses the religious aspects of the disaster in the north at some length. He is of opinion that, regarding the calamity as sent by God, it is useless to try and find out the reason of its being sent, but there is no doubt that the lesson we ought to learn from it is that death may overtake us at any moment without giving us any warning. The other inferences drawn by Mr. Schiller resemble those with which Christian preachers incite their hearers to increased devotion on occasions like that recently experienced in Miyagi and adjoining districts.

In the *Rikugo Zasshi*, Mr. Ukita Kazutami discourses on the connection of religion and history. After defining the function of history and showing how, aided by the light it throws on almost every subject, mankind has progressed and aimed at greater perfection age after age, Mr. Ukita points out that in religion as in other branches of knowledge the fittest survives. The idea of there being a moral ruler of the Universe still survives, and no one can study the history of the past without being convinced that in all times men have believed in the existence of God. "The existence of God and future reward and punishment," says Mr. Ukita, "are, of course, nothing but ideas;" (*Jōtei no sonzai, raise no shōbatsu moto yori sōō ni sugisau*), yet as ideas they have effected great good. Men have regulated their lives as if they would be held responsible for their actions in the future, and as if the God that is assumed to exist took notice of their conduct. The credit of having brought about this result

belongs to religion as a whole, though not to every form of it.

The magazine from which we have just quoted contains a notice of the second volume of a recently published work entitled *Bukkyō Shoshi* (a Short History of Buddhism), of which Mr. Fujii is the author. The first 390 pages of this book give the history of Buddhism during 600 years, dating from the beginning of the second Century after Shaka's death. Maps are appended in order to show the rapid strides the religion made in its prosperous days, and the last 70 pages are devoted to a glossary of Buddhist terms. The work, in addition to showing signs of great research, possesses the advantage of being written in a lucid style, the author having taken great pains in furnishing explanations of abstruse terms and allusions. The *Bukkyō Shoshi* is said to be worthy of ranking with the best foreign books on the same subject.

A publication called the *福音義誌*, *Fuku-in Soshi*, just started, has struck out in a new line. It purposes devoting itself to the work of writers on religious subjects as expressed in foreign magazines. The *Fuku-in Soshi* remarks that few foreign missionaries even see the best foreign religious organs, and that Japanese are wholly unacquainted with their contents. The task undertaken by this new magazine is a formidable one and likely to prove expensive, but, if well edited, there is no reason why the venture should not succeed, specially as there is in the literary world a decided movement in favour of translations.

The *Shukyo*, a Unitarian organ, has articles on the Epicurean doctrine of pleasure as the chief object of life, "The Life and Character of Societies," "The Development of the Feelings," "Traditional Buddhism and Mr. Soga." The Unitarians are in the habit of commemorating the birth of Socrates on June 21st by holding a meeting at which speeches suitable to the occasion are delivered. This year's meeting is reported in the magazine that we are now quoting.

We observe that Dr. McCauley's reply to Bishop Bickersteth's attack on Unitarianism has been translated into Japanese by Mr. Haseguma Iwao. It bears the title of *史觀の基督教*, *Shikwanteki Kirisutokyo* (Christianity viewed from a historical standpoint). The work consists of 163 pages and is said to be a very clear exposition of the Unitarian view of Christian doctrines.

In a recent number of the *Rikugo Zasshi*, Mr. Tanimoto Yutaka writes on the subject of Christian Schools. After observing that among men of influence not a few have renounced Christianity and religion, or adopted some other form of faith in the place of Christianity, this writer proceeds to refer to an article in No. 17 of the *同志教育*, *Doshi Kyoiku*, entitled, "The Decline of Christianity," by Mr. Shigemori Keisei, more especially to that part of the article that refers to the waning influence of Christian Schools. In Mr. Shigemori's opinion these schools are defective in three particulars. (1) The methods of teaching are imperfect. (2) The proper proportion between the relative importance of the subjects taught is not maintained. (3) Foreigners exercise too much control over the practical management of the schools. The views of Mr. Shigemori here expressed, observes Mr. Tanimoto, are held by many Christians. The first thing important to insist on, is that the subjects taught in these schools should correspond with those taught in Government *Junjo-chugakko* (Ordinary Middle Schools). This practice is followed to a large extent in the most noted of Christian Schools, such as the Osaka *Momoyama Gaku-in*, the Nara *Shiritsu Junjo-chugakko*, the Azabu *Junjo-chugakko*, the Middle School Department of the Aoyama *Gaku-in*, the *Rikkyō* (立教) Ordinary Middle School, the *Meiji Gaku-in* and the *Tōwō-gijyū* (at Awamori and Hiroaki). But even in these schools the relative importance attached to the subjects taught needs

readjustment. But the question of how best to possess themselves of the power now wielded by foreigners in these establishments, is one that the Japanese connected with the schools find most embarrassing. In my opinion, concludes Mr. Tanimoto, the chief cause of the failure of Christian schools, regarded from a national point of view, is the fact that the principle on which they are based is individualism and not nationalism. The only way to insure their success is to make them serve State purposes, and in order to do this, they should be conducted in a manner similar to government schools. The various ordinances and regulations issued by the Department of Education should be observed by Christian Schools.

Under the heading "the Religious World" the *Waseda Bungaku* discusses the present state of Buddhism. A few words of introduction are needed to render the remarks of this organ intelligible. Buddhist awakening may be said to have commenced some eight or nine years ago. Prior to that date there was no such thing as Buddhist modern literature. Any one desirous of becoming acquainted with its doctrines had no alternative but to join the priesthood. In those days, the object of propagandists was not the imparting of knowledge, but the persuading of people to believe. The Buddhist faith was represented as being transcendent, far removed from the comprehension of ordinary mortals. The spread of Christianity in this country led to an entire change of tactics. Buddhists discovered that successful competition with Christianity involved the adoption of many of its methods, and that, with the view of making Buddhist teaching intelligible to the masses, it was necessary that doctrines hitherto obscured by the technical character of the terms in which they were expressed should be explained in the language of everyday life. From this time forward Buddhism entered on a new career. The various sects started literary organs of their own, and devised numerous schemes for popularising the creed whose doctrines had hitherto been monopolised by the initiated few. Scores of books and pamphlets of an entirely new description, bearing such titles as *講話*, *Kowa* (Colloquial Exposition); *一夕話*, *Issetkiwa* (An Evening Talk), and *義演*, *Giyen* (Popular Explanations of Religion), made their appearance. Suitable reading matter for believers of all grades of intellect and learning was supplied; the children of the poor were taught and maintained; and various benevolent schemes were freely and earnestly discussed. Thus Buddhism assumed an entirely new character. But now, the party known as the "New Buddhists," while approving of the above named reforms, maintain that they have not gone far enough. They claim that not methods only need reform; but that the doctrines taught and the whole organization of the Buddhist sect require alteration, in order to harmonise with the spirit of modern times. This struggle between the new and old schools of thought is the first subject discussed in the article in the *Waseda Bungaku* already alluded to. The writer is of opinion that the advocates of radical reform lay themselves open to the charge of immoderation, flippancy, and general impracticality. Orthodox Buddhist organs warn their readers against the wholesale destruction and the wide-spread doubt advocated by members of the new sect. The *Mujinto* (The Inextinguishable Light) observes that no truly religious man can approve of flippancy and jocose criticism, a destructive policy and the encouragement of doubt. The *實洞教報*, *Soto Kyōhō** speaks of the men of the new school that figure so prominently in modern religious controversy as delighting in fault-finding and violent attacks on existing institutions, as sowers of the seeds of doubt by the use of secular agencies, as violators of the sacredness of religion. The *反省雜誌*, *Han-sei Zasshi* asks what claim men armed only with the weapons of science and philosophy have to be heard on religious subjects.

* So and To are the names of mountains in China that were centres of the Zen Sect; hence the terms are used here in the sense of Zenitsu.

On the most vital topics of religion, on life and death, and the end of all things, they can tell us nothing, says this organ.

The *Nihon Shukyo* takes a different view of the parts played by the contending Buddhist devotees. It is frequently said, observes this magazine, that moderation is the best of all virtues, that the stolidity and blindness to defects characterizing the conservatives, and the destructiveness and desire for change shown by the progressionists in religious matters, are alike to be condemned. But in our opinion—we are quoting, of course—there is no surer way of bringing about social and religious deterioration than by the adoption of the lukewarm policy recommended in certain quarters. Our advice to the opponents now engaged in assaulting each other is “be extreme,” for *seal* that runs to extremities is infinitely preferable to sleepy indifference that finds favour among easy-going religious believers.

Under the heading of “The Secular works of Buddhists,” the *Waseda Bungaku* informs us that educational questions, benevolent schemes and plans for instructing prisoners are receiving much attention. The *Dento* (Transmitter of Light) discusses the subject of education in Formosa. The *Hanshi Zasshi* deals with the question of how best to keep released prisoners from committing further crimes. The *Bukkyo* calls attention to the rapid increase of poverty and urges its readers to devise measures for relieving distress. The *Shohorin* expresses the hope that the time has come when men will relinquish their excessive regard for their own interests and when Buddhists will explain their religion in a manner suited to the needs of modern society. Hitherto, observes the *Waseda Bungaku*, the discussion of urgent social questions has been mostly confined to Christian publications, but now it would seem that the Buddhists have come to see the necessity of paying attention to these subjects.

The Buddhists have imitated Christians in the matter of employing women for certain classes of evangelistic work. There exist in Tokyo not a few Buddhist Female Societies engaged in benevolent and religious work. The *Shohorin* advocates the employment of nuns in this kind of effort. There are, says this organ, no less than 379 nuns connected with the *Myoshinji* (妙心寺), the sect to which we belong, so that if the nuns belonging to other sects could all be made available for use in evangelistic and other kinds of work, a very large number would be obtained. But the *Taiyo* is of opinion that the majority of nuns are in no way fitted in point of education to become teachers, and adds that the employment of women for the purpose of religious propaganda is attended with more evil than good. The *Fogaku Zasshi* also writes unfavourably of the movement. It says that female evangelists have been guilty of most unseemly conduct. The course recommended by this organ is the restriction of the efforts of female religious zealots to the instruction of their fellow-believers, preparatory to their being entrusted with evangelistic work.

The evil tendencies of the teaching of the *Tenrikyo* sect and the abuses that have arisen among its adherents, form the subject of severe comment in various Buddhist publications. There is little new to be said on the subject. All well-meaning Buddhists are agreed that the methods employed by this popular sect for influencing the masses are most unworthy and pernicious.

A writer signing himself Sakai-no-Tekkai, observes, in the pages of the *Bukkyo*, that in modern days Buddhism has been reduced in the eyes of the world to a performance of traditional ceremonies and a means of deceiving ignorant people. There is no denying that Buddhists have been remiss in the study and exposition of the scriptures and in the good works which ought to accompany pious

study. What is the secret of the success of Christianity? How is it that this creed retains its hold on men's minds? Because it is able to adapt itself to the changes that time brings. At the beginning of the Tokugawa era, there were among Buddhist believers many learned men. The prosperity of modern Buddhism is to a large extent the result of the discussions and differences of opinion of that age. It is precisely such an interest in the creed that the representatives of what is known as reformed Buddhism are endeavouring to arouse. But they find that they have to encounter a listlessness and satisfaction with low standards in the priests of various sects beside which the opposition of Christianity shrinks into insignificance. Buddhism need fear no external foes. Her enemies are within her own pale.

No small stir has been caused in the Buddhist world by the acceptance of secular honours, in the form of recently conferred titles, by the chief representatives of the *Shin* sect, Otani Kōson and Otani Kōyei, and by four other prominent men belonging to the priesthood. As is known to many of our readers, the *Shin* sect is more lax in its priestly *régime* than most other sects. Its priests are allowed to marry, to eat meat, and to bequeath their livings to their sons. Moreover, the Otani family, being originally of noble blood, have from time to time received special favours from Government officials, and, on the occasion of Prince Sanjo's Chancellorship, were brought into close contact with the supreme secular power, Prince Sanjo having married into the Otani family. This state of affairs has created constant jealousy among other Buddhist sects, and when, on June 9th last, it became known that the leading members of the sect had actually been elevated to the peerage, a storm of opposition arose. The reason for conferring secular honours on the head of the *Shin* sect is said to be the zeal shown by this sect during the late war. But, according to articles that have appeared in various organs during the past few months, the *Shin* priests that accompanied the Japanese troops to China were by no means a credit to the religion they professed. The *Kokumin Shimbum* has been specially severe in its attacks on the sect, predicting even its final downfall. It is alleged by some writers that the *Shin* priests serving as chaplains to the army made use of their positions for purposes of trade, and that they resorted to other ways of enriching themselves. It is contended that these abuses must have been known to the head of the sect, and that his acceptance of a reward from the Government for services that he knows were not rendered, was outrageous. A writer in the *Bukkyo*, over the signature 漫言子, adopts a most scornful tone when alluding to this subject:—“The significance of titles changes from age to age. The term *Tonosama* (Lord) was formerly applied to one entitled to the highest respect and honour; now it is an epithet applied to men ignorant of the affairs of the world and besotted. The same may be said of the word *Daimyo*. The term *Okusama* was formerly used in reference to women of the highest rank. Now, with a slight modification, the substitution of *san* for *sama*, it is used by greengrocers, fishmongers, and the like, in reference to each other's wives. The *jūgoi* (第五位) *sama* (the second grade of the fifth rank), was one in which Minamoto Yoshitsune gloried as a rank worth attaining, but it is now applied to *ex-daimyo* or to newly created peers, with a meaning anything but respectful. And so it seems to be with the title *Hakushaku* (Count): after being applied to such eminent personages as Matsugata, Okuma, Ito, Yamagata, and others that might be named, it is affixed to such names as Otani and Hongwanji. Somehow our ideas of fitness are outraged by such a use of a patent of nobility. The time was when men gloried in their religion, and when the titles *o-shōnin-sama*, *go-monseki-sama* carried with them associations and honour of the most sacred character, and when such titles as Count and Baron to religious ears savour-

ed of secularity; but things have altered and we are now told that the doctrines of religion need to be backed by secular titles in order to make headway. The Government seems to be following in the footsteps of Russia and to be attempting to give an impetus to Buddhism in foreign lands by allowing its chief representatives to bear with them signs of their official connection. For purposes of propaganda in foreign countries this device will prove utterly futile, and as regards Japan it is almost unnecessary to remark that the newly acquired titles have no significance whatever.”

In two recent numbers of the 佛教史林, *Bukkyo Shirin* a writer signing himself Washinow Junkei discusses at considerable length the combination of Shinto and Buddhism in a manner that shall bring discordant elements into harmony. The greater part of the articles consists of a historical summary of the amalgamation of Buddhism with Shinto and other religions in the past, a subject tolerably familiar to students of comparative religion. Buddhism is sufficiently elastic, says the *Bukkyo Shirin*, to allow of its adapting itself to its surroundings. It has amalgamated with other forms of faith to a certain extent in India and China. In the latter country it adopted many of the doctrines of Confucianism and Taoism. In Japan, from the days of Shotoku Taishi, who earnestly advocated this course, the amalgamation of Buddhism and Shinto has been going on. The *Nara Daibutsu* was intended to be an emblem of the union of the two creeds. Shinto divinities are worshipped in Buddhist temples. Among Buddhist sects there are some characterised by strong Shinto tendencies. The two religions are practically one. Irrespective of the truth of the assertions made, the articles are well worth reading on account of the vast array of facts, culled from various sources, that they furnish.

Dr. Kato Hiroyuki, the well-known President of the University, in an article published in the *Nihon Shukyo*, invites an expression of public opinion on the following questions:—(1) Is it true, as frequently alleged, that the Japanese have no deep religious feeling? (2) If true, to what source is this deficiency to be traced? The following is an epitome of Dr. Kato's remarks on the subject:—Prior to the Restoration (1867) Buddhism among the lower classes, and Confucianism among the upper, claimed a very large number of sincere and devout adherents. After the Restoration, both these creeds lost their hold on men's minds, but not to the same extent. Buddhism was regarded with so much favour that, although there was talk of abolishing it, such a measure was deemed an impossibility, and no attempts were made to carry it out. It would seem, then, that the charge of coldness and indifference in religious matters is baseless as regards pre-Restoration days, but we have no doubt that it is founded on fact as far as the upper classes are concerned in the present era. In certain quarters educated men have been paying some attention to Buddhist teaching, but this has been done as a learned study rather than as a religious inquiry preparatory to belief. And as regards Christianity, it now wields no such influence over the minds of educated men as it did when it was first introduced—its progress has met with a check. So that it is quite correct to say that, with the exception of the lower orders, Japanese regard religion with supreme indifference. To what origin is this phenomenon to be referred? In China and Turkey from age to age religion holds its own. In Europe, whatever else changes, religious feelings remain unaltered. In many cases, when to outsiders it appears that belief in the traditional teachings of religion is the chief cause of the decline of national power, the inhabitants of the countries whose power is on the wane are utterly unconscious of the evil effects of their belief and regard their creeds with supreme satisfaction. That a precisely opposite feeling should exist in Japan is surely one of the most remarkable of national phenomena. An inquiry into its

origin is a duty incumbent on learned men to discharge.

The article from which we have culled the above is entitled, "A solicitation of the opinion of noted scholars on certain moral questions." The second subject on which Dr. Kato asks for an expression of opinion is prostitution. His views on this subject are stated in terms precisely similar to those reproduced in these columns some weeks ago, and hence need not be repeated here. The editor of the *Nihon Shūkyō* has offered to throw open his columns to a discussion of this subject and urges learned men to give the public the benefit of their views thereon.

The 惟一, *Yui-itsu*, a Shinto organ issued by the Jikkō sect, complains of the rank that money holds in the minds of certain persons, and points out that many of the most valuable things in life are not to be purchased by money. Another writer in this magazine speaks regretfully of the disfavour with which divination is regarded among people that have imbibed materialistic views. Divination being the only means of ascertaining what is the Divine will in reference to a variety of contemplated actions, the disuse of the practice of consulting the gods by this means is regarded as a sign that there is a serious lack of religious feeling among the masses.

DASTARDLY OUTRAGE BY JAPAN. ESE.

A cowardly assault was committed by some Japanese firemen about 9 o'clock on Thursday evening, upon Mr. William Barrie, Superintending Engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Dissatisfaction had been engendered among the firemen in the employ of the N.Y.K. through some of their number being threatened with dismissal, and Chinese taken on in their stead, in the case of one of the foreign bound steamers. A party of these men proceeded to Mr. Barrie's house on the Bluff armed with iron hammers and crowbars, and demanded to see him. Upon Mr. Barrie's appearing they at once struck him on the head, inflicting two wounds, one over the eye, the other upon the scalp. Mr. Barrie, bleeding profusely, managed to escape, and then the ruffians proceeded to break every pane of glass and piece of furniture they could reach, and to jostle and insult Mrs. Barrie. Meanwhile, neighbours hearing the noise of the disturbance, came out to Mr. Barrie's assistance, and the police were sent for. Dr. Wheeler was also called in and he dressed the wounds. Two of the ring-leaders in the cowardly attack were arrested that night, and by four o'clock next afternoon twenty more were captured and held for examination: meanwhile, police are guarding the house. Mr. Barrie, we understand, is progressing favourably, and hopes to get out of the house next week. We trust that an example will be made of these insubordinate ruffians.

"WHAT IS TRUTH?"

Here is what the *Western Weekly News* of June 20th says about the Seismic Wave of June 15th:—

Yokohama, Wednesday.

A fearful earthquake has occurred in the northern province of Japan, involving terrible loss of life and immense destruction of property. The day had been oppressively hot, and the sky became densely overcast. Then the thunder roared and the lightning played, the earth seeming to move and upheave. Great chasms were made, and clouds of lava, debris, and ashes spouted up, the scene being one of appalling grandeur. Around the town of Kamaishai the volcanic eruptions raged with unremitting fury, and the picturesque little houses of bamboo fell in hundreds at a time, the unfortunate people being either maimed or killed as they fled wildly for the open country. The persistence of the earthquake was astonishing, the shocks being renewed every twenty minutes during the whole day, and far into the night, when the spectacle of horror and desolation was awful, whilst wretched groups, in terror, huddled at the highest points, in order to escape the water which, rising from the sea in overwhelming waves, had swept the country for miles around. The disturbances lasted for nearly twenty-four hours, and when the morning broke the face of the country had been in many places transformed, and the chaos and wreckage were

suggestive of a city of the dead. The Emperor has sent supplies for the destitute and suffering.

Would it be possible to find a greater liar than the writer of this paragraph? His mendacious invention certainly does not exceed that of the Central News Agents in London who expanded the telegrams in the war between Japan and China, but still his utter disregard for truth is very remarkable. He simply sat down and fabricated a story such as might startle his readers, without the faintest care whether facts in any degree accorded with his fancies. Talk of Oriental medacity, indeed! The only difference between the East and the West is that the Occidental does it on a bigger scale.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AMERICA AND ASIA.

In the Senate of the United States, on May 13th, 1896, Mr. Gray introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:—

A BILL.

To revive and amend and extend the Act of Congress of August fifteenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, to encourage and promote telegraphic communications between America and Asia, across the Pacific Ocean, from the western shores of the United States to the Hawaiian Islands to Japan and China.

Whereas on the fifteenth day of August, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, the Congress of the United States passed an Act granting to Celso Caesar Moreno and his associates the right to construct, lay, land, and maintain a line or lines of telegraph or submarine cable or cables on the Pacific coast of the United States of America to connect the American and Asiatic coasts by telegraph lines, wires, or submarine cables and

Whereas several of the associates mentioned in said Act are now dead, and certain others, from other causes, are unable to act in the revival of this enterprise: Therefore,

1. Be it enacted by the State and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Celso Caesar Moreno, of the State of California, and his associates shall have the right to construct, lay, land, and maintain a line or lines of telegraph or submarine cable or cables on the Pacific coast of the United States of America to connect the American and Asiatic coasts by telegraph lines, wires, or submarine cables: Provided, That said C. C. Moreno and his associates shall begin to lay said cable or cables within three years from the Passage of this Act.

2. That any telegraph line or cable laid by said C. C. Moreno and his associates shall be subject to the following conditions, stipulations, and reservations, to wit: The Government of the United States shall be entitled to exercise and enjoy the same or similar privileges with regard to the control and use of such line or lines of cable or cables that may, by law, agreement, or otherwise, be exercised and enjoyed by any foreign Government whatever; secondly, citizens of United States shall enjoy the same privileges as to the payment of rates for the transmission of messages as are enjoyed by the citizens of the most favoured nations; thirdly, the transmission of dispatches shall be made in the following order: First, dispatches of State, under such regulations as may be agreed upon by the Governments interested; secondly, dispatches on telegraphic service; and, thirdly, private dispatches; fourthly, the lines of any such cables shall be kept open to the public for the daily transmission of market and commercial reports and intelligence, and all messages, dispatches, and communications shall be forwarded in the order in which they are received, except as hereinafter provided: fifthly, before extending and establishing any such line or lines of cable or cables in or over any waters, reefs, islands, shores, and lands within the jurisdiction of the United States a written acceptance of the terms and conditions imposed by this Act shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State by the said C. C. Moreno and his associates.

3. That nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the United States in granting to other persons or companies similar privileges herein contained.

4. That the right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act at any time is hereby reserved to Congress.

This project of a trans-Pacific cable, is one of the grandest opportunities and possibilities of the present and will be one of the grandest facts and factors of the future, being the last link needed for encircling the World with submarine cables and terrestrial electric wires—length, 6,850 geographical miles.

C. C. MORENO, Projector.

A THIEVING COOK.

Ching Tong-han, a cook, was recently discharged from service by a German resident on the Bluff. Next day he went back to the house, No. 148, and stole a mantel-timepiece. This he put in pawn with a compatriot, thus leading to his detection. The Kagacho police effected the man's arrest yesterday.

"JAPANESE TOPSY-TURVYDOM."

Every one has observed that the ways of the Japanese are not as the ways of Europeans or Americans, and to this radical difference of method self-contented Americans and Europeans have given the name of "topsy-turvydom." There is no manner of justification for the term. For example, when an American or a European counts with the fingers of one hand, he closes the fingers first, and then opens them one by one, beginning with the little finger. Some folks, it is true, employ both hands in the operation: in that case they keep the left hand open and fold down its fingers one by one with the right, the little finger, as before, being the starting point. But we are not talking of the two-handed performance: we are talking of the case where one hand only is used. Now the Japanese proceeds quite differently. He holds out his hand—right or left—and begins to count by laying the thumb upon the palm, after which he closes each finger in succession, from the index to the little finger. Which of those methods is natural and which is topsy-turvy? Try the two, and you will find that the European method involves, in the case of most people, a kind of awkward struggle at the last moment when it comes to opening the digit finger and still keeping the thumb closed, whereas, in the Japanese method, the closing of the thumb first gives an easy routine, free from any muscular struggle. None the less, the average foreigner when for the first time he sees a Japanese count with his fingers, exclaims unhesitatingly:—"Look at that extraordinary specimen of digital arithmetic! How thoroughly Japanese!"—meaning by "thoroughly Japanese" that it is thoroughly what it ought not to be. Consider, again, the Western and the Japanese fashions of beckoning and repelling. The European, when he wants to beckon, bends his digit finger into the shape of a hook, and agitates it in the most finikin manner conceivable, with the point up. The Japanese turns the palm of the hand down, droops all the fingers and waves them gently. The former motion, the hooking of a person towards oneself, is utterly ungraceful: even a beautiful girl can not make it pretty. The Japanese motion, on the contrary, is at once caressing and graceful. Which is topsy-turvy? The foreigner, without pausing to reason, ridicules the Japanese method as absurd. And he passes the same judgment when he observes that where he himself throws his hand outwards to signify repulsion, the Japan merely raises the hand and waves it parallel to the face with the thumb outwards. Ask a lady to make each of these motions and then decide which is the prettier. Yet we call the Japanese custom topsy-turvy! The best essay ever written on this subject was from the pen of the late Major-General Palmer. He did not attempt to make any choice between the fashions of Japan and of the West, but he described the differences with all the acuteness of observation for which he was remarkable. Mrs. E. S. Patton has now published a little book on the same subject. It is printed on crepe and very prettily illustrated in colours—in short, one of those attractive volumes supposed to be distinctive of modern Japan, though even in its most praiseworthy features it falls far short of the Japanese novel of a century ago. Mrs. Patton's range of observation is not very extensive, but what she has to say she says in an artless, unaffected manner that makes her book very pleasant reading. Her enthusiasm carries her a trifle too far when she classes the inverted image of Fuji-yama, often seen in Hakone Lake, among examples of topsy-turvydom, and especially when she attributes that simple effect to "refraction." But she makes a good point when she notes that whereas the vast majority of foreigners come to Japan with absolutely crystallized notions of what is right and what is wrong, and with a pre-disposition to ridicule everything unfamiliar to themselves or incongruous with their stereotyped ideas, the Japanese goes to the West ready and anxious to discover and adopt anything better than what

he has left at home. We congratulate the publisher, Mr. T. Hasegawa, on the admirable "get up" of this work, and add that it may be procured of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh.

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

We take the following from the London *Economist*:—"A recent report to the Foreign Office on the trade of Formosa is mainly interesting because of the contrast it draws between the results achieved by the vigour and energy of the Japanese, and the state of things under the slothful, inert administration of their predecessors in the government of the Island. Japanese enterprise has been particularly conspicuous in the construction of railways and means of communication, one of their first undertakings having been the building of a Decauville tramway of 20 inches gauge. This, though primarily intended to be used for military purposes, will be equally useful for commercial transportation, as the line already connects several of the principal cities, and has some 90 miles in operation. It is added that surveys have been made for a line of rail between the two chief towns, Takow and Anping, and scores of miles of good road have been constructed, so that the discomforts of travelling in Formosa bid fair soon to be regarded as things of the past. The Japanese are, the writer says, showing laudable energy in the development of the internal communications, and during the five months that passed since they landed have left more marks of their presence on the face of the country than their predecessors effected in as many decades."

MODERN METHODS OF WARFARE.

In Mashonaland Englishmen have been hard-pressed to hold their own and have become excited by the difficulties against which they have to contend. Nothing tries the temper of troops more than a guerilla warfare, when the enemy confines himself to swift and harassing raids, flying for refuge, when in danger, to mountains whence he can not be dislodged. "General Carrington has found it needful to issue a sharp order that women and children and the wounded are not to be put to death." What does such an order mean? The *Spectator* explains:—"For the moment the white policy may be summed up in the American pioneer's sentence, 'Indians is pizon wherever found.'" Had there been no killing of women, children and the wounded, General Carrington's order would never have been issued. Such dreadful deeds lose nothing of their horror because their perpetrators would shrink from them with loathing in calm moments. They are always to be denounced whoever commits them. But let us remember that the record of our own troops in this year of grace is not stainless, before we apply ugly epithets to others similarly guilty. War is brutal at all times, but sometimes it becomes more than savage.

THE "SHANGHAI TIMES."

Shanghai is to have another newspaper, *The Shanghai Times*. We learn that the first number will be issued on September 1st, and that it will be an evening journal. The editor is Mr. W. H. Smith, formerly Manager of the business and editorial departments of the *Japan Gazette*. We may expect to see much of Mrs. Smith's writing also, and very welcome it will be, for her graceful style, conscientious methods, and courageous energy won golden opinions for her during her editorship of the *Japan Gazette*. Mr. Smith is a man of extensive travel and varied experience. He has been content, hitherto, to play a somewhat self-effacing part, but his capacity is known, and we look forward with pleasure to a direct expression of his views. Under his direction, *The Shanghai Times* is not likely to assume the tone of indiscriminating hostility to everything native that disgraces so many journals in the Far East, and deprives their criticism of all efficacy.

THE ECLIPSE.

It appears that the Japanese astronomers have chosen Esachi in the province of Kitami, and Atsugeschi in Kushiro as the places for erecting their observatories in connection with the coming solar eclipse. Professor Terao, Astronomer-in-Chief, with a considerable staff of assistants, proceeds to Esachi, and Professor Hirayama, of the College of Natural Philosophy in the Imperial University, to Atsugeschi. In Tokyo and Yokohama we shall have a very good view of the phenomenon. The eclipse will not be total, but twenty-one twenty-fifths, of the sun's face will be obscured. The first contact—commencing on the right-hand side of the sun—will beat 1h. 39.1m. p.m., and the moment of greatest obscuration will be 2h. 51.6m. p.m. At 3h. 57.5m. the sun's disc will be completely uncovered.

THIS SEASON'S HEAT.

The dog days (*Doyo*) come to an end on the 7th instant. We have already published a table showing the maximum temperatures on each day, as compared with the corresponding day last year, up to the 24th ultimo. We now carry the table up to the 1st instant:—

	1895.		1896.
July 25th.....	90.5° F.	.....	81.0° F.
July 26th.....	93.6° F.	.....	81.7° F.
July 27th.....	74.7° F.	.....	78.3° F.
July 28th.....	80.4° F.	.....	80.4° F.
July 29th.....	87.1° F.	.....	76.5° F.
July 30th.....	88.7° F.	.....	78.3° F.
July 31st.....	85.6° F.	.....	80.1° F.
August 1st.....	88.7° F.	.....	76.3° F.

THE NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

The first installment of the new war-celebration postage stamps have been bought up with such rapidity that it is now difficult to procure the stamps in Tokyo, but as another installment will immediately be issued, people need have no fear of being unable to get as many as they please very shortly.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your interesting extract from the *Nichi Nichi's* articles on National Education, I find the following mistake: you give the number of children of school going age at 7,320,191; of children attending schools at 3,501,071 and state this gives an average of 61.72%. In fact it gives 48% of children going to school and 52% of children not going. This throws doubts also on the averages given for 1890-1893. Might it not be made clear in one of your following issues?

I remain, I am Sir, yours truly,

INQUIRER.

Nikko, July 28th, 1896.

[Our figures were wrong—3,501,071 should have been 4,528,131.—Ed. J.M.]

THE RAILWAY AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On Saturday last my family left for Hakone. Being aware that the trains were crowded at this season, I sent my boy, fully half an hour ahead, to get tickets and register the luggage. This he did, but to my great annoyance, on arrival at Kodzu, I was told on presentation of my luggage receipts, that the baggage had not come on by the same train; but might do so later in the day. Surely, if receipts are given and the luggage is at the station in good time, there can be no excuse for such annoying delays. It eventually turned up at 9 p.m.!

Another word; the springs of the tram cars from Kodzu to Yumoto, the first-class especially, are not looked after at all, and are so loose that a trip in the cars is like a ride on a rocking-horse. A competent mechanic could soon fix this and save much discomfort, besides the wear and tear.

Yours truly, AN OLD RESIDENT.
August 3rd, 1896.

THE YOKOHAMA ENGINE & IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The ninth yearly meeting of shareholders in the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works Company, Limited, was held at Keil's Building, Yokohama, on Monday afternoon. There were present, Mr. Jas. Dodds, Chairman; Messrs. Jas. Walter, C. Giussani, F. Gillett, A. B. Walford, C. K. M. Martin, W. Tresize, and G. C. Charlesworth, Secretary.

There being a sufficient number of shareholders present to form a quorum, and the requisite number of shares also being represented,

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting, and further announced:—"The sanction of the shareholders will be required to the calling in of the present certificates and the issue of new ones in accordance with the special resolution which was passed and confirmed last year and sanctioned by the Court at Hongkong."

The CHAIRMAN—Strictly speaking, this meeting ought to have been held, under Section 109 of the Articles of Association, prior to 31st July, but absence of members of the Board from Yokohama during the present hot season, has prevented the formation of a quorum necessary to pass the accounts, and the Directors crave the indulgence of the shareholders in this respect. The report and accounts having been in your hands for the last two days, I will, with your permission, take them as read. I need scarcely say it is a source of great satisfaction to the Directors that they are able to put before you so favourable an account of the working of the Company as that now submitted to you. It has proved the most successful year the Company has ever experienced. At the annual meeting held on 31st July, 1895, the Chairman was able to announce to you that, owing to favourable circumstances, the Company had surmounted all previous difficulties, had been able to pay off the debt to the Oriental Bank, which had so hampered our operations in past years, and were even able to pay a small dividend. That was the turn of the tide. Since that time prosperity has flowed in upon us, and as it seldom rains but it pours, we were able to make a most favourable sale of our Kobe property, recouping all previous losses made in that quarter, and yielding a profit on book value of \$26,000, so swelling our available assets. Our earnings have enabled us not only to put aside the amount required for reduction of capital determined on by you in December last, but to pay interim dividends of 10 per cent. and 20 per cent., and now to recommend to you a final dividend of 10 per cent., making together 40 per cent. for the year, so that those shareholders who have been fortunate enough to hold on through the bad times now get more than the whole of their original capital returned to them in one year—\$102 per share. This is after writing off depreciation on plant and buildings, as also all bad and doubtful debts. Under the latter category you will notice an amount of \$716.18, which will account for a similar amount in Suspense Account to which it has been placed in view of there still being a chance of its recovery. As announced from the chair on 20th January last, plant, property, and stock had then been revalued by independent experts at upward of \$150,000 as against the book value of about two-thirds of that amount. To these assets may be added the present cash balance with the Bank, say \$40,000, so that even after the return of capital, carried out since the close of the financial year, the Company remains in a very strong and satisfactory position. Following on the revaluation of our plant and machinery, orders have recently been sent home to renew and supplement certain items in order to bring our plant, &c., up to date in a position to undertake and deal satisfactorily with any work that may come along. Of course our exceptionally busy time has pressed hardly on the executive staff of the Company, who one and all have acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of the Directors. Following up the complimentary tribute paid to them in this respect by Mr. Lowder from the chair at this time last year, a bonus of one month's salary was paid to them for the half-year ended 30th November last, and, as will be seen from the report, the Directors now propose to make a similar recognition of their services for the half-year ended 31st May last, which they hope may meet with the approval of the shareholders. I now beg to propose from the chair the adoption of the report and accounts now presented, reminding shareholders that it will carry with it the adoption of the report and the payment of the bonus to our employees. Meanwhile, the accounts are before the meeting and I am prepared to reply to any questions relating thereto.

Mr. A. B. WALFORD—Mr. Chairman, the working of this Company for the past year has been so satisfactory that it is a matter of congratulation

for all the shareholders. It is doubtless owing to my own stupidity that I do not understand the way in which the reduction of capital is to be brought about. In the report you state that there is an amount of \$65,000 taken from the sum of \$81,013.40 the balance of profit and loss account. I think that if that balance is taken from the profit and loss account it cannot be capital in any way; as capital it never belonged to us, and therefore cannot be returned to us as capital. Another difficulty that I find, which doubtless will be explained to me, is that you have on your balance-sheet, liabilities of \$130,000, capital, and \$81,000, odd, balance of profit and loss account, and you offer us \$65,000 to be applied to the reduction of \$81,000. Now, having applied \$65,000 to the reduction of \$81,000, balance of profit and loss account, how can you again apply it to reducing the capital by one half? If you apply the sum to the reduction of the balance of profit and loss, I do not see how you can use it to reduce capital. If, on the other hand, you apply it to reducing the capital, then you leave the profit and loss account, to that amount, entirely untouched.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Walford was kind enough to mention the difficulties he has just mentioned, in conversation with me this morning. I am not a professional accountant, but I saw one of our accountants, Mr. Keil, a gentleman of considerable experience in these matters, and he said that he could not see the difficulties that Mr. Walford mentions. The \$63,000 returned to shareholders is not made from the profit and loss account, it arises from the working account, and is the accumulated assets from several sources, such as the sale of the Kobe property, the realisation of plant and stock paid for out of capital, etc. I think that the report explains pretty clearly how these profits have been made. I think Mr. Walford is wrong in taking the profit and loss account of this balance-sheet as he does—that is a mere balance. What is shown is the amounts that are to be taken out of the profit and loss account of \$81,000 and after these sums are paid what will be carried forward, as from the 1st of June. The Board has been advised that it is competent to make this return of capital to shareholders, and I think that when the next accounts are presented the matter will be perfectly plain.

MR. WALTER—If in order, I might let Mr. Walford that our legal adviser under affidavit sent all the accounts to Hongkong up to the 1st May, and he certified that there were then no debts owing by the Company either to shareholders or other people.

The CHAIRMAN—The affidavit is dated prior to the 1st of May, but it makes no alteration in the position.

MR. MARTIN seconded the adoption of the accounts, that were then passed.

REPORT.

The Directors have now to submit to you their Report with a Statement of Accounts, for the year ended 31st May last.

The net Profits for that period, including \$17,965.36 balance brought forward from last Account, after paying all charges and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, amount to.....\$120,013.40

From this amount Interim Dividends have been paid, viz:—

On 2nd Dec., 1895, 10%\$13,000
On 25th, Jan., 1896, 20% 26,000.00

and provision made for reduction of Capital by return of \$50 per share..... 65,000.00

leaving balance for appropriation of.....\$ 16,013.40

This balance the Directors propose to deal with, under the sanction of the Shareholders, by the payment of a further Dividend at the rate of 10% per annum, absorbing

the payment of a Bonus to the European Staff and to other Employees of the Company on monthly wages

and to carry forward

\$ 16,013.40

The gross earnings during the past year again show a marked increase over those of the previous year, viz—\$150,548.24 as against \$98,820.55, testifying to the general prosperity of the Company, chiefly due to the increase of the shipping trade of the Port. Although the Directors hope that this may be maintained, they think that the figures of the past two years must be regarded as more or less abnormal.

Of the profit made during the year a sum of \$26,109.64 arises from the sale of the Kobe Property, and it was this, together with the profits on general working that have supplied the funds which enabled the Directors to seek the consent of Shareholders to a return of half the original capital subscribed, which will appear in next Accounts.

Considerable changes have taken place on the Board

of Directors during the year, through Messrs. Hepburn and Rickett having left the Port, and the resignation of Mr. Lowder. Messrs. C. Giussani, James Walter, and F. Gillett have been elected to fill these vacancies. Messrs. Johnstone and J. Walter retire under the provisions of the Articles of Association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. Keil and St. John, and the Directors suggest that these gentlemen be re-elected as Auditors for the present year.

JAMES DODDS, } Directors.
JAMES WALTER, }

Yokohama, 29th July, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET—FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 31ST MAY, 1896.

To Capital		Dr.
Wages due May paid June	...	\$150,000.00
Directors' and Auditors' fees, balance due	...	1,159.34
Sundry Creditors	...	1,015.80
Suspense Account	...	74.45
Profit and Loss Account	...	710.18
		\$153,950.27

By Plant, Machinery, Steam Launches, etc.		Cr.
Property Account	...	\$ 39,880.44
Insurance, Unexpired Policies	...	21,838.78
Sundry Debtors	...	1,015.71
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	...	80,213.55
Cash in hand	...	90,860.68
Stock as per Inventory	...	1,661.37
		\$153,950.27

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT—FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 31ST MAY, 1896.

To Bad and disputed debts		Dr.
Plant Account Depreciation	...	\$ 266.41
Property Account Depreciation on Buildings	...	8,609.40
Insurance	...	1,000.00
Rents	...	1,015.71
Wages and Working Expenses	...	51,203.19
Bonus paid to Employees	...	1,075.50
Directors' and Auditors' fees	...	1,159.34
Suspense Account, doubtful debts	...	1,300.00
Dividend to May 31st, 1895, 8 per cent.	...	716.18
Interim 40, 10 per cent, paid December and, 1895	...	10,400.00
Interim Dividend 20 per cent, paid Jan. 25th, 1896	...	26,000.00
Balance as per Balance Sheet	...	\$1,013.40

June 2, 1896.		Cr.
By Balance	...	\$206,533.78
Net profit on sale of Kobe property	...	8,609.40
Kobe bill written off as bad, since collected	...	58.31
Interest	...	921.83
Transfer fees	...	31.00
Gross Earnings	...	\$150,548.24
		\$206,533.78

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

O. KEIL, } Auditors.
R. N. ST. JOHN, }

The CHAIRMAN—The Board have to regret the loss during the year of no less than three Directors, Messrs. Lowder, Rickett, and Hepburn, who have all rendered long and exceptionally good service to the Company through varying good and evil times, and now Messrs. Johnstone and Jas. Walter retire by rotation. Both are eligible for re-election, and as there are no other nominations I shall be glad if some one will move the re-election of the retiring Directors.

MR. WALFORD moved, and Mr. MARTIN seconded, the re-election of the retiring Directors. Carried. In like manner the Auditors, Messrs. Keil and St. John were re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN—As I mentioned in my opening remarks, this meeting has to sanction the recall of the old \$100 certificates, and the issue of new certificates of \$50 face value.

MR. GILLET asked if the resolution needed confirming at another date.

The CHAIRMAN thought not. It would be competent for the meeting to pass such a resolution, the reduction in capital having been passed and approved.

The CHAIRMAN then moved the calling in of the \$100 certificates and the issue in their stead of \$50 certificates.

MR. MARTIN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN having announced that dividend warrants would be ready to-day, a vote of thanks to the Directors and employees brought the proceedings to a close.

In a Scotch bank there still lies the fortune of a young lady who ran away with an English officer to Gretina Green. Her family discarded her. After her death her husband received a letter to the effect that her money was lying in the bank for her children. He threw the letter into the fire, and the fortune is still unclaimed.

The third engineer of the British steamer *Zafiro*, while in Hongkong, carried \$700 in the pocket of his overalls. The money fell out of the garment into the hold, and Chinese coolies working below divided it among themselves. They have now to answer a criminal charge before the Magistrate.

TIDAL WAVE RELIEF FUND.

Yokohama, 30th July, 1896.

Dear Captain BRINKLEY,—

I enclose herewith Mr. Bennett's report, which can be used in any way you think proper. I also send his receipt for the sums received from you. The following is a statement of account:—

RECEIPTS.

From the <i>Japan Mail</i>	\$4,203.12
From the <i>Japan Gazette</i>	815.00
From "In His Name"	9.00

\$5,027.12

EXPENDITURE.

16 cases Milk	\$ 160.000
5 Piculs Hemp	88.73
150 sets Futons	524.85
Freight on Milk, Hemp and Futons ..	24.96
For Boats	4,228.58

\$5,027.12

Yours very sincerely,

CHARLES V. SALE.

July, 1896.

Received from the *Japan Mail* the sum of four thousand two hundred and three dollars and twelve cents (\$4,203.12) for distribution among the sufferers by the Tidal Wave in Miyagi, Iwate, and Aomori Kents.

ALBERT ARNOLD BENNETT.

Yokohama, July 31st, 1896.

Received from the *Japan Mail* Office for Seismic Wave Fund, Forty yen (\$40.).

CHARLES V. SALE.

Yokohama, July 27th, 1896.

Having completed to the best of my ability, the task that was assigned me, I respectfully present my report.

After the return of the other members of your Committee, I visited important points not previously visited, and have thus alone or in company with them examined the whole district. All that I have seen and learned has but deepened my conviction that the course practically decided by the Committee when together was the wisest one we could pursue under the circumstances. Thus, while the carrying out of the plans has largely fallen to me, the plans themselves met with our unanimous approval. Of course the details could not be decided conjointly, for many facts now known could not then be ascertained, and the amount of funds at first entrusted to the Committee was only a small part of that which was finally given to them to expend.

It was early determined to spend the bulk of the money in Iwate Ken. The greatness of the comparative claims of Iwate Ken will suggest itself on a view of the figures published in the tables prepared by the three afflicted Kents. For example, the number killed in Aomori Ken* is reported as 316, in Miyagi Ken† 3,346, in Iwate Ken‡ 18,158. The wounded in Aomori Ken number 214, in Miyagi 726, in Iwate 2,943. The houses carried away or broken up show a like proportion. Thus Aomori Ken reports 863, Miyagi Ken 1,367, and Iwate Ken 6,036.

The articles to be purchased and distributed were also decided by the Committee as a whole. These were hemp, condensed milk, *futon*, and boats. Let me speak of them in detail.

The hemp was purchased at the especial suggestion of the head-man of Ofunato-mura. It is to be used in making and repairing nets. The variety of nets used is great, and the fineness or coarseness of the cord differs with the character of the net required. Hemp, however, may be twined into the desired cord, and this again used in making or mending the desired nets. It is true that net-making is an industry of itself, and that many fishermen cannot make their own nets, but it is also true that there are those who can, and such, we were assured, was the case in Ofunato. The need of nets is great. Iwate-ken reports 23,296 nets lost, which, together with other fishing implements [not including boats], are valued at over one hundred thousand yen. It was my purpose to distribute in person the hemp and milk, having been informed by the steamship agent in Ishinomaki that I could call at all the ports along the devastated district. On reaching Oginohama, however, I found that owing to the large amount of freight, it had been determined to divide it among three steamers, sailing at the same time for different ports. As I could sail in only one of

* Table of June 30. † Table of June 26. ‡ Table of July 15.

the three, I sent the hemp and part of the milk, with full directions, to places already visited, while I went in person with that which was to be distributed in the other parts. The receipt of everything has since been duly acknowledged, and thanks for the same expressed.

In evidence that the Committee have endeavoured to prove worthy of the confidence generously imposed in them, the steps taken in the purchase of hemp may be mentioned as a sample of much of their work. First the price of hemp at the best terms in Yokohama was ascertained. Then, as Ichinoseki, in the midst of a large hemp-growing district, was recommended as the best market, one of the members of your Committee went there ascertaining prices and securing samples, while another member, in company with Mr. Miller of Morioka, searched that city. In the course of this search a native gentleman gave names and addresses of firms in Maesawa and Mizusawa, which he said were the principal wholesale firms in that region, according to the Japanese directory. To each of these firms letters were accordingly addressed inquiring terms and requesting samples. From one of them the surprising answer was received that they did not deal in hemp, but that the best place to purchase what we wanted was in Yokohama. Others sent answers and samples. After comparing all the prices learned and samples received, it was found that the answer referred to was correct, and the hemp was accordingly secured in our own port.

The condensed milk, sixteen boxes, was distributed at the various hospitals. One hospital was omitted because of difficulty of delivery, and others were omitted because of insufficient information or doubts as to whether or not they were still continued. The sixteen boxes were distributed as follows:—

Miyagi-ken, Shizugawa	three boxes.
do Kesennuma	do
Iwate-ken, Sakari	two boxes.
do Kamaishi	do
do Ozuchi	do
do Yamada	do
do Miyako	do

The amounts apportioned were not those at first planned. The change in plan was due to the fact that, just before shipment, it was found that others were carrying milk to some of the above places. It therefore seemed wise to decrease the amount determined for such places and send more to the two hospitals to which we were sending in Miyagi Ken. The milk was greatly welcomed in the hospitals. While the number of patients is decreasing, especially of those treated for fractures and bruises, there are still some who will long need medical care and special diet, as pneumonia, pleurisy, and now typhus or typhoid fever are found in almost all the hospitals. Dr. Saiki, in charge of the hospital at Kamaishi, told me that milk was in constant demand for recovering patients. Dr. Miyamoto, in charge of the hospital at Ozuchi, told me that he could not there get fresh milk or meat or any other nourishing food for his fever patients, and said he was very glad to have the milk for them. Dr. Mimura, of the hospital at Yamada, not only thanked me most heartily, but as we went from ward to ward, insisted on telling the poor sufferers what I had brought them, and they in turn expressed their gratitude to both donors and messenger by the best bow their pained and bandaged forms would permit. As I examined the daily records in different hospitals, and saw how well some old as well as young people were doing who had been seriously injured, even operated upon after their cases had been dangerously long concealed by would-be friends wishing to keep them out of the dread hospital, I was impressed with the skill of native physicians, and the vitality of patients.

After it was decided to purchase *futon*, the question of the place of purchase naturally came up, and involved the expense of much time and labour. The feasibility of purchasing in Morioka, and shipping from there, was thoroughly investigated and abandoned. The question of Tokyo or Yokohama was also considered and abandoned. It was finally decided that, all things considered, it would be best to purchase in Sendai. That city was therefore pretty thoroughly scoured, but *futon* are not kept in stock at this time of year, and the hope of purchasing ready-made ones was at last given up. A number of firms were consulted with reference to the manufacture of new ones, and at last an arrangement was made with an establishment which had furnished large supplies of them to the Government, whereby one hundred and fifty sets of two *futon* each were made, out of coarse strong cloth with clean cotton-batting inside. Into the corner of each *futon* was sewed a small piece of white cloth on which was written the character "Yoko" (横) and a number. The

number of the upper and lower *futon* of each set is the same, the numbers running consecutively from 1 to 150. They have been securely wrapped in bundles of seven or eight sets each, and shipped in lots of fifty sets each to the three places decided upon, viz., Sakari, Toni, and Kamaishi. These *futon* are to be given as far as possible to the old men and old women who have been left without proper supporters. I consulted about this matter in the *Gunyakusho* at Kamaishi, and afterwards sent explicit letters to proper officials, copies of which letters were also enclosed in a letter to the Governor of Iwate Ken. When the *futon* are distributed, a list of the recipients, with the residence and *futon* number of each, is to be forwarded to the Committee. It may be well to remark here that the aged and the orphans seem to call most for sympathy, but that the latter class are being well provided for. Most if not all of the established orphan asylums of the country have sent letters or delegates to secure orphans. A number of new orphanages, both *bond fide* and bogus, are making this calamity an excuse for their claims, and private individuals are opening their own homes to the bereft children. But the people of the various towns are slow to give up these children. I have asked about them in a number of places, but have not heard of any going to a regular orphanage. Almost the last telegram I received was from a gentleman who came from Hokkaido, in search of orphans, but who, at the close of his first week's search, could only wire "Koji wa arimaisen" (there are no orphans).

The bulk of all the monies contributed has been spent for boats. This point had been settled by the Committee as a whole, but of the wisdom of the course I became more and more convinced. Two considerations will help to make this palpable to others. First, until boats are supplied, the time will not come when other supplies will not be needed. Survivors who are able to support themselves and their families must themselves be fed and cared for until they can have the means of self-support. A sad tale was told me at Kuji of fishermen going to the shore and seeing there an abundance of fish, and then in despair turning back again to all that was left of their shattered homes. Second, while it is true that there is need of almost every necessity of life, the Government is now supplying rice, and people from near and far are sending in things new and old. Household utensils, clothing, &c., are being provided by other relief committees, by Christian and by Buddhist bodies and various other agencies. They told me at Yamada of a large number of handkerchiefs, &c., received from the prostitutes of Tokyo. These articles are all needed, and many more of the same kind will be needed, but they can be sent by individuals or committees having little money to disburse, and so are more apt to be provided than the more expensive boats. I have heard of no other committee giving boats.

The money devoted to the purchase of boats is about four thousand one hundred dollars. As these boats must be made from seasoned timber and as they are to be made in a number of different places, your Committee early appreciated the practical impossibility of personally superintending their construction. The matter of construction was at length entrusted to the Kencho at Morioka, whose officers kindly accepted the care and responsibility of having the boats bought or made, and delivered according to the stipulations. The boats were to be made and delivered as soon as possible, to cost not more than forty or at most fifty yen each [it was thought they could be made for about thirty yen each], to be marked "Hama" 波, and numbered consecutively from one up; were to be delivered in the places and proportions suggested by your Committee, and when all should have been delivered, a list of recipients with residence and boat-number indicated, was to be furnished to the Committee. In the event of a final surplus too small to purchase another boat, it was to be used for nets or other fishing implements and also reported.

The matter of the distribution of the boats has received much consideration. At first thought it might seem wise to give most to towns which had suffered most, but often towns which have lost boats have also lost many people and so are not specially in need. A table was then prepared showing the percentage of boats lost, and the percentage of life lost, and towns were selected which showed the largest percentage of boat-loss compared with the smallest loss of life. But this table, even, did not fairly represent the respective claims of different towns, for while some places had lost a large percentage of their boats and only a small proportion of their population, it was found that they had in the first place comparatively few boats to the whole number of inhabitants. For instance, Kuji-machi lost ninety-six per cent. of all its boats, and only four per cent. of her population, but then it

had only one boat to every fifty-three of its population, in the first place, so the city as a whole lost but little. According to the apportionment finally determined upon:—1st. Only those towns receive boats in which the original number of boats was more than one to twenty of the population, 2nd. In every case (except Toni) the percentage of loss of boats was at least four times or more the percentage of loss of life. 3rd. In no case is the extreme limit of boats to be given equal to one-seventh of the number washed away. Boats reported as broken but not washed away have not been taken into the reckoning, for it is impossible for your committee to tell from what information they could get in what cases such boats were ruined, in what cases only slightly damaged, and what cases represented various degrees of injury between these two extremes.

From ten to fifteen boats are furnished to each of the following places, all in Iwate Ken:—

Name of Kori.	Name of Place.	Original Population.	Reported Killed.	Approximate Per cent. Killed.	Original Number Boats.	Reported Lost.	Approximate Per cent. Boats Lost.
	Mura.						
Kesen	Hirota	3,200	500	16	405	336	83
Kesen	Suzuki	3,965	600	15	573	276	48
Kesen	Okirai	4,440	432	10	301	274	91
Kesen	Toni	3,807	3,100	75	243	208	86
Higashi Hel	Sakiyama	981	260	27	137	108	79
Kita Hel	Omoto	2,990	367	12	361	350	97
Kita Hel	Tanohara	3,017	301	10	175	118	67
Minami Ku-no-He	Ube	8,244	189	2	330	259	79
Minami Ku-no-He	Noda	5,190	861	16	140	131	94
Kita Ku-no-He	Taneichi	4,685	183	4	234	194	83

The exception in the case of Toni was made because the Committee as a whole, on their visit to that place, being much impressed with the devastation everywhere apparent, had consulted with its officials, and had led them to expect that the boats which they requested should be granted. A glance at the above table will show that though Toni is an exception to the rules which have been decided for the other places, yet had the whole amount of money entrusted to the Committee been spent for this one place alone, it would not have sufficed to make good to its inhabitants again their former quota of boats. When the first of the money was paid to the Kencho, it was still a question under discussion by Government whether or not the wood for boats would be given from the government forest lands. This and other unknown factors in the problem of cost made it seem wise to allow the broad margin involved in the apportionment to each place of "from ten to fifteen." Smaller numbers might have been assigned to a larger number of places, but this did not seem necessary, especially as it would enhance the task which the officials had so kindly consented to perform for us in the way we ourselves suggested.

In closing, I wish to express my thanks to Rev. E. Rothery Miller, of Morioka, who spared no effort to assist the Committee in the carrying out of their plans; and also to bear testimony to the uniform politeness shown your Committee by officials in the various Kencho, *Gunyakusho*, *Keisatsujo*, &c.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT ARNOLD BENNETT.

THE DOSHISHA.

Kyoto, Japan, April 30th, 1896.
To the Honorable Members of the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to inform you that the Trustees of the Doshisha Corporation feel ever grateful for the work which the American Board has been doing in the past twenty years or more for the evangelization of our country, and especially for the contributions made to our schools by sending us teachers and also by means of financial aids. Though there are very many causes for the great success of our Institution, we acknowledge that your generous and enthusiastic support was one of the most important elements which contributed to its rapid growth and development. Our feeling of gratitude to the American Board has never lessened at any time, notwithstanding our views in some things did not agree with those of the missionaries sent over by the Board.

The fact that you have lately sent the Deputation to our country shows your deep interest in the affairs of Japan, and indeed, it was an undertaking well suited to the needs and requirements of the missionary work. We regret, however, that we have not been able to come to any agreement in matters upon which we have had conferences with them while they were in Kyoto. We have no other purpose but to serve our Lord Jesus Christ, and follow him in spirit and act according to his teachings. Moreover, we have no heart to prove

ever ungrateful to the American Board. But we, as servants of Jesus Christ and also as citizens of Japan, can never conceal the fact and cover with a veil what we think is the truth, even though we have sometimes to displease the Board. When we heard that the Deputation was coming, we expected that they would fairly and minutely inquire into the causes of misunderstanding between ourselves and the missionaries, and we hoped that the unpleasant feelings now existing between us would be removed in the future. But the result turned out quite contrary to our expectations, so that the misunderstanding seems to have rather increased than diminished. In this letter we confine ourselves to the relation of the Doshisha to the missionaries, and omit all mention of the Kumi-ai Churches and their connection with the missionaries.

First, as to the property question, it must be stated that all the nine houses for the use of our foreign teachers were built by the funds of the American Board. But we have always understood them as gifts to our institution, and until recently, we have not heard that the missionaries themselves have held any other opinion on this subject. For the past twenty years, we have given to our foreign teachers no inconvenience with regard to their using these houses owned by the Doshisha. Within the past few years, they have begun to feel very uneasy about our proprietary right over these houses, we know not why, and a rumour has even gone out to the effect that the missionaries were to be turned out of the Doshisha, and their buildings to be appropriated for the private purposes of the Trustees.

Second, with regard to the principle of education in our schools, we have no other purpose than to carry out the aim of the founder, subject, however, to the requirements of the times and to the development of the Institution on the whole. While Christianity is the foundation of the moral education according to the unalterable constitution of the Doshisha, it is not an institution belonging to any one sect or denomination. The late Mr. Neesima, its founder, valued so highly the spirit of free inquiry and belief that he communicated freely with men of all sorts of beliefs. We have followed his example by our strict adherence to the principle of Christianity on the one hand, and on the other, by allowing both to our teachers and students the large amount of the freedom of thinking. We are convinced that only in this way we could exert the best and healthiest influence of Christianity over all our schools. But the views of the missionaries have often been different. They have urged the Trustees not to allow in our institution, either by our teachers or by temporary lecturers invited from the outside, any expression of opinions which they have judged to be adverse to the interest of Christianity. The reasons why we are unable to grant their urgent request were; firstly, because such a policy, we believe, is against the original purpose of the founder of this institution; secondly, because it would rather injure the influence of Christianity and retard the progress of true religion; and thirdly, because the opinions considered so heretical by missionaries are not so in our view. Since the missionaries could not agree with us on this point, perhaps they misunderstood us, and reported abroad that we have altered our principles, while in fact we are trying to uphold, as far as circumstances allow, the very spirit of the founder of our institution. They urged us at one time to make some public declaration of our principle, as they thought there are some who, not knowing the facts, have come to doubt us on this point. But we relied upon fact and behaviour, which would tell more to our credit in the end. So with this object in view, we have been making effort to improve the internal management and ensure the general progress in the moral and religious tone of our several schools. Such was the state of things, when the Deputation came to visit our institution. We hoped that they would make full observation and judge most impartially in regard to the matter in dispute. But we are sorry to say that we were much disappointed, and the misunderstanding seems rather to have increased as a consequence.

We were very eager to read the report of the Deputation presented to the Prudential Committee of the American Board, Jan. 22nd, 1896. In this report we find many statements very unfavourable to ourselves and to our institution. We regret very much to take adverse views of the matter, but we can not pass over the report in silence, as, we take, it presents only one side of the matter in question, and has the tendency to deepen the misunderstanding about our position before our Christian brethren in America.

I.—PROPERTY.

In the report of the Deputation, it is stated that the nine houses for the use of our foreign teachers and the lands on which they are built belong legally to the Doshisha, but morally they are the

property of the American Board. This is a point of difference between your deputation and ourselves. Although there is no written statement as to conditions of gift at the time of their building, the Trustees have never doubted for a moment, that these houses and lands were morally as well as legally the property of the Doshisha Corporation.

Among the manuscripts left by Mr. Neesima we find the copy of his letter, dated April, 1883, addressed to an officer of the Kyoto Prefecture. It reads as follows:—

"I am informed that, when the officer of the Board of Education has lately visited our School, he has inquired whether the foreign teachers and the Trustees of the Doshisha Corporation do hold the lands in common or not; from which we judge that the Governor himself is in doubt on this point. Now the foreign teachers employed in our school are not the members of the Doshisha Corporation; and they do not share any right of property in the lands, which are all under the control of the Trustees of the Corporation, who are five in number."

We do not know whether this letter has been actually presented to the officer or not, but we do know that he has always proclaimed this to the public at large.

In 1893, when the houses and lands outside of Kyoto, belonging to the use of the missionaries of the American Board, were to be given over to the Doshisha, the following letter was sent to us through Rev. Geo. E. Albrecht, in behalf of the Committee *ad interim* of the Mission, dated Kyoto, March 28th, 1893:—

"To the Honourable Board of Trustees of the Doshisha Schools: Gentlemen.—The question of missionary residences in the different parts of the country having become quite serious and complicated, the Committee *ad interim* of the Mission has been asked to seek its best solution. One suggestion has been that the Trustees of the Doshisha be requested to take charge of all the various pieces of property used as missionary residences in the interior towns. If we are not mistaken you have at one time kindly expressed your readiness to do so, and we would, therefore, respectfully ask whether and under what considerations you are ready to do so now."

"Perhaps it may be well to divide the question, considering by itself respectively the property in Kyoto, and that in other cities."

"Regarding the former, we believe we are quite safe in saying that, no matter if in the future foreigners should be allowed to hold property in Japan, the American Board would in no way seek to receive control over the school property itself. But we have always thought that the residences of the foreign missionaries are not to be put on exactly the same basis as the School property. With regard to these, we would ask whether we are right in understanding that the trustees of the Doshisha, while being the legal owners, consider the Mission authorized to decide upon the use to which these residences are to be put, as long as the American Board is working in Japan? We should be glad to receive your verbal, or if convenient, your written reply to this question. We are sure that just at present it would be reassuring to the Board to receive your reply."

Regarding property in other cities, the question to which we would request your reply is: if you kindly consent to hold such property, could you give to the Mission any kind of statement with regard to it, and if so, what statement? Suppose you consent to hold property in Tsu, used for a missionary residence, and in the course of time it should become desirable to remove our missionaries from Tsu, while some missionary society would be ready to buy the property, we to open a station somewhere else, could such a sale be effected? And would you be able to give us a written statement to that effect? That is, could you give us a statement to the effect that you hold such property for some special purpose, and that it is held so as to be transferable?

"Supposing again that the ladies of our churches in America, who have lent to the Baikwa-Jo-Gakko the money for the land on which a part of the school stands, should wish to give that land to the school, could that be effected?"

"We, of course, realize that you are in duty bound to obey the laws of this country in regard to the holding of property, and we would not ask you in the least to swerve from this path of duty. But we, on our part, can also not forget that we have serious responsibility in this matter toward the American Board and the churches at home who have cheerfully contributed the money with which this property in question has been bought, and we are confident that you would not have us forget this responsibility, but would rather aid us in meeting it most wisely. In this confidence we come to you asking you kindly to give us a care-

ful statement of what you can, as well as what you can not, do in this matter. Such a statement would be most helpful to us, and with it you would put us under great obligation."

In behalf of the Committee *ad interim*, yours, etc.

In this letter a question was raised as to whether the houses for the residence of our foreign teachers are to be put on exactly the same basis as the school property or not. Our reply to it was to this effect:—

"Although while the work of the Doshisha has been carried on hitherto largely through the aid of the A.B.C.F.M., especially such being the case with reference to the buying of lands and the buildings, the Trustees do not recognize this property as subject to any condition in regard to its present use. Yet, as we do not intend to be disloyal to the goodwill of the Board, it is our intention not to change the mode of the use to which it is to be placed, so long as we recognize that there are the same needs for such uses as at first."

At the same time, we made the following resolution as to the question of the missionary properties outside of Kyoto.

"In the future if the American Board and other societies would send us any contribution for the purchase of lands and buildings in order to promote the work of the Doshisha, we are willing to accept it even though the lands and houses purchased by it have to be used for the purpose of the missionary work for the period of a certain number of years."

The missionaries of the American Board were then satisfied with both of our replies, and have given over to us a large number of properties, worth about twenty thousand yen, lying outside of Kyoto. Since that time, we have not heard from the missionaries that they had any other understanding about the subject. If they had, they should have given us a communication to that effect. The fact that they did not do so, but have given over to us even properties outside of Kyoto is the conclusive proof that the missionaries had consented at that time to the decision of the Doshisha.

The report of the deputation reads as if the resolution referred to had no connection with the question of the houses in Kyoto, but it is totally contrary to the fact.

The resolutions of the Trustees at that time were expressly made to settle the question raised by the Committee of the Mission about the condition under which these houses were to be held. This is evident from the latter of the Committee transcribed above.

If the right of property over these houses for the use of our foreign teachers were meant to be nominal, the missionaries ought to have taken some steps at that time, because we have there expressly declined to accept any gift to the Doshisha, which would be only nominal.

The Deputation have repeatedly declared in public that it is wrong to ask rent from the American Board for the properties purchased out of the treasury of the Board. This is the point on which they have not rightly represented us to the public. If any property was given over to the Doshisha, it is our duty to use it for the object intended by the donor, and the right to ask rent for the use of it in other than the object for which it was given is inherent in the right of property. This is what we did claim; but in fact we have hitherto never asked any rent for the use of the houses in question from the missionaries of the American Board, and in the future we would not ask any rent from the missionaries connected with the school, and from those missionaries other than teachers we said we may require rent in the case of extraordinary emergency. The future policy of the Doshisha with regard to them is very plainly stated in our letter addressed to the Deputation. We have stated there:—

"Now since it is our intention not to prove disloyal to the goodwill of the donor, and so not to change the mode of the use to which it is to be placed so long as we recognise that there are the same needs for such uses as at first; as it has been expressly said in the letter quoted above, you shall be assured that we will grant free use of these houses to all foreign teachers sent over by the American Board, so long as they are in the employ of our institution."

"We have no evidence, either written or oral, that these houses in Kyoto were built for the use of missionaries, and it has been always our understanding that they were given as the residences of our foreign teachers. But as we feel ever grateful for the generous gifts you have bestowed and are still bestowing on us, as an expression of our gratitude to the Board, we will give free use of a certain number of those houses when they are not occupied by our foreign teachers, for the period of a certain number of years, provided there be no

occasion in future of a great financial stress, which endangers the very life of our Institution.

"We believe that we have done hitherto nothing which gives to our foreign teachers or missionaries any inconvenience or embarrassment concerning their residences here. And we assure you that we cannot think that there will be any occasion in the future which will give to them any anxiety or trouble concerning their residences. The only regret we have is that we have been unable to come to any satisfactory understanding on this point."

Thus on account of our gratitude to the Board, we would allow the missionaries of the Board, even if they have no connection with the work in the Doshisha, to use the houses without rent as well in the future as at present, "provided there be no occasion in future of a great financial stress which endangers the very life of our Institution." So under the present circumstances, there is practically no inconvenience at all to the missionaries as we have clearly indicated in the above letter to the Deputation.

Therefore, we do not understand why the American Board claims at this epoch of time the moral right over these properties. We can explain it only on the ground that the Board has some doubt in regard to the Doshisha Corporation itself. But our corporation will never depart from our moral obligations, and expect never to fail to be loyal to the good will of the donor; so that, as long as the Board could have confidence in the Doshisha, there will practically arise no embarrassment in the future.

We are sorry for having such misunderstanding and discussions with the Board to which we owe so much. It is only because we are afraid to stain the good name of the founder, and also because we are afraid to injure the principle for which we have stood so long in the past before the public.

II.—THE NURSES' TRAINING SCHOOL AND THE HOSPITAL.

We offer only a few remarks on this head. The question has been one of long standing. It is not true, when the Deputation reports as if we have made an attempt of reform by taking advantage of the absence of Dr. Berry. The reasons why we intended to put them under full control of the Trustees as any other part of our institution are two: first, to ensure their success by adapting them more closely to the needs and requirements of our country; second, to put an end to perpetual misunderstanding which used to arise between the missionaries and the Japanese for the lack of clear understanding on their relations to each other. The question was brought up for the first time before the Trustees five or six years ago, and since that time it used to come up almost every year at the meeting of the Trustees.

The report states that the Trustees "noted that if Dr. Berry returned he should not hold his former position as director, but that a Japanese should occupy the place, and Dr. Berry hold the position of advisor. An opinion like this was held by some of the Trustees, but it has never been voted at the meeting of the Trustees. The report adds further, that we also plan to put a Japanese in Miss Fraser's place. There is no ground whatever for this statement.

The Trustees do not intend to make any unjust requirement in regard to the management of the Nurses Training School and the Hospital. But we regret that, since Dr. Berry does not return to Japan as we hoped, we are obliged to make further changes in this part of our Institution.

III.—THE SPIRIT OF THE DOSHISHA.

With reference to the spirit and principle of our institution, the report states that there was marked concurrence in the opinion that a change had taken place in the spirit of the Institution. It is not only untrue that a change had taken place in the spirit of the Doshisha, but the Deputation does great injustice in making such statements to the Trustees and our Institution on the whole. He who is really acquainted with the religious situation in Japan would not make such a statement which is so biased and prejudiced.

It is true that our Institution has grown up within the past twenty years from a little school to its present magnitude, almost reaching the size of university. We admit that there has been great development in the past which necessitated some changes in the management of our institution. Such transformations are only the natural course of events in the evolution of any Institution. At first the Theological School was everything in the Doshisha, so that the college was entirely subordinated to it. Then the college grew up fully, to which was added the Preparatory School. Next the School of Science was formed, and lastly, the School of Politics and Law, so that the whole institution has now become

quite complex. The boy has grown up to his manhood, and yet he is the same person. But his features and actions, his moral and intellectual powers are not the same. Growth and development are the universal laws of Nature, from which Schools are not exempt. Such transformations are to be seen in every institution, for which the Doshisha alone is not responsible. We can not understand why the intelligent Deputation should not be able to comprehend this truth.

It is well known that the religious movement in Japan has not been brisk for several years past, and the churches at large were not able to keep up former outlines. It is true that the Doshisha also was much affected by these influences, although it has stood firm against the adverse current. The strictures of the Deputation on the Doshisha would be quite reasonable, if all the churches and other Christian institutions in Japan were flourishing, and only the Doshisha was in a backward religious condition. But this is not the case, and the simple truth is that our institution was also affected by the general influences unfavourable to all religious movements in the country.

The criticism is perhaps founded on the difference of views with regard to the original purpose for which our institution was established. The Trustees, however, hold fast to the principle of the constitution of the Doshisha, which is expressly stated there to be unchangeable.

Art. I.—It is the object of this corporation to promote the work of education on the principle of the joint moral and intellectual culture.

Art. III.—Christianity is the foundation of the moral education promoted by this corporation."

This is the spirit of the Doshisha. Mr. Nishima, its founder, has always avowed to the public that the object of the Doshisha is education and not missionary work. This is explicitly stated in his public announcement of three reasons for the establishment of the Doshisha University, from which we quote the following sentences:—

"He who will say that this is only a means for the propagation of Christianity and for the training of preachers does not understand us at all. Our purpose is yet far above it. We do not mean to establish this University in order to propagate Christianity; but as we are convinced there is a living power in the principle of Christianity in moulding the spirit and conduct of our young men, we do mean to apply this principle in education and to produce men whose character is formed by this principle. Therefore we intend to establish, beside our present Theological course, the University courses of Politics, Economics, Philosophy, Literature, Law, etc. If we are not able to found all these courses at once, we intend to found them gradually, beginning from those which would be more easily put into execution. Our object in view is manifest from the above statement. Hence this University is not the organ of any religion or of politics in any sense. And it is taken for granted that our object could not be attained by relying on the power of any one party or locality."

This is the spirit and principle of the founder of the Doshisha, to which the Trustees hold fast and which we are trying to develop more and more. Therefore the Trustees can say conscientiously that we are not conscious of any change in the spirit and principle of our institution.

We can not believe that a Deputation so intelligent, could of themselves fall into such misunderstanding as they did. We believe that the missionaries in Japan first misunderstood the Doshisha. More than once they have proposed to put restriction on the freedom of thought in our institution, while the policy of the Trustees is to extend the sphere of this freedom and quicken the spirit of faith by the positive method rather than by any negative means of restriction. From this course arose the conflict of views and from it the misunderstanding now existing between us. Any person who could judge the case fairly and impartially should be able to understand us with regard to these points. We have no desire to attack the missionaries, but we can not understand the reason why they ascribe all the causes of the decline of the religious movement to the Japanese and they themselves seem to feel least responsibility for it. Even admitting as facts that there are a few Japanese teachers whose views on Christianity differ from those of the missionaries, why is it that the influence of so many veteran missionaries on the ground is not able to counteract it? It is true that the religious influence in the Doshisha is not as fully strong at present as we hope. The responsibility for it rests on the President, the Trustees, and the Japanese teachers, but not on them alone. It rests also on the foreign Missionaries, whose duty by profession is

missionary work. We do not know how to answer it, if one should criticise the missionaries that they take all credit for themselves, when the work is successful, but blame the Japanese when it is not.

The deputation, coming under such a situation, should have pronounced their judgment after inquiring most carefully into all the circumstances of the case. On the contrary, they proceeded at once to request us to make some declaration in regard to the fundamental truth of Christianity. We assured them that there has been no change in the principles of the Doshisha. We asked them to inspect fully the real state of things in our several schools and to see the Trustees and teachers individually to acquaint themselves fully with their spirit. We assured them moreover that we have always tried to maintain in the past and will also hold up in the future the spirit and principle of our corporation. But the Deputation persisted in their demand, and presented as one reason for making this demand that, though they were themselves satisfied, they could not thus satisfy the Christians in America and remove the misunderstanding unless we made some statements or confessions of faith. We told them that it was enough for us if they were themselves satisfied, and requested them to speak of what they had seen and declare what they were convinced of.

The principal reason why we could not comply with the request of the Deputation was that the Trustees did not find any necessity for making such statement as they desired; we were convinced that the only means to remove this misunderstanding is the actual conduct and practical management of our institution, and not mere confessions or profession by words. Speaking from the individual standpoint of faith, the President and most of Trustees do not hesitate to affirm their belief in the articles presented by the Deputation. To tell the fact, of nine Trustees at present, four, including the President, are ministers of Kunitai Churches, three are prominent members of the same church and the remaining two are graduates from the Doshisha. All the deans of several schools except one are members of the Christian Church; so are a large majority of the Japanese professors and instructors. We have chapel service during the week, where all members of the faculty and the students are required to attend, while every Sunday morning divine service is held in the same place. The instruction in the Bible is offered to all students. If such an institution is not a Christian school, we can not think of any that is Christian.

We apprehend that the misunderstanding will rather increase if we make such confessions of our faith, especially under present circumstances in Japan. First, it is common in the churches to make such confessions of faith, but we have not heard of any case among the schools we know of. We have been often accused by the public that we confound education with propagation of religion. The late Mr. Nishima tried always to repudiate such accusations. We are afraid that the misunderstanding would rather be increased if we publish anything resembling confessions of faith or creed. Such a proceeding on our part would rather confirm the false report believed by the missionaries and other people that a change had taken place in the spirit and principle of our institution. If we now act under appearance of compulsion from outside, we would surely bring upon ourselves the reproach that we have made declarations which we do not like simply in order to please the desires of the Christians in America. The consequence of such an act would have a bad influence and injure the independence of our institution.

Moreover, the four articles of faith which were presented to us by the Deputation may seem as very simple truths to the churches in Europe and America, but it is not so among the churches in Japan. They can not be regarded as very simple, especially when theological discussions are as active as at present. In one sense, there is no Christian in Japan who would deny the personality of God. But these are many whose views will differ widely from each other, if by personality of God is meant some anthropomorphic representation of God. There are some people here who regard as atheists our pastors who are very earnest and faithful, or denounce as pantheists those who proclaim God as the absolute reason of the Universe. Under such circumstance as this, it is extremely perilous to make such a simple statement of the truth as was demanded by the Deputation. It is especially perilous for the institution of education to make such a statement, and will produce more misunderstanding, when there are so much discordance of views between the missionaries and the Japanese on the Divinity of Christ, the Immortality of the Soul, and the Nature of the Supernatural Revelation. We hope that you will

understand that the reasons for our refusal to make any declaration on these articles of faith are not so simple as they appear on the pages of the report made by the Deputation.

We present this letter to you with profound respect, hoping that you will judge the case most impartially and will remove all misunderstandings now existing between us. We deeply regret that we are obliged to present such a letter to the Board, to which we are bound by so many ties of gratitude.

But we can not pass over in silence the report of the Deputation, which is likely to produce more misunderstanding. So we have freely and frankly stated our views, and respectfully leave the matter to your careful consideration.

Finally, we close this letter with our prayer that God, who is the Father of all things, may bless you and your works now and ever more.

In behalf of the Trustees of the Doshisha,
I remain, yours truly,

H. KOZAKI, President.

YOKOHAMA SILK-CONDITIONING HOUSE.

The Yokohama Silk-Conditioning House, an institution built and established in accordance with the Silk-Conditioning Houses Law, that came into force on April 1st, was opened with much ceremony on Wednesday morning by Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. There was a very numerous assemblage of Japanese officials, merchants, and foreigners interested in the silk industry. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Oka, Director of the House, gave an address; Viscount Enomoto, Governor Nakano, and others, followed; and Mr. Consul-General McIvor, and Mr. James Walter, Chairman of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, spoke. We are indebted for the translation of Viscount Enomoto's address and the other speeches to the *Japan Herald*.

Viscount ENOMOTO, who in his ministerial capacity, delivered the most important of the vernacular addresses, spoke in substance as follows:—The building of the new Silk Conditioning House having been finished, and the installation of its plant having been completed, the ceremony of opening the most important native silk inspecting office in Japan is now being conducted. The necessity of constructing such a Silk Conditioning House has been felt for a long time, because since the port was first opened to trade, the export of silk has been increasing year by year, and now it is nearly ten times greater than it was at the time of the opening of Yokohama to foreign commerce. Now therefore the time has arrived for entering upon a new phase of the industry. We all know that it is an inevitable fact that advantage and disadvantage walk always hand in hand, also that prosperity and decline has each its own day. Thus, as the silk industry developed, it was abused, and the production of a deteriorated or carelessly manufactured article began. As a result of this it is a fact that the credit of Japanese silk is almost lost so far as the European and American markets are concerned. Occasionally we export silk of the finest quality which surpasses even that of Italy and France. But these are very rare exceptions to the general rule, and the few samples of excellent quality which we may have sent out, are cast into the shadow by the immense amount of the inferior quality article produced. Now this is a fact much regretted by myself as well as by the Japanese and foreign purchasers. The Government has stimulated the improvement and development of the silk industry at home, and at the same time made every effort to obtain credit for the country's output in the places of demand. However, finding that the effort has not met with success, the necessity of erecting this establishment was recognized; and preparations were made for the establishment of two such offices, one in Yokohama and the other at Kobe. The Kobe House has already been opened; in Yokohama the ceremony of opening is being conducted to day. Now that the arrangements for the inspection of silk have been perfected, I shall see that the officers are attentive to the inspection of all silk submitted to their scrutiny so as to consummate the object of the institution. Those Japanese and foreigners who are engaged in the silk trade ought to endeavour to further the intention of the Government and avail themselves of the facilities offered for the inspection of silk by the institution, and thus conduce to promote the interests of both parties permanently. This is what I earnestly desire.—(Applause.)

Mr. McIVOR spoke as follows:—I have taken great interest in the establishment of this Silk Conditioning House. In my opinion, it marks

another mile-post in the march of Japan's progress. The fact of its establishment shows that your Department of Agriculture and Commerce, under the leadership and guidance of a distinguished Minister, who is one of your broadest and most enlightened statesmen, has determined not to be outdone by your military departments, which have pressed your country's flag forward with such success as to attract the attention of the world. He realizes that commercial integrity and development are the real foundations of a nation's greatness. We are told that in the dawning days of commerce, men bartered goods for goods, and money was not used; that later, when the precious metals came into use as mediums of purchase, they were weighed and tested for fineness on each transaction. This, while necessary, was most inconvenient, and tended to block the wheels of free commerce. It was not until the Governments of the civilized world recognized the fact that the stability and integrity rested upon the removal of all possible obstructions to commerce, that they began to coin money, or to place their stamp upon metal to guarantee that it was of certain fineness and weight. Thus the value of the metal was accepted as that stamped upon its face, and inconvenience and delays in commercial transactions were reduced to a minimum. This was properly considered a great achievement of civilization. In the same way, it is, I believe, intended that this Conditioning House shall give to each parcel or bale of silk offered, a sort of mint certificate of weight and fineness which will probably gain for it a recognised status in the world of commerce. It will also give the producer information as to what is lacking in his product, and will have a tendency to keep it up to the standard. We all know how important this is, because experience has taught us that when we have succeeded in introducing our wares, the battle is but begun; our energies must be faithfully exerted to keep them up to the standard which first attracted purchasers. We, of America, have always felt a friendly interest in your development. We are glad to congratulate you on every progressive step which will increase the trade between us, because, while, now we buy more from you than any other nation, and sell you less than most, we indulge the hope that, as the volume of our mutual trade increases, it will gradually become more reciprocal.—(Applause.)

Mr. JAS. WALTER, who next addressed the gathering, said:—Your Excellencies and Gentlemen, Mr. Oka, the Director of the Kiito Kensa-Jo, or Silk Conditioning House, as known to foreigners, has kindly invited me to say a few words at the opening ceremony of this establishment. I am afraid there is little or nothing new that can come from me, as you are all too well acquainted with the silk trade of Yokohama and the great progress it has made during the past thirty years. As, however, there are many merchants here present who are largely interested in other branches of the export trade of Japan, you will perhaps pardon me for mentioning that when I first came to Japan in the year 1867 the total export of raw silk for that year was 13,500 bales, of the value of seven and a half million dollars, whilst for the past year, 1895, the export reached the enormous total of 56,503 bales, of a value of over 47½ million dollars. Such a trade as this, which has undoubtedly added so materially to the wealth and prosperity of the land we live in, is certainly deserving of the fostering care of those most directly interested in its development, and worthy of the Government's solicitude in encouraging by every means in its power the expansion of this, the chief and noblest of Japan's industries. Why, some may ask, do I call it the noblest industry in Japan. My answer would be, for the reason that it gives the best, the healthiest, and the most ennobling employment to the largest number of your women and your children from the highest to the lowest in the land. Though personally averse to Government subsidies in the matter of trade, there are times and occasions, and nowhere more so than in Japan, where the Government can and has led the people in the right direction, when individual effort would have failed to achieve any appreciable result. Where would Japan have been to-day had it not been for her little elementary schools to be found in every village and hamlet throughout the country. To my mind it is to the far-seeing statesmen who inaugurated that system of education, and chief amongst them the late Viscount Mori, that Japan owes her present proud position. Ignorance and superstition, mainly the latter, which still bars the way of progress in China, has been well nigh eliminated from the rising generation in Japan, thanks to your schools. You will, I hope, pardon this digression, but it leads up to the question, what has the Government to do with this Raw Silk Conditioning House, for if I understand

rightly it has been established by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. What is a silk conditioning house and for what purpose is it erected? My answer is to facilitate trade and to prevent fraud in an article of such great commercial value and held in such a very small compass that fraud is easily perpetrated, and this establishment is inaugurated to-day to assist the buyer and give him a certain amount of guarantee that he is receiving from the seller what he intended to purchase. Early experiences in Japan remind me of sleepless nights passed through unpleasant remonstrances received from England that silk which had passed my inspection contained small bags of sand, old nails, umbrella frames chopped up, lead, cement, copper cash, all carefully concealed in the folds of the silk skeins. Such misdeemeanours are now happily of very rare occurrence, but there are still other matters of much vexation to the foreign buyer, viz.:—unevenness of size and loss in weight by the silk containing too much moisture. In Canton, China, some 20 years ago, so great was this latter grievance, owing to the Chinese persistently watering his silk as if it was a rose garden, that foreigners in self-defence (as the silk used to lose 8 to 10 per cent.) combined and insisted on the establishment of a conditioning house. The Chinaman naturally objected, as at first no doubt many Japanese sellers will do here, as we buyers, even now, often pay for more water than is conducive to our benefit, but this will all right itself in time. To you, Mr. Oka, and your staff I will say that you have the hearty best wishes for the successful working of the silk-conditioning house inaugurated to-day, and we foreigners look for your helpful co-operation and assistance. Co-operation to get the work done as expeditiously as possible, and assistance to disseminate as widely and quickly as possible to the country people the reforms which you and ourselves most intimately connected with the trade know too well are necessary for its prosperity. I refer chiefly to careful preparation and reeling of even size of thread as required by the trade, your customers. Mr. Oka, you and your staff have an arduous task before you, and your abilities and energies will be taxed to the uttermost on those occasions, fortunately not too frequent, when our purchases of raw silk amount to several thousand bales a day. At those times you will have to stand the severe criticism of the buyers, and I sincerely hope you will be equal to the emergency and prevent anything like a deadlock in the passing of silk through this establishment. We cannot expect perfection from this conditioning house; we do not get it in the conditioning houses of Europe. Buyers in Milan, Italy, of silk conditioned at the Lyons house, will not accept either the weights or size as given on the bulletins of the latter, and *vice versa*; but your Government funds will have been well spent if only for the fact that the examination of silk and sizing, will indubitably have the effect of bringing home to the producer the necessity of more careful preparation of the silk he has to sell. Your Excellencies and Mr. Oka and Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in wishing every success to the Kiito Kensa Jo.—(Applause.) Proceeding, Mr. Walter said:—With your Excellency's kind permission, and I address myself more particularly to His Excellency Viscount Enomoto, now Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, nothing would delight me so much as to see the Government set to work immediately and inaugurate a condition house for a totally different article and one of large home consumption, I refer to *saké* (Japanese). Many of us are fond of *saké*, and the original Japanese *saké* was a mild alcoholic beverage which did harm to few and was a blessing to many. I am now no doubt going to make enemies, some probably amongst members of our General Chamber of Commerce, but I will not, and cannot let this opportunity pass of giving the warning note, that if the Government doesn't look out, the very best life blood of your countrymen will be sapped, and is now being sapped, by the admission into this country, and in large quantities of that vile stuff and deadly poison, alcohol, or potato spirit, which is used to adulterate your native *saké* and other liquors sold as foreign wines. Away with the stuff at all risks, even if you have to fight your treaty battles over again with the nations of the world individually and collectively, and you need not fear, for your action will meet with the approval of all right-thinking men.—(Applause.)

THE P. & O. AND THE N.Y.K.

The chairman and directors of the P. and O. Company gave a lunch on the 19th June to Mr. Shoda, director of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, now on a visit to England in connection with the inauguration of the company's new service to Europe,

Sir Thos. Sutherland, chairman of the P. & O. Company, presided, having on his right Mr. Takaki Kato, Japanese Minister in London. Several of the directors of the Company were also present, the lunch taking place in the handsome board room of the company.

Sir THOMAS SUTHERLAND, in proposing the toast of the prosperity of Japan, said that the function in which they were engaged that day was chiefly attributable to the fact that, through the good offices of his Excellency the Minister for Japan, the settlement of a very serious and embarrassing legal process between the Government of Japan and the P. & O. Company has been effected, which involved an international contention of very great and serious moment, and issue of no little importance to this company. It was a process which, if it had not been terminated in the happy manner which he had described, would probably have continued in some shape or form at all events to about the middle of the next century, if not longer—(laughter)—but was happily put an end to by the judicious interference of his distinguished friend on his right, and it was terminated with an expression of hearty goodwill on the part of Japanese Government towards the P. & O. Company.—(Applause.) Well, gentlemen, that circumstance induced, as events of that description are apt to do, other events also of no little importance. It so happened that a difference of opinion and a considerable conflict of interest had taken place in a certain part of the world between the great Japanese company which is known as the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. A conflict of interest had arisen between that company and the company which he represented, but owing, again, to the circumstance to which they referred in connection with the legal process, they were happily able by means of the kind assistance of his friend to obtain the influence of the distinguished director of that company, who favoured them with his presence that day; he referred to Mr. Shoda.—(Applause.) We were happily able by his presence in this country to put an end to that misunderstanding in a manner which he trusted would prove beneficial to all the interests concerned. There has been evolved out of the circumstances to which he had so briefly alluded an agreement between the shipping interest of Japan and the shipping interests of Great Britain which he trusted might long be maintained.—(Applause.) He referred to these matters casually as bearing upon the toast which he proposed—namely, that of the prosperity of Japan. He believed that the commercial interests and the political interests of Great Britain and Japan were thoroughly identical, and that the union between the two countries could not fail to be productive of great benefit to both.—(Applause.) When one spoke of the progress of Japan—at least, when a man of his own unhappily lengthened experience adverted to that topic—he could not fail to cast his memory back to former days in which Japan and all its interests were an unknown quantity, not only in the West but even in the East itself. In those days, sequestered and remote as Japan was from the rest of the world, they must remember that she was, even then, a country within herself possessing the very highest civilisation. He ventured to say that within the scope and purpose of what we termed civilisation—that is to say, that which is adapted to the peculiar conditions under which different people live—it would have been very difficult to have found in those times a more highly civilised race than the Japanese, and it was only necessary to give one example—namely, that in the great region—he would not say of commerce, nor of steam navigation—but in the great region of art, those who were best qualified to form an opinion were able to place the Japanese even in those days, in point of quality and artistic achievement, on a level with the Greeks of olden time. With all the goodwill which he brought to bear on the subject of her status and advancement, he did not venture to prophesy that Japan would not take the high place and assert the great progress which she has asserted within the last few years in the civilised world.—(Applause.) They congratulated Japan on her progress and success. He believed that those conditions applied to her were equally beneficial to themselves, and he trusted that the *rapprochement* which has been instituted between the N.Y.K. and that great benevolent institution, the China Conference, might long continue.—(Applause.) They equally and more devoutly trusted that the great political alliance between Great Britain and Japan might continue for the benefit and the expansion and the aggrandisement of the interests of both of the countries concerned. He gave the health of His Excellency the Minister of Japan, who was their guest that day, and he ventured to couple with the toast the name of their friend Mr. Shoda, who had come to this country

for the purpose of settling this very important question, and who would go back to Japan, he hoped, carrying a good report of what he had done and found here. He would at all events carry back the conviction that he has earned the esteem of those with whom he has come in contact in this part of the world.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. KATO, the Japanese Minister, said—Sir Thomas Sutherland and Gentlemen: I wish to thank you very much for the very kind way in which the prosperity of my country was drunk. And, in the first place, I wish to say that the very cordial sympathy which has been so eloquently expressed by your Chairman is most heartily reciprocated by my countrymen.—(Applause.) Politically, our relations are very excellent and leave nothing to be desired, and commercially, the peaceful settlement (which has been arrived at) between the P. & O. Company and the Japanese Mail Company will no doubt conduce to the satisfaction of both parties, and in a certain sense also to the countries which the two companies represent. Sir Thomas Sutherland referred, in the preface to his speech, to the settlement of the legal dispute in which my Government was unfortunately engaged with his great company, and I am very glad that I was in any way instrumental in bringing about this peaceful and amicable settlement. But I must say that more credit is due to the gentlemen of the Foreign Office here who very kindly took the matter into their hands unofficially, and with whom I communicated in regard to it. My Government from the very beginning of this legal suit, I think I may say, were not at all desirous of getting any material compensation, or anything of the kind; but a principle was involved in the matter and they were determined to proceed with it if necessary for the sake of principle; but fortunately before the matter had got too far, a very amicable spirit was shown on both sides and the affair was very satisfactorily settled to both parties. I can assure Sir Thomas Sutherland that my Government very highly appreciated the very peaceful and amicable feeling which was exhibited by the company which he represents, and which feeling the Japanese Government very fully reciprocated. I am much obliged to you, Sir Thomas, for the very kind way in which you proposed this toast, and I thank you all for the kind manner in which you received the same.—(Applause.)

Mr. SHODA, in returning thanks on behalf of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, alluded to the fact that his company had commenced its operations about twenty-five years ago, and had limited them at that time, and until recently, entirely to local trade and to international trade between China and Japan. But with the development of his country and its mercantile interests, and in view of the great strides which had been made by Japanese merchants in their commercial operations, the N.Y.K. had been compelled, not unwillingly, to spread its branches further afield. It had, in the first place, extended its operations to India and the Southern Hemisphere, and it was now further developing its system to Europe, and possibly in other quarters. In doing so, however, they had the greatest desire to work in unanimity with the P. & O. Company and the other great shipping interests of England and Europe. In conducting their business they were influenced by a very friendly feeling towards their competitors, and they hoped that the extension of their lines to which he had referred would be found to be for the mutual advantage of both Japanese and foreign trade, and that the developments now taking place would be attended by increasing prosperity both to European and Japanese shipping interests. Mr. Shoda concluded by proposing the health of the P. & O. Company, coupled with the name of the Chairman.

Sir THOMAS SUTHERLAND having suitably responded and referred to the share of his colleague, Mr. F. D. Barnes, the proceedings terminated.—*L. & C. Express.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, July 27.

The situation in Crete is becoming worse. The insurgents have announced their determination to resume fighting unless their demands are complied with.

The Greek bands in Macedonia have defeated the Turks.

July 28.

The second reading of the Uganda Railway Bill has been passed by the House of Commons.

Complications are apprehended between Greece and Turkey.

The finding of the Court of Inquiry into the loss of the steamer *Drummond Castle* states that the disaster was caused by the excessive speed at which the vessel was being driven and by an inadequate allowance for the current. The Court further expresses the opinion that the loss of the vessel would have been averted had the Captain used the lead sufficiently.

London, August 3.

Sir Matthew White Ridley, Secretary of State for the Home Department, has advised Royal clemency being extended to Dr. Jameson and his fellow prisoners, all of whom therefore have been returned to Holloway Gaol as first class misdemeanants.

London, August 5.

The Times states that the real object of Li Hung-chang's visit to England is to obtain the sanction of the British Government to an increase of the tariff. Russia, France, and Germany have already assented, but the real decision rests with England, whose trade with China is 80 per cent. of the whole China trade. The article further states that it has been decided that China shall have a new army and navy, the extent of the reform depending upon the amount derivable from the increase of the tariff. Li Hung-chang has virtually ordered the artillery from Germany and the rifles from France, but is resolved to construct the navy in England, on English lines, and to have English officers.

[FROM OUR NAGASAKI CORRESPONDENT.]

London, July 27.

A match between the Australian Team and the Marylebone Club was drawn when the latter had made sixty runs and had seven wickets to fall.

Lieutenant Thompson, Queen's Edinburgh Rifles, has won the Queen's Prize at Bisley.

July 29.

The trial of Dr. Jameson and his fellow prisoners has been concluded, and a verdict of guilty returned. Dr. Jameson was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment, but without hard labour; Sir John Willoughby to ten months; Lieut. H. White to seven months; and Captain Coventry, Lieut. Grey, and Mr. R. White to five months each. The prisoners were conveyed to Holloway Gaol. The sentences on the military prisoners will involve the loss of their commissions.

Hongkong, July 30.

The typhoon that raged here yesterday, abated last night about midnight. Captain Norman Joy was drowned, and ten boatsmen are supposed to be drowned. The damage to the city is widespread though not severe. The cable connecting the city with Gap Rock Light-house has been damaged.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, August 3. ●

Her Majesty's ship *Æolus* arrived here yesterday afternoon.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams, supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, July 31.

The Powers are sending a collective note to the Greek Government that unless Greece follows their previous advice, the Powers will allow the Sultan to restore order.

The House of Commons has passed the Irish Land Bill.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has offered to come to London and stand his trial if the prosecution desired him to do so.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17
Exchange on London at New York 4.89½

London, August 1.

The House of Commons has agreed to the appointment of a Select Committee to enquire into the administration of the Chartered Company, including the responsibility attaching to Imperial officials.

Dr. Jameson and the other prisoners have been removed to the prison at Wormwood Scrubs.

where they will be treated as second class misdemeanants.

London, August 3.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has arrived in London, his reception being of the simplest character. The Uganda Railway Bill has passed through all stages in the House of Commons.

Several Greek Infantry Regiments have been ordered to Thessaly to watch the frontier.

The 9th Lancers have been ordered to South Africa and embark for Durban forthwith.

London, August 4.

France, Russia, Germany, and Austria are in favour of the blockade of Crete to prevent the landing of Greek volunteers and the supply of arms to the insurgents, leaving the Turks free to restore order in the island. To this proposal Great Britain dissents, though agreeing to joint mediation of the Powers to induce Greece to fulfil her duties towards the Porte, and to bring the Cretans to accept a reasonable compromise.

The German and Austrian press accuse Great Britain of acting in a spirit of selfish isolation to disturb the concert of the Powers.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMERCIO.")

Madrid, July 15.

In compliance with a decree issued by General Weyler, a register for foreigners has been established in Havana. After the 15th August next any foreigner not inscribed in the register will forfeit his treaty rights.

The American Consul in Cuba, Mr. Lee, has presented a protest against the decree. The Cuban Government has replied that the decree will be maintained.

Madrid, July 16.

His Holiness the Pope has started an Anti-Masonic League.

Madrid, July 19.

Arrivals from Egypt have been officially declared infected. The mail steamers from Manila will be quarantined.

Madrid, July 17.

The Pope is ill, and has been compelled to suspend his audiences.

The insurgents of the eastern part of Cuba are divided amongst themselves on the election of a successor to the late José Maceo in the command held by the deceased. It is said that many are in consequence going over to the Spaniards.

The new commercial agreement between Spain and Germany comes into force on Friday next.

(FROM THE TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, July 15.

The author of the attack on President Faure is named Francois. He is a lunatic, is poor, and his object was to attract attention to himself. The affair had no political significance. M. Faure has everywhere been warmly cheered. Despatches are pouring in from the provinces and abroad and several sovereigns have sent their congratulations on the President's escape. President Faure left this morning for Rheims to unveil the statue of Joan of Arc.

Paris, July 16.

M. Felix Faure received an enthusiastic welcome at Rheims. He has returned to Paris.

Paris, July 16.

The Italian crisis has come to an end. M. Pelloux takes the portfolio of Minister for War. Almost all the other Ministers remain in the cabinet, with the exception of M. Sermonetta.

Paris, July 16.

The Duke of Orleans is engaged to the Arch-Duchess Marie Dorothea of Austria.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

Malicious rumours have been circulated in Soochow and the vicinity to the effect that foreigners require children to bury under the foundations of factory chimneys.

The villagers are seriously alarmed.

(FROM THE "DIARIO DE MANILA.")

Madrid, July 12.

The eminent French Cardinal Mgr. Bourret and the distinguished Spanish artist Moreno Ayala are dead.

July 13.

The death, at Berlin, of Professor Curtius is announced.

The Government has definitely decided to purchase the Italian cruisers *Garibaldi* and *San Martin*, now at Genoa. One of them will be sent at once to Cuba from Genoa and the other is expected to be ready for sea by the end of the year.

Government has entered into contracts for the construction in England of two large men-of-war.

Commander Gano has commenced the reconstruction of the old Jucara road connecting Santa Clara and Puerto Principe.

Reports of unimportant "brushes" with the enemy, usually ending in the retreat of the rebels, are constantly being received at the War Office.

July 14.

In consequence of the rapidly which characterises the reconstruction of the Jucara road, the rebels are retreating towards the East. The troops are advancing along the road after the rebels.

General Weyler has ordered the immediately strengthening of the garrison in the forts. He has also increased the strength of the flying columns.

July 16.

Cardinal La Valleta died yesterday in Rome. The rebel Chief Gomez and Calixto have been stopped in their march eastwards and our troops have caused them to retire to their old positions.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

Chefoo, July 28.

The German gunboat *Illis* was lost ten miles north of the South-East Promontory in the typhoon of the 23rd inst.

Ten men were saved; all the others, including the officers, perished.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Toyama, August 2.

The incessant rain has caused a breach in the Okawa embankments. The flood has invaded the houses in the eastern part of Toyama, three feet above the floor. The water is now gradually decreasing. The Jindzugawa rose 11 feet above the normal level, and the western part of Toyama was flooded, the houses being immersed in water four feet above the floor. The afflicted are receiving assistance. The houses flooded are more than 6,000. It is said that the town of Tekaoaka is also flooded.

Soul, Aug. 2.

Kim Tai-ché, who was sent to Shanghai to draw yen 40,000, which had been deposited by the late Queen in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, has returned to Ninsen with the money. He is accompanied by Min Kim-tao, brother of Min Yōng-yok.

A rumour is afloat that the French Minister is trying to obtain the concession for building the Wōn-san and Northern Railway for his nationals.

Nagasaki, August 2.

A Shanghai correspondent wires:—The Consul-General of Austro-Hungary, Mr. Joseph Haas, while bathing with his wife, and the Italian Consul, on the 26th ult., in the neighbourhood of Pao-too, was carried away by the strong tide and drowned. He was an old resident in China, having lived there for over 30 years. He was the *doyen* of the Consular body.

The German military instructors have been removed from Nanking to Woosung. They arrived here on the 26th ult.

Four ringleaders of the Mahommedan rebellion in Kansueh have been arrested, and were at once decapitated by order of the Taotai.

Local Chinese papers discuss the project of selling Tibet either to Great Britain or Russia. The money thus obtained would be used in developing the martial resources of the Empire.

Gifu, Aug. 3.

The Kisogawa overflowed last night. The water rose 15 feet above the normal. The river Nagara is six feet higher than its ordinary level, and other rivers in the vicinity have broken their embankments again.

Fukui, Aug. 2.

The heavy rain last night has caused a greater inundation than did the storm of the 21st ult.

Niigata, August 3.

The villagers of Nakano, in South Kanbara, are discontented with the Authorities for making a reservoir near their village.

Osaka, August 3.

Mr. Matsumoto Yuro, Councillor of Osaka-fu, paid a visit to the rice-market at Dojima, to-day.

Toyama, August 3.

The head-waters of the Shyogawa have broken their embankment, and the stream ran into the town of Takaoka. Ninety houses were swept away.

Kobe, August 4.

H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa received about 100 members of the Shinyenkwa to-day.

Niigata, August 4.

Above 100 villagers of Nakano, that was visited by the recent floods, have broken into the house of the Headman. The police were called in and order was restored.

Gifu, Aug. 4.

Damage was done to embankments in 1,400 places, measuring in all 88,950 yards; partial damage was done in 212 places, measuring 31,884 yards. The Province of Hida is not included in the above.

Kanazawa, Aug. 4.

The Tedorigawa overflowed the day before yesterday. The flood swept away 40 houses, and 20 people were drowned. The Governor and Police have hastened to the scene.

A telegram from the magistrate's office of Nomi district says that the number of persons drowned by the flood was, 20; houses swept away, 83; demolished houses, 116; houses flooded 10,000. Southward of Tetori all communication are blocked.

Soul, August 4.

Li Ju-on, ex-Governor, and one hundred of his sympathisers, will go to the Russian Legation, and petition the King to return to the palace. Han Kyu-chōl, Chin So-kun, Sin Ki-sōn, and Li Seung-mang are behind the scheme.

Soul, August 5.

Yun Yōng-sōn, Prime Minister, and Han Kyu-chōl, Minister of the Judicial Department, sent in their resignations, but they were not accepted.

The commission for investigating the resources of Pyēng-yang and five other places has been discharged.

Ming Yōng-chun has been released from disciplinary punishment.

The River Han-kan has overflowed.

Gifu, August 5.

The sum of yen 30,000, from the Central Reserve Fund, arrived here to-day.

Kumamoto, August 5.

Signs of the spreading of dysentery are apparent and the authorities are taking precautionary measures.

Tottori, August 5.

An extraordinarily heavy rain fell yesterday, and caused the rivers to overflow. Some houses were invaded by the flood above the floor, but the water gradually abated.

Soul, Aug. 6.

District Regulations have been promulgated whereby the old system of eight great divisions of the State is altered to 13 principal divisions (or provinces), viz: Kyōng-kwi-do, Kang-wōn-do, Hwan-nai-do, South Ham-gyōng-do, North Ham-gyōng-do, South Kyōng-sang-do, North Kyōng-sang-do, South Chhung-chhōng-do, North Chhung-chhōng-do, South Chōl-la-do, North Chōl-la-do, South Ph्यों-an-do, North Ph्यों-an-do.

Bakan, August 6.

Mr. Oura, Governor of Yamaguchi Ken, it is said, will be appointed Director of the Civil Administration Office in Formosa, and his recent visit to Tokyo was connected with the appointment.

Kobe, Aug. 6.

Major-General Kamamura, Commandant of the First Brigade of the Imperial Guards, has left for Himeji.

Soul, August 6.

Major Watanabe Tetsutaro, military attaché in the Japanese Legation, is obliged to return home on account of an ophthalmic ailment.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 240.

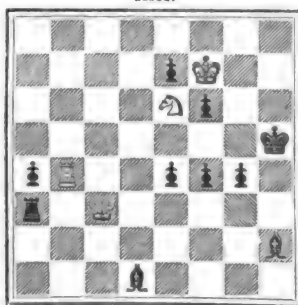
- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1—R to KR 8 | 1—B takes Q |
| 2—Kt to B 6 ch. | 2—K to Kt 4 |
| 3—R to R 5, mate | |
| 3—Kt takes B, mate | 2—B takes Kt ch. |
| 2—Kt takes Kt ch. | 1—Kt to B 3 |
| 3—R takes B, mate | 2—P takes Kt |
| | 1—Kt to Kt 4 |
| 2—Q takes Kt ch. | 2—B takes Q ch. |
| 3—Kt to B 6, mate. | |

With other variations.

Correct answers from W.D.C., Omega, W.H.S., W.d.H., and J.D.

PROBLEM NO. 242.

By DALTON.



White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME NO. 541.

THE UNITED STATES CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH.
THIRTEENTH GAME.

PETROFF DEFENCE.

- | WHITE.
Barry. | BLACK.
Showalter. |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to KB 3 | 2—Kt to KB 3 |
| 3—P to Q 4 | 3—Kt takes P |
| 4—B to Q 3 | 4—P to Q 4 |
| 5—Kt takes P | 5—Kt to Q 2 |
| 6—Q to K 2 | 6—Q to K 2 |
| 7—B takes Kt | 7—P takes B |
| 8—Kt to Q B 3 (a) | 8—Kt takes Kt |
| 9—Kt to Q 5 (b) | 9—Q to Q 3 |
| 10—Q takes P | 10—B to K 3 (c) |
| 11—Kt to B 3 | 11—Kt to Q 2 (d) |
| 12—Q takes Kt P | 12—R to Q Kt sq. |
| 13—Q takes RP | 13—Q to B 3 |
| 14—Castles | 14—R to R sq. |
| 15—P to Q 5 (e) | 15—B takes P |
| 16—Q to K 3 ch. | 16—B to K 3 |
| 17—Q to Kt 3 | 17—P to Kt 3 |
| 18—P to KB 4 | 18—P to KB 4 |
| 19—P to Kt 3 | 19—Kt to B 3 |
| 20—B to Kt 2 | 20—B to B 4 ch. |
| 21—K to R sq. | 21—Castles |
| 22—Q R to K sq. | 22—B to Q 5 |
| 23—R to B 3 | 23—Kt to K 5 |
| 24—Q to R 3 (6) | 24—Kt to B 7 ch. |
| 25—R takes Kt | 25—B takes R |
| 26—Kt to Q 5 (g) | 26—B takes Kt |
| 27—R to K 7 | 27—R to B 2 |
| 28—R takes R | 28—B takes P ch. (h) |
| 29—Q takes B | 29—Q takes Q ch. |
| 30—K takes Q | 30—K takes R |
| 31—K takes B | 31—R takes P |
| 32—B to K 5 | 32—R takes P ch. |
| 33—K to Kt 3 | 33—P to B 4 |
| 34—P to R 3 | 34—K to K 3 |
| 35—K to R 4 | 35—R to K Kt 7 |
| 36—B to Kt 7 | 36—K to Q 4 |
| 37—B to B 8 | 37—R to Kt 7 (i) |
| 38—Resigns. | |

NOTES BY EMIL KEMENY.

(a) White, of course, could not play K takes P on account of P to KB 3 winning a piece.

(b) Premature play, that causes the loss of a piece and of the game. White either overrated the value of the attack and sacrificed the Kt, or else he overlooked Black's ingenious continuation that enables him to keep the piece. Instead of Kt to Q 5 White should have played P takes Kt, and if Q takes P then Q takes P, with a perfectly even position.

(c) If White now plays P or Q takes Kt, then Black answers Q takes Kt, coming out a piece ahead.

(d) Another powerful stroke. White cannot continue P to Q 4 on account of Black's reply, Kt to B 3, attacking the Queen and winning the Q P.

(e) The only way to save the Queen. Of course, defeat is a question of time only. White has no equivalent for the piece.

(f) This loses the exchange. White, however, had his only chance by playing a lively attack at any hazard. The text move subsequently opens the diagonals for White's Bishop.

(g) Quite ingenious, but not sound. White gains temporarily some attack. If Black answers Q takes Kt, then White continues Q to B 3, with some drawing chances. On B takes Kt, White answers R to K 7, as the progress of the game shows.

(h) Black cannot play B takes R on account of Q to R 6, and the mate, at Kt 7, could not be well averted. Of course, Black might have played K takes R, and his opponent could not have drawn the game by perpetual check, since the Black King gets over to the Queen's wing. The text move, however, seems the safest and easiest won. Black exchanges Queens, and remains the exchange and a Pawn ahead, forcing a win in a few moves.

(i) White now loses the Q Kt P, and his adversary's Q B P cannot be stopped; he therefore resigns the game.

GAME NO. 542.

- | WHITE.
H. H. Cole. | BLACK.
Mr. X. |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1—P to Q 4 | 1—P to Q 4 |
| 2—P to K 3 | 2—Kt to KB 3 |
| 3—B to Q 3 | 3—Q Kt to Q 2 |
| 4—P to RB 4 | 4—P to K 3 |
| 5—Kt to Q 2 | 5—B to Q 3 |
| 6—Kt to KR 3 | 6—P to Q B 4 |
| 7—P to Q B 3 | 7—Kt to B sq. |
| 8—Castles | 8—P to Q Kt 3 |
| 9—Kt to B 3 | 9—Kt to K 5 |
| 10—Kt to B 2 | 10—Kt takes Kt |
| 11—R takes Kt | 11—Kt to Kt 3 |
| 12—Kt to K 5 | 12—Kt takes Kt |
| 13—B P takes Kt | 13—B to Q B 2 |
| 14—B to Q 2 | 14—B to Q Kt 2 |
| 15—Q to Kt 4 | 15—Castles |
| 16—Q R to Q B sq. | 16—Q to Q 2 |
| 17—R to B 3 | 17—P to K Kt 3 |
| 18—Q to Kt 5 | 18—B to Q sq. |
| 19—Q to R 6 | 19—R to B sq. |
| 20—R to B 6 and wins (a) | |

(a) Nothing can now prevent a win by Q R to KB 3, and then to KR 5.

U.S. CORRESPONDENCE.

The reception of the Newnes chess trophy at the Brooklyn Chess Club was an occasion long to be remembered. The trophy seen at short range confirmed and added to the reports of its beauty of design and admirable workmanship, and was an object of admiration for the entire evening. An address eulogistic of Sir George Newnes and his public-spirited gift was made by President Marean.

During the evening a game was played between Mrs. Showalter and Mrs. Worrall, the two strongest women players in America, which attracted an interested throng of spectators. The contest was stubbornly fought. Just as Mrs. Showalter had victory in her grasp she omitted to move her king's bishop's pawn, which made her game very difficult, and in the end Mrs. Worrall succeeded in forcing a win.

Both Pillsbury and Showalter are entered at Nuremberg for the coming tourney, their entrance fees having been posted by President Marean of the Brooklyn Club. America's chess reputation, with two such doughty and already famous players to uphold it, certainly should not suffer. Their work at Nuremberg will be watched with interest by their numerous admirers throughout this country.

Pillsbury played a game of chess with Showalter immediately after the latter had played off his final game with J. F. Barry. The score follows:

GAME NO. 543.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

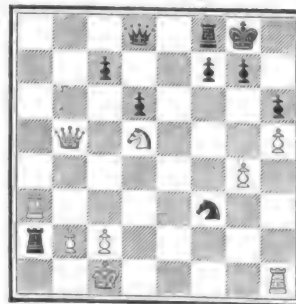
- | WHITE.
Pillsbury. | BLACK.
Showalter. |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1—P to Q 4 | 1—P to Q 4 |
| 2—P to Q B 4 | 2—P to R 3 |
| 3—Kt to Q B 3 | 3—P to Q B 3 |
| 4—Kt to KB 5 | 4—Kt to Q 2 |
| 5—B to Kt 5 | 5—P to B 3 |
| 6—B to R 4 | 6—Kt to R 3 |
| 7—P to K 4 | 7—P takes K P |
| 8—Kt takes P | 8—B to Kt 5 ch. |
| 9—Kt to B 3 | 9—Castles |
| 10—B to Q 3 | 10—Q to R 4 |
| 11—Q to B 2 | 11—P to KB 4 |
| 12—Castles | 12—P to B 4 |
| 13—P to Q R 3 | 13—B takes Kt |
| 14—P takes B | 14—Kt to B 3 |
| 15—Kt to K 5 | 15—P takes P |
| 16—P takes P | 16—Q to Q sq. |
| 17—Q to B 3 | 17—Kt to K 5 |
| 18—B takes Q | 18—Kt takes Q |
| 19—B to K 7 | 19—R to K sq. |
| 20—B to Kt 4 | 20—Kt to R 5 |
| 21—P to B 5 | 21—R to Q sq. |
| 22—B to Kt 5 | 22—P to R 4 |
| 23—B to Q 2 | 23—R takes P |
| 24—B takes Kt | 24—Kt to B 6 |
| 25—B to K 3 | 25—R to Q 4 |
| 26—Kt to B 4 | 26—Kt takes B |
| 27—Kt to Kt 6 | 27—R to R 3 |
| 28—Kt takes B | 28—K to B 2 |
| 29—P to Q R 4 | 29—Kt to B 6 |

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 30—Kt to Kt 6 | 30—R to Q 6 |
| 31—K R to K sq. | 31—P to R 4 |
| 32—P to B 3 | 32—P to B 5 |
| 33—B to B 2 | 33—Kt to K 3 |
| 34—Q R to B sq. | 34—K to B 4 |
| 35—P to R 4 | 35—P to Kt 3 |
| 36—R to B 2 | 36—P to K 5 |
| 37—P takes P ch. | 37—Kt takes P |
| 38—Q R to K 2 | 38—Kt to Q 7 |
| 39—R to K 5 ch. | 39—K to B 3 |
| 40—R to K 6 ch. | 40—K to Kt 2 |
| 41—R to K 7 ch. | 41—Resigns. |

END GAME NO. 32.

The following extraordinary ending occurred in a game between Samuel Loyd, the eminent problem composer, and Golmayo, in the Paris Tournament of 1867:—

BLACK—LOYD.



WHITE—GOLMAYO.

Black continued as follows:—

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1—R to R 8 ch. | 1—R to R 8 ch. |
| 2—R takes R | 2—Q to Kt 4 ch. |
| 3—K to Kt sq. | 3—Kt to Q 7 ch. |
| 4—K to B sq. | 4—Kt to R 6 ch. |
| 5—K to Kt sq. | 5—Q to B 8 ch. |
| 6—R takes Q | 6—Kt to Q 7 ch. |
| 7—K to R 2 | and Black mates in two moves. |

*White could delay the mate by playing K to R 3.

HONGKONG.

We hail another Chess column in the Far East and reprint the following from the *China Mail*. Needless to say we welcome our *confrères* with open arms and wish the new venture every success.

How we admire the enthusiasm of the Hongkong Chess Club, meeting in the tropics in August "every Thursday from four to eleven p.m." and in a *Grill-room*!! Surely it would be worth changing the name of the institution to the "Salamander Chess Club" or some epithet equally suggestive.

CHESS COLUMN.

CONDUCTED BY "BLACK BISHOP."

Hongkong, July 23.

The addition of a Chess Column to the *China Mail* seems to demand a word of introduction, which may be very brief. Every Thursday evening, this column will appear and will contain problems, games, and notes of transient or permanent interest to Chess players. Contributions will be heartily welcomed, and no effort will be spared to make this new feature of the paper successful and characteristic. Thanks to the Hongkong Chess Club the game is well played here, and appreciated as the noblest of games should be. The history of Chess is the history of civilization. No man can say where or when it originated, and it is a game not only of all time but of all countries. Classic Greece is a unique instance of a nation attaining a pre-eminent place without a knowledge of Chess. It forms a universal language, and few studies are more interesting than national characteristics as shown over the Chess-board. We shall illustrate this by occasional games and problems from all countries. The world-wide reputation of Chess has been won by its own merits. In no other game is the element of chance or the fortuitous advantage of eye or muscle so completely excluded. Luck counts for something on the billiard table and on the cricket field, but in Chess mind is pitted against mind, and skill or carelessness alone can win or lose a game.

The Game of Chess ranks high in the history of recreations. Its origin is more ancient than that of history itself and few games alter so little as centuries pass. Wherever there is civilization, there is Chess. The game is not only of all times but of all places. The points of difference between even Chinese and European Chess are fewer than the points of resemblance. No game has so glorious a history

nor so extensive a literature. It forms an international language in which all countries learn to esteem each other. The game has left its mark on the history of our own country. The Chancellor of the Exchequer borrows his title and that of his office from the Chess-board.

The Hon. H. E. Pollock, Acting Attorney General, managed to defeat his latest challenger for the Championship Cup of the Hongkong Chess Club. His opponent was Mr. M. J. Danenberg, who lost two games and won one. In the deciding game, Mr. Danenberg made an unfortunate slip which lost him a Knight. Mr. Pollock was the donor of this Cup. The first holder was Mr. E. Bischoff, who was defeated by Lieut.-Colonel The O'Gorman, who was in turn defeated by that brilliant Portuguese player, Mr. P. C. de Souza. It was he Mr. Pollock defeated, and since then he was challenged by and defeated Mr. Bischoff, Col. The O'Gorman, Mr. C. A. M. de Jesus, Mr. J. H. Pidgeon, and Mr. Danenberg. Mr. Pollock is satisfied, as he may well be, with the result of his matches with these strong players, and as he has had plenty of work to defend the title of Champion since the 2nd of April last, he is handing back the cup to Mr. de Souza, who will now be open to challenge. The cup must be held for a year before becoming the property of any member.

The following bright little game illustrates a trap not so familiar as it deserves to be:—

GAME No. 1.

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

WHITE. J. Mieses.	BLACK. J. Oelquist.
1—P to K4	1—P to Q4
2—P takes P	2—Q takes P
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Q to Q sq.
4—P to Q4	4—Kt to Q B 3
5—Kt to K B 3	5—B to Kt 5 (a)
6—P to Q5	6—Kt to K4
7—Kt takes Kt	7—Resigns (b)

(a) Kt should not be pinned till Black has developed his Queen's side.

(b) If B takes Q, White wins by B to Q Kt 5 ch.

The following skirmish occurred in a recent match between the Universities and the Metropolitan Chess Club:—

GAME No. 2.

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

WHITE. E. Lawton (Univ.)	BLACK. H. L. Bowles (M.C.C.)
1—P to K4	1—P to K4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q4	3—P to Q4
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to B 3 (a)
5—Kt takes Kt	5—Kt P takes Kt
6—B to Q3	6—P to Q3 (b)
7—Castles	7—B to R2
8—P to K B 4 (c)	8—Castles
9—P to B3 (d)	9—P to Q R 4
10—R to B3 (e)	10—B to Kt 5
11—P to K5	11—P takes P (f)
12—P takes P	12—B to B4 (ch.)
13—K to R sq.	13—Kt to K5 (g)
14—Q to B2	14—B takes R

(a) Kt to B3 is a safe defence, but Mr. Gunsberg holds that B to B4 far better.

(b) Cramps Black's game. P to Q4 would be preferable.

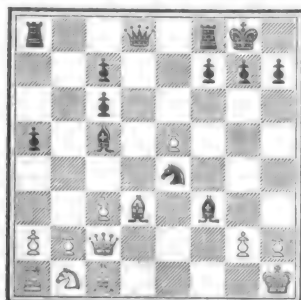
(c) White should develop his Queen's side first. This attack is premature.

(d) Loss of time, if not immediately followed by Q to B4. Kt to B3 would have been better.

(e) If B takes R would have been safe, but the move in the text leads to a fine attack. If B takes R, 12—Q takes B, P takes P, 13—P takes P Kt to K sq., 14—Q to K4, P to Kt 5.

(f) Contrast Black's concentrated attack with the stagnation White's Queen's side.

(g) If 13—B takes Kt, B takes P, and White cannot retake with the Queen owing to Q to Q8 being threatened. If 13—P takes B, Kt to B7 ch., winning easily. See the diagram below:—



MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DIS.			
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 8th	1
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 9th	2
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 18th	1
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, Aug. 18th	1
From Canada, R.C.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 17th	1
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 20th	1
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 27th	1
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Sept. and	1

1 Anama left Hongkong on July 31st. 2 City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on August and. 3 China left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 30th. 4 Saghalien (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL DEPARTS

For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 9th
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Monday, Aug. 20th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 18th
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Aug. 15th
For Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Monday, Aug. 18th
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 17th
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 18th
For Canada, R.C.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 21st
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 4th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Borneo, British steamer, 2,943, E. P. Bishop, 31st July, London via ports, 30th May, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kaijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 31st July, Otaru via ports, 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, J. W. Ekstrand, 31st July, Shanghai via ports, 24th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senta, German steamer, 2,500, Voss, 1st August, Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 25th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, James Watson, 1st August, Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 31st July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Olsen, 1st August, Oginohama 30th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 2,436, Bartlett, 2nd August, Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 1st August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

L. Schepp, American ship, 1776, E. O. Day, 2nd August, New York 20th March, 80,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Mitsui Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Olsen, 2nd August, Kobe 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, Hardy, 2nd August, Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 31st July, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tarogosa, Mexican cruiser, Admiral A. O. Monasterio, 2nd August, Gumayas, via Honolulu 13th July.

Annandale, British steamer, 1,963, Milne, 3rd August, Kobe 2nd August, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 3rd August, Kobe 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 3rd August, Victoria, B.C., 15th July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 4th August, Portland, Or., via Honolulu 18th July, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 4th August, Hongkong 29th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 4th August, Shimonoseki 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yorktown (6), U.S. gunboat, Commander C. H. Stockton, 4th August, Nagasaki 1st August.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 4th August, Otaru via ports, 1st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 5th August, Kobe 4th August, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 6th August, San Francisco 21st July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 6th August, Nagasaki 2nd August, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Iwanaka, 6th August, Kobe 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 6th August, Otaru via ports, 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Elax, British steamer, 4,100, Baker, 7th August, Batoum, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R.

Swain, 7th August, Shanghai via ports, 31st July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Roman Miray, 7th August, Manila, Sugar.—Browne & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Barstow, 7th August, Kobe 6th August, General.—Zippon Yusen Kaisha.

J. F. Chapman, American ship, 2,038, Chas. S. Kendall, 8th August, New York 4th April, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 31st July, Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Iwanaga, 31st July, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Humber (1), British store-ship, Commander Frank W. Wyley, 31st July, Hongkong.

Hyenick, Korean steamer, 444, C. J. Benzinius, 31st July, Nagasaki, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Longships, British steamer, 4,461, Theo. Millons, 31st July, Moji, Ballast.—H. Ahrens & Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, Gender, 1st August, London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 1st August, San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Machias (8), U.S. gunboat, Commander E. S. Houston, 1st August, Chemulpo.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Le Bontillier, 2nd August, New York via Suez Canal, General.—Carnegie & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 2nd August, Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, S. Kawamura, 2nd August, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, James Watson, 3rd August, Portland, Or., Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kaijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 3rd August, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Barstow, 3rd August, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 4th August, Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annandale, British steamer, 1,963, Milne, 5th August, Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, Hamada, 5th August, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,640, Murray, 5th August, Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ellen Rickmers, German steamer, 3,162, C. Hess, 5th August, Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Robert Glegg, 5th August, London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mitsui Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, C. Young, 5th August, Seattle, Wash., via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 5th August, Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 5th August, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Borneo, British steamer, 2,943, E. P. Bishop, 6th August, London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 6th August, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senta, German steamer, 2,660, Voss, 6th August, Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 7th August, Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 7th August, Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 7th August, Shimonoseki via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 7th August, Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Balmoral, British ship, 2,500, R. L. Baldchild, 8th August, Port Townsend, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. J. A. Lynch, Mrs. Beckhoff and child, Mr. P. von Janner, Mr. McDonald, Mrs. Horvitz, Rev. and Mrs. Hind, Mr. Theo. Bunge, Mr. A. Haase, Bishop Awdry, Mr. Komai, Mrs. Awdry, Miss Jackson, Mr. Arthur Hyde Lay, Mr. Denys Larrieu, Mrs. H. Domballe, General and Mrs. Kurogi, Captain Fukazawa, Major and Mrs. Yeto, Mrs. Yeto, Mr. K. Katayama, Miss Katayama, Mr. S. Furuhisa, Lieut. Watanabe, Lieut. Wakao, Messrs. K. Ichifuji, Y. Watanabe, K. Nakano, S. Nakamura, K. Uveda, T. Takeda, Y. Kawai, Kato, Y. Kiyooka, S. Kono, and Isahaya in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 69 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Borneo*, from London via ports:—Mr. A. Berger, Mrs. A. Berger, Mr. H. Rogers, and Mrs. H. Rogers in cabin.

Per British steamer *Braemar*, from Victoria, B.C.:—2 Japanese and one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Asoun*, from Honolulu:—Mr. W. C. Hammond and Mr. Emory Proebst in cabin; 68 Japanese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. C. Georg in cabin; Mrs. Sara J. Rowe, Messrs. Ernst Krones, W. Friedlander, Kam Geong, and Shang Loong in second class, and Mr. Joh. Chemnitz in third class.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco:—Messrs. A. Kolokoltzoff, Sen., A. Kolokoltzoff, Jun., and Masujima in cabin. For Hongkong:—Messrs. A. E. Dowler, P. H. Bernays, and P. Kerkhoven in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. W. B. Buyers and 3 children, Messrs. G. M. Grauf, S. B. Reynolds, L. M. White, M. Allen, M. Yamada, Captain W. W. Reisinger, Messrs. M. W. Bzle, P. McGregor Grant, J. Smith, Otto Messing, Dr. and Mrs. Hodge and child, Mrs. Hincelot and 2 children, Mrs. Yangjoul and 2 children, Mrs. Papoff, Messrs. A. Egli, S. L. Abry, S. Y. French, K. Kurata, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Messrs. L. W. Doney, M. Fujita, J. L. Jensen, Captain Armstrong, and Rev. A. F. King in cabin; Messrs. L. M. Oliver, T. S. Nien, Fujito, Mrs. Imamura, Messrs. T. Kikuchi, K. Murakami, J. Miura, H. Takeda, and Lieut. Akiba in second class, and 96 Japanese, 1 European, and 6 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Abakumoff, Mrs. C. F. R. Allen, Mr. R. B. Allen, Miss Archer, Mr. F. J. Bailey, Dr. E. H. Baldock, Mr. Barnes, Mr. T. N. Birnie, Miss Birnie, Mrs. Blum and child, Mr. H. Botel, Mr. G. Biaccialini, Miss Cartmel, Dr. Louisa Cooke, Mr. C. J. Currie, Mr. F. B. Deacon, Admiral Dunlop, R.N., Mr. W. A. Gage, Mr. J. W. Geen, Mr. J. Gittens, Mr. Hancock, Mrs. Hancock, Miss Hancock, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Mr. Drummond Hay, Mr. A. R. A. Heath, Rev. Henry Hinckley, Mrs. Hinckley, Mr. Richard Horne, R.N., Mr. Irwin, Miss Isaacs, Mr. Igarsheff, Mr. V. Kofod, Mr. W. A. Konnoswitch, Mr. A. Leeds, Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. MacEwen, Misses MacEwen (4) and maid, Captain J. P. McEuen, Mr. A. Mirre, Mr. M. Mitsuyoshi, Mr. Miyake, Mr. E. R. Morris, Mr. L. Mottet, Mr. G. Nakagawa, Mr. and Mrs. Norrie, Mr. Phelps, Captain Piorowski, Madame Piorowski, child and maid, Miss M. L. Robertson, Mr. W. E. Shearer, Mrs. W. E. Shearer and infants, Mr. S. Shikata, Mr. and Mrs. H. Sillem, Mr. Suenson, Mrs. Suenson and 3 children, Lieut. Thring, R.N., and Mr. H. Ziro in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. D. G. Bruce, Lieut. R. R. Belknap, U.S.N., Miss Bullock, Mr. M. Finlason, Mr. H. C. Von Glahn, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gagan, Mr. W. E. Gates, Baron Harden Hickey, Dr. J. A. Hart, Mr. Lou Foo Kah, Mr. Samuel Montag, Mr. A. Michaelson, Mr. W. T. Morris, Mr. C. B. Platt, Miss M. Savy, Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Taylor and 3 children, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Prof. F. Wendt, and Mrs. Quan Yuen and daughter in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Alex. Flinsch, Mr. G. Thomas, Mrs. Robinson and child, Mr. T. G. Goward, Lieut. Rowcroft, Mr. H. Lundbeck, and Mr. A. C. Gomes in cabin; and 8 Chinese and 1 infant in steerage.

Per British steamer *Borneo*, for London via ports:—Mr. G. C. Turner, Mr. Alex. Kaase, Mr. Nutter, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Rodger in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Captain Baron d'Aehrenthal, Mr. and Mrs. C. Mertens, Mr. O. Voigt, Mr. F. Kronenberg, Mr. E. Wismer, Mr. Jul. Schroeder, Lieut. Th. de Lohmann, Lieut. and Mrs. J. Bonifowsky, Mr. J. Janett, Mr. and Mrs. Collins, Lieut. M. Meinccke, Mr. Thomas Aitth, and Mr.

E. Kipp in cabin; Messrs. David Allan, Langdon H. Methcalf, James Winter, George Mackey, James McGlashan, and James Sparks in second class; 10 Europeans in steerage, and one European and 12 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$1,000.00.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Colombo	—	—	26	—	26
Hongkong	—	—	1	1	2
Amoy	295	1,611	7,647	255	9,808
Foochow	2,579	337	—	120	2,916
Shanghai	454	1,062	1,255	40	2,811
Calcutta	—	—	—	51	51
Kobe	1,899	300	300	—	2,499
Yokohama	5,185	—	551	38	5,774
Total	10,412	3,310	9,755	411	23,889

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hongkong & Canton	—	—	—	12	12
Shanghai	—	—	—	36	36
Yokohama	—	—	—	49	49
Total	—	—	—	97	97

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Shanghai	1,126	300	—	—	1,426
Hyoogo	2,017	—	—	—	2,017
Yokohama	3,945	564	598	612	5,719
Amoy	505	—	—	—	505
Foochow	451	16,295	—	—	16,746
Total	1,292	—	526	—	1,818

Per British steamer *Altmore*, for Portland, Or.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Amoy	161	—	4,301	—	4,462
Foochow	3,870	230	2,050	—	6,150
Hyoogo	—	—	565	—	565
Yokohama	—	—	289	300	589
Total	4,031	230	6,610	865	11,766

Per British steamer *Annandale*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	
Hyoogo	247	315	—	—	562
Yokohama	1,176	7,309	1,964	1,050	11,499
Total	1,423	7,624	1,964	1,078	12,089

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 130 bales; Waste Silk, 102 bales.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 20 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 10 bales.

REPORTS.

The German steamer *Hohenzollern*, Captain A. Harnassowitz, reports:—Left Hongkong the 29th July at 10 a.m. but anchored in Typhoon Bay expecting bad weather. Heavy gale from N.N.-W. in the afternoon and night, both anchors out. Next morning better weather, left anchorage in the forenoon; at noon passed East Nine-pin. Wind south strong with high swell. Passed Van Diemen Channel the 2nd August at 0.30 p.m. wind S.W. wind and fine. Arrived at Quarantine the 4th at 6 a.m. Last part of voyage fine weather, strong S.W. winds. Duration of voyage, 4 days and 18 hours.

The British steamer *Doric*, Captain H. Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 21st July at 4.35 p.m.; crossed 180° meridian in lat. 47.27 N.; had smooth to moderate sea, with log much of the time, and moderate winds and adverse current throughout the passage. Passed O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, bound east, at 4.30 p.m. on the 3rd August, in lat. 41 N., long. 154 E. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th August at 8.32 a.m. Passage, 14 days, 22 hours, 20 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No change in the situation or aspect. Everything very dull and all sales on a retail scale.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PICK.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	2.70 to 3.15
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 41 inches	1.05 to 1.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sattena Black, 38 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.95 to 9.95
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 12-13 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.20

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.471
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.321
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.271
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$35.50 to 37.50
Nos. 32, 32, Singles	39.00 to 40.50
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	43.00 to 44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	47.50 to 49.50
Nos. 2, 60, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2, 80, Plain	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2, 100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed	76.00 to 81.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed	92.00 to 97.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	118.00 to 123.00

METALS.

No improvement. Dealers hold off as is usual during the hot season.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.671

KROSENE.

Dull market; and prices receding, under the influence of arrivals from both continents.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Some sales at weakening rates. White—Fair business at late quotations.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$3.75 to 3.80
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daiting (New)	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton	3.45 to 3.45
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 7.00
White Refined	7.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Rather more done, but the trade is of a very retail character. A second parcel of Kaimeisha Filatures has found a buyer at \$670 and some No. 1 Joshi Re-reels are said to have been weighed up at \$655. Dealers are again spoiling their market by trying to force prices up: a suicidal course, seeing that all foreign markets in Europe and America are dull and lifeless. Shanghai reports a stagnant market, with sellers inclined to lower quotations. The feature of the week here has been the opening of a Conditioning-house. It remains to be seen whether the working of it will be successful or no. At present the venture meets with little practical approval either from Japanese or foreign silkmen.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$750 to 760
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	740
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	680 to 700
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	650
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—

Kakadas—Extra	—
Kakadas—No. 1	—
Kakadas—No. 2	—
Kakadas—No. 3	—
Kakadas—No. 4	—

WASTE SILK.

Musters are being shown round the trade, but nothing has been done at present sufficient to form a market.

QUOTATIONS.

Noahi—Filature, Best	—
Noahi—Filature, Good	—
Noahi—Oahu, Best	—
Noahi—Oahu, Good	—
Noahi—Oahu, Medium	—
Noahi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noahi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noahi—Bushi, Best	—
Noahi—Bushi, Good	—
Noahi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noahi—Joshi, Good	—
Noahi—Joshi, Fair	—
Kihiso—Filature, Best	—
Kihiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Market remains without much animation. Quotations practically unchanged. Settlements unimportant. Stock 7,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	14 to 25
Choice	22 to 23
Finest	20 to 21
Fine	18 to 19
Good Medium	16 to 17
Medium	14 to 15
Good Common	12 to 13
Common	

EXCHANGE.

Only the smallest alteration has taken place in rates of exchange, which closed yesterday one-sixteenth down.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2 1/2
— — Bills on demand	2/2 1/2
— — 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/3
On Paris—Bank sight	2/78
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ..	2/82
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 p. p.
— — Private 10 days' sight	1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	186 1/2
— — Private 30 days' sight	188 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand ..	53 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	55 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2/25
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/29 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	31 1/2

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 3rd.

Hongkong wired us that the following were the closing quotations on Saturday, the 1st inst.:—Buyers of H. & S. Banks at 191 per cent. premium, Hongkong Lands \$73 ex dividend, H. & W. Docks 192 per cent. premium; National Banks \$28 and Straits at \$27. Sellers of China Fires at \$95; H. & K. Wharfs \$54; Indo-Chinas at \$54 and Union Insurance at \$235. Sales of the following took place the same day—H. C. & M. Steamboats \$32.75 ex dividend; Punjom Mines at \$14.50 and China Traders at \$79. Douglasses were offering at \$65.50; Raub Mines were ruling steady at \$5.50, whilst Balmorals were weak at \$2.50.

Local stocks continue unchanged.

Yokohama, August 5th.

Latest mail advices from Hongkong report that business in the share market during the week ending 25th ultimo has been generally dull, a few of the leading stocks only having improved their positions.

The following changes are reported since the 21st ult.:—

	21st July.	25th July.
H. & S. Banks	187 1/2 B.	188 1/2 B.
National Bank	\$29 S.	\$28.50 S.
China Traders	\$78.50 S.	\$78.50 B.
Hongkong Fires	\$335 S.	\$332.50 S.
China Fires	\$96 S.	\$95.50 S.
H. C. & M. Steamboats	\$335 S.	\$332.50 S.
H. C. & M. Steamboats	\$33.50 Sa.	\$34 Sa.
Indo-China	\$55 S.	\$54.50 S.
China & Manilas	\$74 S.	\$73 S.
Dougless Steamships	\$64.50 B.	\$65.50 S.
China Sugars	\$11 S.	\$11.10 S.
Luzon Sugars	\$68 S.	\$67 S.
Punjom Mines	\$14.50 B.	\$14.25 B.
do. (Preference)	\$3.70 Sa.	\$3.85 S.
New Amoy Docks	\$11 N.	\$11 B.
Hongkong Lands	\$76 B.	\$76 S.
Hongkong Hotels	\$26 B.	\$28 B.

Green Islands	\$17.50 Sa.	\$17.25 Sa.
Hongkong Electric	\$6.75 S.	\$6.75 B.
Dairy Farms	\$5 N.	\$6 Sa.
Dakin Cruickshanks	\$1 B.	\$0.75 B.

Only a few forward transactions were effected, consisting of a fair number of Punjom Mines at \$15 for October and Green Island at \$19.50 for January next.

The Manager of the Punjom Mining Co. in Hongkong has received a wire from the Mines, reading "The cyanide plant ran 15 days treating 430 tons of clean tailings, yielding 280 ounces of bullion valued at £1.133 per ounce." The Manager of the Raub Mines has also been advised from the Mines that 2,550 tons of stone crushed yielded 1,000 ounces of gold. The Company has called an extraordinary general meeting to be held at Brisbane for considering the proposal of the Company's Board at Singapore for the calling up of the unpaid capital of the Company, and to employ this portion of the capital towards electrical machines for working the mines. The meeting will be held on the 4th December next.

Telegraphic advices received from Hongkong to-day report a rise in Hongkong Lands to \$74

and in H. & K. Wharfs to \$54, also in New Amoy Docks to \$12, at which rates these three stocks are wanted in Hongkong. A parcel of the latter has been sold to that port to-day at the rate offered.

The Hongkong Ice Co. has declared an interim dividend of \$2 per share, equal to 8 per cent. for the year, for the half-year ending 30th June last.

Local stocks rule as reported in our last issue viz., Breweries are wanted at \$225, Bretts at \$7, Grand Hotels at \$165, Langfeldts at \$185 and Debentures of all local Companies at quotations viz.:—Club Hotel and Brewery Debentures at \$107 and Brett Debentures at \$102.

Yokohama, August 7th.

H. & K. Wharfs have been bought to-day from Hongkong at \$55; there are now buyers at \$55.50. At \$57 shares were purchased from Hongkong for delivery on 30th September and at \$57.50 on 31st October. Hongkong Lands have also been purchased from the same place at \$75.50.

New Amoy Docks.—After being sold yesterday at \$12 rose to \$12.20, at which rate shares are wanted in Hongkong.

Club Hotels have changed hands to-day at \$75.

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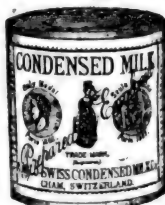
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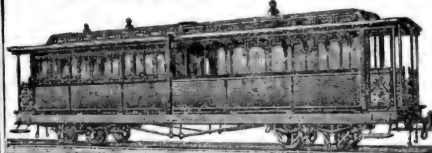
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 15TH, 1896.

MARRIAGE.

On the 12th inst., at the French Consulate, by M. Penet (Consul), ROSINE BERNHEIM, of 81, Rue du Temple, Paris, sister of Mrs. A. Levy, of Yokohama, to ISIDORE BICKART, of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SEVERAL changes in Local Governors have been gazetted this week.

H.I.M. THE Emperor and Empress have headed the funds now being subscribed towards the relief

of those persons in Formosa who suffered in the suppression of the recent rebellion.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG has received the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order.

THE Irish Land Bill has passed through Committee of the House of Lords.

THE O. & O. steamer *Galic* grounded in the Straits of Shimonoseki on Thursday.

RICE has risen enormously in value at Hakodate: at Osaka and Tokyo quotations are fallen to their normal level.

AN action between Colonel Plumer's column and the Matabeles, in which five impis were routed, lasted for seven hours.

SENATOR GUICHARD, who was elected Chairman of the Suez Canal Co. in 1893, in succession to M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, is dead.

ALL the vernacular papers express sympathy with the foreign astronomers at the failure that attended their eclipse expeditions.

INTENSE heat prevails in New York. One hundred and twenty deaths from sunstroke have been recorded within the past five days.

H.I.H. PRINCE FUSHIMI, the Emperor's Special Ambassador to the Czar's Coronation, returned to Yokohama with his suite on Wednesday.

MR. MIYAGAWA HISAJIRO, Japanese Consul in Paris, has been ordered home; Mr. Matsukata Shosaku has been appointed to succeed him.

THE present Korean Cabinet is said to be steadily revising the various regulations governing local, district, and the central administration.

THE Naval officers who are to bring out the *Yashima Kan* from England, left Yokohama for Europe on Saturday per the N.Y.K. *Ryofun Maru*.

A KOREAN who petitioned the King to leave the Russian Legation, punish the murderers of the late Queen, and drive out Japanese traders from Seoul, has been arrested.

VISCOUNT KATSURA, Governor-General of Formosa, is in favour of various restrictions on the opium trade in Formosa. It is useless, he thinks, to prohibit it altogether.

MR. A. C. SIM, who has been distributing the Kobe, Shanghai, and Hongkong relief funds in the Sanriku Districts, has completed his task to the satisfaction of all the recipients.

THE political horizon in Japan is fairly clear, though the Opposition are said to have determined to bring the Government to account for the delay in relieving the sufferers by the recent floods.

MR. OTANI KAKI will leave for the United States in the middle of next month to investigate the causes of the decline in the Japan tea business. He will be back before February of next year.

BARON IWASAKI YANOSUKE, Messrs. Shibusawa, Masuda Ko, Okura Kihachiro, Yasuda Senjiro, Morimura Ichizayemon, and several others, on the 11th inst. banquetted Chevalier de Luzzatti at the Imperial Hotel.

At a reception given by the London Chamber of Commerce in honour of Li Hung-chang, the latter promised that he would do his utmost to make the remotest corner of China accessible by railways.

THE acquittal of Major Lothaire on the charge of murdering Mr. Stokes, a British trader, has

been confirmed on appeal by the court at Brussels. The English newspapers comment bitterly on the decision.

MR. NABESHIMA KEIJIRO, a secretary in the Foreign Office, has been permitted to wear the decoration of the Second Class of the Order of St. Stanislaus, conferred on him by H.M. the Czar on July 23rd.

THE Astronomical Expeditions that proceeded to the north of Hokkaido to take observations of the total eclipse of the sun on the 9th inst., fared disastrously, clouds and storms preventing the phenomenon from being seen.

MARQUIS SATONJI KIMIMUCHI, Minister of State for Education, and Foreign Affairs *ad interim*, has been permitted to accept and wear the decoration of the Legion of Honour presented by the President of the French Republic.

THE Railway Bureau, notwithstanding the petitions of Yokohama merchants, capitalists, and residents, have decided to run the new line trains direct from Shimbashi to Kobe without touching at Yokohama from the 15th inst.

THE sum of yen 35,889.429 has been sanctioned towards the relief of districts visited by the seismic wave, and the sum of yen 7,601.758 is allowed for Yokohama Harbour construction repairs from the Second Reserve Fund, during the 29th fiscal year (1896) as a fifth installment.

SOME reports from Japanese Consuls in America are printed in the *Official Gazette* this week. They warn their nationals against the dangers they are running in sending goods inferior to the contract samples, and also charge them with seldom being up to time in implementing contracts.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG has been entertained at a banquet at the Crystal Palace, London, by two hundred and fifty of the leading China merchants, the Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank presiding. Replying to the toast of his health, Li Hung-chang spoke of the services rendered to China by the Bank.

THE amount of currency, bank notes, etc., issued from the 3rd inst. to 8th inst., was as follows:—yen 80,923.100 in gold bullion; yen 25,473.735 in silver; total, yen 106,396.835. public loan bonds, yen 17,906,740; Government bonds yen 22,000,000; ordinary bonds, yen 11,000,000; commercial notes, yen 13,146,749; silver certificates yen 64,053,489; total, yen 170,450,324. Bank notes, yen 170,450,324 (including yen 3,830,544 in the Central Safe Stock, and yen 7,400,000, to exchange for paper money). The amount of currency in circulation was yen 159,219,780; the amount in the week preceding was yen 159,207,554.

THE import trade is generally without improvement, and business in Textiles has been confined to small enquiries, induced probably by the fall in exchange. Dealers in Metals are inert, contracts being slow in the taking-up and fresh bargains few and far between. In Kerosene there is nothing to report but fresh arrivals of Oil on a dull and declining market. In Sugar there has been a moderate amount of business in Browns, but at somewhat irregular prices, while Whites continue to be well held. A few purchases have been effected in Silk, but sellers became more difficult to deal with as exchange dropped. In Waste Silk there has been no business worth mention. There has been a little more life in the Tea trade, but the sales of the season remain far behind those of last year at the same date. Exchange declined a point for several days in succession, after which rates came to a standstill.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

This has again been a tolerably quiet week with the vernacular papers. Some, however, contain articles very readable, displaying good sense, judgment, and knowledge. Now that the long rumoured appointment of *Jiyu-to* Governors has been made, our readers will not be surprised to hear that some Tokyo editors write upon that topic in a tone the very reverse of self-contained. We need not reproduce their violence.

The *Jiji* has an article entitled "Dreams of Anti-Mixed-Residence," the gist of which is this:—Years ago some persons were opposed to any foreign policy involving mixed residence, however advantageous the policy might be in other respects. But the War must have roused them for their dreams, for assuredly they were no better than dreamers when they entertained fears about foreigners getting the whole of Japanese business and industry into their hands if mixed residence became an accomplished fact. The War furnished proof of the fact that the Japanese race is competent to march abreast of Occidentals along the road of civilized progress. It cannot be supposed that the struggle with China produced any sudden growth in the capabilities of Japan or her people: what they were before the War, that they must be now. After pursuing this theme in a style that can scarcely fail to impress those to whom the article is addressed, our contemporary concludes by urging its countrymen not to slacken their preparations for mixed residence.

In the columns of the *Nichi Nichi* there is a long article headed "China after the War." It is a learned essay such as rarely appears in the vernacular press. The opening and middle portions, however, being chiefly historical, our limited space forbids their reproduction. The conclusion is this:—Among the many faults committed by China in modern times, the recent War stands preëminent. Chinese statesmen ought to have learned a lesson from its results. What then is the wisest policy for China to pursue in the future? We positively state that no course is open to her except to form a close alliance with Japan, and thus to maintain the peace and security of the Far East. We often hear it stated that China is about to ally herself with Russia for the development of her empire. We do not believe anything of the kind. China already holds a realm too large for her administrative capacities. What purposes can she hope to achieve by an alliance with the Northern Bear? The policy that makes for China's interests and the policy that makes for Russia's interests are diametrically opposed, one being defensive and the other aggressive. They may agree, or may have agreed, to a mutual exchange of benefits or accommodations, but the idea of an alliance between them is simply inconceivable. Russia, even if courted by China, would refuse, for she must know that the Middle Kingdom is not to be trusted. On the other hand, the tide of Occidental civilization reached the shores of Japan long ago, and brought to her many things that place her far ahead of China. It is inevitable that the same tide will sooner or later come to renovate China, whether her statesmen welcome or oppose it. Had they even a little wisdom they would invite this rejuvenating influence. But from whence? Undoubtedly from Japan. Western civilization, as assimilated by Japan, has been to a great extent Orientalized, and in that form it is much easier for China to receive it than in its original European or American garb. Chinese statesmen undoubtedly have many internal reforms to achieve, which must severely tax their strength, and there are consequently strong reasons for them to choose the simplest route for approaching Western civilization. What is of the most urgent importance for China, is to provide speedily for the development of facilities for communication. All the maritime routes will soon be monopolized by the Japanese

unless the Chinese stretch out vigorous hands, for the Japanese have proved themselves experts in the art of navigation. On land, too, little has yet been done by the Chinese in this all important matter, and nothing demands their attention more urgently than the construction of railways traversing the interior of the empire and connecting the more important places, and of lines forming a junction with the Manchurian trunk road. If China desires to conserve her integrity and to develop her political and economical interests, railways are absolutely indispensable. Not a few people say that she is counting upon Russian and English projects for extending the Siberian and Burmah railway systems, the one into Manchuria and the other into the centre of the Middle Kingdom. If Chinese statesmen really entertain such an idea, they are not considering their country's best interests. China could afford to build railways for herself, if only she had materials and engineers, and those Japan can provide at considerably less cost than would be involved in obtaining them from either Europe or America. As to rails, in particular, this country will be able to sell them very cheaply after the completion of the Iron Foundry. We firmly believe that it would be an ill-advised step for China to have her railways built and managed by foreigners. It may be noted, *en passant*, that some people exercise their sagacity to discover links connecting European aggressive designs with the Russian and English railway projects from Siberia and Burmah to China. But to us it appears only natural that contiguous countries should, one day or other, come to have a common system of railways. If, therefore, we recommend China to construct her own railroads by the help of Japan, our counsel is not dictated by any such fears as the above, but because we are persuaded that her best interests point in that direction.

A writer signing himself "Tetsu Kouron" declares, in the leading columns of the *Nippon* that sweeping measures must be taken in Formosa on and after May 9th, 1897. That date, as our readers probably know, is the time when the Formosans must either leave the island, or become Japanese subjects on whatever terms Japan dictates. The first measure he recommends is to forbid the wearing of "pig-tails." His view is that uncivilized people are much more effectually convinced of their rulers power and influence by a visible display of those qualities than by any amount of moral teaching. Hence he recommends that all Formosans desirous of becoming Japanese subjects should be required to cut off their queues. He thinks that the gendarmes and police now in Formosa would not be sufficient to enforce the edict, but he would not hesitate to enforce it even though it involved the despatch of two or more Military Divisions. The article is unfinished, and we are not yet informed what other "sweeping measures" the writer has in contemplation.

The *Mainichi* has a lengthy leader upon the rumour of an approaching financial panic in Japan. Its views are similar to those entertained by Mr. Tsuruhara, of the *Nippon Ginko*, as recently reproduced in these columns.

While recommending the Authorities and the public to be on their guard against any financial disturbances, our contemporary strongly denounces any craven apprehensions calculated to chill the spirit of enterprise that has sprung up since the War.

One of the *Nippon's* leading articles is headed "Those that are fond of Wealth and Rank," words taken from a Chinese classic. The article is simply a collection of all the hard things that occur to our caustic contemporary's mind with reference to the present holders of Japanese portfolios. It expresses its deliberate opinion that the present Cabinet Ministers remain in office solely because their luxurious mode of living makes the receipt of high salaries a necessity. Had they money enough to procure all the luxuries they desire, they

would prefer lives of ease and retirement, and would not think of taking upon themselves the onerous tasks of the Administration. Such being the case, concludes this decidedly querulous article, the nation would best consult its political interests by making a donation of, say, 200,000 *yen* on the average to each of the Cabinet members and other talented statesmen, about twenty in number. The total donation would be 4 million *yen*, a respectable figure in itself, but only 3 per cent. of the national revenue. As for the talented statesmen, they would then be able to satisfy all their extravagant propensities, for 200,000 *yen* would yield at least an income of ten thousand *yen* annually. Our contemporary gravely recommends the Diet to take measures in the above sense next session.

The *Kokumin*, in its Sunday's issue, gives a few short expressions of its sentiments about politics and politicians. Some of them may not be uninteresting:—First, the relation between Counts Okuma and Matsukata resembles in some respects that between the Tokugawa and Mayeda chieftains after the death of the *Taiko*; and Ishida, who failed in his attempt to sever the friendly ties between Tokugawa and Mayeda, may be said to be represented by Marquis and Baron Ito combined. Second, Should Counts Okuma and Matsukata bide their time and maintain their union, power will naturally come into their hands. The tide of time flows silently but steadily and irresistibly. Occasional ripples and waves need not be taken into account. Another statement that evidently pleases the *Kokumin* for its pithiness, refers to the rumour said to be current among the Chinese that the Peking Government is about to issue an Edict ceding the Liaotung Peninsula to Russia:—"We don't think such a thing will happen yet, but it may happen when the ultimate strength of Japan and England is completely prostrated by Russia. Alas! poor England! poor Japan!"

"The Progressive Party," writes the *Tokyo Shimbun*, "is reported to have passed a resolution calling for an extraordinary session of the Diet to discuss disbursements from the Treasury on account of the recent inundations. If that be true, we cannot but be surprised at the Party's wants of reflection." Our contemporary then enumerates the various steps that the Government has to take in framing a Bill to be submitted for the consideration of the Diet, and declares it impossible for any Government to make preparations with sufficient speed to meet the demand of the *Shimpo-to* (Opposition).

The *Kokumin*, in a leader entitled "A Life and Death Question for the Statesmen in Power and out of Power," says:—"The Tokugawa Government was overthrown by a foreign question and the rule of Clan Cabinets also is destined to fall similarly. As to internal affairs, everything indicates the improbability of any occurrence important enough to cause the downfall of the Clan Government. It must be upon a foreign problem that the politicians out of power will engage in a life and death struggle with the Government. At this present moment, is not the Government setting at naught the Imperial Declaration of War against China? Is it not turning the glory of the War into disgrace? Is it not losing all the fruits of the War? These are the most suitable points for the Opposition to choose in attacking the Government. Victory may be obtained by appealing to the nation on such principles as these, namely, to secure the independence of Korea and maintain the peace of the East, in accordance with the programme laid down in the Imperial Declaration of War against China; to oppose whatever State interferes with the independence of Korea or disturbs the peace of the Orient; to wipe off, in course of time, the disgrace attending the Liaotung fiasco; and not to suffer any foreign Power to occupy an inch of the Liaotung Peninsula, since that would certainly endanger the tranquillity of the East."

The *Yoroku Choho* prophesies that nothing of

importance will take place in the political world for some time to come, although contentions, keen and fierce, may be carried on between Marquis Ito's organs and those of Count Okuma. These are the only statesman among Japanese politicians that may fight political battles. But they both lack strength and courage to engage in open warfare. They merely shake their fists at each other, but never come near enough to deal earnest blows.

The *Fiji* has a sensible article in which it recommends the Government and the nation to lay aside all the feelings holding them apart, and to approach, in frank union, the consideration of measures relating to the increase of war preparations. It compares the differences between the Government and the people to those between a parent and his children, and says that, as domestic disagreements do much harm to a family in its social relations, whatever benefits may accrue to the actual combatants, so discord between rulers and ruled are seriously detrimental to the interests of a State in its relations with other States.

All the Tokyo papers, most of them in their leading columns, offer hearty congratulations to H.I.H. Prince Fushimi on his return from Russia, and thank him for having undertaken the trouble of a journey to Europe. Some journals also take occasion to allude to the distinguished part His Imperial Highness played in the late War, both in the field and at Headquarters. The writings of our Tokyo contemporaries on such an occasion are so refined and appropriate that we are forcibly reminded of the altogether exceptional richness of the Japanese language in terms of courtesy and congratulation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

KOREAN TRADE.

THE trade of Korea before the war was entirely in the hands of the Chinese. Then the Chinese merchants went back home and left the field vacant for Japanese traders. At one time Japanese merchandise made its way into the interior of Korea in considerable quantities, but from July and August, of last year the Chinese merchants reappeared, and Japanese imports have since been steadily on the decrease. During the first half of this year the Japanese imports and exports at Jinsen were yen 1,137,386, while the Chinese were yen 847,536, showing an advantage of yen 289,850 for the Japanese traders. The general tendency, however, has been unfavourable to the Japanese since January last as the following table proves:—

JAPANESE AND CHINESE IMPORTS AT JINSEN DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1896.

	Japanese. Yen.	Chinese. Yen.
January	331,867	91,241
February	119,942	5,356
March	171,043	175,650
April	203,629	274,200
May	201,898	194,438
June	109,007	106,651

Japanese total 1,137,386
Chinese total 847,536

In January and February Japanese trade excelled Chinese by yen 350,000, while in March and April the latter beat the former by over yen 7,400. In May and June the Japanese were again ahead, but this time only to the amount of yen 9,000. Instituting a comparison between Chinese and Japanese imports in May and June of this year and those in the same months of last year, the following figures are obtained:—

	May. Yen.	June. Yen.
1895.		
Japanese	234,318	211,610
Chinese	61,356	35,980
1896.		
Japanese	121,121	70,447
Chinese	188,573	101,865

Last year, in May and June, Japanese imports at Jinsen amounted to yen 445,928, while this year in the same months they were only yen 191,568. On the other hand, while the Chinese

imports were only yen 97,336 last year, this year they amounted to yen 290,438. Again, in the first half of this year, Japanese exports and imports amounted in all to only yen 1,137,386, while last year in the same period imports alone totalled yen 1,505,514. Similar figures on the Chinese side are respectively yen 297,202 and yen 847,536.

MR. BARNEY BARNATO'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

A COMPLETE and very remarkable change has come over the South African Gold Share Market during the last few days, says a recent issue of *Fairplay*, in consequence of a further instalment of President Kruger's "clemency." Mr. Barnato last week laid the situation very clearly before that gentleman, and proved to him that if he did not quickly set about liberating the Pretoria prisoners there would be a wholesale shutting down of the Rand Mines. What that would mean did not require very minute demonstration, and in the course of a few hours all except the four Reform leaders were free men. By this means a great catastrophe to the gold mining industry has doubtless been averted, and there is now every reason to believe that matters will settle down in their former channel and move along smoothly. The news referred to was the only thing needed to set the Kaffir market on the "boom," and not a moment's delay occurred in rushing up prices. From dead stagnation the market at once broke into a state of the wildest excitement, the volume of business transacted on Monday, when the revival may be said to have definitely set in, and the accompanying uproar and excitement, being such as had not been experienced since the summer of last year. Up to Saturday the West-Australian market held the field. It had grown immensely in consequence of the influx into it of large numbers of dealers from the African department, but since then it has grown smaller, and much of the old froth has disappeared, speculators and investors having once more returned to their old favourites. Barnato specialties, Chartered shares, East Rands, Consolidated Goldfields, and such like have been bought in enormous amounts, but chiefly to close "bear" amounts, which were unquestionably of very large dimensions. The Continent has again come in as a buyer, and is likely to keep the ball rolling. Looking at the position and prospects as a whole, the chances are that prices will rise considerably all along the line. It will not signify very greatly what one buys during the next few months, as everything in the market is likely to be pushed up now that the political tension has been relaxed. Until President Kruger came to his latest decision the outlook was extremely grave. There can be very little doubt that a decision of a different character to the one come to in the case of the prisoners would have prompted the shutting down of the mines as an act of reprisal, and Mr. Barnato did not in the least degree exaggerate the probable consequences of such an event when he told the Boer President that it would throw back the industry for many years. But even that might not have been the worst effect. One need not, however, speculate about the consequences of an event which has been finally averted. "Barney" has triumphed in his mission to Pretoria, and nobody will seek to diminish by a single leaf the laurels he has won for himself. He comes through this miserable business a head and shoulders above everybody else who was in any way connected with it, and it would be churlish in the extreme to seek to minimise the immense debt of gratitude which investors in South African enterprises owe to him. As regards Westralian mines, these may be expected to fall into the background until they prove, what is still quite uncertain, that they are really worth the inflated values placed upon them. Indian mines have had a great rise, but now that Kaffirs have once more come to the front, they are somewhat dangerous to meddle with.

JAPAN'S KOREAN POLICY.

MR. HARA, Japanese Representative at the Court of Seoul, according to the *Yorosu Choho*, gave an interviewer to understand that Japan

sincerely wishes to see the independence of Korea secured, and that she does not mind what State brings it about, be it Russia, America, France, or England. Should these countries succeed in securing the Peninsular Kingdom's independence, Japan would gladly be a looker-on. She sees no necessity for doing the work herself. Such words from the mouth of the Japanese Minister at Seoul, says the *Yorosu Choho*, are matters of no small amazement. They may be taken as a public announcement of the Japanese Government's changed attitude toward Korea. We (*Japan Mail*) do not think so.

THE RECENT TYPHOON AT HONGKONG.

SAYS the *China Mail* of July 30th:—Hongkong has emerged from another typhoon, but not unscathed. From every part of the Colony, in the city, east and west, at the Peak, and on the Kowloon Peninsula, information is gradually coming to hand regarding the wreck of buildings, the wholesale destruction of matsheds and other light structures, the uprooting and dismantling of trees, the loss of Chinese craft and damage to European vessels. Not since 1894, has the Colony experienced such a severe typhoon, and some old residents are inclined to believe that the sharp severity of the present typhoon is only equalled by that of 1874 when the Colony suffered much more serious damage. According to the Observatory notices sent out, we learn that Dr. Doberck expected the typhoon centre to pass close to the Gap Rock, a forecast which must have been correct judging from the messages cabled by the lighthouse keepers. At ten p.m., we are told, the wind velocity, as tested by the anemometer at Kowloon Observatory, was 108 miles per hour, coming from the east. The typhoon eventually entered China near Macao. The Observatory Staff, continues the *Mail*, deserves to be complimented on having given timely notice of the close proximity of the typhoon. Thanks to the warnings issued from the Observatory, the majority of the vessels in the Harbour were able to get into the typhoon anchorages, where they rode out the storm in safety. The captains of the P. & O. S. *Ancona* and the *City of Peking* preferred to remain in the Harbour. With their usual dilatoriness, a number of Chinese failed to avail themselves of the typhoon warnings; the result is that their boats are now matchwood, and in some cases, it is feared, loss of life has occurred. Captain Norman Jay lost his life through insisting that a Chinese sailor, who was on board the schooner *Wu-chow-foo* with him, should be saved first.

AN ADVENTUROUS VOYAGE.

ONE is irresistibly reminded of the

Three wise men of Gotham who went to sea in a bowl, when recording the beginning of Capt. Ridgely's trip across the Pacific in a 22 ft. boat. For the last two years the daring Swede has been making preparations for the voyage, and several times has almost been on the verge of departure, but something or other intervened. On Monday afternoon (August 10) he managed to get away. With two companions he will make his way up to the Kuriles and then will proceed across the "smoky, cold grey seas," as Kipling calls the North Pacific, to Vancouver. His boat's measurements are, length 22 ft.; depth, 2 ft. 6 in.; beam 5 ft. 7 in.

THE FORK.

THE humble fork is a comparatively modern convenience. *The Literary Digest* translates from *Cosmos* some interesting facts about the existence of this table adjunct:—

"Pierre Damien and St. Bonaventure narrate that at the close of the tenth century, the sister of Romanus Argulus, Emperor of the East, having espoused a son of the Doge Pierre Orseolo, scandalized all Venice by an odd and unnatural form of luxury, which consisted in using, instead of the figures, small gold two-pronged forks. The old chronicler Dandolo, full of horror at such depravity, adds that the unhappy woman was, by a chastisement sent from Heaven, attacked by a frightful disease that changed her body to powder and caused it to exhale, even before death, the odour of corruption. In spite of this terrible example, the use of forks, becoming re-

garded as convenient and proper, established itself at Venice. A traveller, Jacques Lesaige, speaks thus of it, not without astonishment, in describing a feast given by the Doge: "These lords, when they desire to eat, take the food with a silver fork." A little later, Sabba da Castiglione mentions the use of forks *à la Venitienne* to avoid seizing the food with the fingers.

"After the sixteenth century, mention of forks appears in some inventories, though not often.

"The inventory of Charles V. (1380) proves, among a mass of silver worth more than 1,500,000 francs [\$300,000] the existence of 12 forks, some of them ornamented with gems. The inventory of the Duchess of Touraine (1389) enumerates nine dozen silver spoons, and only two forks, of silver gilt. This shows that the uses of spoons were varied and frequent, while that of forks remained for a long time special and very limited. They were seldom used except in eating certain fruits. Three forks belonging to Piers Gaveston, favourite of Edward II., are said to have been 'for eating pears.' The Duke of Bourgogne employed his only for eating strawberries, and those of Charles V. were used by him to eat cheese-cakes.

"It was not until the reign of Louis XIV. that this precious instrument began to be used at all generally, and even in the midst of this reign Anne of Austria used to eat with her fingers, as is stated in the 'Historic Muse of Loret (April, 1651):—

The lovely fingers of the queen
Full often took the pains, I ween,
To carry toward her crimson beak
(With due respect I mean to speak)
Full many a savoury bit of meat,
Of pastry, or confection sweet.

"Preliminary ablutions became altogether indispensable when every one plunged his hand into the plate, and this usage explains the quantity of basins which date from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The most elegant feasters washed their hands after each course. . . . Montaigne says somewhere that he loves little to avail himself of fork and spoon, and prefers to eat with his fingers.

"A note of Saint-Simon marks with precision the epoch when the use of forks became *de rigueur* in polite society at Versailles. The manners of M. de Montausier, who lived with great splendour, were very refined at table, where he used great spoons of his own invention, and large forks, which he introduced into fashionable use."

"Even in our own day, when the fork has been adopted by all the peoples of Europe, a number of countries of considerable civilization have not adopted it.

"The Chinese use ivory shop-sticks; Turks have just begun to adopt the fork, and some of them are always showing themselves novices in the art of using it properly. Witness the amusing story told by Ampère and cited by Bourdeau of a grand Turkish official who at a diplomatic dinner, expressed to a Frenchman his countrymen who did not know how to manage their forks; and, so saying, used his own—to comb his beard!"

RAILWAYS IN ASAKUSA DISTRICT.

THE following railways and trams are projected for Asakusa District:—An elevated railway from Iida-machi Station on the Ko-bu line to Kinshibori Station, Honjo, on the So-bu line, through Hongo, Shitaya, and Asakusa Districts; another, an extension of the So-bu line, to Yorozyo Bashi, *via* Kinshi Station through Asakusa; another, from Shimo Heiemoncho in Asakusa to Senju through Sakamoto; an electric railway reaching Senju Ichhome along the Oshu highway, starting from Kaminari-mon; an electric tramway from the western corner of Azuma Bashi to Senju Station along the Oshu highway; two tramways from Kaminari-mon to Senju Station along the Oshu highway; an electric railway running straight to the western corner of the sixth section of Asakasa Park from the Tokyo Tramway Company's stables at Yamashita-cho, Ueno; a railroad from Asakusa Park to Ishibashi in Shimotsuke Province; and a railroad passing behind the Yoshiwara through Ryusenjimachi in Saitaya. The people of Asakusa District are entirely opposed to the elevated lines, but intend to raise no objections to the other schemes until they have made thorough investigations.

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE AT NIKKO.

VISITORS to Nikko obtained a fairly good view of the eclipse last Sunday. At first, the sun was hidden by clouds; but, at a little after two o'clock, the clouds passed away, and

showed the sun then about one-sixth eclipsed. For an hour the progress of the moon over the face of the sun was clearly visible, except for occasional short spells of cloudiness. At the time of maximum obscurity the view was very good: but soon after three o'clock clouds covered the sun, and a heavy rain-storm ensued, so that there was no further view of the eclipse. Not only foreigners, but many Japanese, were out with smoked glass.

MAT DEALERS.

A NUMBER of dealers in "flower matting" met in Tokyo at the end of last month and resolved to establish special offices for the benefit of the trade. The following are the points they agreed upon in regard to the work that the office is to undertake:—1. To act as agents for the producer. 2. To re-inspect mats once inspected by the Producer's Guild. 3. To see that proper store-houses are provided. 4. To investigate and report upon places abroad where mats are in demand, and to inspect the places at home where mats are manufactured. 5. To see that direct exportation to foreign countries is properly carried out. The head office will be at Kobe.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.

KATSUMATO ROKUSABURO, aged 23, a *banto* in the employ of the Pacific Trading Company, has been arrested on a charge of embezzling \$162.18, the monies of the Company. The man had been sent out to collect various bills, and instead of paying the money into the office went off for a night's entertainment in the brothels at Maganecho. Here the money quickly went. Upon being asked to account for the monies, next day he alleged that he had not received them. Detection quickly followed.

THE PROPOSED FAST CANADIAN MAIL.

A LONDON telegram appearing in the Australian papers says that the amount of subsidy required by Messrs. J. and A. Allan, owners of the Allan steamship line, for the proposed fast service between England and Canada, is £225,000 per annum. Messrs. Allan's tender was the lowest received, and was also the only one that complied with the required conditions. The service is to be a weekly one, with a minimum speed from port to port of twenty knots.

AN O'ER TRUE TALE.

WE are indebted to the *Ist*, remarks the *Globe*, for reviving, apropos of the performance of the band at the Oxford Theatre, a story from Boston. A piece was being played which dealt with French life under Louis XI., and a certain actor had to come on and say these dramatic lines:—"Stop the music: the King is dead." The weather was thirsty and the music was bad. History does not relate to which of these the subsequent climax was due, but certain is it that the actor came on, and in a tone of intense earnestness said, "Stop that music: it has killed the King."

THE PROJECTED FORMOSAN RAILWAY.

THE projectors of the Formosan Railway are said not to be desirous of any further support or assistance from the Government than the concession of the ground on which to build the road, and the remission of import duties on the rails, engines, and other material imported from abroad. As to the land, the promoters are reported to be prepared to buy it at reasonable rates, if the Government can not give it them free of cost.

THE PORT ARTHUR PANORAMA.

THE Port Arthur Panorama at Ueno Park, Tokyo, was courteously thrown open to the representatives of the foreign press on Wednesday afternoon. The painting was carried out by Nomura Yoshikuni and Nomura Yoshimitsu, of Kyoto, old pupils of Mr. Bigot, and is a spirited performance. The building has been entirely renovated and nicely lighted, and the spectacle should attract everyone interested in battle-scenes.

THE LATE MR. BAUERFEIND.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* says that the body of Mr. Bauerfeind, who was drowned in the Soo-

chow Creek, was found quite close to where he sank. According to German law, no inquest will be necessary, as the circumstances attending his death are well known. He was only 23 years old, and was an only son, a brother having been previously killed in an accident.

LADIES VISITING LAW COURTS.

THE decision of Lord Chief Justice Russell not to allow ladies on the bench at future sittings of the court for the trial of Dr. Jameson, is well received, says an exchange. There have been many protests about the way in which the recent sittings of the court in this case were turned into society functions.

CHINESE CUSTOMS CRUISER MISSING.

THE Chinese Customs cruiser *Dolphin*, which left Chefoo about the same time as the *Illis*, with stores, for the N. E. Promontory Light-house, had not been heard of in Tientsin, according to the local paper, up to the 1st inst. She carried a crew of one foreigner and five or six natives. Grave fears are entertained for their safety.

FATAL BOATING ACCIDENT AT SHANGHAI.

MR. BAUERFEIND, while sculling on the Soochow Creek at Shanghai, on August 6th, was thrown into the water through the capsizing of his craft, and, being unable to swim, was drowned. Mr. Staats, who was sculling near-by, did all he could to rescue the drowning man.

DEATH OF THE REV. J. GOBLE.

THE Rev. Jonathan Goble, the first Baptist missionary to Japan, died recently in St. Louis, Mo. As a sailor he was present at the opening of Japan to foreigners by Com. Perry's expedition, 1854, and he claimed to be the first to introduce the *jinrikisha* in this country.

AN EXAMPLE.

A FOREIGN beachcomber at Kobe, who had been disowned by the Consular Board, has been sent to gaol by the Japanese Local Court, for one year with hard labour, for assaulting a twelve-year old Japanese boy.

A BOWLER'S SALARY.

JONES, the Adelaide bowler, has accepted a five years' engagement from Sussex County C.C., at a salary of £365 per annum and a house at Brighton. He returns to Australia with the team, after which he will proceed to England with his family.

MR. DE BUNSEN.

MR. DE BUNSEN, British *Chargé d'Affairs* at Bangkok, is at present, by medical advice, taking a round tour via Singapore, Java, and Hongkong, for his health's sake.

THE GROUNDING OF THE "GAELIC."

THE O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, while on her voyage from Nagasaki to Kobe, grounded on Yojibei Rocks, on the north side of the eastern entrance to Shimonoseki Straits, at 4 o'clock on Thursday morning. It appears that the *Gaelic* got out of control after collision with a large sailing junk, and thus came too close to the dangerous reef: the tide, that runs through this channel with great swiftness, caught her and swung her on, and she sustained some damage. By noon she was floated, and it was then deemed advisable to beach her inside the Hamo Bank. Telegrams were dispatched to Nagasaki for pumps and divers, but the extent of the damage done can not be ascertained till they arrive at an early hour this (Saturday) morning. The Yojibei Rocks lie E.N.E. 4½ cables from Kibune Point, and uncover 4 feet at low water springs.

The N.Y.K. *Genkai Maru* is bringing up the mails—including the English mails of July 10th, which the *Gaelic* was conveying from Hongkong—and passengers to Kobe, and is expected there this morning.

Information has reached Yokohama that the *Gaelic* has been pumped dry, but the extent of the damage to her bottom is unknown. She will dock at Nagasaki.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The *Yi-yu* learns that a number of persons are shortly to be raised to the peerage, and tells us the reasons assigned by rumour for so many additions to the already long list. Irrespective of the old *Kuge*, *Daimyo* that formerly enjoyed incomes of more than 50,000 *koku* of rice and are now capable of telling what property they possess, may be numbered on the fingers of one hand, as Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Akimoto, and Viscount Okabe. The other noblemen are all too great personages to ascertain the facts about their own fortunes, the assessment and management of which they leave entirely in the hands of their Stewards. With regard to those formerly classed as lesser *Daimyo*, they are for the most part poor, although of some the very opposite is true. For this and other reasons, they receive little respect from the so-called "great peers." In the ranks of the Japanese nobility there are to be found, it is true, men of undoubted talent, as Prince Tokugawa Iyesato, Marquis Asano Chokun, Marquis Kuroda Nagashige. But they too are said to be ignorant as to their own wealth. Hence, however ably they may carry on a discussion in the House of Lords any arguments that they employ about financial measures must of necessity be purely theoretical. Under the circumstances, the present noblemen are not suited to discharge legislative functions, and it becomes necessary that able and experienced persons should be raised to the peerage, to supersede the worthless members in the Upper House. Briefly speaking, the renovation of the House of Peers appears to be the chief object contemplated in creating new peers, if, indeed, any such are to be created.

A person signing himself "Shinna-sei" writes to the *Nippon* from Jinsen about the currency in circulation in the Peninsular Kingdom. He tells us that there are two kinds of coins in use in Korea. One is that usually called "Korean coin;" and the other, the new money first struck in August 1894. The former comprises two copper coins named *ichimon sen* and *gomon sen*, respectively. Like the old Japanese coins, they are round and have a square hole in the centre. The new coins are a 5 *ryo* silver piece, exactly like a Japanese one *yen* piece in weight and appearance; a 1 *ryo* silver piece, resembling the Japanese 20 *sen*; a 2 *sen* 5 *bu* nickel piece, like the Japanese 5 *sen* nickel; a 5 *bu* copper piece, like the Japanese 1 *sen*, in weight and appearance; and a 1 *bu* brass piece, equivalent to 2 *rin* of Japanese money. When these coins were originally issued in 1894, the Korean Government fixed the rates of exchange as follow:—

1 <i>bu</i> brass	.....equivalent to	1 of the old coins.
5 <i>bu</i> copper	.....equivalent to	5 of the old coins.
2 <i>sen</i> 5 <i>bu</i> nickel	.....equivalent to	25 of the old coins.
1 <i>ryo</i> silver	.....equivalent to	100 of the old coins.
5 <i>ryo</i> silver	.....equivalent to	500 of the old coins.

By "old coin" in the above table both kinds of the original Korean coins are designated, for they are equal in intrinsic value, though different in denomination, so greatly has the higher coin been debased. The article from which we quote is still unfinished.

Tokyo papers of Saturday allege that the conditions submitted by Messrs. Ozaki Saburo and Omiwa Chobei for the consideration of the Korean Cabinet with reference to the building of the Sôul-Fusan Railway are as follow:—

1. The land required for the road and for structures connected with it, shall be given gratis, and shall be exempt from all taxes.
2. Materials necessary for constructing the railroad shall be free of import dues.
3. In the employment of Korean labour and in procuring material the Korean Government shall give all possible aid and assistance.
4. The work of construction shall be commenced within three years and completed within ten.
5. For thirty years after the completion of the railroad, the profits accruing from it shall belong to the builders, but after those thirty years the Korean Government shall be entitled to purchase the railroad at a price settled by competent appraisers.
6. If, on the termination of the first thirty years, the Korean Government does not purchase the

line, the builders shall be permitted to appropriate the proceeds for another term of thirty years.

7. In the case of the Sôul-Jinsen Railway it has been agreed that military men shall be carried free. But having regard to the much greater length of the Sôul-Fusan line, it will suffice if a discount be granted on military tickets.

Osaka has long been, and is acknowledged to be, to-day, the commercial centre of Japan. Moreover, its manufacturing industries also have developed so rapidly in recent years that no other place in the empire can compare with it in this branch of enterprise. Any one entering the city for the first time is surprised by the multitude of chimneys rising high above the roofs. Including chimneys built of mud, they numbered last year about 820, and this year those of brick and iron have reached a total of 800. The number of factories is about 3,000, giving employment to 30,000 males and 20,000 females. The reasons of Osaka's industrial progress are very evident: they are the abundance of cheap labour procurable there, and the exceptional facilities that exist for transportation. But scarcity of labour is already beginning to be felt, especially by Spinning Companies, some of which, as has already been explained in these columns, have formed a combination not to compete among themselves for labour, each factory promising not to receive hands that have left another factory. Some critics infer from this fact that Osaka's industrial capacity has already reached its limit, a most shallow conclusion, as we think. More rational is the argument advanced by others that Osaka, not having a colliery in its immediate vicinity, can not hope to become the chief industrial city in the empire.

News comes from Gumma Prefecture that some uneasiness has been caused there by the alleged prospect of the Prefecture's being soon placed under the jurisdiction of a *Yi-yu-to* Governor, and that Messrs. Sassa Harumoto and Shinojo Yagoro, who will immediately be followed by Mr. Arai Keigoro, have come up to the capital to represent to the Government the inadvisability of making the rumoured appointment. It is stated that these gentlemen are now in the metropolis, and that they met yesterday for the purpose of holding a secret conference. If the Tokyo papers be well informed, the agitators have resolved to invoke the coöperation of politicians in Yamanashi Prefecture. They are believed to be acting as representatives of a large number of people in Gumma, and rumour says that they are determined to resort to every means in their power to prevent the *Yi-yu-to* appointment, or to render the position impossible for the new Governor should he be actually appointed. In order that our readers may understand this news, we should add that Messrs. Ishizaka Masataka and Sakurai Tsutomu, both distinguished members of the *Yi-yu-to* and of the Diet, are considered likely to be appointed Governors of Gumma and Yamanashi Prefectures, respectively.

COUNT OKUMA ON FORMOSA.

The *Chuo* prints the following remarks attributed to Count Okuma:—"If the Government really intends to establish a permanent administrative system in Formosa, a railroad must be built, whether the undertaking be profitable or not. Tea is chiefly produced in the north of the island and finds a market principally in America. The best route for it to take would be *via* Kobe, but now it first goes westward to Amoy and thence is sent to America. Our merchants should see to this system being altered. Formosan Sugar is now refined in Amoy and Hongkong and thence brought to this country. Japanese refiners must take this work into their hands and carry it out somewhere in Japan. The same must be done with camphor. In Formosa there are a small number of landed proprietors and a very large number of peasants and farmers. The capital invested in the land, however, chiefly belongs to Westerns, so that the latter reap the main profits from Formosa. This state of things must be changed without delay. That done, the

proposed railway between Tainan and Taipeh could be made to pay. I told one of the promoters of the railway that a Government so wanting in back-bone as to return the Liaotung Peninsula, overawed by foreign interference, was not to be depended upon, but that the projectors might count upon the help of the nation at large. The promoters of the Formosan railway should not look for profits, but be prepared to sacrifice ten to twenty thousand *yen* in the interests of the State. To achieve great things one must be adventurous. Look at Warren Hastings and Clive! Look at Jameson! He was a mere physician, but he invaded the Transvaal at the head of troops to secure its gold mines for British hands! Had he not failed, he would have been another Clive, instead of which he has been tried as a criminal. Who says it is impossible to prohibit the use of opium? Who says that it is impracticable to entirely prevent the smuggling of opium into Formosa? Persons who say these things are weak-hearted and unwise. Did not the English prohibit even the secret importation of iron into India, and not one bar was smuggled! If ordinary measures fail, diplomacy may be used. Does the present Government lack diplomatic skill? What is it doing now? Industrial people should proceed with their undertakings in Formosa and Korea: The Government may be cold to them, but the nation will warmly endorse their activity. In case of emergency national enthusiasm would be aroused and then the torpid Government may be galvanized into activity. A strong Government can only exist upon the foundations of a strong nation."

PROPOSED SALE OF GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

The *Yiji* endorses the advisability of selling a part, or the whole, of the Government railways. In Japan, it says, there has of late been much controversy on the point, whether it is better to have the railroads solely in the hands of the Government or have them transferred to private companies. Public opinion seems inclined to favour private holding, for although the main object of private railways is profit, many scandals are known to disgrace the State lines. Yet again, many of the present private railroads are very far from perfect, and in the past a great many evils developed in private companies that were unknown on Government lines. We cannot unhesitatingly cast our vote for private railways; but looking to the State railways, we find no spirit of improvement displayed either in the treatment of passengers or in the handling of freight, or in the framing of time-tables. Nor are these the worst evils. Take the case of the Tokaido line. Gifu and Ogaki are places noted for inundations, yet every time a flood occurs trains are invariably interrupted for a week or a fortnight. Under the old *regime*, when people travelled on straw sandals, it was not unusual for travellers on the Tokaido to have to stay several days on the banks of a swollen river ere they could proceed. Now, when even a moment is highly valued, the frequent and long interruptions on the Tokaido line must be a source of great inconvenience to passengers in general and of great loss to commercial people in particular. Were the authorities truly mindful of the people's interests they would have built the road in this particular district in such a manner that floods would have caused little or no inconvenience. They failed to build the line in a thorough manner, and they urge, by way of excuse, a number of paltry reasons, among them being the restrictions imposed by the Law of Accounts. If that be the case, the Government had best sell all their railroads to the people, making at the same time a law regulating the minimum number of departures of trains and the manner of building roads near rivers or bordering on the sea. Moreover, the Government has achieved its initial object, the construction of railroads to serve as object lessons to the people. For these reasons the *Yiji* strongly advises the Government to sell its railways to private companies.

THE IMPERIAL MINES AND OSAKA MERCHANTS.

A number of Osaka merchants have organised, according to the vernacular papers, a syndicate to purchase the Imperial mines and smelting works, under the appellation of "Goryo Kozan Seirenjo Harai-uke Domei-kwai," or "Union for purchasing the Imperial Mines and Smelting Works." The promoters of this union have agreed on the following prospectus:—1. That this union will admit as members all persons living in the neighbourhood of the Sado and Ikuno Mines, and in other places in Japan, provided they are Japanese subjects. 2. That the promoters of this union shall each pay the sum of thirty *yen* as security. 3. The promoters of this union shall each contribute the sum of one thousand *yen* on or before the 25th of August, 1896, in the shape of currency or public loan bonds, by way of making up the sum to be deposited with the Authorities as security. 4. That when the proposed purchases shall have been made, measures shall be taken to organise a joint stock company and to raise the necessary funds. 5. That a committee of thirty members shall be constituted, ten of whom are to be elected from among the promoters and the remaining twenty to be nominated by the elected ten. 6. That the mines and smelting works shall be visited and inspected, the Committee defraying the necessary expenses. 7. That any one who desires to join this union shall apply on or before the 25th of August, 1896. The papers from which we have taken this information say that as Mr. Furukawa Ichibei and other distinguished miners are among the promoters, the Union may attain its object. We also learn that the Osaka millionaire, Mr. Sumitomo, has declined to join, while Barons Mitsui and Iwasaki are rather inclined in its favour. It may interest some of our readers to know that, although the minimum price for which the Imperial Household will part with the estates naturally remains a secret, yet it will not be less than 1,300,000 *yen*.

THE NIPPON GINKO AND THE MONEY MARKET.

The amount of convertible notes that the Nippon Ginko is authorized to issue is only *yen* 4,000,000. On the one hand people are pressing their applications for help on the Bank, and yet that institution is not allowed to make use of the portion of the indemnity that has already arrived in Japan. Under these circumstances what course should the Bank take? It appears altogether improbable that it will follow any line different from those outlined below:—First, to obtain authority to issue an additional amount of convertible notes, making an engagement with the Government as to the Chinese indemnity to be brought to Japan so as to meet the present pressing demands for financial assistance. Second, to discourage further loans and thus prevent the reaction that would inevitably follow if all the wishes of the market were granted. Third, to lessen the demand for money by raising the rate of interest. Of these plans the first two appear inadvisable, for, if present demands be acceded to by the Bank without limit, the country will be driven into as bad a fix as that experienced by Germany after the Franco-Prussian War; or, on the other hand, if the bank cease to lend, the industrial and mercantile development of Japan may be nipped in the bud, not to revive for a long time. That would also be detrimental to the country's interest. The Bank would do well to take the third course. Import business, in other words the outflow of specie, might be lessened and the mushroom growth of companies, now the order of the day, would be satisfactorily checked. After taking this step, should it be found to produce bad consequences, the Bank might resort to the first plan and so contrive to keep industry in a healthy state of development. Such are the concluding remarks of the *Nichi Nichi* in an article headed "The Nippon Ginko and the Money Market."

THE DEVELOPMENT OF FORMOSA.

We translated in a recent issue a remarkably outspoken article from the *Yiji Shimpo* urging the necessity of raising a large loan, domestic and foreign, for the development of Formosa. By way of security the island itself was to be mortgaged, and if, after due trial, the Japanese proved unable to develop its resources and administer its affairs satisfactorily, then they were to make up their minds that they lacked ability in that line, and were to sell the island off-hand. There is something large and refreshing in the breezy courage of such a programme, and we were glad to find the *Yiji* take that line. But in an article published on the 4th instant, our contemporary draws in its horns. "When we wrote," it says, "that in view of the large sums of money required for the development of Formosa, a foreign and domestic loan should be raised on the security of the island, so that drastic measures might be at once undertaken, we referred to a case of emergency only. So far as we ourselves can see, the revenue derivable from taxation in Japan leaves a considerable surplus. That is especially true with regard to the tax on *saké*: it is capable of very large development. An expert, who has had long experience, affirms that the quantity of *saké* actually drunk by the Japanese nation each year is six million *koku*. His calculation is doubtless correct if all the different kinds of *saké*, as well as the home-brewed, be taken into the account. The question then arises, what should be the limit of taxation. The average annual quantity of *seishu* (the best quality of *saké*, drunk by the middle and upper classes) manufactured in Japan during the past two or three years has been three and a half million *koku*, approximately. The tax formerly levied upon this was 4 *yen* per *koku*, but it has now been raised to 7 *yen*. We can see no reason whatever why the new rate should not be doubled or even trebled. Even if it be only doubled, i.e., raised to 14 *yen*, the revenue derived from 3½ million *koku* would be 49 million *yen*; and if the tax be trebled, the corresponding revenue would be 73½ millions. It should be observed that the *saké* thus taxed is a veritable luxury. It is drunk by the well-to-do classes only: the *saké* drunk by the lower orders belongs to a different category. Thus a large revenue might be obtained without imposing any hardship on the people, or causing any disturbance of trade. It will be seen, therefore, that by recourse to an ordinary fiscal measure, all the money required for the development of Formosa can be obtained. The issue of domestic and foreign loan bonds for the purpose is a step to be taken only when the resources of reasonable taxation have been exhausted."

The above is something more than a mere modification of views on the part of the *Yiji*. It amounts, almost, to a complete retraction. But it has much interest as an expression of intelligent and well-informed views on the subject of Japan's taxation capabilities. Foreign critics were naturally startled at the great and sudden increase of expenditure shown by the Japanese budget after the war, and the general consensus of opinion appeared to be that the country's resources possessed no elasticity commensurate with such an addition to her outlay. It is not surprising that doubts of that kind should have existed. The Japanese have long been leading the world to imagine that the expansive capacities of their national revenue were very small. Year after year every session of the Diet witnessed a strong agitation for the reduction of the Land Tax. That Tax contributes 38½ million *yen* to the Exchequer, the rate of impost being 2½ per cent. of the value of the land as assessed for purposes of taxation. What the agitators wanted was that the rate should be reduced to 2 per cent., which change would have involved a loss of revenue to the extent of about 8 million *yen*. How to compensate that loss was the great question. The House of Representatives could discover no method except to economise the public expenditure, above all in the matter of salaries and emoluments already mischievously small in some cases and the very reverse of

liberal in all. About this problem the tide of political discussion raged for years, and no outsider could fail to gather the impression that, Japanese financiers had to sail very close to the wind, and that the revenue's margin of possible expansion was exceedingly limited. At that time the middle and upper classes were paying a tax of 4 *yen* per *koku* on the *saké* consumed by them, that is to say, something less than three pence per gallon. Could there be any doubt that the quintupling of the tax would be perfectly feasible? But to quintuple it meant to raise the revenue derived from this one source from 14 million *yen* to 70 million *yen*, a difference of 56 millions, or very nearly two-thirds of the whole national income at that time (87 million *yen*). If the Japanese Government can obtain a revenue of 72½ million *yen* by requiring the middle and upper classes to pay a tax less than 14 pence per gallon on their *saké*, there ought to be no idea of financial difficulties in this country. The present extreme cheapness of alcoholic beverages is by no means a blessing to the country.

MR. TSURUHARA ON THE MONEY MARKET.

Mr. Tsuruhara, Chief of the Banking Bureau of the Nippon Ginko, recently delivered the following opinions to a *Kohamin* interviewer:—Rumour has it that a panic is imminent in commercial circles in Japan. But if by panic these pessimists mean a financial crisis, such as occurs in Europe and America, they will have a long time to wait for their prophecy to come true. The Japanese economic world has not yet become so highly developed as to witness a panic. In the West the principal work of a bank is connected with deposits. In this country, however, banks of ordinary standing hold very little money in the shape of deposits. A true panic is therefore an impossible thing in the Japanese money market. Various industrial enterprises have arisen since last year, but unfortunately nine out of ten of their projectors are penniless speculators. That being the case, within a year or two the few banks that have given them credit on the security of their worthless shares may fail, causing perhaps a slight disturbance in the economic world. But such a disturbance can by no possibility rise to the dignity of what is known as a panic in Europe and America.

Some persons allege that the excess of imports over exports has already reached 26,000,000 *yen*, and that at the close of the year the difference may be about 50 million *yen*. This they argue will cause a great disturbance in financial circles. Persons who talk in that way are ignorant of the manner in which our importers' purchases are paid. They are in fact paid by the Government in London out of the Chinese indemnity. The importers' purchases do not cause a drain on money in Japan. Under the circumstances, the difference between imports and exports can have little or no influence upon the money market at home.

RETURN OF PRINCE FUSHIMI.

H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, the Emperor's special Ambassador to the Coronation of the Czar, returned to Yokohama on Wednesday by the M.M. steamer. A large crowd of eminent personages gathered on the pier to welcome home the distinguished traveller, among them being young Prince Tokugawa, several heads of Bureaux in Tokyo, Governor Nakano, of Kanagawa, Chief Inspector Yoshida, Marquis C. Nembrini de Gonzaga, Mr. Otani Kahei, Mr. Hara Zenzaburo, and others. A steam-launch conveying several high naval officers also came up from Yokosuka. The Prince, who looked in extremely good health, was in military uniform and wore several orders. He was loudly cheered as he took his seat in the carriage awaiting him, and at once drove off to catch the 10.30 train for Tokyo.

FORMOSA AND THE "JIJI SHIMPO."

The *Jiji Shimpō*, representing, doubtless, a large section of intelligent public opinion in Japan, adheres firmly to its old contention that no mercy should be shown to the rebels in Formosa, and that the prohibition of the use of opium should be enforced with just as much strictness and precisely in the same manner as it is enforced in Japan proper. As to the contention that the result of such a policy would be to drive all the Chinese out of the island, the *Jiji Shimpō* laughs at the apprehension. The whole trouble, it affirms, is that the inhabitants of Formosa have no true idea either of the hopelessness of resisting Japan's military strength, or of the advantages of submitting to Japanese rule. In the northern districts, where the rebellion of last January broke out, order has been fully restored, because the drastic measures adopted at that time furnished a sufficiently striking object lesson. But in the central parts, the disaffected elements of the population, not having had any such experience, were found ready to take up arms. Hereafter they, too, will probably be better advised. The inhabitants of Formosa must be credited with some discernment. In time they will recognise the vanity of violent resistance to Japanese rule, and the quickest way to educate their faculty of recognition, as well as the kindest way to deal with them in the long run, is to show no leniency at the present juncture. Once the disaffected elements are brought under control, the great superiority of Japanese administration over Chinese will soon be appreciated, for the Chinese are not ignorant of the value of absolute security of life and property, and absolute immunity from extortion or injustice in any form. The opium problem, again, is not to be paltered with. Half-hearted measures will only open the door to abuses. Opium smoking is deleterious. There is nothing to be gained by discussing that point now. The Japanese nation long ago decided that the use of opium is a vice sufficiently harmful to justify restrictive legislation. That rule must be applied to every part of the Japanese Empire. If there be any persons in Formosa so addicted to the vice that they can not abandon it, let them leave the island. Wholesome laws are not to be held in abeyance because a few persons are too depraved to escape their punitive provisions. Everything goes to show that the opium vice is due, in great part, to the absence of more legitimate forms of self-indulgence. The drinking of *sake*, the smoking of tobacco, the eating of cakes, the pleasures of the table, are all to be condemned, if we follow the strict lines of morality, but human nature being what it is, some deviations from the rigidly straight path are inevitable, and the function of the prudent administrator is to substitute the least harmful forms of enjoyment for the most pernicious. By and by, when Formosa, like Japan, comes to possess *sake*-shops, restaurants, tea-houses, and other resorts for seekers of comparatively innocuous pleasure, the opium vice will be remembered with surprise. It is essentially the vice of the solitary, and the stupified, and no toleration should be shown towards it for a moment. These views of the *Jiji*'s are admirably virile.

MARQUIS ITO ON FORMOSA.

Some merchants of Tokyo and Yokohama, at the suggestion of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, invited the members of the Cabinet, Viscount Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa, Messrs. Kaneko and Kitagaki, respectively Vice-Ministers of the Agricultural and Commercial and the Colonization Departments, to a banquet at the Kame-seiro, Yanagibashi, Tokyo, on the 1st inst., with the hope of inducing them to state their opinions upon the future of Formosa. The hosts numbered about sixty, chief among them being Messrs. Shibusawa Eitichi, Okura Kihachi, Watanabe Hiro-moto, Kondo Rempei, Kato Masayoshi, Nakamigawa Hikojiro, Hara Rokuro, and Otani Kabei. After a short speech from Mr. Shibusawa, Marquis Ito, the Premier, rose and delivered

the following address:—Gentlemen—More than a year has passed since Formosa became a possession of the Japanese Empire, and yet frequent insurrections have broken out, as you all know. These outbreaks have kept the Government busy at the work of subjugation, and consequently we have been unable to attend to administrative measures in any satisfactory degree. I made a trip to the island lately in obedience to His Majesty's command, but having stayed there only a short time, it need hardly be said that I could not make a thorough investigation. The commerce of Formosa used to be in the hands of Chinese and foreigners. But as the island has become a part of our Empire, our merchants should take the leading part in developing its trade. Could not Japanese merchants take the Formosan trade into their hands? The Government aims at starting nothing in the way of industrial enterprises in Formosa. It is not going to repeat the mistakes made in the colonization of Hokkaido. The Cabinet will leave all industrial enterprises to the people, giving as much help and protection as possible to their undertakings. The policy of the Government towards Formosa has been thus decided, and therefore I call on you to exert yourselves in the encouragement of emigration, in the development of means of communication and transportation, and in many other ways. I cannot but hold decided opinions upon one or more special subjects relating to Formosa, but I am unable to bring myself to lay them before you to-day. I may consider them with you some other day.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The *Nichi Nichi* relates that a person recently returned from a tour in the Kwansei Districts remarked to a representative that no symptoms of approaching panic had been observed in economical or financial circles during his tour. "On the way from Shimbashi to Nagoya the fields showed signs of a plentiful crop, and at Nagoya Station the accumulation of goods was very considerable. These are facts that seem to belie the approach of any financial crisis. Thence I took the Kwansei Railroad, and, on reaching Tsu, made enquiries of the members of the Branch Office of the Nippon Ginko there and other bankers as to the condition of the money market. They furnished me with facts proving that the money market was very quiet and that the wealth of the inhabitants of Tsu and its vicinity had greatly increased these last few years. At Yamada travellers were in greater numbers than had hitherto been known. This speaks favourably for the commerce of the town. At Kyoto I stayed a few days and observed that *orimono* were being sold briskly at reasonably high prices. I also noticed that a considerable number of industrial and commercial firms were about to begin business. The distribution of the War Funds has made business in Osaka so active that even the stocks of Kisshu flannel, that had long been neglected, have now all been sold. Land has risen enormously in value at Osaka. The Branch Office of the Nippon Ginko is said to have been asked 320 *yen* per *tsubo*, when it attempted to buy a plot adjacent to its present site. This figure is the more astonishing when we reflect that the ground on which the Edobashi Post and Telegraph Offices stand, was purchased at 120 *yen* per *tsubo*, and that an offer of 120 *yen* a *tsubo* would find sellers in the vicinity of the City Hall, Yokohama. The Chiefs of Police I met told me that thieves had considerably decreased in numbers of late. This may in part be due to the fact that many bad men have emigrated to Formosa, but the general prosperity of trade has much to do with it. The Superintendents of Taxes told me that tax-collectors experienced no difficulties in gathering the taxes, while a few years ago they often had to have recourse to law to make the people pay. The Chiefs of the Tax Bureau were hampered through the insufficient number of collectors. Formerly the supply was greater than the demand. This was due to the higher rates of wages now to be obtained outside the Government service."

THE VOLUME OF THE CURRENCY.

According to the computation of the Treasury, writes the *Jiji Shimpō*, the volume of currency required in Japan is about two hundred million *yen*. But in view of the numerous enterprises that are springing up, and of the consequent calling-in of capital, it is conceivable that a deficiency of the circulating media may be felt. A student of political economy, who lately returned from Germany, remarks, with reference to that point, that there has been of late years a gradual increase in the volume of the currency. For example, a comparison of the amounts in circulation at the end of April, 1895, and at the end of June, 1896, shows the latter to be greater by about 32 million *yen*. Besides, there has been a great growth in the quantity of securities which, though not actually currency, do duty as such—bills of exchange, public loan bonds, and shares. The amount of the cheques that passed through the Tokyo Clearing House during the first half of the present year was 184 million *yen*, which is 53 million *yen* greater than the total for the corresponding period of last year, and 114 million greater than the aggregate for the first six months of 1893, the year before the war. Since the middle of 1894, there have been issued war bonds to the extent of 120 million *yen*, and there has also been issued an immense volume of shares of railway companies, commercial companies and manufacturing companies. All these bonds and shares are taken by the banks as security for a considerable amount of their face value, and being lodged with the Bank of Japan, virtually play the part of currency. Thus, although the volume of the currency itself has not increased in a very marked degree since the war, there has been a large increase in the volume of securities that perform the function of currency, and such increase will continue so long as the spirit of enterprise prompts the formation of new companies. What has to be now most carefully guarded against is any severe shock to this system of credit that is gradually being built up and consolidated. Such a misfortune would be equivalent to a sudden contraction of the volume of currency in circulation. At present the only quarter from which danger threatens to come is the competition among the banks—competition that leads to the acceptance of potential shares—*kenri kabu*, that is to say, shares upon which nothing has been paid up and which merely entitle their holders to subscribe after the company in question has commenced operations—the acceptance of such shares as security for advances. That kind of thing may at any moment cause trouble.

ECONOMIC VIEWS OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

Economical circles in Japan entertain some anxiety lest there should come a panic in the fall of this year. This feeling is said to be due to the increased demand for money as a result of excessive importations; the springing up of many banking firms; the calling in of subscriptions to State loans; the new or increased taxes, and so forth. Shares generally have fallen. Under the circumstances, the Agricultural and Commercial Department, so rumour runs, is inclined to interfere, but the Nippon Ginko thinks it advisable to leave things to proceed naturally to their logical end. The principal economists in the service of the Government have from the first held views that we now proceed to give from the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. The prevention of a panic has to be consummated by bringing demand and supply to a level. To effect this, two different kinds of measures may be taken: *negative* measures, such as the prevention of mushroom firms; the putting a check upon importations, by increasing the import duties, and so forth; or *positive* measures, such as increasing production, importing foreign capital in the form of loans, and so forth. Under present circumstances it is next to impossible to resort to negative measures. There-

fore, in order to prevent a panic, no other measure than that of increasing production and bringing foreign capital into the country can be effective. As the initial step towards importing foreign capital, Government loan bonds should be placed on foreign markets, so as to pave the way for disposing of Japanese shares to foreigners. To discuss measures for increasing production would be a tedious matter, but as the panic may not reach its zenith earlier than 1898, there is still plenty of time to devise effective schemes. New banks should be encouraged, more railroads built (unless of too speculative a nature), and thus, by the time the panic is at its height, the productive capacity of the country will have so increased that the ill-effects of the financial stress will be considerably minimised.

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

A telegram from Formosa, dated the 9th instant, says:—"Few of the inhabitants have returned to their homes in the disaffected districts. But there are no rebels in the vicinity, especially in the lowlands. On the 27th ultimo, Colonel Imahashi placed two companies of foot and a detachment of engineers under the command of Major Naito, and sent them from Liupa-pu to the region at the head-waters of the Tsing-shui, to operate against a place called Kwanshinro, some 17 miles distant. At the same time Major Suzuta, with two companies of infantry, was to make a second search for rebels in the Ta-ping-ting vicinity. There is nothing to report about Pa-li-sho, except that a certain number of rebels are apprehended daily. The Matsui Battalion, on its march from Taisi-chie to Pa-li-sho, on the 16th ultimo, killed 272 rebels and captured 70, taking, at the same time, 80 rifles, one cannon, and a quantity of swords and spears. The Imahashi forces' casualties since the 8th (ultimo?) have been 2 non-commissioned officers and 9 privates killed, and 4 officers, 4 non-commissioned officers, and 20 privates wounded. They took 108 prisoners, and captured 75 rifles and 153 swords and spears."

The Sixth Regiment of the Third Division forwards the following report from one of its companies:—

"On July 14th, this company (the 5th company of the Sixth Regiment) left Yunlin in the van of the force despatched against the rebels, and had a fight at Ho-kia-lih, incurring some loss in wounded, but none in killed. The day following, the same company marched out of Liupa-pu and met the rebels at Ton-shi-hang, where the casualties caused by the latter's fire were 2 non-commissioned officers and 6 privates killed and 12 privates wounded."

Lieutenant-Colonel Imahashi writes as follows from Yunlin to one of his friends in Tokyo:—

"On the 15th of July, my force made a thorough search among the mountains in the vicinity of Liupa-pu and in the fastnesses about Tai-ping-ching, Ton-shi-hang, and other places, and dispersed the rebels. On the 16th, we renewed the search in places where insurgents had been seen the preceding day. The rebels all made some resistance before flying, especially on the 15th at Tai-ping and Ton-shi-hang, where they held their ground very resolutely. Immediately after these operations, an urgent message reached me from the commander of the Brigade that, as the garrison at Po-li-sia had been attacked by the rebels in force, and had retreated, Major Matsui must be sent to recover the post. Accordingly the Major left Liupa-pu at once for Po-li-sia. But before he reached that place, the garrison managed to regain possession of it. Major Matsui arrived at Po-li-sia on the 18th. My force returned to Yunlin from Liupa-pu on the 17th, and on the 18th made an attack on the rebels at Tai-ping-ching and Won-lu-choung, and drove them into the mountains. We are now encamped at Yunlin, and are engaged reconnoitering its neighbourhood. Within a few days we shall penetrate farther into the mountains and rout out any rebels that may be found." In the same letter the Lieut.-Colonel praises in very high terms the officers and troops

under him, who, it is said, are acquitting themselves splendidly, although they have no houses to sleep in at night, the insurgents having burned down all the villages and hamlets, and by day the heat is intense.

Of the eight lighthouses that the Authorities have commenced to erect in Formosa, seven are already completed and the eighth will be finished next November. Steps are being gradually taken for the building of the Formosan Railway by its promoters. The premises hitherto occupied by them as an office being found too small, they have moved to Minami Odawara-cho, Shichome, Tsukiji, the house recently occupied by Mr. Li Chung-yong, the well known Formosan who visited Tokyo. On the 10th inst., Viscounts Okabe and Hotta, Messrs. Yasuba Yasukazu, Manaka Tadanao, Ono Kinroku, and some others, met and passed resolutions to the effect first, that experts should be engaged, secondly, that Barons Mitsui and Iwasaki, Mr. Yasuda Zenziro, a wealthy merchant of Tokyo, and certain others should be invited to act as promoters; thirdly, that a deputation should be sent to consult the merchants of Yokohama; fourthly, that the percentage of shares to be held by the promoters should be fixed at a certain figure; and fifthly, that the Company's prospectus and application for a charter should be at once drawn up. After these various steps shall have been taken by a sub-committee elected for the purpose, the Committee is to meet again and make preparations for opening a general meeting of promoters by the end of the current month.

The *Yiji* states, in an editorial note, that the Authorities seem inclined to increase the number of Prefectural Offices in Formosa from three to seven and so remove the evil of centralization that now obtains there. Our contemporary, commenting on this, says that, inferring from the state of things in Japan proper at the time of the Restoration, fifteen Prefectural Offices and one Governor's Office may not be too many for Formosa. Writing on the same subject, the *Nippon* and the *Yorodu Choho* assert that they have gathered that the capital towns of the Prefectures will be Kagi, Giran, Shinchiku, and Taito. The *Yiji* hears that an independent Sanitary Office will be established in Formosa and an able and experienced person appointed as its Chief Commissioner. The hygienic measures to be undertaken in the new territory are very numerous and important. We gather from the same authority that the Budget of the Governor-General's Office for the next fiscal year has lately been completed and forwarded to the Financial Department. In this connection our contemporary gives 22,000,000 yen as the expenditure, and 8,000,000 yen as the revenue, of Viscount Katsura's Office for the coming fiscal year.

A letter received a day or two ago by a friend of the *Yiji Shimpō* contains some additional facts regarding the recent rebellion. When, on the 3rd of July, signs of disturbance appeared at Rokko, the sick soldiers stationed in its neighbourhood were sent in junks to Taiko, but it being found impossible to land there owing to the heavy seas, they were transferred with great difficulty to the *Sekkai Maru*, a merchantman, fortunately lying at anchor there, and sent to Kelung. About the middle of July, some 600 insurgents surprised Rokko, and, notwithstanding the Japanese fire, succeeded after nine hours in destroying the town, in consequence of which communications were interrupted until a week ago.

THE GLOSS OF CIVILIZATION.

An Amoy correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*, writing under date July 28th, arrives at the conclusion that the so-called "rebels" in Formosa were "made to order" of General Katsura, and then goes on to argue that, despite any official telegrams received in Tokyo from Japanese sources, "a decided check has been given to the Japanese in the fall of Changhwa and the loss of 1,000 of their forces." He concludes by asserting that "Japan has only the gloss of civilization" and

by predicting very sad things for her. But unfortunately he makes the stupendous blunder of revealing his source of knowledge. "If Chinese reports from the north of the island are to be believed," he says. "Chinese reports from the north of the island!" That is the kind of information that he credits in preference to Japanese official telegrams, furnishing details as to the movements of the troops and the dispersal of the rebels from day to day, commencing with July 8th, when Colonel Imahashi's forces moved out of this very Changhwa that "Chinese reports from the north of the island," represent as being still in the rebel's hands at the end of July. Changhwa never did fall into the rebel's hands, and we must confess that whether the Japanese "gloss of civilization" be thin or thick, we look in vain for any trace of it on a writer who, blindly trusting "Chinese rumours," which he has no means of verifying and which have never yet proved correct, does not hesitate to accuse the Japanese of gross barbarity and deception.

RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERERS BY THE REBELLION IN FORMOSA.

Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress have signified their intention of subscribing a sum of 3,000 yen for the relief of inhabitants of Formosa that suffered at the hands of the rebels or in connection with the military operations undertaken for the suppression of the rebellion. We learn, also, that the leading Japanese journals are about to open subscription lists for the same purpose. That is a step deserving hearty applause, as evincing the Japanese nation's sympathy not only with Chinese subjects of this empire whose lives and properties were not effectively protected by the administration in Formosa, but also with any of the islanders that suffered unjustly in the confusion of repressive measures, or owing to mistakes of identification. There is reason to fear that a considerable number belong to the latter category, for the difficulty of differentiating peaceful inhabitants from bandits whose habit was to disguise themselves in the garb of farmers, artisans, and so forth, must have been very great, and we doubt whether commensurate pains were always taken to discriminate. Money can not restore the dead to their sorrowing friends, but it can do much to console the survivors, and to convince them that they will not again be exposed to similar dangers with the consent of the Japanese people.

RAILWAYS.

Speaking of the progress of railway enterprise in Japan, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives some figures interesting on account of their comprehensiveness. There are now 54 railway companies actually in existence, with a total capital of 145,140,000 yen. Among these, 32 have obtained temporary charters only, and their total capital is 53,850,000 yen. The mileage thus far constructed by these various companies, and already open to traffic, is 2,572 miles, and the total paid-up capital of the companies owning these lines was 84,640,000 yen on July 31st, so that the average cost of construction would appear to have been somewhat less than 33,000 yen per mile. How many other companies are projected and what their capital may be, it is difficult to say, but the *Nichi Nichi* points out that the conclusion of the Central Road (*Chu-o Tetsudo*) and of the other State lines standing on the Railway Construction Programme, as sanctioned by the Diet, will give an additional impetus to the building of lines to connect with these. Our contemporary estimates that, taking account only of companies already formed, capital aggregating 114,350,000 will be called up in the near future, but is nevertheless persuaded that not want of funds, but the difficulty of procuring competent experts, is the grave obstacle at present to rapid progress in this matter.

when, with even more brevity and without doing any violence to the old rule that every verb must agree in number with its subject, we might write, "the names of the contributors are as below?" Conservatives are very peremptory about such things. "Hoity, toity," they exclaim; "going to change the English language, are you?" and with that suggestion of appalling presumption they silence all discussion. But the English language is perpetually changing; perpetually progressing. If JOHNSON had been told that two-foot metres must never be suffered to appear in prose, the iambic foot being the only permissible unit, he would probably have used some muscular language to denounce the new canon. Yet it has become an accepted rule. Language is not to be held beyond the range of improvement: it has the same title as anything else to grow better as the years go by. We are still condemned to many mannerisms that complicate without in any way improving our language. It is necessary, for example, that we should write "moneys," "valleys" and "chimneys," instead of bringing these words under the general rule of plural formation, and writing "monies," "vallies," and "chimnies." So despotic is custom in these instances, that to employ the endings in "ies" is to be accused of a gross blunder in spelling. Whenever a useful reason can be assigned, no one will object to departures from the general rule. Thus, one willingly writes "storeys" when alluding to a house, to distinguish the word from "stories" in the sense of narratives. But why on earth "chimneys," "valleys," and "moneys," instead of "monies," "vallies" and "chimnies?" Yet there are folks who, though liberal and progressive in all other respects, will not for an instant listen to any of the arguments advanced in this article. The fetters forged in their school days continue to hamper their mental processes all through life. "Gracious heaven," these pious conservatives cry, "whoever heard of such a hideous solecism as that of deliberately writing 'monies,' 'vallies,' 'as follow,' and so forth? Let us not be guilty of the impiety of tampering with the tongue of our forefathers." So there is no exit from the rut.

THE JAPANESE POLICE SYSTEM.

THE *Kobe Chronicle*, referring to our comments, not—as our contemporary fails to see—on the SCHROEDER case, but on the hysterical importance attached to it by two Yokohama journals, says:—

We ourselves, for the sake of mutual good-will, try to be as pro-Japanese as reason and justice allow, but we cannot blind ourselves to the fact that the Japanese police system is diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right, and however much change is made, even at the best there is bound to be trouble, which should be minimised and not ridiculed. That is very interesting. "The Japanese police system is diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right, and

however much change is made, even at the best there is bound to be trouble." It must be presumed that the *Kobe journal* has some warrant for its very radical assertions, and we invite it to state explicitly the grounds of its dictum that the Japanese police system is not only diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right, but is also so hopelessly bad that however much change be made, there is bound to be trouble. Some time ago, a Yokohama journal, notorious for hysteria and want of balance, alleged that in Japan the police are competent to enter private houses at any moment without a warrant. Such a state of affairs, if it really existed, might well inspire uneasiness in the mind of any person looking forward to passing under Japanese jurisdiction. We, therefore, took some pains to expose the fallacy, and demonstrated, by reference to the laws themselves, which we quoted, that the police possess no such power. The newspaper in question, unable to controvert arguments so conclusive, but always resolute in its determination to adhere to its own blunders however injuriously its readers may be misled, had recourse to the extraordinary subterfuge that the law might not confer any power of the kind, but the instructions of the police certainly warranted its exercise. In other words, the editor, who, it may safely be assumed, had never seen the police instructions and did not possess the smallest conception of their real nature, took it upon himself to allege that the orders framed by police inspectors for the guidance of their subordinates were in direct violation of the laws of the land, the divergence being, moreover, on a point of vital importance to the liberty of the subject. We do not expect that species of controversy from the *Kobe Chronicle*. We expect fair and logical discussion, and we therefore ask our contemporary to say plainly in what respects the Japanese police system is diametrically opposed to European notions of what is "right." It will not do to refer to particular instances of reprehensible conduct on the part of the police. The charge is against "the system," and the evidence adduced must relate to the system. An isolated example of a constable's exceeding or falling short of his duty does not affect the quality of the police system, any more than the general tactics of an army are impugned by the desertion of one or two soldiers. No one questions the impropriety of Mr. SCHROEDER's expulsion by the police from the Yokohama meeting. The police themselves admit that they made a mistake—two mistakes, in fact, for, in the first place, they erroneously imagined the meeting to be political; and, in the second, they erroneously imagined that because a foreigner was on the platform he intended to take an active part in the meeting, which would have been contrary to law. But the fact of

their subsequently acknowledging their error proves that not the system, but the blundering of an individual, was to blame. Of course, there is always the stock contention that the power vested in policemen to suspend or disperse a political meeting is contrary to British ideas of free speech. But that has nothing to do with the police system: it is a matter connected solely with Japanese politics, and, under any circumstances, it has no practical concern for foreigners. If, as the *Kobe Chronicle* alleges, "the police system is diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right," and if, "however much change is made, there is bound to be trouble" under that system, then nothing could be more desirable than a clear exposition of the facts. Either the section of foreign residents represented by the *Kobe Chronicle* labour under a false impression about the Japanese police system, and disquiet themselves needlessly about the dangers of being brought under it, or else a state of affairs exists that should be publicly demonstrated without loss of time in order that steps may be taken to promote reform, and to guard foreigners from control of a dangerous and vexatious character. We invite our *Kobe* contemporary to coöperate in elucidating the truth of this important question.

THE "RYOJUN MARU" DEPARTS.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Ryojun Maru*, Captain McKenzie, should have left Yokohama for Europe at 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. At that hour, however, she had but nine firemen on board, and it seemed as if the full complement could not be obtained before Sunday. About six o'clock the necessary men were forthcoming and at 6.30 the *Ryojun* steamed out of harbour flying the British, Japanese, and N.Y.K. flags. The delay in starting robbed the vessel's departure of some *clat*, for two alphabetical torpedo boats that had come up from Yokosuka to escort her down the Bay, as a compliment to the Commander and officers of the *Yashima Kan*, who were leaving for England to take delivery of that stately battleship, had to leave before the *Ryojun*, in order to return to Yokosuka before sunset. Among the passengers on the *Ryojun* are Mr. J. H. Curtis, of the N.Y.K., and his wife, Mr. Curtis going home on six months' sick leave.

Nine out of the thirty stokers who joined in the assault on Mr. Barrie have been handed over to the Local Court for trial. The ringleaders' names are Kuroda Zenkichi and Hirose Tsurukichi, the latter looking more like a *soshi* than a stoker. Mr. Barrie is progressing very favourably we are glad to hear.

REWARDS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICES.

We read in the *Tokyo Asahi* that the number of persons decorated or otherwise rewarded for meritorious services performed in 1894 and 1895 had reached the large figure of 230,000 at the end of last month, and as the decorations and rewards to the Second, Fourth, and Sixth Divisions remain to be added, the final aggregate will probably be some 300,000. We do not find that total at all excessive, seeing that Japan had 120,000 troops actually in the field at one time.

THE TOP-KNOT IN KOREA.

A writer, signing himself "X.Y.Z." in the *Korean Repository*, for July, gives some interesting information about the now celebrated top-knot. He shows that this particular form of head-dress means much more to a Korean than the "pig-tail" does to the Chinese, or than the queue did to the Japanese. In the first place, the top-knot has the sanction of antiquity: two thousand years of use have made it venerable. In the second place, it represents manhood, for the Korean youth commences to wear it when he passes the line that separates boyhood from virility. In the third place, the assumption of the top-knot is a species of adult baptism: with it the Korean receives his "grown-up" name. In the fourth place, not to have a top-knot is to be disqualified for marriage. And, in the fifth, the rites of ancestral veneration can not be properly performed by one without a top-knot. Thus, there are many powerful arguments swaying the Korean in favour of the top-knot. A good deal in the same sense might be said about the Japanese queue, and we are inclined to think that "X.Y.Z." underestimates the affection with which it was regarded in old Japan. Its retention was always accounted a species of protest against any radical change of costume, and although the shrewd, progressive Japanese soon detected its incongruity and killed it with an epithet, certain men of note persisted in wearing it to the end. But that is not a point of much moment in this context, and, besides, "X.Y.Z." writes with remarkable modesty, not far a moment claiming to speak authoritatively about anything either Chinese or Japanese. He does effectively demonstrate, however, that to abandon the top-knot must have cost every Korean a sharp struggle, and that the issue of an edict controlling men's liberty in such a matter was most unwise. There can be no second opinion on that subject, we imagine. What we wish to draw attention to, however, is this. Critics of Japan's policy in the Korean peninsula, notably Bishop Corfe, have always insisted on laying to her discredit the issue of the arbitrary edict abolishing top-knots, as well as the various sumptuary measures taken during the past year, or year and a half, in Seoul. We, on the other hand, have denied the justice of these charges. We had the direct assurance of the Japanese Representatives in Seoul at the time that, so far from prompting such vexatious interferences, they strongly discountenanced them, and even without such assurances it seemed to us that the history of progress in Japan could not be reconciled with the imprudent and precipitate action attributed to her statesmen in Korea. It is satisfactory, therefore, to find a writer evidently so well informed as "X.Y.Z.," placing the following on record:—"From the time the Japanese first undertook to introduce reforms, the Korean Cabinet evinced a curious, and what always seemed to me, most unstatesmanlike and petty disposition to enact sumptuary laws, interfering with the habits and customs of the people. Among these (I have only space to mention a few) were laws regulating the width and cut of the sleeves of the coats of the men, the length of the pipe-stems, the size of brims of hats, the colour of the outer sleeveless coat usually worn by Koreans when not in working clothes, the number of servants that could attend the sedan chairs, &c. I must in justice say that the Japanese Officials have always, to me, deprecated such laws and disclaimed any responsibility for them."

THE BRITISH CONSULAR SERVICE.

On Sunday the Consular Service in Japan received an accession by the arrival in Tokyo of two new Student Interpreters, Mr. J. Twizell Wawn and Mr. Thomas J. Harrington. They will of course remain in Tokyo for some time. We understand that Mr. A. H. Lay will assume the duties of the Consulate in Tokyo, and that Mr. Kenny, on his return to Japan, is likely to be sent to Hakodate.

THE RECENT FLOODS.

The *Keisai Zasshi*, in its latest issue, has an article entitled "The Negligence of the State." The recent inundations, it says, were experienced all over the country, except in Kyushu. In Gifu, Toyama, and Niigata Prefectures they have been even more appallingly cruel in their devastations than was the seismic wave in the north-east. The latter catastrophe did very little harm to the State viewed from an economical stand-point. According to the Authorities, floods were experienced every year from 1884 to 1893 inclusive, the average yearly loss of life being 1,000, and that of property 13,000,000 yen. The floods of 1890 were by far the most serious and therefore must have caused damages far exceeding 13 million yen. But they were much less widespread than the recent inundations. The damage to property caused by the floods of 1896 may easily be calculated at several millions of yen. Besides, the indirect losses caused by the destruction of railways and thoroughfares, and the interruption of telegraphic communication would at least amount to some ten millions. Turning to another point, one can not help shuddering when one reflects on the effect of such inundations in time of war? Here the Japanese *Economist* refers to the damages done to the Tokaido, Nakasendo, and San-yo Railways, and says that the conduct of the Japan-China War could not have proceeded so smoothly had such a thing occurred while it was raging. We again quote the words of Mr. Taguchi's organ:—"When increasing the national armament the building of men-of-war is of urgent importance; but the doubling of the Tokaido railway line cannot be dispensed with. Yet unless the river beds and embankments are improved on a sound and permanent plan, the millions of yen expended on war-preparations will be thrown away. In this country special attention has to be paid to the relation between rivers and war projects. Our Tokyo contemporary proceeds to state that the establishment of the proposed Industrial and Agricultural Banks will fail to attain its object of relieving the poverty of farmers and others, unless the State takes timely measures for preventing future inundations. It then calls on the nation to exert itself to the full in seeing that forests are planted in the neighbourhood of the head-waters of rivers, and in having the beds and embankments of unruly rivers strongly constructed. Further, the *Keisai Zasshi* states that restoration works after inundations cannot be delayed for even a day, and in conclusion positively asserts the necessity for convoking a meeting of the Diet to vote the necessary funds, as there only remains some 200,000 yen in the Second Reserve."

THE BRITISH MINISTER IN CHINA.

The first mutterings of discontent against Sir Claude Macdonald are beginning to be heard. The arrangement endorsed by him in the matter of the Chefoo fore-shore question is journalistically declared to be a downright confiscation of Messrs. Fergusson & Company's property, and the consent that he has just given to the new Telegraph Convention is also strongly condemned, chiefly on the score that he failed to consult the leading merchants among his own nationals. As to the latter point, we do not imagine that any need for consultation existed, the opinions of British merchants being already well known. The Convention is decidedly objectionable in that it establishes the Cable Companies—Great Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagen, and the Eastern Extension and Australasia Telegraph Company—and the Chinese, in their present monopoly of the service to Europe, which means, of course, that though rates may be raised, they certainly will not be lowered. Unquestionably, it is an objectionable arrangement, but in the absence of competition we do not see how it could have been prevented.

"THE PAGET PAPERS."

The publication of "The Paget Papers" is quite a literary event. They consist chiefly of the diplomatic correspondence of the Right Honorable Arthur Paget, G.C.B., between 1794 and 1807, and they are arranged and edited by his son, the late Right Honorable Sir Augustus Paget, G.C.B., whose son is now Second Secretary of the British Legation in Tokyo. The generation of Pagets of whom Sir Arthur was one, achieved a remarkable record. They were fifteen in all, nine daughters and six sons, the children of Lord and Lady Uxbridge. The second son died at the age of 24, a captain in the navy. "The eldest served with distinction in the Peninsula, lost a leg at Waterloo in the celebrated cavalry charge, was created Marquis of Anglesey, and twice appointed Viceroy of Ireland. General Sir Edward Paget, the fourth son, likewise served under Wellington in the Peninsular campaign, was Governor of Ceylon, Commander-in-Chief in India, and finally Governor of Sandhurst College. The fifth son was Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Paget, G.C.B., and the sixth, the Hon. Berkeley Paget, was A.D.C. to the Duke of York, served in the Peninsular War, was M.P. for Anglesey, and became a Commissioner of Excise. The subject of "The Paget Papers," Sir Arthur Paget, was the third son, and between 1794 and 1807 he was successively Secretary of Legation at Berlin, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Elector of Bavaria and the Diet of Ratisbon, Minister to the Sicilian Court at Palermo, Ambassador at Vienna, and Special Ambassador at Constantinople." That is certainly as illustrious a chapter as can be found in the history of any family. We have not the book before us, and are obliged to be content with the reviews, all of which are highly favourable, though some regret that Sir Augustus, the editor, did not give fewer despatches and a greater number of "human documents." One passage has attracted the attention of every reviewer, and been quoted in full or in part. It is an extract from one of the Prince of Wales' many letters to Sir Arthur Paget, whom his His Royal Highness always addresses as "My dearest Arthur," and it derives its interest from the picture it presents of the Carlton House set:—"After the first glass after dinner every round was a Bumper to you in the very best claret I had: Chig thought it too weak. Of course stronger, the old Queen's House Claret, was produced for him, which he swore was the b-pup-pup-pup-pest Cha-a-teau Margeau he had ever ta-a-asted, and tumbled smack on his face, and was obliged to be carried off between two Servants. The rest were bad enough, God knows, except myself, though my every glass was a Bumper to your health, I can safely swear I never flinched one, dear Arthur, and you well know I am not even upon indifferent occasions a Shirker. Since that day the old Girl has never ceased being tipsy twice a day, first at dinner and on—but after supper—for she always makes a regular supper first—and a couple of bottles of iced Champagne, after a couple of quarts of small beer which She calls, you know, a swig of beer, has completed about six in the morning the Gentlewoman since She has been with us here." No one seems able to guess who "the old Girl" was, but perhaps that is no great matter.

THE HAT THAT TOOK THE BAILS OFF.

The Shanghai umpire who refused to give a batsman "out" because a ball, rising quickly, knocked off the batsman's hat, and the hat displaced the bails, justifies his decision in a letter to a Shanghai journal. From what he says we gather that the ball bumped so as to endanger the batter's head, and the batter, making no effort to play it, merely ducked to avoid. The umpire says that "as the batsman had made no attempt to play the ball, the decision—'not out'—was sound, and in accordance with rule." That is a difficult contention to endorse. For

example, when the wicket is fiery, and a batsman finds that a difficult-length ball bumps so much as to be hard to play without danger of giving a chance, and yet, in his judgment, may be left alone without peril to the wicket, he often refrains from any attempt to play it. But he is none the less responsible for everything that may happen in connection with the ball, his playing it or not playing it being purely a matter of his own choice. We fail, therefore, to follow the line of reasoning adopted by the Shanghai umpire, but we shall nevertheless be surprised to learn that his "not out" is condemned by cricketers. It would be entirely contrary to the spirit of sound cricket that a man should be put out for such a cause. See what the thing leads to. Suppose, for example, that in playing a ball it glances off the batsman's glove, and that, while the ball goes safely into the slips, the rubber being torn off one finger of the glove, flies in the direction of the wicket and displaces a bail. Would the man be out? Or suppose that a button stripped by the ball from a batsman's coat were to knock off the bails. Would he be out? An affirmative answer would eliminate every principle of sport from the game, and reduce it to an affair of mere trickery. The rule that, in playing a ball, a batsman must not displace the bails with any part of his person or clothing, is simply intended, as we interpret it, to confine his range of back play within reasonable limits: he must contrive to leave his wicket intact whatever kind of defence he adopts. The framers of the rule can never have intended that if a ball, not threatening the wicket in any way, drives a man's hat against the bails, he shall be held to have lost his wicket. The notion is too utterly unsportsmanlike.

JAPANESE JEWELLERS.

Pure gold" from China, says the *Tokyo Shimbun*, is remarkable for its malleability and ductility, showing that it is unalloyed. Gold articles imported from Europe and America always contain alloy, from 20 carat gold, upwards or downwards. But gold articles made by Japanese jewellers contain, in many cases, forty or sixty per cent. less gold than they are alleged to contain. That is a commercial falsehood little suspected by the ordinary public. Years ago, it appears, all the jewellers in the empire held a secret conference and passed a resolution to stamp all their goods as containing 20 per cent. more pure gold than really enters into their composition. This culpable imposition on the public remained a secret until very recently. What made further concealment impossible, was a confession made by a jeweller to a certain broker. The *Tokyo Shimbun* urges the Authorities to inquire into the matter in the interests of public morality.

ARREST OF A SUSPECTED BURGLAR.

On Sunday afternoon the Japanese police arrested on suspicion an American subject named J. J. Allen. It appears that some few days ago, a burglary took place at Mr. A. H. Dare's house on the Bluff, No. 261, and some articles of wearing apparel and a sporting rifle were stolen. A few days afterwards Kanamaru, the gun-dealer in Benten-dori, reported to the police that a foreigner had sold or pawned a rifle at his shop. Soon afterwards a second-hand clothes dealers' shop near Maganecho reported that a foreigner, giving the name of R. M. John, of 117 Bluff, had sold some clothes to them. These clothes were identified by the police as the lost property of Mr. Dare's. Armed with some further information the police went to the prostitute's quarters and found Allen, who had just given a handkerchief, bearing Mr. Dare's name, to a girl there, together with an opera glass, gloves, and other presents. The man was accordingly arrested and handed over to the American Consulate this morning.

OSAKA AFTER HARBOUR CONSTRUCTION.

To ascertain the effect that may be produced upon commerce by the conclusion of the Osaka harbour construction scheme, the following statistics have been drawn up:—

A.—DOMESTIC TRADE (OSAKA).			
Exports from Osaka to various places in Japan.		Imported from various places in Japan.	
1891	yen 55,845,371	yen 61,613,008	
1892	yen 65,130,069	yen 66,811,982	
B.—DOMESTIC TRADE (KOBE).			
Exports from Kobe to various places in Japan.		Imported from various places in Japan.	
1892	yen 3,627,001	yen 3,575,041	
C.—MERCHANDISE DISPOSED OF IN OSAKA.			
Total amount.		Direct Through Kobe.	
64,900,605	25,848,440	39,052,165	
D.—FOREIGN TRADE (OSAKA).			
Re-exports to foreign countries.		Sent abroad from Osaka.	
1891	5,565,763	5,570,873	
1892	6,559,071	6,604,784	
E.—FOREIGN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (OSAKA).			
Exports.		Imports.	
1891	1,142,401	4,084,704	
1892	1,503,020	5,547,370	
F.—FOREIGN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS THROUGH KOBE (OSAKA).			
Exports.		Imports.	
1891	5,618,921	21,270,327	
1892	9,228,546	26,195,920	

As seen in Table B, out of the total merchandise now taken to Osaka for purposes of sale in that city, to wit, yen 64,900,605, only yen 25,848,440 was carried direct, the remainder, yen 39,052,165, coming through Kobe. This is due to Kobe harbour being a better anchorage for large ships, than Osaka. At present goods have to be taken to Osaka in smaller ships than can discharge at Kobe, thus involving considerable expense and delay, as the following figures illustrate:—

IMPORTATION OF COTTON INTO OSAKA, 1895.	
From China	... lbs. 26,181,613
From India	... lbs. 25,863,794
From America	... lbs. 7,182,663
From Annam and Saigon	... lbs. 319,831
From Egypt	... lbs. 290,913
From other places	... lbs. 99,994
Total	... lbs. 59,938,808

Chinese cotton is first taken to Kobe and there landed at 5 *sen* per bale and then transported to Osaka by railway at the rate of 6.5 *sen* per bale. Not only Chinese, but also Indian, American, and Egyptian cotton have to be imported into Osaka by the same expensive and tedious process. On the head of cotton alone it is calculated that the harbour construction scheme will benefit the City of Osaka to the amount of a hundred thousand *yen* per annum. As Osaka is the greatest commercial and industrial city in Japan, any benefit it receives will be felt sooner or later by the whole country. Its harbour construction is, in fact, a work of State importance. The *Yiji*, from which we are translating, hears that the Government is inclined to render pecuniary assistance to the project. Our Tokyo contemporary concludes by saying that the Die will give its consent to granting a subsidy if Osaka people are really in earnest about their scheme.

A RUNAWAY PONY.

A pony attached to a carriage was being driven by a Japanese betto for exercise round Negishi this morning, when it broke loose and made a dash for Yokohama. Its passage through the "dirty village" was unattended by accident, but on turning on to Jizozaka it ran into a group of fish-wives, who were gossiping there. One of the women was so seriously injured about the head that she had eventually to be taken to the Hospital. Mrs. Manley, of No. 1, Bluff, hearing the clatter of the flying hoofs and the cries of the wounded women, went to the spot with what medical necessities she could hastily gather, and when Dr. Wheeler arrived he found that "first aid" had been efficiently rendered by this kind Samaritan. Meanwhile, the pony continued its course, knocking down four other people at Ishizaka: then it proceeded to its stable.

THE "ILTIS."

The survivors of the *Ilitis* apparently continue silent as to the incidents of the gun-boat's loss. The death of all the officers is accounted for by the fact that the ship broke in two after striking the rocks, and though the bow remained above water, the stern sunk, carrying the officers with it. There is still some uncertainty as to the number of men saved: one account says 12, another 11, and yet another, 10. The survivors are alleged to have remained on the wreck two days, and then, as no assistance seemed to be forthcoming, four of them swam ashore, and obtained help from the light-house. More than 75 persons lost their lives. The *Ilitis* had been lying at Chefoo since June 23rd, and she steamed out on July, under orders to proceed to Nagasaki. The meteorological reports show that on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th the weather was of a character that ought to have induced the captain of the gun-boat to remain in harbour. On the 22nd, a typhoon announced two days previously, was reported to be in the neighbourhood of the Riukiu Islands, and the barometer was falling again in Manila and Shanghai. On the 23rd, the typhoon was declared to be approaching Shanghai; the barometer was falling rapidly, and the locality of low pressure was between the Formosa Channel and Japan. Nevertheless, the *Ilitis* put to sea on the 23rd, and it is asserted that, after a few hours, she was obliged to take shelter in a bay, where she anchored; but the fury of the typhoon was such that her anchors could not hold her, and she drifted on the rocks, breaking in two within a short time. She was a comparatively old vessel, having been built in 1878, but we have never heard anything to justify the allegations made in some quarters that she had become unseaworthy. A gun-boat of 489 tons encountering the fury of a typhoon off the Shantung Promontory could scarcely hope to escape, whatever her condition.

THE NEW CHIEF OF POLICE IN SOUL.

In the *Korean Repository* we find the following about the new chief of police in Soul:—

The new Chief of Police is a conservative, a stalwart of the stalwarts. He comes to his office with his face turned toward the ancient models. The reformers pilfered the name of one of his ancestors when they called the office *Kyeng Mu*. This was an unwarranted use of a dead man's surname and must be changed at first opportunity. The barber to cut off the top-knot and tailor to make the uniform need not apply. The city authorities fell in with some suggestions for the prevention of cholera made by our morning contemporary. The suggestions were at once simple and practicable such as cleaning garbage from the streets, watching the wells that no refuse contaminate them, and to stop washing vegetables in the city gutters, into which such harmless things as dead dogs find their way. The sturdy Chief would have none of your new fangled notions. His reply was in substance: We have lived in filth, allowed the accumulation of garbage on our streets and washed our cabbages in the drains for 500 years, and I decline to order my men to look after such unimportant matters.

Since then the chief has had other and more serious difficulties. The assistant judge of the Supreme Court in the discharge of his duties has had occasion, we suppose, to address communications to the worthy chief. What about we do not know, neither do we care. Instead of speaking vaguely to an imaginary third person, the direct form was used. "This was not 'proper,' no such address can be allowed. The chief happens to be a notch higher in rank than the assistant judge and as a consequence there is a dead-lock between these scrupulous officials, over thirty cases accumulated in the Court and 'several men are still in prison suffering the heat and confinement on account of the quarrel.'" We admire a man who has the courage of his convictions. We are not talking of the kind of convictions.

Talking about washing cabbages in drains reminds us of an interesting injunction that may be seen at any time in a street in the neighbourhood of the Tokyo Hotel. Along the base of a *naga-ya* wall runs a miniature moat, filled with water about as dirty as they make it—black, slimy, ill-smelling, and scanty at that. Over this abominable stream is posted a notice in good ideographic script, "*Kono tokoro sen-taku su bekarasu*," or, "Washing must not be done here."

THE FIRST STAMP.

The first stamps that passed through the post on the morning of the 1st instant, that is to say, the new war commemoration stamps, are said to be worth 1 yen each in Tokyo to-day. It should be explained, perhaps, that the various batches of letters collected and brought into the post office at the appointed hours on any day, are distinguished, as they pass through the post-office, by the syllables of the *Kana* in due order. Thus the post-mark of the first batch bears the syllable "i," in addition to the date; that of the second batch, the syllable "ro," and so forth. How many letters constituted the first batch on the morning of August 1st we do not know, but it is to the stamps on these letters that a fictitious value is now said to attach. Could anything be more extravagant? Any ordinarily clever mechanic could forge a die suited, in all respects, to put the much cherished mark on a million stamps, if necessary. And even supposing the mark to have been genuinely stamped by some sleepy clerk in a dingy post office, how does it add an iota to the value of the stamp? Talk of collecting rabbits and pigs, this stamp mania is away beyond any of those wild caprices.

THE RAILROAD BETWEEN SŪL AND FUSAN.

According to the *Hochi*, the rumoured rejection by the Korean Government of the Japanese application for building a railroad between Sŭl and Fusan, may be a well-founded fact. Koreans have from time immemorial respected the sepulchres of their ancestors. Therefore, were these sepulchres desecrated, the consequences might be so serious as even to culminate in an insurrection. In Korea filial piety is considered a potent agency in making one happy or unhappy in this life. If calamity overtakes a Korean he ascribes it to failure in the performance of filial duty. Therefore he is extremely averse to removing the tombstones of his ancestors. Indeed, he holds an outrage done to the ancestral mausoleums as the vilest form of filial impiety. There are thousands of graves between Sŭl and Fusan, and should the Korean Government consent to the Japanese promoters' application, difficulties of a serious nature are certain to arise. It would be altogether impossible to lay a line that did not traverse one or more cemeteries. Now to surmount these difficulties peaceably, the country to which the builders belong must be strong enough to over-awe the fanaticism of ignorant Koreans. Also the help of the Peninsular Government must be secured. Japan's influence in the Peninsula is anything but strong just now, nor is it to be expected that the present Korean Government will lend aid to Japanese contractors. Under the circumstances the construction of the projected railway will be no easy matter, even were it granted to Japanese by the Government of Korea.

DYSENTERY AT KARUIZAWA.

A telegram from Karuizawa, published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, says that a bad epidemic of dysentery has made its appearance at Karuizawa. The type is said to be very virulent, over 70 persons having already succumbed in the little village. It is added that several foreigners have been attacked, but we are disposed to doubt the accuracy of that statement. It is true that Mr. and Mrs. Silver Hall have lost their youngest boy from this cruel disease, and that their youngest girl was for some time in great danger, but we have not heard of any other cases among foreigners. Karuizawa, however excellent it may be in most respects as a health resort, can not boast the fine supply of water usually found at villages among the hills in Japan. Few foreigners attach much importance to dysentery in Japan, but when we remember that it claimed more than sixty thousand victims in one year quite recently, we are compelled to regard it as an enemy not much less formidable than cholera.

PUBLIC COMPANIES.

According to the latest returns of the Agricultural and Commercial Departments, the numbers of commercial and industrial companies, excepting banks and railroads, are now as follow:—

I.—COMMERCIAL COMPANIES (1896).

	Number.	Capital. Yen.
At the end of June	704	73,793,760.200
Established in July	27	9,295,600.000
Increased capitals	6	392,000.000
Totals	731	83,481,360.200

The average capital is thus yen 114,066.

II.—INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES (1896).

	Number.	Capital. Yen.
At the end of June	690	113,710,156.500
Established in July	26	9,295,600.000
Increased capitals	15	2,032,820.000
Totals	716	110,950,376.500

The average capital is yen 167,570.

AGRICULTURAL COMPANIES (1896).

	Number.	Capital. Yen.
At the end of June	77	1,879,165.450
Established in July	—	—
Increased capitals	1	7,500.000
Totals	78	1,886,665.450

The average capital is yen 24,502. These three tables show that agricultural, industrial, and commercial companies now number one thousand five hundred and twenty-four, and that their capitals aggregate yen 205,318,402.15, or an average of yen 134,723 per company.

KOREAN NEWS.

A special correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi* sends the following letter, dated the 1st instant, from Sŭl:—"The news that the present Russian Minister to Mexico, who is acting as *Chargé d'Affaires* in Sŭl, has been appointed the Czar's Representative at the Korean Court, seems well grounded. But, as the appointment has not yet been gazetted, the *Corps Diplomatique* have not yet paid their congratulatory visits to Mr. Waerber. It is true, as I wrote, in a previous letter, that a telegram was received from Min, the Korean Ambassador to Russia, to the effect that the Czar's Government, while offering all protection to the person of the King should he remain in the Russian Legation, did not consent to the stationing of a Russian garrison in Korea or the granting of the proposal loan of 5,000,000 yen. But now a rumour runs that the two favours asked have been granted by Russia. This, together with another rumour, which alleges that the Czar has conferred on Min Tŏng-hwan the decoration of the First-class of the Order of the Silver Eagle, and the same of the Second-class upon Yun Chhi-ho, Min's attendant, is worthy of notice.

"Li Chai-Chŏng, the Vice-Minister of Finance, has been released from his *ad-interim* duties, the Minister's resignation not being accepted. The present state of affairs indicates that the rumoured Ministerial changes, in consequence of the promulgation of the Provincial Regulations, may not take place. But who can foretell the future of any Cabinet in Korea? The revised Provincial Regulations, that have so long been under the consideration of the Cabinet, are said to have been this day submitted, by special order of the King, to his Majesty for approval. Their promulgation may therefore be looked for within a few days. The revised Regulations for the various Government Departments are also said to have been prepared and will, within a few days, be brought before the Ministers for consideration.

"Mr. Clarence Greathouse, American Adviser to the Finance Minister, has proposed, it is said, to revise the New Code and issue an English version, and Mr. Kwon Yu-man and others on the Committee of the Compilation of the New Code have already commenced the work of translation. A Law for punishing persons who damage telegraph wires is soon to be pub-

lished. In consequence of the reforms of 1895 the Korean Government have experienced great difficulties in raising funds to provide for the State funeral of the late Queen. Before the reforms were carried out, certain classes were obliged to make large contributions towards such funds, in lieu of being exempted from ordinary taxes. The funds must be obtained by hook or by crook, and the Authorities lately decided to raise them from among the officials, who will each have to contribute amounts varying from 7 yen 80 sen, to 5 yen 20 sen, and 2 yen 60 sen, according to their rank. It is said, indeed, that the Treasury deducted these sums from the official salaries for the month of July. Mr. Brown, Adviser to the Royal Household, is acting with a high hand, and refuses to defray the salaries of the officials of the Household for this month, his reason being that there is a deficit of 10,000 yen in the funds appropriated to the Department. The Household officials are in consequence murmuring against the adviser. Min Yong-tai, reputed to be the greatest and most patient of the Min family, has lately been invited to the Russian Legation by the King, a Special Royal Messenger being despatched to his residence at Kyoha. The assassin of Kin Ok-kyun and the would-be assassin of Pak Yŏng-ho are all in Sŭl now, the first, Hong Chong-u, having been given an official appointment."

BANKING BUSINESS.

Banks, writes the *Fiji*, are now springing up like bamboo-shoots after rain, but most of them have only scanty capitals. Some are said to be working on a nominal capital of ten thousand yen, but in reality they have only two thousand yen, the rest of their capital consisting of personal property. This seemingly abnormal growth of banking business has caused some people much anxiety for the future, but the critics labour, for the most part, under mistaken ideas. The fact is that the majority of the new banks are merely the metamorphoses of private money-lenders, who have been driven by the stress of the times to bring their business within the purview of the Banking Regulations. Walking along the streets of Yokohama one may see in front of almost every raw-silk dealer's house a sign-board indicating that the place is also so-and-so's bank. This means nothing more or less than that the silk-dealer is also a money-lender, who has placed his business under the protection of the Banking Regulations. Such being the case, it is no wonder that the number of so-called banks has of late considerably increased. Banking business, however, has not increased and is not increasing, in proportion to the number of new banks. The *Fiji* says in this connection that the growth of Japan's banking business is very poor as compared with that of many other industries after the War. Yet the margin for growth and development is very wide, and the Government and the Nippon Ginko are inclined to foster the growth of minor banks as necessary organs for helping the progress of industry at large.

THE ECLIPSE IN TOKYO AND YOKOHAMA.

The solar eclipse was not very well seen in Tokyo. During the early stages of the phenomenon the sky remained tolerably clear, and the shadow could be distinctly seen creeping across the sun's disc, but at the last and most interesting period clouds more or less obscured the view. Under no circumstances, however, would the spectacle have been very impressive at a place so far beyond the belt of totality.

The conditions for viewing the partial eclipse of the sun were very favourable in Yokohama. The morning broke cloudy and overcast, but by noon the sun was riding in an almost clear sky. Just at the period of greatest obscuration some light, fleecy clouds formed in the direct line of vision thus allowing the phenomenon to be easily observed by the naked eye. At this

committed. The Synod recommended the churches to raise the sum of three thousand yen for the use of the Board during the year. Of course, it was not expected that so large a sum could be raised without great effort, but it was thought wise to set the mark high and to seek to accomplish as much as possible. As a matter of fact, the sum actually raised was not quite half the proposed amount. For this apparently signal failure there were, however, two main reasons:—First, the existence of separate Evangelistic Committees in all the presbyteries, except the Tokyo First and Second, toward which local contributions naturally flowed. These local organizations still exist in the Miyagi, Sanyo, and Chintzei Presbyteries—that of the Naniwa Presbytery having recently turned over its work partly to the missions and partly to the General Board. Second, the Executive Committee began the year with a considerable balance of cash in hand, which gradually increased from month to month, owing to the difficulty of getting suitable men for the work. The monthly reports of the Board's treasurer, in the *Fukuin Shimpō*, therefore, showed a large and growing balance on hand all the while. From these reports it was plain that the Board was not in pressing need of contributions, and the Executive Committee had no reason for urging the Churches to greater liberality.

This state of things, however, no longer exists, the Board's outlay now being greater than its income. The Board at present has eight evangelists in its employ; two in Shinshu, two in Ibaraki Ken, two in Tosa, one in Nagoya, and one in Formosa. Four of these have been taken on within the last two or three months, and the sum of about two hundred yen a month will be needed from this time forth in order to keep the work going.

To give the financial report somewhat more in detail:—

Balance on hand July 1st, 1895 215,332
Contributions, to June 30th, 1896 ... 1,469,763
Of this latter sum, yen 872,703 was contributed by Churches and Preaching Places; yen 441,010 by private individuals, schools, mission bands, &c., yen 156.05 by missionaries, the whole number contributing being fifteen.

Then taking the contributions of Churches and Preaching Places by their Presbyteries:—

The Tokyo First Presbytery gave ...	251,230
The Naniwa Presbytery gave	245,894
The Tokyo Second Presbytery gave...	137,774
The Miyagi Presbytery gave	109,700
The Chintzei do do	36,867
The Sanyo do do	3,300

The total of these figures does not quite tally with the amount mentioned above as having been contributed by Churches and Preaching Places, the reason being that the latter amount includes sundry contributions from Sunday Schools, and other sources not directly connected with the Presbyteries.

The total outlay of the Board for the year was yen 1,225,095, which, deducted from yen 1,469,763, leaves a balance of yen 244,668. Adding the balance on hand from the previous year, 215,332, we have yen 460,000 as the amount in hand June 30th, 1896.

In general it may be said that the enterprise is but fairly started. The Church, through the Board is gradually feeling its way toward the best methods of evangelistic work. The Executive Committee has not found the work by any means free from difficulties. One difficulty, already referred to, has been to secure suitable men for employment. Another has been the lack of united effort on the part of the Church as a whole, arising partly from the existence of the Presbyterian Evangelistic Committees, and partly from sectional feeling in certain quarters. Still another difficulty, felt very seriously by the Executive Committee, has been that of getting into good and promising fields of labour without seeming to intrude upon the boundaries of work already being carried on by the missions. The spirit of all the members of the Committee in reference to this matter has been uniformly courteous and conciliatory. If in any case it has seemed otherwise, the reason has lain outside the intention and purpose of the Committee.

If the work of the Board is to succeed it will have to do so in the face of such difficulties as I have mentioned and many others. The enterprise is purely Japanese both in its origin and in its prosecution, having no connection whatever with the missions. As such, it deserves the sympathy and the prayers of all who are interested in the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in this country.

Respectfully submitted, T. T. ALEXANDER.
Hakone, July 17th, 1896.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

By JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, June 3, 1896.

The *Catterthun's* gold has not yet been recovered from the depths of the sea, the weather having been too rough and the currents too strong, to admit of diving operations being carried on with safety, but a few days of mild weather and smooth seas will enable the whole of the treasure to be brought to land. Captain John Hall, of Sydney, who had charge of the salvage operations, speaking to a newspaper reporter, said:—"We had everything in favour at the start after getting hold of the wreck, which we did soon after our arrival from Sydney. One of the divers went down next day and landed on the fore-castle head. It was dark, and after stopping between 14 and 15 minutes he came up. He found that the decks were already sheathed with a coating of shell and marine growth to the depth of nearly 6 in. On the second dive the man landed on the poop of the *Catterthun*, where he attached a line, and the position was buoyed. A third dive was made, and the bridge was come upon, and the chart-room, in the floor of which is the entrance to the gold tank. Sticking to the ceiling of the chart-room was a skeleton, looking down, as it seemed, on the man in search of the gold. After opening up the cover of the tank, the diver was hauled up. It was at that time that the message came through, 'Found tank intact.' A fourth trip was made, but without being able to do more than buoy the position of the tank; and on the fifth trip the diver made everything ready for bursting the lid of the treasure-room open. The depth was ascertained to be exactly 25 fathoms and a foot to the door of the chart-room. A north-east swell then set in, and the current became stronger, which necessitated a suspension of work. After hanging on for a day or two, the steamer had to run for shelter, first into Seal Rocks Bay, and later into Port Stephens. A return was made to the wreck, and a diver went down, but could not reach the vessel, the current carrying him away from it when only 20 fathoms down. This experience being repeated for nearly a week became somewhat monotonous, but the *Sophia Ann* hung to the wreck until the sea was breaking over her funnel; and moorings snapping, she, with the steamer *Mermaid*, headed down to Sydney." It is doubtful whether any attempt will be made to recover the mails, as these are supposed to have become destroyed by the action of the sea-water. The recovery of the gold may lead to various experiments being made with the wreck, in view of the desirability of gaining experience in the working of deep-sea diving appliances. There are generally two difficulties to be overcome by the diver—the heavy pressure of the water and the prevalence of under currents, more or less powerful, which render it almost impossible to move about with safety. With the exception of these two obstacles, there is nothing to prevent diving operations being conducted at a depth greater than at present deemed feasible.

The battle of the Yalu River continues to furnish a subject for comment by Australian no less than by European and American writers, who recognise the importance of the successful manner in which the fire of the Japanese vessels was concentrated upon the Chinese iron-clads. The facts are generally regarded as confirming the views of Lord Kelvin respecting the state of mental, if not physical, incapacity to which the crew of a large iron-clad becomes speedily reduced by reason of the shocks due to the noise of the guns and to the concussion of heavy projectiles on the sides of the ship during an engagement in which quick-firing ordnance is employed. "If it be possible," says the *South Australian Register*, "for a few gunboats, by gathering around one of these leviathans of the deep and sending a hail of shot against her sides, to reduce her crew to a state of 'mental, if not physical, incapacity' in a quarter of an hour, it seems plain that one very strong point will be established in favour of the multiplication of smaller craft as compared with the policy of relying principally upon the immense battleships of from ten to thirteen or fourteen thousand tons' displacement which have for the past few years commanded so much attention. In an actual engagement the crews of the smaller vessels would be subjected to fewer shocks, both from the firing of their own guns and from the impact of projectiles from the enemy, and the juncture at which they had reduced the men on the larger vessels to a condition of prostration would, of course, be their opportunity to get in a torpedo with destructive effect. It is true that a single shot from one of the monster's big guns might settle accounts with any one of the smaller vessels, just as one kick from a horse when pursued by

wolves might lay one of its merciless pursuers in the dust. But as soon as one is down the other comes on, and the larger and more powerful frame of the attacked proves in the end to be no real source of safety. So far as the results of the Japanese-Chinese war may be taken to prove anything, they certainly go to sustain this general contention, because the superior size of three or four of the Chinese men-of-war failed to serve as an effective protection. The high value of a fleet of gunboats in a naval engagement may indeed be taken as having been absolutely demonstrated in that contest."

Mr. Noel Buxton, who lately arrived in South Australia from England, whither he had proceeded from Japan, was, on his arrival in Adelaide, encountered by the inevitable interviewer. Resigning himself to his fate, he spoke at considerable length concerning his impressions of Japan. "I am glad to see," he said, "that the Australian press has so many references to Japan, and I notice by the Japanese papers that the interest is reciprocated there, and that the prospects of trade between the two countries are being actively discussed. It is quite true, as was stated in a recent lecture delivered here by Mr. Alfred Bickford, that the Japanese intend to have a fleet larger than all the European fleets in the Pacific put together, but I can scarcely agree with the lecturer that this should be a reason for Australia adopting an exclusive policy towards them. The day after I left London there was launched on the Thames a first-class Japanese battleship, the *Fuji*, the largest ever launched on that river. I was invited by the Japanese Minister to be present, but I had to leave for Australia the day before the event. They have a twin ship to the *Fuji*—another vessel of 12,000 tons—which was launched a fortnight previously at Newcastle. These vessels are very much of the type which the British Admiralty have decided on for their new battleships under this year's programme. Mr. Bickford seems to think that they are building this big fleet in order to make new conquests, but in my opinion it is simply a reply to Russia, which has within the last year nearly doubled her fleet in the Pacific and has undoubtedly been intriguing to upset Japanese influence in Korea, and has largely succeeded in doing so. I have no doubt that the Japanese embarked in their recent war because they were afraid that Russia would get hold of Korea. Russia was the final objective, not China, and if it had not been for the action of Germany, and France, Japan would have succeeded in her design to stop Russian encroachments in the Pacific for ever. Their intention was to block her by obtaining possession of Port Arthur and part of the Chinese mainland. The interference of Germany was the less expected because in the early stages of the war that country had taken credit to herself for upsetting the proposals of the other Powers for inducing Japan to come to terms. The Japanese are not likely to forget the action of Germany and France. It is rather curious that until the British defended them in the matter of Port Arthur, the Japanese always believed that we were hostile to them. The new Japanese Minister, who arrived in London shortly before the event, consequently got credit for having changed the attitude of the English Government, while the Japanese Minister at Berlin, who had previously enjoyed high regard, became suddenly unpopular, although in both cases the result was due to outside circumstances. I should add, however, that the Japanese Minister to Great Britain is a very able man, and personally I am proud to count him among my friends."

Mr. Buxton entertained a firm conviction that Japan would one day figure as the firm ally of Great Britain in the East. "The Japanese," he said, "believe that their final struggle with Russia is still to come, and I should not be at all surprised to hear of an outbreak of war between the two countries at any time. It seems to me, however, that our best policy would be to bring about a triple agreement between ourselves, Japan, and Russia, by which we would get a port in the Northern Pacific, Russia would obtain some port free of ice for the terminus of the Siberian railway, and Japan would have a free hand in Korea. We are accustomed to think of the war as being over, but as a matter of fact the toughest fighting is now going on in Formosa against the half-bred Chinese who have been in that country for two centuries, and who have proved to be the best soldiers that the Japanese have yet encountered. They never risk a pitched battle, but they have done a great deal of damage by cutting off small parties of Japanese."

Respecting Japanese civilisation, Mr. Buxton said—"I don't think at present it would mix at all with the European civilisation which you have in Australia. It is fundamentally different. It is

founded entirely on the system of subjection to the head of the family, and the ideals of our civilisation appear to the Japanese absolutely immoral. I don't think they will change until the country has become generally Christianised, but undoubtedly Japan will very soon be much more Christian than it has ever been Buddhist or Confucian. Not only are the Christians increasing fast, but Christian ideas are spreading rapidly through the country and finding their way into the Japanese literature and language. At the same time I think their civilisation is for their own needs in many ways greatly superior to ours, and it is perfectly absurd to class them among the 'lower races.' At all events the Japanese have proved themselves the only non-European race sensible enough to see that they must adopt Western methods in order to remain an independent nation."

Mr. J. L. Parsons, in reference to the Anglo-Japan Treaty, states that he has been in communication with the Japanese Premier on the subject of Japanese emigration to Australia, suggesting that His Excellency should, if possible, officially give the necessary information and assurances which would allay the apprehensions of the workers of the colonies and convince Australian members of Parliament and Cabinet Ministers that they had nothing to fear; and that His Excellency had replied to the effect that the matter was under negotiation between the Governments of Japan and Great Britain, and that His Excellency had no doubt that a satisfactory solution would be reached. His Excellency thought the fears entertained by Australians were misplaced, and added that his experience had taught him that apprehensions which were without substantial foundation were the most difficult to allay, a remark which shows Marquis Ito to be a keen observer of men and human character. The *Australian Star*, the organ of the protectionist party in New South Wales, says that there is undoubtedly a good deal of truth, wisdom, craft, and real danger in both the reply and the attitude of Marquis Ito. "In the first place, it is not at all likely that such treaty conditions as would suit England and America would be equally acceptable to Australia. But that is not the crux of the matter, and still less is it that fear of actual personal invasion which foreign-traders in all colonies just now conspire to raise and to advertise in every possible way. The Japanese as a people have no desire to leave their own islands and occupy the continent of Australia. Their position with regard to us is in a superlative and intense degree that which England for so many years successfully maintained toward the producing nations of the old world. They desire to exploit our resources, to win our wealth by purchasing from us raw material, and selling to us and to all other buyers manufactured goods. They appreciate in the most practical way the opportunity which is theirs, and they propose to realise it without stir or undesirable agitation. The bogey which has been set up of effective personal invasion may be extremely useful to occupy the minds of short-sighted demagogues and those hide-bound, truly de-nationalised theorists of an obsolete political economy, who can perceive but one way in which growing Powers may be stultified and practically enslaved. Japan may for awhile assert loudly her people's right to a free entry and full rights of the territories of all friendly Powers; may indeed fan for a while the flame which that assertion will kindle. But at the same time she has a deeper game to play, whose results are of tenfold more importance. While the subject of citizen rights are under discussion the organisations of commerce and the active appliances of industry are at work, and by the time the question of rights of entry and abode is settled, it may be discovered that it really is of small importance. For by that time the manufacture and trade will be won, Japan will have the London, Birmingham, Manchester, and Leeds of the southern world, and Australia the mines, fields, and pastures of the raw materials and the mean, narrow, and serf-like life which naturally appertains thereto." These remarks may be taken as representing very largely the views prevalent among the Australian industrial populations.

LETTER FROM CANADA.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Vancouver, B.C., July 14.

The Dominion Elections, which on the 23rd ult. replaced a conservative government, after eighteen years of power by a Liberal majority sufficient to give the new Premier Laurier a firm seat, were an event of no small importance to Canada. What the practical result will be time alone will tell,

but one or two facts of pleasing import are made plain by the election itself.

Sir Charles Tupper, the Conservative Premier, made use of all the advantages of his position, with added promises of public works in every section of the country, thus boldly attempting to bribe constituencies and provinces wholesale. Laurier made no promises other than economical and honest government. Tupper sought to buy the province of Quebec by a compact with the hierarchy which rules French Canada in things spiritual, he to coerce the province of Manitoba in the matter of Separate Schools in return for clerical support which was expected to carry the province; Laurier, French Catholic though he be, repudiates all coercion; promises solution of the school dispute by means of conciliation and on a basis of justice to all parties.

The result is that Canada resents the attempt to rule by bribery, and Quebec by a most surprising majority refuses to be politically ruled by the bishops. This is a genuine revolution in French Canada, which has slowly followed in the wake of public schools, helped by the influence of the more enlightened provinces and the neighboring Republic. It was known that the *Rouges*, who were willing to accept spiritual guidance, but not political dictation from the Roman hierarchy, formed a growing element; but it burst on us as a surprise when they so completely overwhelmed the *Bleus*, who are obedient to Rome in all things.

One of the great problems of the Dominion has been the difficulty in amalgamating the French Roman Catholic province with the rest so that the union should be one in spirit as well as in form, and that friction should not arise on race and religion lines. But the age of mere forbearance seems to be ending sooner than was expected, and a deep Canadian *esprit de corps* has made itself felt. No one is so fitted to complete the good work as Mr. Laurier, a broad-minded Christian gentleman, French and Roman Catholic, thoroughly educated in the school of English liberalism, apparently free from all narrowness of race or creed, surrounded by a cabinet of strong men, Protestant and Catholic, emulating the same spirit, and around whom has gathered an intense enthusiasm, not simply for his political opinions but for his own magnetic personality and high moral principles.

The cry is raised here in British Columbia, "The Mongols must go." An agitation is to be carried on to raise the entrance tax on Chinamen from \$50 to \$500. And in this agitation an attempt is being made to include the Japanese with the Chinese. In this the demagog displays his usual lack of knowledge. Your readers will be interested to note the progress of this movement. It seems to be in the hands of radicals who profess to defend the rights of the working men.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Philadelphia, July 16.

Things are waxing warm politically. Both the great parties and a number of smaller ones have made their choice of candidates for the Fall election of President. The "campaign" promises to be an unusually interesting one. Both of the candidates, representing the two great parties, are rather above the average morally. They are both Christian men of an earnest faith. The political battle seems likely to be concentrated on the question silver versus gold. In this section, where manufacturing and mining are so much in interest, the silver issue sinks out of sight by the side of the tariff issue. England's prosperity since our own tariff went into effect, and the paralysis of business in this part of the States in the same time have attracted attention. We are hearing not a little about the possibility of Japan's becoming a competitor in manufactures. About every other day our papers have articles on this theme.

Philadelphia was threatened with another great street railway strike a few weeks ago. But the experience of last Christmas, when a most thoroughly organized strike signally failed, deterred our street car men from going into it again. They simply set at naught the order of their leaders, and went right on with their work.

I am just home from the great Christian Endeavour Convention in Washington. Some forty thousand delegates were in attendance. The railroads all granted "round-trip tickets" for the price of the fare one way, and this brought thousands to the country's capital besides the delegates. As Congress had adjourned some weeks previously, there was plenty of room in the hotels. The weather was intensely hot and, occasionally, very stormy; one night one of the gigantic tents was blown down, but it was re-erected a day or two later.

Three great tents were put up on the "White Lot," as it is called, the park in the rear of the White House, the President's residence. Each of these tents would seat comfortably ten thousand people. All the large churches and halls were also requisitioned for service. Notwithstanding the temptations to go sight-seeing they all seemed to be always full of people.

The meetings were full of enthusiasm. Applause was encouraged. Particular attention was paid to two things, in addition to the usual features of such an occasion, "Missions" and "Good Citizenship." Dr. Fredreck J. Stanley and the Rev. Frank S. Dobbins, both formerly of Japan, addressed the Committee on Missions. The United States Congress, by special law, allowed the use of the White Lot, and also permitted assembly on the grounds east of the Capitol. Further, the Secretary of the Navy put at the service of the Christian Endeavour people the U.S. Marine Band, the finest band in the country.

Of all the meetings probably the most impressive was that of Saturday afternoon when nearly fifty thousand people assembled on the spot where the inauguration of the President usually takes place. A choir of 4,700 voices led in the singing accompanied by the Marine Band. Patriotic hymns were sung and patriotic addresses were made.

The Christian Endeavour Army seems to stand particularly for sunshine in daily life, for intense enthusiasm, for a practical application of Christianity to the life of the citizen, for a real, vital Christianity in short. It certainly is a remarkable movement. In fifteen years the membership has grown from nothing to over two millions. Besides this there is a denominational work among the young people, an outgrowth of the movement.

Philadelphia, in common with many a great city, is now paved with sheet asphaltum. Bicycling has marvelously developed. Good "wheels," made of good materials and well put together, are now sold for \$37. Boys and girls, men and women, ride them. The tendency to radical change in the women's costume for bicycling has spent itself, and "bloomers" are rarely seen. The shortened skirt, or the "divided skirt," with an apron front, seems to be the outcome of thought in this direction.

The "wolley" cars, as the electric cars are called, have made living in the country, just beyond the bounds of the great city, a possibility. Consequently not so many people are going away for the summer as in former years. I have no doubt but that the bicycle and the electric car together will work quite a change in the style of living in many directions.

THE REGIMENTAL QUICK-STEP.

Mr. Walter Wood has an interesting article in the July number of the *Pall Mall Magazine* on "The Romance of Regimental Marches," a subject which makes a very entertaining chapter in military folk-lore.

Everyone who has seen a march past after a big review knows that the massed or regimental bands strike up different tunes as the regiments in succession approach the saluting-point. To play the Grenadier Guards past to the tune peculiar to the Royal Marines, or *vice versa*, would be a monstrous and unpardonable anachronism in the eyes of a military man, for each regiment takes a pride in its own particular march. And this is natural when we learn how closely most of these marches are connected with the history of the regiment. There is the West Yorkshire, formerly known as the "Old Fighting Fourteenth" which claims "Ca Ira" as their quick-step. For on May 23rd, 1793, the 14th formed a part of the Allied Forces storming the French camp at Famars and the work was so hot that the British were giving way, while the French bands were playing the revolutionary "Ca Ira" to stimulate the defenders. At a critical moment the colonel of the 14th dashed to the front, ordered the band to strike up the same tune as the French, and shouted to his men, "Come on, lads, and we'll beat them to their own damned tune!" And so they did, and from that day the regiment has stuck to the air which is so closely associated with the bloody scenes of the French Revolution. The familiar "British Grenadiers" is the regimental march not only of the Grenadiers, but also of all the Fusiliers, the Royal Artillery, and the Royal Engineers. The 2nd Lincolnshire go past to the tune of "The Lincolnshire Poacher," the words to which the music has been set being common to more than one county, with the well-known refrain—

Oh, 'tis my delight on a shiny night,
In the season of the year!

The men of the Border Regiment glory in the

FORMOSA.

WE find in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* an article that merits attention :— "Two or three foreign newspapers, without investigating the facts of the methods pursued in quelling the Formosan rebellion, have circulated very false statements on the subject. Thus the *Hongkong Telegraph* and the *China Mail* allege that the disturbances at Yun-lin had their origin in the maladministration and cruel conduct of Japanese officials and soldiery, and even go so far as to accuse the Japanese of slaughtering innocent people, abusing women, burning villages, murdering old men and children, and behaving in an utterly pitiless manner. The *London Times*, too, on the strength of information furnished by its Hongkong correspondent, has published similar assertions. But there is no truth in such stories. On receipt of the first intelligence of a renewed outbreak of rebellion, Governor-General Viscount KATSURA at once issued the following instructions to the officer commanding the Second Brigade :—

Although no pardon is to be extended to the insurgents, the greatest precautions must be adopted not to put to death any unoffending and law-abiding persons. Unless this point be kept in view, not only will serious obstacles be placed in the way of the future administration of the island, but the people that are unjustly treated will, in their indignation, side with the insurgents. On the other hand, in view of the fact that great difficulty often exists in distinguishing between rebels and peaceful people, it is evident that if too much restraint be put upon the military, the evil of excessive leniency may result. Thus the greatest care is necessary. Persons that actually offer opposition but do not carry arms, must not be killed, even though they be suspected of being rebels. They must be apprehended, and dealt with after due investigation. In order that the exact truth may be elicited by these investigations, provisional courts of justice shall be established, and to these the prisoners arrested in each locality shall be handed over for judgment.

Such was the policy adopted by Governor-General KATSURA in dealing with the rebels. At the same time, we are unable to be certain that the exigencies of the campaign may not have involved the burning of villages occupied by the rebels. But that anything occurred like the ruthless butchery of several thousands of people, seems to be either an assertion made by persons unacquainted with the facts, or a falsehood emanating from foreigners who, having some ground of discontent, are disposed to slander the Japanese. Above all, no lie could be blacker than the statement that women were abused and graves desecrated. According to our information, some of the foreign residents of Formosa, having either directly or indirectly invested a considerable amount of capital in connection with the production of sugar and camphor, which constitute the island's chief staples of trade, are seeking to excite foreign public opinion about this insurrection with the view of serving large ends of their own. By them the reports in question have been circulated. Moreover, when the island

was under Chinese jurisdiction, the missionaries used to enjoy special privileges, and were in the habit of protecting their converts by standing between them and the local officials, who made little attempt to oppose that state of affairs. Nothing of the kind has been possible, however, since Formosa came under Japanese rule, and the change has been found so unwelcome that the missionaries seem to have allowed themselves to become media for circulating false reports. To sum up, the provisional courts of justice referred to in the Governor-General's order having been actually established, and numbers of judicial officials being now engaged in investigating the cases of persons apprehended as rebels, or on suspicion of being rebels, the public had better not be misled by the misstatements of two or three foreigners."

The points made in the above article are decidedly strong. The Japanese in Formosa are called upon to deal with a state of affairs sufficiently peculiar to puzzle any administrators, and especially perplexing to administrators who, like the Japanese, have to satisfy critics resolved not to be satisfied. Until the recent war between Japan and China, there had been no instance in history of a nation's carrying on a campaign in an arena surrounded by foreign judges, from whose verdict there was no appeal, and who, while applying the highest tests of civilized warfare, were quite careless of the canons of critical justice. If German correspondents say hard things of French troops fighting in Tonquin; if American correspondents pen strong indictments of British military proceedings in Eastern Africa; if British correspondents denounce the action of Russian Generals in Central Asia, the world receives all these charges with due caution, and prefaces every decision by the comment that kid gloves cannot be worn in warfare. But whenever a rumour is bruited abroad to the discredit of the Japanese, it is implicitly believed by the foreign press in the East, and is accepted as conclusive proof that they have not yet emerged from a state of savagery. For our own part, we do not by any means suppose that the conduct of the Japanese in Formosa has been blameless. We do not think that the Japanese Ministers themselves suppose it. When, at the outset of the recent insurrection, the civil officials applied to the military garrisons to clear the bandits from certain localities, there appears to be very little question that some innocent persons suffered with the guilty. Discrimination is said to have been immensely difficult, and we can easily believe the statement when we remember that the uniform habit of many disaffected Formosans was to elude detection by disguising themselves as peaceful subjects, artisans, farmers, or what not. We can readily believe, too, that women suffered

indignity. Never yet did a campaign escape taint of that nature, though it must be admitted by every impartial person that nothing of the kind was openly charged against Japanese troops either in Korea, Manchuria, or Shantung. As to these things, however, final judgment must be reserved. But what we can see at once is that although Formosa has become a part of Japan's dominions, its affairs can not be administered like those of the Japanese empire in general. Under Chinese rule the foreign residents acquired vested interests amounting almost to prescriptive rights, and developed methods which, though not reconcilable with Treaty stipulations, are essential for preserving the monopoly that these foreigners have acquired over the principal staples of production, camphor, sugar, and tea. Japan's early attempt to bring the trade of the island within the purview of Treaty provisions, or, at any rate to introduce a system of orderly control, at once aroused the alarm and opposition of these foreigners. That was natural, whatever its propriety, and although the Japanese have evidently suffered the *status quo* to be, in great part, re-established, the apprehensions created by their opening essay have not wholly subsided, and there are undoubtedly many foreigners who would gladly see them driven out of Formosa. Connected with the missionaries, also, there is another element of difficulty. It is well known that Christian converts in China enjoy special immunity from the extortion and interference of officialdom, and that, not without practical justification, they look to the missionaries for protection. Significantly enough, nothing of the kind takes place in Japan, but in China it is proverbial. Now competent authorities allege that numbers of the Formosan brigands are Christian converts, and that they became converts solely for the sake of the immunity they hoped to enjoy under the missionary ægis. In the eyes of the missionary, who honestly credits the sincerity of every brand plucked from the burning, the execution of a convert on an accusation of brigandage is the slaughter of an innocent man. No elaboration of this point is needed to indicate a very prolific source of misconception. In short, the Japanese have very peculiar conditions to deal with in Formosa, and it is satisfactory to know that the new Governor-General, Viscount KATSURA, thoroughly appreciates the situation and approaches it in a most liberal and conciliatory spirit. We have the best assurance that His Excellency intends to treat the problem not by any means from the stand-point of Japanese administration as practised in Japan proper, but with the fullest consideration for the state of affairs that actually exists and for the interests that have gradually grown up under Chinese rule. Viscount KATSURA spent many years in Europe

and America. He is essentially a genial, large-minded man. It was he that commanded the Second Brigade in the Korean campaign and throughout the celebrated march from the Yalu to Haicheng, and the tact and courtesy shown by him in his relations with the Chinese in Manchuria as well as with foreigners in Newchwang, of which town he acted for some time as civil governor, are doubtless remembered by our readers. He is probably the best administrator that could be chosen for Formosa, and the mere fact of his appointment should go far to restore confidence.

WHAT AMERICA HAS SPENT UPON THE DOSHISHA.

OF late we have been frequently asked how much the American Board Mission and its friends have spent upon the Doshisha. Not being in possession of statistics to answer the question, we applied to a responsible quarter, and have been placed in possession of the following figures:—

From the American Board Mission; subsidies to the College.	\$40,000
Building and Apparatus	46,500
Grants, &c., to the Girls' School	14,000
	\$100,500
Given by friends of the Board but not technically by the Board	33,000
The Harris Fund	100,000
Total	(gold) \$233,500

Of the Harris Fund, only \$75,000 has been actually paid over to the Trustees of the Doshisha, namely, \$25,000 for building purposes, and \$50,000 for investment in Japanese five-per-cent. registered bonds, the interest on which is devoted to the support of the Harris School of Science. The remaining \$25,000 is invested in the United States, and is, more or less, under the control of the Prudential Committee of the American Board. Moreover, this statement does not include the salaries of the foreign teachers, whose services have been given without cost to the Doshisha for twenty-one years. Neither does it include considerable sums contributed to the Hospital and Nurses School, the records of which are not immediately within our reach. To the grand aggregate must also be added the houses of the American Board's missionaries outside the Treaty Ports, which will eventually pass into the hands of the Doshisha Trustees, the income arising from them thus becoming available for the uses of the institution. Suppose that the salaries of teachers have cost the Board ten thousand *yen* annually—an estimate certainly below the mark—we get on that account a total of 210,000 *yen*, so that, converting into silver the gold dollars tabulated above, and taking into consideration the cost of building the Missionaries' houses, we shall not be guilty of any overstatement when we say that the American Board Mission and its friends have devoted three quarters of a million *yen* to

make the Doshisha what it is. That figure well deserves a moment's attention. The Doshisha has been a great factor in the educational life of the nation. Indeed, for those capable of imagining that Providence specially intervenes in the affairs of special men or special races, there can not be much difficulty in believing that such intervention was exercised in Japan's case. The penalty paid by this country for suddenly breaking away from its old traditions was that the foundations of filial respect were overthrown. It was hard for a son to venerate a father ignorant of everything that goes to make a man intellectually venerable, and as for obeying the ancient precept that to tread within three feet of a teacher's shadow was disrespectful, how could a student be expected to observe it when the shadow-casting instructors had no mental capacity that reached beyond the shaping of an ideograph or a recitation from the Analects, whereas he himself had dipped into HERBERT SPENCER and quarternious? Few outsiders have any conception of the dimensions of the difficulty that the educational problem presented on that account to Japanese statesmen in the opening years of the *Meiji* era, and few, perhaps, perceive that the want of discipline apparently still existing in Japanese schools, the tendency on the student's part to dictate to their teachers, is another result of the same cause. Into this breach the missionaries stepped, founding institutions like the Doshisha, and offering to the youth of Japan a new canon of ethics to replace the philosophy discarded simultaneously with the old civilization. It is scarcely possible to over-estimate the timeliness and value of the assistance thus rendered, and when we recall the story as we have seen it told by events during twenty-nine years, it seems inexpressibly sad that a splendid work such as the American Board Mission has done for Japan should end, not in a chorus of lasting gratitude but in misunderstandings and recriminations.

POINTS OF GRAMMAR.

THERE are two points, grammatical or syntactical, whichever one pleases to call them, concerning which a moment's reflection will not be uninteresting. The first relates to the use of the word "ending," in such phrases as "the week ending September 10th;" "the period ending with the death of JAMES THE SECOND," and so forth. It is the custom with the vast majority of writers, and has been the custom for an indefinitely long time, so far as we know, to use only the present participle, "ending," in cases of that kind. Why the limit? Why should not "ended" be used also? By employing both forms we obtain logical methods of expression. Thus, "the period ended with the death of JAMES THE SECOND" would at once con-

vey, even to a person totally unacquainted with English history, the fact that reference was made to a past era; and "the week ending September 10th" would signify a week the last day of which, at any rate, was still in the future. We have not, for our own part, the smallest doubt that the tyranny of usage in this matter will one day yield to the dictates of reason and common sense. It is impossible to amplify the phrases we have adduced without discovering the error of a common form for each. So soon as we begin to talk of "the week that ends on such and such a day," or "the period that ended with such and such an event," we perceive that a present participle can not be considered an appropriate abbreviation in each case. Advocates of the stereotyped form will doubtless maintain that, in the examples under consideration, "ending" is not a present participle, but a participial adjective; that it conveys no idea of time, and serves merely to imply conclusion. But it is impossible, we think, to eliminate the idea of time from such a word. We may use "sounding," "rushing," "confusing," and cognate qualifiers without any reference to time, because the fundamental attribute suggested has no relation of finality. But the inevitable conception embodied in the word "ending" is one of time, and when we apply the present participle to periods that have passed as well as to periods still uncompleted, we seem to do distinct violence to logic.

The second point is another literary conventionalism, namely, "as follows." People write, "the result of the experiments was as follows," and "the names of the contributors are as follows," completely indifferent whether the subject of the verb "follows" be singular or plural. Why should these forms be exempted from the hard-and-fast test invariably applied by grammarians in all other cases for determining the proper number of a verb? Let us apply that test by asking "what follows?" and the answer in the first example is "the result of the experiment;" in the second, "the names of the contributors." Obviously the form is false. We can not possibly say "the names of the contributors follows," yet we are supposed to be perfectly grammatical when we say "the names of the contributors are as follows." Defenders of the usage contend that the subject of the verb "follows" is, not the persons or things predicated, but the portion of the page containing the detail of these persons or things. According to their view the phrase is elliptical, and if expanded, would read:—"The names of the contributors are as in the table that follows," "or," "are according to the statement that follows." But if that be the true explanation, if, in short, the form "as follows" be nothing more than a convenient abbreviation, why employ an abbreviation shockingly ungrammatical,

period the light along the whole horizon appeared to take a peculiar tint, while the shadows cast by walls, houses, trees, or fences were intensely black and sharply defined.

Telegrams received on Sunday afternoon in Tokyo announce that the British Eclipse Expedition was a failure: the weather was cloudy throughout. The other expeditions were not more fortunate.

THE "SPECTATOR" ON FIRKET.

The *Spectator's* comments on the first great success of the Egyptian troops over the Dervishes are well worth reading, though they betray the usual fault of that prettily written journal, over-subtle analysis:—

There has been no such triumph for the British Occupation. Nobody really doubted that British officials, once allowed a controlling power, would set the finances of Egypt straight, would remodel the police, would reduce the judicial system to something like order and efficiency, would terminate the extralegal oppressions of the Pashas and Sheikhs, and would make the collection of revenue a regular process instead of a series of legalised raids upon the peasantry. Those reforms followed inevitably upon the fact of occupation by men responsible to the British people, and free from even the wish to plunder for themselves. But it was doubted whether even British energy could build up a native Egyptian Army. The officers, it was said, might make good regiments of the blacks, who passed their lives in fighting, but you cannot carve upon rotten wood, and the fellahen, born in the mud of a tropical delta and enslaved for ages, had lost, if they ever possessed, the Arab courage, and could no more be drilled into fighting men than Bengalees or the Indians of Peru. Egyptian troops would be perfect regiments for parade, being the most obedient and orderly of mankind, but would be useless in the field. Those who held this opinion were able to justify it, for they could quote the astounding cowardice of General Hicks's army, in which whole regiments, moved, we fancy, as much by superstition as by fear, threw down their arms, fell on their faces before the Dervishes, and begged as fellow-Muslims for their lives. The British officers, however, worked on, they gained hope from the behaviour of their men in some petty skirmishes, and at last their young chief, General Kitchener, trusted the fellahen frankly in the field. Egyptians, who had been well fed, well treated, and thoroughly disciplined, responded to the call; they not only did not fly, but they charged as well as the Soudanese, "who are born fighters," and the last doubt as to their efficiency in actual hand-to-hand fighting disappeared. Good treatment and steady discipline had in the course of years restored their confidence in themselves and in their officers, and they showed themselves the equals of men who for generations have despised them as "lame Arabs." That is, as we have said, a triumph for British organization, with its persistence, its lenity, and its almost automatic justice, and it is a triumph, too, for British honesty of purpose. It is not our interest to make good soldiers of the fellahen, for the instant conclusion of the Continent will be that if the Egyptians can defend themselves the main arguments for the British occupation of Egypt disappear. It was not our business, however, to consider that danger, but to show that in the creation of a native Army British administration was, as a Governor-General of Java once described it, "the most vivifying despotism the world has ever seen," and the work, which has taken fourteen years, was carried on patiently and steadily until the very nature of the conscripts seemed changed, and Arabs of the Delta charged victoriously upon the most renowned fighters among the Arabs of the Desert. The born children of Misr, where for two thousand years no man has been free, disciplined and led by British officers, scattered the descendants of the Shepherd Kings in a charge. That, and not the victory itself, is the thing for Englishmen to be proud of, for no one who reads of it, not the most satirical stroller of the Parisian boulevards, can afterwards say, at least if he knows anything of history, that the British occupation has debased Egyptians.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

RAILWAY MISMANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL,"

SIR,—The letter of complaint addressed to you by Dr. Eldridge, and published in your paper of the 29th ultimo, having been brought to my notice, I have made careful enquiry into the circumstances. The blame for the luggage having been left behind does not appear to be altogether on the

side of the officials, for I am assured that it was first brought to the luggage-office by some *jinrikisha-men*, about 15 minutes before the train was due away, who did not know how many passengers would accompany it, nor the class they would travel, and in fact could give no information whatever about it. As is well-known, the regulations require the presentation of the passenger's ticket preparatory to the booking and checking of luggage. It was not until a minute or two before the advertised time of departure of the train, that the servant produced tickets at the luggage-office. The interval was then too short to admit of the packages being weighed, labelled, checked, and loaded, without seriously delaying the train, and this the Station-master dare not do, for fear of missing the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha's connecting train for Nikko, &c., at Shinagawa. Had the passengers' tickets been presented at the luggage-office at the time the luggage was first deposited there, or within ten minutes of the advertised departure of the train, it would, without fail, have gone forward with the passengers.

The Station-master and the official in charge of the luggage office deny that there was the least intentional rude or discourteous treatment. They aver that they pointed out in a civil manner the difficulty there was, under the circumstances, of despatching the luggage, and that it would be forwarded by the very next train; a receipt being given for the articles, and permission for the payment of the excess weight of luggage at destination, contrary to usual practice. One article containing provisions was indeed got away by the train at the urgent request of the passengers, and this, together with the unusually heavy quantity of passengers' luggage handled for the train, delayed its departure seven minutes.

The authorities are fully aware that in operating a large Railway System such as this, occasions will now and again arise for complaint against the conduct of their employes. The courtesy and kindness of travellers, however, in bringing the circumstances direct to the notice of the management is always duly appreciated, for only by those means can irregularities be promptly seen to and notice taken of the offending officials, and repetition guarded against.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

MITSUGU SENGOKU,
Traffic Manager.

Imperial Government Railways,
Traffic Department,
Tokyo, August 10th, 1896.

SOME LESSONS FROM THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Recent editorials and communications in the *Japan Mail*, with regard to the relations between the "American Board" and the Trustees of the Doshisha, and the present views and purposes of the Trustees, are from many standpoints interesting. They have been received, no doubt, with various feelings by different readers. Perhaps a majority of those who care for such matters are, on the whole, perplexed and saddened.

To an onlooker, it certainly appears that when word-fencing and technicalities are set aside, and a simple-hearted view of the situation is taken, the Americans who have contributed so liberally in money and in labour to the Doshisha, and but for whose efforts the institutions now controlled by the Trustees would not have existed, have been badly used. "Profound respect," "gratitude," "loyalty," etc., are very cheap—on paper, at least. But, as President Kozaki well observes (in another connection), "The only means to remove this misunderstanding is the actual conduct and practical management of the institution." One would certainly think that "gratitude," "profound respect," etc., would, if genuine, render the persons holding such sentiments manifestly desirous to please those toward whom they were so grateful; and that, where "profound respect" was mingled with gratitude, this desire could be freely indulged, without loss of dignity, by asking and following the advice of the profoundly respected party, even though this might involve some sacrifice of personal opinions. But perhaps those kinds of gratitude and respect that may lead to some degree of actual self-effacement, are not what the President and Trustees have in mind when they use such expressions.

There is, however, another side to all this. If, on the part of those who have legal control of the Doshisha property, there is, to speak plainly, a seeming lack both of sincerity and of modesty, and a self-assertiveness that is, in the circumstances, at least not chivalrous—a morbid mood, that, in the present case, as always, blinds its victims to those delicate points of honour that are beyond the range of bargains and documents—the

question still remains, what has led to this unhappy state of affairs?

Without stopping over the vague and trite subjects of human fallibility and racial and "psychological" differences, it may be well to enquire if there is anything in the past policy or methods of the American Board and its employes, that will account somewhat for their present misfortune. For it is important to remember that the disagreements here considered are not between Japanese Christians and American Christians, as such, but between Congregationalists in Japan and Congregationalists in America. Other missionary bodies in this country, some with considerable property, have gotten on, for the most part, quietly and amicably with the Japanese brethren who have held this property for them.

Now, strangely enough, it is notorious that of all the denominations having missions in Japan, none has made such conspicuous efforts to appear conciliatory to human sentiments in general and Japanese sentiments in particular, as this very Congregational body. Other missionaries may have been personally kind, in various ways. They may have been quietly tolerant, or even sympathetic, toward manifestations of national spirit on the part of their adherents. They may have discreetly avoided seeming to antagonize liberty of thought; and they may have endeavoured to arrange with the help of trusted Japanese friends, so to administer their schools, &c., as not to wound needlessly the sensibilities of Japanese people, or show any disrespect to Japanese laws. Such, to a greater or less extent, has been the course followed in all the Protestant missions. But the Congregationalists have entirely outdone them all on these lines. They have preached, or otherwise taught, "patriotism" almost as prominently as though it were a part of Christ's teaching. They have exalted independence of thought as though that were a cardinal virtue in the New Testament morality. They have held up education as though it were almost coördinate in importance with belief in Christ. They have, in general, endeavoured to appear as champions of nineteenth-century inquiry, progress, and enlightenment—of course claiming these as the offspring of Christianity—rather than as simple evangelists of a God-given and complete message of reconciliation between God and man.

Every one having a fairly wide acquaintance among missionaries in this country will recognize the general and substantial correctness of the foregoing statements. Missionaries of a conservative turn have been heard to lament, in private, the influence of the "Kumi-Ai" on their people; while even those who rather sympathize with these methods of propagandism than disapprove of them, yet admit the conspicuousness of the Congregational missionaries in the use of them.

Of course consistency requires action in accordance with teaching. If a man's nationality and his patriotic sentiments are worthy, from the Christian teacher's standpoint, of particular attempts to honour and conserve them, race distinction—"the colour-line"—is at once drawn. The foreigner thinks he must "show his faith" by appearing to efface himself as much as possible, just because he is a foreigner, regardless of other considerations. If independent thought is, for the Christian, *per se* a good thing, then no uttered thought, made with any show of good intention or respectability, is a proper subject for "rebuke," "reproof," or even for "exhortation." If education is of supreme importance, then when its interests appear to college-trustees to diverge materially from the interests of aggressive preaching of Christian truth, they may easily enough think it right to act as the Doshisha trustees have acted. And so on.

It seems, then, that the Doshisha Trustees have merely learned a little too well, and put in practice a little too completely, principles that they have been taught. True, somewhat more of graciousness and of generosity, somewhat more of a nice sense of obligation, than they have shown, might have been expected of servants of the Lord Jesus Christ; indeed, one would think these ought to have been caught by personal contact with the many amiable and honourable Americans who have worked for the Doshisha. Whatever discredit may lie here belongs solely to those who have shown themselves lacking in these regards. Nevertheless it is, on the whole, evident, at least to an outsider, that the A.B.C.F.M. are now simply reaping what they have sown.

The above conclusion seems pretty obvious, and may be of value to some missionaries. If so, a brief examination of the moral aspects of the matter will be still more useful.

The ideas about mentioned as being made, in various ways, very prominent in the teaching of this particular body of missionaries—namely, patriotism, independence of thought, education, and progress in general—are recognized by civiliza-

ed men everywhere as corresponding to things good and important. To the Japanese temperament they appeal with, perhaps, extraordinary force.

It is, however, a noteworthy fact that *nothing that can fairly be construed as a commendation of a signle one of them*—in the sense in which a man of the world would understand it—is to be found either in the Gospels or in the Epistles. Orderly, respectful subjection to civil authority is enjoined (1 Pet., ii, 13; Rom. xiii, 1; Titus, iii, 1, &c.), but nothing is said of patriotism, properly so-called. Indeed, the Christian being viewed as saved out of a world (John xvii, 16) fast going on to judgment (Acts, xvii, 31), a pilgrim and stranger (1 Pet., ii, 11) whose affections (Col. iii, 1, 2) and even "citizenship" (Philips. iii, 20, R. V.) are in heaven with Christ, any special provision for earthly patriotism would seem quite out of place. As to race-distinctions *within the Church*, they are expressly disavowed (Colos. iii, 11). The injunction "Prove all things," etc. (1 Thess., v, 21) is addressed to persons belonging body, soul, and spirit, to the Lord, and hence in a position to be guided by the Holy Spirit; and in fact, it closely follows the warning, "Quench not the Spirit, despise not prophesyings"; so it can hardly be taken as teaching what is generally understood by independence of thought. Indeed, how foreign to the Apostle's thoughts are present-day notions on this subject, may be gathered from 2 Cor., x, 5; "Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ". The word "education" does not occur; but "philosophy" is repeatedly spoken of, and most certainly *not* with commendation. And it would seem that worldly "progress" could scarcely enter very largely into the calculations of persons living according to Titus ii, 12, 13: "... Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ".

If, then, such stressing of these "smooth things" is without any definite warrant in the only writings that are universally recognized as authoritative sources of Christian doctrine; if, indeed, some of the things in question are hard to reconcile with plain New Testament teaching; why have they been so paraded by a body of Christian missionaries? The answer is obvious: The thing has been done with a view to gaining attention, and winning favour and sympathy; and that, too, not without a certain kind of success, as is shown by the large dimensions of the Congregationalist work in Japan. Yet, *cui bono?* Who is pleased now, either with what exists, or with what may be reasonably looked for, in view of the facts now made public? It is not hard to see that mere flatteries have, after all, been taken at their true value, and so of course they are not paid for in the sound coin of honest fraternal affection.

It really appears, then, that these unlucky American friends have taken too much pains, on the whole, to be pleasing and politic, and not enough to stick to their professed business of teaching those things taught by Christ and His Apostles. Sad experience has now demonstrated to some of them (it may be hoped) that there is an error somewhere in the plan of trying for influence first, and—perhaps—especially in case they should ever get satisfied themselves as to what truth is—preaching the truth afterwards. The sum-total of the results of that policy does not seem very happy. Let it be understood that there is here no accusation whatever of deliberate, conscious trickery. But it is plain that sentiment and speculation have been too much mistaken for the Gospel of Christ, and flattery for Christian charity.

The moral effect of such a course must of necessity have been bad. Seeking for men's praise, for influence, when the Master's approval and the Master's glory alone are supposed to be the object before one, is a practice, alas! more easy to fall into, more easy to point out in others, and more easy to imitate, than it is at all times to challenge, condemn, and avoid. Here again there appears to have been teaching—surely not deliberate nor by precept—and but too ready learning, in the Doshisha institutions; only it happens that the teachers, not being any longer the most commanding audience, are not the ones now played to by the pupils.

These reflections, respectfully commended to Christian people, may well close with a quotation from the great Apostle to the Gentiles, and another from the words of the Son of God Himself: "Do I now seek to satisfy men or God? or do I seek to please them? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ." (Galatians, i, 10.)

"How can ye believe, which receive honour one

of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?" (John, v, 44.)

Enclosing my name, and thanking you for the space granted,

I am, Sir, yours very faithfully,

X.

DYSENTERY AT KARUIZAWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The telegram from Karuizawa to the *Nichiichi Shimbun* and on which you have a paragraph in your issue of the 10th inst., announcing that an epidemic of dysentery, of a bad type, had made its appearance in this place, and that over 70 persons had already succumbed, is without foundation.

As the paragraph referred to is causing considerable anxiety to people who have friends staying here, I have thought it wise to send you this contradiction of the rumour.

I am, yours faithfully,

W. JNO. WHITE.

West End, Karuizawa, Shinshu,
August 12th, 1896.

THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Since you have made mention of our separation from the Doshisha, perhaps you will kindly allow me to make a very brief statement of our position.

Last April, the Trustees voted not to receive aid from the American Board either in men or money after the end of this year, which they afterwards explained as meaning, not that they wished us to leave the school, but that they wished to form new relations with us. Thus the question was forced upon us whether we, missionaries of the American Board, could enter into new relations with an institution which declined to receive help from that Board; and also whether, even if that difficulty could be explained away, it was best for us to continue teaching in that school. Whatever may have been the case when the Doshisha was founded, the Japanese Government now makes such full provision for education (at least for young men) that there seems to be no occasion for missionaries to spend their time in teaching for purely intellectual ends. As one of the graduates of the Doshisha said to me only yesterday, that school has no reason of existence unless it differs from the Government schools. Formerly it seemed to us that it did differ from the Government schools in not only imparting thorough intellectual education but also building up a nobler character, in making stronger and better men. Ex-graduates have gained an enviable name far and wide in Japan by their moral earnestness and strength of character. The foundation of this, we believe, was the living faith in Christ as a motive-power to high purpose and right living which characterized its founder and the most of its teachers. No attempt was ever made to force this upon the students; attendance at all strictly religious services was voluntary; but it was the prevailing tone or spirit of the school; and thus the school, not as an agent of propagating a sect, but as a nursery of noble character and true patriotism, seemed to us worthy of our co-operation.

That the tone or spirit of the school is different now is undisputed, and is testified to by students and teachers. Two of the leading trustees recently admitted it to me, and asked our further co-operation only on the ground that the condition of the school will be reformed in the course of two or three years. Perhaps they are right in their anticipation; we certainly shall be very glad if they are; but we do not see such indications at present as to give us much encouragement, and it seems to us that as missionaries we can spend our time more profitably in other ways than in teaching there. If any one asks why we do not remain in the school and help improve it, the answer is that as foreigners we have very little, or no, influence in the management of the school, and it seems to us that we have power to do very little good there at present.

We, however, have no controversy with the school and no desire to antagonize it. It is simply that it seems to us best not to accept the invitation of the Trustees to enter into the proposed new relations.

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

DWIGHT W. LEARNED.

Kyoto, Aug. 11th, 1896.

AN OPEN LETTER.

TO MITSUGU SENGOKU, Esq.,

Traffic Manager, Imperial Government Railway.

SIR,—The report, published in yesterday's *Mail*, of the result of your careful, though entirely *ex parte*, inquiry into the circumstances upon which I based a complaint of mismanagement and discourtesy against certain railway employes at the Yokohama station, as it consists entirely of a denial of the facts, and, consequently, implies misstatement on my part, compels some notice from me. Pardon me if, in replying, I am, to secure clearness, forced to reiterate a portion of my former letter.

You say that my baggage was brought to the luggage office by jinrikisha men only, but some fifteen minutes before the time for departure of the train.

My packages arrived at the station not less than forty-five minutes before the leaving of the train for which they were intended, and were, at once, taken to the luggage counter by my boy, who, then and there, gave all needful information and, unsuccessfully, endeavoured to have the baggage weighed, and to pay for the excess over the allowance for the number of tickets required.

More than this; my family reached the station before the ticket window was opened, their tickets were the first purchased, and my daughter, with my servant, immediately proceeded to the luggage office where every effort was made to secure the necessary attention, again without success. From the bores in charge of this department the ladies appealed to the station-master, still failing to receive the service to which they were entitled, the station-master vying in rudeness with his inferiors.

I do not know what, in the code of ethics governing the relations of railway officials to the travelling public in Japan, may be considered as rude and impertinent conduct or language; but, in any other country with which I am acquainted, the lie, unprovokedly and repeatedly given, and by more than one employe, would I think, warrant the accusation of insolence which I have made, and still make, against your subordinates.

If any package of mine, whatever, other than those carried in their own hands, was sent by the train in which my family left Yokohama, it was entirely without their knowledge, and without the granting of any special receipt or check for the same. That the sending of this package, if it was sent, was, in any degree, responsible for the undoubted delay in the departure of the train, permit me to question, especially in view of a semi-apologetic message received from the station master, after my boy had succeeded in arousing his suspicion that I would not tamely submit to outrage, to the effect that the whole trouble was caused by the fact that H.E. Count Yamagata and suite travelled by the train concerned, which, if true, would better have served you as an excuse for the delay of seven minutes than can my one little package.

As to the baggage as a whole, I gladly admit that it did arrive at its destination twenty-four hours late, and that it was duly, and courteously, delivered upon the presentation of the receipt which had been, with the utmost difficulty, extorted from the Yokohama baggage-master.

Every statement I have made in this, and my former, letter is susceptible of proof, which, Sir, had it been asked for, would have been at your disposal during your investigation of my complaint.

Finally, and with regret, to the charge of carelessness, insolence, and neglect of duty which I make against your employes, I must add that of conscious, deliberate, and detailed falsehood.

I am, Sir, very truly yours,

STUART ELDRIDGE.

Yokohama, August 13th, 1896.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN JAPAN

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN JAPAN, FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1896.

This Board has recently completed the second year of its existence as an independent body. At the meeting of the General Synod in Nagoya, a little more than a year ago, the number of members was increased from ten to twenty, and a thoroughly representative body elected. The newly elected Board met before the adjournment of the Synod and organized for the work of the year. In addition to the usual officers, an Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of five members residing in Tokyo and Yokohama, into whose hands the general management of the work was

strains of the old Cumberland hunting song. "Do ye ken, John Peel?" "The Pibroch of Donuil Dhu" is the marching tune of the Cameron Highlanders:—

Pibroch of Donuil Dhu,
Pibroch of Donuil.

The 1st battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders swing by to the tune of "The Campbells are Coming," the Sherwood Foresters to "The Young May Moon," and the Connaught Rangers to the rattling air of "St. Patrick's Day." For the cavalry, "Bonnie Dundee," which is the cantering tune of the 15th Hussars, makes an admirable accompaniment to the beat of the hoo's and the jingle of the accoutrements.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, August 10.

The Irish Land Bill has passed through Committee of the House of Lords.

The action between Colonel Plumer's column and the Matabeles, in which five impis were routed, lasted for seven hours.

London, August 12.

At a reception held by the London Chamber of Commerce in honour of Li Hung-chang, the latter promised that he would do his utmost to make the remotest corner of China accessible by railways.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, August 9.

It is cloudy and rainy weather here, with thunder, and there appears but little prospect of its clearing up to-day.

Hakodate, August 10.

No observations were obtained at Akkeshi on account of fog and clouds. It ceased raining and cleared up here at 1 p.m., and the progress of the eclipse was clearly seen.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, August 7.

The Government have been twice defeated in the House of Lords by a majority of fifty votes in Committee of the House on the Irish Land Bill. It is believed they will be compelled to shelve the measure in order to avert a conflict between the Lords and Commons.

The situation in Crete is daily growing more acute.

London, August 8.

The acquittal of Major Lothaire on the charge of murdering Mr. Stokes, a British trader, has been confirmed on appeal by the court at Brussels. The English newspapers comment bitterly on the decision.

Colonel Plumer's column has routed five Matabele impis. The British loss was Major Kershaw and four others killed, with fifteen, mostly officers, wounded.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.16
Exchange on London at New York 4.89½
(Tel. Trans.)

London, August 11.

Intense heat prevails in New York. One hundred and twenty deaths from sunstroke have been recorded within the past five days.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has been entertained at a banquet at the Crystal Palace by two hundred and fifty of the leading Chinese merchants, the Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank presiding. Replying to the toast of his health, Li Hung-chang spoke of the services rendered to China by the Bank.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Aug. 6.

Gloucestershire playing Sussex at Bristol made a total of five hundred and fifty-one runs in the first innings; of which Dr. W. G. Grace made three hundred and one.

The Australians have beaten Warwickshire by an innings and sixty runs.

London, August 7.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has received the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order.

(FROM THE BANGKOK PAPERS.)

London, July 17.

Senator Guichard, who was elected Chairman of the Suez Canal Co. in 1893 in succession to M. Ferdinand de Lesseps, is dead.

London, July 19.

The Cubans have defeated a Spanish column with heavy loss, capturing the General.

London, August 3.

An excursion train has collided with an express train near Atlantic City, and fifty persons have been killed and many injured.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has arrived in London. His reception was of the simplest nature.

Earl Delawar's Eleven has beaten the Australians by four wickets.

It appears to be settled that T.I.M. the Czar and Czarina will visit Paris in September.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, July 21.

The British steamer *Sierra Parima*, from Mauritius to Rangoon, has been totally lost on the Maldives.

Paris, July 25.

The Budget Committee has adopted the budget for the Colonies with some reductions, notably, one of 500,000 francs for the troops in Indo-China.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Gifu, Aug. 8.

Yen 3,000 has been given by Their Imperial Majesties to the relief fund.

Nemuro, Aug. 9.

From the 6th inst. up till last night fine weather prevailed, but this morning heavy rain suddenly set in, accompanied by thunder. The storm still continues, rendering observations of the eclipse entirely out of the question. Much sympathy is felt with the foreign astronomers who came so far and have had their journey for naught.

Kobe, August 9.

A heavy thunder-storm raged here last night. Lightning struck the Electric Light Company's buildings and did some damage. The sky is cloudy to-day.

Osaka, August 9.

The weather being cloudy observations of the eclipse were not effected to the satisfaction of the astronomical observers.

Aitugishi, Hokkaido, 2.59 p.m.

Owing to the thick fog (or mist) nothing was seen of the eclipse.

4.50 p.m.

At Aitugishi the eclipse could not be seen on account of the heavy clouds that obscured the sky the whole day.

Prof. Kikuchi Dairoku, Prof. Ashino, and six naval officers were present.

Kyoto, August 9.

Marquis Marshal Yamagata has arrived at the Nanjen Temple.

Soul, Aug. 8.

Li Ji-u, who is said to have behind him the powerful backing of many high officials, has petitioned not only that the King return to the palace, but that he should drive away the foreign troops, and remove all foreign merchants from Soul, and arrest and punish the enemies of the late Queen. The document is much biased against Japan.

Kyoto Aug 13.

Viscount Nomura, accompanied by his son, arrived here at 3 p.m. yesterday. He called on Marquis Marshal Yamagata for a few hours, and left for Inomichi (Bingo) this morning.

Moji, August 12.

The steamer *Fukuoka Maru* when making the entrance to this port collided with a British steamer. The Japanese steamer sustained serious damage, and began to fill.

Nagano, Aug. 13.

The village people of Fujisato-mura, who were opposed to the selection of a certain site for the school and village office, set fire to the school building and village office, and destroyed them.

Fukui, Aug. 13.

Governor Arakawa has started for Tokyo to ask assistance of the State from the Reserve towards relief works.

Tokushima, Aug. 13

A feeble earthquake was felt here at 4.40 p.m. yesterday.

Bakan, Aug. 13.

The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* is giving assistance in the rescue of the *Beino* (?) (*Venice*). The passengers are safe.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 241.

WHITE.

1—R to K B 3

2—Kt to K 4, mate

2—Kt to Q 3, mate

2—Kt to K 4, mate

2—Kt to Kt 3, mate

2—Kt to Kt 7, mate.

BLACK.

1—B takes R

1—R takes R

1—Kt takes R

1—K takes B

1—P to Kt 3

Other variations obvious.

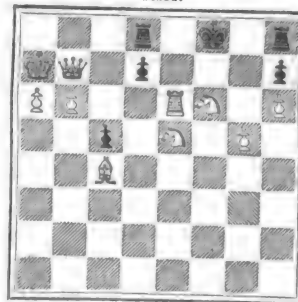
Correct answers from W.H.S., J.D., Oiso, W.d.H., and W.D.C.

W.d.H.—Glad to see that you are in this neighbourhood. Please give the Chess Editor a call when you are in Yokohama.

PROBLEM No. 243.

By REICHEL.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 544.

The following is a specimen of brilliancy played many years ago between players long since deceased. The remarkable feature in the game is the giving up of the Queen by Black as early as the sixteenth move, and ultimately winning as the result of the sacrifice.

BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE.

Schulten.

1—P to K 4

2—P to K B 4

3—B to B 4

4—B takes Kt P

5—P to Q 3

6—K to B sq.

7—B to Q B 4

8—Q to K 2

9—Kt to K B 3

10—Kt to B 3

11—Kt to Q Kt 5

12—B to Q 2

13—P to K R 4

14—R to R 3

15—P takes P

16—R takes Q

17—P to Q 4

18—Kt to Kt sq.

19—P to B 3

20—K to B 2

21—Q takes Kt

22—K to B 3

23—B to Q 3

24—R to K sq.

25—K to B 2

26—B to B 2

27—K to B sq.

28—B to B sq.

29—P takes P

BLACK.

Kieseritzky.

1—P to K 4

2—P takes P

3—P to Q Kt 4

4—B to Kt 2

5—Q to R 5 ch.

6—P to K Kt 4

7—B to B 4

8—Kt to Q B 3

9—Q to K 4

10—Kt to B 3

11—B to Kt 3

12—Kt to K Kt 5

13—P to K R 3

14—Castles (Q)

15—P takes P

16—R takes R

17—Kt to K 4

18—R to R 8

19—Kt to R 7 ch.

20—Q Kt to Kt 5 ch.

21—Kt takes Q ch.

22—P to K B 4

23—R to K sq.

24—Kt to R 7 ch.

25—P takes P

26—Kt to Kt 5 ch.

27—P to K 6

28—P to B 6

29—B takes B P

and wins.

GAME No. 545.

Game played in the even tournament at the St. George's Chess Club.

WHITE. E. Manlove.
1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4
3—Q Kt to B 3
4—P to K 5
5—P to B 4
6—P takes P
7—P to Q R 3
8—Q to K 4
9—B to Q 3
10—Q to R 3
11—K Kt to K 2
12—R to B sq. (a)
13—P takes P
14—R takes Kt ch.
15—B takes P
16—B to B 4
17—Q to R 5
18—Kt takes P
19—Castles Q R (e)
20—K Kt takes P
21—Q to R 4 (f)
22—R to B sq.
23—K to Kt sq.
24—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
25—Kt to B 7 ch.
26—R takes Kt ch.
27—Q to Q 8 ch.
28—Q to Q 5 ch.
29—K takes R ch.
30—Kt to B 7 ch.

BLACK. E. O. Jones.
1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4
3—K Kt to B 3
4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to Q B 4
6—Kt to Q B 3
7—B takes P
8—Castles
9—R to K sq.
10—Kt to B sq.
11—P to B 3
12—P takes P
13—Kt takes P
14—K takes R (b)
15—Q to B 3
16—Kt to B 2 (c)
17—P to K 4 (d)
18—Q to B 3
19—P takes B
20—Q to R 3
21—Kt to K 4 (g)
22—Kt to B 2 (h)
23—R to K 3
24—K to K sq. (i)
25—K to Q 2
26—K to Q 3
27—K to B 3
28—K to Kt 3
29—K to R 3
30—Resigns.

(a) Up to the present the game has proceeded on well-known lines. In a measure White was forced to do something heroic, as Black threatened to demolish White's centre, but the course adopted by White shows great boldness and daring.
(b) Black could not reply with R takes R, for then White's bold sacrifice would at once have yielded a paying return by 15—Q takes P ch., K to B 4, 16—Q to R 5 ch., winning a piece.
(c) Apparently best, as Black threatens P to K 4 with a double attack.
(d) This does not look very good, but it would not be easy to suggest a good defence. If K to K 2 18—Kt to K 4, Q takes P with an interesting position. Black could likewise have made some room for his king and queen by playing P to K 4, which he could follow up with K to K 4, &c.
(e) Played with remarkable dash and daring, such as one seldom sees in tournament games. But of course it was neck or nothing for White.
(f) This reminds one of alproblematique coup de roi. It is brilliant, but it hath its weakness.
(g) White escapes punishment through this move. Black ought to have played P to K 4, which move would destroy White's attack.
(h) Black has hardly anything better, as mate was again threatened by Kt to Kt 6 ch. If Black took queen.
(i) The game is rich in strong situations. He could not play R takes Kt on account of Q to Q 8 mate.

GAME No. 546.

PONZIANI OPENING.

WHITE. Lowenthal.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to B 3
4—B to Kt 5 (b)
5—B takes Kt
6—Kt takes P
7—P to Q 4
8—Castles
9—B to B 4
10—Kt to Q 2
11—R to K sq.
12—Q to B 2
13—K Kt to B 4
14—B takes Q P
15—Kt takes B
16—P to K 5
17—P to Q B 4
18—P to B 5
19—P takes P
20—Q to K 4
21—Kt to B 4
22—Q R to Q sq.
23—R to Q 3
24—R to K B 3
25—R to Q Kt 3
26—R to Kt 7
27—Kt to R 5
28—Q to Q R 4
29—R to Kt 3
30—R to Q sq.
31—P to K R 4
32—R P takes P
33—Q to Kt 3
34—Q to Kt 3
35—R to K 3
36—R to Kt 3
37—Q to B 4
38—R to Q Kt 3
39—R to Kt 7
40—Q to K 4
41—R takes R ch.
42—P to K B 3
43—P takes P
44—P to K 5
45—P to K 6

BLACK. Mongredien.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4 (a)
4—P to Q R 3
5—Kt P takes B
6—Q to K 2
7—B to Kt 3
8—P to K R 3
9—Kt to B 3
10—Castles
11—B to Kt 2
12—P to Q 3
13—Q to Q 2 (c)
14—R R to K sq.
15—P takes Kt
16—Kt to Q 4
17—Kt to B 5
18—P takes P
19—R to K 3
20—P to Kt 4
21—Kt to Q 4
22—Q to K sq.
23—B to B sq.
24—R to Kt 3
25—B to K 3
26—Q to Q B sq.
27—Q to K sq.
28—B to B sq.
29—B to Q 2
30—R to K 3
31—P to K B 3
32—B P takes Kt P
33—R to K Kt 3
34—P to R 4
35—R to K 3
36—P to Kt 5
37—R to Kt 3
38—P to R 5
39—B to K 3
40—R to Kt 2
41—K takes R
42—Kt to K 2 (d)
43—Kt to K 4
44—B to Q 4
45—Q to R sq.

46—Q takes P
47—Q to Q 4 ch.
48—P to K 7
49—Q to B 6
50—R to K B sq.
51—Q to B 7 ch.
52—P to K 8 (Q) ch.
53—Q takes R ch.
46—Kt to Kt 3
47—K to Kt sq.
48—Q to Q 2
49—B to K 5
50—Q to Kt 5
51—K to R sq.
52—R takes Q
53—Resigns.

(a) This is considered a weak defence to White's third move, as it enables White to adopt (as he does in the present game) the Ruy Lopez attack with advantage. Mr. Lowenthal, in the *American Chess Monthly* (1860 p. 255), gives an exhaustive analysis of the various defences here, and shows that Kt to K B 3 is best. That analysis in a condensed form will be found in the "Games of the Chess Congress," p. 131.
(b) Converting the opening into a Ruy Lopez. 4—P to Q Kt 4 may be played, but it is inferior.
(c) A weak defence. White acquires a decisively superior game.
(d) If 43..... B takes P 44—Kt takes B P, &c.

GAME No. 547.

The following game was played in the tournament for the Championship of the City of London Chess Club. The honour was deservedly carried off by Mr. Lawrence:—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. T. F. Lawrence.
1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q 2
4—P to K 5
5—B to Q 3
6—P to Q B 3
7—Kt to K 2
8—Kt to B 3
9—Kt to B 4
10—Kt B 3 takes P
11—P takes Kt
12—P to K R 4
13—P to R 5
14—Q takes Kt
15—Kt to Kt 6
16—Q takes P ch.
17—Q to B 6
18—Q takes B
19—Q to B 6
20—Q to B 5 ch.
21—Q takes R
22—B takes P
23—Q to K 7
24—Q to B 6
25—B to B 4
26—P to R 6
27—P takes P
28—R to B sq. ch.
29—R to R 5 ch.
30—B to Q 2 ch.

BLACK. E. O. Jones.
1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to K B 3
4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to Q B 4
6—Kt to Q B 3
7—Q to Kt 3
8—P to B 3
9—K B P takes P
10—K Kt takes Kt
11—P to Kt 3
12—Kt takes P
13—Kt takes B ch.
14—P to Kt 4
15—P takes Kt
16—K to Q 2
17—R to R 2
18—Q to Q 3
19—P to K 4
20—K to B 3
21—B to K 3
22—P to K 5
23—Q to K 4
24—Q to Q 3
25—Q to Q 2
26—P to Q 5
27—P takes P
28—K to Kt 4
29—K to Kt 5
30—Resigns.

This form of the opening, 3—Kt to Q 2, is the invention of Dr. Tarrasch, the idea underlying the move being to be able to support the Q P with the Q B P in answer to Black's P to Q B 4.

Steinitz played the same variation against Schiffrers in the recent match, and continued 5—P to K B 4; but not having been successful with it, as the game below shows, Mr. Lawrence did not follow him any further, and played 5—B to Q 3. The variation, of course, has two sides—the reverse being that White has to give up the centre; but he gets a good attack. Black's attempt to break the centre with 8..... P to B 3 was probably premature. It is clear that he could not afterwards capture the isolated K P (because of 12—Q to R 5 ch., Kt to B 2; 13—B takes P followed by Kt to Kt 6), he played, therefore 11..... P to Kt 3, and captured the K P afterwards. It is an interesting point whether the pawn could be taken with safety. In the way Black played it, he came out with the inferior position; therefore, nothing remains but instead of 13..... Kt takes B ch. to try at once 13..... P to Kt 4, and even if he were to give up eventually the pawn ahead the position would not be inferior to White's.

Mr. Lawrence's attack is very spirited, but Mr. Jones could have emerged without harm had he played as suggested. As it happened he had to give up the piece ingeniously sacrificed by his opponent, his only chance afterwards being to play for a draw with Bishops of different colour with 19..... B to Q 2, and if 20—B takes P to develop R to K B sq., &c.

19..... P to K 4 is a mistake, and he might as well have resigned at once.

GAME No. 548.

The following is the game alluded to in the review of the above game:—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. W. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q 2
4—P to K 5
5—P to K B 4
6—P to B 3

BLACK. E. Schiffrers.
1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to B 3
4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to Q B 4
6—Kt to Q B 3

7—K Kt to B 3
8—P takes P
9—Kt to Kt 3
10—P to Q R 4
11—K to B 2
12—B to K 3
13—R to B sq.
14—B to Q 3
15—P takes P
16—Kt to B 5
17—R takes B
18—P to Q Kt 3
19—B to Kt sq.
20—B to Q 2
21—B to K 3
22—P to R 3
23—P to Kt 4
24—K to Kt 2
25—R to B 7
26—Q to Q B sq.
27—Q to B 5
28—R takes R
29—R takes Kt
30—R takes B
31—R to K sq.
32—R takes R P
33—P to Kt 4
34—B to B 2
35—R to R 7
36—R takes P
7—P takes P
8—Q to Kt 3
9—P to Q R 4
10—B to Kt 5 ch.
11—P to B 3
12—Castles
13—Q to Q sq.
14—Kt to Kt 3
15—Q takes P
16—B takes Kt
17—Kt to Kt 5
18—B to Q 2
19—B to R sq.
20—B to R 4
21—Kt to B sq.
22—Kt to Q 3
23—B to Kt 3
24—Kt to K 5
25—Q R to B sq.
26—Kt to Q 3
27—Kt to R 3
28—Kt takes Q
29—B takes B
30—Q to Kt 3
31—Q to Q 6
32—P to K Kt 4
33—P takes P
34—B to K 5
35—R to B sq.
36—Kt takes B
Resigns.

Steinitz plays 5—P to K B 4, instead of B to Q 3, as Mr. Lawrence in the above game; but he gets the inferior position by being compelled, in order to defend the weak Q P, to displace 9—Kt to Kt 3, and to further weaken the Queen's side with 10—P to Q R 4, to prevent Black's P to R 5.

He gives another chance to Black with 15—P takes P, bringing Black's Queen into play, and Schiffrers could have taken better advantage of his opportunities with 16..... Kt to Q 2. He feared, however, an unsound sacrifice, viz., 17—Kt takes P, Q takes Kt; 18—Kt to Kt 5, Q to R 3; 19—B takes P ch., Kt to R sq., with a fine game, followed up by Kt to B 3.

Steinitz again could have played better with 21—B takes Kt, B takes B; 22—P takes B (best), P takes B, and although Black would get an attack on White's exposed King, it is doubtful whether it would be sufficient to win.

Steinitz tried afterwards to dislodge the B at R 4 with 22—P to R 3, whilst he could have done it better with 22—R to Kt sq. and P to Kt 4.

Finally Schiffrers could have forced exchanges of Rook and Queen with 22..... Q to Q sq., but as (through 22..... Kt to Q 3) Steinitz was induced to fall into a trap, whereby he lost the exchange, there is nothing to be said against Black's Knight's move. After the loss of the exchange White's game is over.

AMERICAN NEWS.

A crisis has been reached in the affairs of the Brooklyn Chess Club, brought about by the propensity of one of its directors, Dr. Broughton, to air his views as to what the club ought or ought not to do in the public press. Mr. Marceau, the president of the club, went so far as to state that he would tender his resignation unless the obnoxious director were expelled, and Pillsbury expressed himself in a similar strain. A ballot was taken, which resulted in favour of Broughton's retention. Upon the vote being announced all the members who had voted for the expulsion formally severed their connection with the Brooklyn Chess Club and expressed their intention to form a new organization. Twenty-eight members of the old club—which include Marceau, Duval, Helms, Elwell, Pillsbury, Showalter, Hodges, Barry, Burrill and Hymes—will form the nucleus of the new organization.

Steinitz accompanied by his adopted daughter, Miss Hedwig, left for Europe a week ago, Pillsbury and Showalter are also on their way to the Nuremberg battle ground, and all are expected to reach their destination by the 20th inst.

The following names appear on the official list of entries for the Nuremberg tournament:—
America—Steinitz, Pillsbury and Showalter.
England—Lasker, Blackburne, Bird, Teichmann, Mason and Burn.

France—Janowski.
Germany—Tarrasch, Lipke, Bardeleben and Walbrodt.

Austria—Weiss, Maroczy, Marco and Schlechter.

Russia—Tschigorin and Schiffrers.

Below is a list of the previous great tournaments, with names of first-prize winners:—
1851—London.....Anderssen.
1857—New York.....Morphy.
1857—Manchester.....Lowenthal.

1858—BirminghamLowenthal.
1861—BristolPaulsen.
1862—LondonAnderssen.
1867—ParisKolisch.
1870—Baden-BadenAnderssen.
1871—ClevelandMackenzie.
1872—LondonSteinitz.
1873—ViennaSteinitz.
1874—ChicagoMackenzie.
1876—PhiladelphiaMason.
1877—LeipzigPaulsen.
1878—ParisZukertort.
1879—LeipzigEnglisch.
1880—WiesbadenEnglisch, Blackburne, and A. Schwartz.

1881—BerlinBlackburne.
1882—ViennaSteinitz and Winawer.
1883—LondonZukertort.
1883—NurembergWinawer.
1885—HamburgGunsberg.
1885—HerefordBlackburne.
1886—LondonBlackburne.
1887—FrankfurtMackenzie.
1888—BradfordGunsberg.
1889—New YorkTschigorin and Weiss.
1889—BreslauTarrasch.
1889—AmsterdamBurn.
1890—ManchesterTarrasch.
1892—DresdenTarrasch.
1892—LondonLasker.
1892—London, second timeLasker.
1893—New YorkLasker.
1894—LeipzigTarrasch.
1895—HastingsPillsbury.
1896—St. PetersburgLasker.

GAME No. 549.

The subjoined game was played in the match between the Divan Masters' Association and the City of London Chess Club, between S. Gunsberg and Dr. S. F. Smith:—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. S. Gunsberg.	BLACK. Dr. S. F. Smith.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P takes P	3—P takes P
4—B to Q 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to K B 3	5—B to Q 3
6—Kt to B 3	6—Castles
7—B to Kt 5 (a)	7—R to K sq. ch.
8—Kt to K 2	8—B to K Kt 5
9—Q to Q 2	9—Q Kt to Q 2
10—Castles Q R	10—P to B 4 (b)
11—P takes P (c)	11—B takes P
12—Kt to B 4 (d)	12—Q to Kt 3 (e)
13—B to R 4 (f)	13—Q R to B sq. (g)
14—Q R to K sq.	14—R takes R ch.
15—Kt takes R (h)	15—B to Kt 5
16—Q to K 3	16—P to Q 5
17—Q to Kt 3	17—Q to R 4
18—P to Q B 3 (i)	18—Q takes P
19—B to Kt sq.	19—Q to R 5
20—Kt to B 2	20—P takes P
21—B takes Kt	21—Kt takes B
22—Kt to Q 3	22—P takes P ch.
23—Kt takes P	23—B to R 6
24—Q to K 5	24—Q to Kt 5
25—Q to Kt 3 (k)	25—Kt to K 5

Resigns.

NOTES BY GUNSBURG.

(a) This move betrays White's intention to castle on the queen's side. This is always a very risky expedient in the French defence, especially at this stage.
(b) An excellent move, which at once gives Black an advantage, from which, curiously enough, White could not protect himself.
(c) This seems no better than 11—P to R 4, which Black could follow up with P to B 5; 12—P to Q R 4.
(d) This move turns out badly; K Kt to Q 4 would deserve preference.
(e) Excellent play.
(f) Q R to B sq., perhaps, should have been played, but the objection to the move was Kt to K 5; 14—B takes Kt, P to B 4; 15—Kt to Q 4, B takes Kt; 16—P takes B, P to R 3; 17—B to R 4, P to Kt 4.
(g) Black continues to play with very good judgment. This move threatens B to Kt 5, etc. It is absolutely necessary, therefore, that White in some way should make room for his queen.
(h) Q takes R was preferable. But Black would still have a good continuation at his disposal by B to Kt 5.
(i) White has got into a singularly unfortunate position. P to K B 3 is impossible on account of Q takes R P. Even 18—K to K sq. will not answer, for after B takes Kt Black threatens either Q to Q 7 or P to Kt 4.
(j) To prevent mate by B takes Kt ch. followed by Q to K B 3 mate. But of course White's game was hopelessly lost for some time; whatever he does makes no difference.

H. E. Laver, the chief mate of the steamer *Wuhu*, was charged at Hongkong last week with assaulting a Chinese boatswain and was bound over on his own recognisances of five cents to keep the peace for one day. The mate explained that while the wind was blowing hard, he ordered the complainant to stand by the anchors, as they were on the point of departing to a place of safety. The boatswain replied that it was none of his business. The mate was so annoyed at the boatswain's refusal that he "let him have it in the eye."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 18th.
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 29th.
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 31st.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 20th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 22nd.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Aug. 24th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Sept. 2nd.

* China left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 30th. 1 *Belgia* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 8th. 1 *Gailla* (with English mail) left Hongkong on August 8th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 15th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 17th.
For America	per P. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 18th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 21st.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 23rd.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 25th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 27th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Herman Veda Farlsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 8th August,—Nagasaki, via Kobe 7th August, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kaifio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 8th August,—Kobe 7th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Gowing, 8th August,—Yokkaichi 7th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 9th August,—Hongkong via ports, 1st August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,896, Sachett, 9th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 8th August, General.—Cornes & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 9th August,—Hongkong via ports, 2nd August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 9th August,—Yokkaichi 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 9th August,—Yokkaichi 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, Darke, 10th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 9th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Chiuyetsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 928, S. Oka, 10th August,—Mororan 6th August, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Grafton (36), British first-class, cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 11th August,—Hongkong.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 11th August,—Otaru via ports, 7th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Hamada, 11th August,—Yokkaichi 10th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 11th August,—Kobe 10th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 11th August,—Kobe 10th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 12th August,—Hongkong, Sugar and Molasses.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 12th August,—Handa 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenloch, British steamer, 2,997, McGregor, 12th August,—New York via ports, and Kobe 11th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 12th August,—Marseilles 5th July, Hongkong 4th August, Shanghai 7th, and Kobe 11th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Swatow, German steamer, 631, Brodstein, 12th August,—Manila, Sugar.—Chong Wo Yee & Co.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, R. A. Peters, 12th August,—London via ports, 13th June, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, J. McKenzie, 13th August,—Otaru via ports, 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, Oliver Davey, 13th August,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 11th August, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 13th August,—Shimonoseki 10th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 13th August,—Yokkaichi 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pique (8), British cruiser, Captain H. C. Bigg, 13th August,—Akeshi 11th August.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,047, R. J. Sleeman, 14th August,—London via ports, and Kobe 12th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,295, Yaeger, 14th August,—Hamburg via ports, and Singapore 29th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, J. Truebridge, 14th August,—Hongkong via ports, 2nd August, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 14th August,—Shanghai via ports, 8th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 14th August,—Kobe 13th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 14th August,—Otaru via ports, 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 15th August,—Nagasaki 11th August, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Lak Sang, British steamer, W. G. G. Leask, 15th August,—Shanghai via ports, and Kobe 13th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ryojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, McKenzie, 8th August,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Iwanaka, 8th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 2,436, Bartlett, 8th August,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, Hardy, 8th August,—Otaru, Ballast.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 9th August,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Hamada, 9th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Barstow, 9th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Gowing, 9th August,—Kamaishi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 9th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, Le Coishellier, 9th August,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 10th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 10th August,—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 11th August,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kaijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 11th August,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 11th August,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ixion, British steamer, 1,968, Nish, 12th August,—New York via Suez Canal, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 12th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Knight of St. John, British steamer, 2,347, A. J. Billett, 12th August,—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Ramon Miray, 12th August,—Manila, General.—Browne & Co.

Henrietta, German ship, 1,705, Seemann, 13th August,—Astoria, Oregon, Ballast.—Langfeldt & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Hamada, 13th August,—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, Oliver Hughes, 14th August.—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 14th August.—Nagasaki via Oshima, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 14th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 14th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Courtfield, British steamer, W. J. Sheldrake, 14th August.—Singapore via Moji, Ballast.—R. Isaacs and Bros.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 15th August.—Australia and New Zealand, via Kobe and Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. R. Lapsley, W. J. Blackhall, S. T. Wawn, S. Harrington, A. Mason, R. L. Thomson, Stephens, and Rev. W. N. Musson in cabin; 2 passengers on deck.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Allen Hunt, Mr. Geo. D. Wise, Mr. H. O. Rayner, Miss H. Lewis, Miss Nyrap and 2 children, Mr. P. A. Van de Stabb, Mr. Lefevre, Captain Lindstroem, Mr. Jio Livay, Mr. R. Perrott Forshaw, Mr. H. M. Roberts, Mr. Kataoka, Mr. H. E. Daunt, and Mr. Chas. Brenner in cabin.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, from Marseilles via ports:—H. I. H. Prince Fushimi, Marquis Tokugawa, Mr. S. Asada, Viscount Kiyooka, Lieut. Colonel Onyehara, Count Hisamatsu, Mr. Niwayama, Mr. Goto, Mr. Iwai, Mr. Tokioka, Mr. Vakabaja, Mr. Sellier, Mr. Charpentier, Mr. Goddard, Mr. D. L. Baon, Miss Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. MacBain, 5 infants, 2 animals, governess, and boy, Mr. and Mrs. Boening, infant and boy, Mr. A. E. Knights, Mrs. and Miss Knights, Mr. Menter, Mr. Rhode, Mr. Rupick, Mr. Li Hein Sang and boy, Mr. G. W. Allcott, Miss Dresser, Mr. Ipieler, Miss Wronz, Mr. Govani, Mr. Bruniandi, Mr. Alderzi, Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Yagasiya, Mr. Bonnet, Mr. Schawb, Mr. Edge, Mr. Nishimura, Mr. Collaco, Mr. Haden, Mr. Kono, Rev. and Mrs. Chas. H. Evans, and Mr. Raube in cabin; one Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Formosa*, from Shanghai:—Mr. W. H. Short in cabin.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Captain and Mrs. Shepperd, Captain and Mrs. Reid, and Miss Alice Reid in cabin; 42 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Sir N. J. Hannen, Mr. and Mrs. Arakawa, Mr. and Mrs. Brent, Mrs. Wyman, Messrs. K. Matsugata, S. Takahashi, H. R. Simpkins, O. Voigt, W. Ruessonski, J. Ford, P. McKay, T. Kuroda, K. Asami, S. Kobayashi, Miss Barnes, Miss Vaughan, Mr. Kobayashi, and Mr. B. Hamada in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Nakayama, Mrs. Kawamoto, Mrs. Nakano and 2 sons, Messrs. Hattori, Kurohara, Kato, Miyeneri, Yenaoka, Jissoji, and G. Carrolls in second class, and 46 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Colonel Houjo, Messrs. Akira Fujinami, Sentaro Amaya, Mamashi Nanbu, Buntaro Sudo, Shinar Otani, K. Morishima, G. Komiyama, G. Dubousquet, Coepel, Dr. and Mrs. Sandeman, Captain Patard, Messrs. Ch. Dubois, A. W. Horderu, G. Caravello, Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams, Miss Jeanne Muller, Miss Anna Ballard, Sisters Marie, Isaacs Helene Joseph, Captain and Mrs. C. W. Woortcock, Mrs. B. Taylor, Messrs. Spens Black, C. W. Hammond, Gaillard, H. W. Lea, A. W. Crombie, and Pow Sun Wo in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. P. L. Abry, Mr. A. Egli, Mr. Has. G. Harwood, Mr. S. P. Harwood, Mrs. Hincelot and 2 children, Mr. G. Lefevre, Miss H. Lewis, Mrs. A. Boushoueff, Captain Lindstroem, Miss Nyrap and 2 children, Mr. H. A. Raynor, Colonel Wikowski, Miss S. Wikowski, and Mr. Geo. D. Wise in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Z. Akao, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nutter, Mr. M. M. Irving, Mr. C. F. Allen, Mr. N. Tanabe, Mr. Th. Rohen, Mrs. and Master Wada, Mr. H. Isono, Mr. S. Ito, Mr. S. Yoda, and Mr. T. Kojima in cabin; Messrs. T. Danjo, H. Tsuru, T. Takimoto, N. Tanabe, and Mrs. T. Tanabe in second class. For Shimonoeki:—Mr. M.

Midzukami in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. A. Murray, Mr. S. Mimura, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Midzukami in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. T. von Tanner, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. A. E. Dowler, Mrs. Buchanan and child, and Mr. Wm. Tseng Laison in cabin; 33 passengers in steerage in all for ports.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 53 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 39 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	BOSTON.	VERMONT.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai.....	1,209	722	—	—	—	—	1,931
Hlyogo.....	721	—	848	—	—	—	1,569
Yokohama.....	3,324	—	—	—	—	—	3,324
Hongkong.....	324	—	—	—	—	—	324
Amoy.....	1,208	4,911	532	817	—	—	7,568
Total.....	6,786	5,633	1,480	817	—	—	14,716

Hongkong..... 63
Yokohama..... 105
Total..... 168

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$136,410.00.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 2nd August at 4.55 a.m., via Amoy the 3rd, Nagasaki the 6th, and Kobe the 8th. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th August at 7.55 p.m. Passage, 7 days, 13 hours, and 18 minutes.

The British steamer *Olympia*, Captain Truebridge, reports:—Left Hongkong the 2nd August, via Amoy, Foochow, Shanghai, and Kobe. Arrived at Yokohama the 14th August.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 8th August at 10.45 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th August at 2.50 p.m. Had fine weather, light and moderate breeze throughout the passage.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For MARSEILLES, Havre, Bremen, and Hamburg, via Ports, Quick Despatch, the "ELISABETH RICKMERS."—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

For NEW YORK via Ports, Quick Despatch, the "ARGYLL."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, August 16th, at Daylight, the "ANCONA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, August 18th, the "EMPEROR OF INDIA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, August 18th, the "GABLIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimonoeki, and Nagasaki, August 18th, at Noon, the "SAIKIO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For LONDON, via Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, and other intermediate ports, August 19th, at Daylight, the "FORMOSA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For TIENTSIN, via Shimonoeki, Nagasaki, Fusan, Chemulpo, and Chefoo (from Kobe), August 20th, the "GENKAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., August 21st, the "EMPEROR OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, August 23rd, at 9 a.m., the "SAGHALIEN."—Messageries Maritimes Co.

For PORTLAND DIRECT, August 25th, the "MONTMOUTHSHIRE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, August 27th, the "CITY OF PEKING."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, September 4th, at 10 a.m., the "HOHENZOLLERN."—Norddeutscher Lloyd.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Honolulu, September 9th, at Noon, the "YAMAGUCHI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For BAKAN, Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo, Penang, Port Said, Marseilles, London, and Antwerp, September 10th, at Noon, the "TOSA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1880, W. D. Mudie, 9th August.—Hongkong via ports, 1st August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 15th June.—Bona, Algeria, Phosphate.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,896, Sachett, 9th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 8th August, General.—Comes & Co.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,047, R. J. Sleeman, 14th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 12th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Elax, British steamer, 4,100, Baker, 7th August.—Batoni, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, R. A. Peters, 12th August.—London via ports, 13th June, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,295, Yaeger, 14th August.—Hamburg via ports, and Singapore 29th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, Darke, 10th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 9th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Glenlochy, British steamer, 2,997, McGregor, 12th August.—New York via ports, and Kobe 11th August, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Herman Veda Fjarsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 8th August.—Nagasaki, via Kobe 7th August, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July.—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Katsuo, British steamer, 1,934, Allen, 16th July.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 5th August.—Kobe 4th August, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 26th July.—Hongkong 12th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Sabine Rickmers, British steamer, 597, Sanders, 25th June.—Hongkong 18th June, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 12th August.—Marseilles 5th July, Hongkong 4th August, Shanghai 7th, and Kobe 11th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Swatow, German steamer, 631, Brodstein, 12th August.—Manila, Sugar.—Chong Wo Tye & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Abner Coburn, American ship, 1,878, J. P. Butman, 13th July.—New York 10th February, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Coronet, American yacht, 160, Crosby, 15th July.—Kobe, Ballast.—A. James.

F. F. Chapman, American ship, 2,038, Chas. S. Kendall, 8th August.—New York 4th April, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

L. Schepp, American ship, 1,776, E. O. Day, 2nd August.—New York 20th March, 80,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 26th May.—Sydney, via South Sea Islands, 24th May.—Captain and Owner.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Grafton (36), British first-class cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 11th August.—Hongkong.

Olympia, U.S. flagship, Captain J. G. Read, 8th June.—Hakodate 6th June.

Pique (8), British cruiser, Captain H. C. Bigg, 13th August.—Akeshi 11th August.

Yorktown (6), U.S. gunboat, Commander C. H. Stockton, 4th August.—Nagasaki 1st August.

Zaragoza, Mexican cruiser, Admiral A. O. Monasterio, 2nd August.—Gumayas, via Honolulu 13th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market without improvement. Some dealers are making enquiries, fearing that the lower exchange may lead to higher prices here, but as a rule apathy prevails.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 38 1/2 inches	2.70 to 3.15
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 33 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.95 to 9.95
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 1/2 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.20

WOOLLENS.		PER YARD.
Flannel.....	30-35	10 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0-35	10 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches		
Medium.....	0-30	10 0.34
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches		
Common.....	0-25	10 0.27
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 2 1/2 yards,		
31 inches.....	0-15	10 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches.....	0-15	10 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches.....	0-60	10 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches.....	0-40	10 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.		
per lb.....	0-60	10 0.75

COTTON YARNS.		PER POUND.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles.....	\$35.50 to	37.50
Nos. 32, 40, Singles.....	39.00 to	40.50
Nos. 38, 42, Singles.....	43.00 to	44.00
Nos. 32, Doubles.....	43.00 to	44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles.....	47.50 to	49.50
Nos. 2, 60, Plain.....	Nom.	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2, 80, Plain.....	Nom.	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2, 100, Plain.....	Nom.	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2, 60, Gassed.....	76.00 to	81.00
Nos. 2, 80, Gassed.....	92.00 to	97.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed.....	118.00 to	125.00

Unchanged. Dealers seem unable to take up their old contracts without extra time, and fresh bargains are few.

IRON PLATES.		PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1/2 inch.....	\$3.40 to	3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	3.45 to	3.50
Round and square up to 1/2 inch.....	3.40 to	3.50
Iron Plates, assorted.....	3.40 to	3.60
Sheet Iron.....	4.60 to	4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets.....	9.20 to	9.60
Wire Nails, assorted.....	5.30 to	5.40
Iron Plates, per box.....	5.00 to	5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	1.65 to	1.67 1/2

Market dull and declining. Plenty of arrivals and small demand. Perhaps the decline in exchange will give holders a little more backbone.

American.....	\$2.15 to	2.25
Russian.....	2.10 to	2.20
Langkat.....	—	—

SINGAPORE.

Brown—A moderate business at variable prices. White—Steady and well held.

PER POUND.	
Brown Takao.....	\$3.75 to 3.80
Brown Manila.....	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daiteng (New).....	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton.....	3.45 to 4.25
White Java and Penang.....	6.50 to 7.00
White Refined.....	7.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A few more purchases were made at the beginning of the week, but with a falling exchange, sellers are difficult. Buyers refuse to give an advance and the trade languishes.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.....	\$750 to 760
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.....	Nom.
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	740
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	680 to 700
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	710 to 730
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	660 to 670
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	690
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/18 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	—
Kakedas—No. 1.....	—
Kakedas—No. 1.....	—
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—

WASTE SILK.

Still no business of any moment. We must wait until things settle down a bit.

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filature, Heat.....	—
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	—
Noshi—Oshu, Heat.....	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Heat.....	—
Noshi—Shimizu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Bushu, Heat.....	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	—
Kibiso—Filature, Heat.....	—
Kibiso—Filature, Second.....	—

TEA.

More doing at quotations. The drop in exchange encourages buyers, and enables some of them to operate at their client's limits.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest.....	Nom.
Choice.....	\$24 to \$35
Finest.....	22 to 23
Fine.....	20 to 21
Good Medium.....	18 to 19
Medium.....	16 to 17
Good Common.....	14 to 15
Common.....	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange declined a point several days in succession, but remain stationary at the close.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2 1/2 1/2
— — Bills on demand.....	2 1/2
— — 4 months' sight.....	2 1/2 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2 1/2 1/2
— — 6 months' sight.....	2 1/2 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.72 1/2 to 3
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight.....	2.76 1/2 to 7
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1 1/2 % p.
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	1 1/2 % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	72 1/2 to 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	73 1/2 to 1/2
On India—Bank sight.....	184
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	186
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	52 1/2 to 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	54 to 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.21
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.24 1/2
Bar Silver (London).....	31 1/2

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 8th.

Mail advices from Hongkong bearing date of the 29th ultimo report the following changes since the 25th ultimo:—

	29th July.	29th July.
H. & S. Banks.....	188 1/2 B.	192 1/2 S.
National Bank.....	\$28.50 S.	\$29 S.
Yangtze Insurance.....	\$145 Sa.	\$146.50 Sa.
Straits Insurance.....	\$27.50 S.	\$27 S.
Hongkong Fires.....	\$332.50 S.	\$331 B.
China Fires.....	\$95.50 S.	\$95 S.
Indo-Chinas.....	\$54.50 S.	\$53.50 S.
China Sugars.....	\$110 S.	\$106 Sa.
Jebeu Mines.....	\$3 Sa.	\$2.90 Sa.
H. & W. Docks.....	178 1/2 S.	191 1/2 Sa.
H. & K. Wharves.....	\$54 Sa.	\$53.50 Sa.
New Amoy Docks.....	\$11 B.	\$12 B.
Hongkong Lands.....	\$76 S.	\$73 Ex div.
Kowloon Lands.....	\$18 S.	\$17 S. [B.
Hongkong Hotels.....	\$28 B.	\$28.50 Sa.
A. S. Watsons.....	\$12.50 B.	\$12.50 S.

H. G. Browns\$6 B. \$6 S.
Dakin Cruickshanks\$0.75 B. \$1 B.

Local stocks continue unchanged as per last quotations.

Yokohama, August 10th.

We gather the following from our Hongkong Agent's Circular of the 1st instant:—The net profits of the H. & W. Dock Co., after paying all charges, &c., amounting to \$569,073.12 (against \$402,713.90 for the preceding half-year), to which has to be added the balance of undivided profits on the 31st December last, viz. \$54,474.30, which gives a total of \$623,547.42 (against \$487,974.30 for the second half year of 1895) will be distributed as follows:—

\$7,500 towards payment of Auditors and Directors' Fees, the payment of a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent, and a bonus of 4 per cent. to shareholders, (making \$187,500), a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, writing off \$51,578.29 from property account, placing 2 lacs to Reserve (increasing that fund to 4 lacs) and carrying forward the balance of \$156,969.13 to a new account. This is a record half-year.

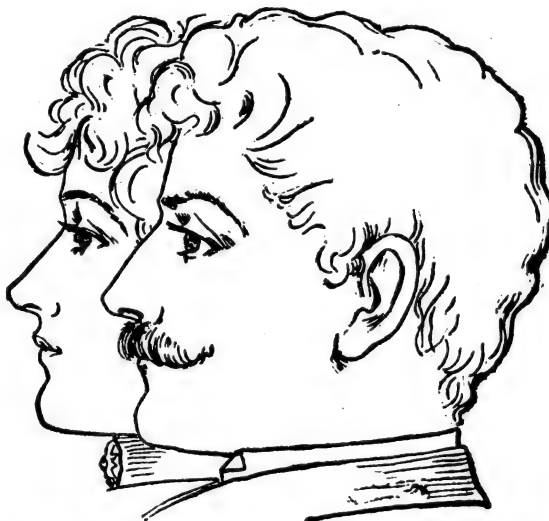
An extraordinary meeting of H. G. Brown & Co. is called for the 17th inst., when a proposal for the winding up of the Company will be brought forward.

The liquidation of the Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., having been proposed at a meeting held on the 6th ultimo, a confirmatory meeting took place on the 28th ultimo, by which the old Company was to be wound up and a new company formed with a capital of \$75,000, shareholders getting one new share of \$7.50 for every old share, \$5 being deemed called-up, with a liability of \$2.50 per share.

A small lot of Japan Breweries is wanted at \$225, whilst Grand Hotels are for sale at \$170. Other local stocks remain unchanged.

Yokohama, August 13th.

Indo-Chinas have been purchased from Hongkong at \$52.50 and Boyd & Co. from Shanghai at present market rate. Grand Hotels have been sold to-day at \$170. Iron Works are offering at \$105. Brett & Co. Debentures are wanted at \$104, and a small lot of Japan Brewery shares at \$225.



Beauty and Purity Found in Cuticura

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SPEEDY CURE TREATMENT for every form of Skin, Scalp, and Blood Disease, with loss of Hair. — Warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, gentle applications of CUTICURA Ointment, the great skin cure, and mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new blood purifier.

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IMPORTANT TO MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.

HIDES, HORNS, HOOFS, BONES, MANURES
for manufacturing purposes, SALT MEAT,
PRESERVED MEAT, TALLOW, MEAT EXTRACT,
and all kinds of Meat and other Australian Pro-
ducts at very LOW RATES.

Apply, S. BRADBURY & Co.,
Equitable Buildings, Sydney, N.S.W.
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More Fragrant; More Lasting; and
very much More Refreshing
than the German kinds.

USE ATKINSON'S ONLY,
AND BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

Only genuine with Shield-shape Blue and Yellow
Label and usual "WHITE ROSE" Trade Mark. Of
all Dealers & of the Manufacturers—
J. & E. ATKINSON, 24, Old Bond St., London.

May 4th, 1895.

Matheson & Grant,

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London, England.

Railway & Tramway Material.

Machinery.

Iron & Steel Bridges & Roofs.

Electric Lighting.

Engines, Boilers, Tools, &c.

Indents of all kinds executed.

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May 25th, 1895.

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PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated
constitutions will discover that by the use
of this wonderful medicine there is "Health
for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its
purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

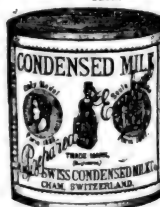
SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tribu-
taries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet
to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best
medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a
short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a
quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an ex-
plorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they
create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies
them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN. HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations
of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing
skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.
MR. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels
in China, published in 1891, says—"I had with me a quantity of
Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing
could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls,
butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-
spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas-
and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up
the small remaining stock."

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May 21st, 1896

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The "Milkmaid" Brand is guaranteed to
contain all the cream of the original milk.
In the process of manufacture nothing but
water is removed, nothing but the best
refined sugar added.

Avoid low-priced brands from which the
cream has been abstracted, and ask for
the "Milkmaid" Brand, the best for all
purposes.

June 14th, 1895.

DINNEFORD'S

The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach,
Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations,
Bilious Affections.



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Constructing and Working
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June, 1896.

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ASK FOR

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Signature in Blue Ink across the Label.

EXTRACT OF MEAT

FINEST AND CHEAPEST
MEAT-FLAVOURING
STOCK FOR SOUPS,
MADE DISHES AND SAUCES.

Invaluable as an Efficient
Tonic in all cases of
Weakness.
Keeps good in the hottest
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length of time.

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Cookery Books on Application to Office of this Paper.

September 14th, 1895.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 58, Bluff,
Yokohama.—SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1896.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 8.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 22ND, 1896.

月三年五十二治明
可麗書信通日十三 Vol. XXVI.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 22ND, 1896.

BIRTH.

At 7, Mount Adon Park, Dulwich, London, S.E., on 9th July, the wife of WILLIAM HOGGAN of a daughter.

DEATH.

At Karuizawa, on the 17th instant, CORA AUGUSTA, wife of Professor Garrett Droppers.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FIVE hundred new telephones will be installed in Tokyo next month.

It is announced, though not officially, that Korea has refused to grant Japanese contractors

the privilege of building a railway from Sôul to Fusan.

THE death is announced of Sir J. E. Millais President of the Royal Academy.

THE Bank of Japan has declared a dividend of 13 per cent. for the past half-year.

A NUMBER of Greek Volunteers, with artillery, have landed near Candia, in Crete.

RUMOURS of coming changes in the Cabinet have been very persistent these last few days.

MR. EDWIN DUN, U.S. Minister to Japan, returned from a visit to the States on Monday.

DR. NANSSEN has returned to Norway, having reached four degrees nearer the North Pole than any explorer.

THE baseball match on Saturday was won by the home team, Yokohama making 12 runs to the *Yorktown's* 11.

THE Department of Justice has applied for funds to enable it to start 90 additional branch courts next year.

THE Russian press unanimously accuses Great Britain of fomenting the disturbances in Crete in order to divert the attention of Europe.

A VERY destructive fire broke out in the Shinjuku District of Tokyo on Wednesday morning, and two wards were utterly wiped out.

SAN DIEGO is making a strong effort to become the terminal port on the Pacific slope of America for one of the Japanese lines of steamers.

AT present twenty-two trains per day run between Yokohama and Shimbashi, but from September 1st they will be increased to 24.

THE men of the German gunboat *Ilis* went down to their watery grave singing a patriotic hymn, having first cheered for the Kaiser Wilhelm.

T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress have graciously contributed toward the relief fund of Ishikawa Ken yen 1,200; and yen 1,000 to Toyama Ken.

DURING the week the Y.C. & A.C. have easily defeated, at cricket, teams from H.M.S. *Grafton* and the P. & O. steamers *Formosa* and *Bombay*.

THE fall in silver is ascribed to American dealers unloading large stocks because they have abandoned all hope of Mr. Bryan's success in the Presidential campaign.

THE head-mastership of the Cavalry Riding School, rendered vacant through the death of Colonel Hirasu, was given on the 15th inst. to Lieut.-Colonel Akiyama.

THE Emperor William's yacht *Meteor*, whilst racing off Southsea, collided with the yacht *Isolde*, smashing the mainmast of the latter and killing her owner, Baron Gedwitz.

THE *Sayonara*, with a liberal time allowance, has won the "Nandeska Cup;" *Mary* won the "Kingdon Prize." Her average speed on Saturday was 6.3 knots.

THE storm of Tuesday broke over Lake Biwa with terrific force and many villages upon its shores were inundated, the waves, in some cases, rising over the roofs of houses.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG had a long farewell audience with the Marquis of Salisbury on August 14th, at which the question of the tariff in China was discussed the whole time.

COUNT AND COUNTESS MUTSU returned from Hawaii on Monday morning. The Count had

recovered considerably, but since his return a slight relapse has been experienced.

HEAVY rain storms during the week damaged the Tokaido railway and blew down the telegraph wires connecting Tokyo with the South, but communications were partially restored by Friday.

THE candidates for the approaching examination of high class officials total 220; 76 are graduates of the Imperial University, others are officials now in the Government service, and others students in the Imperial University.

MR. C. E. SCHWEYER, a native of New York, who had been in Japan about eight months, and was on the staff of the *Japan Advertiser*, died in Yokohama on Thursday from the effects of sun-stroke, received during the base-ball match on Saturday.

THE Kencho steam launch and the Quarantine launch getting into each others way on Monday morning, drifted on to the stern of the P. M. steamer *China*. When the *China* went astern the Kencho launch was sunk, and the other vessel lost her smoke-stack.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG, speaking at a banquet held at the Hotel Métropole, London, said that the difficulties between England and China were the result of a misunderstanding, but that England had been fair, and China had gained her confidence and respect. His Excellency hoped that his visit would remove some of the obstacles to complete harmony, and stated that peace was China's dominant desire.

THE Queen's Speech at the prorogation of the British Parliament states that portions of Turkey, especially the island of Crete, continue to give cause for great anxiety. While maintaining neutrality, the British Government had endeavoured to effect a reconciliation, conjointly with the Powers, by proposing to establish in Crete a system of Government which would be acceptable to Christians and Mussulmans alike.

THERE is not much alteration in the Import trade. More business has been done in Yarns—chiefly "gassed 2-folds"—but the fall in exchange and the rise in raw cotton in the States have hardened prices, which are likely to be higher before they are lower. Shirts are also on the upward grade, though a great amount of business is not passing at present. Fancy Cottons are generally quiet, Turkey Reds being the only line in much request. Though there are buyers in the Metal market, the trade is generally dull, the offers made for "spot" lots being actually less than home values. There has not been much done in Kerosene—it has been a hand-to-mouth business for some time—and buyers, in view of probable higher values, are rather uneasy, as there is next to no stock in the interior. In the Sugar market there has been a fair amount of trade at about late rates. In the Silk market, as exchange quotations declined daily, owners of Silk raised their prices till they reached a point at which business was impossible. In view of the facts that there are 12,000 piculs on this market now as against 6,000 piculs at same date last year, and that Italian and Chinese holders of Silk are current, the attitude of the Japanese silkmen is inexplicable. Vernacular papers talk glibly about matters being straightened out after the Presidential election in the States is over, but this has yet to be proved. Nothing doing in Waste Silk, many holders refusing to sell. There is more life in the Tea trade, and fairly large parcels of leaf have been moved during the week at full rates. Exchange fell daily till yesterday, when a fractional reaction took place. Rates, however, are not steady at the close.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

This week the vernacular Press has recovered from the dullness of the two previous weeks. It owes its animation chiefly to the rumour that Counts Okuma and Matsukata are likely to enter the Ministry, as well as to the unexpected return of some foreign Representatives from their summer resorts, and the arrival from Formosa of the exciting intelligence that certain Japanese officers have been told off for trial by Court-martial. Thus, not a few articles are to be found strongly breathing national and party spirit, and using excited language. To some of these writings allusion has already been made in our columns, and of the remainder none are worthy of special notice. We pass, therefore, to calmer topics.

The *Fiji*, remaining sedate as ever in the midst of political excitement, has devoted itself to problems of social reform, publishing a series of essays upon meetings and *réunions* as had by Japanese gentlemen in restaurants and eating-houses. According to our contemporary, the chief features of such meetings, whatever the prime object, are eating and drinking to excess, and, what is worse, the presence of a number of *geisha*, whom the Tokyo Journal justly declares to be girls of most questionable character. Our contemporary recommends its countrymen to remodel their social *réunions* on foreign lines, and for their guidance in so doing it offers lengthy details. Unless we (*Japan Mail*) are much mistaken, the evil customs condemned by the *Fiji* are fast going out of fashion, but the articles here referred to will doubtless accelerate the reform.

The *Miyako Shimbun* has a leading article headed, "An Organization characterized by Inactivity," the gist of which is as follows:—"Nothing has yet been done in the administration of Formosa but what causes us keen regret. The principal troubles appear to be two, namely, first that the Formosan administrative organization is too complex, inactivity and lack of initiative or energy being inevitable in such an unwieldy body; and secondly, that, only unintelligent work can be expected from the officials now in the new territory, for they have no competence to settle anything conclusively, being required, in many cases, to obtain the approval of the Colonization Department in Tokyo, and they look upon themselves as merely temporary residents. The chain of responsibility will be understood from the following:—

His Majesty	Colonial Minister	Governor	Chief of Administrative Bureau
	War Minister	General	Chief of Military Bureau
	War Minister—Governor-General	Garrison	

With such a complicated organization no officials can be expected to show themselves capable of active or energetic work. It need not be wondered at that the rising of the insurgents was not foreseen and prevented. In a new territory simplicity of governing organization is an indispensable requisite. Did not Formosa become the most civilized portion of the huge Empire of China, when it was left to the sole administration of Liu? Japan, as a constitutional monarchy, cannot of course establish a dictatorship in any part of her territory. But the present organization in Formosa is too strictly faithful to constitutional principles. The old and much abused rule of the *Kaitakushi* (Colonization Department) in Hokkaido, seems excellent in comparison with the present administration of Formosa. So long as the Colonization Department in Tokyo exercises ultimate controlling power over them, Formosan officials have to refer to, or visit, the Metropolis too frequently, the result being needless and harmful procrastination in the performance of their functions. At the earliest possible date the Governor-General's Office should be made entirely independent, and the officials of the administration should be instructed to take their families to the new territory."

The *Kokumin's* short political remarks are of some interest. Statesmen of Satsuma extraction

have brought forward a proposal for the formation of a cabinet of political celebrities (*Genku Naikaku*). The idea has been warmly endorsed by public opinion, for what the Satsuma statesmen really mean is, not the assembly of all the chief *Meiji* statesmen for the purpose of conducting State Affairs, but merely the restoration of portfolios to the strong and able hands of Counts Okuma and Matsukata. The Kago-shima statesmen are earnestly seeking to enlist in the service of the State ability, energy, knowledge, patience, courage; in a word, true worth. They do not desire to hang out over the Departments of State mere gilded sign-boards. Counts Itagaki and Okuma both have party connections. If one is to be preferred to the other, it must be for the sake of considerations relating to their intellect and competence. The successful management of financial and military affairs must be founded upon a sound foreign policy. Without that, in other words, without an able Foreign Minister, financial matters cannot be properly adjusted. A coalition between the Progressionists and the Satsuma statesmen would signify Japan's glory; the union of Marquis Ito and the Liberals spells Japan's disgrace. Thus are drawn two broad lines of demarcation in Japanese politics. In the political struggle of the moment, the champions are General Takashima and Baron Ito. Which will win? The application for the Seoul-Fusan Railway is reported to have been formally refused by the Korean Government. If that be true, it sheds a lurid light upon the diplomatic methods of Marquis Ito's Cabinet. Our contemporary indulges in many other pithy comments of the above nature, all conceived with the object of enhancing the reputation of its political hero, the "Sage of Waseda."

The *Mainichi* devotes a leader to Formosa. The first topic it discusses is the cable between Formosa and Amoy. According to the *Kai-shin-to* organ, the cable still remains without an owner. It belongs neither to China nor to Japan. The question of its ownership was not settled in the negotiations between Count Kabayama and the Chinese Plenipotentiary, Lord Li. The Government ought to take the matter into early consideration, and have the cable formally acknowledged to be Japanese property. In its present ownerless condition, who is to repair it in the event of damage? A Government unable to settle such a simple question after such a long interval, must be decidedly inept and feeble. Our contemporary then speaks of opium:—"Intelligence received from Formosa says that the tax upon opium has been raised considerably by the Japanese Government, but that lately the price of the drug has fallen and the number of its consumers have proportionally increased. This singular phenomenon is easily accounted for by the fact that much opium is smuggled into the new territory by Chinese sailors and others. How incompetent must be an Administration that cannot check such irregularities! The Tokyo Journal next refers to the language used by a Government Delegate in the last session of the Diet in a speech upon the opium problem, and tries to pile up a large heap of discredit at the door of the Administration. It further urges the Authorities to change most of the officials at present employed in Formosa for abler and more trustworthy men—a not uncommon criticism."

The *Nichi Nichi* has a long article entitled "The Law of Tobacco Monopoly in actual Operation." Our contemporary states that the most important point in connection with the Monopoly is to educate fully qualified appraisers of tobacco leaves. About a thousand appraisers appear to be required. Such a number, the Tokyo journals fears, it would be impossible to obtain at the time, when the law relating to the monopoly first goes into force. On the other hand, if the appraisers be unequal to their duty, the industry of tobacco culture will gradually decline, to the disadvantage not only of those that engage in it, but also of the Government which is to have the monopoly of their produce. The authorities should take speedy

steps to have a number of persons employed at once in the capacity of appraisers, and to organise means of training them so that they shall be fully qualified for the work to which they are destined. Failing that precaution, the monopoly may prove ruinous to tobacco-growers and unprofitable to the State.

Since the War, industrial enterprises have sprung up everywhere in Japan, but nowhere so numerous and on so large a scale as in Osaka. The people of that city are sometimes called the Jews of Japan, on account of their eagerness in the pursuit of money-getting. But that eagerness, in the case of the Osaka people, is not without elements of purity and nobility. The Osaka folk use their money just as enlightened Europeans use theirs. The thriving condition of Osaka to-day is a noble outgrowth of its citizens' civilised love of money. Its industrial development is indeed marvellous, but it now begins to suffer severely from an inevitable feature of manufacturing activity, scarcity of labour. The *Osaka Asahi*, from which we quote, has much to say on this topic, but its comments offer no novelty; they are interesting chiefly because the cry for more labour constitutes an index of Osaka's manufacturing growth, and confirms the predictions often uttered that Japan's new civilization would soon bring her face to face with the problem so familiar in the West. One point, however, in the *Asahi's* writing deserves special notice. It is the very low moral standard said to exist among the male and female labourers there. The *Asahi* calls the attention of employers to this problem, and urges them to deal with it promptly.

The *Nippon*, as our readers know, is the boldest and most outspoken of all the Tokyo journals. But, as it professes to be, and perhaps is to some extent, independent of all political parties, its writings are not usually venomous, however harsh and bitter they may be. The following extract from one of its leading articles is characteristic:—"We entertain no respect for the so-called 'Meritorious statesmen' (*Genkun*). It makes us feel tired to hear of a *Genkun* Cabinet. Therefore we attach little importance to the rumoured entry of Counts Okuma and Matsukata into the Ministry, and are by no means as excited as some publicists seem to be about the matter. But among the *Genkun* of the era, Marquis Ito and Counts Okuma and Matsukata must be considered the best and most capable. Hence, did they form a triumvirate, it were permissible to hope that their Cabinet would prove better than the present one. Simply for that reason we should be pleased if the rumour about the Counts received practical verification. But our ultimate wish is to eliminate all the *Genkun* from the Government."

The *Kokumin* has a paragraph, running as follows:—"Frederick III. used to call the Great Chancellor Bismarck, 'Bismarck,' as if the latter were an intimate friend. That such close relations existed between the Sovereign and the statesmen of Prussia was one of the causes contributing to the immense successes achieved by that Power. Imperial virtue does not improve by exalted isolation. The Minister of the Household Department should consider it a duty to occasionally represent to his Imperial Majesty the desirability of receiving in audience such persons as Counts Okuma and Goto, Princes Konoye and Nijo, Viscount Tani and Mr. Fukuzawa."

Another paragraph in the same philo-Progressionist organ is this:—"The arrest of pro-Japanese Koreans is owing to the inflamed anti-Nippon spirit prevailing in Korea. Anti-Nippon! anti-Nippon! anti-Nippon! Who are they that have caused such bad feeling to grow up? Are they the Russians? Well, the Russians may have done something. But far nearer to us are the persons chiefly responsible."

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has a leading article headed, "Bank Deposits." We shall make a

brief synopsis of the article, not because it contains anything very new, interesting, or useful, but because such essays are rarely found in our contemporary's columns, so much absorbed is it by purely political themes. The banks of Tokyo have very small deposits as compared with similar institutions in London. The London and County Bank is said to have deposits nineteen times as great as its capital, and even the Bank of England, whose deposits are notoriously small, holds a sum six times as great as its capital. In our country the Tochu National Bank stands highest in this respect, but its deposit account rises no higher than eleven times its capital. The Mitsubishi and the Mitsui Banks hold only five and four times, respectively. The deposits in the Noble's Bank aggregate only thirty per cent. of its capital. The comparison, so much in favour of England, must be due to the relative poverty of the Japanese, and to the fact that the habit of saving has not taken such a hold upon them as on the English people. Wealth and the habit of saving do not grow like mushrooms. For some time to come Japanese banks, if they desire to widen the sphere of their business, will have to resort chiefly to the device of increasing their capital.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE HEAT IN ENGLAND.

It must have been pretty warm in London during the last week in June, if there is anything in the recent fooling of "Dagonet" in the *Referer* on the subject of hot weather. Mr. Sims would hardly do for Yokohama or Shanghai. Here is his method for escaping the heat of the day:—

Some day when Humanity ceases to be hysterical, and becomes a well-ordered and well-directed sentiment, there will be a Society for the support of respectable people who don't want to work in hot weather, and the efforts of the Society will in time arouse the Legislature to the iniquity of compelling people to work in hot weather. Then we shall have an Act of which the short title will be "The Summer Holidays Act," and under its benevolent provisions we shall all be able to sit about in flannels, and smoke, and read, and drink iced drinks, or live in house-boats on the river, or go to Ascot, or loiter about at Lord's without losing our salaries or our wages. For the work that is an absolute necessity let the employers import negroes. On such days as we have had to endure during the week that has just fizzled itself out ought to be a criminal offence to compel a white man to exert himself. "Absurd!" you say. "What is the thermometer to the capitalist and the employer of labour?" Very well, then; let us meet the difficulty half-way. During the height of summer, when to move is to break into a profuse perspiration, and to exert oneself is to run the risk of heat apoplexy, let the business hours be between one and eight o'clock in the morning, and let the blazing day be given up, as common sense suggests, to sleep and laziness. It would be to the advantage of all concerned. The shopkeepers, the restaurant keepers, the proprietors of theatres and music-halls, the omnibus companies and the cabmen would all do better business with London astrir in the coolness of night than with London panting and paralysed in the heat of the day. The shops could open about nine and the theatres and music-halls at ten. We are suffering now from a spell of heat which is quite equal to that which sends the people of surrounding lands home to their siesta from mid-day to late afternoon. In those countries there is a proverb that during the heat of the day only Englishmen and dogs are to be seen in the streets. If we are to have the heat of those countries we must adopt their customs. At any rate Humanity demands that we shall not compel Englishmen and Englishwomen to labour under atmospheric conditions which render that labour physical torture.

I have tried the experiment myself recently and found it answer admirably. All day long my house is closed up and the inmates sleep. At eight o'clock at night my household rises. At nine I breakfast, and then, with the windows open and the cool night air blowing in I work—and they work—till three o'clock in the morning, when we take a light luncheon. Another spell of work, and then a stroll at half-past six; and I come home with excellent appetite for dinner at half-past seven in the morning. After that a quiet read and to bed about ten, and a long day's sleep with the windows open and the blinds close drawn. I am quite sure that if the experiment were tried generally, and working London laboured through the night and rested through the day while this abnormal heat is upon us, it would be better for everybody concerned, and the public health would necessarily benefit by the change.

MORNING GLORY.

MANY a deep and shady lane in old England is beautified and adorned with the graceful, delicately-tinted convolvulus, that throws a crown of glory over the hedgerows and old bank cuttings at this pleasant time of the year. Residents in Yokohama will have an opportunity, from the 25th to the 29th inst., of seeing a fine collection of many-coloured varieties of these flowers at the Gardeners' Association on the Bluff. The ex-

hibition is being arranged by a private association of Japanese amateur horticulturists, foremost among whom is Mr. Yoshida, Chief of Police, and exhibits will be sent from Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Nagoya, etc. The exhibition will be open from 6 a.m. till 10 a.m., each day, and the presence of foreigners is invited. Visitors will be asked to fill in, on cards, the specimen they consider to be the best, and according to the result of this ballot five prizes will be awarded.

MISSING TREASURE.

A box of treasure containing \$2,000 consigned to the treasury from Kobe per the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyo Maru*, is reported to be missing. Inquiries are being instituted to ascertain whether any mistake was made in the shipping numbers at Kobe. In reference to the disturbance on board this steamer, in which the First Officer was the object of attack, we learn that thirty charts belonging to the *Saikyo Maru* have been wantonly torn to pieces. Another disturbance on board an N.Y.K. boat is reported, the second engineer of the *Nagoya Maru* having been set upon while the vessel was lying in Hakodate. An engineer on the *Tairen Maru* has also been assaulted on board by the Japanese firemen. These assaults on foreigners are unpleasantly frequent now-a-days and deserve the immediate attention of the Company if the good name of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is to be preserved.

JAPANESE AND AMERICAN CIGARETTES.

THE *Nichi Nichi* says that a certain person has been making comparisons between American and Japanese cigarettes. It is said that a "Pin-Head" cigarette takes 18 to 19 minutes in smoking, while an ordinary Japanese cigarette takes only 5 minutes. He also weighed the two tobaccos, and found the Pin-Head to weigh 270 *monme*, while the Japanese weighed only 160 *monme*, both per thousand rolls. Our contemporary, commenting on these experiments, says that smokers would find it far more economical to use foreign tobacco than Japanese.

NAGAURA QUARANTINE STATION.

WE have received from Mr. K. Yoshida, Inspector-in-Chief of Police in Kanagawa Ken, some handsome photographs, printed on bromide paper, by Tamamura, of the Nagaura Quarantine Station, one of the best appointed places of its kind in the world. The largest of the photographs, 21 in. by 9½, gives a view of the whole station, with the fir-crowned hills behind, and is very well executed indeed. The smaller prints illustrate the guest-house, a handsome building; the pier; the front of the disinfecting ovens, etc.

STOWAWAYS SENT TO GAOL.

ON Monday afternoon at the British Consulate, Kobe, before Mr. F. W. Playfair, Captain Mudie of the P. & O. steamer *Ancona* prosecuted three stowaways named John Murphy, John Eddie, and Gustave Stang, who got aboard the steamer at Yokohama. The prisoners pleaded guilty and offered no explanation. His Honour remarked that the practice must be stopped and inflicted the full fine of £30 each, with the alternative of four months' imprisonment.

OLD NAVAL FRIENDS.

CAPTAIN Count Frederick C. Metaxa, formerly of H.M.S. *Leander* on the China Station, commands H.M.S. *Sultan* in the Naval Manœuvres. Capt. J. L. Burr, who was formerly in the *Porpoise*, commands the *Severn*; Captain C. J. Norcock commands the *Phaton*; and Viscount Kelburne, who, says a local paper, will be remembered in Hongkong as a member of "the middies' crew" in the Regattas, has command of a torpedo boat.

THE LATE BLOW.

TUESDAY's gale was so strong in Kobe that the *Kirkhill* and *Ancona* left the pier and anchored outside the shipping, while other vessels shifted their berths for more favourable positions.

ASSAULTS ON FOREIGNERS.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* reports that two foreigners were mobbed and stoned while proceeding through Ikuta-maye to the Hill on Monday

night. A coolie alleged that one of the foreigners had jostled him and gathered a crowd to wreak summary vengeance. One of the wounded men had a watch, chain, and pendant stolen from him during the affray, but later in the evening, the police returned them to him, in a battered condition.

DEATH OF MR. C. E. SCHWEYER.

NOTWITHSTANDING the surgical operation performed on Mr. C. E. Schwyer on Wednesday afternoon, he gradually sank, expiring about 11 o'clock at night. His body, we understand, will be embalmed and sent to New York, his native place. He had only been in Yokohama a few months, and was about 28 years of age. Exposure to the sun, acting on an old bullet wound induced meningitis, to which death was due.

THE LATE MAJOR WAUGH.

THE late Major Waugh, whose sudden death is cabled from Shanghai, had a most adventurous career before coming to Yokohama. For years he was a recognised authority on stock-breeding and racing in the United States, and his journalistic experiences related to most parts of the habitable globe.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 287, relating to the revenue derived from *sake* brewing, was promulgated by Viscount Watanabe Kunitake, Minister of State for Finance, on Aug. 17th; and also Imperial Ordinance No. 288, dealing with revenue derived from mixed liquors.

H.I.H. PRINCE NASHIMOTO MORI-MASA.

Prince Nashimoto, who graduated from the Officers' School last spring, is now attached to the Hiroshima Division awaiting his commission. On the morning of the 16th instant he left the barracks on horseback to visit a place in the suburbs. By the time he reached the level crossing on the Sanyo Railway, about a mile and a half west of Kaida Station, the train, which had left Kobe at 8 p.m. on the previous day, was approaching. The road along which the Prince had ridden being zigzag and shaded by trees and bamboos, His Imperial Highness did not catch sight of the train until it was dangerously near. He tried to urge his horse rapidly over the crossing, there being no time to turn back, but the animal was so startled by the noise of the train and the scream of the whistle that it became ungovernable, and despite the efforts of its rider and the groom, refused to advance. The Prince, retaining his presence of mind, rapidly threw himself off and escaped in perfect safety, but the horse plunged right into the track and was struck by the engine on his hind-quarters, receiving such injuries that he expired soon afterwards. It seems to have been a very narrow escape, and the Prince is to be most heartily congratulated on the adroitness that saved his life.

COUNT MUTSU.

We regret to learn that considerable as was the advance towards recovery made by His Excellency Count Mutsu during his trip to Hawaii and sojourn there, he had no sooner returned to Japan than troublesome symptoms against exhibited themselves. It is no longer possible to question the verdict of His Excellency's medical advisers, namely, that complete rest and residence in an invigorating climate for some twelve months are essential to thorough restoration. If the Count could reconcile himself to abandon politics and diplomacy *in toto*, and take a journey to the south of France or to Italy, there is every reason to believe that he might look forward to a long life of usefulness in his country's service. It seems to us that such a prospect amounts to a moral obligation. Count Mutsu has done so much for Japan, and may reasonably hope to do so much more if his life be prolonged, that it becomes his duty to make the sacrifice dictated by his physicians.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

The *Yomiuri* alleges that Counts Okuma and Matsukata, according to the decision of all parties concerned, are to enter the Cabinet, the former as Minister for Foreign Affairs and the latter as Minister of Finance. By way of corroborating this statement, our contemporary alleges that Mr. Inukai Ki, M.P., who is known to enjoy the confidence of Count Okuma, has gone to Hakone in haste with a message for the Count. Mr. Fukuzawa is reported by our contemporary to have contributed materially to bringing about this political event. The part that the Mita scholar took in the affair is said to have been this:—He persuaded his nephew, Mr. Nakamigawa Hikojiro, of the advisability of having Count Okuma made Foreign Minister, and Mr. Nakamigawa, who is a great favourite of Count Inouye's, communicated his uncle's views to the Choshu statesman, Mr. Oishi Masami, ex-Minister to Korea, gets credit from the *Yomiuri* for having brought about the interview between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma last spring, and is said to be now acting as intermediary between the statesmen.

The same paper adds that although Marquis Ito has agreed to the entry of the two Counts into the Cabinet, he himself has resolved to resign, as that course seems most expedient.

We (*Japan Mail*) do not vouch for the correctness of any of these statements, but that some important changes are imminent seems very probable. The most credible rumour is that Marquis Ito will resign his post of Minister President, a step that he has long been desirous of taking, and that he will be succeeded by either Count Matsukata, Marquis Kuroda, Marquis Saigo, or Marquis Yamagata. Probably Marquis Yamagata would be the most acceptable successor in the opinion of all parties, but His Excellency's state of health is likely to prove a serious obstacle. Should that change take place, it is expected that Count Okuma will have the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and that, whoever may be Premier, the post of Minister of Finance will fall to Count Matsukata. At first sight such a combination seems to lack one important element of success possessed by the present Cabinet, namely, a majority in the House of Representatives. But concerning that point also rumour has something to say; namely, that Count Itagaki will remain in the Cabinet, retaining the allegiance of a large section of the Liberal Party. Under such circumstances, the new Ministry would be supported in the Lower House by the *Shimpo-to* (the Progressive Party, constituting the present Opposition), the National Unionists, and the Itagaki moiety of the Liberals, a clear majority of the whole House. To effect a result of that kind, we can well understand that Marquis Ito would make many sacrifices, but of course we are not attempting the rôle of political prophecy.

THE NEXT BUDGET AND VISCOUNT WATANABE'S RESIGNATION.

The rumour that Viscount Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, has sent in his resignation, seems to have foundation. The proximate cause, it is stated, lies in a difference of opinion between him and Viscount Takashima, Minister of State for Colonization. The Finance Minister finds no large fund to devote to Formosan colonization and development, but Viscount Takashima's cry for money is so vehement that the former statesman sees no alternative except to abandon his difficult post. To complicate the financial problem, Count Itagaki, the Home Minister, prefers an urgent request for a large increase in Prefectural expenditures, and these things coming in the immediate sequel of the Minister's recent failure to raise another installment of the war loan, strengthens his desire to resign. We epitomise this story from a long editorial note in the *Nippon*, a journal whose statements must not be taken *au pied de la lettre*.

MR. KITAGAKI ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOKKAIDO.

The *Nichi Nichi* prints the following interview with Mr. Kitagaki, Vice-Minister of the Colonization Department, and formerly Chief of the Hokkaido Administrative Office:—"No one will deny that it rests with the State to develop the resources of Hokkaido so as to make the island the stronghold of the north, and also to open up Formosa in order to make that possession the barrier in the South. But I regret to say that at present there is a tendency to forget the north, all attention now being directed to the South." The Vice-Minister then entered upon a historical review of the development of Hokkaido, and expressed a conviction that a bright future awaits that island. He then proceeded to speak of the steps necessary to be taken. Alluding to railroads, he said:—"The first railroad ever built in Hokkaido was that between Otaru and Ikushunbetsu, constructed when Count Kuroda was at the head of the old Colonization Bureau. The influence of a railway in the work of colonization is really wonderful. The growth of Ishikari and Otaru, since the construction of the Colliery Railroad, with respect to population, commerce, agriculture, and banking, gives conclusive evidence of this. It is also attributable to that Railway that in Sapporo and other places the materials for the manufacture of linen cloth, beer, flour, silk, and other things, can be procured and brought in sufficient quantities to the neighbourhood of the factories. If these experiences make me keenly alive to the advisability of building more railways in the island, military considerations also impress me to a commensurate extent. The Authorities have already framed the following plans of railway building, which, when fully carried out, will establish steam communication between the opposite shores of the island and bring all important places into touch. Part of the scheme has been sanctioned by the Diet and these lines are now in process of construction:—

1.—A Branch Line from Otaru to Hakodate through Oshamambe and Mori, over 146 miles in length.

2.—A Trunk Line reaching Akkeshi and Abashiri eastward from Sorachifuto, 352½ miles long.

(a.) Sorachifuto-Asahigawa Section 35½
In this Section a branch from the River Mem on the Uryu Plain to Mashiki, 40 miles long, is to be built.

(b.) Asahigawa-Tokachifuto Section 154
In this Section a branch from the mouth of the River Ribetsu, a tributary of the Tokachigawa, 89 miles long, is to be built.

(c.) Tokachifuto-Kushiro Section 46

(d.) Kushiro-Akkeshi Section 27

(e.) Akkeshi-Hyocha Section 27

In this Section a branch from the mouth of the Chirakiribetsu River on Lake Akkeshi to Nemuro, 65 miles long, is to be built.

(f.) Hyocha-Abashiri Section 63
The present railway from Hyocha to the Sulphur Mine is to be connected with this section.

3.—A Trunk Line from Asahigawa to Soya 180 miles long.

Twenty-two miles from Asahigawa the line enters Teshio Province. Thence it is to run along the Teshio River to its confluence with the Nayoro River, where, branching off from the Kitami trunk, it is to proceed to the sea, and thence to Soya along the coast.

4.—A Trunk Line from Nayoro to Abashiri, 167 miles long.

(a.) Nayoro-Okibe Section 55

(b.) Okibe-Wakubetsu Section 28

(c.) Wakubetsu-Abashiri Section 84

Of these lines, that from Asahigawa to Nayoro is the most important in its bearing upon colonization and requires speedy completion. I had intended to submit it to the last Diet as a continuous work for five years, but financial considerations preventing me from so doing, a part, to wit, 35½ miles from Sorachifuto to Asahigawa, was alone presented to the Houses as continuous work for the fiscal years 1896 and 1897. The Diet gave its consent, and estimates have since been published. The lines from Asahigawa to Nemuro, and Abashiri on the east, and to Soya, on the north, are to be submitted to the next Diet. Mr. Kitagaki

then took up the subject of harbours, and said that Hakodate, Otaru, Akkeshi, Nemuro, Fuku-yama, Esashi, Mashike, Soya, Saruma, Abashiri, Kuriroura, and Kawamori have all to be reconstructed. But as it is impossible to undertake all these great works at one time, the Authorities will pay attention first to Hakodate, Otaru, Akkeshi, and Saruma, or Abashiri in the Province of Kitami. He then described the work that citizens of Hakodate and Otaru have accomplished in the matter, and their intention of starting a dockyard at Hakodate as soon as the embankment works are completed.

LIEUT.-COLONEL UYEHARA INTERVIEWED.

Lieut.-Colonel Uyehara, who returned from Russia in the *suite* of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, was interviewed by a representative of the *Yomiuri* at Kobe. His Imperial Highness sailed from Kobe on the 10th March, and reached Marseilles on April 16th. The day following he went to Paris and stayed there until May 11th, when he started for Berlin. He reached the German capital the next day and remained until the 16th. Moscow was reached on the 19th, and after attending the Coronation ceremonies the Prince left the Russian capital for home on June 10th. Arriving at Vienna on the 11th, he left the day following and arrived at the Hungarian capital, Buda-Pesth, the same day. Here he stayed until the 17th. Then he returned to Paris on the 19th. On the 5th of July he left Marseilles, touching at various ports on the way, among them being Hongkong and Shanghai. He reached Kobe on the 10th in sound health. Throughout both long voyages, despite occasional spells of bad weather, His Imperial Highness was always in good health. During his stay in Moscow he was treated by the Russian Court in a manner fully equal to his rank and mission. To all the members of the Prince's suite the Czar made a present, on their departure, of a gold watch bearing his Majesty's crest. In Paris His Imperial Highness was received with the greatest possible politeness and kindness, the President of the Republic giving a splendid *soirée* in his honour. At Marseilles the Prince found that many French officials of high rank had been despatched by President Faure to meet him. In Berlin he did not see the Emperor on the outward journey as His Majesty was away from the country, but the treatment he received from the public and the Government was most cordial and courteous. At Vienna the Prince had an interview with the Austrian Emperor, and also with the Emperor William, who was then visiting the Austrian capital. The German Kaiser was pleased to hold a long conversation of many hours' duration with the Prince. The Austrian Emperor gave His Imperial Highness a splendid dinner, in the course of which His Majesty was pleased to make many courteous and complimentary remarks. Though travelling *incognito* on shipboard, the Prince was received wherever the ship touched with enthusiastic politeness, and the Governor of Hongkong went so far as to fire a royal salute when the ship called at that Colony on her eastward voyage. The Lieut.-Colonel then narrated the difference that has come over the feelings of the Europeans towards Japan and the Japanese since the War. "Years ago, Europeans appeared to think it derogatory to have Japan ranked as a friend, but at present these Western nations court our friendship and are pleased if they secure it."

GLYPHIC ART EXHIBITION.

The Glyphic Art Society announce an exhibition to be held in the rooms of the Japan Fine Art Society, Uyeno Park, from the 1st to the 15th of September. This will doubtless be an opportunity for witnessing some of the best productions of modern Japan in metal, ivory, and wood-carving.

OSAKA AFTER THE WAR.

The *Yiji*, describing the condition of Osaka after the war, says:—Commerce and industry since the War have made immense strides everywhere in Japan, but nowhere in such large proportions as at Osaka. Not only have new companies grown like mushrooms within the city, but many companies lately established in the vicinity, and even as far away as Kyushu, are eager to establish branch offices in Osaka. This has caused an immense rise in the value of land. A few years ago, land could be procured even in the best parts of the city, such as Shinsai-bashi-dori and Doton-bori, at 40 or 50 yen per *tsubo*, but now an offer of 200 yen is said to be unlikely to tempt a holder. With a view to the future reconstruction of the harbour, the streets have been extended to the south-east of the City, and in that quarter land is rapidly rising in value, and it is prophesied that at the present rate of increase, sites in Ajikawa-dori may soon command a thousand yen per *tsubo*. House-rent has risen to exorbitant rates, yet no unoccupied houses are to be seen. Houses recently erected are occupied, even before the doors and *shoji* are fitted. Generally speaking, house-rent in Osaka is two-and-a-half times higher than in Tokyo. The *shikikin*, or deposit that an occupant has to place with the proprietor as security, is also very large, and when the occupant removes, 20 per cent. of the amount goes to the proprietor. When a house is destroyed by fire, whatever the cause, the proprietor appropriates the whole of the *shikikin*. Under the circumstances, landlords often experience great difficulties when attempting to evict a tenant, generally having to resort to the law for help. As another consequence of the expansion of industrial enterprises, competent managers and accountants are in great demand, and young men from the Osaka Schools are largely sought after. There are plenty of opportunities for men of able business capacity in Osaka. Transactions in what are called "potential certificates"—issued by various companies to confer the right of subscribing to the shares of the companies when once they have been regularly established—have been very active of late. Some of these certificates, as is well known, have changed hands at five, six, seven, and even eight or nine yen above their proper value—one yen. When, in the near future, these certificates come to be exchanged for regular shares, disturbances may be expected in economic circles in Osaka.

A JAPANESE COUNT ON LI HUNG-CHANG.

A certain Japanese Count is said to have unburdened himself as follows to a representative of the *Chuo Shimbun*:—"Li Hung-chang appears to have been welcomed everywhere in Europe, but he seems to have been completely duped in Russia, as it is said that he concluded a secret contract allowing the Northern Bear to extend the Siberian Railroad into Manchuria?" This was the opening question, to which the Count responded. "Li is not a person to be duped by any Russian. No one short of a Bismarck stands on a level with the old Chinese in the arts of political negotiations. During the progress of the Shimonoseki Conferences, an American naval officer visited me and asked what kind of a man the great Chinaman was. Upon being counter-questioned by me whether he had any news to tell about Li, the American officer said, 'I lately saw the Viceroy and asked him what he was going to do in the face of the oft-repeated defeats of China.' The veteran statesman made no reply at first. Nothing daunted by his silence, I repeated the question several times, until he quietly said that he meant to let the Japanese armies take the Regent's Sword and march on as they pleased, but that he entertained no fears of them!" "There," said the Count, "you see Li's greatness displayed in its broadest light. His intellect is by no means superannuated. He fears no Russians or other foreigners but acts on the old Chinese principle, that, under heaven,

there is no soil other than that belonging to the Middle Kingdom, and that there lives on earth no man who is not a Chinese subject. His compliance with the Russian proposals respecting railway construction in Manchuria was a master stroke. It may be taken for granted that he had solely in view the development of Chinese interests. Contrary to your conception, Russia has been duped by him. After the completion of the proposed railways, Newchwang and Talien will become the great marts of the world. And who but the Chinese will reap the greatest benefits? Great schemes are evolved in Li's great mind, and he takes adroit advantage of Russia's ambition. Li is not a man to be outwitted by Russians, but in the whole Chinese Empire there lives not another man who is his equal in intellect and knowledge of the world." We should like to be informed by our contemporary who this very oracular Count is.

ELUCIDATING THE TRUTH.

In a recent article the *Kobe Chronicle* wrote as follows:—

We ourselves, for the sake of mutual good-will, try to be as pro-Japanese as reason and justice allow, but we cannot blind ourselves to the fact that the Japanese police system is diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right, and however much change is made, even at the best there is bound to be trouble, which should be minimised and not ridiculed.

These assertions about the police system of Japan, its diametrical opposition to European ideas of what is right, and the troubles that are bound to come however much the system may be changed, seemed so interesting, and their confirmation or contradiction was evidently so important to the foreign communities in Japan, that we invited our contemporary "to say plainly in what respects the Japanese police system is diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right," and thus "to co-operate in elucidating the truth of this important question." Here is the *Kobe Chronicle's* reply:—

The *Mail*, while affably patting us on the back and complimenting us in a way that is quite seductive, attributes to us a few statements we never made, such as that the police system is "bad" and that the Japanese are to blame because paternalism and individual liberty are likely not harmonise; and then our contemporary asks us to "explain," and stipulates that we shall not quote attested cases. We do not intend to quote cases; in fact, we do not intend to explain anything to the *Mail*. The general foreign community understand and appreciate us; the enlightened section of Japan does the same, and the *Mail* may whistle.

As to our having "attributed to the *Kobe Chronicle* a few statements that it never made," the answer is that we simply quoted its own words. Apparently it now desires to withdraw its accusation against the Japanese police system, and seeks to do so by pretending that it never applied the adjective "bad" to the system. With that kind of subterfuge we have nothing to do. If to be "diametrically opposed to European notions of what is right," is not to be "bad," the *Kobe Chronicle* must publish a special dictionary for its readers. Further, we never made the remotest allusion, either direct or indirect, to a probable want of harmony between Japanese paternalism and the individual liberty of the West. When the *Kobe Chronicle* accuses us of having attributed to it a statement relating to that topic, it soars into the cloud-land of pure imagination. The main point, however, is that, on being invited to support or withdraw a sweeping general charge against the Japanese police system, the *Kobe* journal bids us "whistle." Were it not like breaking a fly upon a wheel we might comment on this curious method of evading a dilemma by subterfuge, falsehood, and rudeness. But methods vary in different strata of journalism. Perhaps the temporary editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* imagines that he has made the *amende* handsomely and shown laudable skill in retracting a charge that could not be substantiated. Such a hallucination is just conceivable. Facts, however, not fashions, being of importance, it is enough to note that the accusation against the Japanese police system stands unproved.

EDUCATION IN FORMOSA.

The *Nippon* states that Mr. Izawa, Chief of the Educational Bureau in the Governor-General's Office, recently delivered a speech on education in Formosa. He said:—"At present the work of the Educational Office includes only teaching of Japanese and the compilation of text-books. The educational charts edited by the Mombusho have been used, but are found unsuitable in many respects. I therefore mean to compile others more fitted for Formosa and the Formosans. No book hitherto published in Japan can be of any use in Formosa. But I by no means think that the actual work of printing can be done in Formosa to any considerable extent, so unskilled are the Formosan printers and engravers. In the teaching of Formosan youths, spoken Japanese is first taught; then they are made to master the elementary forms of epistolary communications, both ordinary and official. This will occupy the learner about a year, and qualify him for the lower grades of service in the Headman's Office of his native village or town. Besides this, two other courses, respectively of two and four years' duration, are to be inaugurated. The students are to be taught history, geography, and other branches of necessary knowledge. Youths so educated will be instrumental in developing civilization in the new territory. Lastly, language schools have been established in places where prefectural and sub-prefectural offices are situated, and students are being enrolled. Similar institutions have been provided for in the Pescadores. The Japanese teachers who went to Formosa last April are now perfectly familiar with the native tongue; the arduous shown by them in the study has been remarkable, but such rapid linguistic achievements reflect credit upon my colleagues also. Two elementary schools have been established, one attached to the language school at Hasshiran and the other to a similar institution at Moko. Another is to be shortly attached to the language school at Dai-ryuto. The pupils hitherto received into the elementary schools are all children of well-to-do and more or less educated parents. Their application and mutual encouragement has been remarkable. As to the education of Japanese children in Formosa, steps have been taken for establishing ordinary Middle and Elementary Schools. The higher courses of education cannot yet be inaugurated, but certain privileges have been secured for graduates of Formosan Middle Schools respecting their entrance to higher institutions in Japan. Funds alone are wanting to start these schools. It is hoped that the next meeting of the Diet will enable me to execute my educational plans by April next."

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The principal subjects submitted to the consideration of the Chiefs of First Class Post and Telegraph Offices at their meetings, now being held in the Department of Communications, are said to be as follow:—

I.—In the collection and distribution of all kinds of postal matter, the principal centres should be attended to with greatest diligence.

II.—To attain this object it would be undesirable to establish many Third Class Offices along branch lines, irrespective of geographical considerations, and so waste time in collection and distribution.

III.—Does not the Parcels Post service interfere with the speedy distribution of other postal matter? If so, what preventive measures should be adopted?

IV.—Which is the more advisable, to take steps for the more speedy distribution of parcels or to reduce the charges upon them?

V.—Lack of room in Post and Telegraph offices causes much delay in the collection, sending off, and distribution of postal matter. Sufficiently spacious offices ought to be provided.

VI.—The training and distribution of experts should be made more perfect.

Besides these subjects, the Communications Department has reported upon the advisability of improvements in the foreign mails and cable matters.

KENRI-KABU.

It might be worth the Government's while—indeed, for our own part, we think it would be emphatically worth while—to take some measures for restraining the sale of what are called *kenri-kabu*; that is to say, documents entitling their holders to shares in a projected company. The speculative mania has certainly attained dangerous dimensions in Japan, a result that history should have prepared the nation to anticipate, for in every country the period immediately succeeding a victorious war has been distinguished by excessive and unsound commercial and industrial enterprise. These *kenri-kabu*—which, be it observed, are not even actual shares, and upon which only one *yen* has been paid up—seem to play the part of inflating media. They originally belong, of course, to the projectors of companies, and it is evident that if the mere fact of acquiring the right to have a hundred shares allotted to him, enables a projector to realise a substantial profit by selling that right, the result is that, in many cases, projectors become the very worst type of speculators, their pecuniary interest in an enterprise ceasing altogether weeks, perhaps months, before the enterprise has even been organized. Moreover, these transactions are evidently capable of serving to “make a market,” and from many indications we entertain no doubt that they are managed with that very object. Thus, A, B and C are three persons interested in directing public attention to the stock of an enterprise to which they have attached themselves for purely speculative purposes. A, as the projector, receives five hundred *kenri-kabu*. These he offers for sale at the Stock Exchange, and an agent of B's buys them at 5 *yen* each. Next day, C's agent comes to the Exchange seeking potential shares at 5½ *yen*, and thus, by an in-and-out process, the market is so successfully “made” that not only do the potential shares attract *bond fide* purchasers, but the real shares, when they come to be offered, sell at a high premium. The Stock Exchange becomes, in fact, an instrument for company-mongers to exploit the public. A wholesome reform would be the enactment of a regulation interdicting all transactions in shares upon which the first installment of capital, at any rate, had not been paid up. It appears to us that the Directors of the Stock Exchange should take up the question without awaiting official intervention, for it is plainly their business to provide that the Exchange shall serve the convenience of investors generally, instead of being the tool of scheming speculators.

MORE ABOUT THE RUMOURED MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

The *Fiji* states that two different views are taken by politicians and statesmen with reference to the rumour of Count Okuma's entry into the Ministry. One view is this:—

It would undoubtedly be a great political change to see Count Okuma holding a portfolio. The Count is a highly talented statesman fully worthy of the reputation he enjoys. He has also an exceptional amount of self-confidence, which no one has ever been able to measure. When he entered the Government years ago, he did not tell any of his political followers until the very eve of his appointment to what stage his negotiations with the statesmen in power had been carried. None the less he was able to handle the *Kaishin-to* politicians so skilfully that they did his bidding with the greatest eagerness all the time he remained in office. He may, therefore, accept the portfolio of Foreign Affairs with entire confidence in the support of the old *Kaishin-to* and the present *Shimpo-to*.

The second view runs thus:—It is very easy to see that Count Okuma would not be able to carry his political views into effect while Marquis Ito remained at the head of affairs. If knowing that, as he must know it, he nevertheless accepts a portfolio, it will be a political surrender on his part, amounting almost to suicide. By such an act he would alienate all his political

friends and followers. Hence it is entirely inconceivable that he should join the Administration at a date so early as rumour indicates. The story must have been designedly invented by some persons over-eager to have the great Waseda Count at the head of the Foreign Office.

It is alleged by not a few Tokyo papers that Marshal Marquis Yamagata declared to one of his interviewers his firm conviction that the fittest Minister for Foreign Affairs is Count Okuma, and for Finance Count Matsukata.

Several Tokyo papers devote whole columns to the subject of Ministerial changes. We give the gist of their comments, commencing with the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. On all sides, says that journal, it is regarded as eminently desirable that a Cabinet should be formed combining the so-called “statesmen of high merit,” a Cabinet consisting, for instance, of Kuroda, Saigo, Oyama, and Matsukata of Satsuma; Ito, Yamagata, and Inouye of Choshu; Itagaki and Goto of Tosa; and Okuma and Oki of Hizen. But a statesman of sufficient ability, influence, or reputation to exercise controlling attraction over these stars, is wanting. Hence, however much such a Cabinet may be talked about, it can never be actually organized. All future Cabinets must, like the present one, be a mixture of statesmen of the first merit and of the second. Viscount Watanabe, rumour alleges, holds himself unequal to the task of carrying out the great *post-bellum* financial measures, and is therefore inclined to resign, in which case Count Matsukata is likely to take the Viscount's place, for now not only is he perfectly reconciled with the present Ministry, but also the Liberal politicians have no objection to urge against him. In view of the especial importance of Financial and Foreign Affairs after the War, the Cabinet desired, it seems, to invite Count Inouye to preside at the Foreign Office, on the one hand, and Count Matsukata at the Treasury Department, on the other. But it being known that Count Inouye cannot be induced to re-enter public life, Viscount Takashima suggested the advisability of giving the portfolio that the Choshu statesman would not accept, to the “Sage of Waseda.” It seems, however, very unlikely that Count Okuma will be suffered to join the present Government, so strong is the exception taken to him by Count Itagaki and other powerful statesmen. However assiduously Viscount Takashima may work in favour of Count Okuma, the result will probably be abortive, for the Count's admission to the Cabinet would necessitate other changes in its *personnel*, and in view of that fact, it cannot be conceived for a moment that the prudent and peace-loving Premier and his colleagues will agree to the proposal of the Minister of Colonization. Viscount Shinagawa is also spoken of as a candidate for a portfolio. In his case, rumour is much more likely to prove true than in the case of the former Progressionist leader. The Viscount would not be objected to by the Liberals, for the policy of the National Unionists, his followers, at least so far as *post-bellum* measures are concerned, is nearly uniform with that of the Government and the *Fiji-to*. As to Marquis Yamagata and Count Inouye, we have learned, from a most trustworthy source, that they did indeed meet the other day at the Fuki-ro, Yokohama, and that a most frank conversation ensued about State affairs, but it is untrue that they discussed changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet, in connection with Counts Okuma and Matsukata, in the sense of ousting any of the present Ministers.

The *Fiji* states that nothing now lies in the way of Count Matsukata's return to power. As to Count Okuma, our contemporary alleges that Baron Ito and the Liberals seem to be his only opponents. In the Tokyo journal's opinion, however, the Liberals will not go so far as to stake their relations with the Government upon Count Okuma's appointment to the Foreign Office. Baron Ito is the Count's most obdurate opponent, and it may be presumed that he is doing everything possible, on the one hand, to threaten the Premier with the disaffection of the Liberals, and, on the other, to prevail upon the Liberals to show a resolute front against the

Waseda Count. But neither Marquis Ito nor the Liberals are likely to be deceived by the Baron. In spite of all opposition, Count Okuma's rumoured appointment may take place.

Other papers say much, but that much is mostly a mere repetition of what they have already said, seasoned with a little fiction. Space forbids the reproduction of such writings. But it is worth while to note the *Kokumin's* allegation that Counts Matsukata and Okuma will surely enter the Government, and that upon their assumption of office, Messrs. Narikawa Shogi and Kato Takaaki will be appointed Vice-Ministers of Finance and Foreign Affairs respectively, and that Baron Tajiri will be sent as Minister to England.

THE “TOKYO SHIMBUN” ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THE GOVERNMENT.

“It was not for the sake of power and influence that the Liberal Party established friendly relations with the present Government, but merely because they saw that their policy, as regards State affairs after the War, had become uniform with that of the Government. Therefore, so long as the Cabinet maintains its policy unchanged, so long will the Liberals support it in all measures, domestic as well as foreign. But should it adopt a line diverging from their views they will at once pass into the opposite camp. The idea that the *Fiji-to* will submit to that test must be foreign to any one conversant with the character of the Party.

“The organs of the Progressionists have circulated a rumour that Count Okuma is about to enter the Ministry. Their writing is embroidered with apt allusions and fine figures of speech, as language used in such cases always is. It must be received by the reader with a proper amount of caution. For ourselves, we have no need to be apprised of the stages to which the Count's rumoured negotiations have been carried. We positively state, once and for all, that Count Okuma will never find himself in the Cabinet until the tie between it and the Liberal Party has been severed.

“The Liberals are determined never to come to terms with Count Okuma and his political followers. While both parties were out of power, they always stood resolutely opposed to each other. There can be no reason for their coalition as Government parties. They differ widely from each other in views and motives, as well as in the methods they advocate for attaining their aims.

“Such has always been and still is the Liberals' feeling towards Count Okuma, and therefore they made it as a condition of their alliance with the Government that Count Okuma should never be given a portfolio. That condition, we know, was readily accepted by the Ministry. It must consequently be impossible for Marquis Ito's Government to receive Count Okuma as a colleague, so long as it enjoys the friendship of the *Fiji-to*. If, however, the Government prove false and give the Count a place in the Cabinet, the Liberals will certainly regard the Ministry with greatly altered eyes.”

Whether the above very emphatic utterances represent the sentiments entertained by the section of the Liberals that would certainly secede if Count Okuma came into power, or whether they may be taken as reflecting the views of the whole Party, we (*Japan Mail*) are not in a position to state.

THE MANSION HOUSE FUND.

It appears that the idea of inviting the British public to subscribe for the relief of the sufferers by the Seismic Wave on the north-east coast of Japan, originated with the Japan Society. The meeting to inaugurate the charity was to have been held on July 21st at the Mansion House, by permission of the Lord Mayor, but we are not yet in possession of any information as to the result.

INTERVIEW WITH MARQUIS ITO.

THE *Daily News* recently published a report of an interview between its special correspondent and His Excellency Marquis ITO. Several topics of much interest were discussed, and many utterances of a peculiarly outspoken character were attributed to Marquis ITO. We have taken steps to ascertain how far the views expressed by Marquis ITO on the occasion of His Excellency's meeting with the *Daily News*' correspondent, are truly reflected in the London journal's report, and we are in a position to assert, with regard to a large portion of the interview, that the correspondent, in obtaining material, must have either incorporated the opinions of other persons or incorrectly transcribed those of Marquis ITO. Under these circumstances, the document ceases to have any value as a reflection of the Prime Minister's views. We are pleased to have received authority to make this disavowal, for it has always seemed to us a mistaken policy on the part of Japanese Ministers and prominent statesmen to leave uncontradicted the singular sentiments often attributed to them by alleged interviewers acting on behalf of the press: Count OKUMA has been conspicuous for that kind of indifference. The *Mainichi Shimbun* has made quite a feature of interviews said to have been granted by him to its representatives, and the Waseda statesman has thus suffered not a little in public estimation, for had he authorized a newspaper to publish all the views ascribed to him by the *Mainichi*, he would have to answer for much indiscretion. But the general, we might almost say the universal, rule in Japan is to take no notice of statements published by newspapers, so long as they concern an individual only, and the Japanese public, conscious of that apathetic attitude, attributes comparatively little importance to second-hand representations of this or that person's opinions. Looking at the matter from the point of view of newspaper progress, we doubt whether anything could be more unfortunate than such indifference. The results are that reporters set no limits to their imaginative faculties; that editors feel no sense of responsibility for the contents of their columns; and that the public gradually ceases to attach any real value to what appears in the newspapers. Of course there is much to be urged in favour of the argument that if the necessity of contradiction be once recognised, it becomes imperative always, since an uncontradicted assertion then inferentially acquires the stamp of endorsement. But, after all, that is a method of shirking one of the obligations imposed by celebrity. Small men may retire within their shells, and leave the paragraphist or interviewer to babble at will, pleading that since they are without means to supervise all publications, their

only alternative is to ignore all. But great public characters ought to furnish themselves with such means, because, in the first place, distortions of their views may have widely mischievous effects; and, in the second, their apathy tends to demoralize the press by obliterating its sense of responsibility. We are persuaded that if people in Japan showed a little more resolution and activity in holding journalists responsible for everything appearing in their columns, the press would soon develop a far more trustworthy character.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

THE twenty-second Annual Report of the Minister of State for Education has just been published. It relates to the year 1894, and contains a mass of interesting information. During the first half of that year, the portfolio of Education was in the hands of the late Baron INOUE KI, whom the nation regards as one of its greatest educationists. But in August his shattered health compelled him to retire, and in October Marquis SAIONJI, the present Minister, came into office, immediately succeeding Mr. YOSHIKAWA, who had held the post *ad interim*. It may be noted here that the expressions of dissatisfaction, so frequently uttered by a section of the press and by politicians in opposition, with reference to educational affairs, ceased almost entirely when Baron INOUE came into office, and have remained unheard during Marquis SAIONJI'S administration.

The general facts with regard to education in Japan at the end of 1894, as exhibited by the Report under review, are these:—

The total number of children of school-going age, out of a population of 42,426,921, was 7,320,191, and of these the number receiving instruction was 4,518,137, or 61.72 per cent. of the aggregate. In connection with this question of percentage, which, after all, is the chief test of the attitude of the masses towards education, it is to be noted that, whereas the number of children receiving instruction in 1873 was only 28.70 per cent. of the school population, it rose to 61.72 in 1894. That most satisfactory development was not uniform, however. Up to 1877 the percentage steadily increased until it reached 40. Then ensued a comparatively stationary period lasting three years, and then, from 1880, the upward movement commenced again with marked rapidity, until the point of 51 was attained in 1883. The next two years showed a slow but steady decline, which, from 1885, became very rapid, reaching its maximum in 1887, when the percentage fell to 45. Thenceforth, the upward tendency reasserted itself slowly until 1891, when the percentage reached 50, but very rapidly during the next three years. In short, statistics show that the four years, 1884,

1885, 1886, and 1887, were an era of marked educational stagnation, if not retrogression, in Japan, whereas the three years 1892, 1893, and 1894 were so conspicuous for development that the percentage of children receiving education rose from 50 to 61.72, an unprecedented rate of growth. The causes responsible for these fluctuations constitute a study of the greatest interest and importance to Japanese educationists, but we shall not attempt to discuss them here.

A striking difference exists between the percentages of male and female children receiving education. The general average of both sexes, as stated above, was 61.72, but when we consider the sexes separately, we find that 77.14 was the percentage of boys, and 44.07 that of girls. In 1873, the number of girls receiving education was only 15 per cent. of the school female population, and the curve of development thenceforth shows variations almost identical with those of the curve indicating the changes of the male percentage. In no country does the education of girls command the same attention as that of boys, but it is certainly a regrettable fact that while only 893,116 boys out of a total of 3,907,349 were not receiving education at the close of 1894 in Japan, no less than 1,908,938 girls were in that condition out of an aggregate of 3,412,842. In fact, speaking approximately, for every boy brought up in ignorance, there were fully two girls.

It is often said that education has been carried too far in this country since the Restoration, and that many youths, being thus raised above the status of their parents and taken out of the only grade in life where they can hope to find bread-earning employment, are driven to join the ranks of political agitators. To assent to, or dissent from, that criticism would be impossible without fuller information than has hitherto been collected by statisticians. A partial guide, however, is afforded by the Report now before us, for we find there a chart showing the career of pupils after graduation in Ordinary Middle Schools during 1894. It should be premised, perhaps, that the curriculum of Ordinary Middle Schools is designed to prepare pupils either for practical pursuits or for admission to higher educational institutions. (The education given in the Elementary Schools is too limited in character to afford any justification for the criticism we are now considering.) There were 81 Ordinary Middle Schools in the empire at the close of 1894, the pupils numbering 22,331, and the graduates, 1,304. Of these graduates only one-sixth remained without occupation at the time of the Report's compilation, the rest having either passed on to higher and special courses of study in other institutions, or found employment of various descriptions. That is a tolerably reassuring record, and when we observe the great demand now existing for technical experts

of all descriptions, it is perhaps, a reasonable conclusion that the fear indicated above need not be very seriously considered.

Turning now to schools and teachers, we find that the total number of educational institutions throughout the empire at the end of 1894 was 25,637, an increase of 43 as compared with the preceding year; and the total number of teachers and instructors was 69,845, an increase of 1,465 as compared with 1893. It is noteworthy that while the school-going population has steadily increased since 1890, the number of schools was greater by 2,231 in the latter year than at the close of 1894. The total of public schools, indeed, showed development in 1894 as compared with the preceding year, though it was greater by 1,758 in 1890; but the number of private schools steadily fell from 2,484 in 1891 to 1,950 in 1894. The number of teachers, too, attained its maximum (77,010) in 1891, then suddenly fell to 66,824 in 1892, and then began to swell once more until it reached 69,845 in 1894. The decrease in the number of private schools had long been foreseen as an inevitable result of the present system.

Evidently there is an unfortunate disproportion between the number of teachers and that of students. In the public elementary schools there were only 2.64 teachers or assistant-teachers per school, and each had to instruct 55.60 students. The case is worse when we come to regular teachers—as distinguished from assistant-teachers—there being only 1 to every 91.03 pupils. The deficiency seems to be chiefly due to the very paltry emoluments enjoyed by persons engaged in education; namely, an average annual salary of 118 yen for regular teachers and 64 yen for assistant-teachers. There is a movement in favour of increasing these wretched stipends, so as to render school-teaching more attractive; but several years must elapse before any substantial change takes place. Of course it must be noted in this context that many of the poorly-paid teachers are men who, having obtained their education at public expense, are bound by contract to serve in the capacity of instructors for a fixed term of years. Concerning foreigners employed for educational purposes, whether in the Department of Education or in private schools, a steady decrease of number is to be recorded. The Department had 51 foreigners in its service in 1890, against 37 in 1894, and the foreign instructors in Government public and private schools fell from 276 in 1890 to 250 in 1894.

The total income of the public schools (23,488) for the year was 11,909,021 yen, and the total expenditure, 11,376,862 yen, being an average of 484 yen approximately per school, and 3.30 yen per pupil. Economy has certainly been carried to a very fine point when the annual expenditure on

account of schools giving education to 147 pupils, on the average, is only £54, and when the yearly outlay on account of each pupil is 7 shillings, approximately. As for the source from which the income of the public schools was obtained, local rates and taxes furnished 7½ million yen; tuition fees 2½ millions: voluntary contributions and interest on school funds, half a million each, and the remainder came from sources that need not be enumerated here. Tuition fees were of the lightest character: they varied from 80 sen to 2 rin per month; that is to say, from 20 pence to the fifth part of a farthing.

Everybody is familiar with the kind of building in which the children of Japan receive their education—a wooden shanty of the simplest and most economical construction. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that the average cost of such buildings has been only 510 yen, yet the bare fact that 23,488 public schools, in each of which 147 children are taught, have been erected at an average outlay of less than £60, is sufficiently striking. The area covered by each school and its grounds averages 226 *tsubo*, or about one-fifth of an acre. In the schedule of public-school property the total value of this land is entered as 2,059,209 yen, or less than 39 sen per *tsubo* (36 square feet); a singularly low valuation, as it seems to us. The schools possess also a considerable area of landed property—22,294,499 *tsubo*, or 18,579 acres, approximately—the capitalized value of the revenue from which stands at 633,900 yen. How that figure is calculated we are unable to discover, but supposing it to represent ten years' purchase, we arrive at the scarcely credible result that these lands produce only 3.40 yen per acre. The schools have a substantial reserve fund, aggregating 5,392,111 yen.

Naturally, the state of education varies in different parts of the empire. Ishikawa Prefecture—doubtless better known to our readers as Kaga, on the west coast—heads the list with an average attendance of 73.03 per cent. of its total school population. Miye comes next with 72.57 per cent., and then follow Shiga (71.88 per cent.); Nara (71.45 per cent.); Miyagi (70.32 per cent.), and so forth. Of the three cities, Osaka has the best record (68.63 per cent.); Kyoto comes second (67.88 per cent.), and Tokyo is last (62.14 per cent.). The salaries paid to teachers, also, vary largely. Nowhere does a regular teacher receive more than 50 yen a month, and only two Prefectures—Kanagawa and Nagano—enjoy the distinction of possessing such highly rewarded instructors. In Wakayama and Tottori some of the regular teachers receive as little as 3 yen or 3½ yen a month; and as for assistant teachers, it is not uncommon to find their salaries put down as 1 yen, 1.20 yen, 1.50 yen, or 2 yen. The fact is

worth noting that female teachers, while they do not, in any case, attain to the maximum emoluments of the other sex, have nevertheless a better general record, no female regular teacher receiving less than 5 yen a month, and only in six Prefectures does the minimum stipend for female assistant teachers fall below 3 yen monthly.

Such are the general facts relating to education in Japan. A few special points remain to be noted.

Among the instructions issued by the Minister of State for Education during the year under review, we find one that illustrates in a most striking manner the radical change of educational methods in Japan since pre-*Meiji* days. "Tasks demanding the taking of notes," says the Minister, "and all mere memorizing lessons, subject pupils to an excessive mental strain, and such subjects should not be introduced except in cases of special necessity." Is it not strange to find such an injunction issued in a country where, thirty years ago, the early training of young people was confined to the acquisition of ideographs which the student learned to recognise solely by the mechanical faculty of memory without any appeal whatever to reason? The Minister recognised, also, and attempted to remedy the thoroughly evil habit, so flagrant a few years ago, of students' combining to dictate conditions to the faculty of their school. Instruction No 2 says:—"To make pupils reverent to their teachers and superiors is the most important principle of moral education, and education falling short of this point must necessarily tend to the formation of vicious habits, such as haughtiness and disobedience, so contrary to the true purport of schools; and school directors and teachers, bearing this well in mind, should devote themselves to the moral education of pupils. Pupils is Government and private schools should not be allowed, by forming parties of more than three persons, to submit their opinions, or to persist in seeking a personal interview with school directors or teachers, or in demanding explanations from them; and in cases where pupils combine to offer resistance or commit acts of force against teachers or directors, or to obstruct school lessons, or to absent themselves from attendance, contrary to the admonitions given them by teachers or directors, those most offending should be suspended from school attendance for a period of not less than one week and not more than one year, or should be expelled from the school." On the whole this instruction seems to have worked well. We do not now hear so often of combinations on the part of students to impose their will upon the faculty of a school. But the evil is not by any means eradicated.

In the matter of foreign languages, German was placed on practically the same footing as English. In nearly all cases where the English language formed an

item of the regular course of instruction, the option of substituting German was left to a student.

Technical education received considerable development, the Diet having sanctioned a proposal that a sum of 150,000 *yen* yearly might be paid out of the Imperial Treasury towards the support of schools established for that purpose. At the close of the year 1894, Japan had 59 technical and special schools—29 public and 30 private—with 777 instructors and 11,792 students.

THE SILVER COINS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

MR. MIGEOD'S remarks on the effects of bimetallism in the British empire—published in our correspondence columns—are difficult to follow. We see no occasion whatever for the re-coining to which he alludes. His position, as we understand it, is that if, in consequence of the introduction of bimetallism, a ratio of exchange were fixed between gold and silver, it would be necessary to recoin the subsidiary silver tokens now circulating throughout the British Empire, so that their intrinsic gold value might correspond with the fixed ratio. Why should it be necessary? Surely the mere fact of fixing a ratio would at once impart to those tokens a corresponding gold value. For example:—Eight half-crowns now represent a sovereign, that equivalency having been determined in the days when an ounce of gold exchanged for 15 ounces of silver, approximately. But at present, since an ounce of gold buys 30 ounces of silver, in round numbers, the intrinsic gold value of 8 half-crowns is only half a sovereign. Suppose, now, that by international agreement the ratio between gold and silver were fixed at 1 to 16, then our eight half-crowns would immediately acquire the intrinsic gold value of fifteen-sixteenths of a sovereign. Mr. MIGEOD writes as though he thought that if bimetallism, with a fixed ratio of 1 to 16, were introduced, it would be necessary for England to recoin her silver tokens, putting into each twice the weight of silver it contains at present. But if that were done, eight half-crowns would possess the intrinsic value of thirty-sixteenths of a sovereign. Possibly our correspondent's difficulty arises from a hypothesis that an arbitrarily fixed ratio would not affect the relative values of the metals themselves, but would affect their coinage values only. That, however, is obviously a misapprehension. In point of fact, no recoinage would be necessary. At present a shilling, though intrinsically worth only one-fortieth, circulates as one-twentieth, of a sovereign, and no inconvenience results from such a flagrant divergence between intrinsic and nominal values. If the ratio between the two metals were fixed at 20 to 1, instead of 30 to

1 as it is now, the intrinsic value of the same shilling would be increased by one third, and seeing that it circulated comfortably as a subsidiary token before it acquired that improved value, it might be trusted to play the same rôle still more comfortably under the new conditions. By no process of thought can we follow Mr. MIGEOD. Even his arithmetic seems faulty. If the total subsidiary silver coins of Great Britain represent sixteen million sovereigns to-day, it follows that their intrinsic gold value is only eight million sovereigns, and to make their nominal and intrinsic values equal, their weight would have to be doubled, an operation requiring eight millions sterling, not sixteen millions, as Mr. MIGEOD states. We need not pursue this branch of the subject any farther, but may pass at once to our correspondent's second apprehension, namely, that the ratio between the exchangeable values of the metals themselves could not be fixed by the ratio between their coined values, and that, consequently, the intrinsic gold value of silver subsidiary coins might rise so high as to make it worth while to melt them and sell them for gold. Such a proceeding would be so easy, Mr. MIGEOD thinks, that the police could hardly restrain it, and thus "the Government would find itself obliged to buy back at an increased rate the silver now bullion, but which, a few days before, it had issued from its mint as the standard coin of the realm." We fail to see any practical importance in that suggestion. Nothing of the kind happened throughout the long lapse of time when a fixed ratio actually existed between silver and gold. The ratio remained undisturbed by any fluctuations in the production of the two metals. As to our correspondent's final fear that England would be obliged to part with all her gold were the yellow metal purchasable at a comparatively easy rate, it seems to be based on the singular assumptions that, under a bimetallic system, the silver currency of a country must have a substantial gold basis, and that silver-using countries like China, Japan, and India would at once proceed to lay in large stocks of gold for the purpose of forming such a basis. That theory is entirely novel to us. India, China, and Japan give themselves no concern whatever at present about a gold basis for their silver currency. Although silver is subject to grave fluctuations of its gold value, and although that value has depreciated enormously during the past twenty years, the countries that use the white metal are quite content to rely on it. Would they be less content if its gold value were not only considerably appreciated but also fixed and invariable? Surely not. With international bimetallism, there would be no danger of either of the precious metals flowing wholly in any one direction, except as a matter of convenience re-

gulated by factors quite distinct from those that our correspondent refers to.

We have devoted space to the consideration of Mr. MIGEOD'S arguments, not because we consider them very serious, but because we hold it to be the duty of a newspaper to discuss any and every phase of this vital question. At the same time, we wish to disclaim all intention of advocating such a heroic readjustment of the gold and silver ratio as that now adopted by a section of the Democratic Party in the United States. Bimetallism, according to its best exponents, has three great aims:—first, to provide a sufficient supply of precious metal to meet the world's demand, gold alone being inadequate to discharge that function; secondly, to make the supply as nearly as possible a constant quantity, for whereas the annual production of gold or silver, independently, is subject to large variations, their combined production has always been tolerably uniform from year to year; and thirdly, to restore stability to the ratio between the two metals, so that international commerce shall no longer be hampered by perpetual fluctuations in exchange. That sober programme does not lend itself to any sweeping alteration in the present ratio of gold and silver values, nor does it contemplate condemning the world to suffer the converse of evils already responsible for so much distress.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* and the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* both refer in terms of admiration to the recent revival of interest in the writings of Kant throughout Europe, as evinced by the special efforts the Germans are making to give greater prominence to his teachings. On April 1st was issued the first number of a new magazine called *Kantstudien*, to be devoted to the discussion of Kant's doctrines and to the publication of matter connected with his life and teaching, under the editorship of Dr. Faipinger, of the Halle University. The new German organ has obtained the support of some of the chief psychologists of Europe, many of whom have promised to furnish material for publication. Professor Nakajima Rikizo, of the Imperial University, has been asked to report on the progress of *Kantstudien* in Japan. He is now engaged in the preparation of an essay on the subject.

In connection with the above, it is pertinent to notice that the translation of an exposition of Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason" by Mr. Kiyono Ben, referred to in our last summary, has been favourably reviewed by several literary organs. The *Rikugō Zasshi* commends the wisdom of Mr. Kiyono in selecting an exposition of Kant's great essay for translation before attempting to render the work itself into Japanese. "The Critique of Pure Reason," without explanation, even supposing it were well translated, is too abstract and technical a treatise to be intelligible to any but the most advanced students, but the exposition is not beyond the comprehension of any one fairly well acquainted with mental science. The *Rikugō* is of opinion that the works of Kant are destined to accomplish great things in Japan among high class students, and thinks that it is a subject for congratulation that such a capable translator as Mr. Kiyono should have undertaken to render Japanese readers familiar with the writings of

one of Germany's greatest thinkers. Mr. Kiyo-no is now engaged in translating Kant's *Prolegomena*, and it is said that he purposes tackling the "Critique of Pure Reason" itself later on.

The *Awoyama Hyōron*, a religious organ, under the title of "Christianity and Hebrew Literature," informs its readers that the study of Hebrew is growing popular among a certain class of Biblical students. Hitherto, says this magazine, the Japanese have been content to obtain information bearing on the sources of Western Civilisation from foreign investigators, but of late the number of those who aspire to examine for themselves the literary productions of the Hebrews has largely increased. To admire the Bible and yet to show no zeal in the study of the languages in which it was written, is, observes the *Awoyama Hyōron*, very inconsistent. Specially important is it that men who aim at becoming evangelists should be acquainted with the Bible as it was originally written.

The *Shirayuri* has some hard things to say of the Akamon-ha (University writers). According to this organ, the pens of this class of contributors to current literature are largely employed in sounding the praises of the men of their own party and in condemning outsiders; moreover, their literary style is barbaric and pedantic, says the *Shirayuri*. They introduce German, French, and English to an unnecessary extent and quote half a dozen authorities when one would do equally well. But the *Hakkō* holds an opposite opinion in reference to the merits of the members of the University Literary Society. According to this authority, these writers are conspicuous for their superiority to the ordinary run of modern scribblers. They are permeated with advanced Western thought and write with an enlightenment that is rare by found among contributors to the magazines of the day. But there is one remark which we feel it our duty to make, says the *Hakkō*. We have never met anywhere with such ill-chosen ideographs to express thought as are to be found in the pages of the *Teikoku Bungaku*. When contributors to this organ are not quoting the opinions of others, but expressing their own thoughts, we cannot say that there is anything very superior about their literary production. When compared with the writings of classical authors the deficiencies of the *Teikoku Bungaku* are manifest. The remarks of the *Hakkō* seem to us somewhat contradictory here, but what the writer means is that the University writers merit no such severe censure as is passed upon them by the *Shirayuri*; but still the standard to which they attain is by no means high.

A recent number of the *Shigaku Zasshi* (Historical Magazine), under the heading "Foreign Investigators of the Japanese Legal System" gives a list of the principal foreign works on Japanese Law, which, for convenience of reference, we here append.

1. (a) "Land Provisions of the *Taihō Ryō*," by Professor J. Tarring, Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, Vol. VIII.

(b) *De la propriété et de ses formes primitives et la propriété archaïque Japon*, by M. Emile de Laveleye. The first of these works has passed through four editions.

2. "The Feudal System in Japan under the Tokugawa Shoguns," by Mr. J. H. Gubbins. Vol. XV. of the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan.

3. *Kampōritsu oder Hiakkajo. Ein Japanisches Rechtsbuch aus der Mitte des vorigen Jahrhunderts, herausgegeben von Otto Rudorff*. Tokyo, A.D. 1888.

Also *Mittheilungen der deutschen Gesellschaft für Natur und Völker Kunde Ostasiens*, by the same author.

4. *Beitrag zur Kenntniss der Geschichte des Japanischen Strafrechts*, by Professor Michaelis, German Asiatic Transactions, Vol. IV.

5. *Japanisches Familien und Erbrecht*, by

Dr. H. Weipert, German Asiatic Transactions, Vol. V.

6. *Die staatliche und gesellschaftliche Organisation im alten Japan*, by Dr. K. A. Florenz. Vol. V. of the German Asiatic Society.

7. "Notes on Land Tenure and Local Institutions in Old Japan," edited from posthumous papers of Dr. W. B. Simmons, by John H. Wigmore.

8. *Zum Japanischen Recht*, by Karl Friedrichs. Published in the *Hikaku Hōgaku Zasshi* (Comparative Law Magazine) No. 10. 1892.

9. *Studien aus dem Japanischen Recht*, by Dr. J. Kohler. *Hikaku Hōgaku Zasshi*. No. 10.

10. "Materials for the Study of Private Law in Old Japan," by John H. Wigmore.

Vol. XX. (Appendix) Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Japan (1892). For an exhaustive account of all the books published on Japanese Law the *Shigaku Zasshi* refers its readers to Wenckstern's "Bibliography of the Japanese Empire."

A work of considerable historical importance, the *吾妻鏡, Asuma-Kagami*, which contains a minute history of the Bakufu from the days of Yoritomo downward, is now to be given to the world in a readable form. It is announced to appear in December next, and already subscriptions are solicited by the publishers, the Dai Nippon-zusho Kaisha. The work will consist of 2,600 pages and be sold at 6 yen per copy. By ordering at once and paying 1 yen in advance the book may be obtained for 4 yen 50 sen. The editing of the work has been undertaken by the Historical Section of the Imperial University, Messrs. Takakawa Komakichi, Yoda Kiichiro, and Narikawa Shunichiro being the editors. The new edition will bear the title of the *校訂増補吾妻鏡 Kōtei-Sōho Asuma Kagami* (the Azuma Kagami: revised and enlarged).

At a meeting of the Historical Society held on June 13th, Mr. Torii Ryuzo read a paper on "Liaotung antiquities," giving the results of investigations carried on in the peninsula last year, and Mr. Saito Agu contributed an essay on "Foreigners in Nagasaki in the Tokugawa Age," furnishing an account of the connection of the Dutch and Chinese with prostitutes and of the action of the Tokugawa Government in reference to this connection. Both papers are said to possess considerable historical value.

The *Teikoku-Bungaku*, as usual, contains a large amount of useful matter. An article entitled, "Chinese Learning at the present Time," calls attention to the various stages through which public opinion has passed in reference to the value of Chinese studies. The late Prince Iwakura, though an earnest advocate of the introduction of Western learning, was opposed to the shelving of Chinese studies; and, owing to his influence, Messrs. Kawada, Shigeno and others founded the 斯文學會, *Shi-bungakukai*, and expended a considerable sum of money in trying to revive interest in classical subjects. But the death of Prince Iwakura was the signal for the commencement of a gradual decline, and ten years later the pro-Chinese party had retired into obscurity and Chinese learning became a general object of ridicule. Recent events have given a new impetus to the study of the ethics and the laws of the Celestials. To foreign investigators belongs the credit of having revived interest in a subject that had lost all charm for ordinary Japanese minds. The popularity of the Japanese, which for some years past has been increasing in the West, has led scholars to inquire whence they derived their chief elements of strength as a nation and has thus involved a study of the Chinese system of government and ethics. But the new movement, it must be borne in mind, having originated with foreigners, will be of limited influence—it will, in fact, be confined to purposes of investigation and comparison only. So that it would not be true to say that there is any widespread

revival of interest in Chinese studies for their own sake.

In connection with the above we are told by the magazine already quoted that a meeting of Chinese scholars whose age is over 60 years has been held at the Kinkikan, Kanda, Tōkyō, and that a committee of 18 has been appointed to report on the necessary steps to be taken for the resuscitation of Chinese learning. The *Teikoku-Bungaku*, under the title of "A New Occupation for Chinese Scholars," makes the following suggestions. (1) That Chinese scholars should collect and edit all Chinese works suitable for use as text-books in general schools. (2) That they should collect and preserve copies of all rare works. (3) That they should make a selection from the teaching of Confucius and Mencius of such doctrines as are suited to the moral needs of the rising generation. (4) That they should make a thorough investigation of Chinese history, specially with a view of throwing light on Japan's connection with China in the past. (5) That they should collect and systematically arrange material bearing on (a) Law, (b) Political Economy, (c) Philosophy, (d) The Fine Arts, (e) Customs, (f) and General Literature. (6) That they should prepare books containing the most advanced western thought for circulation throughout the length and breadth of China, to serve as light-bearers to her benighted millions. In order to accomplish these objects, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, it is necessary that Chinese scholars of the old type should relinquish their conservatism and be willing to utilise the services of men whose minds are cast in modern moulds. The place hitherto occupied by Chinese learning in the minds of the Japanese, concludes the *Teikoku Bungaku*, can only be retained by a thorough reform in the methods of study and by showing that the literature of the neighbouring continent may contribute its quota to the general progress on which this nation has resolved.

In the pages of the organ which we have just quoted, attention is called to the low rank which literature holds in the minds of the nation compared to commerce, industry, and kindred subjects. The *Waseda Bungaku* and the *Taiyō* both express the same conviction. They say that there are many signs that the nation is satisfied with a very low standard in literary matters, and that its interest is centred on money-making. According to these authorities the public is drifting into frivolity and superficiality, and the desire for reform and greater earnestness in the religious and literary worlds is not likely to be realised in the near future.

On the subject of humorous verses, the *Teikoku Bungaku* has a few remarks worth quoting. Our contemporary is of opinion that Japanese poetic speech has words adapted to the expression of the most lofty thoughts and beautiful ideas; that there is nothing amiable or charming which cannot be put into language by the skilful writer. With this richness in terms referring to the higher planes of thought, there are not wanting expressions well calculated to excite the laughter of women and children. But there is a grave deficiency in high class humorous language adapted to amuse refined and educated minds. This defect, however, is a characteristic of modern literature. In the Tokugawa era and the age that preceded it, high class poetry of the humorous kind was constantly produced. Although one or two leading journals have made an attempt to cultivate the talent of humorous verse-writing, according to all competent judges, they have signally failed, the modern *Kyōshi* being quite unworthy of being ranked with the best ancient specimens of 狂歌, *Kyōka* or *Kyōshi*. Modern attempts at poking fun in verse do not amount to more than puns (*Wortspiel*), or what the Germans call *Mutterwitz* Antithesis. It is not worthy of the name of humour. No modern successor of the great 蜀山, Shokusan, exists. As an illustration of what is possible in this line

take that verse of Shokusan's which runs thus:—
*Kimi ga Kokoro iyo iyo wave ni hodokenu wa
 Musubu no Kami wo inori sugita ka?*

The reference is to a lady who has not responded to the advances of a lover. She is represented as having prayed so fervently that she might be bound to some one that she feels as though she were bound and is unable to open her heart even to the man who loves her. "Is your increasing reluctance to relax (even) to me to be attributed to the fact that you have prayed overmuch to the god who binds?" This says the *Teikoku-Bungaku* is something more than a skilful choice of words. It is the idea, rather than the words in which it is expressed that is so pleasing. Shokusan was a thinker. Hence his verses occupy a different hemisphere to the modern contributors to the poetry columns of our daily newspapers.

The *Tōyōtsugaku* contains a short notice of Mr. Lafcadio Hearn's latest work "Kokoro; Hints and Echoes of Japanese Inner Life," promising a fuller account later on. Mr. Hearn, says this organ, was born in the Greek Archipelago, of French and Irish parents, was educated in Paris, resided for some time in Louisiana, where he was engaged in literary work, and also in the West Indies, where he acquired a thorough knowledge of the customs and mental characteristics of the inhabitants. For some years past he has lived in Japan. He is a man of exceptional power. We read in the same magazine that Mr. Jennings, has published an Almanac entitled "The Proverbial Philosophy of Confucius," with a wise saying for every day of the year, in imitation of the Shakespeare and other calendars.

Under the title of "Literature and the Nation," the *Waseda-Bungaku* discusses some of the tendencies of modern literature. Various literary organs have of late been dwelling on the influence of literature on national sentiment, progress, and institutions. The *Nihon-jin* takes an unfavourable view of the situation. It regrets to see so much foreign influence and foreign bias in the literary productions of modern writers. The accusation that these scribes are but retailers of foreign goods is well warranted. Even the writers of fiction, whose function one would suppose to be to render familiar to the world the national peculiarities, customs, and institutions of Japan, employ their pens in describing foreign manners and phases of life. Surely the excellencies and defects of their own countrymen furnish topics enough for such writers. Fiction, more than any other class of literature, should be national, not cosmopolitan. Its value and success depend on the faithfulness with which it describes the life of the people for whose perusal it is written. These borrowers from foreign sources expend their energy in portraying character that is alien and hence which lacks the charm attached to home life and native sentiment. The heroes of their romances are strangers to us, and we can never feel towards them as we do to our own kith and kin. The *Mesamashi-gusa* takes a broader view of the question. The study of human character, says this organ, as displayed in the lives of individuals, is preparatory to a study of mankind as a whole, and this again becomes the groundwork of philosophical belief of some kind or other. It is when this last stage is reached that the mind is placed in possession of something like a complete theory of life. There is no denying that when ideas reach the philosophic stage, they lose their national character altogether. How far the various aberrations, and eccentricities of mankind, the abnormal states and strange situations in which men and women are placed, with which the novelist deals so largely, are, when recorded, conducive to the cultivation of a national spirit is a very difficult question to settle. Abnormal types of character, superstitious ideas and the like are pretty much the same all the world over. To dwell on these is to treat topics that are common to all mankind. Is this conducive to nationalism?

On the above subject, under the heading

"Poets and Nationalism," the *Taiyō* has something to say. If, observes this organ, poets are desirous of winning for themselves lasting renown, they must cease to express their individual idiosyncracies and aim at becoming the mouthpieces of national feeling. In saying this our meaning is not to be understood as expressing a wish that poets should deal less with the concrete and more with the abstract, but that they should endeavour to blend the particular with the general, parts with the whole, and similarities with differences in such a manner that a true picture of life will be the result, and thus national sentiment will have found a voice. Under the title of "Morality and Poets," the same magazine says, while nations outlive individuals, yet they again are outlived by the human race. Though we have no intention of depreciating national poets, to express the sentiments of mankind as a whole is undoubtedly a grander rôle for a poet to play. But this latter kind is not to be looked for in our country at the present time. Hence it is that we exhort verse writers to aim at becoming national organs. The *Teikoku-Bungaku* considers it most desirable that poets should be permeated with nationalism, should seek to arouse patriotic feeling; they should be well versed in history and should aim at appealing to those instincts which are common to all classes alike. Poets who simply re-echo foreign sentiments and draw no purely national inferences therefrom can never be regarded as literary representatives of the nation. The *Shonen-bunshu* and the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* express the same opinion. Commenting on the above, the *Waseda-Bungaku* concludes that in many cases the poet who is the spokesman of a nation is also the spokesman of the world. It is by observation of the peculiarities of a race or a people that the data for extensive generalisations are found. That Japan stands in need of poets to express the ideas and the problems which belong essentially to the stage of progress which the nation has now reached, and that universal regret is felt that such writers are not forthcoming, are facts which no one can doubt.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* and the *Taiyō* hold different opinions as regards epic poetry in Japan. The former laments that a nation whose history extends over 2,500 years should not have produced a single epic poem. To this the *Taiyō* replies that there is no real cause for regret in the circumstance to which the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* calls attention. What are called epic poems, continues the *Taiyō*, are not actually suggested by history, though the epic poet often weaves historical materials into his poem. Epic poetry originates with religion. The poet gives a kind of objective reality to certain subjective religious ideas. The part which such poems have played in rendering religions popular is no mean one. The valiant deeds which the heroes of these poems are made to perform are represented as religious service and attain increased distinction thereby. The Aryans are essentially a religious race and with them these poems are common, but the Turanians, to which the Chinese and Japanese belong, have never been subject to strong religious emotions nor permeated with religious ideas. They are essentially a practical minded race, whose tendency it is to describe events and phenomena in a matter of fact way without any of the transformation to which epic poets subject them. The absence of epic poetry in our literature is to be considered as a result of the bent of our race genius, is in no sense accidental, but the outcome of circumstances over which we have no control. A natural, and not an artificial, method of describing events agrees best with our inherited mental peculiarities. The *Waseda-Bungaku* is of opinion that before the question of whether there is any epic poetry in Japan can be settled the term 叙事詩 *sofishi* (descriptive poems), which is used as an equivalent of the Greek term *eros*, must be more clearly defined than has been done by the two writers whose views we have just given.

On the 25th of last month a new magazine

made its appearance, which, if we may judge from its first number, promises to be an acquisition to the literary world. The title the new organ bears is *Sekai-no-Nihon*, an appellation which is explained in the opening article. Some eight or nine years ago the term most in vogue was *Nihon-jin no Nihon* (the Japan of the Japanese). This was subsequently changed to *Tōyō no Nihon* (The Japan of the East), but has lately given place to the title we have chosen for this organ, *Sekai no Nihon* (The Japan of the World). What happened in this nomenclature to which we have referred, continues the *Sekai no Nihon*, occurs in the case of a variety of things. Names are mostly relative, and change with the relation which objects bear to other objects. There is no denying that Japan passed from being known to her own sons and daughters to be known to Oriental Powers, and that recent events have made her known to the World. Henceforth she has to bear in mind that her acts are scrutinised by the world. Her policy must be shaped anew so as to meet the exigencies of the new situation. There is nothing more important than her foreign intercourse and hence nothing more imperative than the avoidance of internal dissension and disorganization. The editor of the *Sekai-no-Nihon* is Mr. Takenokoshi Yosaburo, the author of the *Ni-sen-gohyaku Nenshi*, to which reference was made in our last Summary. Mr. Takenokoshi is well-known among journalists, having been employed, in succession, on the editorial staffs of the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Yiji*. It is said that Mr. Motono Ichiro, of the Foreign Office, and some 30 other writers have promised to contribute to the new organ. It is predicted that the *Nihon-no-Sekai* will become a formidable rival to the *Taiyō* and the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, but it is added, it will contain features of its own. It will aim at being a high class critical, literary, and political organ, ranking in Japan with such magazines as the *Contemporary Review* or such journals as the *Spectator*. In the opening number the editor alleges that the new magazine belongs to no political party. Though it purposes to give greater prominence to political discussions than to anything else, it will welcome contributions from specialists on Art, Literature, Religion, and other subjects. It will aim at furnishing the literary world with the most advanced thoughts on every topic. The opening number contains, among others, articles on "A Change of Policy in reference to China;" "Western Civilization;" "The Origin of the Franco-Russian Alliance;" "The New Japanese Civil Code and Foreign Civil Codes;" "Were the inhabitants referred to in early history the real aborigines of Japan?" "Religion and the Fine Arts;" "The Development of the Japanese Language and Literature." The new organ is to be issued fortnightly. The first number is over 100 pages in length. In addition to articles on Japanese subjects the *Nihon-no-Sekai* supplies its readers with information on current foreign topics.

In an article entitled "Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages," the *Waseda Bungaku* remarks that what is known as the *Hensoku*, 變則* method, that is teaching the pupil the meaning of the original without regard to pronunciation or syntax, has been almost entirely abandoned and students are now taught according to regular foreign methods (*Seisoku* 正則). But it is desirable that instruction in foreign languages and instruction in Japanese should be rendered uniform. The *Taiyō* is of opinion that wherever possible the same teacher should be required to teach Japanese and English or German, but the *Waseda-Bungaku* thinks that this plan is not feasible; nevertheless, says this organ, it is well to bear in mind that there is a close connection between the teaching of Japanese and the teaching of foreign tongues, so much so that no Japanese is thoroughly competent to teach his own language until he has mastered some foreign tongue, and the reverse, says this writer, is still

* Abnormal method. For a good definition of the term, vide Gubbin's Dictionary, p. 193.

more true to fact. In this connection it may be worth mentioning that the Waseda Semmon Gakkō has abolished the English Preparatory School hitherto connected with the main institution and has created an English Language Section in the Main School, which is to rank with the Law, Political Economy, and other sections. The services of several English teachers have been bespoken and the faculty is resolved to render this section of the school thoroughly efficient. Mr. Katayama Senahi, lately returned from England, has charge of this branch of the Semmon-gakkō.

In recent years a number of magazines designed for home reading and for women's perusal have made their appearance. There is the *Yogaku Kōgi*, which, as its title implies, devotes itself to the exposition of subjects of interest and importance to women and supplies its readers with items of news. There is the *Yogaku Zasshi*, which makes a specialty of female education, discussing manners and customs and expressing decided opinions on the great questions of the day in female circles. There are the *Katei* (家庭) *Zasshi* and the *Nihon-no-Katei*, which are designed to supply the wants of women of little education. Among Christian organs the *裏錦 Uranishiki*, which, as its name implies, beneath an unprepossessing exterior contains a large amount of valuable matter. Then the Buddhists have their *花ノ園生 Hana-no-Sonō*, a flower garden well stocked with plants of delicate colours and refreshing fragrance. The aim of this magazine is to provide matter suited for all classes of female readers. The *Nadeshiko* (撫兒) occupies a middle position between such organs as the *Yogaku Kōgi* and the *Nihon-Katei*. The *Taiyō* regularly devotes a certain space to the discussion of household subjects. There are numerous other organs designed for circulation among women and children, which seem to find sufficient support to warrant their continuance from month to month. The *Yogaku Kōgi* is a very high class magazine adapted to the homes of the upper classes and to well educated women. The *Yogaku Zasshi*, while containing first class matter, also publishes articles suited to the capacity of women of ordinary education. The *Uranishiki* is well adapted to the wants of educated and refined Christians. It is a thoroughly pro-foreign organ, in a good sense of the term pro-foreign, and is edited with considerable literary ability. The *Hana no Sopo-ō* contains, among religious discourses and a variety of miscellaneous matter, some extremely polished essays. All things considered, the *Yogaku Zasshi* is *facile princeps* among this class of periodicals. It has been said, we think with some truth, that the great defect of many of the magazines designed for women is one of style. Many of the articles are too florid and contain difficult ideographs where easier ones would serve the writer's purpose. The *Kana* placed at the side of these characters is by no means an indication of their meaning. In many cases very shallow thoughts are expressed in grandiloquent terms. This may be only a stage through which this class of literature is passing, the concealment of poverty of thought under a rich verbal foliage being not uncommon among a certain class of aspirants to literary fame in the West.

RUMOURS OF FRESH TROUBLE IN KOREA.

There appears to be no truth whatever in the stories circulated within the past few days that a fresh insurrection has broken out in Korea, and that the Japanese have been the object of an attack. We have made inquiries in responsible quarters, and are informed that no telegrams in that sense have been received officially in Tokyo.

† A pink, *Diānthus superbis*, but the term here is to be understood in the sense of *nade-yashinaitaru kodomo*, a child that is well cared for and well brought up.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

Our Tokyo contemporaries all write in an emphatic manner of the opening of a Court-Martial in Formosa for the trial of a number of officers, who, it is alleged, are accused of cowardice in the subjugation of the recent rebellion. These officers, we are told, are Lieut.-Colonel Masuda Teruto, Captain Furuichi, Sato Tsunemasa, and Captain Ishizuka Retsusaburo. They are arraigned in consequence of the investigation of Major-General Tatsumi. Some of the Opposition papers, write that the opening of the Court-Martial is in some way connected with international questions.

We take the following from the columns of the *Yomiuri*:—The Governor-General, we are informed, is in no hurry about taking any steps towards subduing the savages in Formosa. He means to leave them alone, until the Chinese rebels have been completely subjugated. The Garrison in Formosa consist of Conscripts raised in 1894 and 1893. The term of service for those of 1893 will expire in November, so the Authorities are said to be taking steps for bringing them home and sending conscripts drawn in 1895 to fill their places. The number of gendarmes and policemen now in Formosa is over 3,200, but this force is felt to be insufficient. The Authorities, we hear, intend to increase the force to the same ratio, at least, of that in Japan.

For commercial as well as military reasons, the Authorities, we learn from the *Shogyo Shimpō*, intend to reconstruct the harbours of Kelung and Taku. But as to the materials to be used and the expenses of the work, nothing is yet ascertainable. The Authorities think, however, that financial considerations may prevent them from undertaking the reconstruction of both harbours at the same time, and in that case they deem it wiser to commence with Kelung. The work at Kelung may be started at the beginning of the next fiscal year, that is, April 1st, 1897.

In regard to the officers alleged to have been charged with cowardice, the Metropolitan journals of Monday write that a telegram has been received by the Governor-General from Major-General Tatsumi, which says that Major Sato and Captain Furuichi have been put on the retired list and Lieut.-Colonel Masuda and Captain Ishida are to be tried before a Court-Martial. We also learn that Major-General Tatsumi has been appointed President of the Court-Martial. The Court will sit at Taipei.

The *Nippon* has received a letter, dated the 6th instant, from Formosa, from which we gather the following:—The police force now in Formosa consists of 230 officers and 1,387 men, the number of stations and sub-stations being 62. This force being found insufficient, the police are to be increased to 3,000 with a corresponding increase of officers, stations, and sub-stations.

It is rumoured that the civil officials in the Governor-General's Office will have the privilege of wearing swords. In Tainan the sanitary authorities daily go the rounds and whenever they discover a plague patient, they sent him to the Epidemic Hospital, and the house is closed and cut off from communication with others. When a patient dies the body is disinfected and buried. Tainan has already 29 eating-houses inhabited by over one hundred women of questionable character. Nothing of interest has yet been discovered regarding the Formosan fisheries. Mr. Kayaba, an Expert in the Productions' Bureau of the Governor-General's Office, is in the neighbourhood of Giran making investigations and observations in the matter. Mr. Ota Minoru, a whilom M.P., is superintending the establishment of a fishery station. The fish caught off Kelung and Tamsui consist principally of sea-perch and ground-shark.

The Higashi Honganji of Kyoto has decided to spend 360,000 yen in the coming ten years for propagating Buddhism in the new territory.

Mr. Miyauchi, Governor of the Pescadores, was interviewed at Nagasaki in regard to the afforestation of the Pescadores. He said that

in November last, 3,500 young pine-trees from Taipei were planted. They were healthy trees, yet all withered within twenty days of transplanting. The chief cause of this was the long voyage of three weeks that the trees had to pass through. Some trees, about 3,000 in number, from Amoy were next tried with not much better results. Next, seeds of the *fuku yarabo* and *adan* (the two latter herbaceous trees capable of growing in salt-water) were ordered from Okinawa. They reached the Pescadores on March 10th, being sent from the Loochoo capital in November last. After sowing they grew very well at first, but being unable to withstand the dry weather all perished after a time, except the *fuku* planted in the barracks, which have reached a height of about 5 sun. The next plan to be tried is to build a stone wall, 6 feet wide and 15 feet high, for protecting the trees against the winds. The trees for future experiments will be wild pines from Japan. These will be sent from Nagasaki in pots, each of which is estimated to cost 50 to 60 sen.

The following items are taken from a letter[†] dated the 6th instant, received by the *Nippon*:—A police constable, going his rounds a few days ago, was shot through the neck from behind and fell dead. Some policemen, a few steps ahead, hearing the sounds, turned and witnessed the death. They found that the shots came from some rebels posted on a neighbouring hill. Upon one of the insurgents being killed by a policeman the rest fled. The dead Chinese was found to possess a splendid Murata rifle and 30 rounds of cartridges.

A great lack of labourers is experienced in Taipei. This, according to a Chinaman, is due to many coolies being away in Taichu and Tainan, the rebels having engaged them. The same Chinaman says that a rebellion may rise in the neighbourhood of Taipei by the Fall.

Captain Furuichi Ryuhachi, we read in the Tokyo papers, who was put on the retired list recently on account of disgraceful conduct, had received the decoration of the Golden Kite, 5th Class, on the 30th of June last.

Governor-General Katsura is reported to have replied as follows to an interviewer, who tried to take him to task on account of his long stay in Tokyo:—"I have no objection to proceeding to Formosa at any time. It is an utter misconception to imagine that I could do better work for Formosa in Taipei than in Tokyo. I have been to Taipei, and what I saw there convinced me that the present plans for tranquillizing and opening up the new territory are very inadequate. They appear to me to stand in need of vast enlargement. To achieve that end, perfect administrative and military organizations have to be secured and means must be devised to eradicate the bad Formosan manners and customs and to transplant better ones in their stead. Now as to the funds required for attaining these objects, I have to negotiate with the Ministers of State. Did I leave the negotiations with my subordinates I should not be able to obtain sufficient sums of money. I hope the nation will allow me to stay in the capital until I have seen all my plans and designs fully ripe for success."

THE OPPOSITION AND THE GOVERNMENT.

The leaders of the *Shimpo-jo* (combined Opposition) now in Tokyo, are said to have held a meeting at the head-quarters of the party on the 7th instant, and to have adopted the following resolution:—"Resolved, that as the Government has neglected up to this day to take any steps for the relief of the suffering caused by the inundations in various prefectures during last month, therefore we hold that the Government has not properly fulfilled its duty. We consequently call upon the Government to employ, for the above purpose, whatever means are placed within its competence by the Constitution, and we further consider it proper that a special session of the Diet be at once convened to make arrangements adapted to the occasion."

KOREAN NEWS.

Li Ji-u, once a Provincial Headman, who petitioned that the King should return to the Palace, and was in consequence censured by the Cabinet, recently reappeared before the Russian Legation together with his friends and again presented the petition. He said his grief was unbounded at seeing his King the inmate of a foreign legation.

The Premier, In, sent in his resignation in consequence of a difference of opinion between himself and Han, Minister for Justice, respecting the appointment of a successor to Chhoi, late Judge of Han-sŏng. The resignation was not accepted by the King.

A Chinese mandarin in Sŏul is negotiating a China-Korean Treaty. Thirty-five Chinese policemen are in the Korean capital performing the duty of escort, but they wear non-official garments.

Mr. Fukui Saburo and others lately formed a syndicate called "The Korean Business Encouragement Union." They aim at starting a prosperous carrying trade in the interior of Korea. Mr. Ozaki Saburo is staying at Ogura's, in Ri-hyŏn. It seems that he has not accomplished much of his mission, but he is in excellent health. These items are taken from a letter dated August 5th, received by the *Yifu* from its correspondent in Sŏul. Below we give some news contained in a letter, dated August 2nd, sent by the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent in the Korean capital:—The Korean Bank, promoted by An Ke-ju, Li Wan-yong, and others, lately decided to establish itself as a purely private affair, as it could not be placed under the immediate supervision of the State owing to several causes. Among these is the delay in the publication of the Bank Regulations, and also an objection raised against it by Mr. Brown, Foreign Adviser to the Department of Finance. A rumour that the King expressed his unwillingness to leave the Russian Legation when Mr. Waeber attempted to persuade his Majesty to return to the Palace, seems to have been floated to show the Koreans that the Russian Minister applies no force to retain the King in the Legation, and also to pacify some patriotic Koreans, who are fanatically desirous of the King's returning to his Palace.

A letter, dated Aug. 5, from Fusan, received by the *Miyako Shimŭn*, says that the Japanese war-ship *Kongo* entered that port on the 28th proximo from Shanghai. She is cruising with some graduates of the Naval School, and is to leave for Gensan and Vladivostok soon and thence return home to Kure.

The local Government lately notified Japanese residents that they would have to pay the industrial tax from the current month, a tax that used to be levied before the War. The Consul and representatives of residents are negotiating with the local officials upon the matter.

The imports at Fusan for the first half of this year totalled yen 639,694.361, and were less than exports by yen 153,069.921. The chief import was cotton muslin, valued at 122,700 yen, and the next, kerosene, that totalled 42,451 yen. Japanese cotton cloths are in the greatest disfavour at present, selling only in small quantities at from 1 yen 50 sen to 1 yen 25 sen per *hiki* (two *tan*). Rice is unaffected by the Osaka speculation, though dealers are expecting a further rise. Quotations, which appear likely to remain at a standstill for some time, vary from 6 yen 80 sen to 6 yen 85 sen for first class and middle class uncleaned grain.

The Tokyo Newspaper Agency reports:—Since Russia rejected the proposal to lend Korea \$500,000 and declined to station a Russian garrison in Sŏul, the Korean Ministers have come to look back with veneration on Japan's high-spirited kindness. Han, Minister for Justice, is holding consultations, it is said, with some of his colleagues as to the advisability of asking of Japan the favours denied by Russia. The Japanese advisers employed by the Judicial Department, who hitherto were looked upon with coldness, have commenced to receive very different treatment. The *Hochi* states that the

application of the projectors of the Sŏul-Fusan Railway was placed before the Korean Ministers of State on the 12th instant, but there is little hope of them granting the concession.

MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The Tokyo Marine Insurance Company was the first of its kind in Japan. This company was soon followed by the Nippon Marine and Land Insurance Company, and later by the Osaka Insurance Company, and the Imperial Marine Insurance Company. After a time, differences arising between the Marine and Land and the Osaka Companies, the former entered into a combination with the Tokyo Marine and the Imperial Marine Company, leaving its rival utterly friendless. The Osaka Company soon after succumbed to the combined rivalry of the other companies and quietly withdrew from the field. At the time of the Japanese-China War a much greater number of ships than at ordinary periods were engaged on the Seas of Japan, and in consequence the three companies had a great run of business. This prosperity caused the combined companies to behave in a haughty and meddlesome manner toward shipowners, and thereupon the Nippon Marine Transportation Union was organized. A new Insurance Company, called the Nippon Marine Insurance Company, with a capital of 3,000,000 yen, was also started. This Company, upon commencing business, proposed cooperation with the others, but the proposal was rejected. Then the young Company entered into an engagement with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., of Yokohama, and the result was brisk competition and the consequent lowering of premiums. In the report for the first half of 1896, the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company states that the working had resulted in loss, but the Imperial Marine Insurance Company distributed for the same period a dividend of 10 per cent., mainly from the profits made on advancing money to shipowners. The Nippon Marine Insurance Company, however, made a profit on its legitimate business.

ENGLAND AND INDIA.

It is impossible not to condemn the policy adopted by the Home Government in the matter of employing Indian troops for the purposes of the Soudan campaign. The principle of making use of Indian troops to fight the battles of the empire outside India, is most excellent, but when they are thus used, nothing seems less fair than that any part of the expense should be borne by India, unless Indian interests are directly concerned. The line of argument adopted by the Home Government in this instance was that all out-of-pocket expenditures should be met by the Imperial Treasury, but that India ought to disburse the pay of the troops, since she must have done that, at any rate, even had they not left the dependency, and since India has a vivid and direct interest in the preservation of the communications between herself and England. But the Viceroy of India replies that, as to the first argument, the establishment of the Indian Army is already at a minimum, and if any of the troops are taken for service abroad, funds must be supplied to replace them, if necessary; and as to the second, the Soudan campaign does not bear the construction of a military operation for preserving the communications, inasmuch as these would not have been imperilled had the Egyptian frontier remained at Wady Halfa, instead of being pushed farther south. The sum involved does not exceed sixty thousand pounds, and for the sake of such a bagatelle the Government has taken a step that will provoke adverse criticism from every class in India. Indeed, the Viceroy, in one of his despatches, says plainly that he protests in the strongest terms against a policy "that exposes the Indian Government to attacks to which there is no adequate answer."

INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.

Mr. Consul Jamieson is the first official that acknowledges frankly the influence of the Shimonoseki Treaty in securing for foreigners the privilege of carrying on industrial enterprises in China. Beginning with the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, there has been a persistent endeavour to prove that the conditions of that treaty had no effect in settling the question, and that Her Majesty's Minister in Peking had, in fact, settled it effectually before the treaty was negotiated. Mr. Jamieson, however, in his report on the trade of Shanghai for 1895, writes as follows:—"I have in previous reports spoken of the establishment of native-owned cotton-mills at Shanghai, and of the efforts which foreign merchants were making to obtain a share in what promised to be a very lucrative industry. Their claims, which were based on the wording of certain of the old treaties, were bitterly opposed by the officials both in Peking and in the provinces, firstly, because it was an innovation, and, secondly, because some, at least, of these officials were personally interested in the already existing mills, for which, indeed, they claimed a monopoly. The fight took place over the right to import machinery, in which the officials were clearly in the wrong, but, even if forced to give way on that, as, indeed, they practically were, they would have found ways and means to frustrate the successful working of foreign-owned mills. If China had been victorious in the war, the claim would almost certainly have still been refused. Fortunately, however, for those interested, and most fortunately of all for China herself, a clause was inserted in the Japanese Treaty expressly conceding the right to import machinery and establish manufactures at all or any of the open ports, and, further, granting the same immunity from taxation inland as is secured to foreign-imported goods. No sooner was this privilege established than half-a-dozen foreign joint-stock spinning and weaving companies were in the field. Four were successfully floated, three British and one German, and mills to run about 40,000 spindles each are now in course of erection. They will be ready to commence operations before the end of the year. Two Japanese companies came forward at first, but they seem to be waiting on events."

THE "GAELIC."

The agent of the O. & O. Company in Yokohama, Mr. B. C. Howard, received a telegram on Saturday afternoon that the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* had been floated off the Hamo Bank and was proceeding under easy steam to Nagasaki. She appears to have fractured the plates on the starboard bilge.

From the *Kobe Herald* we gather that on the morning of the accident the channel leading into Shimonoseki Straits was crowded with junks, and the *Gaelic* collided with one in consequence of the junkman luffing just before he reached the steamer. Had he held on he would have gone clear. The steamer's way was stopped and a boat lowered to rescue the junk's crew. While picking up the boat it was seen that the big liner was dropping down upon the beacon placed on the Vojibei rocks. They attempted to get her under way again, but the tide caught her under the quarter and before steering way was obtained the *Gaelic* had been driven on to the Beacon. Water came into all three of the forward compartments, more especially into No. 3. The junk that caused all the trouble partly righted after the crew had left her and eventually drifted to Shimonoseki. The *Gaelic* in all probability will be temporarily patched up Nagasaki, afterwards proceeding to the Hongkong dock for thorough repairs. When she left Nagasaki her passenger list included:—For San Francisco—Miss Hennessey, Miss Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Lowson, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Mitchell. For Yokohama—Mr. Lichtenfelder, Major Hatton, Mr. and Mrs. Wright. For Kobe—Lieut. and Mrs. Matthews.

DEATH OF MRS. DROPPERS.

Just as repeated communications from correspondents to this journal had led us to hope that the very sad case of Mr. and Mrs. Silver Hall's bright little boy would be the only calamity attributable to dysentery at Karuizawa, the shocking news comes that Mrs. Garrett Droppers succumbed to the malady on the 17th instant. No particulars of this most lamentable event have yet reached us, but rumour says that Mrs. Droppers' illness had lasted only three days when the end came, and that a physician summoned from Tokyo for purposes of consultation had not started when a telegram arrived saying that all was over. It is scarcely possible to exaggerate the profound sentiment of grief that will be inspired among the residents of Tokyo and Yokohama by the terribly sudden and untimely decease of this young, gifted, and most lovable lady. In such a case "the guest divine" seems to have utterly mistaken his portal of call, and our sense of the fitness of things is outraged by the sudden summons of one apparently so rich in the promise of a long, joyful, and joy-giving life. But it has always been so: "death loves a shining mark." We can not venture to address any words of sympathy to her bereaved husband, all words must seem so trivial in comparison with his grief.

It never through my mind had passed
That time would e'er be o'er,
When I on thee should look my last,
And thou should'st smile no more.

THE "ILLIS."

Only two persons in the *Illis*' ship's company were married men, one being the Commander. The relief funds at Shanghai, Chefoo, and Nagasaki are being liberally subscribed to. The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 8th reports that the details of the loss of the *Illis* are, in the meantime, being kept quiet until the official enquiry has been held; but little items leak out, and we now hear that the engines did not break down, but were simply not powerful enough to keep the vessel off the rocks. Before striking, all hands were called on deck and three cheers given for Emperor William, then all joined hands and sang a hymn. Immediately after striking, the vessel broke in two, the after part sinking in deep water. The fore-part remained on the rocks, and those who were eventually rescued clung to the fore-rigging. Two of the strongest men, after the sea had somewhat abated, swam ashore and walked to the light-house, where they procured boats and returned to the wreck and succeeded in taking off their companions who, by this time, had been thirty-six hours on the rigging.

THE WEST RIVER.

Mr. Wenyon, who, in company with Mr. Cowen, recently accomplished a remarkable journey from Canton through the provinces of Kuangtung, Kuansi, Hunan, and Hupeh to Chungking in Szechuan, does not think that the districts traversed by the West River offer great trade possibilities. "Between Wuchoufu and Kweilin there are no fewer than 360 rapids, and he strongly inclines to the belief that the country will be better reached by the Yangtze route. The trade crossing the Tungting Lake is enormous, and if a line of steamers could ply from Hankow to Changsha an inestimable boon would be conferred upon that region, for, like most inland waters, the Tungting Lake is subject to sudden and severe storms, and the least sign of suspicious weather is enough to stop traffic for days. Hunan, in Mr. Wenyon's opinion, is very rich in mineral resources, notably anthracite coal, and of the prospects of the new treaty port of Shashi he is very sanguine, believing it greatly superior to Ichang." It will be seen that this account differs considerably from one recently published. Doubtless Mr. Cowen who went, we believe, on behalf of *The Times*, will have much information to impart.

THE DAYS OF CAPTIVITY.

The Israelites having spent—according to Bible history—several centuries in bondage in Egypt, it is natural to expect that some traces of their presence there should exist among the various records furnished by modern excavations. But until quite recently nothing whatever had been found. Captain W. M. Flinders Petrie, the well-known Egyptologist, has been the happy person to discover a ray of light among this darkness. Last December, he commenced to excavate an important district at Thebes. Three months of excavation brought to light seven temples, among them that of Merenptah, supposed—unfortunately there is still a hypothesis—to have been the Pharaoh of Exodus. Merenptah, it appears, was a man of Vaudalic tendencies. Having expelled all his foreign enemies, he found himself without a sufficiency of men to build his own funeral temple, so he proceeded to tear down one of the temples of his predecessors and utilize the materials. Among these materials was a magnificent block of black syenite, on which was inscribed an account of the religious benefactions of the monarch whose temple Merenptah treated so ruthlessly. This block Merenptah caused to be set in a wall with its face inwards, and on the polished back he caused to be chiselled the story of his own doings. In the closing portion, the "Triumph of Merenptah," occurs the following paragraph:—

"For the sun of Egypt has wrought this change; he was born as the fated means of revenging it, the king Merenptah. Chiefs bend down, saying, 'Peace to thee'; not one of the nine bows raises his head. Vanquished are the Tahennu (N. Africans); the Khita (Hittites) are quieted; ravaged is Pa-Kanana (Kannan) with all violence; taken is Askadni (Askalon?); seized is Kazzem; Yenu (Yanoh) of the Syrians is made as though it had not existed; 'the people of Yisraal is spoiled, it hath no seed'; Syria has become as widows of the land of Egypt; all lands together are in peace. Every one that was a marauder hath been subdued by the king Merenptah, who gives life like the sun every day."

It remains to be determined what is meant by "The people of Yisraal is spoiled, it hath no seed." But, at any rate, there is the allusion, clear enough.

WESTERN JAPAN AND KYUSHU AFTER THE WAR.

A certain personage, now on a tour of industrial and economical inspection, writes thus to the *Nichi Nichi*:—Entering Hiroshima, I find its prosperity so great that no parallel can be found elsewhere in Japan. This state of things, of course, is due to the War. The prosperity of Shimonoseki is hopeful, and the future of Moji marvellous in its potentiality. When the Branch Office of the Nippon Ginko purchased land at the rate of 8 yen per *tsubo*, it was thought an expensive purchase worthy of a great Bank. But now the same land is valued at more than 30 yen per *tsubo*. In Fukuoka Prefecture much rice and coal is produced and the prosperity now enjoyed has hitherto been unknown in that remote province. In that one Prefecture, I am told, no less than seventeen different railways have been projected and not a few banks established. Kumamoto is thriving, and its inhabitants are eager to make it the centre of commerce and industry in Kyushu.

WOMEN IN WAR.

According to the newspaper reports of the engagement at Ferkeh, it appears that "when the enemy had been driven off and their camp taken, their women were triumphantly appropriated by the Egyptian troops." Women fare ill in *fin-du-siècle* warfare. They are butchered in Mashonaland and "triumphantly appropriated" in the Soudan. Happily such things are not allowed in the Orient, or, if they do happen, are publicly execrated in a deserving manner.

TENDENCIES IN THEOLOGICAL THINKING.

"Theology has made great and rapid advances in recent years." So says the prospectus of *The International Theological Library*. "The time has come when it is practicable to combine British and American scholars in the production of a critical, comprehensive commentary that will be abreast of modern biblical scholarship." So says the prospectus of *The International Critical Commentary*. That two such series of religious works are in process of compilation shows that marked changes are coming over theological thinking. The last quarter of this century has found out ten times more than the world knew before in several important lines of thought. And with this new historic, philosophic, scientific, and psychologic knowledge it was inevitable that there should come a world-movement in religious thought, a searching review of the past, a testing of interpretation, a breaking up of old forms, and attempts at reconstruction. In all this it is evident that the deep foundations of Christian truth are as firm as ever, perhaps firmer. Men of faith rather than men of doubt, are offering to the world in scores of publications the results of their investigations so far. And I will simply mention in the briefest possible manner some of these newer aspects of truth that are having wide emphasis.

CHRISTIAN CONSCIOUSNESS.—Whether or not some press this too far in settling questions of interpretation, the relative worth of different parts of the Bible, and rules for faith, it is certain it has gained a real place in modern thinking and is a real force in overcoming this age of doubt. From Schleiermacher through Coleridge down to the present time there has been a growing use of this phrase until now it is asserted that "the Christian consciousness is the source of all valid thinking upon the ultimate realities of the universe, and that the common colossal defect of former systems of theology is that they defer hardly at all to the creative Christian consciousness" (*The Christ of To-day*, Gordon). Some strong thinkers would stem this stream of thought by asserting that Christian consciousness, whether of the individual or the collective consciousness of the Church, is human and subject to error, and it must be judged by the standard of the Bible (*Every Day Theology*, Stearns), but it will not down. The Christian consciousness exalts the fact of Christ's universal presence in the hearts of His followers, wherein He becomes their life. It is a protest against "the mean view of the world which owns no power above those which build railroads and sets steam-engines agoing" (*Life of Christ*, Neander). It is used in the interests of reverent liberty in interpreting parts of the Scriptures hard to reconcile with God's Fatherhood. It is not confined to the learned, nor excluded by scholarship. It is found in beautiful examples among those not learned in the wisdom of this world. "It is the image of Christ ever renewing its youth among men. There is no better preparation for preaching than a living and soul-stirring Christian consciousness" (*The Independent*). In the theological thinking of to-day it stands as a most convincing assurance of Christian truth, subordinating objective revelation and exalting faith alone.

THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF CHRIST.—A similar phrase, with deeper meaning, is taking a high place. In this age of doubt and transition the consciousness of Christ is called the great constructive principle of Christian faith. "The reality of the introduction of the mind of God into the world in the consciousness of Jesus is a creative source of all theology" (Gordon). What this consciousness of Christ yields may be described as "the distinctive and differentiating doctrine of the Christian religion." (*The Place of Christ in Modern Thought*, Fairbairn.) Thus, all our knowledge of God's deepest nature, of his revelation to humanity as individual, social, racial, and of the modes of being that constitute the Godhead, comes directly through this unwavering consciousness of Christ. Not anthropology

and justification by faith, as Luther claimed; not the sovereignty of God, as in Calvin's system; not the Christian consciousness and the incarnation, as the newer Christologies assert; but the consciousness of Christ towards God, towards man, towards Himself, is the thought that is being claimed as the corner-stone of coming systematic theology. What is being aimed at will be referred to in part under subsequent heads.

THE MEANING OF HISTORY.—The time was when theology concerned itself mainly with the history of the Jews, regarding them as God's chosen people, the only possessors of a revelation from him. But the whole world has now come together, and brilliant advances in historical studies have forced scientific thinkers to tell the meaning of the history of the whole human race, not merely in its present historic manifestation of nations whose countless millions have lived and died with no knowledge whatever of the revelation through Israel, but the meaning also of all the prehistoric millenniums of untold and horrible sufferings, out of which has come at last this humanity of which we are a living part. It was difficult for loving hearts in former times, when science had not yet revealed the long prehistoric ages, and when yet these swarming Eastern nations were unknown, to accept the thought of eternal punishment for all so-called heathen. But now that the East and the West have come together, and evolution has put back the race perhaps for 100,000 years, the old thought of only a remnant being saved, and all the rest lost in eternal darkness is so repugnant to the very Christian consciousness that Christ himself has built up, that heart and soul cry out against it. There *must* be a meaning of history that fits in with, and does honour to, the Fatherhood of God, as the consciousness of Christ attests it, and that does not violate it and disgrace it beyond expression. This thought, implied in guarded language for some decades, now refuses any cover of words, and is spoken on the house-tops with no church censures. Even a Methodist Bishop (Foster, before Pittsburg An. Conference, Sept., 1894) in an annual conference, is reported as having said, "If I could concede for a moment that the world as I know it is lost, and I know it from rim to rim, having travelled in all its lands, having seen its dissolute, despicable millions, having seen its shame and filth, and if I were compelled to think that my God, whom I worship, would by any possible method of condemnation send down to Hades 1,200,000,000 of my brothers, that know not their right hand from their left, and save a few of us who are a little better perhaps in our morals, I would not go to heaven if I could. I could not worship such a God as that. I would join the hosts of Hades in rebelling against such a God. Our God is not a God of that kind. God is love, and is saving all He can." And Dr. George A. Gordon affirms, in rather more classic language, "The Christian thinker of to-day has won his freedom to regard God as the Father of all men, to conceive of Him as eternally interested in the whole race; and to remove all limits of time and place from the redemptive scheme of Christ. He has the right to affirm, if he solemnly believes it, that on this side of death or on that, God and Christ and the moral universe are unchangeably the same; that all the divine punishments are chastisements; that God's final purpose in scourging His children is to bring them back to Himself; and that even in hell the worm must gnaw and the fire burn in the service of the Eternal Grace."

The scope of history in theological thinking is immensely enlarged, and the tendency is to accept either the doctrine of conditional immortality, the religious way of saying "the survival of the fittest," or to take the ages of evolutionary processes as "the redemptive movement of God." If we retain the old exclusive consciousness of sin that insisted on the universal corruption of the race, making men by nature the children of the devil, we gain relief in the permissible doctrine of the ultimate annihilation of the unfit, while, if we hold to

the creation of man in God's image, fallen, yet still in the Father's infinite love, we may joy in the God whose saving love is limited to no time or place. "Within evangelical bodies, modifications of belief on the subject of the future state have won more or less of acceptance" (*Church History*, Prof. G. P. Fisher).

REVELATION.—Revelation has a recognized meaning now commensurate with the progress of knowledge. We used to have natural and revealed religions, and the distinction is still held in conservative minds. But the very title of a book widely known, *The Self-Revelation of God* (Harris), shows a growing recognition of a wider revelation than that given to the chosen people. Dumb nature has always been permitted to bear witness to the wisdom and power and glory of the Creator, but when it comes to man the general tendency has been that there was no other revelation given under heaven save that to the Jews. Now, however, the study of comparative religion has brought out the question of the relation of non-Christian religions to Christianity, and the answers are numerous and weighty as showing that all religions are in some degree revelations of God to His children. "I have been deep in my study of the ways of God in heathen religions. The past of mankind does not now seem a black ocean covered with fog, and storm, and wrecks drifting everywhere, but a long wake of light crosses it, coming from the light that lighteth every man in the world—the Spirit of God. In that gleam the nations have steered their barques and have made toward heaven. He hath not left himself without witness" (Dr. Brace in *The Congregationalist*). The ground is being freely taken that "all religions are of and through God." "Revelation is a fact co-extensive with mankind." All religions have germs of divine truth, some more than others, while Christianity is the Supreme Revelation of God and the fulfilment of all others. "It is surely the business of the theologian not to flout other witnesses of God as superfluous, but to reconcile all revelation with that in which the Christian rejoices" (*Studies in Theology*, Denney).

EVOLUTION.—"Evolution is revolutionizing the religious thinking of our time" (*The Congregationalist*). Theologians used to be very conservative toward evolutionary thought. Pres. Noah Porter, only ten years ago, delivered his celebrated address before the Nineteenth Century Club, New York, on Evolution, in which he said:—"If what is popularly known as evolution shall become the prevailing philosophy, then the Christian faith and Christian feelings, and the conduct and character which they inspire, must be abandoned forever by man and for man." But he also said, "Evolution in some senses and uses is sound in philosophy, true in science, and not only harmless to, but wholesome in theology. In its noblest significance it may spiritualize nature, ennoble man, and honour God."

It is this latter conception that has been realized to a large extent. Bald, atheistic, materialistic evolution has no wide acceptance anywhere that I know of. There is an evolution that hesitates and is agnostic, yet reverent. There is also an evolution positively and aggressively theistic, which posits God just as Jesus taught—as spirit, immanent yet transcendent, the Eternal Thinker and Planner, who is behind all law and life as the necessary ground, and whose supreme character is love. If there is a struggle for existence which, looked at only from one side, yields untold ages of wrongs and selfishness and brutality and bloody strife, it is being seen that this very struggle brings about "the maximum of life and the enjoyment of life with the minimum of suffering and pain" (Wallace), and a closer examination brings to light a corresponding struggle for the existence of others, an altruism, that is even more powerful than the egoism. So that where the struggle for existence abounds, this altruistic struggle yet more abounds in every social and family and governmental relation, being now clearly seen far back in the evolution of the animal world, and rising in humanity till it culminates in the Cross of Christ—the expression of the infinite Love of God. The bearing of the evolutionary

philosophy on theology is this, that "the universe must be so conceived as to be worthy of its God, and the God so conceived as to be equal to all the needs of his universe" (Fairbairn). "Evolution is distinctly in favour of the doctrine of a future life" (Prof. John Fiske).

THE SUPERNATURAL.—With the wider belief in the reign of law there has come a tendency to unbelief in the miraculous of eighteen centuries ago. The Ritschlian school lays no stress at all on the miracles. But there has also been a growing tendency to acknowledge most reverently a wider sphere of the supernatural far beyond the bounds of the historic revelation of God in Jesus of Nazareth. God is seen in all history, educating the race, bringing humanity up out of savagery and brutality into civilization and moral living until in the fulness of time he sends his Son. This larger view makes Jesus the Supreme Miracle, and all his marvellous works are natural to Him. In other words, the Son of God has taken such a strong hold on the hearts of His followers that they believe in His supernatural power because of His divinity, and not so much His divinity because of His miracles. This leaves us free to interpret wherever we can on naturalistic lines. It gives us a Bible that we believe not because it is inspired, but that we believe is inspired because it is so "full of the profoundest truths that appeal directly to the judgment and conscience of man." Jesus, the Christ, appears manifesting the infinite love of God in such a way that humanity seems to be grounded in the Godhead, and this makes belief in the supernatural rational, and even a necessity. The vast dignity and worth of a single soul is so apparent that nothing less than God in man can explain us to ourselves. We are living close in touch with the Infinite Power every hour, and the miracles of eighteen centuries ago cannot have the force in reason and the authority over faith that the living Christian consciousness gives to the heart that responds to the voice of God. "The argument for the divinity of Christ from prophecy and miracles is absolutely destitute of cogency for the representative modern mind," is an extreme way of stating this trend of thought (*Outlines of Social Theology*, Hyde). Yet faith in the supernatural is rising to such an extent that a return to faith is a recognized movement, seen signally in the clear position taken at last by Prof. Romanes.

SOCIOLOGY.—The Kingdom of God is receiving a new interpretation. "Human society is the unfolding of one universal will, and religion is essentially social" (Hyde). The application of Christian teaching to society, and the expansion of theology in social lines, are taking place at the same time. There is no longer a satisfactory resting place in individualism, for this tends to produce separation and disintegration. It is being seen that grand as are the fruits of three centuries of Protestantism the emphasis has rested full long enough on the worth of the individual, and now the movement is toward faith in the moral and spiritual worth of society. It is not denied that Christ was a great individualist, appealing mainly to the single soul, but it is being discovered that He was also a great socialist. Political Economy has almost become a branch of theological thinking. Revivals are carried on more on ethical lines and we hear prayers for a revival of civic righteousness as one manifestation of the Holy Spirit, and sermons on the love of God as producing better social conditions. There is a growing faith that God is not only in the church, but is in the family, the store, in politics, in the slums,—everywhere, setting up a kingdom which is something larger than the Church. "The church used to be considered a home for souls rescued from a lost world, while now it is coming to be regarded as an instrument for the redemption of Society" (Dr. G. L. Walker). Faith, hope, love, those sacred virtues that Christianity has brought out in such strength and beauty, are social virtues. "Sociology shows us the union of God and man, expressed in divine institutions wrought out by human service, and embodied in a universal life of love in which the will of God is accomplished through the

instrumentality of man" (Hyde). "With a new conception of the corporate unity of mankind, theology has become more altruistic, and a new theory of preaching—which holds that man must be a follower of Christ not merely to save himself, but to be a saviour, in his own place and measure—has been adopted of inward necessity."

TRINITY.—"This doctrine is fundamental to Christian faith and to the humanity that believes itself made in the image of God." Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—this revelation of the Godhead seems to Christian thinkers not only not less necessary, not shaken at all by the immense advances of knowledge, but more and more necessary as the only possible way of escaping from deism, atheism, agnosticism, and pantheism. God has never seemed more God than He is to-day throughout the thinking world. Christ has never been more sincerely recognized as the Eternal Son of God—gathering up into Himself all humanity in vital relation to the Father—than He is to-day. The Holy Spirit has never seemed so divinely operative in the whole history of the race as He appears now. And while systematic theology is not so much believed in and relied upon as of old, the Life of God in his children, and the Life of Christ in his followers never was so large an article of faith as it is in these days. The great defect in the Nicene Creed, in that, while it represents the inward relations of the Godhead, does not sufficiently emphasise the relation of Father, Son, and Spirit to humanity, is being remedied, not so much in formal statements of the Trinity as by the wide insistence of God as Father not only of Christ but of all men; of Christ not only as God's Son but as the representative of divine humanity; and of the Spirit not only as a personal part of Godhead, but as the light that lighteth every man. "I believe in the Trinity as attested by the Christian experience."

Thus, in these transition times, there is not one whit of yielding in faith in the supreme revelation of God, nor one particle of abatement in loyalty to the divine Son of God. Under this basal faith, even more profound than in the past, all differences on minor questions are more tolerantly treated, a newer work for the redemption of the whole man is going on, and a deeper spiritual union of the broken body of Christ, is being longed for, and prayed for, and laboured for, in the growing faith that the kingdom is the Lord's and the victory sure.

J. H. DE FOREST.

STRAW HATS.

This year the fashion of straw hats among the *jeunesse d'orte* of Japan is for narrow brims and black silk bands. Last year fashion inclined the other way. The most noted summer-hat makers in Tokyo are Messrs. Tobaya, Hikagecho, Shiba District, Messrs. Nozawa Shoten, Otemachio, Kyobashi, Mr. Yoshii Yasukichi, Hatagocho, Nihonbashi, and Mr. Kashiwagi Daishiro, Nichome Ginza. Prices in Tokyo vary from 4 to 5 yen to 14 to 15 yen per dozen, while hats sent into the country vary from 4 to 5 yen per dozen. At present in the streets of Tokyo people are rarely seen without hats, but before 1871 every one went bare-headed. About the year 1880 straw hats commenced to be manufactured in Tokyo. Long before that, however, in 1871, one Omori, a Nagasaki man, came to Omori, and there started the manufacture of straw-hats, but ere long he was compelled to give up the business so small was the demand for his wares. In 1875, Messrs. Koseki Kyemon, Kawada Tanigoro, Kawada Senzo, Ishikawa Takejiro, and two other persons took up the business abandoned by Omori. These manufacturers, after severe struggles and many bitter experiences, have succeeded in establishing a prosperous home trade, while they also export a quantity of their goods. An immense amount of straw is exported to England, and it is said that even hats and braid are exported to Luton, England, the centre of the straw plait industry. The farmers of Saitama, Nagano, Shizuoka, Aichi, and Okayama Prefectures, produce the best straw for hat-making in Japan.

GREAT FIRE AT SHINJUKU.

At about a quarter before twelve on Tuesday night a fire broke out at Shinjuku, in the centre of the prostitute buildings in that rather sparsely populated district of the metropolis. The fire originated in a mews in the First Ward, and, a strong south-westerly breeze blowing at the time, soon assumed portentous dimensions. When our reporter left the Shinjuku Police Station, at 3 o'clock this morning, about 300 houses had been reported entirely destroyed, with perhaps fifty others badly damaged. The blaze was so bright and the fury of the fire so strong, that one could easily read a newspaper two miles away by the glow, the low, rapidly scudding clouds reflecting the flames with a peculiar and striking intensity. The mews was at No. 95, Ichome, Shinjuku-machi. The immediate cause of the fire was unknown. But in less time than it takes to write it, all the circumjacent houses were ablaze. Two wards were wiped out. On either side of the highway—here very broad—were numerous brothels, all of the better class—if the term be permissible. Here the flames spread with such amazing rapidity that the inmates had hardly time to escape, any removal of their belongings being quite out of the question. Bands of scantily-clad women were thereafter disconsolately walking up and down in the vicinity, without a place to go to or a friend to ask for aid. Some found shelter in brothels near at hand; but the majority were homeless and exposed to the fully force of the heavy storm of rain which came up at 3 a.m., drenching everybody to the skin. Many houses burned like so much tinder; in a minute or even less the whole building would disappear in a lurid tongue of flame. The barracks of the Third Regiment of the Imperial Guard being close at hand, several detachments were soon despatched to assist the work of the firemen, and they did yeomen's service. That is now getting to be a feature of all fires in Tokyo: the military invariably work with cheerful alacrity and in perfect order. Shortly after one a.m. the scene was most striking. Every approach to the place of the disaster was filled with myriads of lanterns, like so many giant glow-worms, each lantern dancing up and down as the bearer pressed at full speed through the crowd. Withal very little noise and none of the accustomed firemen's yells; only the crackling of the flames and the sigh of the gale. No accidents to life or limb were reported up to daybreak, through several persons were missing, two prostitutes among others. One of the most striking features to foreign eyes was the painful lack of street lighting, the huge paper lanterns swinging in front of every house serving rather to emphasize than to relieve the pitchy darkness. On the other hand, the police discipline left nothing to be desired, and order was rigidly preserved. This is the largest fire the metropolis has suffered for an unusually long period.

THE NIPPON RAILWAY.

The Nippon Railway Company's Report for the first half of 1896 states that the three new lines projected by the Company have all been carried considerably toward completion. The Sumidagawa line has been completed all but the roadway at the Sanriki bridge and the wharf at Sumidagawa Station. The rails, together with those laid down last year, now extend 3 miles 75 chains. Work on the Tsuchiura line is nearly completed. What remains is only a little earthwork, the making of bridge-platforms, the building of station offices and other structures. This line will be opened for traffic some time before the end of the year. Engineering work on the Iwaki line is progressing satisfactorily. The line between Mito and Taira is finished all but two-tenths. For the convenience of superintendence, this line was divided into five sections: the Mito-Namerikawa, Namerikawa-Hisanohama, Hisanohama-Kumamachi, Kumamachi-Haranomachi, and Haranomachi-Iwamura sections.

THE SŌUL-FUSAN RAILWAY.

Rumour alleges, says the *Kokumin Shimbun*, that the Korean Government has sent a diplomatic note to Minister Hara, intimating its refusal of the Japanese application for constructing a railway from Sōul to Fusan, but the Foreign Office Authorities deny that any such note has yet reached them, nor have they learned from the Japanese Representative in Sōul that a communication of the kind has been received by him. Thus the matter appears to remain *in statu quo*, and it is likely to remain so for a long time to come. The projectors of the railway may have to send to the Korean capital representatives much abler than those at present pushing their interests there. In the event of final refusal, the Japanese Government, it is said, contemplates negotiating a special Treaty with Korea with reference to railway connection between the capital and Fusan. Rumour has it that the following reasons are responsible for the Korean Government's refusal to entertain the Japanese application:—First, the rebels not being yet fully subjugated, it is advisable to postpone the proposed work for some time; secondly, the Korean Government is desirous of seeing punishment inflicted on the persons arraigned at Hiroshima in connection with the affair of October 8th, before it enters into any negotiation with regard either to railways or compensation for injury to Japanese life and property; and thirdly, the Korean Ministers differ so greatly among themselves about the proposed railway that no speedy agreement is possible. The *Kokumin* further states that the objections to the railway seem to be stronger in the Korean Household Department than in the Cabinet, and conjectures that there must be some understanding reason which our contemporary declines to lay before the public at present.

AID TO FORMOSANS.

The following advertisement appears in the Hongkong journals:—

MID-FORMOSA RELIEF FUND.

Subscriptions are earnestly solicited for the Relief of the Inhabitants of Mid-Formosa, rendered Homeless through the late disturbances, a full report of which has been published in the Hongkong and Shanghai Newspapers.

It is roughly estimated that at least Forty Thousand People have been forced to take refuge in the Hill Country, from the Towns and Villages in and around the Hoonim district.

Of this number, it is calculated that *Twenty-five thousand are without shelter and totally unprovided for*. The distress reported is lamentable, and hopeless of alleviation without material and speedy assistance.

A Committee will be formed to arrange for the distribution of money collected. Meanwhile, the Undersigned makes an earnest Appeal on behalf of the Sufferers. Subscribers are kindly requested to pay their donations to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, at Hongkong, Shanghai, or Amoy, specifying such payments as being on behalf of the Mid-Formosan Relief Fund.

ALLAN W. BAIN.

Taiwanfoo, South Formosa, 1st August, 1896.

TROUBLE ON THE "SAIKYO MARU."

On the recent voyage of the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyo Maru*, between Nagasaki and Kobe, the Chief Officer, Mr. Dernburgh, was the object of a concerted attack by the Japanese crew. According to the *Kobe Herald*, the Chief Officer had occasion to call for the boatswain. The man not being forthcoming, the Chief Officer went to the fore-castle and found the boatswain gambling, and when asked by the Chief Officer, he refused to attend to his duty. The boatswain was accordingly paid off at Shimonoseki, having expressed the opinion that he did not care whether he remained on the ship or not. After leaving Shimonoseki the crew were mustered on deck and two men who abetted the boatswain were shown to Captain Conner. After tiffin that day a dozen of the men broke into the Chief Officer's cabin and hauled him out on deck, where he was with

difficulty rescued by Captain Conner and his officers. Most alarming threats were uttered against the Chief Officer; and Captain Conner, it is alleged, has been warned to avoid the discharged boatswain, who has come up to Yokohama.

SINKING OF A KENCHO LAUNCH.

The Kencho steam-launch *Hiryu* was sunk on Monday morning just outside the harbour. The officers had been on the look-out for the P. M. steamer *China*, bearing Count Matsui, hourly expected in from San Francisco. At four o'clock she was signalled and the quarantine staff went on board from their launch, leaving their crew of four or five men on the vessel, close to the Kencho launch. These men seem to have handled their craft badly, for when the *China* went astern their launch and the *Kiryu* was immediately under her. Before this was known on the steamer, however, the *Kiryu* sank. Fortunately the crew were rescued. The *Kiryu* went to the bottom the other launch lost her smoke-stack.

TELEGRAPHIC RATES.

The Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce has had some pretty sharp correspondence with the Agent of the Great Northern, and the Eastern Extension A. and C. Telegraph Companies on the subject of the increased rate of charges recently fixed by the latter. The correspondence explains itself:—

General Chamber of Commerce,
Shanghai, August 4th, 1896.

DEAR SIR,—Your advertisement of an increased scale of charges for telegrams has not unnaturally excited considerable comment, and the Committee of this Chamber are urged to make representation in opposition thereto. Before doing so, however, it is deemed reasonable to enquire if you will favour them with any explanation as to the grounds for what appears to be an exaction from the public, and I should be much obliged if you would afford an early reply, as other Chambers are pressing for united action.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,
C. J. DUDGON, Vice-Chairman.
To J. HENNINGSEN, Esq., on behalf of Great Northern Telegraph Co. Eastern Extension A. & C. Telegraph Co.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company
of Copenhagen.

The Eastern Extension
Australasia and
China Telegraph
Company, Limited.

Shanghai Station, 4th of August, 1896.

SIR,—I have duly received your to-day's letter referring to my advertisements of an increased collection of charges for certain telegrams, and requesting me to furnish you with an explanation of what you are pleased to say "appears to be an exaction from the public."

In reply, I beg to refer you to the terms of the advertisement in question, which plainly set forth the grounds compelling the Telegraph Companies to augment the silver amount which they have hitherto collected in China as insufficient equivalents for their authorised official gold-rates, which are made up of their own proportion and of that payable in gold to other Administrations, exactly in the same manner as has been done by other public companies and corporations, whose tariffs are based on a gold standard and collected here in silver.

I may add that this step has been taken by the Companies with the approval of the different Governments concerned, and on the understanding that the present rate for telegrams from Europe to China, viz., 8 francs 50 centimes (equal to about \$3) per word, shall be reduced to 7 francs from the 1st July, 1897, when the rates decided upon by the International Telegraph Conference held in Buda Pest last month will come into operation.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. HENNINGSEN,
Manager in China and Japan.

To C. J. DUDGON, Esq.,
Vice-Chairman Shanghai General Chamber of
Commerce, Present.

General Chamber of Commerce,
Shanghai, 11th August, 1896.

SIR,—Whilst thanking you for your letter of 4th inst. in reply to that of the same date from this Chamber, I am asked to express the disappointment of the Committee at your very incomplete

response to their enquiry as to the reasons for the recent sudden and enormous increase in your Tariff of Charges.

Dealing with rates to the United Kingdom, as an example of your charges, it appears that in December, 1895, you reduced the same from \$2.30 per word (which had long prevailed) to \$2.00 per word, a reduction welcomed by all though not unexpected or uncalled for in view of the vast increase which had undoubtedly taken place in the volume of messages transmitted and the corresponding beneficial effect on your revenue.

In face of this, and notwithstanding the fact that the course of silver exchange has not proved disadvantageous to your companies, you now without a word of warning or regret raise your rates from \$2.00 to \$2.75 per word, i.e., 37½ per cent., or over 20 per cent. more than you charged prior to the reduction in Dec., 1895, and your only reply to our enquiry as to your reasons is, that you intend to place local rates on a parity with gold charges elsewhere, regulated at your pleasure.

Your revenue is derived in the main from mercantile firms, many of whom pay several thousands of pounds sterling towards your support every year, and it is in explicable that an addition of 37½% to your tariff should be considered justifiable at a few days' notice, and presuming treated as a matter of trifling importance. Your Directors in taking such a course are apparently ignorant or have ignored the fact that though the volume of trade may be increasing, the margins of profit have narrowed to an extent which often causes telegraphic expenses to check business, and your action therefore means that messages will be restricted in every possible manner both in number and in length. Thus whilst your revenue will probably derive little or no advantage, you will have turned satisfaction into dissatisfaction amongst those to whom you are almost entirely indebted for your success in the East.

In addressing you thus plainly, the Committee have no desire to depart from the friendly and mutually advantageous relations of the past, for they feel assured that the results of your action cannot have been duly considered, and they will therefore be obliged by your transmitting by wire to your Head Office the protest and expression of views which they now record.

E. F. ALFORD, Chairman.

To J. HENNINGSEN, Esq.

On behalf of the Great Northern Telegraph Co.
Eastern Ext. A. & C. Telegraph Co.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

DYSENTERY IN KARUIZAWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* report is incorrect. In Karuizawa only one person has succumbed to dysentery, and the total number of cases, even including one or two of doubtful character, do not exceed eight. Excepting two cases, each at a distance of over a mile, I know of no others nearer than Kutsukake, 3½ miles distant, where a severe epidemic prevails.

If you will kindly publish this, you will ease the minds of our friends,

Your obedient servant,

J. N. SEYMOUR, M.B.

Karuizawa, August 11th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In behalf of justice, I write to correct erroneous accounts of the sickness and deaths at Karuizawa. The only death among foreigners, was Mr. and Mrs. Silver Hall's dear little boy—and the only dangerous illness has been confined to that family. One other case was that of a Chinese Missionary—who came to Karuizawa with chronic dysentery—hoping to gain strength to undertake the home-voyage. One more, a slight, and now convalescent case, completes the number among foreigners. Among the Japanese there has not been a single death, a very few cases of dysentery, most proving only diarrhoea. A Chinese Missionary M.D. performed a successful surgical operation on the face of a little girl. This brought him into "repute," and as he practised "gratis" he was besieged with cases, but none was the much dreaded dysentery. I am writing this for the sake of the villagers of Karuizawa, whose winter comfort largely depends upon its summer visitors. The exaggerated accounts that appeared in your columns only provoked a smile from foreigners, but they are of greater moment

to others. The agitation has done good in calling attention to the necessity of pure milk and water. There is much sickness in surrounding villages, and, one, Kutsukake, has been practically quarantined by the police. Thanking you for the courtesy of inserting this.

Yours truly,

AN AMERICAN MISSIONARY.

[The exaggerated accounts referred to were taken from, and credited to, a vernacular newspaper. Moreover, since the above letter was written, a foreign lady has died of dysentery at Karuizawa.—Ed. J.M.]

RAILWAY MISMANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Dr. Eldridge's letter and the reply thereto have made me decide to recall my intention of not communicating a little incident that occurred last summer, when we, too, were starting for Nikko. We, with servants and baggage, reached the Yokohama station in time for the noon train on Friday, but found that, owing to a temporary change in the schedule, that train was not running. Whereupon we requested the officials in the baggage office to receive and hold our baggage till the 7.30 a.m. train next day, Saturday. At 7.10 next morning we were promptly on hand, paid at once all dues on baggage stored—so much for each piece for two days—and requested the checks. The latter could not be given, we were of course told, until the tickets were presented. In vain we pleaded that it was getting late, and the ticket office was not open. When the latter was finally opened it was within five minutes of the time for the train to start; and though we purchased tickets instantly and hastened with them to the baggage room, the clerks absolutely refused to do anything with the baggage, as we were "too late!" If there had been the least delinquency on our part, either as to time of arrival or as to courtesy, we would have submitted quietly to the inevitable. But as it was, we succeeded in gaining the station-master's attention just as he was about to dispatch the train, and it was owing to his courteous attention to the matter that there was a delay of ten minutes which resulted in ourselves and baggage being safely stowed away in the train we wished to take.

Realizing that the baggage clerks have their hardest work in the hottest weather, when they must often be sorely tried, we were loth to complain. But that was neither the first nor the last time that we have been subjected to similar though smaller annoyances, and from the same cause—viz., the failure to open the ticket-office early enough. And therefore we suggest one simple remedy, as a relief to both clerks and travellers, viz., the early opening of the ticket-office.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

A. S. G.

August 16th, 1896.

EFFECTS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BIMETALLISM IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In view of the general interest that bimetalism exercises, and more especially in America, where the election of a new President for the United States seems likely to turn largely on the currency question, it may not be out of place to consider briefly how the British Empire might be affected, were the currency tampered with to bring about a state things that rests on a faulty basis.

Let it therefore be assumed that Parliament has sanctioned a bimetallic system. The restoration of the sterling coinage is the first step, which would consist in increasing the amount of silver in all the subsidiary coins now current, or, and the result would be identical, in establishing a new coinage for the whole Empire instead of only for the United Kingdom and Australia. In any case the subsidiary silver coins must no longer remain at a nominal value which is almost double their intrinsic value. Assuming then roughly and for the sake of argument that silver is now at half its former price and also that the total amount of sterling silver current is £16,000,000, in order to put that silver coinage on a strict bimetallic basis, there would be entailed an expenditure of £16,000,000 + £x, "x" representing the enhanced cost of the silver to the Government owing to such a great demand being put on the market. What x would be it is hard to say. It might be 5 per cent. in addition, that is £800,000.

To put its own coinage right would therefore cost England £16,800,000, and it remains to be seen whether England would be justified in incurring such an expense.

As the argument now stands, the gold and silver coinage would be in the same ratio to one another as the raw metals—approximately; but this ap-

long the same lines as the morning subject.

On Friday the first hour was devoted to a prayer meeting led by the Rev. N. W. Utley, and was followed by a paper on "St. Paul and the Planting of the Church," by the Rev. J. A. B. Scherer, of Saga. In his absence the paper was read by Mr. Price. The evening meeting was led by the Rev. J. Y. McGinnis, of China.

On Saturday morning the session was opened with a Bible Reading led by the Rev. W. Wynd, of Osaka. A question box was then opened by the Rev. A. D. Hail, D.D., of Osaka, which led to an interesting discussion of missionary policy in Japan. There was no evening meeting on Saturday.

The Sunday morning service was conducted by the Rev. J. N. Crozier, of China. Sunday evening being the closing meeting of the Conference it was led by the President, who gave an interesting address summing up the various subjects which had been discussed during the week. The Conference as a whole was a most enjoyable one to all; the series of Bible Readings being one of the marked features of the meetings. The usual business meeting of the Conference was held on Monday, August 10th, and, after making some few alterations in the rules governing the Conference, the following Committee was elected for another year:—Revs. S. H. Wainwright, R. A. Thomson, H. McC. E. Price, J. A. B. Scherer, A. D. Hail, and J. N. Hayes, of China.

The Conference then adjourned.

KARUIZAWA CONFERENCE.

Karuizawa, Shinshu, Aug. 11, 1896.

The conference opened on the 10th with pleasant weather and a good attendance. Rev. J. L. Dearing presided, and introducing the first speaker, said that self-support, the topic for the day, was not a local question only. The churches at home were asking, "How much longer will it be before the churches on mission fields will be capable of sustaining themselves financially?" All are agreed on the desirability of self-support as soon as possible; the questions are what is actual self-support, and how soon can it be realized.

Rev. E. S. Moore, in opening the subject, asked a pertinent question relative to the possibility of self-support in new and older stations, the grouping of weak churches, the precluding of a mercenary spirit, the avoidance of partiality, of educating men out of sympathy with their probable environment, making the pastorate more desirable than work under a missionary, placing inexperienced evangelists in places remote from missionaries, and the advisability of the evangelist's touring rather than working alone in a place, where little progress seems to have been made.

Dr. MacGregor spoke from the standpoint of a missionary in China. The Doctor has kindly furnished the following digest of his remarks. In Amoy our experience has been that a native ministry is essential to the effective carrying on of mission work. The preaching of the Gospel by the general body of converts is valuable in supplementing the work of trained ministry, but cannot take its place. In our work we have from the beginning aimed at building up a self supporting church. The salaries paid by the Missions to preachers in their employment, have been such that the native congregations are able to pay their ordained pastors at a higher rate. This has been systematically kept in view. The native church formed under the care of the Reformed Church Mission and the English Presbyterian Mission, has been organized under the care of a synod with two presbyteries. The presbyteries require that no congregation may call a pastor unless prepared to offer him 10 yen a month with a dwelling house. The salaries of ordained men may vary from 10 to 15 yen. No man is ordained unless called to the ministry by a congregation prepared to support him. The preachers in the employment of the Missions are paid from 5 to 8 yen a month. Now among these preachers some are from time to time recommended to the Presbyteries for license, and when, after examination, they are licensed, they are eligible to a call from any congregation prepared to support them. When a congregation numbers 50 or 60 communicants it is generally expected to be able to support an ordained pastor. The average amount contributed by the native Christians is from 2 to 3 yen per communicant (including women). In providing their church buildings the congregations as a rule are helped by the missions or by the missionaries individually. Dr. MacGregor said further, in answer to questions, that parish school teachers were paid salaries less than pastors, and that teachers in the higher and theological schools were not paid above pastors. In the Amoy church they have no Home Mission Board, but they have what might be termed a Foreign Mission Board,

that conducts work among the Hakka population, about 100 miles inland from Amoy. The money used by this Board is supplied by the Chinese. Theological students are supported by the Mission and students in the Middle School as well, except that the latter contribute to their education one yen a month.

Rev. Mr. Arnold, of China, called attention to the fact that self-support had succeeded best in the poorest district, Shantung. In Mr. Arnold's field it was still a struggle to maintain the principle. He instanced the case of a converted story-teller, a man of power in preaching, who has attempted self-support but finds his touring time greatly diminished by the time required for the conduct of his business.

Rev. E. C. Noyes, of Maebashi, was then called for, and in responding regretted that although there are many self supporting Kumi-ai churches which have never received a dollar from the Mission, and many church buildings erected without such aid, yet self-support has become more and more difficult during the last few years. The recent reduction in appropriations from home, however, has not been an unmixed evil; for when the proposition was made to a certain church to unite with others in supporting a collegiate pastor, not only this church proved its ability to be self-sustaining, but another church, hearing of this heroic effort, determined also to be independent.

In the evening, the devotional meeting was conducted by Rev. Mr. Hudson, of China. The plan for the three devotional meetings on the programme contemplates a study of the First Epistle of John, taking one of three sections each evening. The service last evening was an exceedingly interesting one, the Christian fellowship, joy and cleansing, and the two attributes of God, light and love, being the themes. A deeply earnest and spiritual tone prevailed.

The topic for Tuesday evening was "The Language." Bishop Bickersteth presided, and called on Bishop McKim to speak on "Colloquial Japanese." The latter said that he was never more astonished than when asked to speak on this theme, but he had concluded it must be on account of his age! Romaji was discontinued and the beginner urged to make the acquisition of the *kana* his starting point; this to be followed by grammar study, and reading the New Testament; this in turn to be succeeded by such books as the *Kyuo Dowa*, *Shingaku michi no Hanashi*, and finishing with *Gogaku Hitori Annai*. Absorbing is better than attempting to memorize long sentences. Young missionaries were advised to write their first sermons. A good plan is to preach to your teacher and have him give you the same in more idiomatic Japanese.

Rev. Mr. Roston, of China, read a paper on the Chinese characters and the study of them. The source of these 40,000 and more word symbols, used by more human beings than any one system, must ever remain a mystery. It is a living system by which we in our time may hold intercourse with the ancients of thirty centuries ago. Under the division of how to study the character, the method used by the Chinese was given; "a selection of characters written on small pieces of red paper, cut into squares, are placed before the pupil, who has not the faintest conception of the meaning of the words before him, neither does he know until later in life, when it begins to dawn on him that such and such a word has such and such a meaning; for his teacher's task is simply to repeat the words over and over to him until he can associate the sound with the character." The method suggested as among the best by which the foreigner may acquire a knowledge of the character were given in the converse order of their importance. First, that of copious reading with the faithful use of the dictionary. Second, by analytical study, that is, by an intelligent observation and division of characters into their component parts of radical and primitive. Third, by the use of certain selected lists of characters, and the constant and thorough study of them. Fourth, that of writing the character from dictation of the colloquial and rendering the same in proper literary style; which plan of course presupposes a fair acquaintance with the character. By this method is claimed the combined study of the colloquial, the character, and the cultivation of style.

Rev. W. J. White then spoke on "Christian Literature in Japan." It has been a growth of 22 years. The first Christian literature in Japan consisted of Christian books from China, Dr. Martin's Evidence of Christianity being one of the most popular books, especially acceptable because of its excellent Chinese style. One of the first Christian tracts was "A Conversation about Christ," written by President Iwuka. This tract has been widely used and much blessed. Japanese Christian hymnology received its first contribution from Dr. Nathan Brown;

it was a metrical version of the Lord's Prayer. In preparing tracts it is quite essential that they should pass through the hands of a competent Japanese for revision of style before being published. The Tract Society hope to secure more practical sympathy from the Japanese pastors in having them write tracts themselves. The committee are also expecting to ask the Japanese pastors to preach on the Society's work one Sunday in the year, and to ask their people for contributions on that occasion. An annual meeting of the Society where the whole question of Christian literature may be discussed, is also in contemplation.

Following Mr. White, Bishop Bickersteth, referring modestly to his attainments in the language, recommended first securing a teacher who knows no English. Dr. Hepburn once told the Bishop that the first Japanese sentence he learned was, *Kore wa nan to iu mono desu ka*, "but" said the Doctor, "I didn't know which word meant which." But even with this slight knowledge great progress was possible. A second recommendation was to aim at the possible. Be content to secure a simple expression. A Jesuit missionary of the old days, had, as one of his rules, "not to remember words of no use to me in my gospel work." Thirdly, go through the same book frequently. This is a most tedious business, but a good method. Again, avoid too much style; too much Chinese makes the discourse unintelligible. Finally, never begin studying without prayer.

In the discussion following, Dr. MacGregor said that in Amoy, Swatow, Ningpo, and Formosa there were Romaji editions of the scriptures. The women and girls are almost ignorant of the character, but they can learn to read the Romaji in a few months. However, Romaji is not used for aggressive work, because only those already Christian are familiar with it.

Dr. Poppen then reminded the Conference that a residence of four months in Japan qualified him to speak on the subject of Chinese characters. He had not as much regard for the characters as he had for the difficulty of acquiring them, and he ventured to predict that in the economy of the future the time and labour necessary to such acquisition will be found too valuable to be so expended.

Bishop McKim warned us against the fascination of the study of the characters, and placed the commencement of the third year of study as the proper time to begin.

Rev. Mr. Elliott advised learners of the language to be listeners rather than conversers, to listen to all kinds of speakers, and never to discontinue studying. Some one asked Dr. Verbeck at the Conference two years ago what the best method of studying the language was, "I don't know of any special method; you'd better keep on studying," was the reply. Rev. Mr. Noyes urged strongly the necessity of thinking in Japanese, and avoiding any method that assumed first thinking in English.

The session on Wednesday was chiefly occupied by the reading of Dr. Poppen's able paper on "The Unity of the Scriptures." Nature and reason cannot be appealed to in vindication of the unity of scripture. Scripture is a unique realm. Whosoever receives Christ as Lord receives His word as proof; whosoever does not receive Him as Lord looks in vain for sufficient proof. Proof must be of the nature of its kingdom. 1. What did Jesus say of the Old Testament? 1. "The scripture cannot be broken." "How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled?" All the Scriptures pointed to one thing; they gave the programme of His life, hence they must be fulfilled. The Law, Psalms, and Prophets are organically connected, 2. Jesus regarded the Old Testament as final throughout. "Have ye not read?" "To-day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears." In His temptation, too, Christ quotes Scripture as final and authoritative. Even in its minutiae—the tense of a verb, the terminal letter of a word, even to its jot and tittle the Scripture is final. 3. Scripture was a whole. Christ conceived of the Old Testament as a unit, referring to Himself, "for they are they which testify of me." The passage, "I desire mercy and not burnt-offerings," is a dictum combined of the sayings of two different prophets; God used various agents, but there was one Primary Author. If it is questioned, Does not Christ abrogate some of the Law since He repeatedly says in the Sermon on the Mount, "but I say unto you," it may be answered Christ does not contend against the Law but against the false exegesis which the doctors had put upon it. The Jews cherished two things as peculiarly holy, the Temple and the Law. The Jews charged Jesus with sin against the Temple but never with sin against the Law. The apostles, like Christ, conceived of the Old Testament as one codex. Moreover, they cited Scripture and not authors. "As it is written" is absolute proof. Paul quotes in Romans III.

from various parts of the Old Testament and refers to these quotations as from the "Law," yet technically none of them are found in the Law. The codex as a whole is a *lex sancta*. "It was not possible that He should be holden of death." Why? because, it is written. It is the "mouth of David" but "by the Spirit." It is objected that the apostles do not quote the Old Testament exactly; but why not, if the same Spirit inspired both prophets and apostles?

II.—To vindicate the New Testament, we must start with the Old. The New is postulated by the Old, vindicated by Christ and confirmed by Christian experience. We read of no opposition in the early Church to adding the New to the Old. The Scriptures of the Old Testament demand the New as their complement just as the New Testament demand the Second coming of Christ as its complement. Christ perpetuated the revelation through the apostolate, promising them the Spirit. He compelled by His Spirit the apostles to give mandates, and the Apostle John to "write." Redemptive agency is like a tree; it must grow and become perfected. The Scriptures are a revelation because at the same time the working out of the redemptive agency. God has completed Revelation, but He has not yet given us the full eye-power to see it all. The study of this is the purpose of theology.

Following this paper arose a discussion of modern criticism. Bishop Bickersteth regarded the scriptures as the record of the development of the Kingdom of God in this world. He distinguished between revelation and written scripture, and urged that Christ drew His argument from the standing truth of scripture. A charitable attitude toward criticism was the right position; for the later critic refutes the former, and in the end the truth prevails to our infinite gain. Rev. Mr. McClellan of China took exception to the introduction of Dr. Poppen's paper, and reminded the conference that the critics were men of piety as well as honesty. Rev. Mr. Brand referred to the large number of quotations of the Old in the New Testament. Christ is found in Genesis and all through the Bible. The Bible does not contain the word of God; it is the word of God. Rev. Mr. Moore spoke of the confirming evidences of the monuments, of the superior acquaintance with Hebrew of the apostles over modern critics, of the possibility of partitioning any book of the Bible in the same way that the critics have treated the Pentateuch, as for example Dr. MacRealsham's fictitious division of Romans into two distinct documents, of the dissatisfaction of certain critics with their own position, e.g. Prof. Sayce, of the tendency of making our own experience the test of judgment, and of the fact that it is easier now than it was ten years ago to believe as our fathers did, because the conservative position is being more and more fully vindicated. Bishop Awdrey called attention to the main thing—finding out the mind of Christ and the mind of God. We should not prejudice the critics but believe that they will be guided to the truth. And we should be careful how we too interpret Scripture because of our liability to lean to our own understanding. Rev. Mr. Noyes, preferred, rather than the way indicated in the paper, to prove the unity of scripture from the standpoint of the development of the Jewish people. The Jewish religion was bound up in their national life.

The second devotional meeting of the Conference was held in the evening, the topic being the second of the three portions of I. John, the number of those taking part indicating their interest in the theme.

Karuizawa, August 15th.

"How to win souls for Christ," was the title of Miss Dickerson's paper at the ladies session on Thursday morning. To be a successful breadwinner is honourable, but "man shall not live by bread alone." Nations stand pledged to protect their nationals; how can we estimate the value placed by God upon a living soul? "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the sun." "He who winneth souls is wise." Great tact, quick sympathy, and love, are essentials. Only Christ will attract. The work of winning souls is one of warning, entreaty, and patience. The time is now. The spirit of prayer is first, last, and always our mightiest weapon. "Never lose your faith in souls." Each one must find out her own "how."

Miss Parmelee of Mayebashi followed with a paper on the work of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Probably there is no obstacle to Christianity in Japan—next to the innate evil of the human heart—so great as the drink traffic. This W.C.T.U. originating with the women's crusade in Ohio, now extends throughout the world. It is the grandest organization; "this organized mother-love" of women in the world. The W.C.T.U. work has been

more than the antecedent of Dr. Parkhurst's reform movement and much of the reform legislation. The World's W.C.T.U. has developed into a multitude of departments, because in promoting any reform you run sooner or later against the drink evil. Among these departments may be mentioned, the introducing into schools-books of information on the evil effects of alcoholic drinks and narcotics, the preparation of temperance lessons for the Sunday Schools, international arbitration, bands of hope, loyal legions, bands whose object is to secure mercy to animals, social purity, and Florence Crittendon methods; the establishment of coffee-houses; the "polyglot petitions" which have now 7,000,000 names attached, and is ultimately to be presented to all the governments of the world; food reform, anti-opium, flower mission; and evangelistic methods. The Japan auxiliary was organized in Yokohama in 1895. Various committees are at work on social purity, evangelistic work, literature, &c. The Japanese Kyofukwai works in harmony with this auxiliary. The committee on foreign work propose opening a coffee house in Yokohama. Besides these there are Japanese temperance organizations throughout the Empire. Miss Clara Parish, who comes as a temperance missionary, is expected to arrive in Japan next September. Miss Monro of Tokyo presented the cause of the Society of King's Daughters which was organized in Tokyo in 1888. The object is to introduce the Christian girls to each other, to teach them to do Christian work, and to deepen their own spiritual lives. The name, King's Daughters, was proposed by a lady who did not know of a similar organization in America. There are now about 20 societies in Japan, some parents permit their girls to join the King's Daughters while they are unwilling to have them join the Church. Some of the girls teach in an industrial school, make over old garments for the poor, and devote their energies to works of charity. Miss White of China spoke on the topic of the Holy Spirit. Certain of her school girls, she said, otherwise of excellent conduct, seemed to make progress in the realization of Christian peace very much as the pilgrims used to advance—three steps forward and two backward. In studying the meaning of the vision of the golden candlestick, they were all impressed with the truth that any other than a Spirit-filled life, meant the burning out of an unsaturated wick, with a resultant bad odour of temper and uncharitableness. A real revival visited the school, and it permanently transformed the lives of the girls. Andrew Murray says of those who take care principally of their own faith, that they live lives of "prolonged infancy."

The following speaker, Miss Noyes, has been working in Madura, a city of India, about 10° above the equator. Work was begun there 45 years ago. Gradually home after home has been opened, there are now 38 Bible women working in Madura. Sometimes in teaching one woman they have the whole household come to listen. These Bible women last year actually preached to more than 76,000 women in the various homes where custom confines them. Before they become Christians they paint on their foreheads the symbol of the god they worship, thus a devotee of Vishnu will be marked by the crescent. The Indian village is a number of thatched mud huts huddled together. The people, eat, dress, sleep in the narrow streets, where also are to be seen numbers of bullock carts, dogs, and donkeys. The faces of the women one meets on the streets seem hopeless and sad; it is a pleasure to look from them to the bright faces of their Christian sisters. It is the old women who keep up caste, who refuse medical aid to sick daughters, and take the little children from the schools. Seeing the work of Bible women, the men have asked, "Why can't we have Bible men?" All our schools are entirely supported by mission aid.

The question-box of Thursday evening kept the Conference "after hours." Among the queries and answers were the following: 1. Is the question of self-support complicated by the paying of higher salaries to school teachers and ordained pastors than to ordinary evangelists? Rev. Mr. MacNair was convinced that dissatisfaction does exist and that school salaries should be reduced. 2. Is due importance given to Christian literature in Japan? Rev. W. J. White replied that the increasing demand for tracts seemed to show the growing sense of their importance. They are not, however, as much used by all as they deserve to be. A tract is an ever present discourse; intelligible, too, where a conversation might prove inadequate. Tracts should be used auxiliary to preaching and the distributor should be familiar with the contents of the tracts he uses. The Societies' finances are in good condition. The Tract Society thoroughly examines tracts before publishing them. Later speakers mentioned the existence of lists of Chris-

tian books and tracts published in Japan and the interest the Boards abroad take in this department of the work, as evidenced by grants of funds for translation and publication of new literature. The Baptist Mission has issued a catalogue of all Christian publications of all denominations in Japan. The list is fairly complete. 3. What should be the attitude of Christians toward apparent discrepancies in the Scriptures? In view of the solution of doubts in the past through the discoveries resulting from Egyptian, Palestine, Assyria, Babylonian exploration, is it wise to follow the example of those who are content to suspend judgment and wait for further light? Bishop Bickersteth, in response, advocated the *a posteriori* method of dealing with Old Testament difficulties rather than a *a priori*, which assumes that a perfect understanding of the Old Testament would remove difficulties. He was willing to admit discrepancies. The theory of development may have been unwisely applied. Should we suspend judgment? Yes and no; we do not need to suspend judgment in regard to revelation, though we do in regard to inspiration. Inspiration depends on revelation. There is no doubt about God having revealed Himself in both Old and New Testaments. Our faith does not rest on particular texts. Our business is not to teach some theory of inspiration, but God has truly made known His will to us. 4. To what extent do Biblical students of the school of Wellhausen, Driver, Briggs, etc., agree in their critical conclusions among themselves, and what measure of success have they had in convincing men of the conservative side, such as Green, whose scholarship and candor they themselves recognize? The critics substantially agree among themselves, replied the Rev. Mr. McClellan, that the pentateuch is composite, with emendations, accretions, etc., that the Levitical code is of late date, that some of the Psalms were written late, that the Book of Daniel is later than Daniel's time. Textual criticism is fairly accurate, but not absolute. It is largely a matter of MSS. How far have conservative scholars receded? Both in Scottish and English colleges most of the professors have gone over to the critical views.

The following digest of Rev. Mr. Gale's paper on Missionary Experience in Korea, was read at the Friday morning session.

Korea, lying west of Japan, so as to form a convenient wedge for the Japanese on their way to China, has a population of about 12,000,000 and an area half that of Japan. The land rises in a series of low mountain-ranges, which the Koreans look upon as dragons, as sites for ancestral graves, and as atmospheres over the land, propitious or unpropitious. You may maltreat a Korean with impunity, woe betide the stranger who touches an ancestral grave. The people claim to be a race descended from the gods, slightly mixed with Chinese. Tablets dooming foreigners to death formerly adorned the roadsides. But since the treaty was signed, ten years ago, not an American or European foreigner has been injured in the slightest. All are treated with the utmost kindness. Missionary work has been going on for the past few years unmolested. Last October there were 528 baptized Christians, of whom 202 came in during the year. There had been 500 more applicants. There are 19 organized congregations and 42 places for regular worship.

Soul, which is said to be the most picturesque city in the world, contains much to make one shudder, owing to that horrible feature of Eastern life, the constant presence of the dead. The writer saw a hundred or more unburied bodies propped up on sticks along the wall outside the city gates. They were unburied, because the victims of small-pox, and their burial before the end of three months would be unpropitious to the rest of the family. The Korean mental make-up is peculiar and mystifies the foreigner even more than the language, which at first seems a hopeless barrier. The word for work in Korea is synonymous with "loss," "evil," "misfortune." The man who leads an idle existence in Korea proves his right to a place among the gentry. The writer tried the experiment of living in the interior in order to acquire the language. In a village on the west coast, 200 miles from Soul, a room 6 feet high, 8 feet wide, and 16 feet long, was placed at his disposal, where for three months he was surrounded by a host of curious natives from early dawn till late at night. He escaped only once by hiding near an ancestral grave for half an hour, when he was discovered by the villagers who feared he had begun "to feel lonely." These villagers took an interest in the Bible teaching offered them, were apparently open-hearted and honest in their questions, and entirely kind and well-disposed. Now a large self-supporting church exists in the village. In spite of the startling cut of their dress, and their belief that the world is flat, and that the sun

revolves about Korea, they differ in heart but little from the average man in the West; and from the Mandarin to the coolie, there are many true gentlemen among them. One such was an old farmer named Nam, who was patient in great poverty, humble and modest in prosperity, whose honesty, faithfulness, and hunger for the Gospel and desire to take the message to his friends, combined to make a character of sterling worth and beauty. Another striking figure was a city-physician whose stock of instruments consisted of "two murderous-looking spears" and who classed all diseases under the heads of "desperate cases and general weakness." For the latter he prescribed pills made from tiger-bones, which being the strongest part of the strongest animal might logically be expected to be strengthening in any case. The writer once only saw a Korean man of the people out of debt and in the possession of so large a sum as \$45. The problems of Korea seem to grow greater and greater. Women are imprisoned and degraded, labour is dishonourable, the race is sold to ancestor-worship and Chinese superstitions; advance in any line is regarded as lawlessness; independent thought is treason, there is nothing for a loyal subject to do but to drag out his existence in the old ruts his father walked in. During the last two years, Missions have progressed; but war and rebellion have swept whole villages away. The present government is most unstable, the king delighted with the protection of the Northern Bear that in time will probably devour him. The political atmosphere of the East is charged with uncertainty, and the future holds, the writer fears, nothing but sorrow for Korea.

At the close, Mr. Gale, in reply to a number of questions about Korea, made the following statements:—

The Government formerly sustained a school for boys in Seoul, but this is now entirely in the hands of the Methodist Mission. The Presbyterians have a boys' school also. The work among Korean women is being carried on by a foreign missionary, a lady living in Seoul.

The Koreans cannot read Mandarin, but are able to read Wenli; their own language is not used as a written language by the scholarly class. Some of the Christian tracts are written in Chinese, some in Korea; the Chinese always preferred, though many cannot read it.

The climate is not unhealthy, but malaria prevails.

Japanese influence in Korea after the war was good, up to the murder of the Queen. Since then Japan has lost almost all her influence in Korea, although the Japanese officials were much less corrupt than the others.

The lives of foreigners in Korea to-day are safe. But care must be exercised, especially in the choice of one's servants.

Korean Christians find difficulty in keeping the Sabbath. Every fifth day is market day and frequently falls on Sunday.

The work of preaching in street chapels is very successful, more so than street preaching, to which the punctilious, propriety-loving Koreans do not take kindly.

A national system of education exists, but it is not very good, especially since the last year. Schools are found in all the Korean villages, but attended only by the scholarly class. This class makes up one-half the population. Chinese learning only is taught in these schools: they are not open to the public, but families associate themselves together and engage a mutual teacher.

The "Japanese Society for Education," begun shortly after the war, has not as yet met with much success, the difficulty being the strong prejudice existing in the minds of Koreans against Japanese. The Koreans no longer look to China for assistance, but for cherished traditions and all noble ideals. They are thoroughly Chinese in sympathy.

The speaker also by request gave a graphic outline of the political events in Korea of the past year, beginning with the murder of the Queen Oct. 7, 1895. He was one of the two Missionaries who spent the following night with the King.

On the evening of the 14th, the Conference closed with a Devotional Meeting, led by the Rev. Elliot, of Toyama, on 1 John iv., 7.

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1895.

SIR E. SATOW TO THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY.
Tokyo, Feb. 22nd, 1896.

MY LORD—I have the honour to transmit herewith enclosed to your Lordship a Report by Mr. Vice-Consul Longford on the Foreign Trade of Japan during the past year.

An endeavour has been made in drawing up this Report to comply as far as possible with the

suggestions contained in the letter addressed to your Lordship by the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom on December 2nd and last.

The Report will be found to contain—

1. Descriptions of the conditions and requirements of trade in Japan.

2. Notices of probable openings for British trade.

3. Reference to some special classes of goods used in Japan, e.g. cotton yarns.

4. An account both of the marked progress of the manufacturing industry in Japan, with special reference to textiles, and of the increasing import of raw materials.

5. Some practical suggestions which seem worthy of consideration by British manufacturers and merchants.

Hitherto the annual reports on the trade of Japan have rarely been furnished till the summer was far advanced, sometimes even later. This Report, however, has been prepared in time to admit of its being despatched by the Canadian mail of the 28th inst., so that it should be in your Lordship's hands about the end of March.

The great expansion which has taken place in recent years in the volume of the foreign trade of Japan, the increasing wealth of the people, the rapid development of manufacturing industries, and more especially the growing demand which the next few years are likely to produce for all kinds of metals, machinery, war materials, ships, etc., in addition to the ordinary staples of trade, combine to render the present period of commercial activity in this country one worthy of the interest and attention of British manufacturers.

I have, &c., (Signed) ERNEST SATOW.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The foreign trade of Japan has hitherto only been dealt with by Her Majesty's Consuls in annual reports, in each of which it has been the custom to review the whole trade of one year. The great expansion which has recently taken place in the value of that trade, the undoubted hopes that are justly entertained, not only by Japanese, but by foreign manufacturers and merchants, that this expansion is but the earnest of a much greater one that is soon to come, the steady increase of the industrial capacity of the Japanese people, and more especially the interest which, prompted in the first instance by the renown of Japan's military success, has at last been stirred in England as to her commercial possibilities, justified during the past year some departure from the old rule. Two reports were accordingly prepared on the whole foreign trade, and have been published in England during the course of the year, giving the statistics of the trade and reviewing its progress (1) for the first half (2) for the third quarter of the year, and to the latter was added a brief postscript containing some details of the trade during the month of October. The annual return of the whole foreign trade of Japan issued by the Department of Finance, from which all annual statistics have hitherto been invariably compiled, has not yet been published, and while therefore it is perhaps impossible to review the trade of 1895 with as much detail as access to that return would admit of, sufficient information with regard to it can perhaps be given, with the aid of the previous reports and the Japanese monthly return for November and December, to justify its publication without awaiting the more liberal material that the annual return would afford. Early information as to the trade in foreign countries is one of the points upon which stress has been laid by the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, and the present condition of trade and its prospects in Japan now seem to justify the experiment of endeavouring to meet that desire by sacrificing, to some small degree, detail in tabular statistics.

The result of the year's trade is such that it may be said to have been satisfactory to all interested in it, to the manufacturer in England, for whose productions there has been an increased demand; to the British merchants in Japan, to whom the year has been a good one; and to the Japanese producer, whether agriculturist or manufacturer, who has found for his goods a market abroad to an extent far beyond that achieved by him in any previous year. At the beginning and during the early stages of the war with China a check was naturally given to general consumption of every article that was not an absolute necessity of life and to the sinking of capital in permanent investments, while the monopolisation by the Government for military purposes of the greater part of the shipping and railway transport facilities necessitated a decrease in the amount of the productions of the Japanese farmer and fisherman placed upon the market for sale to foreigners.

But with the conclusion of peace a revival of industry and prosperity speedily took place, which soon surpassed in its extent anything that had ever been experienced in the country in its previous history. The purchasing power of the people, being largely augmented, produced a greatly increased demand for luxuries of every kind, and a consequent marked rise of prices; the freight capacity of various railways are taxed to the utmost, while the promotion of entirely new industrial undertakings, such as railways, spinning, sugar, and silk factories, docks, &c., and the increase of the capital and capacity of those already in existence, reached an extent and variety that were almost bewildering. The payment of large dividends by the older companies and the high premiums at which their shares were quoted in the market, almost without a solitary exception, have produced what may well seem to the foreign observer a wild outburst of speculation, but money still seems to flow in abundance for every project, and its absorption in undertakings which no matter how prosperous they promise to be in the future, cannot be immediately remunerative, has exercised no deterrent influence on the amount available for the purchase of the ordinary commodities of general trade. In all classes of labour, whether skilled or not, a most substantial rise of wages has taken place, and while capitalists, rushing eagerly to place their funds in joint stock companies, are promoting the demand from Europe of machinery, metals, rails, and ships, the lower classes have not been deterred by any rise in prices from maintaining a higher standard of living than any to which they have heretofore been accustomed. Both causes have contributed to the increase of trade, and though it would be more than rash to prophesy that the present economic prosperity will be permanent, abundant satisfaction may be felt by the English manufacturer in its present, even if only temporary, existence. Sufficient capital has been already provided to cause a large demand for some years to come on the part of joint stock companies for staples under the first heading, and under the second the people in general will be hard pressed ere they forego entirely the consumption of commodities which they have for a time enjoyed.

AGGREGATE TRADE.

The total value of the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1895 amounted, in sterling, to £28,150,735, composed of:—Imports, £13,526,710; exports, £14,624,025.

These figures, which do not include foreign produce re-exported from, nor Japanese produce re-imported into, Japan, show as compared with the corresponding ones for 1893 and 1894 the large increase of £1,874,545 and £845,488 in imports; of £3,226,305 and £2,822,683 in exports; and of £5,100,850 and £3,668,171 in the total values of the whole trade. That so large an increase should have taken place in the value of the foreign trade, that this increase should owe very little to exceptional military requirements, and that it should be almost entirely caused by an increased export of Japanese productions and an increased import of the ordinary staples of trade, speaks well for the growing industry and prosperity of the country and justified even the highest anticipations that were entertained at the commencement of the year.

The distribution of the trade during the year among the foreign countries which principally shared in it was as follows:—

Country.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
British Empire—	£	£	£
Great Britain	4,705,427	854,011	5,559,438
Hongkong	875,137	1,989,303	2,864,440
British India	1,250,188	472,250	1,722,438
Australia	107,471	138,785	246,256
Canada	1,428	215,167	216,595
Total	6,939,651	3,669,516	10,609,167
United States	966,287	5,855,135	6,821,422
France	579,944	2,638,508	3,218,452
Germany	1,274,287	361,834	1,636,121
China	2,294,285	989,636	3,283,921

The following table will show, how, taking the same years as illustrations, the values of imports have increased from those countries which chiefly supply Japan with manufactured goods. The United States may here be omitted, as, though now entering into competition, especially in machinery and metal manufactures with Great Britain and Germany, heretofore Japan's principal purchases from the States have been kerosene oil, raw cotton and flour, none of which possess any direct interest for British manufacturers. The figures, as in the subsequent case, must also be given in silver currency, as it would, at this distance of time, be more than difficult to fix exact sterling value of the silver dollar for the years 1872 and 1882, but for purposes of comparison only a com-

mon denominator is required, and the silver dollar will perhaps serve for that purpose as well as the English sovereign:—

Year.	Great Britain.	Germany.	France.
1872	\$11,907,182...	2,040,263...	\$2,489,269
1882	13,971,858...	1,196,268...	1,464,459
1892	20,789,332...	6,375,048...	3,620,500
1893	27,929,628...	7,318,133...	3,305,277
1894	42,189,873...	7,909,542...	4,348,047
1895	45,172,108...	12,233,155...	5,567,466

Large though the increase is which has taken place in the value of British import trade, it is far from bearing the same proportion with that of Germany.

The above figures for 1872 very inadequately represent the value of imports of British manufactures into Japan in that year. To the amount stated in the table an addition of at least \$4,500,000 would probably have to be made before even an approximately correct idea of the whole value would be obtained. If this be done, it will make the value of British imports into Japan in 1872 nearly \$16,500,000 instead of \$12,000,000, and that of the year 1895 would therefore be only two and three-quarters fold that of 1872. In sterling the increase is of course very much less, probably not more than 34 per cent., and during the last seven years, in which the whole value of Japan's import trade had increased by nearly \$31,000,000, the growth of the sterling value of British imports has been slow, and, as in the whole period from 1872, compared *pro rata* with that of German imports, small.

While the value of British imports shows in seven years an increase of little over £673,000 on an original trade of over £4,000,000, that of Germany shows an increase of £518,200 on an original trade of £756,087.

But if British imports have not increased *pro rata* with the whole value of Japan's import trade, some satisfaction may be found in contemplating the steady increase of those from dependencies of Great Britain. It is in the case of the British East Indies that the most marked development has taken place, and it is quite possible that even the present large value of Indian imports may very speedily show still larger increases. In nineteen years, since 1877, the value has increased sixty-two fold, from \$190,527 to \$12,001,817.

The principal seats of foreign trade in Japan are the ports of Yokohama and Hyogo (including Osaka), and these ports may now fairly claim to be respectively second and third in point of importance as commercial bases in the Far East, north of Hongkong, Shanghai alone being entitled to rank before either.

While the direct foreign trade of both ports still falls far below that of Shanghai, it is in both cases just as far in advance not only of that of any other port in China, but in Yokohama it surpasses and in Hyogo nearly approaches the aggregate value of that of the five most important ports in China after Shanghai, viz., Canton, Foochow, Tientsin, Amoy, and Swatow.

HYOGO AND OSAKA.—Hyogo is the chief seat of the import trade of Japan, and its exports are increasing largely. Osaka is the greatest commercial town in Japan, the chief seat of the cotton spinning and of many other important industries, such as matches and glassware, the head-quarters of several great joint stock companies, and in every sense a city of great wealth and prosperity. From a position of absolute insignificance, when just as little hope was entertained of its future as there was satisfaction in its existing condition, Hyogo has sprung, in little over twenty years, to the position of third commercial port in the East. Its future is now as promising as twenty, or even ten years ago, it was the reverse. Many schemes for its improvement by docks, harbour works, and new railways, and for aiding its commerce by industrial banks are either in contemplation or in actual progress. Its geographical position will give it the lion's share of whatever profit may be derived from the acquisition of the Island of Formosa; its direct connection by several lines of rail with the best harbours on the West Coast of Japan will enable it to control the trade with Russian Asia, when the Siberian railway is completed; and if a large trade should ever arise with Australia, Hyogo will also be the place at which it will be principally carried on. It is already the chief seat of the large and increasing trade with British India.

Yokohama is the principal seat of the Silk export trade from Japan. The value of this trade in 1895 was:—Raw Silk \$50,907,545; principal silk manufactures \$15,337,800; total \$66,245,355. If this amount be deducted from that of the whole foreign trade, the balance falls far below the value of the trade of Hyogo. Many Japanese do not consider it to be beyond the bounds of contemplation that ere many years the whole trade

of Yokohama may surpass even that of Shanghai. Possibilities in China must, they admit, be infinitely greater than any that Japan can ever hope to offer, but prospects in Japan are assured, and not, as in the case of China, dependent on remote eventualities of which no earnest whatsoever has yet been given.

IMPORTS.

Taking the principal items, there was a very large increase in the value of the import of raw cotton, but decreases in that of cotton yarn and piece goods; large increases in raw wool, woollen yarn, blankets, and piece goods with the exception of Italian cloth; increases in bar, plate, and sheet, tube, and pipe iron, and railway materials, but decreases in pig and nail iron and rails; and decreases in locomotives and machinery; in all cases as compared with the corresponding value for 1894.

RAW COTTON.—The import continues to flourish and to keep pace with the increasing prosperity of the spinning industry in Japan, that of 1895 exceeding that of the previous year by nearly 21,000 tons in quantity, and £477,610 sterling in value.

The whole import during the year, according to the Customs returns, was about 202,000,000 lbs. A considerable portion of this must have remained unsold at the close of the year, probably owing to the disputes which arose between Chinese importers and Japanese buyers, on account of the alleged frauds on the part of the former.

The whole quantity of raw cotton consumed by the fifty-five factories was 182,000,000 lbs., of which Japanese, 2,357,000 lbs.; Chinese 81,404,000 lbs.; British India, 71,938,000 lbs.; American, 18,552,000 lbs.; miscellaneous, 7,755,000 lbs. The latter included about 412,000 lbs. of Egyptian cotton. Assuming that the above figures represent the whole import of Indian raw cotton in 1895, these show a very large advance as compared with previous years. In 1894 the whole import recorded in the Customs returns was 56,000,000 lbs., and in 1893, 49,000,000 lbs.

Much dissatisfaction has been felt during the year by the various Japanese spinning companies at the quality of the cotton imported from China. It has been found to be so impregnated with water that from 13 to 15 per cent. of the weight is alleged to represent moisture, with which the cotton had been dishonestly saturated by the Chinese exporters. No such charge is laid against Indian cotton, and it is probable that the bad reputation which Chinese cotton is now acquiring will soon tend greatly to the advantage of the import of the latter.

COTTON YARN.—The import in 1895 shows a decrease of 805 tons, about 3,220 bales in quantity, and £134,682 in value, as compared with 1894. The whole import, amounting to about 35,000 bales, was practically of Lancashire yarns, a very few bales of Bombay spinnings being imported. The market was suffering from a want of confidence on the part of buyers, due in a great measure to the heavy losses they were incurring over forward contracts, entered into before the war broke out with China, for delivery in the autumn of 1894. Several instances occurred of dealers failing to observe their contracts. A very notable case has been on several occasions referred to in the London Press, in which one of the largest and wealthiest yarn dealers in Yokohama set the judgment rendered against him in his own Court of Justice at contemptuous defiance, and extorted, by the threat of a general boycott, in which he was supported *con amore* by all the guilds of yarn dealers in Japan, a considerable abatement on contract price from an English firm of importers.

Speaking generally, a small business was done in 1895 in ordinary 16/24's and 28/32's water twist, but none at all in mock-water or Bombay yarns, both the latter having for a long time past been entirely supplanted by the produce of the native mills. The hard water twists of Lancashire have so far met with little competition from Japanese spinnings, and being required for special purposes, for which soft yarns are not adapted, must, for the present at all events command a certain amount of the trade. In 38/42's also a small business will always be done.

In 2/32's and 2/42's two folds, especially the latter, a very large business in 1895 has to be recorded, these spinnings being fortunately interfered with so far only to a trifling extent by the products of the Japanese mills. During the autumn of 1895 the demand for gassed and fine plain yarns became greatly intensified, and a very large business was the result. Towards the close of the year, however, it became evident that the import was in excess of requirements. The result of the year's trade was, on the whole, eminently satisfactory both to the English importer and the native dealer in Japan.

Among the many factories now in course of

erection in Japan, two are said to be intended for spinning gassed yarns. As these yarns are made exclusively from Egyptian cotton, which would require to be imported into Japan at very heavy cost, it is more than probable that Lancashire, with the advantages of comparative proximity to the seat of the cotton supply, greater experience, &c., will be able to hold its own against Japanese competition in this particular line.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.—A very substantial increase has to be recorded in the import not only of these manufactures, with one exception, but also of raw wool. The quantity of the latter imported in 1895 was nearly double that in 1894; that of blankets more than double; of flannels nearly, and of cloth, much more than three-fold; and of miscellaneous woollen piece-woods and cotton mixtures, nearly double. A considerable portion of the blankets and cloth was, no doubt, intended for Government use to replenish military stores which must have become thoroughly exhausted during the winter campaign of 1894-95 in the north of China, but a fair share of the increase must also be ascribed to an increased consumption on the part of the people. In Italian cloths there was a considerably decreased import in 1895. Wholesale dealings at the beginning of the year were unusually large, amounting to an "overplus" of three months' ordinary average consumption, while at the same time consumption was below the average. Prices also rose in England, and the usual import was therefore considerably checked, though only temporarily. Substantial improvements in the import have marked the close of last and the commencement of the current year, and no anticipations need be entertained as to any permanent decline.

The trade in Mouseline de laine has always been a French one, English manufacturers never having been able to compete with the prices at which those of France produce these goods. Japan now proposes to institute this industry herself, and two companies have recently been formed, one in Tokyo and one in Osaka, each with a capital \$1,000,000 to establish mouseline factories. Steps are being taken to have a formal petition presented to the Diet praying for the abolition of the import duty now levied on raw wool. This privilege has already been conferred on the cotton spinning industry. At present all the "woollen fancies" imported into Japan from Europe are made from Australian wool. If the latter is brought direct from Australia to Japan, freed from the burden of import duty, and manufactured by Japanese, not only would native consumers be able to satisfy their requirements much more cheaply than they do at present, but Japan might in time hope even to undersell European woollen productions in other Asiatic countries.

So runs the draft of the proposed petition. To supply their own requirements is a very legitimate aspiration on the part of the Japanese, and it promises, if such skill can be achieved in the manufacture as to turn out goods not inferior to those produced in France, to be just as successful as a commercial speculation, even though its field of supply is limited to Japan, as the cotton industry has already become. The Diet, a great part of whose policy might now be well described as "Japan for the Japanese," will give a ready ear to any petition which is for the benefit of industry, much more if that industry is of the nature to supplant a foreign one. The import duty on raw wool will therefore be taken off, while on the other hand, French manufacturers will have to struggle against the heavy import of 10 per cent., which under the new tariff (not yet, however, it may be added, agreed to by France) will have to be paid on imported woollen manufactures.

If Japan proposes to supply woollen manufactures to China, her attention will have to be given to other branches than mouselines de laine.

RAILS.—During the year 1895 there was a continued demand from England for rails and railway material. Practically, all the rails for permanent way were obtained from England, but light rails for portable railways, though often ordered through England, were generally obtained from Belgian makers. Pig-iron is exclusively obtained from England, but bar, plate, and sheet-iron are supplied only by Belgium and Germany. The same remark may be made as to bar, plate, and sheet-steel, 1,000 tons of which are imported annually for general consumption, and all of which is in the Basic process. The better classes of steel in the Siemens-Martin process, and nearly all that is required by the Government and great industrial companies, continue to be obtained from England. Submarine telegraph cable to the extent of about £145,000, and cast-iron water pipes to the value of £80,000, were ordered from England in 1895. Neither of these items are included in the returns of imports for 1895, both being just now arriving in Japan.

During the past fifteen years, the aggregate import of rails has exceeded 300,000 tons, and perhaps only 10 per cent. of this total was not of English manufacture. German rails were tried, and every possible effort was made by German makers and merchants to secure preference for them on the part of both the Government and private railways, but to so little permanent effect that during the last ten years, even when German merchants resident in Japan have secured contracts for the supply of rails, it has been under the condition that they should be of English make. To this rule there have, however, been very recent exceptions, a tender which does not appear to have been accompanied by the above limitation having during the month of January been accepted from a German firm in Yokohama for the supply of 1,700 tons of steel rail for the Kinsiu Railway. And in specifications issued within the last few days, inviting tenders, to be handed in before March 2nd next, for the supply of 2,200 tons for the Hokkaido railway, it is stipulated that the rails are to be made by one of four firms of manufacturers, three of which are well-known British firms at Maryport, Barrow, and Middlesbrough, and the fourth a German firm.

Tenders lately accepted from the representatives of British manufacturers include 5,000 tons for the Sobu Railway, and 7,800 tons for the Hokkai-yetsu Railway, besides large quantities of such supplies as fish-plates, dog spikes, &c. It is evident from the two instances quoted that British manufactures of steel rails must once more reckon on German competition in Japan. And another element of competition from a very unexpected quarter has also been recently added.

In the middle of December last the Sanyo Railway, in point of wealth and influence the second private railway company in Japan, in point of enterprise probably by far the first, invited tenders for the supply of 10,000 tons of steel rail and over 1,000 tons of fish-plates, dog spikes, &c. The unusually long period of six weeks was named as that within which tenders would be received, and another departure was made from the practice hitherto pursued by this company in that the tenders were invited only from chosen firms, and not publicly, and such privacy was observed that one of the largest Japanese contractors in Tokyo was entirely ignorant of the whole transaction until some time after it was completed.

One of the general conditions of the contract was:—Half-payment for first lot to be made on completion of shipment, and the balance one week after delivery, and the issue of the certificate of the engineer-in-chief as to the satisfactory nature of the material. The makers to have the right of shipping the second lot whenever convenient, provided delivery is completed before the final date above-mentioned, but no half-payment on shipment is to be made until after October 1st, 1896, nor of the balance until after Jan. 15th, 1897, even though all material may have been delivered and passed before that date. This contract has been accepted by the Illinois steel works, of Chicago, at £5 15s. 6d. per ton for the steel rails, a price 6s. per ton less than any quoted by English makers, whose works are on the coast, and who would therefore have no charges whatever to pay on account of internal transport before shipment. As the contract was made through the intermediary of one of the oldest and most experienced American firms in Japan, it must be presumed that the makers have been well advised as to business methods in this country. This may possibly prove only a very small fraction of the future requirements of the Sanyo Railway Company.

MACHINERY.—Spinning machinery has naturally continued the most important item under this heading, but the import of dynamo-electric machinery, principally from the United States, also reached to a considerable value in 1895, and a large quantity of weaving machinery for the Government woollen factory in Tokyo was ordered from Germany. Several locomotives were ordered from the United States and from England. On March 31st last the total number of locomotives in Japan was 440, about 75 per cent. of which were of English make. Three German makers have supplied about thirty locomotives in all, and the remainder have come from United States makers.

In a subsequent part of this report the subject of machinery is again dealt with. To what is there said one remark may now be added, and that is to repeat what has been already stated in previous reports over and over again, that it is utterly useless for manufacturers to send to Her Majesty's Consulate in Tokyo elaborate catalogues of their productions, prepared evidently at very great expense. To retain the number of these, which almost every mail brings, in any form in which they would be available for reference, it would be necessary to have a large room specially built for the pur-

pose; to circulate them among the ordinary classes of Japanese buyers is useless, as their contents are unintelligible. But opportunities are now open to manufacturers, who wish to bring their names before the Japanese, which may be experimentally used. These consist in two English advertising journals published in the Japanese language.

Advertising is still in its very first infancy in Japan, it is, as compared with other countries, so little resorted to either in the press, in railway stations, or on hoardings, that it would yet be rash to say whether it appeals to buyers or not. The majority of advertisements, other than those in the Press, which do appear, have a strong flavour of having been suggested, and of being paid for by foreigners. Whatever is done in this way must be purely experimental, but the experiment, if tried, need not be expensive, and at worst it cannot be more useless than the present system of sending catalogues by post. Its only drawback is that it may expose manufacturers to the blandishments of the worst class of Japan traders. Against these full warnings have been given, and if manufacturers suffer from them they will only have themselves to blame. It may be stated here that it appears pure waste of money for agricultural engineers, brass founders, makers of bedsteads, fish-hooks, horsehoes, shovels, windmills, thrashing and reaping machines, bellows, and brushes to advertise their productions in Japan. No demand whatever exists for such goods from England nor is there any prospect of it arising.

EXPORTS.

Great Britain is but a small purchaser from Japan, taking only 6 per cent. of the total exports. The trade is, therefore, of little interest to merchants in England, except in so far that as Japan sells more of her productions to foreigners, so will she be able to purchase more from them, and from this point of view the steadily-growing volume of her exports can be viewed with every feeling of satisfaction. How the value in silver currency of this trade has increased during the last 24 years is shown in a subsequent part of this report. In more recent years the sterling values also show very marked advances. The exports of 1895 exceeded those in 1894 by £2,822,683, and in 1894 they exceeded those of the previous year by £403,622.

The demand for all Japanese produce in 1895, encouraged by the low rates of sterling exchange, continued to be strong throughout the whole year, and the majority of the principal staples contributed to the large increase in the value of the whole export trade.

Agricultural products show an increase of £1,355,193, the most marked items under this heading being:—Raw Silk, £1,103,191; Rice, £192,375; Tea, £127,585; Camphor, £57,681.

Whatever energies are being devoted by the Japanese to the promotion of new manufacturing industries it is evident that the development of the old and national industry of agriculture is not being neglected. The customs of land tenure in Japan have favoured small holdings, and where a large extent of land is cultivated by one farmer his holding, though large in the aggregate, consists of many small lots, often not only far removed from his own residence, but from each other, by lots belonging to other farmers. The loss of time and labour in cultivating under such conditions has long been apparent to some of the most prominent statesmen in the Empire, and advice and encouragement have been given to farmers to enlarge their holdings so as to make a quarter of an acre the smallest lot, to endeavour to effect exchanges with their neighbours so as to make all the lots held by one man continuous, and thus not only to save time and labour, but, by the removal of the present numerous boundaries and paths, greatly enlarge the area now available for cultivation. Exemption from taxation for a period of 30 years has been promised to all the increased area that may be brought into cultivation by these measures, and it is said that the experiment has been most successfully tried in some agricultural districts in the Empire. If universally adopted an increase of about 7,000,000 bushels might be expected in the present annual production of rice alone. The Japanese farmer is, however, as conservative as his compeers in other parts of the world. Marine, mining, and miscellaneous products all show substantial increases on their value in 1894, and manufactured products the large one of £1,612,613.

DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The year 1895 having witnessed the completion of Japan's triumph in the first foreign war undertaken by her since her emergence from her old seclusion, and the spread of her renown throughout the world as a military power, it may not be amiss, when reviewing the trade of that year, to furnish particulars which will show that, great as has undoubtedly been the development of her military, that of her commercial resources have been no less

marked during the last quarter of the century, and that the success which she has already achieved in commerce and industry, though less brilliant and striking, is no less substantial than that which she has won in war. Her political importance and value are now fully recognised in Europe. Slowly, perhaps, but surely she is winning an equal recognition for her commercial and industrial importance, both of which have not only attained to an eminent position in the present, but give the fairest and fullest promise of more marked advances in the future. As an active competitor with European manufacturers in branches of industry which the latter have hitherto been accustomed to consider peculiarly their own, she has already made her influence felt, and her future progress as such is viewed in many quarters with no small alarm. But she has, at the same time, become and continues to be a large purchaser of costly European products, and the hope that she will continue to increase as such is far greater than any alarm which need be felt over her present or prospective competition in other branches of industry.

In the space of 24 years the silver value of Japan's imports increased nearly five-fold, her exports over five-and-a-half-fold, and her total trade over five-fold. Her population during the same period increased as follows:—1872, 33,110,825; 1883, 36,700,118; 1892, 41,089,940; 1893, 41,388,313. This increase still continues at the rate of over 300,000 per annum; it has, in some recent years, amounted to considerably over 500,000; and it is estimated that in the course of another century, Japan may well look forward to being in a position when she will have to provide for a population of over 120,000,000 souls.

An outlet for some of the increase will be found in the newly-acquired Island of Formosa; but even allowing for the most successful colonisation of that island, and for a very extensive emigration of Japanese people to foreign countries, by far the greater part of the increase must be provided for within the limits of the present empire. This can best be done by the gradual development of Japan as a great manufacturing country, by her conversion from a purely agricultural country into one whose chief industry will be manufacturing; and the fact that every energy should be devoted towards the promotion of that end is now being constantly urged upon the people both in the press and in public addresses by leading statesmen and officials. How much has been achieved already a very superficial comparison of the trade returns of 1872 and 1895, and a few statistics as to manufacturing industries already in operating quickly show.

The shortest glance at the returns will show how much the whole character of her foreign trade has changed in the short space of twenty-four years, how, while developing largely the export of her original agricultural and purely raw products, she has become also a great exporter of manufactures, and how she has at the same time become a most valuable purchaser of raw produce from other countries.

While, in 1872, the whole value of manufactured articles exported by her very slightly exceeded \$450,000, in 1895 it attained to no less an amount than \$37,195,200. Textile fabrics, which had no place among the exports of 1872, in 1895 reached a value of \$19,386,632. Matches, matting, glass ware, and straw plaits, now all, like textile fabrics, important and increasing exports, were then entirely unknown as such.

In 1872 the whole import trade may be said to have been of manufactured articles: It is difficult with the materials available at the moment of writing to give an exact and comprehensive statement of the value of the whole import of raw produce in 1895, but among the articles that may be classed under that heading, or at least under that of semi-raw, are the following:—Raw cotton, \$24,822,097; raw wool, \$1,136,191; metals used for manufacturing purposes, \$7,018,230; drugs used for manufacturing purposes, \$1,482,344; hides used for manufacturing purposes, \$695,984; flax used for manufacturing purposes, \$645,840. The value of pig-iron imported in 1872 was \$2,338, and its quantity, 30 tons, against 35,000 tons, value \$673,795 in 1895; while bar plate and sheet, and tube iron had no place at all among imports in 1872, and lead, steel, and tin only the most insignificant ones.

Another estimate may be formed of the increase in the imports of raw produce from the figures of the growing values of Japan's imports from Asiatic countries. These imports, which among other staples, include the bulk of raw cotton and all the sugar, while not exclusively, mainly consist of raw material, and their development is a fair index of that of the import of the latter.

The import of machinery also furnishes a fair criterion on Japan's progress in manufacturing

industry. In 1872 Japan purchased machinery of all kinds to the value of \$181,000. In the following year this amount grew to \$376,000, but so late as the year 1887 very little advance on the latter amount was ever shown in any one year, nor was the import ever considered to be of such importance as to merit more than the merest mention in any of the trade reports of Her Majesty's Consuls in Japan. In 1888 the prospects of the spinning industry first began to attract serious attention, and in that year the value of the import of machinery rose to \$2,794,389.

During the succeeding seven years down to and inclusive of 1895 Japan has purchased machinery from abroad to the aggregate amount of \$18,402,262, including:—Dynamo electric machinery, \$1,473,971; Spinning machinery, \$9,360,939; Weaving machinery, \$681,667; Paper-making machinery, \$478,739; Mining machinery, \$589,403.

In addition to what was imported, the Japanese have, it is to be remembered, already learned to make a great deal of machinery from foreign models for themselves. Numerous foundries are now in active work in every industrial centre in the empire, and while elaborate spinning and electric machinery are still beyond their power, a great quantity of simpler forms is produced, so excellent in its general turn-out as to make it very little inferior to the foreign models from which it was originally copied.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, August 15.

Parliament has been prorogued.

The Queen's Speech states that portions of Turkey, especially the island of Crete, continue to give cause for great anxiety. While maintaining neutrality, the British Government had endeavoured to effect a reconciliation, conjointly with the Powers, by proposing to establish in Crete a system of Government which would be acceptable to Christians and Mussulmans alike.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, August 15.

The *Musashi Kan* arrived here yesterday towing in, stern foremost, the *Ibuki Maru*, that had struck on a rock on her way to Nemuro. The *Ibuki's* fore-hold is full of water, but her machinery not damaged.

H.M.S. *Pigmy* has arrived here from the Behring Sea.

Nagasaki, August 16, 8 a.m.

The *Gaelic* has arrived here, and is now safe in this harbour.

Nagasaki, August 17.

The *Gaelic* will be docked here as soon as the *Kokura Maru* comes out of dock.

Kobe, Aug. 18.

A person was attacked by cholera last night in this town.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, August 13.

The Powers cannot come to an agreement for the adoption of any practical course in Crete.

In the third test match between England and Australia the English team won by sixty-six runs. The weather was very fine but the wicket unplayable.

Exchange on London at Paris25.18

" " " " New York 4.89½
(Tel. Trans.)

London, August 14.

Dr. Nansen has returned to Norway, having reached four degrees nearer the North Pole than any explorer.

The death is announced of Sir J. E. Millais President of the Royal Academy.

London, August 15.

In the House of Commons on Friday, Mr. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, stated that the Government had every hope of arriving at an early agreement with the United States relative to arbitration of the Venezuelan question.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has had a long farewell audience with the Marquis of Salisbury at which

the question of the tariff in China was discussed the whole time.

Exchange on London at Paris25.18½

Exchange on London at New York 4.87½
(Tel. trans.)

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 8.

Prince Ranjitsinghi yesterday reached the aggregate of two thousand runs during the present cricket season.

London, August 10.

H.E. Li Hung-chang, speaking at a banquet held at the Hotel Métropole, said that the difficulties between England and China were the result of a misunderstanding, but that England had been fair, and China had gained her confidence and respect. His Excellency hoped that his visit would remove some of the obstacles to complete harmony, and stated that peace was China's dominant desire.

Australia has beaten Kent by one hundred and seventy-six runs.

Lohmann, Gunn, Abel, Hayward, and Richardson refused to play in Monday's Australian Test Match at the Oval, unless their pay were doubled. The Surrey Club refused to accede to their demand, and remodelled the eleven.

The action of the players is generally condemned.

London, August 11.

Richardson, Abel, and Hayward have withdrawn their demand for double pay, and are included in the team, which further comprises Dr. Grace, Peel, Hearne, Jackson, Lilley, Prince Ranjitsinghi, Wynyard, and MacLaren.

Rain prevented play until 5 o'clock yesterday at the Oval. England made sixty-nine runs for one wicket, Grace being out for twenty-four runs.

London, August 12.

During the second day of the Australian Test Match at the Oval the weather was fine, but the wicket was treacherous.

The English Eleven were all out for one hundred and fifty-five runs, Jackson making the highest individual score of forty-five runs, Abel being next with twenty-six.

In their first innings the Australians made one hundred and nineteen runs, the highest score—forty-seven runs—being made by Darling.

Hearne took six wickets for forty-one runs.

In their second innings England has scored sixty runs for five wickets.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 242.

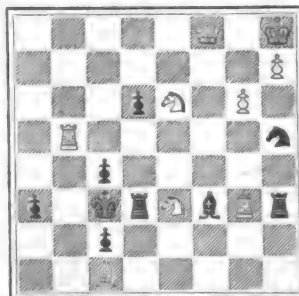
WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to K Kt 3 1—takes Q
2—R to Kt 8 2—Anything
3—R to R 8, mate
Other variations obvious.

Correct answers from J.D., Oiso, W.D.C., Omega, and W.D.H.

PROBLEM NO. 244.

By A. NORLIN.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in three moves.

THE LATE MR. WYVILL.

Games played by the late Mr. Marmaduke Wyvill, M.P., in the International Chess Tournament, London, 1851. The notes are Mr. Staunton's.

GAME NO. 550.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

WHITE. Andersen.	BLACK. Wyvill.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q B 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Kt takes P	4—P to K 3
5—B to K 3 (a)	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to Q 3	6—B to K 2
7—Castles	7—Castles
8—Kt to Q 2	8—P to Q 4
9—Kt takes Kt	9—P takes Kt
10—P to K 5	10—Kt to Q 2
11—P to K B 4	11—P to K B 4
12—R to B 3 (b)	12—P to B 4
13—R to R 3	13—R to B 2
14—P to Q Kt 3	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—Kt to B 3	15—Kt to Kt 3
16—B to B 2	16—P to Q 5 (c)
17—B to R 4	17—Kt to Q 4 (d)
18—Q to Q 2	18—P takes R 4
19—B takes B	19—R takes B
20—Kt to Kt 5	20—Kt to K 6
21—Q to B 2	21—B to Kt 2
22—B to B sq.	22—Kt to Kt 5
23—Q to R 4	23—Q to Q 2
24—R to Q sq.	24—R to Q B sq.
25—B to K 2	25—P to K R 4 (e)
26—R to K Kt 3	26—Q to K sq. (f)
27—R to Q 2	27—R to K Kt 2
28—P to B 3	28—Kt to K 6 (g)
29—P takes P	29—P takes P
30—R takes P	30—R to B 8 ch.
31—Kt to B 2	31—Kt to Q 4
32—R (Kt 3) to Q 3	32—Q to B 3 (h)
33—R to Q 2	33—Q to Kt 3 (i)
34—B to B 4	34—K to B 7 (j)
35—K to K sq.	35—R takes R
36—R takes R	36—Q to Kt 8 ch.
37—B to B sq.	37—R to Q B 2
38—R to Q sq.	38—R to B 7 (k)
39—Q to Kt 3	39—B to R 3
40—Q to K B 3	40—B takes B (l)

And White resigned.

(a) Taking the Kt is not theoretically orthodox, because it strengthens Black's centre. Yet it may be done advantageously if White follows that move with B to K 3 and B to Q 3 speedily.

(b) It is a general fault among inferior players that they are too tardy in bringing their Rooks into play. Observe how rapidly the pieces are brought into co-operation by a master of the game.

(c) An all-important move, as it affords a fine situation for the Kt to be posted at, and opens a sweeping diagonal for the Q. B.

(d) The commanding position of this Kt gives the balance of advantage in Black's favour already.

(e) Mr. Wyvill maintains his advantage gallantly to the end. If this was necessary, to enable him to bring his Kt to K 6 again.

(f) From this moment the assault is conducted with uncommon ingenuity and spirit.

(g) This greatly serves to strengthen the attack, and is much better play than the more obvious move of K R to Q B 4.

(h) Here again Black plays with great judgment.

(i) Excellent as unexpected. From this point the game is almost "forced."

(j) Threatening mate in two moves by R to K 7 ch. and Q to K 6.

(k) This termination is truly scientific. Observe, here, the decisive superiority of taking the B with B, instead of the Q.

GAME NO. 551.

ENGLISH OPENING.

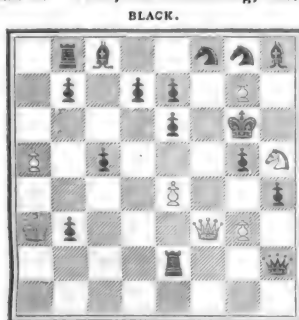
WHITE. Wyvill.	BLACK. Andersen.
1—P to Q B 4	1—P to K B 4
2—P to K 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to K B 4	3—P to K 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—B to K 2
5—B to K 2	5—Castles
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q Kt 3	7—Kt to K 5
8—P to Q R 3 (a)	8—B to B 3
9—R to R 2	9—P to Q R 4
10—P to Q 3	10—Kt to B 4
11—Q Kt to Q 2	11—Kt to B 3
12—P to Q 4	12—Kt to K 5
13—Q to B 2	13—P to Q 4
14—Kt to K 5	14—B to Q 2
15—P takes P	15—P takes P
16—Kt takes B	16—Q takes Kt
17—B to Kt 5	17—B to K 2
18—Kt takes Kt	18—B P takes Kt
19—B to Q 2	19—B to B 3
20—R to Q B sq.	20—R to Kt 3
21—Q to Q sq.	21—Q to B sq. (b)
22—Q to K sq.	22—Kt to R 2
23—B to K 2	23—Kt to B 3
24—P to R 3 (c)	24—Q takes P
25—Q to B 2	25—B to R 5
26—R to B sq. (d)	26—B takes Q
27—P takes Q	27—B to R 5
28—B to Kt 4 (e)	28—K to B sq.
29—R to B 5	29—R to Q sq.
30—P to Kt 4	30—P takes P
31—P takes P	31—B to K 2
32—R to B sq.	32—B to Q 3 (f)
33—B to K sq.	33—R to R 3

34—R (R 2) to Q B 2
35—P to Kt 5
36—R takes P (h)
37—R takes B
38—K to K 2
39—B to Q Kt 4 ch.
40—R takes K P
41—B to Q 2
42—R to Kt 8 ch.
43—K to K sq.
44—B to Q R 5 (i)
45—B to Q 8 ch.
46—B takes P
47—B to R 5
48—R takes R
49—P to B 5
And Black resigns.

(a) In anticipation of Black's next move B to B 3.
(b) To enable him to move his Kt.
(c) An extraordinary *l'apin* for such a player in such a contest!
(d) Extremity is the trier of spirits. It is in situations of peril like the present that the sterling player shows his mastery.
(e) Having managed to escape the immediate danger which menaced him a moment since, White now plays capably.
(f) Taking the Q Kt P would have availed him nothing, since White was sure to win either the Q Kt P or Q B P in return.
(g) Black never recovered the consequences of shutting up his K R thus.
(h) Daring, but sound. The rest of the game is beautifully played by Mr. Wyvill.
(i) The prelude to a masterly combination.
(j) It was in the expectation of White's endeavouring to extricate this unfortunate Rook that the Black Bishop was played to Q R 5, and now the unprincipled player will soon perceive the full force of that fine coup.
(k) It is clear he has no better square to retreat to.

END GAME NO. 33.

The following artificial position is ascribed to Paul Morphy. It will be observed that Black has a large preponderance of force, having all his pieces and pawns. White, notwithstanding, wins.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in 8 moves.

The Solution is as follows:—

1—Q to B 7 ch.
2—P takes B (becoming a Kt) ch.
3—Kt to Kt 7 ch.
4—Kt to B 7 ch.
5—Kt to K 8 ch.
6—Kt to K 4 ch.
7—Kt to Q B 7 ch.
8—Kt to B 4 mates.

In the checkmate position, substitute White Bishops for White Knights and the position is still checkmate.

NUREMBERG.

We take the following from the *San Francisco Chronicle* of 25th July, which will keep our readers au courant as to this great contest. We shall publish further news from time to time and some of the games as they come to hand.

The attention of chess players throughout the world is now centered on the doings at Nuremberg, at which town almost all the chess experts of note are assembled and engaged in a battle for supremacy.

It is almost, at this juncture, an impossibility to predict which player will carry off the honours of the tournament, as recent contests have shown that favourites fail to do the work expected of them. Lasker seems to have the odds in his favour, as he is a more experienced match player than his American rival, Pillsbury, a man who may, perhaps, be considered as his most dangerous rival.

The tournament opened in the ancient German city in the presence of a large concourse of people assembled to see and do honour to the distinguished visitors. Lots were drawn on the previous day to determine the order of play, and the rounds are to take place according to the schedule following:—

First round—Marco v. Schallopp, Albin v. Charousek, Schlechter v. Winawer, Porges v. Tschigorin, Lasker v. Showalter, Walbrodt v. Steinitz, Schiffrs v. Teichmann, Janowsky v. Tarrasch, Pillsbury v. Blackburne, Maroczy v. a bye.

Second round—Steinitz v. Janowsky, Showalter v. Schiffrs, Tschigorin v. Walbrodt, Winawer v.

Lasker, Charousek v. Porges, Schallopp v. Schlechter, Blackburne v. Albin, Maroczy v. Marco, Teichmann v. Pillsbury, Tarrasch a bye.

Third round—Schlechter v. Maroczy, Porges v. Blackburne, Lasker v. Schallopp, Walbrodt v. Charousek, Schiffrs v. Winawer, Janowsky v. Tschigorin, Pillsbury v. Showalter, Tarrasch v. Steinitz, Albin v. Teichmann, Marco a bye.

Fourth round—Tschigorin v. Tarrasch, Winawer v. Pillsbury, Charousek v. Janowski, Schallopp v. Schiffrs, Blackburne v. Walbrodt, Maroczy v. Lasker, Teichmann v. Porges, Marco v. Schlechter, Showalter v. Albin, Steinitz a bye.

Fifth round—Lasker v. Marco, Walbrodt v. Teichmann, Schiffrs v. Maroczy, Janowski v. Blackburne, Pillsbury v. Schallopp, Tarrasch v. Charousek, Albin v. Winawer, Steinitz v. Tschigorin, Porges v. Showalter, Schlechter a bye.

Sixth round—Charousek v. Steinitz, Schallopp v. Albin, Blackburne v. Tarrasch, Maroczy v. Pillsbury, Teichmann v. Janowsky, Marco v. Schiffrs, Showalter v. Walbrodt, Schlechter v. Lasker, Winawer v. Porges, Tschigorin a bye.

Seventh round—Schiffrs v. Schlechter, Janowsky v. Showalter, Pillsbury v. Marco, Tarrasch v. Teichmann, Albin v. Maroczy, Steinitz v. Blackburne, Porges v. Schallopp, Tschigorin v. Charousek, Walbrodt v. Winawer, Lasker a bye.

Eighth round—Blackburne v. Tschigorin, Maroczy v. Porges, Teichmann v. Steinitz, Marco v. Albin, Showalter v. Tarrasch, Schlechter v. Pillsbury, Winawer v. Janowsky, Lasker v. Schiffrs, Schallopp v. Walbrodt, Charousek a bye.

Ninth round—Pillsbury v. Lasker, Tarrasch v. Winawer, Albin v. Schlechter, Steinitz v. Showalter, Porges v. Marco, Tschigorin v. Teichmann, Walbrodt v. Maroczy, Charousek v. Blackburne, Janowsky v. Schallopp, Schiffrs a bye.

Tenth round—Teichmann v. Charousek, Marco v. Walbrodt, Showalter v. Tschigorin, Schlechter v. Porges, Winawer v. Steinitz, Lasker v. Albin, Schallopp v. Tarrasch, Schiffrs v. Pillsbury, Maroczy v. Janowsky, Blackburne a bye.

Eleventh round—Albin v. Schiffrs, Steinitz v. Schallopp, Porges v. Lasker, Tschigorin v. Winawer, Walbrodt v. Schlechter, Charousek v. Showalter, Janowsky v. Marco, Blackburne v. Teichmann, Tarrasch v. Maroczy, Pillsbury a bye.

Twelfth round—Showalter v. Blackburne, Schlechter v. Janowsky, Winawer v. Charousek, Lasker v. Walbrodt, Schallopp v. Tschigorin, Schiffrs v. Porges, Maroczy v. Steinitz, Pillsbury v. Albin, Marco v. Tarrasch, Teichmann a bye.

Thirteenth round—Porges v. Pillsbury, Tschigorin v. Maroczy, Walbrodt v. Schiffrs, Charousek v. Schallopp, Janowsky v. Lasker, Blackburne v. Winawer, Tarrasch v. Schlechter, Teichmann v. Showalter, Steinitz v. Marco, Albin a bye.

Fourteenth round—Winawer v. Teichmann, Lasker v. Tarrasch, Schallopp v. Blackburne, Schiffrs v. Janowsky, Maroczy v. Charousek, Pillsbury v. Walbrodt, Marco v. Tschigorin, Albin v. Porges, Schlechter v. Steinitz, Showalter a bye.

Fifteenth round—Walbrodt v. Albin, Charousek v. Marco, Janowsky v. Pillsbury, Blackburne v. Marco, Tarrasch v. Schiffrs, Teichmann v. Schallopp, Steinitz v. Lasker, Showalter v. Winawer, Tschigorin v. Schlechter, Porges a bye.

Sixteenth round—Schallopp v. Showalter, Schiffrs v. Steinitz, Maroczy v. Teichmann, Pillsbury v. Tarrasch, Marco v. Blackburne, Albin v. Janowsky, Schlechter v. Charousek, Porges v. Walbrodt, Lasker v. Tschigorin, Winawer a bye.

Seventeenth round—Janowsky v. Porges, Blackburne v. Schlechter, Tarrasch v. Albin, Teichmann v. Marco, Steinitz v. Pillsbury, Showalter v. Maroczy, Tschigorin v. Schiffrs, Winawer v. Schallopp, Charousek v. Lasker, Walbrodt a bye.

Eighteenth round—Maroczy v. Winawer, Pillsbury v. Tschigorin, Marco v. Showalter, Albin v. Steinitz, Schlechter v. Teichmann, Porges v. Tarrasch, Lasker v. Blackburne, Walbrodt v. Janowsky, Schiffrs v. Charousek, Schallopp a bye.

Nineteenth round—Tarrasch v. Walbrodt, Teichmann v. Lasker, Steinitz v. Porges, Showalter v. Schlechter, Tschigorin v. Albin, Winawer v. Marco, Charousek v. Pillsbury, Schallopp v. Maroczy, Blackburne v. Schiffrs, Janowsky a bye.

The first-named in each pair has the first move in each case. It will thus be seen that the American players were drawn as follows: Steinitz will have the move against Janowsky, Tschigorin, Blackburne, Showalter, Schallopp, Marco, Lasker, Pillsbury and Porges, and he will play black

against Walbrodt, Tarrasch, Charousek, Teichmann, Winawer, Maroczy, Schlechter, Schiffrs and Albin.

Pillsbury will have the move against Blackburne, Showalter, Schallopp, Marco, Lasker, Albin, Walbrodt, Tarrasch and Tschigorin, and will play black against Teichmann, Winawer, Maroczy, Schlechter, Schiffrs, Porges, Janowsky, Steinitz and Charousek.

Showalter will have the move against Schiffrs, Albin, Walbrodt, Tarrasch, Tschigorin, Blackburne, Winawer, Maroczy and Schlechter, and he will play black against Lasker, Pillsbury, Porges, Janowsky, Steinitz, Charousek, Teichmann, Schallopp and Marco.

Below is given results of the rounds already played.

First round, played on Monday—Schiffrs beat Albin in a Zukertort opening after thirty-two moves; Lasker beat Porges in a Ruy Lopez after thirty-seven moves; Janowsky beat Marco in a Ruy Lopez after thirty moves; Steinitz beat Schallopp in a queen's gambit declined after thirty-six moves; Tschigorin beat Winawer in a Vienna game after thirty-six moves; Charousek beat Showalter in a king's gambit declined after fifty-four moves; Walbrodt and Schlechter drew a Scotch game after thirty-one moves; Tarrasch and Maroczy drew a queen's gambit declined after sixty-two moves; Blackburne and Teichmann drew a two knights' defence after thirty-seven moves; Pillsbury had a bye.

Second round, played on Tuesday—Tschigorin beat Blackburne in a Giuoco piano after fifty-six moves; Steinitz beat Teichmann in a Ruy Lopez after forty-seven moves; Showalter and Tarrasch drew a queen's gambit after sixty-two moves; Janowsky beat Winawer in a centre gambit after fifty-seven moves; Walbrodt beat Schallopp in a Ruy Lopez after forty-five moves; Maroczy beat Porges in a Scotch gambit after eighty-two moves; Marco and Albin drew a Ruy Lopez after fifty-seven moves; Schlechter and Pillsbury drew a Ruy Lopez after fifty-one moves; Lasker beat Schiffrs in a P Q 4 opening after fifty-two moves; Charousek had a bye.

Third round, played on Wednesday—Walbrodt beat Albin in a French defence after fifty-one moves; Janowski and Pillsbury drew a Ruy Lopez after fifty-six moves; Tarrasch beat Schiffrs in a queen's gambit declined, sixty-one moves; Lasker beat Steinitz in a French defence after forty-one moves; Schlechter beat Tschigorin in a two knights' defence after nearly 100 moves; Charousek and Marco drew a king's gambit declined, sixty-two moves; Blackburne and Maroczy drew a Sicilian defence, forty-one moves; Schallopp beat Teichmann in a queen's gambit declined fifty-eight moves; Winawer beat Showalter in a queen's gambit, forty-nine moves; Porges had a bye.

Fourth round, played Thursday—Showalter offered the queen's gambit to Blackburne, which was accepted. The Britisher won. Game between Winawer and Charousek was adjourned. In the Spanish game, opened by Schallopp, Tschigorin won after forty-one moves. Steinitz defeated Maroczy in twenty-four moves. Tarrasch disposed of Marco after thirty-one moves. Janowski defeated Schlechter. Lasker and Walbrodt played a drawn game. Schiffrs and Porges drew after thirty-six moves. Pillsbury defeated Albin after sixty-nine moves.

The fifth round played Friday—Marco beat Schallopp. Schlechter beat Winawer. Lasker disposed of Showalter. Teichmann was defeated by Schiffrs. Blackburne beat Pillsbury. Albin beat Charousek. Tschigorin easily disposed of Porges. Steinitz only drew with Walbrodt. Tarrasch beat Janowski. The unfinished game of yesterday between Winawer and Charousek resulted in a draw after eight-four moves. The standing of the contestants to date is as follows:

Players.	Won.	Lost.
Albin	1	3
Blackburne	2	2
Charousek	2	2
Janowski	3	1
Lasker	4	1
Marco	2	3
Maroczy	2	2
Pillsbury	2	2
Porges	1	3
Schallopp	1	4
Schiffrs	2	2
Schlechter	3	2
Showalter	4	1
Steinitz	3	1
Tarrasch	4	1
Teichmann	1	3
Tschigorin	4	1
Walbrodt	3	1
Winawer	1	3

	SILK.				
Hongkong & Canton	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.		
Shanghai	16	—	16		
Yokohama	22	—	22		
Total	108	—	108		
	146		146		

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarn—More business with higher quotations for the Gassed two-folds. Falling exchange and rise in American Raw Cotton combine to raise prices. Buyers will have to bestir themselves unless they want to pay more money in the near future. **Shirtings**—On the upward move also, although very little business done so far. **Fancies**—Generally quiet, although Turkey Reds move freely. **Woolens**—Dull as usual at this time of year.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—44 in, 38 yds, 31 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—44 in, 38 yds, 45 inches	2.75 to 3.20
F. Cloth—7th, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 11 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Salfreus Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	7.05 to 9.50
Victoria Lawn, 12 yards, 12-13 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4th, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3th, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.62 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4th, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5th, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.32 1/2
Coupons	0.25 to 0.32 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Craps, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 in 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 in 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 51 in 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarllet and Green, 3 to 5th, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$36.50 to 37.50
Nos. 28, 32, Singles	39.00 to 40.50
Nos. 38, 42, Singles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	48.00 to 50.00
Nos. 160, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 280, Plain	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2, 100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 260, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 280, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

Quotations unchanged except for Pig Iron, which is the turn lower. Market generally dull and sellers complain that they cannot get the equivalent of home cost.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 3 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 4 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Iron Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.62 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

The drop in exchange has influenced the market. Prices are looking up and buyers are getting anxious, fearing they will be left if they do not operate soon.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair business. Manila steady. Takao firm. Chinas weak. White—Quiet market, prices steady at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$3.85 to 3.90
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daiteng (New)	3.35 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.25 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 6.90
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The slump in exchange assisted buyers, but sellers at once raised quotations to an impracticable point. This is suicidal on their part. Italian, French, and Chinese producers meet buyers currently while Japanese look idly on! The result is a stock of 12,000 piculs against 6,000 last year, and an export for 2 months of 1,000 piculs against 11,000 piculs to same date in 1895. No comment is necessary.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$800
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	750
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	715 to 725
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	740 to 760

Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	710 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	680 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/19 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	700
Kakedas—No. 1	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 1	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—

WASTE SILK.

Stagnant. Holders refuse to sell or even to make a quotation. Stock 7,000 piculs, new and old together.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Prices firm and a fair business doing. Lower freights and the decline in Exchange promotes business. Total settlements to date still keep about 30,000 piculs behind last year.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$24 to \$25
Finest	22 to 23
Fine	20 to 21
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	12 to 13

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, 17th August, 1896.
The following is extracted from our Hongkong Agent's Circular of the 18th inst.:—"A telegram has been received from the mine (Punjun Mining Co.) giving the result of the clean up for July as follows:—Mill ran 27 days, crushing 1,100 tons of ore,

yielding 515 ounces of smelted gold, sixty tons of concentrates calcined yielding 84 ounces of gold." The Charbonnage Mining Co. informs shareholders that the new scrip is now ready, and can be exchanged against old scrip, without conforming to the numbers, at the head office at Paris, Rue de Caumartin, No. 5, from the 1st Aug., 1896, and as the old scrip will not be negotiable on the Paris Bourse, it is indispensable that this exchange should be effected. I have since learned that new scrip for China Shareholders will be sent out here, and the exchange can be effected at the office of the local agents."

The only change to report in local stocks is that Club Hotels have declined to \$70, with sellers at that rate.

Yokohama, August 18th.

Hongkong reports by wire that H. & S. Banks have further strengthened, there being buyers of shares there to-day at 18 1/2 per cent, prem, ex the dividend of 25 shillings. This is equal to 193 per cent, premium cum dividend. Luzon Sugars are offering in Hongkong at \$65.50.

H. & K. Wharfs have been purchased to-day from the Colony at \$55.50.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have fallen daily all the week till yesterday, where there was a fractional reaction, but quotations do not close with much stability.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.67
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.72
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 p.
— Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	18 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	18 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.20
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/2

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tri-
bunaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet
to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best
medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In 1
short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a
quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an ex-
plorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they
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Mr. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels
in China, published in 1891, says—"I had with me a quantity of
Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing
could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls,
butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a ten-
spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas,
and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up
the small remaining 'stock.'"

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length of time.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 9.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 29TH, 1896.

月三年五十二拾第 VOL. XXVI.
西曆八月十三日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 29TH, 1896.

DEATHS.

At 210c. Bluff, at 8 a.m. on Thursday, the 27th inst., of heart failure, JOSEPH COFFIN HILL, aged 56 years.
At Sapporo, on the twentieth inst., of cholera infantum, GRANT, only child of the Rev. U. G. and Nora Murphy, Nagoya, aged one year, nine months, and eighteen days.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

M. HITROVO's death was due to an aneurism.

PRINCE D'ARENBERG has been elected President of the Suez Canal Company.

THE latest news from Korea tells of more arrests among the philo Japanese party.

A TERRIBLE family feud has terminated in the village of Minami, Naka-gun, Sanuki, with the

murder of seven persons, and the suicide of the four murderers.

THE Swiss Residents' Cup was won on Saturday by Mr. Salabelle's boat *Eclair*.

BETWEEN two and three thousand houses were destroyed by fire at Hakodate on the 25th inst.

THE speed of the express trains on the Tokaido railway will be increased to 35 miles per hour from the 1st September.

GENERAL GOSSLER has been appointed Prussian Minister of War in room of General Broussart von Schellendorf resigned.

THERE has been a decided fall in the temperature during the past three days, due to the prevalence of northerly winds.

THE troubles in Formosa have been put down, only a few marauding bands being met with now in the less settled parts.

MR. WADA FUKUZO, of Yokohama, and other capitalists, are trying to start a petroleum refining company with a capital of yen 100,000.

THE Hon. C. Coventry, who was sentenced to five months imprisonment for the raid into the Transvaal, has been released, owing to ill-health.

DYSENTERY is now prevalent all over the eastern and central districts of Japan: in Tokyo there are not many cases. Mayebashii is very much afflicted.

THE amount of money presented or contributed by the public in the Navy Department from August, 1894, to January of this year totals yen 578,090.333.

A POPULAR ballad or madrigal recently published by Nishimura Torajiro, was suspended on the 26th inst., as it was deemed injurious to public morals.

SOUTH AFRICAN advices announce that Mr. Cecil Rhodes has arranged terms of surrender with eight of the most important Matabele chiefs in the Matoppo Hills.

H.I.H. THE EMPRESS has contributed yen 1,000 to the relief funds now being raised for the families of the men who lost their lives by the wreck of the German gunboat *Illis*.

THE Porte has informed the various Embassies that unless the landing of Greek volunteers and munitions of war in Crete is stopped, the relations between Turkey and Greece will be severely strained.

COLONEL J. C. HILL, who served through the Indian Mutiny under the Union Jack and the American Civil War under the Northern banner, died in Yokohama on Thursday morning, from heart failure.

THE political deadlock continues, Count Matsukata refusing to enter the Cabinet as Minister of Finance unless Count Okuma goes to the Foreign Office; and Count Inouye declines to enter the Cabinet at all.

PART of the treasure missing from the steamer *Saikyo Maru* has been found in the possession of the late Second Officer, Mr. Edwin Ryder. He has been examined in H.B.M. Court and remanded for a week.

SPEAKING in the House of Commons, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, said that there was every hope of an early agreement with America relative to the arbitration of the Venezuela difficulty.

THE Sultan of Zanzibar is dead. Said Kalid has proclaimed himself Sultan, and has seized

and barricaded the Palace, having with him seven hundred armed men. H.M.S. *Philomel*, *Thrush*, and *Sparrow* have landed men and are awaiting orders. Trouble is feared.

MR. YAMADA KAITOKU, Japanese Consul in Bombay, writes, under date of 8th July, that the defects in Japanese matches are very serious and display a lack of integrity on the part of Japanese manufacturers and exporters.

MR. KAWASAKI HIROYOSHI, a Secretary in the Foreign Department, has been permitted to accept and wear the decoration of the third class of the Order of Saint Anne, conferred on him by H.M. the Czar of Russia.

THE *Times* states that Lord Salisbury has informed Li Hung-chang that he favoured the principle of an increase of the Chinese Customs tariff but must consult with the Chambers of Commerce at Shanghai and elsewhere before consenting.

THE sum of yen 16,700 was granted on the 25th inst., from the Second Reserve, as quarantine expenses in the following twelve Prefectures:—Gumma, Saitama, Nagano, Niigata, Tochigi, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Miye, Aichi, Gifu, Shiga, and Fukui.

REUTER'S Agent learns that Li Hung-chang has made Russia no concession. The ex-Viceroy has favoured the junction of railways between the Amur and Manchuria, but no convention has been signed and no port has been ceded to Russia. It has been further ascertained that Russia is favourable to a revision of the tariff in China, and that Germany awaits Great Britain's action thereon, whilst France awaits the opinion of her Minister at Peking.

LORD SALISBURY has been installed as Warden of the Cinque Ports. At the banquet given on the occasion he said there existed in the eastern extremity of Europe a source of danger which was menacing the security of the whole of Europe; and that though Great Britain had warned Turkey of her eventual punishment, the former was in no way pledged to go to war to execute that punishment, and he earnestly hoped that the Powers would be enabled to abate the danger while there was time.

THERE is considerable improvement in the tone of the Import trade, and a good deal of enquiry, though the actual business transacted is small, and a low and fluctuating exchange during the week has been responsible for a good deal of fencing between buyers and sellers. Of Yarns and Textiles, only small quantities—very much wanted—have been taken, and this remark applies to Shirtings and Fancy Cottons, Woollens being still a drug in the market. There is a much better feeling in the Metal trade, but exchange has doubtless restricted the filling of evident requirements. There has not been much done in Kerosene, but holders of Oil are able to present a much firmer attitude, and this in face of considerable arrivals and a large quantity "floating" and known to be nearing port. In the Sugar market, all Browns are dull, but White sorts are in better favour, and prices are firmer. In the principal Export there has been more business, but buyers of Silk are choked off by the attitude of holders who strangle the market. Only a little trade in Waste. Moderate daily transactions continue in Tea, and the late increase in demand has brought forward an ample supply of leaf, parcels of which have changed hands at late rates. The principal feature in exchange during the week has been fluctuation, and there is not much stability in rates apparent at the close.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Journalistic attention has this week been directed chiefly to the question of rumoured Ministerial changes. No member of the Metropolitan Press, with the two exceptions of the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Jiji Shimpō*, has published any article that does not relate to Counts Okuma and Matsukata, either directly or indirectly. The *Nichi Nichi's* position is essentially this:—The Progressionists and the followers of Count Okuma show themselves quite lacking in a sense of justice and consistency. When Count Itagaki entered the Cabinet, they declared that the leader of the Liberals had surrendered to the Clan Government. But now they would fain persuade the public to believe that their leader should do the very thing for doing which they abused Count Itagaki. If the Liberal leader's acceptance of a portfolio was a political surrender, Count Okuma's acceptance must be equally a surrender. Is it conceivable that they can not appreciate that flagrant contradiction? They must either be slightly delirious, or, as is more probable, although we hesitate to believe it, their present unreasonable mood must be the outcome of an inordinate desire to see Count Okuma in office, and to find some of their friends appointed to subordinate positions in the Government. Their language, advocating Count Okuma's resumption of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, is vehement and earnest to the limit of the Japanese tongue's capacity, but as to whether the Count himself is willing to join the Government, they preserve an apparently resolute silence. On the other hand, the Progressionist leader is reported to have lately told some of his interviewers that any person rightly interpreting his thirty years of public life, will not believe for a moment that he is ready to join the Ito Government at the present juncture. Not much political insight is needed to detect an artful enigma in this silence on the part of the Progressionist organs, and these lofty-voiced utterances on the part of the Count himself.

The *Kokumin*, in a leader entitled "Love-lorn suicide of the Liberal Party," writes in the following strain:—"Marquis Ito has already proved himself irresponsible to the Liberals' love. He is ready to shake off Count Itagaki and his followers whenever he deems it advantageous to do so. Should the Liberals continue to court his favour, they will end by committing love-lorn suicide. Are they well advised in trying to build their political influence upon such a foundation as the love of Marquis Ito and Baron Ito? The time has come for them to look back with regret upon their surrender to these treacherous and faithless statesmen. If they want true love and sympathy, their only course is to turn to the men out of office. The day has arrived when the Liberals will best consult their interests by passing over to the Opposition camp. It is foolish, unprofitable, and dishonourable on their part to stand by the faithless Marquis Ito's shadow; and it is rude, imprudent, impolitic, and thoughtless to serve as tools of this or that statesman's antipathy to Count Okuma's entry into the Administration. If the Liberals still possess any fragment of the spirit that animated them ten years ago, they will not hesitate at this juncture to effect a fundamental change by forming a combination with the Progressionists and certain statesmen of Satsuma extraction. They labour under a misapprehension in regarding the Progressionist politicians and Satsuma statesmen with hostile eyes. The Satsuma statesmen are more disposed to form a responsible Cabinet, and are more like the Liberals of former days in advocating a strong foreign policy, than are Marquis Ito and his followers. It is needless to dwell upon the relations between the *Yiyu-to* and the *Shimpō-to*. If the former return to their original frame of mind, the reconciliation of the two parties will be an easy matter. If, out of the one hundred and twenty Liberal Representatives, fifty find themselves awakened to their original political views, and enter the ranks of the Opposition, they will soon see Japan's political machinery

moving in accordance with their avowed principles. Sad to say, however, not one among the numerous Liberals seems to have the spirit at present to conform with our views. Without a single exception, they appear destined to die a miserable death in support of Marquis Ito and Baron Ito's faithless statecraft.

The *Mainichi* has a leader headed "The Cabinet in Trouble," wherein our contemporary takes to task both the Ministry and the Liberals in its usual uncompromising terms. We quote a portion of the article:—"If the Ito Cabinet finds itself unequal to the task of carrying out the important *post-bellum* measures, the Ministers ought immediately to resign their posts, like men of honour and courage. If the Liberal politicians are convinced of their incapacity to successfully support the Cabinet in its management of those measures, they ought to frankly confess their incompetence before the nation and quietly withdraw from their alliance with the Ministry. How are they situated now? An increase of 27 million *yen* has apparently to be made on the expenditure side of the Budget for the next fiscal year, while the income from taxes presents no particularly bright prospects. The Minister for Finance has been compelled to resign, finding himself unequal to cope with this abnormal state of things. As to foreign affairs, they go from bad to worse day by day in the hands of an *ad-interim* Minister. Under the circumstances, the Government is devising means to place the portfolios of Finance and Foreign Affairs in the hands of veteran statesmen, now out of power, so that the country may be extricated from the toils of the present distressing complication. In a word, the Ministers show themselves entirely wanting in self-confidence, moral courage, and a sense of honour, for they are endeavouring, in their hour of need, to obtain the services of Count Matsukata, whom they thrust out of power last year amid taunts and abuse. Strange as all that seems, what is still stranger is that the organs of the Liberal Party, in their zeal to keep Count Okuma out of power, invite Count Matsukata to rejoin the Government, using language such as the veriest sycophants should be ashamed to employ. In the event of Marquis Ito's resignation, Counts Matsukata and Okuma may come into office. But they are not such fools as to incur all the risks involved in joining the present tottering Cabinet. It was known from the very first that the Counts would not enter the Ministry unless its *personnel* underwent great changes."

The *Nippon* has three articles discussing the situation. One is from the pen of a writer signing himself "Nichi-nan," and is headed "Compromise or Reconstruction?" Here is the most pregnant portion of it:—"At this important epoch in our history, we ought no longer to look to the *Genkun* statesmen for the formation of an able ministry. The tide of European politics is angrily beating against the shores of our country. The reconstruction of the Government upon the basis of the nation's real power, must be the aim of all patriots. If there be any political party sincerely bent upon the renovation of Japan's politics in conformity with the trend of the times, that party ought to cease frittering away its strength over paltry matters like the admission of one or two old statesmen to the ranks of clan Government or their exclusion from them. It ought to devote all its energy to fighting out a perfectly reconstructed Government. Three months more, and the Diet will be in its tenth session. The statesmen out of power will do far better by making preparations for constitutional battle with the Government in that session than by troubling themselves about rumours of Ministerial changes." The second article is an essay by Mr. Kuga, the *Nippon's* chief editor. The gist of it is as follows:—"The principal functionaries of the State are just now engaged solely in opposing Count Okuma's proposed entry into the Government, and have been so engaged for a month past, drawing their salaries all the same. Are they not thus guilty of neglecting their re-

gular duties? The third article is entitled "Only Dissolve!" and is from the pen of an editor on the *Nippon's* staff, who adopts the pseudonym of "Tetsu-kouron." The essence of it is this: In the formation of a Cabinet, it is useless to be troubled with political parties. Nothing need be considered except the true interests of the State. Should the Diet prove refractory, the Ministry must be determined to dissolve it, and make an appeal to the nation.

The *Asahi* writes thus:—"The *post-bellum* measures are great and important. For their successful carrying out, it is especially needful that the portfolios of Foreign and Financial Affairs be in the hands of able statesmen. In the absence of any abler persons, the eyes of the public appear to turn to Counts Okuma and Matsukata, and the question of their entry into the Cabinet has of late been very warmly discussed by the different papers. The latest information received by ourselves is to the effect that the desired change will not be effected. Why so? Is it because it is thought disadvantageous to the State that statesmen holding different political principles should be included in the same Cabinet? Or, is it because the different statesmen find it impossible to lay aside their old enmities even in the face of great national affairs? In our opinion both of these questions are to be answered in the negative. The fact is that many petty politicians, who have nothing but their own interests in mind, stand in the way of the consummation of the best of all the arrangements possible at the present juncture. We cannot but warn these politicians that their conduct will prove detrimental to themselves in the long run."

So much for the Cabinet changes. We now turn to a leader in the *Nichi Nichi* entitled "Is a Panic coming?"—"That is the great economical problem of the day. Judging from the past and present state of things, we can but believe that no panic will occur in the near future. There are persons, not a few indeed, who base their fear of an approaching panic upon frail foundations, such as the excess of imports in the first half of the present year, the mushroom growth of banking, railroad, and other companies, and the large dealings in bonds and shares. Did these pessimists confine themselves to expressions of fear, it would not much matter. But some of them ascribe the economical conditions of the time to the Government's financial policy, and urge the authorities to adopt remedial measures. Such a recommendation can not be passed over without refutation." At this point our contemporary describes the economical conditions existing in Europe and America, and states how a panic is liable to arise even from slight causes in the West. It then proceeds to say:—"There is no denying that various industrial enterprises have sprung up since the War. That is the result, on the one hand, of recovery from the industrial depression that prevailed during the War, and on the other, of a spirit corresponding with the territorial and general expansion of the country. As the *post-bellum* measures necessitate a great increase of taxes, industrial enterprises must now be encouraged rather than checked, for they tend to develop the national wealth. Among the enterprises recently projected, some are of a very speculative nature, but with these no great banks have much to do. Hence their failure, which, in the nature of things, may be expected, will not affect economical circles to any perceptible extent. A slight disturbance may, perhaps, be felt, but it will pass away after a short time, as in the instances of 1881, 1889, and 1892. The excess of imports over exports during the first half of the current year amounted it is true, to over 26 million *yen*. But as the Chinese indemnity has to be brought over from London, that feature of the trade will not be followed by any inconvenient efflux of specie. It is a superficial view, under any circumstances, to regard the growth of imports as a dangerous feature. For the development of industries, large imports are indispensable. It is an easy matter to check importation, for, if rates of interest be raised,

Industrial enterprises, which are the chief factors in producing an increase of imports, will cease to spring up. But the Japan of to-day must expand economically, industrially, and commercially. Small imports cannot co-exist with large business. It would not be sound financial policy to place any check upon importation in the present state of things. In other words, large imports open the way for large exports. They are a phenomenon to be welcomed rather than discouraged or lamented. Some publicists demand that the Authorities should prevent the present growth of industries by imposing financial checks. That is a demand to which no constitutional Government can accede. Under the old despotic régime, the Government could achieve anything political, financial, or otherwise. But the age of Old Japan is long past. In New Japan economical circles must take care of themselves. We do not think that any panic will occur in the near future, and we deem it very short-sighted that bankers and other capitalists should be at all daunted by craven cries of "Panic! Panic!"

The *Fiji* is silent on the Ministerial topic. It prefers to dwell continuously on the question of social reform. Two leaders upon that subject appear in its columns; one urging, in strong terms, the necessity of eradicating the bad habit of paying more respect to officials than to ordinary individuals; the other advocating that men in the upper classes of society should establish freer intercourse with one another. Their mutual visits, even when merely formal or complimentary, are often spoken about in the papers, as events of political significance. Desiring to avoid that, they develop a tendency to stay at home. But should they visit each other more frequently, the papers would sooner or later cease to attach any fictitious importance to their calls. It is not, indeed, so much the press that is to be blamed as their own stand-off habits.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE LATE COL. J. C. HILL.

THE late Colonel Joseph Coffin Hill—whose death occurred at 219, Bluff, at 8 o'clock on Thursday morning from heart failure—had served under the flag of his own country as well as under the Union Jack. Born in Massachusetts in 1840, he was not out of his teens when the Indian Mutiny broke out. He was then in Calcutta, on a tour round the world, and with all the ardour of youth and fired with a noble determination to revenge the foul murders of the English ladies in the cantonments in and around Lucknow and other garrison cities, he joined the Bengal Yeomanry Cavalry, a body of gentlemen volunteers raised in that Presidency. It seems but the other day that Col. Hill was telling the Yokohama Literary Society in his own quiet, modest way of some of his Indian reminiscences, and that the grim horrors of those thrilling days had lost none of their intense interest in the passage of the years, was evinced by the applause that greeted the veteran at the close. For his gallant services in India, Queen Victoria bestowed upon Col. Hill the Mutiny Medal, bearing four clasps for Amorah, Ferozepore, Goruchabad, and Delhi. Of this decoration he always expressed himself as being very proud. When the Civil War broke out in the United States, Mr. Hill joined the 1st Maine Cavalry, and again served with distinction, retiring with the Brevet rank of Colonel. For several years civil life at Washington absorbed his energies, and it was then that he joined La Fayette Lodge, No. 19, Washington, D.C., of the antique free and accepted masons. In this noble Order he rose to the 32nd degree, his advancement receiving the cordial approval of all his Brethren. Coming to Japan, Col. Hill engaged in business pursuits with much success, winning the esteem of all with whom he came in contact. He leaves a widow and two children to whom much sympathy is extended in this hour of their bitter grief.

The mortal remains of the late Colonel Hill were accorded a military funeral on Friday after-

noon, the Band and firing party being supplied by the U.S.S. *Olympia*. The first part of the service was conducted at the residence, No. 219, Bluff, by the Rev. W. S. Worden, M.D. Then the procession was formed for the Cemetery. This consisted of Mrs. Hill and her son, and Captain Lee, as Chief Mourners; Messrs. Eldridge, Bramhall, Colton, Brower, Hill, and Thorn, pall-bearers; the Masters, Wardens, and Brethren of the Yokohama Masonic Lodges; Admiral McNair, Major Bartlett, Captain Crawford, Fleet Engineer Bacon (members of the Loyal Legion), and the heads of most of the American business firms and others in Yokohama. Upon the coffin—which was covered with lovely wreaths—reaching the cemetery, Dr. Eldridge, made a short oration. He said that he spoke as a friend and comrade in arms, and on behalf of his fellow-companions of the Loyal Legion of the United States, of which the deceased was a distinguished member: To few had it been given as to their late companion, to take part in two of the great conflicts of this century; wars undertaken from the highest motives, the one a heroic struggle of the representatives of civilization and enlightenment against barbarism and organized murder; the other waged for the freedom of millions of the oppressed and the integrity of a great and noble State. Dr. Eldridge then referred to the part played by Col. Hill in the fights that took place ere the Mutiny was suppressed and to his decoration by the English Government. Continuing he said—A few years later, when just of age, the great civil war in the United States found him the first man to volunteer in the wide State of Maine. Again courage, intelligence, and thorough trustworthiness, ensured his rise, and he soon attained field rank, after partaking in many of the tremendous battles of that unexampled war. Loyal, tender, brave, and true as a soldier, so was our friend in his daily life. And now, O, Comrade! it can be but a brief time ere we, the dwindling remnant of those who fought and conquered by your side, shall lie with you, vanquished at last by the grim Commander Death. May we meet you in that better land, where alone the protector of the helpless, the champion of freedom, and a saviour of his country can receive his reward.

THE REMARKABLE FEAT IN TELEGRAPHY.

WE referred on Monday to the recent remarkably quick piece of telegraphing that took place between Shanghai and London. The *China Gazette* contains further particulars. On the 14th of August Li Hung-chang and his suite went down to Greenwich to visit the great works of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company and to lunch with the directors. Advantage was taken of the occasion to show the distinguished Chinese a very rapid feat in long distance telegraphy, with the result that an unparalleled record was established. Previous to Li's arrival a wire had been placed at the disposal of the directors by the Post Office authorities, by which the works were connected direct with the London office of the Eastern Telegraph Company and the Eastern Extension. By the co-operation of these two corporations and the Indian Telegraph Department everything was got in readiness to transmit messages direct to Shanghai, without delay,—over a distance of some 12,000 miles. Sheng Taotai, Director of Chinese Telegraph Administration, and the Taotai Sheng Hsuan-huai, Director of the China Merchants Company, were waiting in the Cable Companies' Office on the Bund here, according to previous arrangement, for the Envoy's message. This message promptly began to arrive and consisted of 85 words in plain English (not code). It was despatched from Greenwich at 10.29½ a.m., and was retransmitted by "human relays" (that is one operator reading off the ribbon as it arrived by the receiving instrument to another who sat and worked at a sending instrument close by) at London, Marseilles, Malta, Alexandria, Suez, Aden, Bombay, Madras, Penang, Singapore, and Hongkong. It reached Shanghai at 10.47 a.m., Greenwich time,—that is in 12½ minutes, which included the time occupied in clearing the lines over 12,000 miles, for

the message to pass, and all the changes and operations involved in 12 re-transmissions. This gives less than a minute for each separate re-transmission. Sheng Taotai, in reply, sent two messages to his patron and protector, one a short acknowledgment in plain English, and the other a long one consisting of groups of figures (cipher), altogether 94 words, which were despatched from Shanghai at 10.47 a.m., Greenwich time, and were delivered into the hands of Li Hung-chang at Greenwich at 10.54 a.m., or 7 minutes actual time for the 12 re-transmissions. The return message therefore took only a little over half a minute for each transmission. Li was greatly impressed with the marvellous rapidity of the feat, and we trust the lesson will not be lost on Sheng, who controls a system of telegraphs whose average speed apparently is about that of the national wheelbarrow. At the subsequent luncheon the Marquis of Tweeddale, Chairman of the Eastern Extension Company, proposed the Envoy's health. Li in return toasted the sub-marine telegraphy, which toast was responded to by Commodore Suensen, Managing Director of the Great Northern Telegraph Company of Copenhagen.

PAYMASTER WEBSTER.

A TELEGRAM from Washington, dated July 29th, says—The Secretary of the Navy has disapproved of the proceedings, finding, and sentence of dismissal proposed by the court-martial held at Mare Island recently upon Past-Assistant Paymaster Webster, lately attached to the *Yorktown* on the China station. The officer was accused of having retained a bond exacted from his pay clerk, W. J. Tobin, after having dismissed the clerk. The Secretary finds grave informalities in the proceedings of the court which convicted the offender, and, moreover, is inclined to the belief, based principally upon the testimony of Chief Engineer Harry Webster, another officer on the *Yorktown*, that the money, amounting to \$2,500, placed in the paymaster's hands by Tobin's mother, was technically a loan, and not for a bond. For these reasons he reverses the findings of the courts and restores Webster to duty, but takes occasion to say that the transaction, in any light in which it may be viewed, is disgraceful to Paymaster Webster and to the Navy, and a violation in spirit of the statute prohibiting any officer to take money for procuring an appointment. It was scandalous, says the Secretary, that Webster should fail to pay back, after the termination of Tobin's service, money received by him in consideration of his appointment as clerk, and should he, for any length of time, persist in this failure, the Department may be expected to proceed further in the matter.

THE TROUBLES AT ZANZIBAR.

THE news telegraphed by Renter of the death of the Sultan, Said Hamid bin Thwain, G.C.S.I., draws attention to what was once the greatest slave-market in the world. The late Sultan succeeded his great uncle Seyyid Ali on the 5th March, 1893, so his reign has not been very long in duration. The Zanzibar Dominions became independent in 1856 under the rule of Seyyid Majid, a son of Seyyid Said, Sultan of Muscat and Zanzibar. They formerly extended along the mainland as far South as Tanghi Bay and North as Warsheikh; but since the cession of the coast line from Ruwuma to Wanga, including the island of Mafia, to Germany in 1890, they are now confined to the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba (985 square miles, and 165,000 inhabitants), and a ten-mile coast line from Wanga to Kipui, together with the islands of Lamu, Manda, and Patta, and the ports of Kismayu, Brava, Merka, Magdisho, each with a radius of 10 miles, and the port of Warsheikh, with a radius of 5 miles. As far as the mouth of the Juba, the Zanzibar dominions on the mainland are leased to the Imperial British East Africa Company, and the remainder, known as Benadir, to an Italian Company. Zanzibar has lately assumed the administration of the district and town of Witu (a British Protectorate), from the Imperial British East Africa Company, and has itself been a British Protectorate since November, 1890. Early in 1893,

the late Sir G. Portal obtained from the Sultan a decree transferring to the British Consular Court all cases in which British subjects may be concerned against subjects of His Highness, either as plaintiffs or defendants. The Powers having treaties with Zanzibar continue to retain extra-territorial rights. The City of Zanzibar, on the island of the same name, is the largest in East Africa, and possesses a magnificent harbour, which presents great facilities to shipping and trade generally. It was declared a free port in February, 1892.

PROFESSOR MILNE AND THE TIDAL-WAVE.

PROFESSOR MILNE, writing to *The Times* from his residence near Newport, Isle of Wight, says:—"Telegrams have told us that on June 17th enormous sea waves broke in upon the north-east of Japan, with the result that possibly 27,000 lives have been sacrificed. I am not aware that disturbances have been recorded in Europe which correspond to this date, but at Padua, on June 15th and 16th, Professor Vicentini obtained diagrams of earth movements which probably had their origin at a great distance. Because it takes about 45 minutes for earth waves to travel from Japan to Europe, and because between England and Japan there is a difference in time of nine hours, it is just possible that in the latter country there may have been heavy disturbances on June 15th at 8.30 p.m. and again on the following day at 5 and 9 a.m., the latter being pronounced. In the Isle of Wight a seismograph was first disturbed on the 15th at 8 p.m. in Japan time, but because it was two hours later dismantled for readjustments the disturbances of the 16th were not recorded."

NEW BARRACKS.

New barracks, we learn from the *Nichi Nichi*, are building in the following places, and will be completed before the year is out:—The 29th Infantry, Sendai, Miyagi Ken; 30th Regiment of Infantry, Niigata, Niigata Ken; 31st Infantry, Hirosaki, Aomori Ken; 32nd Infantry, Akita, Akita Ken; 33rd Infantry, Nagoya, Aichi Ken; 34th Infantry, Shizuoka, Shizuoka Ken; 35th Infantry, Kanazawa, Ishikawa Ken; 36th Infantry, Tsuruga, Fukui Ken; 37th Infantry, Osaka, Osaka Fu; 38th Infantry, Kyoto, Kyoto Fu; 39th Infantry, Fukushima, Kyoto Fu; 40th Infantry, Himeji, Hyogo Ken; 41st Hirosaki, Hirosaki Ken; 42nd Infantry, Yamaguchi, Yamaguchi Ken; 43rd Infantry, Marugame, Ehime Ken; 44th Infantry, Matsuyama, Ehime Ken; 45th Infantry, Kumamoto, Kumamoto Ken; 46th Infantry, Omura, Nagasaki Ken; 47th Infantry, Kokura, Fukuoka Ken; and 48th Infantry, Kurume, Fukuoka Ken.

MISSIONARIES ASSAULTED AT ARIMA.

SOME foreign missionaries from China have had rather an unpleasant experience while journeying from Arima to Sumiyoshi. Dr. Wilkinson and another missionary were hustled and stoned, and his companion thereupon fired his revolver into the air. This scattered their assailants, *kago*-carriers, but later a band of coolies went to Dr. Wainwright's house at Arima and tried to discover the name of the missionary who fired the shot. Not being successful in their endeavours, they went to the Rev. McAlpine's house and forcibly entered it by the kitchen, and were not ejected until some 15 or 20 foreigners came to Mr. McAlpine's assistance. According to the *Kobe Herald*, it would appear that had the China missionaries exercised a little tact and discretion in dealing with their *kago*-carriers the affair would not have happened. Mr. McAlpine had acted as interpreter for the China Missionaries when they engaged the *kago*-carriers, and the matter in dispute amounted to 45 *sen*.

LOSS OF A BRITISH SHIP BY FIRE.

News reached Hongkong last Saturday that the British ship *Esmeralda*, 1,250 tons, from Newcastle, New South Wales, to Manila, was burnt at sea in lat. 6 N. long. on 130 E. on June 6, 224 miles off the Philippines. She left Newcastle on April 22nd, and on June 6th, smoke was discovered issuing from the forward hatch. Strenuous efforts were made

to save the ship, but without avail. She was then abandoned by the officers and crew, who stood by to the last; eventually they took to the boats and were 32 days afloat. They were pretty well provisioned under the circumstances, and, although reduced to macaroni and canned meat, one of the boats managed to reach Mindanao safely on July 11, in fairly good health, having regard to the privations which must have been inseparable from such a voyage; another boat reached Manila, and one, in which was the chief officer and part of the crew, has not yet been heard of.

SHIPS PASSED ANJER.

THE following vessels passed Anjer on the dates given:—British ship *Adelana*, Captain Gillis, from New York for Yokohama; British ship *Zinila*, Captain Fraser, Cardiff to Nagasaki; British ship *Dalcarnie*, Captain Davies, Philadelphia to Hyogo, on July 26; British ship *Heathfield*, Captain MacKenzie, Middlesbro' to Yokohama, July 27; American ship *P. N. Blanchard*, Captain Blanchard, New York to Hyogo; British ship *Alcides*, Captain Dart, New York to Yokohama, July 29; German ship *Magdalena*, Captain Schoemaker, Philadelphia to Hyogo; British ship *Crown of India*, Captain Corsehili, Cardiff to Nagasaki, July 30; British ship *Hutton Hall*, Captain Rowland, New York to Yokohama, July 31.

FIRE ON THE "OOPACK."

SHORTLY after the arrival of the steamer *Oopack* at Nagasaki on Tuesday afternoon, says the *Rising Sun*, a rumour was circulated to the effect that a fire had broken out on board. Upon inquiry it was ascertained that she had experienced very heavy weather, and while in the worst of it, at about 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning, it was discovered that a fire had broken out in the lower hold, under the No. 2 hatch, among some general cargo. Three steam hoses were at once brought to bear upon it, but it was not until the vessel was safely in port at Nagasaki, at about 4 p.m., that it was got completely under.

IN MEMORIAM.

A SHORT service was conducted at the Union Church on Tuesday afternoon by the Rev. W. S. Worden, M.D., over the remains of the late Mr. C. E. Schwyer, whose untimely decease we recorded last week. The pall-bearers were the baseball players of the Y.C. & A.C., Messrs. Abel, Tilden, Kay Smith, E. R. Morriss, E. B. S. Edwards, Bain, and W. Merriman; the chief mourners being Mr. B. O. Squier and Dr. Eldridge. The coffin was covered with magnificent floral tributes of regard, among them being a wreath from the Journalists of Yokohama. In the course of the service the favourite hymn of the deceased, "Nearer my God to Thee," was sung.

AN "ILTIS" MEMORIAL.

Der Ostasiatische Lloyd states that at a well-attended meeting of the members of the Club Concordia, Shanghai, it was resolved to circulate a subscription-list amongst Germans residing in China, and with the money thus collected to erect a suitable monument. The committee subsequently inquired of the Municipal Council whether they would allow the monument to be erected somewhere on the grass-plot on the Bund, and to this request the Council have most readily consented.

QUICK TELEGRAPHIC TRANSMISSION.

A REMARKABLE feat in long-distance telegraphy was achieved on Friday evening, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of August 17th, when Sheng Tao-tai in Shanghai had a conversation with his great patron, H.E. Li Hung-chang in London. The Indian Government placed its wires at the disposal of the experiment, and the result was that the communication, some human relays being used, was made in about or under two minutes, though the exact times have not yet been received from London.

KOBE-TOKYO EXPRESS.

ACCORDING to the *Osaka Mainichi*, the quick train between Kobe and Tokyo, to run on and

after the 1st prox. will consist of three 1st class carriages (giving passenger accommodation for no more than 30), the same number of 2nd class carriages (the passengers not exceeding 50), and four 3rd class carriages (passengers not exceeding 200).

THE LATE MR. SCHWYER.

A SHORT funeral service will be conducted by Dr. Worden at the Union Church, at 4.30 o'clock this afternoon, over the remains of the late Mr. C. E. Schwyer. The pall-bearers will be chosen from the baseball players of the Y.C. & A.C. Afterwards the body will be taken to the P.M. steamer *City of Peking* for conveyance to New York.

ENGLAND AND THE SEISMIC WAVE DISASTER.

The Council of the Japan Society, acting as committee of the fund for the relief of sufferers from the recent seismic wave, transmitted on July 23rd by telegraph to the British Minister in Tokyo, as a first instalment, the sum of £1,000.

THE EMPRESS'S GENEROSITY.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS has contributed *yen* 1,000 to the relief funds now being raised for the families of the men who lost their lives by the wreck of the German gunboat *Iliss*.

MR. OZAKI YUKIO ON "JIYU-TO" OFFICIALS.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, a well-known leader of the Opposition, writes the *Fumio*, is said to have recently used the following language:—"I have nothing to do with the alleged entrance of Count Okuma into the Cabinet, and I am going to leave the capital for Kugenuma within a few days. As to the *Jiyu-to* Governors' appointment, it seems that some people have raised noisy objections: that is due to people's respecting persons in office more than those that are out. Suppose an old official, ignorant and decrepit, receives an appointment, people will write nothing against him. The objections now raised lack both wisdom and prudence. For my own part, I might have to create Vice-Ministers and Governors, should I find myself in the Government some day or another, so I pay no heed to the idle clamour."

ARMY AND NAVY AFFAIRS.

Last year the conscript soldiers' term of service was increased by four months. Under the new system, service in the Army will be three years active service, four years-and-a-half in the First Reserve, and five years in the Second Reserve. The Naval Standing Squadron is soon to start on a cruise around the coasts of Japan. The *Chinyen* (former *Chen-yuen*) will be included in the Squadron.

The Authorities, we learn, will raise, in the near future, 1,500 new gendarmes, of whom 150 are to be distributed among the Tokyo stations and the rest in provincial cities and towns. The gendarmes at present at Wei-hai-wei are soon to return home, and the 6th company of the Kumamoto Gendarmerie, which is to take their place, has already left Ujina. The Naval Department is at present enrolling recruits.

FOREIGN PURCHASES OF JAPANESE WAR BONDS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* denies emphatically that any extensive purchases of Japanese War Bonds have taken place in Yokohama, as was recently reported. Our readers may remember that rumour went so far as to mention the exact figure—over three hundred and eighty thousand *yen*—and the fact being significant as well as interesting, the *Nichi Nichi* was led to make inquiries. It finds that though a few Tanko Tetsudo Bonds were bought on foreign account in the Yokohama Exchange, no transactions occurred in War Bonds, whether as time bargains or for immediate delivery. Evidently the rumour was fabricated by interested parties.

THE CABINET CRISIS.

The *Jiji Shimpō* has a very plain-spoken article on the political situation, but its gist amounts to nothing more than what we ourselves stated in our leading columns on the 26th instant. Unlike the political crises with which experience has hitherto made us familiar in Japan, the present difficulty is not due to friction among the leading statesmen, or to any loss of public confidence on the part of the Cabinet, but merely to the fact that those now in power can not command the services of really competent men to hold the important portfolios of Foreign Affairs and Finance. The Government's weakness in that respect is precisely the strength of the Opposition—with whom Count Matsukata is temporarily allied—for the latter are in a position to furnish the two statesmen publicly accredited above all others with special ability in the realms of finance and foreign affairs, namely, Count Matsukata and Count Okuma. We gather from what the *Jiji* says, that Marquis Ito himself will under no circumstances consent to preside over a Cabinet recast in such a manner as to drive Count Itagaki out of office and alienate the Liberals, and since the Liberals are determined to secede if Count Okuma takes office, it follows that the latter contingency would involve a complete re-adjustment of the Ministry as well as of political relationships. Very few critics will be found, we imagine, to deny the propriety of Marquis Ito's attitude as described by the *Jiji*. For our own part, we do not hesitate to say that were His Excellency to remain in power after the Liberals had been forced into opposition, he could scarcely look to enjoy the confidence of any self-respecting party hereafter.

What then is to be done? One of two things only: either Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki must remain in office, adopting some temporary means of tiding over the difficulty; or they must retire, and hand over the administration to the Opposition. These are the only alternatives, in the *Jiji's* opinion. But why should Marquis Ito's retention of office be merely temporary? That is what we can not understand. Is it really a fact that no capable statesmen can be found among the ranks of officialdom to preside over the Departments of Finance and Foreign Affairs? Assuredly no statesmen will be willing to accept such difficult posts merely as a makeshift. If any nominations be made, they must be made with the firm and declared intention of permanence to the utmost limit of possibility. If Count Matsukata came into power, he would certainly hold the portfolio of Finance in conjunction with the Presidency of the Cabinet. Why should not Marquis Ito do the same? Every one that has ever been behind the scenes knows that with whatever success this or that policy has been carried out by this or that Minister of Finance, Marquis Ito and Count Inouye were the original planners of the programme. The Marquis' skill in superintending the operation of a scheme has been proved to be as great as his ability in planning it. Foreigners, at any rate, will be perplexed to understand why he should not himself step into the breach at this juncture. As to the Foreign Office, Marquis Saionji's praiseworthy loyalty in standing for so long a time in the unenviable and ineffective position of a *locum tenens* certainly ought not to be taxed any longer, for his own sake as well as for the sake of the public interests. If, as appears to be thought, His Excellency would not be disposed to agree to a transfer from the Department of Education—where, indeed, he seems to be most successful in his administration—surely an excellent Minister of Foreign Affairs might be found in Baron Hayashi, for example. It is not easy to credit the alleged dearth of able men at Marquis Ito's command.

The amount of rice in stock at Osaka is 626,722 *hoku*. Such a large stock has not been carried since the time of the Restoration, and as all godowns are full, a lot has to be stored in the open.

JAPAN'S IMPORT TRADE.

From January to July of this year, writes the *Jiji*, the excess of imports over exports totalled 33,740,612 *yen*. In a great measure, that must be due to the importation of machinery and iron in consequence of the vast industrial development after the War, and also to the increasing demand for luxuries. But the figures are too large to be ascribed entirely to these two causes: some others are at work. Looking at the returns of exports and imports since January last, we find a decrease in only two articles of import, while there has been an extraordinary increase in all others. The following imported articles show increases of more than half a million *yen* as compared with last year:—

	Quantity, Increase.	Value, Increase.
Raw Cotton	20,645,520.....	7,029,906
Cotton Yarn	4,529,106.....	3,290,639
Kanakin	6,822,990.....	633,053
Other Cotton Piece-goods	14,464,473.....	1,993,175
Muslin	11,253,761.....	1,789,847
Kefusu	2,866,269.....	883,105
Flannel	1,748,425.....	590,913
Watches	98,391.....	566,756
Machinery	—	1,288,377
Iron and Steel	18,022,237.....	704,449
Peas	51,077,928.....	1,076,771
Miscellaneous	—	2,960,642
Oil Cake	67,774,641.....	1,335,063

Total 25,597,049
Decreases are noted in the two following articles:—

	Value, Decrease.
Passenger and luggage cars	272,337
Materials for railway building	498,564

Total 770,901
The greatest increase was thus manifested in raw cotton, yarns, and piece-goods. Such increases are inevitable, as the mode of living grows more luxurious, though most of the imported cotton was perhaps exported again in the shape of yarns. Among machinery, that required for cotton spinning stands preëminent. The increases in imports during 1894, as compared with the previous year, was 29,224,784 *yen*; and in 1895 the increase was 11,778,623 *yen*. In these two years exports also showed increases, 1894, 23,533,222 *yen*; 1895, 22,866,091 *yen*. This year, however, the decrease in exports has been remarkable. The following exported articles have all shown decreases amounting to over half-a-million *yen* each (January to July inclusive), as compared with last year:—

	Quantity, decrease.	Value, decrease.
Raw Silk	551,324 lbs.	5,620,254
Habutaye	145,056 tan.	2,536,338
Other Silk Articles	79,284 tan.	981,877
Tea	7,161,789 lbs.	2,667,171
Rice	377,754	1,389,892
Miscellaneous	—	1,480,119

Total 8,728,775
Increases of over 50,000 *yen* have taken place in two exported articles:—

	Quantity, Increase.	Value, Increase.
Silk handkerchiefs.	382,579 doz.	612,304
Cotton yarns.....	4,828,701 lbs.	1,512,551

Total 2,124,855
As the War made Japan famous all over the world, it was expected that her export trade would considerably increase, but this has not been the case. Against an increase of 7 million *yen* in the importation of cotton, only an increase of one and half millions is recorded in the export of cotton yarns. Raw silk, silk goods, tea, and other important staples have been exported in much smaller quantities than in ordinary years. Of course the principal cause of the decreased export business is the business depression in the United States, while, again, the gradual rise in the value of silver may have something to do with it.

After the Presidential Election, exports to the United States may be expected to increase: therefore the present over importation need not cause anxiety.

RATES OF INTEREST IN JAPAN.

According to returns furnished by the Financial Department, the rates of interest on loans from April to June this year, have varied considerably. Towns in Kumamoto, Oita, Miyazaki, and Fukushima Prefectures in which National Banks are situated, show the highest rate, being 18 per cent. at Hitoyoshi and Saeki during the three months; and at Nobe-oka and Miyazaki during the first two months. At Yanazawa and Yashiro it was 16.4 per cent. throughout the three months. The lowest rates prevailed in Fukuoka, Gifu, and Kagoshima Prefectures, being 4 per cent. at Kokura and 5 per cent. at Yawata and Kagoshima. The averages for the whole of Japan in April, May, and June of this year, compared with those prevailing in corresponding months of last year, are as follow:—

	Max.	1896.	1895.	Decrease.	Min.	1896.	1895.	Decrease.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
April	12.51	13.60	1.09	0.02	9.56	0.54		
May	12.52	13.70	1.18	0.08	9.56	0.58		
June	12.68	13.95	1.27	0.05	9.64	0.59		

The highest rate of interest on deposits is reported from Sasayama, Hyogo Ken, and at Toyama, Toyama Ken, where it was 7.5 % in April, May and June. The next highest was at Miharu, 7.2 % during the three months. Next come Mito (Ibaraki Ken), Okayama (Okayama Ken), Kokura (Fukuoka Ken), and Hitoyoshi (Kumamoto Ken), 7 %. Chiba reported 7 % in May and April only. The lowest rate prevailed at Kurume (Fukuoka Ken), 1.8 % during the three months. The next lowest ruled at Osaka, Tsuwano, and Hirosaki (Aomori Ken), varying from 2 to 2.5 %. The maximum and minimum rates in 1895 and 1896 are compared below:—

	Max.	1896.	1895.	Increase.	Min.	1896.	1895.	Increase.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
April	5.79	5.61	0.18	4.05	3.89	0.16		
May	5.83	5.65	0.18	4.07	3.92	0.15		
June	5.83	5.71	0.12	4.09	4.00	0.09		

Cheques were discounted during the three months at 86 places, the highest charges prevailing at Nobe-oka and Miyazaki: in the former they varied from 5 *sen 2 rin* to 6 *sen*, daily, and in the latter, from 5 *sen* to 5 *sen 5 rin*. At Takamatsu, Wakatsu, Saeki, and Yashiro the rate throughout the whole period was 5 *sen*. The lowest rate, 1 *sen 4 rin*, was charged at Yawata, and the next, 2 *sen*, at Tsuwano and Saeki. Below is a comparison for the years 1895 and 1896 (April, May, and June):—

	Max.	1896.	1895.	Decrease.	Min.	1896.	1895.	Decrease.
	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.	Sen.
April	3.57	3.79	0.22	2.76	2.98	0.22		
May	3.53	4.87	0.34	2.76	3.06	0.30		
June	3.55	3.88	0.33	2.76	3.07	0.31		

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The foreign trade of Japan for the first half of 1896, writes the *Mainichi*, showed imports to exceed exports by 26,000,000 *yen*, a rare commercial phenomenon in recent years. That is owing, on the one hand, to the extraordinary depressed condition of the American market, and on the other, to the unusually large importation of machinery and other materials in consequence of the mushroom growth of industrial enterprises in this country. This over importation, however, is by no means ominous. The growth of industries is but the natural result of a victorious war. Moreover, the machinery imported will sooner or later turn out products that will be exported in their turn. Another point to be noted, is that 15,000,000 *yen* out of 26,000,000 *yen* (that is the total of the excess of imports) represented cotton and wool. Further, the greater part of the remaining 11,000,000 *yen* represented machinery and other articles of iron. Very few luxuries were imported. In the months of June and July, the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha alone is said to have exported cotton yarns to the amount of 2,000,000 *yen*. When most of the cotton and wool imported in the first half of the year comes to be exported in the form of yarn, etc., the export business promises to be very prosperous. Silk too will move off after the Presidential election in the United States.

A DENIAL.

It was stated on Sunday by the Liberal organ (*Yiyu Shimpō*) that when the Liberal Party formed an alliance with the Cabinet, they sought and obtained from the latter an assurance that Count Okuma should not receive a portfolio so long as the alliance lasted. That very remarkable assertion is contradicted by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The formation of the alliance is put by the latter journal in the month of June or July, 1895, and it then goes on to speak thus:—"In the beginning of July, when two meetings had taken place between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma, and when reports had begun to circulate to the effect that Count Okuma was about to enter the Cabinet, the Liberals entertained some anxiety, and on the 14th of the month, Mr. Hayashi Yuzo waited on Marquis Ito at Oiso, to obtain information on the subject. In answer to his visitor's inquiries, the Marquis replied that his interviews with Count Okuma had not related to the latter's entry into the Cabinet, and Mr. Hayashi conveyed the Premier's answer to the members of the Liberal Party. But the alliance between the Liberals and the Cabinet was in no manner conditional on a promise that Count Okuma should be excluded from the Ministry. In the Spring of this year, when Count Itagaki received a portfolio, a certain Minister of State suggested that, if the Liberal leader were admitted, it might be well to go a step farther, and admit other party leaders also. He added that, even though Marquis Ito had given a pledge to the Liberals with respect to keeping out Count Okuma, the Marquis would doubtless be willing to abandon that attitude now. But the Marquis had given no such pledge. The present Cabinet desires that Count Matsukata should join it; the Liberal Party also offers no opposition. With respect to Viscount Shinagawa's return to power, the Liberals are not unwilling so long as the National Unionists, his followers, agree to act in concert with the Cabinet and its supporters, the Liberals. But the Liberals totally oppose Count Okuma's admission to the Cabinet, and if the Government join hands with him, they will sever their connection and stand apart. Thus, even granting that no such promise as that alluded to above was ever made by Marquis Ito, Count Itagaki and his followers say that they will break with the Government on the day that Count Okuma joins its ranks."

OSAKA MERCHANTS.

A special correspondent of the *Yiji*, writing from Osaka, says that the merchants of that city, capable though they be as wholesale dealers, excel more in retail business. No matter how small the purchase, they welcome the customer with cordiality. In Tokyo and Osaka the language used by sellers and buyers is very different. In the former city sellers employ the politest language to purchasers, while in Osaka it is the purchaser who shows the greatest politeness. In Osaka among the great merchants many an old custom prevails. To mention a few: a great merchant's wife will not allow her servants to wear their hair in the same form of coiffure that she affects. They are also not allowed to wear *yukata*. When the wife of a merchant meets in the street a woman or a man who has served an apprenticeship in her house, she requires this person to make to her as low a bow as an old *Daimyo* required of his retainers. When an apprentice finishes his term of servitude, his master establishes him as an independent merchant. Some people think that Osaka merchants are old-fashioned in every respect, but that is not the case in their selection of modes of employment. Nowhere in Japan has Western civilization wrought so many changes in commercial and industrial concerns as in Osaka. In many petty things Osaka tradesfolk may be backward, but in taking advantage of all the latest improvements, and thus increasing their earning powers, they are perhaps the most forward of all peoples in all Asia.

THE DOSHISHA.

The following letter, which explains itself, would have appeared at an earlier date in these columns had it reached our hands. We publish it now because its perusal seems essential to a clear understanding of the position as between the American Board Mission and the Trustees of the Doshisha. The letter of the Rev. Mr. Kozaki, referred to by Drs. Gordon and Learned, has already been published in the *Japan Mail*:—

Kobe, July 7th, 1896.

To the REV. H. KOZAKI, President of the Board of Trustees of the Doshisha University, Kyoto.

DEAR BROTHER,—The Kyoto Station has communicated to us the official action of the Trustees of the Doshisha, as reported to them in your letter of May 6th. We note also the explanation of that action, which is contained in the same letter.

This action of the Trustees embodies their decision to sever, at the close of the present calendar year, the relations which the Doshisha has sustained to the American Board for the past twenty-one years, and to ask the Board "to discontinue its gift of annual subsidy and its aid of missionary teachers." You also intimate that the Board will in due course be notified of this decision. In your explanation you say, "We are anxious lest some of you may hear of these resolutions and possibly misconstrue their meaning. I can assure you that the Trustees have no intention whatever of turning you out from our institution where some of you have worked so long and so devotedly, nor any desire that your connection with it should cease. I say confidently that we all desire and earnestly hope that you will all stay here and aid us in the good work of Christian education."

The request for the continued co-operation of our missionaries contained in this, as we understand, official letter, has been made less formally by other members of the Board of Trustees. While members of the Kyoto Station have doubtless already given expression to their personal views, it has seemed best that the formal answer to this request should be delayed until the meeting of the Mission and that it should emanate from the Mission.

The appreciative terms in which you refer to the services of the missionary teachers are gratifying to them and to us, yet if we understand the intent of your letter, you now ask the missionaries, not as representatives of the Board, but as individuals, to give their aid to the Doshisha. This, however, is not possible, for the American Board has specifically instructed us to enter into no relations in which we cannot be recognized as its representatives. Even in the absence of these specific instructions we should hesitate to assent to any such form of co-operation. If this were an entirely new work, having no history behind it, the case might be different; but in view of your action severing the Doshisha from its long-standing relationship to the American Board, it would be certainly difficult to avoid at least the appearance of disloyalty to our constituency.

Our great love for the Doshisha University, and our sense of its importance to Japan, lead us to say still farther, it is not alone the difficulty stated above which stands in the way of our continued co-operation in furnishing teachers. We have been in the closest sympathy and co-operation with our Japanese brethren in the Doshisha from the beginning. While Dr. Neesima lived, the Christian spirit and purpose and practice of the institution, as represented by its President, its Trustees, and its Japanese teachers, were in complete harmony with the spirit and purpose of our Mission and of the American Board. The moral and Christian spirit and practice of the school were a unit.

During the last few years, however, it has become increasingly evident that this is no longer the case. Those fundamental principles of Christianity which were dear to the hearts of the founders of the Doshisha, to those of the American friends who have given hundreds of thousands of dollars for its support, and which are not less dear to the hearts of all the members of our Mission, have been publicly assailed or ridiculed from the platform of the schools and in other ways by persons connected with its administration; and instead of listening to the earnest protests of the representatives of the Mission, the Trustees have in one instance promoted an instructor who had been most active in assailing the Christian foundations of the institution to be the head of an important department. The Trustees have also said in their reply to the Report of the Deputation, in speaking of our protests, "the opinions considered so heretical by the missionaries are not so in our view."

There is no longer a unity of Christian feeling and practice in the Doshisha, but rather such a wide divergence, as to render it unwise, if not impossible, for any of our number to continue to co-operate as teachers in the school.

Since the present relations must terminate at the end of next December by the recent decision of the Trustees, and since, for the reasons given above, the Mission cannot advise any of its members to enter into the proposed new relations, it would seem to be better for the Doshisha and for all concerned to have the present relations terminate now, and allow the Trustees to make their plans for teachers, etc., for the next college year, thus avoiding the confusion necessarily attendant upon a break in the midst of the year. This course seems also to be required by the fact that the foreign teachers are so dissatisfied with the present condition of the institution that they are unwilling to remain longer in connection with it.

For these reasons, the Mission has instructed those of its number now employed as teachers in the Doshisha to resign at once.

We need not speak of the pain and regret with which this action is taken. We can only pray that God who founded the institution in such a wonderful manner will not desert it, but will in His own way and time bring it back to its original spirit and purpose, so that the Doshisha University may ever remain a centre of Christian light and influence in Japan.

We remain, your brethren in Christ, for the Mission,

M. L. GORDON, Chairman,
DWIGHT W. LEARNED, Secretary.

EDUCATION OF NOBLE'S SONS.

Since Prince Konoye's appointment as Director of the Nobles' School for boys he has been hard at work remodelling the regulations of the institution. His plans are now almost fully matured, and will shortly be put in practice. He thinks that the ambition of all noble youths to become soldiers is very commendable, but all are by no means fitted for military life. He is inclined to abolish the department of the University which has for its object the training of boys for membership in the House of Peers, the number of boys who prefer that department to the Imperial or foreign Universities being very small; in its stead he would start a Diplomatic Course. The Minister of Foreign Affairs is said to have warmly endorsed this proposition. It is hoped that an Imperial Edict will be issued shortly authorising that change, and that graduates in it will receive appointments as *attachés* and assistant consuls. At present the graduates of the third year course of the Ordinary Middle School are admitted to the Military Preparatory School (*Rikugun Yonen Gakko*) without any examination. Prince Konoye is consulting with the Authorities to have this privilege extended to the Naval School. Thus the institution under the Prince's directorship, will become an academy for the preparation of military and naval officers and diplomats.

A PROPOSED NEW TAX.

The *Nippon* prints the following letter from a person, signing himself "Kojimachi Yaseotoko":—"In the Budget for the 30th fiscal year now being prepared, the expenditures are found to exceed the revenues by as much as 28 million *yen*. The Minister for Finance, Viscount Watanabe, it is rumoured, has felt himself unequal to the task of adjusting that discrepancy, and means to resign. I cannot understand why the Viscount should show such a lack of moral courage. Unfortunately, I am not a portfolio-holder, but in the interests of the State, I would indicate, for the Minister's benefit, a new source of taxation. It is to be found in an assessment of the titles of nobility. I would adopt the following rates:—Prince, 500 *yen*; Marquis, 400 *yen*; Count, 300 *yen*; Viscount, 200 *yen*; Baron, 100 *yen*; Grand Orders (the Imperial family and relations exempted) 1,000 *yen*; *Sho-ichii* (first class of the first grade) 800 *yen*; from *ju-ichii* to *ju-shii* 100 *yen* for each class; *Sho-goi* (first class of the fifth grade) 80 *yen*; from *ju-goi* to *ju-hachii* 10 *yen* for each class downward.

GOLD AND THE NIPPON GINKO.

The *Fiji* last week printed a leading article headed "Gold held by the Nippon Ginko." The Nippon Ginko, it says, appears to hold at present some 82 million *yen* in gold coins and bullion, and of this sum over 80 million *yen* is security for its issues of convertible silver notes. Now 80 million *yen* is about 80 per cent. of the Bank's whole security, therefore the Bank seems to hold only about 20 per cent. of its security in silver. It is not usual for gold to be held as security for silver notes, but the anomaly need not be a cause of wonder considering the appreciation of gold. Of recent years it has risen fully 80 per cent. in value. The Bank of England is said to keep in silver a sum less than one-fourth of its total securities against circulating notes. In Japan it would not be dangerous to permit the holding of silver to a similar extent, but the silver question is a financial riddle that few can read aright. During the War, when Japan's central monetary establishment saw its securities gradually withdrawn, while the value of gold was gradually appreciating, it nominally raised the book value of its gold bullion, and so not only succeeded in preventing a shortage in its securities but actually struck a balance in its favour; then it took steps to convert this into capital. Such an act on the part of a great Bank cannot be admired. Granting that such an irregularity—for such it appears to us—took place, how can the Authorities prevent a smaller bank from arranging a similar means of covering up a shortage? But apart from that, we do not care to think of the danger that threatens Japan, in the Nippon Ginko's being allowed to hold such a large amount of gold, the value of which is always fluctuating. Suppose gold had fallen by 10 per cent? The 82 million *yen* then would have shrunk to 74,000,000, and the Bank would have had to supply the deficiency by utilizing all its reserves, to wit some 8 million *yen*. Such would have been the effect had there been a fall of merely 10 per cent. Should the American Democrats ever succeed in establishing the ratio of 16 to 1, the Nippon Ginko will find itself divested of the greater part of its capital, and all the other banks in Japan would be reduced to a miserable condition. We are not building a castle in the air. We have only laid before the Authorities the true position of affairs and are pointing out the possibilities of the future. Of course, the Nippon Ginko cannot be supposed to be ignorant of simple mathematics. Then what is it that has caused the Bank to resort to an expedient such as we have protested against? Nothing but the too strong tie that now connects the Government and the Bank. The Government, we think, allows the Bank to hold a mixed security of gold and silver, and rather prefers it to keep more of the former metal than the latter, foreseeing the usefulness of gold in the event of war, and entertaining a vague hope of seeing Japan some time or other adopt a gold standard. As to the gold standard, we cannot persuade ourselves to consent to its adoption. It is quite reasonable, we admit, that the Government should be desirous of possessing a considerable amount of gold: it is the policy of all modern Governments. But the maintenance of a war-chest is a State affair. The Nippon Ginko, extensive as are its ramifications, is essentially a banking firm carried on by a corporation of shareholders. It is a money-making institution. Now it cannot be difficult to perceive how lacking in foresight the Government is to intrust it with State affairs, and how unwise the Bank to take up the work. Therefore we advise the Government and the Bank to loosen the now too intimate bonds that bind them. As the matter now stands, the best remedy is, in our opinion, for the Government to decide to keep a certain quantity of gold in stock, to exchange against the silver of the Chinese indemnity, and to deliver the silver thus purchased to the Bank, receiving from the latter a corresponding amount of gold in return, the Government to keep the yellow metal in its own Treasury. Thus, on the one hand, the Bank would be relieved from the anxiety of holding

so large an amount of gold, subject to constant fluctuations in value, and on the other, the Government would be made secure in possession of a certain quantity of the same metal that it is called upon to keep for considerations of State. Some persons may object to this opinion, urging that to withdraw from circulation so great a quantity of gold is an economic heresy. Well, it would be found quite possible to lend part of the gold to the Specie Bank, as Count Matsukata did when he was Minister for Finance, or other devices might be resorted to without the least deflection from the main purpose. Our sole object in writing thus is to have a clear line of demarcation drawn between the affairs of the State and the business enterprises of the Nippon Ginko. The State must be founded on a sure financial basis, and the Bank should be relieved from the danger of holding so large a quantity of the State's gold bullion.

COUNT MATSUKATA'S VIEWS.

A representative of the *Fiji Shimpō* visited Count Matsukata in Kyoto on the 26th instant, and professes to have obtained from him the following statement:—"The present time is one of great embarrassment with regard to the domestic and foreign affairs of the State, and anyone undertaking to manage them should have no thought beyond the interests of the nation. In the country's foreign relations, in its finances, in its foreign trade, in its administration, there have been many results not all commendable. Men charged with the duty of framing the policy of the State must lay aside paltry personal considerations and questions of previous relationships, and must devote their whole ability to the service of the State. If I have refused to enter the Cabinet, it is because I see that no such condition of magnanimity has yet been attained. I can not but doubt that the present Cabinet is prepared to sacrifice personal considerations and existing relations. Last year, my entry in the Cabinet was preceded by several refusals, but on receipt of His Majesty's gracious commands I accepted a portfolio, and set about shaping the financial policy of the State, urging that a special session of the Diet should be held to discuss the matter. I failed, however, to obtain my colleagues' endorsement of my views, and I therefore left the Cabinet. I believe in thorough measures, not in a merely temporizing policy. Did I re-join the ministry now, the experience of last year would be repeated, and I am too old a man to be making there rapid entries and exists. The finances of a nation are like those of a household: to manage them properly for one year involves looking forward not merely to the next year, but to the future in general. As the *Fiji Shimpō* says, and as Mr. Fukuzawa contends, this is not a time to take account of people's likes and dislikes or of party connections. But I doubt whether the Minister President of State has made up his mind to that view of the situation."

This language has the ring of Count Matsukata's manner of thinking and speaking, but the romantic and unpractical paragraphs at the close might have been left out with advantage. Count Matsukata knows, no man better, that the day when party connections might be ignored has irrevocably passed away in Japan. He knows it so well that even were the Cabinet with its Liberal allies ready to welcome him and Count Okuma into its ranks, he would refuse to accept the invitation, being assured that to accept it must alienate the greater part, if not the whole, of the *Shimpō-to*. That is a point not sufficiently considered we think, by critics discussing the situation. It is all very well to throw the onus of the dilemma on the Liberals; all very well to blame them for refusing to continue their alliance with the Ministry from the day that the Cabinet includes the leader of the Opposition. But people forget to consider whether the leader of the Opposition could retain the allegiance of his Party if he entered a Cabinet that is allied with the Liberals. We confess that our imagination is incapable of perceiving any satisfactory *via media*. It seems to us that one side or the other must abandon

the arena *in toto*, and since well informed persons allege that the time is not ripe for the accession of the *Shimpō-to* leaders to power, there is nothing for it except the continued tenure of office by its present occupants, who, however, will not have gained any prestige by this unsuccessful attempt to divide their opponents, and by this tacit admission that they need the latter's aid.

VALUE OF LAND AND RENTS IN TOKYO.

The value of land is rising rapidly in Tokyo, as is well known. The following table, which we take from the *Fiji*, may interest some of our readers:—

TABLE SHOWING VALUE OF LAND AND LAND-RENT IN TOKYO.

District.	Name of Street and Number of Lot.	Price per <i>tsubo</i> , <i>yen</i> .	Monthly Rent per <i>tsubo</i> , <i>yen</i> .
Nihonbashi—			
Max.	1 Honfunacho.....	80	Front...36 Rear...35
Min.	23 Kitajimacho Nichome...15		Front...18 Rear...8
Kyobashi—			
Max.	23 Minami Temma Itcho.....	65	Corner 34 Front...33 Rear...33
Min.	2 Echizenbori Nichome...30		Aver...3.5
Kanda—			
Max.	26 Ogawa-machi.....	40	Front...25 Middle...25 Rear...18
Min.	21 Sakumacho Sancho.....10		Front...5 Rear...2.4
Shitaya—			
Max.	10 Moto Kuromoncho.....35		Front...25 Rear...19
Min.	15 Manner-cho Nichome...8		Front...5 Rear...2
Ankawa—			
Max.	24 Kaya-cho Nichome.....40		Front...20 Middle...15 Rear...7
Min.	Saruwaka-cho.....3		Aver...0.5
Honjo—			
Max.	27 Aioli-cho Nichome.....25		Front...13.5 Rear...7.0 Side...11.0
Min.	59 Komme Kawara-cho and Narihira-cho.....5		Front...11.0 Rear...8
Fukagawa—			
Max.	30 Sage-cho Nichome.....30		Front...17.0 Rear...12.0
Min.	224 & 135 Reigan-cho.....3.5		Front...2.0 Rear...2.0
Hongo—			
Max.	7 & 10 Hongō Sancho.....40		Front...16.0 Rear...8.0
Min.	2-16 Akebono-cho.....3		Front...2.0 Rear...4
Kojikawa—			
Max.	60 & 61 Kobinata Suido-cho.....35.5		Front...23.0 Rear...18.0 Rear...7.0
Min.	25 Okubo Kubocho.....1.8		Front...2.5 Rear...5
Ushigome—			
Max.	35 Sakana-cho.....25		Front...25.0 Rear...18.0 to 9.0
Min.	48 Kincho-machi.....2.5		Front...8 Rear...5
Votsuya—			
Max.	9 Temma-cho Nichome.....2.0		Front...18.0 Middle...13.0 Rear...8.0
Min.	40 Samegahashi Tani Machi Ichome.....8		Front...2.0 Middle...1.0 Rear...0.7
Akasaka—			
Max.	4 Hitotsugi-cho.....20		Front...25.0 Rear...9.0
Min.	39 & 30 Gondahara-machi.....1.8		Front...2.0 Rear...5
Azabu—			
Max.	15-18 Iiguri Shichome.....25.0		Front...13.0 Rear...8.0
Min.	50 & 60 Hiroo-cho.....1.5		Front...0.5 Rear...0.5
Kojimachi—			
Max.	30 Iida-machi Nichome.....30.0		Aver...2.70
Min.	Fujimi-cho Gochome.....7.0		Front...3.0 Aver...3.0
Shiba—			
Max.	From 1 Shibaguchi Itcho to 1 Shibaguchi Nichome.....45.0		Aver...1.0
Min.	30 to 24 Imazato-cho Shikane.....1.8		Front...0.5 Rear...0.3

These are the latest authentic figures, but in Ogawamachi, it is said, an offer of 50 *yen* per *tsubo* will hardly lead to business. Land at Honfunacho, near the Fish Market at Nihonbashi, used to command 80 *yen* per *tsubo* in the pre-*Meiji* days. So that in some respects land may be said to have fallen in value. Ginza, which one would expect to find commanding 70 to 80 *yen* per *tsubo*, brings considerably less, for the Government Authorities obtained the land on a long and low lease. After a time, when the lease has expired, rents in the Ginza, now very low, will rise, and consequently the value of land will rise considerably above the figures now prevailing for Ogawa-machi, Kanda.

According to researches made between the 31st July and the 1st of August, the amount of money in circulation was *yen* 29,760,432.75; compared with that of the preceding month there is a decrease of *yen* 139,630.50 in paper money, and *yen* 51,270.50 in bank notes.—

CABINET CHANGES.

THE question of Cabinet changes is now occupying a large share of public and journalistic attention in Tokyo. Of the three principal political newspapers in the capital, two, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Fuyu Shimpō* (organ of the Liberals), are working in unison to oppose the entry of Count OKUMA into the Administration, and the third, the *Fiji Shimpō*, is exerting its great influence in the opposite sense. All parties are agreed that the portfolio of Finance should be taken by Count MATSUKATA, and it is understood that Marquis ITO would gladly resign the Premiership in favour of that statesman. But Count MATSUKATA seems determined not to resume office unless Count OKUMA takes the direction of Foreign Affairs, and that consummation is exceedingly difficult to arrange. The *Fiji Shimpō*, believing strongly in the national advantages that would ensue from the accession of the two Counts to power, has allowed itself to be carried a little too far, perhaps, in its advocacy, for it has charged Baron ITO, the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, with being the only obstacle to Count OKUMA's receipt of a portfolio. Of that accusation Baron ITO has not taken any public notice: that is to say, no response has appeared in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, to whose columns the Baron undoubtedly has free access. But the *Tokyo Shimbun* has taken up the subject, and, in a vigorous article, has repudiated the notion that Baron ITO or any one else is responsible for obstacles quite inevitable in themselves. The ground assumed by the Liberal organ is that Count ITAGAKI and Count OKUMA can not possibly work together in the same Cabinet: their political differences have been too radical in the past and remain too accentuated in the present. It is not merely that the *Kaishin-to*, Count OKUMA's followers, have persistently adhered to the negative policy long ago abandoned by the Liberals; or that the former bitterly reviled the latter for changing their attitude: that difficulty is of too general a character to be incapable of adjustment. It is that the two parties have come into violent collision with reference to great and distinct administrative problems: for example, strict Treaty enforcement; strong foreign policy; the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula, and the post-bellum measures. On all these vital questions, the Opposition, headed by the *Kaishin-to*, not only offered the most implacable resistance to the Cabinet of which Count ITAGAKI is now a member, but are at this very moment offering implacable resistance through the mouths of their representatives touring in the provinces. If the *Fiji Shimpō* imagines that political principles can be thus lightly sacrificed on the altar of opportunism, or that statesmen holding

diametrically opposite views can join hands, at a moment's notice, to administer affairs which present themselves to them in such different lights, the Liberal leaders can not enter any such a self-stultifying route. The conviction that coöperation with the *Kaishin-to* is quite impracticable being thus firmly rooted in the minds of the Liberals, they sought and obtained, before throwing in their lot with the present Government, an assurance that Count OKUMA's admission to the Cabinet would not be contemplated, and in view of these facts, it is obviously a flagrant defect of judgment and insight to allege that Count ITAGAKI and Count OKUMA can sit to-day in the same Cabinet.

Such are the very emphatic views enunciated by the organ of the Liberals. But, as we pointed out in a recent issue, outsiders are not in a position to know whether the *Fuyu Shimpō* represents the whole Party or only a section of it. There can be little doubt that if Count OKUMA enters the Cabinet and Count ITAGAKI remains in it, the Liberal Party must break into two. And, indeed, that is the result declared by many observers to be now imminent. Possibly the *Fuyu Shimpō's* utterances reflect only the views of the section that would secede.

The *Nichi Nichi*, though silent for the moment about Count OKUMA, takes pains to reconcile its criticism of Count MATSUKATA'S conduct last year with its advocacy of his restoration to power to-day. Incidentally our contemporary discloses some interesting historical facts. Our readers doubtless know that when the war with China was drawing to a close, Count MATSUKATA was induced to enter the Cabinet and, on March 17th, the EMPEROR addressed to him a message, dwelling upon the preponderating importance of financial management after the war; saying that the question caused daily and nightly anxiety to the SOVEREIGN himself, and directing the Count to devote his energies to the task. But even before the problem had been practically approached, Count MATSUKATA developed differences on other subjects with Marquis ITO, and finally went out of office at a time when the State had urgent need of his services. It is with regard to those differences that we now learn some particulars from the *Nichi Nichi*. Count MATSUKATA, it appears, insisted that a special session of the Diet should be convened, virtually making his own retention of office contingent on the acceptance of his demand. Marquis SAIGO and Marquis OYAMA, on behalf of the Cabinet, urged him not to resign, and Marquis ITO distinctly stated that he had no objection to the summoning of a special session if the subjects to be submitted related to military and naval expansion. The Cabinet endorsed the Premier's view, and on July 2nd (1895), Marquis ITO and the Finance Minister—

Count MATSUKATA, who would thus seem to have been a consenting party—addressed the Throne and obtained Imperial consent to a special session. Thereupon, the Ministers of War and of the Navy were instructed to use all possible expedition in compiling their estimates, a task the completion of which must necessarily precede summoning of the Diet. But Count MATSUKATA, alleging unavoidable reasons, went out of office on the 25th of the same month. The *Nichi Nichi* points out that while it could not possibly approve the Count's procedure on that occasion, it has never varied in believing him to be eminently fitted for the management of the country's financial affairs in these post-bellum days, and it declares, not only that unanimity of opinion prevails everywhere as to the advisability of the Count's return to office, but also that Count ITAGAKI himself is prominent among the statesmen desiring that consummation. Why, then, asks our contemporary, does the Count hesitate, and why has he left for Kyoto?

From all this our readers will gather that the political situation is decidedly unsettled.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

WHATEVER may be the immediate causes that led to the present political crisis, the prospect of a satisfactory settlement does not appear to be growing brighter. Count MATSUKATA seems determined not to return to power unless he can have Count OKUMA'S assistance at the Foreign Office, and, as we explained in our last article, Count OKUMA'S entry into the Cabinet would involve a radical change in the political situation, since it would sever the connection between the Government and a large section, if not the whole, of the Liberal Party. It must be confessed that Count ITAGAKI and his followers find themselves in an embarrassing position. So long as Count MUTSU could hold the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, everything moved in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. He was, in fact, the pivot of the situation. No Department of State ranks above the Foreign Office in point of national importance, and the general opinion is that, apart from Count MUTSU, only two statesmen have proved themselves capable of holding the portfolio, namely, Count INOUE and Count OKUMA. Of these two, Count OKUMA alone is available, inasmuch as Count INOUE'S resolution not to re-enter the Cabinet seems to be irrevocable, for the present at all events. Thus the dilemma upon the horns of which the Liberals find themselves impaled is that, Count MUTSU being physically unable to serve, the Foreign Office must remain without a head of proved ability, or Count OKUMA must be invited to preside there. Among the ranks of younger officials there may, of

course, be men fully equipped for the task, but such immense importance now centres upon the skilled management of foreign affairs that no disposition to try experiments is entertained either by those in power or by those in opposition. The financial problem is not less vital, and absolute unanimity of belief prevails that Count MATSUKATA is the one man to solve it. He enjoys the entire confidence of the banking and business classes, and the mere fact of his return to power would act as a wholesome public tonic. In a word, Count MATSUKATA presiding at the *Okura-sho* and Count OKUMA at the *Gwaimusho* would form precisely the combination that the national interests demand, and it is not to be supposed for a moment that a statesman of Marquis ITO's clear insight labours under any misapprehension as to the facts. If his own retirement would facilitate the re-organization of the Cabinet on that basis, we may be sure that his resignation would be placed at once in the SOVEREIGN'S hands. Indeed, it is stated in well informed circles, that he has already signified not merely his willingness, but even his desire, to go out of office. Count ITAGAKI and the Liberals must be equally cognizant of all these things. While their Party could furnish for the Foreign Office a statesman of Count MUTSU'S competence, their union with the Administration presented no difficulty, but now Count MUTSU being temporarily *hors de combat*, their continued union means that the conduct of foreign affairs is virtually paralyzed. And it further means, if Count MATSUKATA persists in joining hands with Count OKUMA, that the services of the most trusted financier of the day are lost to the country. Confronted by such considerations, a man of Count ITAGAKI'S single-hearted patriotism might easily persuade himself to forget his previous differences with Count OKUMA, and to remain in the Cabinet with the *Kaishin-to* leader, in which event a large section of his Party would certainly range themselves by his side. But a section at least as large would secede, and thus the aged politician would have to witness the dismemberment of the great Party over which he had presided for nearly twenty years. Whether he could reconcile himself to such a painful convulsion is doubtful. On the other hand, a Cabinet organized in opposition to the Liberals could scarcely expect to command a majority in the Lower House. It is true that in some quarters, Count MATSUKATA is represented as not only quite indifferent, but even strongly opposed, to the principle of party support. The *Tokyo Asahi*, for example, professes to have information that his refusal to resume office is based, not on the difficulty of securing Count OKUMA'S assistance, but on the fact that a connection exists between the Cabinet and the Liberals. By that journal he is reported to have declared that the pusillanimous policy of looking beyond the SO-

VEREIGN for sanction must be definitely abandoned before he consents to re-enter the Cabinet. We do not believe a word of the story. In point of fact, Count MATSUKATA was the first Minister President that seriously regarded the Liberals as probable allies of the Government. Even were that not the case, he is too well versed in statecraft not to understand that the principle of party support having once received practical recognition, can never be revoked. Every Japanese Cabinet is bound, henceforth, to acknowledge that principle, and to save the country from the legislative paralysis and unsightly squabbling that prevailed prior to the war. Strong, therefore, as are the cards held by Count MATSUKATA and Count OKUMA, their game is not altogether easy, and we can only hope that the spirit of compromise, so potent in Japan, will soon provide some solvent for this decidedly difficult situation.

THE DOSHISHA.

IT does not appear that the whole truth about the Doshisha is yet before the public. A correspondent, whose sources of information are exceptional, writes to us as follows:—"As you say in your article of the 11th instant, it is inexpressibly sad that such a misunderstanding should have arisen between the Trustees of the Doshisha and the American Board Mission, considering the admirable work done by the latter in the cause of secular and moral education in Japan, and considering also the great sums of money spent by the Board and its American friends in building and equipping the Doshisha. But by what means the missionaries of the Board could have prevented the trouble, one can not easily discern. Probably they did not anticipate exactly the kind of dilemma that has occurred, but certainly some of them are known to have felt great anxiety for several years past, as they saw the growing influence of the Kumamoto men in the college; their disposition to make a clan affair of the institution, and their tendency to foster a feeling, if not of hostility, at least of indifference, to Dr. NEESHIMA. There, indeed, is the prime cause of the difficulty. The question of freedom of thought seems to be nothing more than a handle. A good many men, although themselves advanced free-thinkers, believe that the only way of saving the Doshisha from downright partisan administration, is a renewal of coöperation with the missionaries. It is thought that the Japanese friends of Dr. NEESHIMA, who gave forty thousand *yen* for the so-called *Seihobu* of the Doshisha, will use their influence against the Kumamoto administration, and in favour of the old form of coöperation. The movement said to be contemplated by these men has certainly not been inspired by the American Board Missionaries. That they sympa-

thize with it may fairly be assumed, but their openly expressed view is that such a step, to be of any value, must be originated and maintained solely by the Japanese friends of coöperative work. If the Kumamoto men had been willing to refrain from ridicule and attempts to bring their foreign colleagues into contempt, there is no likelihood that they would have found the missionary Board disposed to hamper them as regards intellectual matter. But they do not seem to have evinced that degree of moderation. The case was also embarrassed not a little by the fact that Professor UKITA—not UCHITA—while a beneficiary of Yale University, and actually in the receipt of considerable pecuniary aid, wrote a critique of the University work, including some disrespectful language of one of the most respected instructors, a man of well-earned European reputation. It is true that the latter was not mentioned by name, but the allusions were such as to preclude any failure of identification. It is further claimed that Professor UKITA has broken what Mr. HARRIS regarded as a distinct pledge to work in harmony with the missionaries, but that, of course, may be a matter of opinion. At all events, there is little probability that any friend of the Board will consent to further aids being given to the Doshisha as long as a man so antipathetic is endorsed by the Trustees. The American Board can not reasonably be asked to use its funds for the support of men who, not content with argument, persist in ridiculing its principles and its representations, neither can it be expected to refrain from protest when the income of previous gifts is used for the same perverted purpose. The missionaries of the American Board have proved very emphatically that they are in no degree afraid of freedom of thought, but they are not likely ever again to work with men unwilling either to recognise the obligations of courtesy towards their colleagues, or to admit the right of the Board, in view of all it has done for the Doshisha, to give formal counsel through its own representatives. It should be observed that the Board has never claimed the right of an active partner, but simply the right to give counsel, and now the Trustees say that, while willing to choose certain foreigners as advisers, they will not recognise the Board's competence to appoint advisers. In the case of the houses in Kyoto, the Deputation from the United States did not claim proprietorship, in any sense, but merely asserted the privilege of tenancy for a considerable term of years, and was ready to agree to fifteen years as the limit, paying enough annually to provide for taxes, insurance, and repairs. It is difficult to avoid the conviction that strong clan feeling, re-inforced by chauvinism, is blinding the eyes of the Trustees of the Doshisha to principles which they would otherwise recognise. Nothing could be

sadder or less discouraging, but as in the case of other impulsive men with whom experience has made us familiar, prejudice will gradually become fainter, and the Christian principles still rooted in the heart will re-assert themselves. Even now, these very same men, outside the sphere of temporary blindness, seem to see clearly enough, and are doing good work. One need not live long to learn that eminently good men sometimes follow lamentably erroneous courses under exceptional stress of circumstances, but seldom fail to return to the truth at last. That hope, at least, may be cherished by the missionaries of the Board, who have given, not merely many years, but the best part of their lives, to the development of the Doshisha. As to the theological question, there may not, perhaps, be a general knowledge that the Society to which the college owes its existence, has no hard-and-fast creed. The only theological restriction lies in the discretion of its managers, and their sense of loyalty to the general purpose of its constituency. Certainly there is every reason to think that it recognises to the full the true value of education. To speak of its schools as instruments of propagandism is to mistake the real thought of the Society, though it doubtless believes them to be tributary to the growth of religion, and holds that, in order to render them thus tributary, they should be made efficient as schools; equal, indeed, to the best, within the limits of the means at the Society's disposal. The contents of the Doshisha library alone are sufficient to convince anyone of the broad and candid spirit that has controlled the foreign benefactors of the institution."

In publishing the above, we can not refrain from paying a tribute to the admirably patient and moderate attitude hitherto maintained by the Missionaries of the American Board. In the presence of a disappointment that must be cruelly bitter, they have refrained from any public utterance displaying the least impatience or disposition to recriminate, and it is certain that their quiet dignity and self-restraint will do more to convince thoughtful men of the justice of their cause than any arguments however forcible and well marshalled. Thus far, indeed, neither side to the controversy has done any violence to the high principles by which such men ought to be actuated, and if an understanding could be re-established at this stage, no bitter memories need survive. It is the duty of every man to hold by the dictates of his conscience through evil report and good report. While, therefore, we would not have the Trustees of the Doshisha unduly influenced by the certainty that the verdict of the world will be against them if they persist too stubbornly in their present course, we may fairly remind them that the reputation of Japanese Christians for

gratitude to benefactors and loyal obedience to the unwritten code of honour, is now for the first time in peril, and they will do well to remember that they are custodians of something more than a solitary Professor's freedom of thought and speech.

POINTS OF GRAMMAR.

OUR recent article on some proposed innovations in the use of the English language has evoked a strong protest from "A Constant Reader," to whom we owe apologies for not having published his letter at an earlier date. But, as he rightly surmises, such questions have no imperative claim to special time or special place: their consideration must depend on the occurrence of chance intervals in the routine of regular work.

Our correspondent's reverence for the authority of recognised classics is very admirable in its way, and he makes such dexterous use of it that we feel ourselves relegated to a sacrilegious position: depicted in an attitude of presumptuous opposition to writers whose ink-pots we are unworthy to hold. Yet, having anticipated some such display of shocked protest, we are not greatly dismayed or permanently shamed by it. Perhaps as a matter of constitution, perhaps because the blows of many revilers have somewhat flattened our bump of reverence, we are not incapable of imagining the stupendous contingency suggested by our correspondent, and had it been our happy fortune to meet the great Cardinal or the celebrated composer of nautical romances, we could, really we could, have invited them to consider the possibility of omitting the second "s" from "as follows," or of spelling the plural of "valley" with "ies," nor do we think, really we do not think, that we should have sunk completely into our shoes after such a display of audacity. "Lowliness is," indeed, "the base of every virtue," but we would remind our correspondent that the "haughtiness of humility" ceases to be virtue unless it is purely subjective. All this, however, has a slightly unpleasant flavour of persiflage, and we therefore follow our correspondent's invitation to the sphere of pure logic.

He takes our points in order. It is not right, he urges, to say "the period ended with the death of JAMES II.," because the reader can not learn, without passing on, that a completed thought has not been conveyed, or that something more is about to be told about the period in question. Can he, then, acquire that knowledge without passing on in the case of the stereotyped form "the period ending with the death of JAMES II.?" Assuredly not. For it is impossible to be certain, without the aid of the context, whether "ending" is used as a participial adjective or as a causal participle. One example will suffice to illustrate this:—"The period ending with the

death of JAMES II., no time remained to make the contemplated arrangements."

"Moreover," continues our correspondent, "you must admit the propriety of the form "ending" where the historical present is used for the purpose of giving animation to the narrative. Of course we admit it. But surely our correspondent here becomes his own refutor. For if "ending" conveys the "present" sense that he assigns to it in historical narrative, then our plea for the form "ended" when the idea is purely "past," acquires additional force. "In the week ending June 15th, James II. causes a muster of his troops to be made." That is unimpeachable English, for the historian seeks to carry his readers actually into the week during which the muster took place. He asks them to conceive the muster as a present event, and, therefore, does not ask them to conceive the week of its occurrence as a finished period of time.

Next our project is traversed on the ground of euphony. "The week ending July 5th was one that," &c., is said to be pleasanter to eye and ear than "the week ended July 5th was one that," &c. Very well, but which of the two following forms is the more agreeable:—"The week ending July 2nd having been very wet," and "the week ended July 2nd having been very wet." We admit the Roland: will our correspondent admit the Oliver.

As to our "confusing matters by what we say about participles expressing time," we beg to point out that our correspondent, at this stage, confuses his own argument. In the first place, he claims, for the purposes of his immediate contention, that "ending," "as an active participle conveys a sense of time as duration," which claim he denies when advanced by us; and in the second place, he questions whether, in view of the sharp point of time indicated by its verbal root "end," the participle can be properly invested with a continuing sense, whereas he has just pleaded for its use in the historical present, or in cases where a writer divides his history into periods and marshals them all before his readers. These methods scarcely seem to belong to the realm of logic into which our correspondent has invited us.

When we come to the second point—the use of "as follow," and not only of "as follows"—we find ourselves again sternly rebuked for the audacious temerity of venturing to query the habit of all good writers. We are charged with supposing everybody save ourselves to be "ignorant of the first rule of syntax," and with failing to see that the multitude of precedents arrayable against us makes it a million to one that we are wrong. That kind of conservatism is too crippling to be commendable. Besides, we have not erred so grievously against the tenets of ancestral worship. As our correspondent himself admits, we have stated the syntactical

conception on which the form "as follows" is based, and by doing so we have necessarily admitted that it has a grammatical basis. What we urge is, why invariably employ an abbreviated form that sometimes sounds ungrammatical? Why not change "follows" into "follow" when the subject of the verb is plural? Briefly stated, our correspondent's answer is that the subject of the verb never can be plural, the reference in every case being to the list, or catalogue, or writing, or table, or paragraph, that follows. Yet he accuses us of "begging the question!" Moreover, rooted in that conviction, he defies us to parse the phrase "the names are as follow," just as though our whole argument had not rested on the question of parsing, and as though we had not clearly claimed that since the subject of the verb, in the given example, is the names written below, the plural, not the singular, form would have the advantage of avoiding any apparent violation of grammar. Our correspondent does not seem to have invoked the aid of logic in this instance, but to rely solely on dogma.

Coming finally to the plural forms "moneys," "valleys," "chimneys," we have only to point out that, as our correspondent himself admits, the cases of words ending in "ey" fall under a subordinate rule. What we plead for is the abolition of the subordinate rule, and the adoption of a uniform system. Perhaps an easier and sounder plan would be to follow the ordinary method of adding "s" in every instance. The rule that words ending in "y" preceded by "e," form their plural by changing "y" into "ies," is founded on the hypothesis that the singular form of all such words originally ended in "ie." But that is a point of philology: there is no occasion whatever, so far as we can see, to recall it by employing a special plural. We may add that, although our correspondent has no hesitation in declaring us in error because we recognise the rationale of a difference in plural forms to distinguish "storeys," as parts of a house, from "stories," in the sense of tales or narratives, the error is due to his own misunderstanding. In every English dictionary with which we are familiar, "storey" (part of a house) is an alternative form of "story." Our point is that the singular form "storey" ought to be used in preference for purposes of distinction, and that to preserve the distinction in the plural, "storeys" should be written.

The Japan Railway Company has been buying up stock of the Ryomo Railway at 95, the market price being 92.50, and the Ryomo Railway Company has given notice that a private contract for the sale of the line to the Nippon Railway Company has been arranged. All transactions in this Company's shares will be invalid after October.

BEWILDERMENT.

Here is one of the funniest specimens of mental bewilderment we have ever seen in print; it is really too good to be passed in silence:—

A Mr. Migeod, we observe, has been addressing the *Mail* on the subject of bi-metallism and the silver coinage circulating in Great Britain. It seems to us that the currency quacks, of which there is quite a multitude, for the most part involve themselves in a labyrinth of statements which admit of no proof, since they are mostly suppositions, and frequently pregnant with absurdities and unsound assumptions; though it is not our purpose to address ourselves to Mr. Migeod's remarks, but merely to make a short comment on the editorial criticism which appears in the same newspaper to which he has addressed his letter. "Surely," says the *Mail*, when speaking of the token silver coinage of England,

The mere fact of fixing a ratio would at once impart to those tokens a corresponding gold value. For example—Eight half-crowns now represent a sovereign, that equivalency having been determined in the days when an ounce of gold exchanged for 25 ounces of silver, approximately. But at present, since an ounce of gold buys 90 ounces of silver, in round numbers, the intrinsic gold value of 8 half-crowns is only half a sovereign. Suppose, now, that by international agreement the ratio between gold and silver were fixed at 1 to 16, then our eight half-crowns would immediately acquire the intrinsic gold value of fifteen-sixteenths of a sovereign.

The merest tyro in monetary science might instruct the Editor of the *Mail* on the subject on which he has written. He could tell him, for instance, that all token silver coins, when used as a circulating medium, within any country, have a conventional value for that purpose, which is independent of the metal of which they are composed, as is shown in the paragraph quoted.

The mere fixing of a ratio would not give to silver token coins, as stated, "a corresponding gold value,"—a fact which is distinctly recognised by legislation, which has determined, that no matter what may be the nominal or circulating value of English silver coins, no creditor can be compelled to make more than forty-shillings worth of them in payment of an obligation. We are told that if by international agreement, the ratio between gold and silver were fixed at 1 to 16, then eight half-crowns would immediately acquire the intrinsic gold value of fifteen-sixteenths of a sovereign. We, however, affirm that the current circulating value would remain the same as now, viz., eight half-crowns to £1. It seems to betray an extraordinary confusion in the mind of the editorial writer, that he appears to be unable to distinguish between the *intrinsic* value of a coin,—the bullion price of the metal of which it is composed—and its circulating value, when it passes as a current coin of the realm.

The writer of the above is so charmingly ignorant that, in the first place, he knows nothing of a ratio of intrinsic value having originally existed between the gold coins and silver subsidiary coins of Great Britain; and in the second, he confounds intrinsic value with legal tender limitations. As a matter of fact, great care was taken at the outset to put into every shilling such a quantity of fine silver as should be intrinsically equal to $\frac{1}{21}$ th of the fine gold contained in a guinea. Despite that care, however, it came to be estimated that when, in 1717, the exchangeability of the guinea for 21 shillings was first fixed, gold was over-valued as compared with silver to the extent of $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. Accordingly, a new system was adopted in 1816, under which the pound of silver bullion, hitherto coined into 62 shillings, was thenceforth coined into 66 shillings, and as 20 shillings contained 1614.545 grains of fine silver, while the sovereign contained 113 grains of fine gold, the proportional value of fine silver and gold in the coins was 14.287 to 1, a ratio very closely approximating to that actually ruling in the market at the time. To-day, however, the market ratio is nearly 30 to 1, so that the intention with which the relative quantities of pure metal in the two coins was originally calculated, has been signally defeated. There should not be the smallest difficulty in understanding that if the market ratio were restored to anything like the old figures, the quantity of fine silver contained in each shilling would appreciate correspondingly. Only the grossest ignorance of financial history, as set forth in any text book, as well as of the first principles of coinage, can account for the extraordinary assertion that "all token silver coins, when used as circulating medium, have a conventional value independent of the metal

of which they are composed." It is true that, owing to circumstances never anticipated by minting authorities, silver subsidiary coins have ceased to possess an intrinsic value closely approximating to their nominal value in terms of gold. But that is an accident. The distinct purpose of British financiers in 1816 was to regulate the quantities of pure metal in the standard gold and subsidiary silver coins so as to secure parity between their intrinsic and nominal values. The question of legal tender is a thing totally apart. To mention it in such a context shows lamentable confusion of thought. As for the "affirmation" that even with a ratio of 16 to 1, 8 half-crowns would still circulate as the equivalent of a sovereign, who on earth ever suggested that they would not?

YOKOHAMA TOPICS.

Considerable excitement was occasioned on Sunday evening on Camp Hill, by the discovery of an American bluejacket in the compound of Capt. Eckstrand's house. Miss Emma Eckstrand, hearing a noise, as of some one climbing a tree, looked out and saw the man. She at once gave the alarm, but before the police arrived, the man, who afterwards gave the name, William W. Burns, of the U.S.S. *Yorktown*, tried to escape. This brought Captain Eckstrand and others on the scene and then a crowd collected. The police took the man to the police-station, where he explained that he had entered the compound with the intention of getting a more extensive view of the town, the night being flooded with moonlight. It is thought more probable that he wished to make his way to the back premises of the U.S. Naval Hospital and surreptitiously convey forbidden delicacies—beer, spirits, etc.—to the invalids there. What suggests this is that, only a few nights ago, a well-known resident of Camp Hill was roused by the barking of his own and his neighbours' dogs. Going out to see the cause, he found an American citizen hiding in a shed. Upon being interrogated, the man said that he had "wandered around by the hospital and got into the next compound unexpectedly;" he would have left the compound as quickly as he had entered only the dogs refused to allow him to stir another step. This resident has often been annoyed by the passage of sailors through his grounds making their way uninvited to the Hospital on Samaritan thoughts intent!

The troops who have been exercising and swimming from Honmoku beach, left for Tokyo on Monday, much to the relief of the foreigners who have so many bathing houses there at present. In regard to bathing at Honmoku beach, we learn that many bathers there this summer have been attacked by peculiar sore throats: bathers at other places along the Bay have not been affected.

Futami Tokujiro, a coolie employed in the Commissariat Department of the detachment of troops recently stationed at Honmoku, accidentally fell into one of the camp-boilers on Saturday. He was severely scalded, and now lies at the hospital at Noge.

On Sunday last, Mr. Ishiyama, a detective on the staff of the Bluff Police force, discovered at the house of Ishimori Tetsugoro (of no fixed occupation) Uyenomachi, Yokohama; at the shop of Ishimori Iauke, an empty-bottle dealer, 165, China Town; at Iwata Kojiro's, a second hand goods' dealer, 97, Settlement; and at Nakase Shimpachi's, a watch dealer, many stolen articles, including gold and silver watches, articles of *virtu*, and other things. These goods were stolen from Viscount Okudaira's house at Takanawa, Daimachi, Tokyo; from Marquis Kuno's, residence at Akasaka; and from Mr. Masuda's, an employé of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nakamura Hyozaihei, one of the most expert thieves on the black-books of the local police, has been arrested on information obtained by a detective, Mr. Ishiyama, and is charged with committing larceny at sixteen different places.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

The Judicial Department of the Civil Administrative Bureau of the Governor-General's Office is to be made independent from the next fiscal year and some changes in its organization may be expected.

The *Hochi* has the following Formosan news:—A band of insurgents rendered more daring by the success at Yun-lin, attacked Peh-to, when the late Captain Miyana Keita was in command of the garrison. The attack was very sudden and well sustained, and Captain Miyana might have ordered a retreat along the road leading to Shō-hwa. But, addressing his men, he said:—"Soldiers, I will not retreat, even though I see you all die by my side. After my death, however, you may obey any commands of the officer who takes my place." So saying he advanced at the head of his company and was shot down within a few minutes.

Major Harada Kitaro repulsed a number of insurgents who attacked Kagi, where he was stationed at the head of only half a company. His calm courage proved equal to the defence of Kagi. If this town had been lost the rebellion would have spread to an alarming extent, for Kagi, in the recent Formosan rebellion, may be said to have occupied a position similar to that of Kumamoto in the War of the South-West. In the recent rebellion comparatively more officers were killed than in the fighting in the Liaotung Peninsula.

The *Mainichi* remarks that the population of Formosa is usually stated to be four million Chinese and 60,000 aborigines. Recent statistics, correcting these figures, are now to hand:—In Taipei Prefecture, 555,531; Taichu Prefecture, 603,282; Tainan Prefecture, 812,203; the Pescadores, 44,820; total 2,019,841. The aborigines are not included in these figures. It is often alleged that men enjoy comparatively short lives in a torrid climate. But this appears not to be the case in Formosa. The natives speak of many persons who have lived there for more than a century. The temperature in Formosa is usually 96° to 97° at noon, and the first harvest of rice is reaped by the beginning of August; the second crop is now being planted out.

We translate the following from a letter received by the *Kokumin* from Kelung:—The drinking-water here looks very uninviting, but neither malaria nor any bad epidemic prevails. Japanese dealers are flooding the island, and many things which we could be the better without, are on the market. The streets have been well cleaned; restaurants and dealers in articles of daily use are much too numerous. Many Japanese have also commenced the manufacture of lemonade. Prices are, on the average, 50 per cent. higher than in Japan, but foreign goods can be purchased at cheaper rates than in Tokyo, as they are imported direct from Hongkong and Amoy. The native merchants are very keen-witted and compete advantageously with the Japanese. The dealers from Japan are too much inclined to return home quickly if fortune favours them a little; they are also too eager to become "official merchants." Many Chinese merchants and adventurers have arrived to undertake tours of commercial and industrial inspection, and some are now inspecting the forests and mines. Foreign merchants, dealers in tea and camphor, at Tamsui and Taipei are making large profits by employing aborigines and Chinese. Inn charges vary from 2 yen to 60 sen per day, and the railroad fare is 60 sen from Kelung to Taipei. Already the natives speak Japanese very well, and no inconvenience is therefore felt in conversing with them.

The *Hochi* tells us that Messrs. Kono Ryosuke and Shibata Keisho, Surveyors, and Mr. Kurushima, a clerk in the War Department, under the command of Captain Tamai, penetrated very far into the aborigines' territory in June last, and have just returned to Tainan. They report that they were heartily welcomed by the aborigines.

KOREAN NEWS.

The *Nippon* prints a letter, dated the 6th instant, received from its correspondent in Seoul. From it we gather the following items:—The Korean Government promulgated the new Provincial Regulations on the 5th August, by which the twenty-three Administrative Divisions have been abolished and thirteen new ones established. They are as follow:—

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS (Do), or PROVINCES.	CAPITAL TOWNS.
Kyōng-kwi-do.	Su-wōn.
Chlung-chhōng-namdo.	Kong-ju.
Chlung-chhōng-pok-do.	Chhung-ju.
Chōi-la-pok-do.	Chōng-ju.
Chōi-la-nam-do.	Kwang-ju.
Kyōng-san-pok-do.	Tai-ku.
Kyōng-san-nam-do.	Sin-ju.
Hwang-hai-do.	Hai-ju.
Phyōng-an-kam-do.	Phyōng-yang.
Phyōng-an-pok-do.	Chin-ju.
Kang-wōn-do.	Chhun-chhōn.
Ham-gyōng-nam-do.	Ham-heung.
Ham-gyōng-pok-do.	Kyōng-sōng.

Each do, or province, is to be placed under a Governor receiving the annual salary of from 2,000 yen to 1,200 yen. Han-song will be under the jurisdiction of a special Governor called *Fu-in*, who will receive 2,000 yen per year, and similar Governors are to administer Kwang-ju, Kai-sōng, Kang-hwa, Jinsen, Tong-nai, Tōk-wōn, and Kyōng-heung. The Governors of the latter places are to receive 1,200 yen annually. Che-ju is to have a Governor paid at the rate of 1,500 yen per year. The promulgation of these new regulations will certainly prove a source of political disturbance in the Peninsula, as great discontent will be produced among officials.

A host of regulations relating to local administration were issued on the same day, but are too tedious to reproduce. Nothing relating to the military, judiciary, or taxation is mentioned in the regulations, and the Government seems inclined to establish independent laws concerning them. A Treaty was lately exchanged between China and Korea for establishing telegraph connection between these countries.

The following items are taken from the *Fiyu*:—Li Ji-u, who recently gained notoriety by petitioning the King to return to the Palace, was arrested on the 9th instant, and was to be tried by the High Court of Justice. But disputes arose between the officials. Some argued that this petition was very different from that of Cheng Seng-u, being merely an expression of warm patriotic and loyal sentiments, and not containing anything like an impeachment of the Authorities. The proposed trial has, therefore, been suspended. The petitioner, however, is not yet released.

Mdme. Om-sang has considerable influence over the King. A certain foreign Minister in Seoul is reported to have everything of importance settled by his wife and the King's favourite before he brings it before the King or the Cabinet. Mdme. Om-sang is a low-born girl and comes from Phyōng-an-do. Her beauty and ability are by no means up to the standard of the late Queen, but she has nevertheless achieved enough to be dubbed a Korean heroine.

The Tai Wōn-kun is still confined in the Un-hyōn Palace. Policemen are on guard about the Palace, and Japanese are rarely allowed to see him. If the Tai Wōn-kun is thus treated, it is easy to predict what would be done to Prince Wi-hwa and Li Chun-yong, if they returned home.

A few days ago a woman in shabby clothes appeared before the Russian Legation. It was noticed that she alternately laughed and wept as though beside herself. When asked to account for her singular actions, the woman replied that she could not but regret the continual residence of her King in a foreign Legation, leaving his own magnificent Palace to the occupation of foxes and badgers. The woman's identity has not been established.

The Japanese Consul in Seoul recently despatched two policemen to report upon the conditions prevailing in Phōng-yang and vicinity.

INVESTMENTS OF CAPITAL IN ENGLAND.

During the first half of the present year, the capital of the various schemes floated in England, in the form of either foreign loans, or railways, or manufacturing companies and so forth, aggregated 79½ million pounds sterling—say seven hundred million yen. Here is a list of the various enterprises:—

Foreign Government loans	£11,067,000
Indian and Colonial Government loans ...	4,559,400
British Corporation stocks	1,993,400
Colonial and Foreign Corporations	2,271,700
Home railways	5,495,500
Indian and Colonial railways	3,448,000
Foreign railways	4,211,500
Mining companies—	
Westralian	4,256,200
New Zealand	1,074,000
Others	2,154,000
Land and finance companies	2,358,000
Cycles and Appliances	11,099,200
Horseless or Motor Cars	1,210,000
Breweries and Distilleries	9,209,400
Companies to acquire Patents	1,518,000
Stores and Trading Companies	3,046,900
Manufacturing Companies	1,965,200
Hotels, Theatres, and Entertainments	2,194,500
Lighting and Water	648,500
Docks, Harbours, and Shipping	1,203,400
Miscellaneous	4,811,700

79,494,000

It is interesting to compare this figure with the figures for the corresponding periods of the preceding three years, since we thus obtain a general idea of the remarkable growth of business enterprise in Great Britain:—

AMOUNT OF CAPITAL INVOLVED IN INVESTMENTS PLACED UPON THE MARKET.

1893.....	£25,949,000
1894.....	31,177,000
1895.....	52,189,000
1896.....	79,494,000

Out of the total for the first half of 1896, namely 79½ millions sterling, 33½ millions had to be paid up during the six months, yet, the London *Economist* says, this large demand caused no apparent diminution in the floating supplies of money. In truth, the plethora of money seeking investment in England is extraordinary. The £100 bonds of the London County Council's recent loan—a million sterling, bearing interest at the rate of 2½ per cent.—were offered at a minimum price of £104, and the average price obtained was £104 9s. 7d. some of the bids being as high as £106 10s. 7d. In 1889 the 2½ per-cent. stock of the same London Council was quoted at £91 12s. 0d. since which time it has gradually risen, until a £100 bond now sells for £104 9s. 7d; or, indeed, for as much as £106 10s. 6d., an appreciation of over 16 per cent. in seven years. India, too, can now obtain money at a better rate than 2½ per cent., the stock of her last loan of £2,400,000 at that rate having sold for £103 6s. Comparing these figures with the price—£106 10s. 7½d.—at which the Chinese 6 per-cent gold loan of 1895 is now quoted, and with the fact that Uruguay's recent attempt to float a million of 5 per-cent. bonds at 71½ was not successful, we can not but be struck by the enormous importance attached by investors to the "quality" of a borrower. If people in England really appreciated the state of Japan's finances, they ought to be willing to pay 160 or 170 yen for her 5 per-cent. Consols.

SCHOOL AGE IN HOKKAIDO.

Marquis Saionji, Minister for Education, lately issued the following instruction to the Chief of the Hokkaido Administrative Office and Prefectural Governors regarding the admittance of boys and girls into Common Schools:—The presence of children below school-age in Common Schools is productive of many difficulties. Moreover, it is the opinion of medical advisers that the admittance of children before school-age tends to arrest development, both mental and physical, and I have been counselled to forbid it. Therefore I instruct you to see that no children under school-age are admitted into Common Schools.

THE NEW YORK BANKERS ON FREE COINAGE.

The resolutions adopted by the New York State Bankers' Association with reference to the free coinage of silver are very emphatic. After pointing out that the chartered banking institutions of the state of New York were indebted to the public at large, in the form of deposits, to the extent of 1,853 millions of dollars, while the public was indebted to the banks in the sum of only 1,261 millions, and urging that it was the part of wisdom and honour to discharge the debt in money of the same standard as that in which the obligation was contracted, the resolutions went on to say that "the best definition of coin money had been furnished by the ablest bimetalist of the age, Henri Cernuschi, who said that it was by the ordeal of fire that money must be tried, and that the coins which, being melted down, retain the entire value for which they were a legal tender before they were melted down, were good money, while those which did not retain it were not good money.

Gold coins, the resolutions went on, were the only ones that sustain that test. Currency, which was the basis of all business transactions, should be based upon the standard that was least variable and had the widest recognition among the nations of the world, in order that transactions, both national and international, might be settled with the least embarrassment from fluctuations in exchange. The \$16,000,000,000 of international trade balances were annually settled in gold. The domestic commerce of the United States, amounting annually to \$35,000,000,000, was contracted for and settled upon the gold basis; 83 per cent. of the commerce of the world was upon the gold basis. In view of this fact, the convention declared that it would be criminal folly to break away from the most advanced and civilized nations to join China and Mexico upon the silver basis. Gold had been the standard of value in the United States as a matter of fact since 1834, and as a matter of law since 1873, and in all countries where the gold standard prevailed, both gold and silver circulated as money. In all countries where the silver standard prevailed there was no gold in circulation as money. There was in circulation and in the United States Treasury on July 1, \$636,204,102 coined silver and Treasury notes, issued against silver bullion purchased, \$610,750,012 gold, and \$604,671,563 paper money.

In conclusion, the resolutions declared that free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 means a dollar commercially worth 52 cents, but by fiat of the government made to pass for 100 cents, and the repudiation of 50 per cent. of indebtedness. The sagacious instinct of trade would, the resolutions declared, correct this wrong as to future contracts by doubling the price of commodities, and hence the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 means a great inflation of prices without any increase of values. Just in proportion to this inflation would the purchasing power of a dollar be decreased, and in the same measure and to the same degree would pensions, annuities, salaries, life insurance, saving funds, and all fixed incomes be impaired in their power to provide maintenance and support. Furthermore, the resolutions declared that free silver coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1 meant that the \$600,000,000 of gold now in circulation would go to a premium, would cease to circulate as money and become a simple commodity, coined or uncoined, would produce a violent contraction of the currency to the extent which gold now in circulation ceased to circulate as money, and would not only unsettle but thoroughly demoralize business. Under the infliction all classes would suffer, but those would suffer most who are least able to take care of themselves, to wit, the labouring classes, and the crushing effect upon business would be equalled only by the demoralizing effect upon public morals and the public sense of honour lowered and humiliated, as they would be by such an act of repudiation.

THE FORMOSAN INSURRECTION.

On the 2nd instant, the garrisons of Kelung, Ting-shwang-chi, Teu-wei, and I-lan, which are under the command Major Samoto, sent a company each against the rebels lying hid in the Neishan hills, and the garrison of Hsiuchwang sent out a detachment on the 6th. A number of insurgents are said to be in that district, and news had been received that they had captured the interpreter employed by the gendarmes.

On the 2nd instant, the rebels remaining in the vicinity of Yuen-lin assembled and attacked that place, but were easily driven back. The Japanese casualties were 3 privates wounded, 2 of them being soldiers of the first class.

At 11 a.m. on the 4th instant, 8 gendarmes from Tong-chiang, while engaged reconnoitering Chu-tsz chue, were attacked by over 80 insurgents. The gendarmes held the enemy at bay for over an hour, but the disparity of numbers being so great, the 8 men had finally to retire to Shih-kwang-chien. A detachment of gendarmes was subsequently sent from Fang-liao. Surrounding Chu-tsz chue, they succeeded in capturing Chin Po, the leader of the insurgents. The enemy, however, sprang a mine and wounded 11 Japanese gendarmes. The insurgents retreated to Nan-wong-an (7½ miles from Tong-chiang, and their number is increasing. On the evening of the 9th instant, a company of troops was sent against them from Feng-shan.

The above facts are contained in a telegram sent from Taipeh on the 10th instant, and published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

CHINESE NOTES.

The city of Peking can not boast a very effective system of police control. The Police Censor reports a turbulent state of affairs: rowdies and desperadoes declaring war against each other and fighting with guns and swords in the streets; or capturing peaceful folk and holding them for ransom; or making armed attacks for plunder or revenge; or resisting the police to the death; bands of palace eunuchs arming themselves with swords, going to the theatre to wreak vengeance on some one, and ending by murdering a police-sergeant—altogether a condition of things that must render the city a perilous place of residence.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* publishes the following translation of the German version of Earl Li's address to the German Emperor—the address was, of course, delivered in Chinese, and rendered into German by Mr. Detring:—

With veneration I step before Your Majesty, full of admiration for the great German Empire, the inheritance from Your august ancestors whose moral force, grandeur, and fame since long ago has attracted the attention of the world, near and far. China and the Empire which Your Majesty represents have long been connected by friendship, and these friendly relations have excelled those with all other treaty powers. At the negotiation relating to the retrocession of South Liao-tung it was by the powerful help of Your Majesty that this affair through its various stages was brought to a favorable conclusion for China. China keeps in a grateful remembrance, deeply engraved on the tablet of memory. During the time that I occupied the post as Governor-General of Pechili, I instituted a Military School, knowing that the German Army was first in the world, Your Majesty was gracious enough to depute officers as instructors for China.

The activity of those gentlemen has been very advantageous to the army under my command. For many years China has, when purchasing warships and war materials of all descriptions, applied to the German industry, and Germany has met us without reservation and in full measure. With veneration and gratitude I mention this, and I assure your Majesty that it shall never be forgotten.

In spite of my advanced age, I have not shunned to undertake the long journey over the vast world ocean in order to hand Your Majesty in person the Imperial letter from my most gracious ruler, and to accentuate on his behalf the most friendly feelings which he entertains for Your Majesty, and in order to accomplish my long felt desire to express with the greatest veneration my personal admiration for Your Majesty. I hope that Your Majesty will consider the motives of the Emperor of China in sending me as Extraordinary Ambassador, and give them your most gracious support in order to consolidate an eternal friendship between Germany and China for the sake of a mutual

participation in the blessings of peace. This is my dearest wish.

It is stated that the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung expects to be able to supply, from the Hupeh Iron and Steel Works, all the material required for the building of the Hankow-Pekin Railway, and that he has officially intimated the competence of the works for that purpose.

It is said that the temple hitherto occupied by the British Legation folks every summer, when the usual exit to the Hills takes place from Peking, has been rented over their heads by the Russian Legation. Such an act of discourtesy is quite incredible: it must be very emphatically confirmed before we can believe it.

Mr. Zee Ji-san, a well known Chinese silk merchant of Shanghai, recently afforded to his own countrymen and to the foreign residents an exceptional treat by bringing together, in his villa, a number of rare bronzes and porcelains, some his own property; some from the collections of his friends. Among the bronzes was a large censer, dating from the Shang dynasty, that is to say, 3,000 years old, and many of the porcelain vases are said to have been valued at 1,200 Tls. each.

A phenomenal young thief was arrested a few days ago in Shanghai. He is only 15 years old, and without any experience of foreign houses, he managed to enter five of them, within the space of eight or nine days, getting away with eight watches and many other valuables. When apprehended he was on the premises of another intended victim, but suspicion was well nigh diverted by his magnificent dress and lofty manner.

The Provincial Judge at Soochow has issued a proclamation, in which the following exhortation occurs:—

People must know that the Protestant and Roman Catholic religions are all meant to exhort people to do good, and are similar in purpose to the Buddhist and Taoist religions of China. No one is compelled to join them and Western countries are filled with their churches. They send missionaries at great expense over the seas, several thousands of li, to China for the purpose of increasing the number of their believers. If then these religions, as they have been accused of being [by mischief-makers], are really wicked and infamous, how could it be possible for the missionaries to hide their wickedness from the eyes and ears of the whole universe? How could these religions stand so long? How could they expand to such a great distance [as China]? Let me, therefore, ask all of you to consider the matter soberly. What riot has there been in this country against these missionaries which did not arise from the dissemination of rumours? And, again, which amongst all these rumours did eventually prove to have any truth in it? In former times when foreigners were few in number and seldom seen in the interior there may have been some excuse for the strangeness of their appearance to cause a commotion. But now, when the country is being opened to international commerce everywhere, and a new régime is in existence, even the remotest parts of the country have often seen foreigners on their travels, and every one must have got accustomed to their appearance. What reason can there then be for some of the people to allow their little ones to gather round foreigners whenever they see them, to make noisy jokes and to laugh, whereby a chance is given to the desperado and mischief-maker to raise baseless rumours and create riots for their own benefit, but to the detriment of their dupes? The mischief-maker has absconded, but his dupe lives in the place. The law must be vindicated and who then suffers?"

Mr. P. A. Dmitrevsky has been appointed Russian Consul-General at Shanghai, the Consulate-General being established at No. 22, Bund.

Concerning the new Central-Chinese Sanitarium, recently established at Kuling, a correspondent of the *North China Daily News* says:—

When the estate is reached we discover a valley of 4,500 feet above sea level, running N.W. and S.E. between the mountain ranges, of about a mile long and irregular breadth, but averaging about a half-a-mile broad. This valley of Kuling is abundantly watered with numerous cool sparkling springs rising in the mountain sides, and with streams running through the whole length of it. The water at all seasons of the year is plentiful. The valley is already studded with huts, cot-

tages, and more pretentious-looking residences, the favourite topics of conversation among the occupants of which are the clear and bracing atmosphere, the grandeur and beauty of the surrounding mountain ridges, the clear, cool water springs, the delightful walks and views, and the cool even character of the temperature. The summer here is like an English one, less the frequent showers of rain. Instead of sweltering in the torrid heat of the valley, with the thermometer remaining persistently at between 95° and 105°, tormented by day and night by the swish of punkahs and the laziness of punkah coolies, we are able to walk about all day dressed in thick clothing and without umbrellas, and to sleep at night beneath blankets. The highest temperature recorded here is 79° in the shade; the thermometer usually registers between 74° and 78° during the day, and between 72° and 76° at night. Yesterday it was 102° at Kinkiang and 79° here.

An average temperature of from 74° to 78° during the day, and 72° to 76° at night, does not remind us very forcibly of an English summer, it must be confessed. Any Japanese hill resort, even Nikko, can show at least as good a record for the day, and a much better one for the night.

A sad fatality occurred on board the P. & O. *Revenna* at Shanghai on Monday night, Aug. 17th. The fourth engineer, Mr. Inglis, was lying asleep on the starboard gangway, when shortly after 11 o'clock he was seen by the quartermaster on watch to fall overboard. The quartermaster immediately gave the alarm, and four boats were sent away, but returned after a prolonged search without success. The body has not been recovered up to the present.

The Soochow correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* says:—

If any one supposes that Soochow is an open treaty port, let him at once know that this is a mistake. The Japanese had Soochow placed upon the list of treaty ports. At first they made a vigorous effort to have their concession placed outside of the Chang gate. They were foiled in this. Their object was to secure a position favourable for trade. The largest banks, the steam-tug landings, the letter-companies and express offices, the telegraph office, are all near that gate. Instead of that position, the place assigned them was selected with a view to putting them at a disadvantage in all matters relating to business. Their concession was placed outside of the walls and on the south of the city. A broad street, which cost the Chinese about forty thousand dollars, was surveyed and built up along the front of the new city that is to be. But there are no houses there—nothing but the bare ground. The Chinese with exasperating coolness have delayed the settlement of the new rules by which the relations between the natives and the Japanese intruders are to be governed. The Japanese who come to Soochow, with a view to settling in the new treaty port, are not disposed to begin business. At the same time they are willing to have the rules exclude all but Japanese from the place assigned to them. The Chinese insist upon the Japanese confining themselves to that spot. In two or three instances Japanese citizens have succeeded in renting houses in the city and outside of the Chang gate. The magistrates have promptly arrested the landlords and put the Japanese out into the streets. And any attempts by Americans to buy land or rent places for business are met by the most obstinate obstructiveness. The new rules with regard to Catholic missionaries purchasing land in the interior, agreed upon last year between the French Minister and the Peking government, which "criticises rather than controls" the Government of the provinces, are utterly and contemptuously disregarded. In all this we see that the obstructive anti-foreign feeling of the literary class in China is still unchanged. They who live in or visit the treaty ports, and talk about new China, do not understand the real state of affairs. The great mass of the nation has learned next to nothing from the late war. It has simply intensified the national jealousy of foreigners and hatred of them all, especially the Japanese.

In view of the strange stories circulated about the relations between the Empress Dowager of China and the mother of the Emperor, who recently died, considerable interest attaches to the following announcement of the death by the Empress Dowager, officially designated, "Tze-hsi yü-k'ang-yi-chao-yü-chuang-chêng-shou-kung-ching-hsien-ch'ung-hsi":—

On a former occasion, upon the death of His Imperial Highness Prince Ch'ün, it was decided, when deliberating upon the funeral ceremonies to

be observed, to obey the sacred dictates of our ancestors and acknowledge Your Majesty's father in the said Prince. Hence we bestowed upon the deceased Prince the appellation of "Father of the Emperor." Now, upon the death of H.I.H. Princess Ch'ün, Lady of the Yeh-hö-na-la clan, it is but right that a similar distinction should be given Her Highness, and I call upon Your Majesty to bestow upon the late Princess the appellation of "The Emperor's Mother." Your Majesty is also requested to command the Board of Rites to deliberate upon the ceremonies necessary to be observed in this connection and report the same to the Throne for approval.

(2) We further reverentially promulgate another edict of H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager, Tze-hsi, etc., etc., to the following effect:—"H.I.H. the late Princess Ch'ün, a Lady of the Yeh-hö-na-la Clan and Mother of the Emperor, was by nature a lady of mild, earnest, harmonious, and chaste character, and beloved and respected by all her relatives and family connections. She was a decided help to H.I.H. the late Prince Ch'ün, Father of the Emperor, in her administration of the domestic economy of his Palace Household, doing everything in accordance with the rules of propriety. And she always maintained while in life close and intimate relation with the inmates of the Inner Palace and myself. The extraordinary distinction and brilliant treatment accorded to the late Princess in the Palaces was invariably received by her in a modest and unaffected manner, and instead of showing elation Her Imperial Highness invariably tried to be more careful in her bearing and conduct. Of late, however, H.I.H.'s liver complaint had increased, in consequence of which she lost sleep and appetite. I, accompanied by H.I.M. the Emperor, paid frequent visits to the Palace of the late Princess to enquire after her health and comfort in her illness, and, moreover, expended every effort in trying to fight her complaints with the best of medicines, but unfortunately without success, and I am extremely grieved to have to record the fact that the Emperor's Mother died at about eight o'clock on the morning of the 18th of the present month (June).

Translations of Mr. A. Bain's appeal on behalf of the Formosan sufferers were sent to the three vernacular papers in Shanghai. One of them took up the matter vigorously "and published leading articles and paragraphs calling upon all Chinese to subscribe." The result up to August 21st was that "nearly a hundred dollars had been subscribed."

A mad dog in Shanghai on the 21st of August succeeded in biting some four or five people before it was killed. The first victim was a foreigner—"unfortunately a foreigner," as the newspaper describing the incident puts it—and the remaining three or four, whom the animal, in a "half-killed" state, attacked, were "mostly natives."

An extraordinary series of charges preferred by the Rev. Dr. Ross in the pages of *The United Presbyterian Missionary Record* against the Roman Catholic Bishop of Mukden, is attracting public attention. We have not seen the essay in *The United Presbyterian Missionary Record*, but from a letter of protest appearing in the columns of the *China Gazette*, it would appear that Monseigneur Guillon, or Père Emonet, who represents His Grace during the latter's frequent absences from the Manchurian capital, has been in the habit of tying backsliding Chinese to a pillar in the garden of the Bishopric, causing their queues to be torn out by the roots, and subjecting them to other brutal tortures. This wild and utterly incredible accusation seems to have been gravely advanced, its absurdity being enhanced by the pretence that the Bishop's inhuman practices have been going on for years. A divine of Dr. Ross' standing and reputation can not for a moment be suspected of deliberate deceit; doubtless he is the victim of Chinese misrepresentations. But from no one acquainted with the lives and methods of Roman Catholic propagandists in the East will the charges receive the smallest credence, and the sooner they are publicly withdrawn the less will be the disgrace of their formulator.

A species of free fight took place between a number of semi-intoxicated Russian sailors at the P. & O. Company's jetty in Shanghai on the 19th of August. Among the spectators of the combat were two Chinese constables who, with more discretion than sense of duty, care-

fully refrained from interfering. When the fighters had lost blood enough, they decamped, some in jinrikisha, and some on foot, belabouring the jinrikisha coolies.

THE "SHANGHAI DAILY PRESS."

Some enterprises appear to be contagious. For a long time Shanghai possessed only two local English newspapers, one issued in the morning, the other in the evening. It seemed to us that the number was sufficient. At all events, the two papers received support that enabled them to furnish the community with abundant news and good reading matter. Three years ago, there certainly existed a feeling of dissatisfaction among the foreign residents, and possibly its outcome was the appearance of a third journal, the *China Gazette*, but, speaking as outsiders, we venture to think that Shanghai might have been content with the old state of affairs. Now, however, following fast on the footsteps of an announcement that a fourth newspaper, the *Shanghai Times*, was about to make its *début*, a fifth, the *Shanghai Daily Press*, has suddenly stepped into the field, under the editorship of Mr. Alfred Cunningham. Our new contemporary's hand has evidently been forced: a not unnatural desire to anticipate the *Shanghai Times* induced Mr. Cunningham to go to press before his staff was fully organized and before many of his preparations had been completed. Hence it would not be fair to infer the ultimate quality of his journal from its opening numbers, and indeed he explicitly deprecates any such inference. We have nothing to do, therefore, but to greet the *Shanghai Daily Press* with all cordiality, and to express a hope that it may discover ample justification for its editor's enterprise. To one point, however, we beg to draw our contemporary's attention. Referring to what we recently wrote about the forthcoming *début* of the *Shanghai Times*, the following appears in the first issue of the *Shanghai Daily Press*:—

There recently appeared in the *Japan Mail* a paragraph referring to a contemplated newspaper—the *Shanghai Times*,—which praised in the highest degree the exceptional abilities and accomplishments of its staff; a graceful compliment, the charm of which was however somewhat lost on those who happened to know that the par was modestly written by one of those whose abilities it praised.

It is not easy to understand the estimate of journalistic responsibilities that prompts a charge like the above—a charge that a newspaper opens its columns to panegyrics penned by their own objects. However, since our new contemporary's assertion is made with so much assurance, and since it reflects not less seriously upon Mr. and Mrs. Smith than upon ourselves, we deem it right to say that the paragraph in question was written by the editor of the *Japan Mail*, and to add that this statement is made absolutely without reservation.

BICYCLES.

Nothing conveys a more vivid idea of the dimensions that cycling has attained in Great Britain than the fact that the capital of various cycle-manufacturing enterprises offered for public coöperation during the three months, April, May and June, aggregated nearly eleven millions sterling. The Pneumatic Tyre Company's business was sold for five millions—such a success has the clever Dublin physician's invention attained—and the remainder of the eleven millions went to convert various enterprises into joint stock companies. It is predicted that a good deal of money will be dropped over these ventures, but they show, at all events, what an immense institution cycling has become. In connection with this subject we may refer to a statement recently made by an American artisan who professed to be thoroughly versed in the details of cycle building. He said that the actual cost of manufacturing a bicycle, now sold for \$80 or \$100, does not exceed \$15.

IN A CHINESE POLICE COURT.

On the 12th July, Lai Mit, a theatre-attendant, shot a Chinese detective in Hongkong, and then escaped to the mainland. The detective died and a warrant for the arrest of the murderer was issued. Meanwhile, the man had been apprehended near Nam-tau by the Chinese authorities, and the District Magistrate held a trial, or Court of Inquiry, into the case. Inspectors Stanton and Quincey, of Hongkong, attended the examination on behalf of the Hongkong authorities, while representatives of the local newspapers were present. Nam-tau lies about three hours' steaming up the Canton river. The *China Mail* says that the Magistrate's Yamén, where the trial was held, is in a disreputable broken-down condition. The first court-yard was a perfect wilderness of weeds and rubbish. The second court-yard, at the head of which the Magistrate's bench is situated, bore traces of ancient magnificence. Here the party waited until the Mandarin was in readiness to grant the interview. An interview before a trial is not easily obtained from a Chinese magistrate, so that, it is understood, the party were greatly privileged when, after a short wait, the Mandarin directed that they might be admitted to the inner Court. The Mandarin, an intelligent-looking old man, was dressed in his official robes. He cordially greeted each of the officers, and the others who accompanied them, in true Chinese fashion, everyone being provided with a small bowl of tea. He proceeded at once to discuss the case with the officers, speaking in Mandarin, Mr. Thomas W. Quincey acting as interpreter. Slowly and with great caution the mandarin read through the documents sent by the authorities in Hongkong in connection with the trial, including the depositions of the inquiry held at the Magistracy and the dying detective's depositions taken at the Government Civil Hospital. The whole case having been clearly explained, he chatted away pleasantly with the officers for a short time. He then signalled that the audience was at an end by raising his bowl of tea to his mouth and bowing to each of the party, and the salutation having been returned they bowed themselves out of his presence. There is no privacy even in the residence of a Mandarin in China, and the large crowd that had assembled at the Yamén pushed into the audience chamber and stood gazing during the whole of the interview. In the second court-yard arrangements were now being made for the trial which was to take place about twelve o'clock. At the head of the court-yard a raised dais was roofed in, and here the Court was held. The clerks and officials of the Court, dressed in long gowns and feathered caps, busied themselves arranging the Court for the trial. A miserable lot of coolies dressed up in the uniform of the Sun-On district were scattered among the motley crowd which lingered about the Court. The Magistrate's bench was a rude table covered with a red cloth, and his chair was of the same rude character covered with cloth of like colour. On the table were two tin cans containing a number of pieces of bamboo resembling tally sticks. Each of these sticks bore Chinese characters, and it is supposed that when administering punishment the mandarin picks out by chance one of these sticks, and the number on the stick corresponds with the number of strokes with the bamboo the prisoner is to receive. Two dishes, one containing Chinese red ink and the other white, and a pen rack were the only other articles on the table. A photograph was taken of the scene, minus the Mandarin, who refused to be photographed, never having passed the "ordeal by camera" in the whole of his long life. Shortly before twelve o'clock Lai Mit was led into the Court. His hands and legs were shackled, and a rusty old chain was fastened round his neck. The jailor was dressed similarly to the miserable crowd of soldiers. He led in the prisoner by this chain, and when the dais was reached he ordered him to kneel down. Then the Mandarin entered and the trial proceeded, all the questions being put by the magistrate personally.

As a preliminary each witness had to state his age, his parents living, the names of the parents, and the number and names to brothers alive. The prisoner made a stubborn defence, denying his own confession and identity, flatly contradicting all the statements of the witnesses, and then driven into a corner, alleging that the detective was shot by his (the detective's) own revolver. The threat of flogging and application of torture soon made him abandon this attitude, and finding all means of escape cut-off, he owned up and asked that his execution be hurried along so that the period of suspense be shortened as much as possible. With a prayer that his parents should be looked after, the man was hurried away, and the proceedings closed. It is expected that the murderer will be decapitated at Chinese Kowloon.

TONGKING COAL v. JAPANESE.

From time to time we come across evidences of strenuous efforts on the part of the owners of Tongking coal mines to bring their product into favour. A recent note in the *North-China Daily News* furnishes an example. After adroitly alluding to the terribly inconvenient results that must ensue for Shanghai when the numerous factory chimneys—many of them of quite insufficient height—begin to contaminate the air with filthy smoke, our contemporary proceeds to say that the nuisance can be altogether avoided by following the lead of the Shanghai Filature Company on the Soochow Creek and in Hongkew, namely, burning Tongking anthracite coal. We read that, orders having been received from Paris to make trial of the coal, a quantity was obtained from the Kebao Mine, and the colliery company was sufficiently solicitous about the result to send up an engineer and an Annamite fireman to assist in the trial. At first, forced draught had to be used—the old trouble about this coal—but ultimately by getting larger coal, forced draught could be dispensed with. It seems to be claimed that the Tongking coal is virtually smokeless, and that it requires less attention on the part of the stokers than the Japanese coal. As to cost, we read that the Tongking mineral can be laid down in Shanghai for about 5 Tls. a ton, whereas the Japanese costs from 3.75 to 4 Tls. Hence the Japanese coal is at least 25 per cent. cheaper than the Kebao. But—and here we encounter a suggestive parity of figures—the Tongking product is said to be 25 per cent. better than the Japanese in heat-producing quality. We doubt whether the public will take so much on trust.

THE UNEXPLORED WORLD.

The *Literary Digest* translates from *Cosmos* a most interesting statement of the true state of the globe to-day, so far as concerns geographical knowledge:—"To-day, outside of the polar regions, we must confess that all the seas have been explored, but this is far from being the case with the land. An immense extent is entirely unknown to us; another, still more considerable, has been only imperfectly explored; travellers have traversed it, commerce has exploited some of its products, but good maps of it do not exist. Finally, only the least part is well known; geodesy has covered it with a net-work of triangles and the maps of it are complete, even from a topographical standpoint. After the Arctic and Antarctic regions, which have remained inaccessible up to the present time, Africa is the part of the world that is least known to us, notwithstanding the admirable explorations made in this century, which are daily clearing up the map. The earliest explorers, however, could not dream of serious efforts, and many years will pass before the country will be free from the general gray tint, even when its black patches have disappeared. After Africa, Australia offers the vastest field to the investigations of explorers; we must remember that even its sea-coast was not fully explored till 1843. Since that time, at the price

of great suffering, it has been crossed from south to north, but no traveller has yet traversed it from east to west.

In the two Americas, except the extreme northern and southern parts, the continent is known; nevertheless the whole central region of South America, though in great part explored for commercial purposes (for mines, wood, caoutchouc, etc.) is not exactly mapped.

To sum up, the yet unexplored parts of the globe cover an area of about 50,000,000 square kilometers [about 20,000,000 square miles], approximately divided thus:

	Square Miles.
Africa	6,500,000
Australia	2,000,000
America.....	2,000,000
Asia	200,000
Islands	400,000
Arctic regions	3,600,000
Antarctic regions.....	5,300,000
	20,000,000

Opportunity will not be wanting here, for a long time, to the explorers who wish to undertake their part of the immense task that must be achieved by humanity before it knows its own domain.

MR. CONSUL JAMIESON ON THE PROSPECTS OF CHINESE REFORM.

Nothing could have less of the colour of the rose about it than Mr. Consul Jamieson's forecast of material progress in China. Writing of the year 1895 and its events, he says:—"The question which will naturally occur to many is this:—What effect is the war likely to have on the trade of China, and particularly on that part of it in which we are most interested? Is there any prospect of China being opened up at last, and of her freely inviting the coöperation of those best able to assist in putting her house in order?"

To the last query I regret to say the only answer is, there is no prospect at all. Nothing that has transpired since the signing of the treaty of Shimonoseki encourages one to think that the responsible statesmen or the local officials are one whit the wiser or better for the experience they have gone through. In small matters as in great, there is the same *non possimus* returned to all the suggestions and requests that have been made to them, except such as are backed up by a display of physical force. It is true there is a certain talk of railways. A line from Tientsin to the capital has been actually begun, and a sort of survey has been made of a line between Shanghai and Soochow. Various edicts and decrees have also been issued giving countenance to this and the other project. In principle, however, the construction of railways has been accepted years ago, but subject to this condition, that no foreigner shall have a hand in it; and nothing that has so far appeared seems to go beyond this. Various offers and propositions have been made by foreign firms and syndicates to treat for the construction of a railway, either as constructors or concessionaires, but in no case, so far as I know, have the plans been even considered. The only idea that suggests itself to the native mind seems to be to appoint some official, an ex-Taotai, or some one of that sort, to collect subscriptions from the merchants, and build the line as a Government affair, the capital to be eked out by subscriptions from some of the provincial treasuries. But, as the merchants know very well that that simply means that they subscribe the money and others will pocket the profits, they are in no haste to join. There is not, in fact, any better prospect now than there was ten years ago, perhaps not so good, of any general introduction of railways, or of the inauguration of any reform whatsoever so far as these depend on the initiative of the Chinese Government."

SOLID ASSEVERATIONS ABOUT SILVER.

Through the agency of the First National Bank of Chicago, considerable prominence has been given to a letter written by Mr. George Boulton in condemnation of the re-monetization of silver. Mr. Boulton advances many arguments, none of which are novel or striking. One assertion, however, he does make that deserves to be quoted. "The following," he says, "can almost be taken as axioms:—

No silver country is prosperous.

No silver country has a stable and firm government.

No silver country is general labour well paid.

No silver country has its government securities at par.

No silver country has good public school facilities.

How far are these "axioms" applicable to Japan's case, we wonder.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

POINTS OF GRAMMAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In addressing you a recent leading article on Points of Grammar, I am aware that this is the "off" season for newspapers, a time to raise questions of general, if mild interest, of no great depth, and upon subjects about which people agree to differ and like to argue. Small, however, as is the subject of the article, it has a serious aspect for many of your readers, as being a claim by you to use language in the *Japan Mail* not be found in classical English writings. Modify the language for your private use in what way you are pleased to think an improvement, I would say to you, but your readers have a right to expect that you will put in the columns of your paper only the standard language of the great English weeklies and dailies. No one can do that better than yourself, when you resist the longing to reform the language by the new light you can throw upon its construction. You think it no presumption in you to change the English language for the use of your readers. I do, permit me to say, for I am not personal; I should consider it such on the part of any man, be he Editor of *The Times* or a lesser or a greater star, to attempt to do so. But the language is perpetually changing, you say, which is a true and trite remark, but then it changes with the times—of itself, as it were—and year by year its changes are imperceptible. No man succeeds, or will succeed, in changing it, who asserts that standard writers, past and present, are offenders against the rules of grammar, and then proceeds to set them right. Yet that is the position you have, surely unwittingly, taken, while your practice only serves to set your readers' teeth on edge. It is not only the making light of the usage of just so many men as may be ranked as eminent writers, though that is presumption enough; it is that you are standing up against the authority of the whole cultivated world of those who use the language. For what makes a man's writings classical, but the appreciation of their style by his readers? No matter what the subject may be, who is there that does not delight in the rhythmic flow of well ordered and thoughtful words from a John Henry Newman, say, or a Robert Louis Stevenson? Imagine you or me having ventured to tell either to spell "valleys," "vallies," and to omit the "s" from "as follows!" You could no more have done it than I could.

Few of your readers will want to be assured as to the soundness of the standard usage in the cases you bring forward, but many may be content to see you answered as a protest against your vagaries in spelling. I am nobody of the least authority in etymology or syntax, am not one of the army of teachers of English in this country, among whom there are not a few good grammarians, I am sure. I am only one who thinks that a little logic is equipment enough for the task; and by logic I do not mean the school logic but only thoughtful common sense. Yet I shall answer you authoritatively; for have I not at my back all the lights of literature against you alone. I take your points in order, which are three:—

1. "The period ending with the death of James II." is the first point you criticize. Why should not "ended" be used also, you ask. I answer because it has the fault of ambiguity. For only by passing on could the reader learn that he had had the perfect participle before him, not the past

tense. To say more, one wants the context of the words quoted. But suppose the 'historical present,' which gives animation to a narrative, to have been in use, that, you will admit, requires the active participle, "ending." Or, the writer may have divided his history into periods and, for purposes of exposition and comparison, have marshalled them all before his readers; then, too, as present, "ending" was the word to use. Suppose, however, that the words which follow are such as "was one that," etc. If then used the word "ending" was allowable, and is pleasant to ear and eye than "which ended," the words strictly required.

It seems to me, you confuse matters a little in what you say about participles expressing time. They are of no "tense" for they do not convey assertion or predication (excuse me, but my school days come back to me, as I write), but in the meaning of the participial form there is necessarily duration, and that is a function of time. As for "ending" itself, its treatment in the direction you lead us is a question for the metaphysician; for, while as an active participle, it conveys a sense of time as duration, its verbal root "end" is a sharp point in time, is the opposite of duration.

2. The second point is whether "as follows" should not sometimes be "as follow;" whether the former is not bad grammar when it precedes enumeration of things or persons. You state and reject the accepted explanation and prefer to believe that all good writers, save yourself and a few others (these others not eminent, I might contend), are ignorant of the first rule of syntax, or so blind as not to apply it in this case. I could not discuss the question from that view of the matter; the probabilities that they are right and you consequently wrong are as a million to one. You do not see that, strange to say. The clause is elliptical, but at least admits of the explanation that it refers to what *does* follow it in utterance, namely, the statement then made. Obviously the form is false, you say. Not to the minds of English writers, I reply. Is it likely? You paraphrase, "the names of the contributors are, as follows:" by "the names of the contributors follow," thereby begging the question. Why is not the paraphrase, "a statement of the names of the contributors follows," to be received? It is, at least, as good as yours, though you do not choose to accept it, preferring to assume, with an easy conscience, that all writers, but a select few, are without knowledge or thought of what they are saying. Before leaving you, in this matter, I would ask you just to parse "the names are as follows:" not forgetting the "as," and the colon, and the subject of "follows," since "names" belongs to "are," and the purpose of the redundant "as follows," for redundant these two words become, according to your view of the matter.

3. Little need be said on the third point you raise. You say that it is the rule of plural formations to write "vallies," etc. Where is that rule to be found? It is enunciated, against your practice, in every grammar, that the first rule of plural formations, and 3rd pers. present tense formations is to add "s" to the singular noun and infinitive verb. Then comes the subordinate rule that, though words ending in "ey" come under the first rule only, those in "y" not immediately preceded by "e" change "y" into "ies." The same distinction holds good as to past tenses and perfect participles in "ed," as, "hurried," "conveyed." Usage perhaps condones, but certainly does not show approval of two exceptions; "honied" in some poetry, and "monies" in some business articles (hardly to be deemed classical authority). The instance you give is wrong, for "storeys" is the plural of "storey" and "stories" that of "story."

With much respect, I choose the hackneyed (not "hacknied") signature,

A CONSTANT READER.

August 14th, 1896.

RAILWAY MISMANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am most reluctant to trouble you with a further communication in reference to Dr. Eldridge's complaint of mismanagement at the Yokohama Station on the 28th ultimo, but as he has now accused the officials there with adding falsehood to the discourtesy and want of attention originally charged against them, I cannot permit the statement to pass unrefuted.

At some pains, I personally investigated the circumstances, and I have again thoroughly and carefully inquired of all those through whose hands the luggage in question passed at the Yokohama Station, and I am convinced there has been no untruthfulness or misrepresentation of the facts on their part. I may further add in disproof of Dr. Eldridge's statement that his people's luggage

was delivered at the Luggage Office shortly after 12 o'clock, that it was certainly not there earlier than when luggage was removed from the Office to be loaded in the through Kobe train a few minutes before its departure at 12.35; but it was seen to be there on the return of the Porters from performing that duty at 12.40 p.m. There was, however, no person there in attendance with the requisite fare tickets to book it, or deliver it to the official, as required by the regulations, as has been before stated. Luggage belonging to certain passengers who came from the Club Hotel, brought subsequently, was duly booked, checked, and forwarded by the 12.55 train, simply because the owners conformed to the requirements of the Railway by producing their tickets with the luggage.

I must also beg to reiterate that I am satisfied there was no rudeness or discourtesy shown by the Station Master, or by any of his subordinates, to the members of Dr. Eldridge's family, but that every effort was made by all the officials concerned to carry out their duties strictly in conformity with the regulations.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

MITSUGU SENGOKU,
Traffic Manager.

Imperial Government Railways,
Traffic Department,
Shimbashi, August 24th, 1896.

SURGEON MURATA IN CUBA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I read, with sentiments that you may well imagine, the extract made in the *Mail* of the 29th July from what some Tokyo papers had published as alleged reports of Surgeon Murata, with reference to the medical service in the Spanish army in Cuba. Although these reports were declared totally false in a communication signed by the Chief Surgeon of the 4th Division and published by the said journals on the 12th August, I have had the patience to await the arrival of Dr. Murata, before addressing to you this communication, confident that his experience in Cuba would not endorse the sweeping and adverse remarks that had been attributed to him. So it is, in fact. He declares that when his report is completed and known, the public will acquire the conviction that he could not have authorized the severe and hostile criticisms published by the newspapers. Moreover, he declares himself deeply obliged to the Spanish Authorities for the courtesy shown and the facilities afforded to him in carrying out his mission. As no mention has been made in the *Japan Mail* of the correction of the said adverse reports, I beg of you to publish this letter.

I am, Sir, yours very faithfully,

J. COLOGAN,
Major of Engineers, Spanish Army.
Yokohama, August 20th, 1896.

THE CONFERENCE AND ITS LESSONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a pretty full account of the annual conference at Kanuzawa has already been given ere this, it is only intended here to call attention to a few leading points of the meeting. Monday was given to the consideration of self-support of native churches. All were agreed that this was a thing much desired; but it was about as unanimously agreed that the end had not yet been reached. All seemed to be in the middle of a fix with no very definite idea how to get out. As it is a matter we are all still working at, I may be excused for offering my small contribution to the general expression of opinions. In my judgment, one main obstacle to self-support of native churches grows out of the expensive system upon which they have been taught to operate. It is a mistake, as I believe, to teach a small church of poor people—the average church of Japan—that a salaried pastor is an essential element of their existence, and tax them heavily to this end. Jesus came to give the gospel to the poor. Paul, Silas, and Timothy taught the churches they established to be self-sustaining from the start because they began and continued on a basis attainable by all. From among their own number the pastors, or elders, of any given church were selected. These, together with the church, came together at stated times for mutual instruction, continuing "steadfastly in the apostles' teaching, in the fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers." They gave according to their ability, beyond which no debt hung over them to supply the pastor's salary. Jesus in his personal ministry said, "The poor have the gospel preached unto them;" but under the system of a hired preacher the poor are largely deprived of its blessings. I fear we who have come

from afar are not altogether without fault here. The native Christian naturally looks to us for an example. When he sees his foreign teacher regularly and well supplied at a stated salary, it is hard for him to feel under obligations to proclaim the unsearchable riches to his fellowmen unless he first be remunerated in the same way. Hence the real ground of the friction between the foreigner and the Japanese in Church matters. With Paul, the first foreign missionary, it was different. The churches he planted began from the first to contribute for his support so that he could say, some ten years after to the Church at Philippi (Phil., 4:16) "Ye sent once and again unto my need." Not many churches in Japan would support the foreign missionary, I fear, even though he were in need of it. Paul went and preached without a salary, and when necessary laboured with his own hands, became one among those whom he laboured, and somehow won their affections so that if possible they would have plucked out their own eyes and given them to him. These are matters worthy our consideration.

Study of colloquial Japanese and Japanese religious literature occupied the second day. Religious literature was brought up again in the question box. Among other things in connection with this department of work was that the Tract Society in its publication of tracts confined itself strictly to the essential facts of the Gospel and carefully avoided all literature of a denominational kind. Conversions were also reported as having been accomplished by the distribution of these tracts. All this is very good. Why not all of us follow the example? If a tract society can avoid all denominational differences and yet publish tracts that save sinners, why may not the missionary preach the gospel along the same line? Again, if the essential facts of the gospel can be set forth without touching on denominations, it follows that denominations are non-essential; none of the gospel is nonessential; hence they form no part of the gospel. Shall we stand divided on things nonessential? Party division is carnal. Paul condemns it (1 Cor., 1:10-13). In his time there were some that centered around Paul, some around Cephas; others Apollos, and still others in a partisan way centred around Christ. And in this age we centre around Calvin, Luther, Wesley, the Pope of Rome, and the like. Or accepting the Japanese comparison of us, we are at this point like the different sects of the Buddhists divided up after different leaders. "Is Christ divided?" I was highly pleased that during these meetings the importance of centring around Christ was made prominent and that the best way to work at Christian union was to seek union with Christ. A way necessary and requisite to this end is to (1) free ourselves from all denominational nonessentials, and (2) cling to the essential facts of the gospel. Not a part of them, but all of them. If the essential facts declare that "We are all the sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus," we should accept it without hesitation. And if the next verse proceeds to say, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ," we should as readily accept this also (Gal., 3:27, 28). And if Paul proceeds to say, "There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female; for ye all are one in Christ Jesus," we should not demur at being made one in this way.

One day was given up to the ladies. Some interesting papers were read in regard to India and China; also some facts about the W.C.T.U. That this temperance society has done good is admitted, but that it has done more than the Church, as claimed by the speaker, can hardly be conceded. If the claims of the speaker be true, it would follow that man (woman rather) has outstripped God in organizing an institution that surpasses the church in uplifting and reforming man. Why not then abandon the church altogether and join the W.C.T.U.? I for one shall stand by the Church that Jesus purchased with his own blood.

One day was given to the Unity of the Scriptures. The question turned mostly upon inspiration. Discussion grew warm and was long drawn out. In the course of the discussion the statement was made that if we all saw the Scriptures just as they are there would not be a denomination in the world. Then it must follow that denominationalism is the outgrowth of seeing the scriptures as they are not. Or in other words, denominations, so far as that goes, are founded in error and form no part of the gospel. By all means let us abandon them and try to see the facts of the gospel just as they are. To see them in a false light is but folly.

J. M. McCABLE.

August 18th, 1894.

SILVER AND SILK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—How would the passage of a Free Coinage Act by the United States affect the price of Raw Silk, Copper, and Tea?

The agitation now going on in the United States in regard to the question of the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, should demand the most careful attention from the producers and holders of Raw Silk in Japan. They should watch for every indication upon which a probable settlement of the question may depend. The fortunes of the holders of Raw Silk are in the balance. If the act is passed it means ruin to those who may be loaded up with the commodity at present market rates. Between this time and the month of November the trade in Raw Silk, to the Japanese, is a gamble of gigantic proportions. It is nothing but a gamble; for its future condition depends simply upon the will of the majority of the voters of the United States, as it may find expression in the election to be held in November. If free coinage is defeated, Raw Silk will retain its normal price in yen, perhaps become dearer, as exchange may go still lower than its present rates. But if Bryan, the candidate of the free coinage advocates, should be elected, it would mean the passing of a free coinage law, which would immediately put exchange at par. The yen would be rated at its bullion value as now, but its bullion value would be 100 cents gold, instead of 51½ cents, as it is now valued. So that silk, which is now held at 700 yen per picul, would only command 360 yen; the selling price of Japanese raw silk being determined by the exchange value of the yen. Copper is in the same boat with raw silk.

The merchant in Yokohama who may be the holder of 1,000 piculs of raw silk which he can sell to-day for 650,000 yen, if he holds until next November and the question of free coinage should be decided favourably, will realize only 360,000 yen. The Japanese have need to exercise their best judgment at this time, and in defence of their interests they should, unless they are fully prepared and able to bear the possible loss that may result to the fullest extent, consult with prudence and realize while yet they can upon present rates of exchange. They should not delude themselves with the idea so persistently urged by the enemies of free coinage, that the United States cannot give a gold value, at the ratio of 16 to 1 of the silver of the world, for they will find silver on all fours with gold the day a Free Coinage Act is passed by the United States Congress. Were I in the raw silk trade I should not hold out for profits, being satisfied to realize my capital instead of taking the chance of a loss of one half of it for the sake of the possible profit that might be realized if things went my way. Italy and France establish the gold price of Raw Silk, Japan or China cannot do it.

Tea dealers will not feel the change, unless it may result in restricted sales, which will hardly be. Tea being produced only in silver standard countries has always commanded only a silver price. The lower exchange dropped, that much lower the exporter could make the laid-down price in gold in his shipments to the gold standard countries. The rate of exchange never has affected the yen value of tea in Japan or China. It meets no competition from gold standard countries. No matter if the yen be valued at 51½ cents or less, or 100 cents in gold, the cost of producing tea will remain the same in yen; supply and demand being the only factor affecting its selling price. Tea drinkers, like whisky drinkers and the imbibers of gin and sake, will continue to buy, no matter at what cost. The laid-down cost of tea exported to the United States in gold will be double the purchase price in yen as now valued;—or, more precisely, say a picul of tea now is purchased for 20 yen, the exchange value of the yen being 51½ requires an outlay of \$10.30 gold, if the yen advances to par it would require \$20.00 gold. Freight is now payable in gold. Tea being admitted duty free, no advance would be made except on the purchase cost. The tea producer and the tea merchant would know no difference in their operations. The same number of yen would pass between all the parties interested in the tea trade as at present. The purchaser would merely use more gold, his profits would remain as large as now, if they did not increase. Possibly the number of exporters might be less than now, because it would require nearly double the gold capital to carry on business; the less the number of exporters the better control they would have of their market. The tea industry is the only one in Japan that will escape the effects of a transition of the yen value from the present silver rate to a gold value.

Respectfully,

Yokohama, August 26th, 1896.

X.

THE FIRE TEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The resolutions adopted by the New York State Bankers' association, a résumé of which you gave your readers in your issue of the 24th inst. are very disingenuous. One point of them is, "The best definition of coin money had been furnished by the ablest bimetalist of the age, Henri Cernuschi, who said that it was by the ordeal of fire that money must be tried, and that the coins which, being melted down, retain the entire value for which they were a legal tender before they were melted down, were good money, while those which did not retain it were not good money." "Gold coins," the resolutions went on, "were the only ones that sustain that test." The Gold standard advocates are not anything if they are not disingenuous. When the mints of the world were open for the free coinage of both gold and silver, the fire test should have been as effectual as it is now claimed to be. Was it ever used to discredit silver when a legal ratio existed, fixing the money value of gold and silver? In connection with the "fire test" bogie the intrinsic value of gold is artfully coupled, by very many of the gold standard advocates. The intrinsic value of gold remains, they claim, in the bullion form that the coin represents. Whence is derived the "intrinsic" value of gold coins? Was it ordained in nature's laboratory that a certain number of grains of gold should become a sovereign? Has it not been by legislative enactments that the intrinsic value of the sovereign has been given to it? Gold inherently has no intrinsic value as money; it is the fiat of governments that confers upon gold metal its intrinsic value as a money metal: if its coinage was limited by the concerted action of the governments of the world, the intrinsic value of gold bullion would not be what it now is, but would become a variable quantity. Then a sovereign, if subjected to the fire test, would no longer represent the value conferred by law upon the coin, it would simply become merchandise, subject to the intrinsic value the law of supply and demand would assign to it. Prior to 1873, the coinage laws of the United States established the intrinsic value of both gold and silver bullion, ordaining that a certain number of grains of gold should represent, when minted, the measure of a dollar value, and that a certain number of grains of silver should become, when minted, the measure of a dollar value. The constitution of the United States declared that gold and silver should be the money metals of the commonwealth. The constitutional declaration of the nation conferred upon gold and silver metals an intrinsic value without which they could not have had any standing in the United States as money metals. As a certain number of grains of gold assumed an intrinsic value of a dollar when minted, so did a given number of grains of silver acquire the intrinsic value of a dollar. This being so, a fire test was inoperative against either gold or silver coins. The crucible only destroyed the impress of the die put upon it, whether it was gold or silver. Fire does not consume silver: melting it does not affect silver any more than it does gold. The mints being open for the coinage of all or any gold or silver bullion, a thousand silver dollars, if they had undergone the ordeal of fire, becoming a lump sum, of that value, by being taken to the mint, would be again melted and put into shape for mintage and by minting processes be recoined into one thousand dollars at a cost charged by the mint. Gold coins could have no better status than silver coins, both would stand the fire test. Their intrinsic values were not questioned. The law of the land and the stamp of the mint established, maintained, and protected their intrinsic qualities as money and metal. As I have said, the gold standard advocates are not anything if they are not disingenuous. "The New York State Bankers Association," in quoting Henri Cernuschi, in support of their contention take the chances of the general public being misled by assuming that Henri Cernuschi means to convey the idea that gold is the only metal money that will stand a fire test; "Fire test" is now on the lips of the Yokohama goldites; glibly do they talk of the "fire test," which goes to show that the "New York State Bankers Association" confidently expected that the public would gull themselves into believing that only gold money could retain its intrinsic value despite the crucible. Henri Cernuschi asserts that "it was by the ordeal of fire that money must be tried, and that the coins which, being melted down, retain the entire value for which they were a legal tender before they were melted down, were good money, while those which did not retain it were not good money." As it has been shown, the intrinsic value of coined money is a matter of legislation. The legal tender quality of money is determined

by legislation. The base of all intrinsic value gold and silver moneys possess is their legal tender qualities. Henri Cernuschi held that the coins, which being melted down, retain the entire value for which they were *legal tender* (observe the qualification, "legal tender") before they were melted down, were "good money." Under the law of the United States, which was abrogated by the coinage law of 1873, silver was accorded free coinage at the mints of the country at the ratio of 16 to 1—both gold and silver being declared legal tender money. If a Free Coinage Act is again passed, repairing the crime perpetrated in 1873 by the United States, silver will be again legislated into its former intrinsic value as coined money by being declared a legal tender, a thousand dollars (gold or silver dollars) can then be melted and the resultant bullion be recoined as often as a melting process is applied and recoinage is desired. The "New York State Bankers Association" tell us that there was in circulation in the United States and in the Treasury on July 1st, \$636,204,102, coined silver and treasury notes issued against silver bullion purchased, \$610,750,012 gold, and \$604,671,563 paper money. The California Bankers Association have made an earnest appeal to their fellow citizens in behalf of the gold standard—in which they say "The gold standard does not restrict us to the use of gold, our country like every other gold standard country, uses vast amounts of silver concurrently with gold." Just what the actual amount of silver coin there is in circulation in the United States is not stated, but it is sufficient to know that there is a "vast sum." The coins in circulation are used concurrently with gold, the dollar coins being legal tender, without limitation. By the closing of the mints to free carriage for silver, the United States and the other gold standard countries have deliberately, and with malice aforethought, legislated the money of the labouring man, the mechanic and the farmer, who are the principal users of silver money—"three vast amounts that are used concurrently with gold—into possessing an intrinsic value as coined money; but according to all these vast amounts only a commercial bullion value, provided the misfortune occurs that any of these legal tender coins are subjected to the action of fire. The legislation of the gold standard countries protects the holder of gold against loss by fire, his gold may be melted by a fire that destroys his house, but he can have it re-minted, suffering no loss; while the holder of silver, paid to him for his labour, if he has his few dollars melted by a conflagration that destroys his dwelling, finds his small store of silver dollars reduced to one-half their value, by the "fire test." This "fire test" argument should lead the people to demand the free coinage of the white metal, if no other reason existed. The holders and users of silver are the great majority of the people: they should demand and receive the same protection for their silver money that is accorded to the holders of gold. Wherein lies the equity of the government discriminating in favour of gold in case of an unavoidable application of the "fire test." If a thousand dollars of gold coins are subjected to the ordeal of a conflagration the owner of the recovered melted mass suffers no loss. If a thousand dollars of silver coins are subjected to the ordeal of a conflagration, the owner of the recovered mass find his thousand dollars have been reduced in value one-half. The free coinage of gold protects it from loss, while the closing of the mints to the free coinage of silver condemns it to a loss. Free coinage would deliver the possessor of silver from all anxiety from the fire test. The vast sums of silver that are used concurrently with gold are in the hands of the people—the common people, the working people, the people who have to earn their daily bread, the people who toil for the accumulators of gold. They should rise as one man and establish, through their representatives, free coinage for silver that their money shall stand the fire as gold is enabled to stand it, by reason of free coinage. When it is considered that the users of the "vast sums" of silver that are in constant daily use, concurrent with gold in the silver-standard countries, are compelled by the coinage laws to become their own insurers against loss by fire to the extent of one-half of their silver money accumulations, is it not a wonder that these laws are allowed to stand upon the statute books of the nations? Gold wealth sees to it that it is relieved from anxiety from fire. It is full time that the men who handle no other money but silver should see to it that their silver receives the same recognition. Free coinage for gold gives it its money value and insures it against fire. Free coinage for silver would do the same for silver. This fire test proposition may set many a man hitherto indifferent to the silver question, to thinking of what should be done to make the conditions uniform.

Yours,
H. Z. WHEELER.
Yokohama, August 27th, 1896.

THEOLOGICAL THINKING AND DIVINE DOCTRINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The interesting and no doubt sufficiently correct sketch of present tendencies in theology, which appeared in the *Japan Mail* of Aug. 22, contains this statement in its closing paragraph: "Thus, in these transition times, there is not one whit of yielding in faith in the supreme revelation of God nor one particle of abatement in loyalty to the divine Son of God."

This sounds well to Christian ears, and it is evidently the correct thing for one occupying the place of a Christian teacher to say; but its sequence from the "thinking" that precedes it, to some people, not very plain. Moreover, clear as it seems at first glance, the meaning is not altogether apparent, for while the writer defines "supreme revelation" as meaning "Christianity"—see his paragraph headed "Revelation"—he does not tell us what "Christianity" is.

Taking the sentence, however, as it stands, the writer appears to prove, on the whole, the theological tendencies he describes, and at the same time to profess unyielding "faith in the supreme revelation of God" and thorough loyalty to Christ.

Not only so, but he goes on to remark that the faith now generally prevalent is "even more profound than in the past." Is not this a slip of the pen? Faith like that of those who in the beginning of this Gospel age esteemed the "reproach of Christ" as riches, and were "faithful unto death," may exist in many souls to-day—let us hope that it does; but the assertion just quoted is not quite easy to understand.

Perhaps Dr. DeForest will favour your readers with a few words under the following heads:—

1.—Let him either accept or amend the statement made above as to his own position.

2.—Let him quote in full from the *Scriptures* the authority in the "words which the Holy Ghost teacheth" (1 Cor., ii, 13)—in the "commandments of the Lord" (1 Cor., xiv, 37)—in the writings given in order that "the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work" (2 Tim., iii, 17)—for the following ways of "thinking" that appear in his article:—

a. That useful and genuine additions to what the *Scriptures* tell concerning God and man and God's purposes with regard to man, are to be looked for through advances in theology.

b. That it is right for a person believing in the Son of God, and believing the *Scriptures*, to speak or to think of "Christian consciousness" as a "source" of knowledge in the things of God.

c. That the new teaching about the "Consciousness of Christ" is such as God approves.

As these propositions (a, b, c) cover a part only of the article referred to, and as nothing but Divine authority for them is here asked for, it is hoped that the request will not be thought too troublesome for attention.

If it is not distinctly so stated in the article, the drift, at least, of this Theological thinking seems to imply that the world in general is now essentially better, as measured by God's holiness, than it was; that professing Christendom is spiritually stronger and healthier; and that true faith in God and in Christ is destined to acquire world-wide dominion—that "the victory is sure"—through the labours of men and the continued operation of tendencies now at work, without the personal return of Christ. As this paragraph contains at least three separate propositions, let us take the last one only, and add to a, b, and c.

d. That the true "faith once delivered to the saints" is destined to acquire world-wide dominion through the continued operation of tendencies now at work, and without the personal return of Christ.

It seems sufficiently plain that all of these questions are important. If, in dealing with matters that are confessedly super-human and mysterious, we assume such propositions as, for instance, a and d, without having unimpeachable authority by which to prove them, are we not assuming a great deal?

The answers here requested (i.e. those under 2) might consist of quotations from the *Scriptures*, with relatively not very much of comment, and with little or no reference to any other authority. Thus they would be simple, clear, not too long, and for present purposes conclusive.

If such replies should not be forthcoming, it seems fair to ask that Dr. DeForest will either (a) say that he does not join in this "theological thinking," at least as to the particular points that are here called into question; or (b) plainly admit that the *Scriptures* are, in his view, insufficient and therefore of uncertain authority for determining in every case what Christians—those who are "risen with Christ," who are "followers of God as dear children"—ought to receive and to teach as spiritual truth.

If, on the other hand, these replies should be fairly given, no one would be more gratified than, Yours, &c.,
INQUIRER.
August 26th, 1896.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before ARTHUR HYDE LAY, Esq., Acting-Assistant Judge.—THURSDAY, August 27th.

THE "SAIKYO MARU'S" LOST TREASURE.

Edwin Ryder, late second officer in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha service, was brought up on a warrant alleging that he had in his possession a portion of the contents of a box of treasure containing \$2,000, stolen from the mail-room of the steamer *Saikyo Maru* on July 15th, while the ship was in Yokohama harbour.

Mr. Geo. Kichler, Usher of the Court, deposed to arresting the accused on Wednesday evening, at about 5 o'clock in the Yoshiwara, Yokohama. Continuing, witness said—I went and searched the accused's effects at No. 40, in accordance with the terms of the warrant, and found a certain amount of money. In one portmanteau was quantity of loose 20 *sen* pieces, amounting to about \$30. This portmanteau was in the accused's room, No. 18. In a chest that was in the store-room, I found two belts with money sewn inside; two small cloth-bound packages, and one done up in paper, that would contain about \$10. These monies I brought to the Court, and there sealed. The chest in which I found the money belonged to Mr. Ryder on his own acknowledgement.

Mr. Tamio Hayashi, cautioned, then entered the box and deposed—I am the manager of the N.Y.K. in Yokohama, and am prosecutor in this case. I charge Mr. Ryder with having in his possession part of the money stolen from the mail-room of the steamer *Saikyo Maru*, on or about the 15th August. This money was in 20-*sen* pieces, of this year's make, and was shipped by the Osaka Mint and consigned to be Bank of Japan. There were 50 cases of 10 and 20 *sen* pieces to the amount of 100,000 *yen*. They were put on board the *Saikyo Maru* on the 13th inst., at Kobe. The ship arrived in Yokohama on the afternoon of the 14th August, and when the cases were discharged at noon next day, a shortage of one case, consisting of 20 *sen* pieces, to the amount of 2,000 *yen*, was found. The matter was reported to the police authorities, who proceeded to search for the missing case. Mr. Ryder left the ship at Kobe. He was on the ship at the time the theft was committed and was second officer of the *Saikyo Maru*. All the officers, from the Chief Officer, Second Officer, Purser, Second Purser, Freight Clerk, and Tallyman, were ordered to leave the ship in Yokohama, so that we could investigate the matter, as all had handled the treasure in shipping and unloading it. These men were not ordered to leave the ship on suspicion. Yesterday morning Mr. A. Rehberg, formerly the chief officer of the *Saikyo Maru*, called on me, and three bundles of 20 *sen* pieces, amounting to 30 *yen*, were shown to me. This money had been handed to him by accused the previous evening. That was the reason of my suspecting the accused of stealing the money. The money was done up in paper stamped "Osaka Mint, 20 *sen* pieces, coined June, 29th year *Meiji*." As Ryder could not leave the ship at Yokohama, he left in Kobe and came up overland. Ryder had to attend to the stowing of cargo and other work such as second officers do.

H. W. Rehberg, formerly chief officer of the *Saikyo Maru*, sworn, deposed—I was told the night before last—about half-past ten o'clock—by Mr. Ryder, that he had a third of the money that had been lost on the *Saikyo Maru*, on the 15th August. I asked him where he had obtained it, and he said—"From the freight-clerk that is left in the *Saikyo Maru* now." I don't know this man's name; he is a Japanese. This conversation took place in Whaley's Hotel. I asked him to let me see the money, and he took me to Wright's Hotel, where he said the money was locked up in the store-room. He asked Mr. Wright to take him to the store-room, and came back again with two parcels, one in each hand. He gave me three rolls of money. After I obtained it, Mr. Hunter, a Chief Officer in the N.Y.K., happened to come into the bar-room of the hotel, and I told him about the affair, and asked his advice in the matter. We concluded to wait until next morning and see Capt. Forbes. At six o'clock, I went to Mr. Hunter's room in the Hotel, and Mr. Bagnall, another Chief Officer in the N.Y.K., came into the room at the same time. I told him the story, and then Bagnall and myself went up to Captain Forbes' house on the Bluff, and informed him of the matter. Captain Forbes told me to come down between 9 and 10 o'clock to the N.Y.K. office. When I arrived there Capt.

Forbes took me to the Manager's room, and I produced the three rolls of money that I had received from Ryder, and left the money there. Then Capt. Forbes and Mr. Hayashi told me I could go home, as the matter was now in their hands. I was on board the *Saikyo Maru* at the time the robbery was committed. The money was stored amidships in the mail room. The keys of the place were kept in my room, and I was responsible for them in a certain way; others had access to them. Sometimes the Purser would come and take them for the purpose of putting mail in. I did not see the treasure put into the mail-room. It was Japanese treasure, shipped on a Japanese shipping order and Japanese cargo shipped on a Japanese shipping order on a local line of steamers always goes through the Purser and the Freight Clerk. I do not know if these men had duplicate keys of the room. There were no duplicate keys to my knowledge. The second officer could have access to the room, because he had sometimes to put parcels there. If he asked for the keys I would give them to him. It was not till we were under way from Kobe that I learnt that we had treasure on board. I don't remember Mr. Ryder asking for the keys after we left Kobe. The keys hung in my bunk on a board made for the purpose, anybody could get at them. The room was approached through No. 3 hatch, and persons around could see anyone going there. I remember that on the Friday night (14th) when we arrived in port, Mr. Ryder went ashore twice, first along with Mr. Dawson, third engineer. He came back again about 9 o'clock. I was lying in a long chair when he returned. He went to his room, and then returned to the shore again. I did not see him carry anything ashore, but he had a gun when he came back the first time.

Mr. W. N. Wright, sworn, deposed—The night before last, about 10.30, I was called up from the lower billiard room by one of my boys, who said there was trouble in the bar between some N.Y.K. officers. I went upstairs and tried to quiet them. I could not understand what the trouble was about, as they would not tell me, except that it was something very serious. The officers were, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Ryder, and Mr. Rehberg. Next morning Mr. Rehberg told me the cause of the trouble. He said Mr. Ryder had stolen him money, and that it was part of the stolen money from the *Saikyo Maru*. The evening before this took place, Ryder asked to go to his box in the baggage room. I took him upstairs, remarking that it was rather late to go to the baggage room. He opened his box—a Chinese made article—and took two parcels out, one small and one a little bigger. I asked him if this was the box that he had told me that he had sold to two Europeans. The night before, two Europeans—rough-looking characters, and one the worse for liquor—came with a chit signed by Mr. Ryder asking that I should deliver up his boxes to bearers. I refused to let them have the boxes as the men were so rough in appearance, while I also wrote on the back of the chit to Mr. Ryder saying that I could not give up the box and bag, as he had not yet settled his hotel bill. The night before last, when Mr. Ryder had taken the parcels out of the box, I saw him go out of the room and then I padlocked the door. Next morning I learnt that the parcels taken out of the box contained money. I had no suspicion of it at the time. The box had been in the baggage-room since the *Saikyo Maru* left two trips ago. On the 14th of this month, the day the ship arrived, Ryder came in and asked if he might go to his box that was in the baggage-room. I went upstairs and opened the room, took out the box and then locked the room again, telling Ryder that I would put the box back again after he had finished with it. He said that he had some baggage in Mr. Bagnall's room, and went up there, leaving the box in the passage-way. He came down from Mr. Bagnall's room and went straight to the box. The box was left in the passage all night, not being put back in the room till next morning.

William Henry Forbes, Marine Superintendent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, sworn, deposed—Yesterday morning, about 7 o'clock, Mr. Rehberg came to my house, and said that he had received some money the night before from Mr. Ryder, in Wright's Hotel. He produced three rolls of 20 sen pieces, and asked what he should do with them, adding that they had been stolen from the *Saikyo Maru*. I told him to take the money to the manager and explain it to him. He did not say how the money was stolen, but that a portion of it was in Ryder's possession. Rehberg came to my office about 9.30, and I took him to Mr. Hayashi, to whom he gave a similar explanation.

Kamaturo Waki, late Purser on the *Saikyo Maru*, cautioned, said—I took in 50 cases of silver coin at Kobe, on 13th August. When I dis-

charged these cases in Yokohama, I found one of them was stolen. Each case contained 2,000 yen, so that the whole amount was 100,000 yen. The covers of the cases stated the denominations of the coins inside. There were also a Freight Clerk and two tally-men engaged in shipping these cases. The treasure was put in the mail-room, No. 3 hatch. The Freight Clerk shut the door and gave the keys to the Chief Officer. The Freight Clerk is named Miyashida. I did not enter the strong room between the time the ship left Kobe and the time we arrived at Yokohama. To enter the room we have to obtain the keys from the Chief Officer. I saw no one enter the room between Kobe and Yokohama.

His Honour—Edwin Ryder, you are remanded for one week, under arrest, until Thursday the 4th of September.

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1895.

(CONCLUDED FROM LAST ISSUE.)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

In 1883 there were, in the whole empire, 84 factories with machinery aggregating 1,383 steam and 365 water horse-power. In 1893 their number had increased to 1,163, the steam horse-power to 31,165, and the water to 4,142. In 1888 there were in all 24 Cotton Spinning factories with 113,856 spindles, producing in the year 13,143,099 lbs. of yarn, and consuming about 16,000 tons of coal. In 1893 the same figures were 40 factories, with 381,781 spindles, producing 88,000,885 lbs. of yarn, and consuming about 85,000 tons of coal; and in 1894, 47 factories, with 513,936 spindles, producing 99,630,600 lbs. of yarn, consuming 109,007 tons of coal, and giving employment to 8,444 male and 29,455 female operatives. At the close of 1895 there were 58 factories, with 883,474 spindles actually in work, and 6 newly-projected factories with 101,083 spindles not yet erected, but already enrolled in the United Guild of Spinners. There were also some other newly-projected factories not yet so enrolled, and the total number of spindles, either actually in work or in course of erection in Japan at the close of the year, approached 1,120,000, while the quantity of yarn produced during the year by 55 factories belonging to the guild exceeded 150,000,000 lb.

This industry has during the past year been conducted in Japan under extraordinarily favourable circumstances. Coal has been cheap, and notwithstanding a sharp rise in the price of labour towards the close of the year, the cost of the latter for the whole year was low. The price of raw material was also below the average, while, on the other hand, a greatly increasing demand produced a most substantial rise in the market price of yarns, the bale which in July was sold for \$81 fetching over \$93 in December. A table shows the aggregate profits realised by the principal companies during the last half of the year. The average profit per spindle in 29 principal factories amounted to \$3.56. The corresponding profit during the first half of the year was nearly \$3 per spindle, making in sterling for the whole year a profit of about 14s. 3d. per spindle. All the companies have declared large dividends. The Settsu and Hirano Companies, both in Osaka, which 34,944 and 26,880 spindles respectively, are paying 25 per cent. for the whole year; the Osaka Company, with 52,892 spindles, 20 per cent.; and the Tokyo Company, with 18,064 spindles, 15 per cent.; and few of the others lower than 10 per cent., all in addition adding considerable sums to their reserves.

In view of these results, it is only natural that such sanguine hopes should be entertained as to this industry. But it is more than doubtful whether such a high degree of prosperity can be maintained. Labour difficulties are already arising, and the rates of wages threaten to increase considerably, even on their present scale, which is higher than that which prevailed twelve months ago. Skilled labour has become so scarce that in several instances spindles are lying idle from want of operatives, and in one case police interference was found necessary to prevent one of the largest companies in Osaka enticing into its service the operatives trained by and in the employ of a rival company. The increased prosperity of the working classes in general has rendered them less desirous to bind their daughters to the factories, and a system of recruiting both of male and female operatives, has had to be instituted in the more remote country districts.

The growth of the Weaving Industry is only less remarkable than that of the spinning, through up to the present practically hand looms only are employed in the former. In 1883 the quantity of fabrics of every kind, silk and cotton, produced in

Japan was 25,067,496 yards. In 1893 it had increased to over 605,000,000 yards. In the first-mentioned year the export of either silk or cotton fabrics was practically non-existent. In 1895 it reached the value of \$19,386,632.

One other industry may be here referred to—that of matches. This appears to have originated in the prisons, and it was in operation in the gaol at Yokohama so early as the year 1873. The first record of any export appears in the Customs returns for the year 1878, when they were exported to a value of \$20,400. From the latter amount the value of the export has grown to \$4,672,811 in 1895, while the increase in the production in 1889 10,165,615 gross boxes, valued at \$1,840,259; 1892, 26,106,305 gross boxes, valued at \$4,956,196.

MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES.—Besides yarns, textile fabrics, and matches, the only Japanese manufacture which may be said to have been assimilated from Europe, and were exported to a sufficient extent in 1895 to merit special mention are glassware and umbrellas. That of straw plaits competes, of course, with European productions, but it is carried on in Japan entirely according to the original Japanese methods, and owes nothing either to foreign instruction or machinery. Nor do the Customs returns detail, in their much more extended lists of exports, any large number of other imitations of foreign manufactures that find their way abroad in any quantity from Japan, and the majority appear as yet to be made only for consumption by her own people. One of the previous reports for the past year contained a list of these articles shown at the Domestic Industrial Exhibition held early in the year at Kioto.

Looking at the prices at which these exhibits were marked for sale, or even those at which they are actually retailed in considerable quantities in the principal thoroughfares of Tokyo, a superficial observer might well be pardoned for concluding that Japan must in time, and in no long time, become a formidable if not a successful competitor with Europe in the supply of miscellaneous goods throughout the world. And observers to whom the term superficial should not be hastily applied have not been backward in expressing opinions to that effect. An Australian statesman, who recently visited Japan with the special purpose of inquiring into her commercial and industrial prospects, did not hesitate to declare in conversation that England's day as a manufacturer for the Far East, if not even for Australia, was over, and that she must be prepared to give way all along the line to her rising rival. If English manufacturers are influenced by these statements to take too gloomy a view of the future, it would be easy to have their fears at once confirmed or set at rest. The Association of Chambers of Commerce could at no very great cost procure a complete set of samples of all foreign articles made and sold in Japan for exhibition in the principal manufacturing centres in England, and it would then soon be apparent to them whether greater cheapness in Japan is not obtained by a much greater sacrifice of quality. But pending the adoption of this step, if it is ever taken—at the risk of repeating what has been said before—it may be stated most unequivocally that at present cheapness and appearance are the sole recommendation of the vast majority of these articles. In cotton fabrics the Japanese people are most exacting on the question of durability. Their hand-woven productions for their own use are expected to and do last for years, and it may therefore be fairly supposed that Japanese spun cotton yarns are, at least, of as good quality as those of Bombay, which they have supplanted. But, even in cotton fabrics, quality is not always characteristic of their own make, and it is certainly not so in those which are admittedly imitations of England goods.

Cheap but shoddy Turkey-reds are now being made in Tokyo, and sold in country districts at a price which would scarcely pay for the original undyed cloth in Glasgow. There is, however, no durability in either their colour or material, people in the cities will not look twice at them, and it is only on rustics that they can be imposed. Their competition with the Scotch make is impossible, but unfortunately, at the same time, they indirectly exercise a deleterious effect on the import of the latter. People who have once tasted the sweetness of excessive cheapness are apt, forgetting how much they have paid for it in the sacrifice of quality, to look for it again and will be loth to revert to the higher price which they are obliged to pay for better articles.

Blankets, also made near Tokyo, are sold at 3s. each, in appearance, perhaps, just as good as the imported article, which cost double or treble that price, but they are shoddy throughout, and stand neither weight, pressure, nor damp.

Glass ware is coarse; lamps flimsy and unsafe; chimneys break when subjected to a far less degree of heat than imported ones can stand with entire

impunity; towels go to pieces with little friction after a very few washings; door mats do much the same after a few beatings; and a tooth brush quickly becomes a positive torture. A harmonium with fair tone can be brought in Tokyo for a few pounds. But the case is of unseasoned wood, which warps or splits on being subjected to very moderate alternations of heat and cold, and the keys are covered with paper in lieu of ivory. A solid leather portmanteau, equal in every sense in appearance to one which cost £5 5s. in London, can be obtained in Tokyo for less than half that amount. The latter will, however, last a lifetime; one voyage to England and back will finish the career of the former. Boots, perfectly fitting, entirely hand sewn, and in every sense equal in appearance to the result of the best workmanship of London West-end bootmakers, are made to order in Tokyo from 12s. to 15s. per pair, but again their wearing capacity is less than one-half. And while it may seem absurd, in view of the great export of Japanese matches, to say one word in their dispraise, it is impossible to say one in their favour beyond that their cheapness is such that no European could dream of emulating it. Not one-third of the contents of a box can, under the most favourable circumstances, be induced to flame at all, and the slightest draught at once extinguishes those which do flame. The least subjection to damp renders the whole box entirely useless, and the sulphur often, when struck and flaming, flying off the wood, becomes a source of positive danger. Though those of the best quality are retailed in Tokyo at one-fifth of the price that must be paid for imported English matches, none but the latter would be admitted into many foreign households in which stringent economy is a very necessary consideration. These remarks are made from practical tests of matches purchased from about twenty different firms, most of whom export largely; and retailed in Tokyo at an average price of 4d. per packet of 10 boxes.

RAILWAYS.

[The report then proceeds to deal with railways, but the subject has been so exhaustively treated in a report by Mr. Gerard Lowther, issued only a few days ago, that it would be only repetition to again give the same set of facts.—*Edt. L. & C. Kw.*]

THE SANYO RAILWAY COMPANY.—The Government has found a strong competitor in regard to the doubling of the existing Tokyo-Hyogo Railway, in the Sanyo Railway Company, which possesses a nominal capital of \$18,000,000, and owns the line now open between Hyogo and Hiroshima, and ultimately to be extended to Shimonoeki, a total distance of 307 miles. This company has offered to raise a further capital of \$100,000,000, to purchase from Government the existing line between Tokyo and Hyogo at its original cost, \$30,000,000, to lay a new line of 4 feet 8½ inches gauge beside the existing single line of 3 feet 6 inches gauge, to convert the latter, on the completion of the first throughout its entire length, into the wide gauge, to replace all 60 lb. rails now in use by 100 lb. rails to reconstruct all bridges, stations, rolling stock, &c., so as to adapt them to new conditions of traffic; the whole involving an estimated additional outlay of \$57,000,000, and to be completed within a period of five years. If this great scheme be ever carried to completion, it must exercise the very greatest influence upon the entire railway system throughout the Empire, and ultimately bring about the adoption of the broad gauge and the construction of double tracks on, at least all the great trunk lines, extending say from Aomori, in the extreme north, to Shimonoeki, in the extreme south-west of the main island. In fact, the Sanyo Railway had embodied in their proposal a further undertaking to convert their own present line also into the wide gauge subsequent to the completion of their undertaking in regard to the Tokyo-Hyogo line. The company obtained the strongest financial and popular support, but the application has been rejected by the Government, and the original proposal of the latter therefore still holds good. The attention of the country has, however, now been strongly directed to the advantages which are to be gained from a broad in preference to a narrow gauge, and it is considered not improbable that public opinion will ultimately bring such pressure upon the Government as to force it to adopt the former when doubling the Tokyo-Hyogo line, even if it does not succeed in procuring a reconsideration of the rejection of the Sanyo Railway Company's proposal.

MERCHANT SHIPPING.

In 1872 Japan possessed 96 merchant steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 23,364 tons. They were, without exception, vessels which had been condemned by their former foreign owners as unfit for further profitable use, were ill-managed and neglected, and never ventured beyond the coasts of Japan; and even their coasting voyages were so insignificant that their entries and clearance were

not deemed worthy of the slightest mention in the customs returns.

In 1895 Japan possessed 517 merchant steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 321,522 tons, and the principal shipping company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, or National Mail Steamship Company, alone possessed a fleet of 57 ocean-going steamers with a tonnage of 101,342 tons. The vessels of the latter company make frequent voyages to China, India, and Australia, and their lines will very shortly be extended to England and across the Pacific to the United States; their service is splendidly organised and managed, and the majority of their ships are in every way fit to rank with those of any nationality in the world. The further development of the Japanese mercantile marine is now being very actively promoted, and among the measures advocated as essential to the increase of her commerce few find greater favour or are more frequently discussed than the extension of the existing steam routes and the acquisition of a much larger share in the carrying trade to and from her own territories.

Very practical measures have been recently taken by the Government to encourage the shipping industry, and two measures submitted to the Diet during the current session (1) a Navigation Bill, and (2) a Shipbuilding Bill, have passed both Houses without a single voice being raised against either. Both are measures of great prospective importance.

The first provides that, under certain conditions as to right of requisition by Government, carriage of mails, training of apprentices, &c., a subsidy shall be given for the space of 5 years from the date of construction, to every iron steamship of over 700 tons burthen at the following rates:—25 *sen* (6½d.) per ton for every 1,000 miles run at a maximum speed of 10 knots; an addition of 10 per cent. to be made for each 500 tons increased displacement over 1,000 tons and up to 6,000 tons; and a further addition of 20 per cent. for each additional knot in speed up to 17 knots; after the lapse of 5 years a continuing annual reduction of 5 per cent. in these amounts to be made.

The second provides that a subsidy of \$12 (£1 6s.) per ton shall be granted to every Japanese subject building in Japan an iron or steel steamship of and over 700 but under 1,000 tons, and of \$20 (£2 3s. 4d.) per ton for one of and over 1,000 tons, with an additional \$5 for each unit of horse power. Both hull and engines must be built under the supervision of the Department of Communications, and no foreign material is to be employed unless specified by that Department.

Both these measures are to come into operation on Oct. 1, 1896, and are to continue in force for 15 years. To be enabled to take immediate advantage of the first, the National Mail Steamship Company already despatched, so far back as December, a commission to England to order six steamers, each of 6,000 tons capacity and steaming 17 knots, and it is intended to employ these steamers in a monthly passenger and cargo service between Yokohama and London, one steamer starting from each end every month. Four other routes are mentioned in the Japanese papers as having been selected by the Government as "special navigation routes," on which the National Mail Steamship Company are also to place steamers which will receive subsidies under the new law. These are to Australia and Bombay, between Japan and both of which there will be 12 round voyages annually; to Vladivostok, 18 round voyages annually; and Korsakoff, 8 round voyages annually. It is proposed to devote 30 steamers of an aggregate displacement of 50,000 tons to these four services, the first two of which will form a very serious element of competition with the British companies by whose steamers they are at present mainly conducted.

As to the second Bill, it is estimated that eight steamers which will be entitled to benefit by the subsidies will be annually constructed in Japan, and that the yearly amount, which the terms of the Bill will require to be provided, will be \$200,000 (£21,666). At present there is only one private dockyard in Japan of sufficient capacity for the construction of a steamer of over 1,000 tons displacement, and only one steamer of that size has as yet been built.

BUSINESS METHODS AND PROSPECTS.

The while import business of Japan may be said to divide itself very sharply into two distinct classes. The first is that in ordinary staples trade, raw cotton, cotton yarn, and piece-goods, woollen yarn and piece-goods, sugar, miscellaneous metals, clocks and watches, kerosene oil, drugs, both manufacturing and medicinal, dyes, provisions, clothing, wines, stationery, &c. The second is that in the supply of the requirements (a) of the Government, and (b) of the great railway, shipping, and manufacturing joint stock companies, vessels of war,

merchant steamers, war material of every kind, railway iron, metals, locomotives, machinery, &c.

Import business of the first class is in the hands of foreign merchants resident in Japan, and looking from the point of view of the interests of the manufacturer in England, it may most safely be left there. At both the great ports of Japan, Yokohama and Hyogo, there are large and eminently representative bodies of British merchants of the best class, including many men who have passed their whole adult lives in Japan, and to whose long experience are added the keenest business instincts. They maintain close connection with the Japanese middlemen, and both importer and middleman are, in their own interests, constantly on the watch for all possible openings, both for entirely new classes of goods which the changing tastes of the people at large may require, and for any prospect of an increased demand for those which are already in popular use. Whatever openings do occur are seized with the utmost promptitude, and the manufacturer in England or elsewhere, with whom orders are placed, dispose of his goods without a particle of pecuniary risk to himself, while he may at the same time feel assured that every bale of yarn or piece-goods and every pound of nail iron which the Japanese can be induced to purchase is already and will continue to be brought here. Competition has reduced all commissions and other business charges in Japan to a very low standard, and by no direct agency whatsoever, whether on the part of the English manufacturer in Japan or of the Japanese wholesale purchaser in England, can the ordinary staples of the general import business be placed in the hands of the ultimate Japanese retailer or consumer more cheaply than they are at the present day. Nor would even the forming of direct relations, say by post, between a manufacturer in England and a wholesale dealer in Japan, bring about such a result. The mass of Japanese traders have, as has been stated in previous reports, very low ideas of commercial morality. They repudiate a contract entailing even a small loss without a particle of compunction. No public opinion reproves them for so doing, and the English manufacturer, entirely ignorant of the standing of those with whom he might be dealing, and forced, if he dealt at all, to give at least some credit, would no doubt suffer at the hands of dishonest dealers losses which he must endeavour to recoup in some degree by higher charges to those who proved more faithful in their engagements.

Statements have appeared in London journals that an endeavour is being made following an example which has been set in France, to induce Chambers of Commerce in England to combine in sending out a joint commission of their members to investigate for themselves the conditions and prospects of business in the Far East. There are sixteen English importing firms members of the Yokohama Chamber, and fifteen of the Hyogo Chamber, and it is difficult to see what information in regard to general trade can be obtained by mercantile experts, entirely new to the country, coming here but for a short stay, with no experience or knowledge of the people, no capacity for appreciating or understanding their ever-varying tastes or requirements, which cannot be and is no doubt already obtained and communicated in full to England by experts, equally qualified in general experience and with the additional qualification of long and intimate knowledge of the country.

The gentlemen composing the proposed English commission will have no reason to regret their visit. They will see under the most favourable conditions what has always been to tourists one of the most fascinating countries in the world, and will be liberally fed; every opportunity will be afforded to them of observing and examining the principal industries in the country, and they will be charmed by the grace, courtesy, and attention of both officials and merchants with whom they are likely to be brought into direct relations. But to hope that any great improvement in the volume of English imports into Japan will be attained by their visit is at least rash. There is no royal road to success in trade in Japan. The Japanese dealer will continue, as he has done, to buy only what he can sell again to his own countrymen, and it is upon their tastes, means, and necessities that its future increase entirely depends. Fashion and requirements here change, and demand rises and falls, just as they do in other countries. The safe conduct and development of import business can only be ensured by attentively watching its course from day to day and month to month, and not even the foundations of any large general trade can be laid in any other way, no matter how able or earnest those attempting it may be.

The trade of Japan and its prospects, so far as British industries are concerned, have now reached a degree which might perhaps warrant some public

expenditure in regard to them. But the qualifications primarily necessary in an official, whose special and exclusive duty would be to deal with commercial matters and to furnish full information to manufacturers in England of all trade affairs and of the course of business, are knowledge of the language, experience of the people, and acquaintance with their most prominent commercial representatives.

The second class of import business above referred to is of an entirely different character to the first, and in it, it must be admitted, resident British merchants in Japan take very little share. In fact, of all the principal firms in Yokohama, two only are well-known to be seriously endeavouring to cultivate it, and of those in Hyogo only three, the remainder in both ports finding its risks and trouble so deterrent that they prefer to cater only for the general requirements of the people at large. It is, however, a most promising field, even when the fullest allowance is made for all its attendant difficulties, and its immediate possibilities should be most tempting to the British manufacturers of machinery, metals, and war material, perhaps also to the shipbuilder. In regard to the two latter items, it is not perhaps necessary now to say much. The principal English builders of vessels of war are already fully represented in Japan, and their direct agents are fully qualified to hold their own against those also on the spot from other countries.

SHIPS.—Merchant steamship builders are not so well represented, but so far nothing has been lost in consequence, as the Japanese know that the best, cheapest, and most speedily executed work can be obtained in England. Mention has already been made of the despatch of representatives of the National Steamship Company to England to place orders. Another large steamship company—the Osaka Shosen Kaisha—has decided to despatch representatives, who, it is said, will leave Japan about the middle of March, to England, to order three steamships, each of 2,000 tons, which will be employed on the Japan-Formosa trade.

GUNS, ARMOUR, AND MACHINERY.—English makers of projectiles, guns, armour-plates, shafting, engine forgings, steel castings, and tool steel are also now fully represented here by competent agents, and no further opening exists for makers who are not already in the field. But in regard to machinery and metals there is still plenty of room. Metal manufactures are required in railway industry. In all kinds of electric machinery there is also a fair prospect of a very extensive requirement on the part of Japanese during the next few years. Plans for the utilisation of the immense water power existing in the lakes at high elevations, in the very rapid rivers, and in the waterfalls that are so numerous throughout the whole Empire, are now claiming great attention on the part of Japanese engineers. During the past six years an aggregate amount of \$1,473,971 has been spent by the Japanese on the purchase of dynamo-electric machinery. Many of the components of the latter are made in Japan, but it would, at the same time, not be in the least degree surprising if the annual expenditure in Europe or the United States should very soon reach an amount equal to that of the whole aggregate during the past six years.

SUGAR MACHINERY.—The prospect of the occurrence of large demands for all kinds of machinery connected with the sugar industry has already been referred to in previous reports. The productive capacity of the Island of Formosa for sugar, already very large, will, when Japanese labour, capital, and science are devoted to it, no doubt admit of immense development; and apart from Japan's own requirements, which are steadily increasing, China, which in 1894, while Formosa was still part of her dominions, imported from foreign countries nearly \$15,000,000 worth of sugar, may always be relied upon to afford a market for whatever Japan can supply her with. The area of such part of the Island of Formosa as is capable of sugar cultivation is quite equal to that of the Sandwich Islands; and there more than £8,000,000 have, during the last twenty years, been permanently invested in machinery and railway plant solely for the service of the sugar plantations. The future of Formosa in this industry, with its great prospective market not separated from it by an ocean, but at its very doors, now promises as brilliantly as did that of the Sandwich Islands twenty years ago, and England can and should supply all machinery directly or indirectly necessary for its proper and successful cultivation.

Some of the liberal grants which have been voted during the current session of the Diet, and which are of interest to foreign manufacturers, have already been mentioned in previous sections of this report. As the Budget stands, it provides for an expenditure in, at the outside, 7 years, of nearly \$152,000,000 on railways, telegraphs and

telephone lines, iron foundry, and war material. Many other provisions are made in it, such as for the construction of lighthouses, Admiralty docks and arsenals, forts, workshops, chemical laboratories, &c., which need not be here specified, though all of them should influence to a greater or less extent imports from abroad.

Under the headings railways and factories, some indication has been already given in this report as to what the demands on the part of the public, as distinct from the Government, are likely to be. In addition to cotton-spinning factories and sugar refineries, public joint-stock companies are now in process of promotion or expansion for construction of docks, weaving, rope, paper, and silk-spinning factories, more than \$12,000,000 having, according to published statistics, been invested during the past year in commercial enterprises, apart from banks and railways.

EXPERTS.—How can they best take advantage of those opportunities? While few British firms in Japan lay themselves out for this business, there are still some who do, and there are several great Japanese firms in Tokyo of the very highest standing which almost exclusively concern themselves with it. It is working in association with these firms, whether British or Japanese, that British manufacturers can best hope to obtain extensive orders from either the Government or the great joint-stock companies. Should manufacturers in England send out their own purely commercial representatives to Japan they would find the hand of every merchant already resident here against them, but what English manufacturers can and most emphatically should do, what they have on previous occasions been repeatedly advised to do, is to keep on the spot experts in the principal classes of machinery whose technical knowledge is sufficient to enable them at any time to furnish merchants with the fullest specifications for all kinds of machinery that may be in demand from time to time. That is so will be evident from the methods in which this class of business is conducted in Japan, which is usually by tender.

The periods specified as those within which tenders will be received are usually limited to one fortnight from the date of publication of the notice inviting them, though in some special cases, where the requirements are of an exceptionally novel or intricate nature, they are extended to six weeks. It is here that the service and advice of qualified experts on the spot would be invaluable to the tendering merchants. At present, where the period allowed is only the usual fortnight, the latter is obliged to telegraph the full specifications to England at great expense and no inconsiderable risk of misunderstanding and to obtain prices in the same way. Even when the longer period is allowed and full specifications can be sent by post to England, prices must still be obtained only by telegraph. Most of this would be avoided if an expert in Japan could give the prices at once. By being present he might also be able to acquire a much more exact idea of what is required than can be gained by study of the formal specifications, and if attentive and watchful, he would also in many instances be able even to anticipate the issue of the public notices.

In the two respects of observance of time and adherence of mathematical strictness to the precise terms of the contract, all Japanese Government departments are exacting to the utmost degree. No excuses for delay are admitted, except strikes at the seat of manufacture and *force majeure*—in either case attested by incontrovertible evidence—and fines varying from one-fifth to one-tenth per cent. per diem are rigorously enforced for any delay in the execution of the contract. And as to adherence to the precise terms of the contracts, every clause of the latter is read by the Government examining experts in its most literal sense. No discretion is exercised by them in the interpretation of their instructions, and a standard of excellence and exactness is insisted upon such as is neither expected nor demanded in any other country of the world. The smallest deviation in measurement or quality the slightest injury, though it be such as could in no way possibly impair the efficiency of the article, though only detected by a very searching examination, is at once made the grounds either for a total rejection or for a substantial abatement on the contract price.

Strong illustrations have very recently been afforded of the excessive strictness of the examining experts on behalf of its purchasers in the case of a large import of cast-iron pipes, both from Belgium and Scotland, which is no taking place for the municipal waterworks for the city of Tokyo. Every individual pipe is carefully examined both inside and outside, and on the observance of the slightest surface hole, even though of no greater size than a large pin head, the pipe is at once marked as unfit for acceptance, unless at reduced

price. So searching is this examination that it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that the exactitude properly expected in a watch case is demanded in the surface of a large iron casting. "The result," said a suffering Japanese contractor, "of our long training in high art. We have been accustomed for 300 years past to absolute flawlessness in artistic works, and our young tyros, fresh from theoretical training in the University, with little or no practical experience, cannot be made to understand that the perfection naturally looked for in a work of art is impossible in mere utilitarian work." Each pipe is then weighed and measured, lengthwise, both internally and externally, its thickness tested at four places, and finally tested by hydraulic pressure. All this is proper and fair enough if the results were construed with any approach to reason. But the ultimate object of the pipes is entirely overlooked, and infinitesimal deviations from the strictest term of the specification, to which not a moment's consideration would be given by examiners with more practical experience, are at once fatal. Out of 2,500 tons of these pipes recently imported from Belgium, over 1,000 tons have been set apart either for entire rejection or for acceptance only at a reduction, and out of 600 tons from the most celebrated manufacturers in Scotland, imported by and at the risk of the principal Japanese importing merchant in Tokyo, over 150 tons have been similarly dealt with on grounds so trifling, considering the ultimate object of the pipes, as to be absolutely frivolous. In the face of the decision of the examiners, the importer is entirely without remedy or resource. Their terms must be accepted, and pipes finally rejected are left on the importer's hands, perhaps to be sold by him only as old iron. In another instance, 450 tons out of 700 tons of galvanised iron telegraph wire, imported from Germany, were rejected because they had become very slightly oxidised in places when on board ship, and in another again a further quantity of telegraph wire was rejected because its diameter was found to be 3-1,000th of an inch too large.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF IMPORTS TO JAPAN—1895-94.

	1895.	1894.
Tons.	Tons.	
Cotton, raw.....	92,352	2,585,635
Cotton manu- factures	—	1,447,368
Wool, raw	1,684	118,432
Woolen manu- factures	—	1,210,893
Metals	—	1,074,886
Machinery, &c.	—	1,197,574
Drugs and che- micals	—	170,871
Dyes	—	154,410
Sugar.....	—	—
Brown	66,593	441,375
White	76,112	828,302
Total	—	1,269,678
Grand Total—Imports, 1895	£13,525,710	
Imports, 1894	12,681,222	
Increase	£845,488	

NOTE.—Sterling values in the above table have been converted from Japanese silver currency at the rates of 2s. 2d. to the \$1 for imports from Asiatic countries, so far as they can be discriminated, other than British India, and 2s. 2d. to the \$1 for those from British India and all other countries in 1895, the corresponding rates for 1894 being 2s. 1½d. and 2s. and 2s. 2½d.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EXPORTS FROM JAPAN—1895-94.

	1895.	1894.
Agricultural products	£7,657,867	£6,302,674
Manufactured products.....	4,029,473	2,915,860
Marine products	402,988	391,260
Mining products	1,467,388	1,281,300
Miscellaneous	1,066,309	909,248
Grand Total.—Exports 1895	£14,624,925	
1894	11,301,342	
Increase	£3,323,583	

NOTE.—Sterling values in the above table have been converted from Japanese silver currency at the rate of 2s. 2d. to the \$1 for 1895, the rate of 1894 being 2s. 1½d.—London & China Express.

CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR NAGASAKI.

Mr. Quin, in his Report on the Trade and Navigation of Nagasaki for the year 1895, writes as follows:—

The foreign trade of Nagasaki for the year 1895

amounted to a total of £1,140,639, which is an increase over the year 1894 of £187,163, thus far carrying out the opinion expressed in last year's report that a permanent improvement in trade might be looked forward to.

The improvement is in both imports and exports, the former having increased by £101,788, and the latter by £85,381. The increase in imports, though general, is mainly due to heavier importations of metals, coals, kerosene oil, cotton, and the cost of three steamers sold; and in exports, to coals, flour, drugs, cotton, and tobacco.

COTTON MANUFACTURES show an increase of £3,221 over the import of 1894, but, as in former years, hardly deserve mention.

The trade in COTTON PIECE-GOODS between Nagasaki and Korea, which started during the war, and which promised to be a large and steady business, has almost entirely ceased shortly after the war finished, the trade reverting to the Chinese merchants, and Japanese are reported to hold very heavy stocks which they are unable to sell; in several cases these have been shipped back to Shanghai for re-sale at considerable loss to owners. It seems very doubtful if Japanese merchants will ever be able to do much in Korea, the native seemingly preferring to deal with their old friends the Chinese.

Owing to the death of the Queen of Korea, many orders which the Japanese merchants expected to do well in had to be cancelled, as white, the colour of mourning, is now the only colour that can be worn. Considerable indents had been placed for coloured cambrics, balzarines, &c., but these are also thrown back on the hands of the Japanese merchants, who have held them in bond for a long time. Doubtless, if the country became quiet an increased demand would take place.

METALS.—There has been a good demand through the year for steel and iron plates and bars, tin-plates, wire nails, pig-iron, wire-rope, bamboo steel, light steel rails, &c., and these articles continue to be imported direct from Europe, instead of from Shanghai and Osaka as formerly. Native dealers will now order well ahead and carry stocks, instead of depending on hand-to-mouth supplies. The import in 1895 amounted to £50,522, and in 1894 to £30,882, showing an increase for 1895 of £19,640.

SUGAR.—The trade in sugars for the year under review is rather in excess of that of the previous year, although prices ruled lower. White sugar opened at \$8.50 per picul (133½ lbs.) to \$8.60, and advanced steadily to \$9.15, which was touched in September. Yellow grades ranged from \$5.90 to \$7.30, and Manila brown from \$3.75 up to \$4.70. Owing to the high rates of exchange ruling between this port and Shanghai, very considerable quantities of sugar were imported from the latter place, which tended to keep prices below what they ought to have been.

The figures for white sugar in 1895 were 14,003,192 lbs., valued at £76,130, against 11,379,701 lbs. valued at £68,998 in 1894, being an increase of 2,623,491 lbs., and £7,132 in 1895. In brown sugars the import was 9,058,084 lbs., valued at £30,921, against 5,314,365 lbs., valued at £21,069, in 1894.

Imports of KEROSENE OIL are in excess of 1894, being about 470,000 cases, of 10 gallons each, of American oil in four sailing ships and two steamers, and 10,000 cases of Russian oil by steamer from Hongkong, in addition to about 1,116,000 gallons of bulk oil from Batoum in three tank steamers. Deliveries for consumption during the year amounted to 379,172 cases of American oil, and about 1,350,000 gallons of Russian oil, being about 12 per cent. more of the former, and 50 per cent. more of the latter than in 1894. These figures include a quantity of both kinds re-exported to Korea in bond, and do not therefore correspond with the figures in the tables.

The large increase of deliveries of Russian oil is partly due to the very short supply of American oil held here in the spring of 1895, as during April and May this market was almost bare of stocks and prices which had opened at the beginning of the year at \$1.92 per case of 10 gallons for American, and about \$1.83 for Russian, rose to \$2.75 for American, and \$2.68 for Russian. Fresh arrivals came in June and prices dropped immediately, quotations being at the lowest in October, \$2.26 per case for American, and \$2.2 to \$1.94 for Russian. Prices rose again at the end of the year, being \$2.55 for American, and \$2.40 for Russian. The reported breaking down of the railway and pipes at Batoum kept prices up for some time, but increasing supplies of American oil brought them back to their usual level.

The import of CARDIFF COAL for naval use has increased to a considerable extent. A few years ago the British Navy was the only one to use Cardiff coal in any quantity, but now it is largely used by the American, French, German, Japanese,

and Russian navies. Considerable shipments arrived from Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai, as well as from Cardiff direct, 54,779 tons, valued at £77,354, were imported, as against 27,765 tons, valued at £39,851 in 1894.

DYES and PAINTS were imported to a value of £11,280, an increase of £8,388 over that of the previous year. One item, cobalt, was imported to a value of about £3,500.

PROVISIONS, &c., were imported to a value of £13,503. This item is a considerable one in Nagasaki, owing to the constant presence of a number of foreign men-of-war which visit this harbour. It is very likely that a great many articles consumed do not appear in the customs returns, as they would come under the heading of "Goods in Bond," no customs duty being collected upon stores, &c., for the use of navies.

The import of RAW COTTON for 1895 shows an increase of over 2,500,000 lbs. compared with 1894, and the value was £169,782, as against £128,454 in the previous year. Cotton was imported in the following proportions:—

	1895. Lbs.	1894. Lbs.
China	9,897,733...	7,464,027
India	2,280,092...	1,954,872
America	360,708...	401,912

RICE.—There was a considerable falling-off in imported rice during 1895. Owing to the low prices ruling, and ample supplies of the Japanese article, 3,633 tons, valued at £21,465, were imported, as against 20,957 tons, valued at £103,304, in 1894.

The trade in OIL-CAKE, BONES, &c., was greatly interfered with by the war, as owing to the unsettled state of affairs in the vicinity of Tientsin and Newchwang it was almost impossible to get supplies down to the shipping ports. Moderate quantities came from Chefoo, Shanghai, and Vladivostok, but not sufficient for the requirements, consequently prices advanced considerably.

MACHINERY to the value of £28,928 was imported, comprising large orders from the local ironworks.

Three STEAMERS and two sailing vessels were sold during the year.

EXPORTS.

The export of RICE has decreased in the year 1895; 3,199 tons, valued at £23,431, were exported, in the previous year, 3,993 tons, valued at £28,544.

COALS.—During the year 1895 the export of coal from this port has increased by 50,101 tons, valued at £42,021, the total export being 374,862 tons, valued at £174,809. During several previous years the export of this article has undergone a steady decline.

The prospects of the coal mine at Takashima are improving, a fresh seam having been discovered. There is no fear, therefore, at present of it having to stop work. Further, the new shafts at Hashima (an outlying islet close to Takashima) have reached a good seam of coal at a depth of 525 feet, which enables the owners to look forward to good prospects in the future.

The total output for Takashima last year was—Large coal, 80,787 tons; small coal, 63,966 tons. Total, 144,753 tons; and the sales amounted to 166,078 tons, the difference being taken from accumulated stock.

The figures for the special ports during 1895 were as follows:—Shimonoseki, 390,419 tons; Moji, 376,871 tons; Karatsu, 74,550 tons; Kuchinotsu, 448,747 tons. Total, 1,290,587 tons, being an increase over the export of 1894 of 103,847 tons. The total value of the coals is put at £551,386, and the business during the year was considered fairly remunerative.

The export of FLOUR again shows an increase over the preceding year, but probably figures include much of the re-exported American flour, mentioned in the import tables. The total value exported amounted to £20,415, against £14,777, being an increase in favour of 1895 of £5,638 over the preceding year. The Nagasaki Roller Flour Mill Company exported largely, and most of the produce went to Vladivostok.

TOBACCO appears as an export for the first time for several years 1,589,874 lbs., valued at £12,756, were exported. The leaf was mostly of a low grade, and was not well cured.

RAW COTTON appears as an export to the value of £13,513. This was mostly Chinese cotton which had undergone some preparation, and was then re-exported to Korea and Vladivostok.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels entered in the port of Nagasaki amounted to 827, of 1,261,703 tons, an increase of 114 vessels and 233,896 tons.

The mail steamer lines calling here during 1895 were the Peninsular and Oriental, the Canadian

Pacific Railway Company's steamers, the Messageries Maritimes, the Nord-Deutscher Lloyd Company's steamers, the Pacific Mail Company, and the Occidental and Oriental Company's steamers. In addition to their fortnightly steamers, the Peninsular and Oriental Company have lately placed several cargo boats on the line, which run between England and Yokohama.

British shipping has increased in 1895 by 97 vessels and 194,708 tons. The only other noticeable increase among the foreign shipping is the Norwegian, which is very considerable, having increased from 34 vessels of 22,590 tons to 83 vessels of 67,333 tons.

There is a considerable falling off in Japanese shipping, but that, as was explained in last year's report, was due to the steamers being requisitioned by the Government on account of the war with China.

KUCHINOTSU.—The shipping for the port of Kuchinotsu, shows also an increase both in shipping and tonnage, of 29 vessels and 68,250 tons. Under the British flag there were 80 ships of 149,294 tons; the total of all nationalities being 181 vessels of 273,509 tons.

MOJI AND SHIMONOSEKI.—The returns for Moji and Shimonoseki for 1895 show a decrease of 22 in the number of vessels, but an increase in the total tonnage of 21,134 tons. Altogether 614 vessels entered, of 785,639 tons, of which 299 vessels of 552,082 tons were British.

The total shipping for the three ports in this consular district comes to 1,622 vessels of 2,320,851 tons, being an increase of 121 vessels and 323,251 tons in 1895. British shipping is represented by 722 vessels of 1,389,983 tons, the next in importance being Germany with 289 vessels of 247,251 tons, and Norwegian shipping with 172 vessels of 176,712 tons.

KARATSU.—Shipping entered in the port of Karatsu shows a total of 35 vessels with a tonnage of 47,265 tons, of these 19 were British of 34,575 tons, 8 German of 7,431 tons, 6 Spanish of 3,780 tons, 1 Norwegian, and 1 Russian.

LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

DOCKYARD SLIP AND ENGINE WORKS.—The report of last year gave a general idea of the progress of the works, and a full outline of the projected improvements and additions, since which the new machinery is being gradually fitted. The work on the second dock of 371 feet in length is being vigorously pushed forward, and it will be opened in November of this year, if not earlier, as the stone enfacement is rapidly progressing. The ship-yard section has in hand a vessel of 3,000 tons, which is already in frame, another of 1,800 tons is being got ready, and plates have been ordered for a third vessel of over 7,000 tons. In addition to the above, two pontoons are being built, one for the new dock here, and one for the Yokohama dock. All, or almost all, the materials for these undertakings come from Great Britain.

The supply of workmen is limited, but taking that into consideration, the shipbuilding interests of the port are being fairly well attended to, and go far to justify the remarks of the chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Company and of the Mutual line of steamers, who were speaking in connection with the shipbuilders' strike in Belfast—viz., that vessels eventually could and would be built in Japan.

The works were very fully employed during 1895, as the following figures of ships docked or repaired will testify:—

	Tons.
Foreign war-vessels	82 ... 290,476
Foreign merchant vessels ...	80 ... 157,612
Japanese war vessels	89 ... 150,866
Japanese merchant vessels...	118 ... 210,651

COTTON SPINNING MILLS.—The working power of the spinning-mill at Milke, which up to last year had 10,000 spindles, was increased to 20,000 spindles during the latter half of the year. Work was continuous night and day throughout the year, and the capital of \$600,000 is to be raised to \$1,000,000. The cotton-mill outside Nagasaki, as in former years, has been repeatedly closed, and has done very little work.

During 1895 the ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY purchased more powerful machinery, and built new premises in the middle of the town. Their former site was too far off, and the lighting power was not strong enough.

PORCELAIN-WORKS which existed in the district of Sonogi, not far from Nagasaki, were closed during the war with China, but on the restoration of peace they were re-opened on a more extended scale, and a good business is done with China in the cheaper kinds of household pottery.

The extension of the Kiushiu Railway has not yet been commenced in the Nagasaki prefecture. Surveys were, however, made during 1895.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The improved condition of foreign trade at this port which began in 1894, has continued during 1895, and there is at present no sign of a relapse.

The return of a large number of Chinese since the restoration of peace, has also resuscitated Japanese trade, and the general result has been satisfactory. In 1895 the rice and other crops were better, owing to less drought, and prices having risen owing to the war, farmers realised a good profit. The fishing industry has also shown a marked improvement over the previous year.

Large sums have been expended on opening up new, and improving former roads, so as to make them available for wheeled traffic.

The reservoir at the Waterworks, only completed a few years ago, is apparently insufficient for the demand, as both in 1894 and again in 1895 the supply of water ran short, owing to a long drought, and for some months was partially and for several weeks was entirely cut off during the autumn.

In November last there was an orange exhibition held which has given an impetus to orange growers. Oranges to the value of nearly \$8,000 were exported, mostly to Vladivostok. Last year, also for the first time, some \$5,000 worth of persimmons were exported to the same place, with, it is said, favourable results.

CENSUS.—The population of Nagasaki on Dec. 31 last was 79,801, but as mentioned in former reports, only 39,974 registered as inhabitants.

A great impetus to Nagasaki trade is likely to be given by the favourable position this port holds in proximity to Formosa. Several Japanese steam lines are already started, and it is possible that the tea, camphor, and sugar of Formosa may soon all be sent here for transhipment, instead of to Amoy as formerly.—*London and China Express.*

HOW THE CREW OF THE "ILTIS" DIED.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* publishes, from an official source, the following account of the loss of the *Ilitis* :—

The *Ilitis* left Cheloo at 4 a.m. on the 23rd of July, the barometer rising and the wind being E., of strength 2. The day before there had been a light E. wind and calm, and there was nothing to be feared from the appearance of the barometer, which was normal. The sky was cloudy, and there was slight rain. The *Ilitis* passed Weihaiwei, steaming and sailing, at noon, and at about 5 o'clock in the afternoon the northern point of the Shantung Promontory was rounded. Meanwhile, the wind had freshened and blew from the S.E. with nearly the strength of 7, so that storm-sails were set. From here the gun-boat took a course parallel to the coast, which was kept in sight. At 10 o'clock the watch off-duty were called on deck to assist in furling the sails, and they then went below. The ship laboured heavily, but not more than on former similar occasions. There were heavy rain squalls and the wind increased, but the engines worked well, and had given the ship an average speed of 7 knots an hour since leaving Cheloo. After the sails had been furled the ship went slow, and about half an hour later there was a severe shock. It was then found that the vessel was hard and fast on a rock. Owing to the darkness the closeness of the land had not been detected. She at once began to leak and the engine-room and stoke-hole were quickly flooded. All the members of the crew were aroused and took their stations. As far as could be ascertained, the ship had been carried by an extraordinary current to the N.W. upon a small rock which rose a little to the south of Flat Rocky Point, near the point of Sankao Bay, about 9 nautical miles north of the S.E. Promontory lighthouse. The heavy sea now threw the vessel against the sharp edges of the rock, and her plates were gradually stove in. The majority of the crew gathered aft, where Commander Lieutenant-Captain Braun, and the officer of the watch, Lieutenant Prasse, were standing on the bridge. Rockets were sent up in the hope of attracting assistance, but it soon became evident no human aid was possible. Heavy seas washed over the vessel which began to break up. At the moment of greatest danger the Captain gathered the doomed crew together and called upon them to give three cheers for the Emperor. In this way did the brave sailors take farewell of life, and showed their fidelity to the oath they had taken. The ship then broke in two, forward of the stoke-hole. The masts went overboard, breaking to pieces the officers' bridge and rails. Most of the men and officers were on the after part of the ship, and at this moment Gunner Raehm asked them to join in singing

the *Flagged*. The whole crew did so. The last verse of the hymn is :—

Und treibt des wilden Sturms Gewalt
Uns an ein Felsenriff,
Gleichviel in welcherlei Gestalt
Gefahr droht unserm Schiff;
Wir wanken und wir weichen nicht,
Wir thun nach Seemanns Brauch,
Getreu erfüll'n wir unsre Pflicht
Auch bis zum letzten Hauch,
Und rufen freudig sterbend aus,
Getreu bis in den Tod;
Der Kaiser und die Flagge hoch!
Die Flagge schwarz, weiss, roth!

Which may be freely translated :—

And should the might of wild, wild storms
On to a reef us drive,
And dangers menace—'t matters not
From where—our ship and life;
Our posts we never will desert
And sailor-like and true
Until the last breath goes from us
We will our duty do.
And, joyful dying then we shout
United true in death—
"The Kaiser and our standard Hoch!"
The flag black, white, and red!"

As the men sang, their voices were drowned in the howling of the storm. The after part of the ship then commenced to heel over, and finally carried everything into the depths. Only two men who had been on it managed to reach the shore. The forward portion turned on the side, with the keel towards the shore, and a few men were able to cling to it. Whilst an attempt was being made to construct a raft, the next day, one of the men was washed off, but he managed to reach the shore. The others remained on board for thirty-six hours without any food, when, the sea having abated, a Chinese boat came to their assistance and took them off. The inhabitants of the village, named Chuentao, behaved very kindly to the shipwrecked men, providing them with clothing and food. An English missionary, who happened to be there attended to those men who had been injured, and the keeper of the lighthouse at the S.E. Promontory, named Schilp, came and took back with him his distressed countrymen, at the same time despatching a courier overland to Cheloo with the news of the disaster. The intelligence reached Cheloo on the 28th and caused profound grief.

The *Arcona* and *Cormoran* at once departed for the scene of the wreck, and took the survivors on board. The mortal remains of those who lost their lives in the disaster have been buried close to the lighthouse on the S.E. Promontory. The following is a list of the saved :—

Boatswain's Mate Mostöhrer.
Boatswain's Yeoman Meyfarth.
Sick-bay attendant Olbrück.
Ship's Writer Westbuck.
First Class Seaman Priebe.
First Class Seaman Rabe.
First Class Seaman Kuhl.
First Class Seaman Voigt.
Seaman Haback.
Seaman Keil.
Seaman Zimmerling.
Fireman Langenberg.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, August 25.

South African advices announce that Mr. Cecil Rhodes has arranged terms of surrender with eight of the most important Matabele chiefs in the Matoppos Hills.

The Hon. C. Coventry, who was sentenced to five months imprisonment for the raid into the Transvaal, has been released, owing to ill-health.

General Gossler has been appointed Prussian Minister of War in room of General Broussart von Schellendorf resigned.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, August 22.

Her Majesty's ships *Grafton* and *Pique* arrived here yesterday, and H.I.J.M.S. *Musashi Kan* has left this for Nemuro.

Hakodate, August 24.

Her Majesty's ship *Humber* arrived here yesterday.

The German war-vessels *Kaiser*, *Irene*, and *Princess Wilhelm* arrived here yesterday.

Her Majesty's ships *Centurion*, *Grafton*, *Undaunted*, *Immortalité*, *Narcissus*, *Spartan*, *Pique*, *Rainbow*, *Eolus*, and *Alacrity* will leave here to-day for a northern cruise.

Hakodate, August 26.

Fire broke out at the western end of this town last night, and as a gale of wind was blowing at the time the flames rapidly involved street after street until between two and three thousand houses and their contents were entirely destroyed.

Her Majesty's ships *Humber* and *Pique* left this yesterday for Otaru.

Hakodate, August 27.

It has been ascertained that the destruction by yesterday's fire included 2,265 houses, the Chinese Consulate, four temples, and one theatre. Two men were burnt to death.

Kobe, August 27.

Mr. A. Brock, of Messrs. Popp & Co., shot himself to-day. Death took place at 10.30.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams, supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, August 22.

Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Chief Justice of England, addressing a meeting of the Law Congress now assembled at Saratoga, N.Y., warmly advocated arbitration of a large majority of international questions. The address of the Lord Chief Justice was undoubtedly prompted by a desire to promote amity between Great Britain and the United States.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17

" " " " New York..... 4.86½

(Tel. trans.)

London, August 24.

Reuter's Agency learns that Li Hung-chang has made Russia no concession. The ex-Viceroy has favoured the junction of railways between the Amur and Manchuria, but no convention has been signed and no port has been ceded to Russia. It has been further ascertained that Russia is favourable to a revision of the tariff in China, and that Germany awaits Great Britain's action thereon, whilst France awaits the opinion of her Minister at Peking.

The *Times* states that Lord Salisbury has informed Li Hung-chang that he favoured the principle of an increase of the tariff but must consult with the Chambers of Commerce at Shanghai and elsewhere before consenting.

London, August 26.

The Sultan of Zanzibar is dead. Said Kalid has proclaimed himself Sultan and has seized and barricaded the Palace, having with him seven hundred armed men. H.M.S.'s *Philomel*, *Thrush*, and *Sparrow* have landed men and are awaiting orders. Trouble is feared.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Aug. 21.

The Porte has informed the various Embassies that unless the landing of Greek volunteers and munitions of war in Crete is stopped, the relations between Turkey and Greece will be severely strained.

The Athens papers state that Bashi-Bazouks in uniform have massacred sixty Christians, most of whom were women and children, at Kozani in Macedonia.

Pekin, August 21.

There is no truth in the report that Wu Ting-fang (Ng Choy) has been appointed Chinese Minister to the United States, etc.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

Cheloo, August 17.

The Russians are now engaged in building on Fergusson's foreshore (the disputed piece of ground), and the British Consul threatens Fergusson's representative if he takes any steps to prevent this gross infringement on British rights.

(FROM THE "COURRIER D'HAI PHONG.")

Paris, July 30.

The Russian loan was covered twenty-five times in France.

An explosion has taken place at the Town Hall of Fuenkirchen in Hungary, in a store-room of explosives; there were several persons killed and a hundred wounded.

August 1.

It is well accredited that the Czar will come to France in September.

August 2.
Li Hung-chang has been to visit M. Faure, and then left for England.
Admiral Tyrtoff has been appointed Russian Minister of Marine.

August 3.
M. Faure has left Havre on a visit to Brittany.

August 4.
Prince d'Arenberg has been elected President of the Suez Canal Company.

The Tongking Commission has adjourned its meetings until October; only four subjects are left for examination.

M. Faure has arrived at St. Malo, and been heartily received.

M. Faure has arrived at Brest with the squadron, and has been heartily received.

Revolutionary troubles have broken out near Valentia, in Spain.

(FROM THE "COMERCIO.")

Madrid, August 7.
The German Emperor, William II., is suffering from a disease of the throat of the same character as that which proved fatal to his father, the Emperor Frederic.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Otsu, August 26.
H.I.H. Prince Komatsu has arrived at the Hakkei-kwan. T.I.H. Prince Yamashina, Princess-Dowager Arisugawa, and Princess Murakumo are expected to arrive shortly.

Kyoto, August 26.
Marquis Yamagata has made a second call upon Count Matsukata.

Akita, August 26.
Governor Hirayama has gone to Tokyo to report upon the conditions prevailing in the Prefectural Assembly.

Niigata, August 26.
At an extraordinary meeting of the Prefectural Assembly it was unanimously resolved to ask assistance of the Treasury towards providing funds to repair the damages occasioned by the late floods. It was also resolved that a committee should proceed to Tokyo with the plans and designs of the proposed restoration work, and submit them to the Home Minister. The Assembly also resolved that the land tax should be remitted on devastated lands, but as this was beyond the competence of the Assembly to decide the sitting was adjourned at the instance of the Secretary.

Kagoshima, August 26.
The *Tenryu Kan* arrived from Formosa yesterday.

Mayebashi, August 26.
Dysentery is increasing more and more. A strict quarantine cordon will be maintained from to-morrow.

Otsu, Aug. 27.
T.I.H. Prince Yamashina and Prince Murakumoni left for Kyoto last night by the 8 o'clock train. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu left here by the 6.47 a.m. train for Nagoya to-day.

Hiroshima, Aug. 27.
Governor Orita has gone up to Tokyo. Dysentery is spreading, and an epidemic hospital will be opened.

Bakan, Aug. 27.
The *Pamiat Azova*, the Russian cruiser, is reported to have grounded on a sunken rock near the entrance to Vladivostock.

Söul, Aug. 27.
More arrests have been made in the capital, the latest of importance being that of Gen Yöng-un.

Nagasaki, Aug. 27.
The French Consul for Tientsin left here by the French cruiser *Alger* to-day.

Kagawa, Ken, August 27.
The following is a report of the damage done in this Ken by the storm of the 18th inst.:—Houses entirely wrecked 1,198; embankments ruined (length) 57,218 yards; fatalities 71; boats wrecked 111; damage to arable land, 121 *cho*.

Tsu, August 27.
The national meeting of tea merchants will take place here on and from the 5th of Oct. Viscount Enomoto, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Maeya Masana are expected here.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

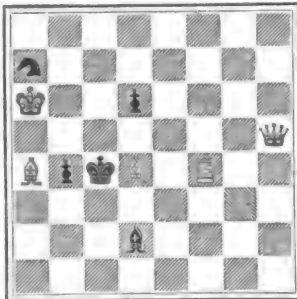
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 243.

WHITE.
1—Kt to Kt 8
2—Q to B 7, mate
2—Q takes R, mate
2—Q to B 3, mate
2—R to B 6, mate
2—R to K 8, mate.
Correct answers from W.D.C., J.D., W.d.H., E.J.K., and Omega.
E.J.K.—Glad to see your handwriting once more. Chess without a King is no game at all.

PROBLEM NO. 245.

By J. POSPISIL.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

Steinitz was 60 years old in May last, and he celebrated his birthday in London by playing dominoes with Lasker.—*Illustrated S. & D. News*.

GAME NO. 552.

WHITE.
E. Creswell.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to Kt 5
4—Castles
5—P to Q 4
6—Q to K 2
7—B takes Kt
8—P takes P
9—P to Q Kt 3
10—R to Q sq.
11—B to Kt 2
12—Q Kt to Q 2
13—Kt to K 4
14—P to Q B 4
15—P takes P e.p.
16—Kt to R 4
17—Kt to Kt 3
18—Kt (Kt 3) to B 5
19—Q to R 5
20—Q takes Q
21—P takes P
22—R takes P
23—R to Q 2
24—Q R to Q sq.
25—Kt to Q 6
26—R takes B
27—R to K sq.
28—P to K B 4
29—R takes R
30—R to Q 5 (b)
31—B to R 3
32—P takes P
33—R to Q 8
34—R takes R
35—P to K B 5
36—P to Q B 5
37—Kt to B 3
38—Kt to Q 4
39—K to B 2
40—B to Kt 4
41—P to B 6 and White wins (c).

(a) P to Q 4 was now imperative, and this is the real secret of the last game which ensues.
(b) The obvious move R to Q 8 wins another pawn.
(c) The game was prolonged to 80 moves, and the ending was well played.

CHESS AT NEWCASTLE.

The following interesting game was played a few weeks ago at the Art Gallery Chess Club, Newcastle, between Mr. Hawks, chess editor of the *Newcastle Courant*, and a London player.

GAME NO. 553.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

WHITE.
H. W. Hawks.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—B to B 4
5—P to K 3
6—P to Q R 3
7—P takes B
8—Q to B 2
9—Kt to K 2
10—P to B 3
11—Kt to Kt 3
12—P to K R 4
13—B to Q 3
14—K to B 2
15—K R to Q Kt sq.
16—P takes Q P (d)
17—P takes K P
18—Q to Kt 2
19—B takes P
20—B takes P
21—B to Kt 6 ch.
22—Kt to B 5 ch.
23—P to K 7 ch.
24—B to Q 4
25—Q to R 2
26—R takes Kt
27—Q takes B ch.
28—Q takes Q ch.
29—B takes Kt
30—B to B 7

BLACK.
Mr. Mayer.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5 (a)
5—P to B 3 (b)
6—B takes Kt ch.
7—Q to R 4
8—Kt to K 5 (c)
9—P to K B 4
10—Kt to B 3
11—P to R 4
12—Kt to R 3
13—B to Q 2
14—P to B 4
15—R to Q B sq.
16—B P takes P (e)
17—B to R 5
18—Kt to B 4
19—P takes P ch.
20—Kt to Kt 6
21—K to K 2
22—Kt to B sq. (f)
23—K to Kt sq.
24—Q to B 2 (g)
25—Kt to R sq.
26—B takes R
27—Q to B 5
28—R takes Q
29—K to R 2
30—Resigns.

(a) 4..... R to K 5 is a better move. The pinning of White's Q Kt is no disadvantage to White in this opening.
(b) Loss of time. P to Q B 4 should be played in close games.
(c) Premature. The Kt has subsequently to retreat with loss of time.
(d) White boldly lays himself open to the attack which his opponent is preparing for him. The move is hazardous, but enlivens the game.
(e) We prefer 16..... Kt takes P, though even then White has a good enough game.
(f) If 22..... K takes P; 23—Kt to Q 4 ch., Kt takes Kt; 24—B takes Kt, and White's position would be very superior.
(g) 24..... Q to Q 4 was best. If 24..... Kt takes B or R; 25—Q takes Kt P.

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS.

Mr. G. B. Fraser, Dundee, has been compiling for private circulation a collection of fine games played by correspondence. The selection and annotation of the games has occupied much of his time for several years. We give two samples.

GAME NO. 554.

KING'S KNIGHT OPENING.

WHITE.
G. W. Farrow.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to B 4
4—Kt to Q B 3
5—Castles
6—P takes P
7—R to K sq.
8—P to Q 4
9—B to K B 4
10—P to Q 5
11—R to Q Kt sq.
12—P to Q Kt 4
13—Kt to Q Kt 5
14—Q to Q 3
15—Q takes B
16—B to K B sq.
17—P to B 4
18—Kt takes B P
19—B to Q B sq.
20—R to K 4
21—K R to Q Kt 4
22—Q to K 3
23—P to Q R 4
24—P to R 5
25—B to Q Kt 5 (f)
26—Kt to K 4
27—B to Q 7 (g)
28—Q takes Kt
29—K takes P ch.
30—B takes R
31—B takes Q ch.
32—R to R sq.
33—B to Q 2
34—K to B sq.
35—P to Kt 3
36—K to Kt 2
37—R to Q B sq.
38—R to Q sq.
39—R to Kt sq. ch.
40—B to B 3
41—B takes R
42—Kt to B 6

BLACK.
G. B. Fraser.
1—P to K 4
2—Q to K 2 (a)
3—P to Q 3
4—P to Q B 3
5—P to K B 4 (b)
6—B takes P
7—Q Kt to Q 2
8—B to K Kt 5
9—Castles
10—P to Q B 4
11—Kt to K B 3
12—P to K R 3
13—K to Kt sq. (c)
14—B takes Kt
15—Kt to Kt 3
16—P takes Q Kt P
17—P takes P e.p.
18—R to Q B sq. (d)
19—K Kt to Q 2 (e)
20—Kt to Q B 4
21—Q to K B 3
22—P to Kt 4
23—R to R 2
24—Kt to R sq.
25—Kt to B 2
26—Q to B 2
27—Kt takes Q P
28—P takes Q
29—K to R sq.
30—Q takes R
31—R takes B
32—R to Kt 4
33—K to Kt 2
34—K to B 3
35—P to Q R 3
36—R to Q Kt 6
37—K to Q 6
38—R to Q 6
39—Kt to Kt 5
40—R to Q 5 (h)
41—K P takes B
42—K takes R P

43—K to Kt 4
44—P to B 5
45—B to Q B 4
46—P to Q R 4
47—P to R 5
48—P to Q B 6
49—P to Q R 6
50—K takes Kt
51—P to Q R 7

(a) Black gets into trouble by addition of this somewhat bizarre defence.

(b) N to K K t is better worthy of consideration here.

(c) White's attack now seems irresistible.

(d) Threatening to win a piece by R takes K t followed by K K t takes P .

(e) Black instead of the text move could apparently take off K t with R and then capture Q P , trusting to his strong centre.

(f) The game is uncommonly lively at this juncture, and will well repay study.

(g) A capital prelude to what follows.

(h) Played with due deliberation. If captured, the united Pawns will carry the day. The whole of the ending is very fine.

STBINITZ GAMBIT.

BLACK.
T. G. Hart.
1-P to K 4
2-P takes P
3-Q to Q 5 ch.
4-P to R 4
5-B to Kt 5 ch.
6-Kt to Q R 3
7-Kt takes Q 3 (h)
8-Kt to Q 5 (c)
9-Kt to Q sq.
10-Kt takes QBP ch.
11-K takes R
12-P to K Kt 4
13-Kt to K 2
14-B to Kt 2
15-Kt to B 3.
16-B takes Kt
17-K to B sq.
18-P to K B 3
19-Kt takes P
20-P takes B
21-K to Q 2
22-K takes P
23-K to B 4
24-P to Kt 5
25-P takes P.
26-R to Q sq.
27-Kt to Kt 6 (f)
28-P to Kt 3
29-R to Q 2
30-K to Q 2
31-K to K 3
32-K takes R
33-K to Q 3
34-P to Q R 3
King resigns (g).

(a) Nearly all the examples of this opening throughout the volume give rise to instructive and lively play.

(b) Black might, perhaps, more advantageously retreat Q to R 3, the reply to which would be K to Q sq.

(c) This does not turn out so well as it promises.

(d) Preserving the central Pawn, and unpinning the Kt K at same time.

(e) An excellent continuation, by which he rescues the imprisoned Kt at expense of a Pawn.

(f) Making the most of the compulsory sacrifice.

(g) The whole of this game has been conducted with considerable ingenuity and accuracy on both sides.

GAME No. 556.

BLACK.
 C. Schlechter.
 —P to K 3
 —Kt to K B 3
 —P to B 4
 —P to Q 4
 —Q to R 4 ch.
 —Kt to K 5
 —P takes P
 —B to B 4
 —B takes P ch.
 —P to Q 5
 —K to K 2
 —P takes Kt
 —Kt to Q 2
 —Q takes Kt P
 —O to Q 4 ch.
 —B to K 6 ch.
 —Kt to B 7

(a) Herr English's opening—quite sound but as this game shows, it leaves a weak point at Q R 5 if the Kt P be abandoned.
(b) ♞-P to Q B 5 would have been infinitely preferable.
(c) ♞e4 and worse. White might have threatened immed. ately after this move.
(d) In vain hope to save the pawn.
(e) Nothing would have been gained by refusing the offer, for if ♞-Q to B 4, R to Q sq, threatening to win the Queen by Kt to R 4 ch.
(f) Black mates in three moves.

Mr. Steinitz recently, in New York, played

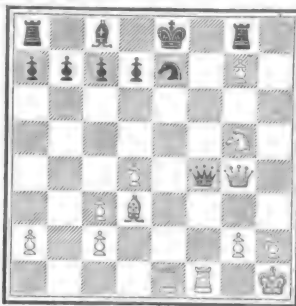
GAMB No. 557

VIENNA GAME.

BLACK.
Amateur.

1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q Kt 5 (a)
4—B takes Kt
5—Kt takes P
6—Kt to Kt 4
7—P to K R 3
8—P takes B
9—P to K B 3
10—Q to K 2
11—Kt to Q B 3
12—Q to K 6 ch.
13—Q to B 5
14—Kt to K Kt sq.
15—K to K 2
16—Q takes it ch.
17—R takes P

(b) An amusing position. If Black play Q takes Q, 17-B to Kt 6 ch, followed by 18-R to B 8 ch and mate next move. See the diagram below;—



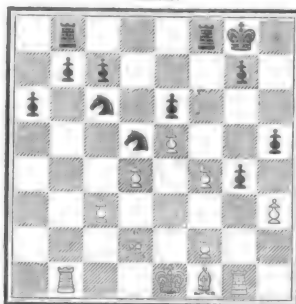
FOUR MASTER'S PLAY.

GAMB No. 558.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

BLACK.
Schiffner and
Tschigorin.
-P to Q 4
-Kt to Q B 3 (d)
-B to Kt 5 (c)
-B takes Kt (d)
-Q takes P
-P to K 3 (f)
-B to Kt 5
-B takes Kt
-K Kt to K 2
-Q to K R 4
-R to Q Kt sq.
-Castles
-P to K B 4
-Q to R 5
-P to Q R 3 (k)
-Kt to Q 4
-Q to R 6
-Q to Kt 5
-P takes Q
-P to K R 4

BLACK.



21—Kt takes K B P
22—P to R 5
23—Kt to K 2

24—Kt (K 2) to Kt 3
25—R takes B
26—P to Kt 3
27—Kt to K 2
28—Q R to K B sq.
29—Kt to Q 4
30—Q R to B 4
31—P takes B
32—R takes Kt P
33—R to Kt 7
34—R (B 5) takes B P
35—K to R 2
36—K to Kt 3
37—K to B 3
38—R takes R
39—R to Q B 7
40—K to K 2
41—K to Q sq.
42—K to B sq.
43—K to Q sq.
44—R takes R P
45—K to K 2
46—R to R 2
47—P to B 4

(a) Up to and inclusive of Black's ninth move, this game, with a slight variation in the colors, is identical to the game in the 1957-58 season.

(b) Black's primary aim being clearly seen to be the attacking advance of the K P two squares at once instead of one, the efforts of the White allies are directed to baffle that object. The text move is more restrictive than 3—Kt to Q B 3, which might, after Q P takes P, admit of the advance to the fourth square.

(d) 4....., Q takes P; 5—Kt to R 3, Q to K R 4, followed by

(e) Doubtless more advantageous than the follows: 5—K takes Kt, B takes B P; 6—Kt to B 3, Kt to B 3; P to B 3, P to K 3; 8—P to K 4, Q to Q a.

(f) Playing the Pawn two squares would now only leave it in the way, or else, by exchanging it off, give White still a better centre.

(k) The Lasker-Tschigorin game diverges here as follows: 10—R to Kt sq., Q to K R 4; 11—Q to Kt 3, Kt to Q sq.; 12—Q to Kt 5 ch. The move of the present game is seemingly an improvement, leading to the occupation of Q Kt file with the Rook. In any case, White's game with

(h) This must evidently force a weakness in the enemy's ram. parts, as it would never do to allow the K to cross over to K Kt s.

(k) They afterward lose this Pawn at an awkward moment. The move, however, is not a careless one; the design seeming

(1) As indicated above, $\text{Kt} \rightarrow \text{Q} 4$ to $\text{B} \text{sq}$ would be met by $\text{P} \rightarrow \text{Q} 4$.

Kt 4. White is quite willing to exchange the doubled BP for K P f7..... Kt takes K B P; 18-B takes Kt, Q takes B; 19-B takes P ch, K to R sq; 20-B to Q 5, Kt to K 2; 21-B to Kt 2 and should win).

(n) Playing with good analysis and confidence. White now wins a Pawn prettily enough.

◆

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per F. M. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 3rd.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Monday, Aug. 31st.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Sept. 14th.
From Hongkong	per F. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 5th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 7th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wed'day, Sept. 9th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 10th.

* *Peter* left San Francisco on August 17th. † *Hohenzollern* left Hongkong on August 26th. ‡ *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 26th.

per O. R. & N. Co. Satur
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1

For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 30th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 30th.
For Europe, via Hong- kong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 4th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 5th.
For Europe, via Shang- hai	per M. & M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 6th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 7th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. F. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 8th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Sept. 13th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 15th.

ARRIVALS.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 22nd August.—Nagasaki 20th August, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 22nd August.—Hongkong via ports, 14th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 23rd August.—Hongkong via ports, 16th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Aubert, 23rd August.—Marseilles 10th July, Hongkong 15th August, Shanghai 10th, and Kobe 22nd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Pronto, Norwegian steamer, Carl Muller, 24th August.—Antwerp, General.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, J. D. la Lande, 24th August.—Kobe 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kirkhill, British steamer, 2,347, T. B. Watson, 24th August.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 24th August.—Otaru via ports, 20th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 25th August.—Portland, Or., 25th July, Victoria, B.C., 29th, and Honolulu 11th August, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, N. Trennt, 25th August.—Kobe 24th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 1,961, Rebbel-mund, 26th August.—Antwerp via ports, Kobe 25th August, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Andelana, British ship, 2,395, John Gillis, 26th August.—New York 29th April, 99,120 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Cromarty, British steamer, 1,789, W. Duncan, 27th August.—Glasgow via ports, 18th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 27th August.—San Francisco 8th August, via Honolulu 15th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Germania, German steamer, 1,714, Bendixen, 27th August.—Swatow, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, P. Cottier, 27th August.—Kobe 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 27th August.—Otaru via ports, 23rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,668, Ward, 27th August.—Hongkong, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,622, Fouck, 26th August.—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong 23rd August, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Shanghai, British steamer, 1,672, J. Cowie, 27th August.—London via ports, 27th July, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 28th August.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 27th August, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Opack, British steamer, 2,517, Sommers, 28th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 27th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 28th August.—Shanghai via ports, 22nd August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikhi, British steamer, 1,158, Newcome, 28th August.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 27th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 28th August.—Kobe 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hupoh, British steamer, 1,847, T. Quail, 22nd August.—Vancouver, B.C., General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 22nd August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alger (10), French cruiser, Captain Boutel, 23rd August.—Nagasaki.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Byers, 23rd August.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 23rd August.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, A. Nishimura, 23rd August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, J. McKenzie, 23rd August.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaijio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 24th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bombay, British steamer, 2,047, R. J. Sleeman, 24th August.—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 24th August.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Allen, 25th August.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Lok Sang, British steamer, 979, W. G. G. Leask, 25th August.—Shanghai, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 25th August.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 25th August.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yorktown (6), U.S. gunboat, Commander C. H. Stockton, 25th August.—Nagasaki.

William F. Rotch, American ship, 1,664, Sewall Lancaster, 26th August.—Hongkong, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, J. de la Lande, 26th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenfalloch, British steamer, 1,410, Pithie, 26th August.—Nagasaki via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 27th August.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, N. Trennt, 27th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 27th August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 27th August.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,488, Madsen, 28th August.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Pronto, Norwegian steamer, 1,360, Carl Muller, 28th August.—Vladivostok, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathness, British steamer, 1,987, Wm. Durdin, 28th August.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Kirkhill, British steamer, 2,347, T. B. Watson, 28th August.—Mororan, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 29th August.—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, Darke, 29th August.—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lowe, Mr. A. Wise, Mrs. J. Esdale, Mr. Marshall, Mr. D. Loring, and Mr. A. Getley in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Adolf Zikel, Baron de Batz, Mrs. Thornton and amah, Mr. Robt. Shewan, and Mr. E. T. Bethell in cabin; 9 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco:—Mrs. C. Mertens, Jun., in cabin; Mr. J. H. Harrison in European steerage, and 219 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Von Roskowsky, Mr. and Mrs. Ishii and 2 infants, Mr. Katayama, Capt. Versterne, Lieut. MacIntosh, Mr. Harry Mocecky, Mr. and Mrs. Richter and infant, Mrs. Pailles and boy, Mr. Pailles, Mr. Charrin, Mr. Ray, Miss Ray, Lieut. Dominique and servant, Mr. Keemkman, Mr. and Mrs. Rickman, 2 infants and amah, Mr. Polo, and Mrs. and Miss Hellyer in cabin.

Per British steamer *Mount Lebanon*, from Portland, Or., via ports:—Dr. H. Johnson and Mr. Hochaffel in cabin; 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. C. Read, Mr. Geo. Hooper, Mr. J. Berrick, Mr. A. Howe, Mr. H. H. Horsey, Mrs. H. H. Horsey, Mr. John Stemme, Mrs. John Stemme, Mr. H. D. Humphrey, Mr. John Boag, Mr. S. Kondo, Mr. H. Richardson, Mrs. H. Richardson, Mrs. Welchman, Mr. Scott D. Wilson, Mr. Anson P. Stokes, and Mr. F. C. Stockwell in cabin; Mr. S. Goherman, Mrs. S. Goherman, and Mr. R. Ramsey in European steerage, and 238 Japanese in steerage. For Nagasaki:—3 Chinese in steerage. For Hongkong:—Mrs. A. Connor and 3 children, Dr. W. R. Scroggs, Mrs. Scroggs, Mr. Ho, Major H. A. Bartlett, Mrs. H. A. Bartlett, Rev. C. R. Callender, Mrs. Callender, Mrs. A. Clark, and Mr. Chung in cabin; 60 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Shanghai*, from Shanghai:—Mrs. Wilson and 3 children in cabin. From Kobe:—Mr. R. Toovey, Mr. Brushfield, and Mr. Casinally in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. T. Brown, Mr. C. Manuel, Mr. C. S. Kroogloff, Mr. G. J. Toorityu, Rev. G. H. Bondfield, Mr. Yeu, Mrs. and Miss Cameron, Master Cameron, Mr. Fred. Hellyer, Miss M. C. Bonger, Mr. J. Liddell, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. Lu Ken Sing, Mr. Wm. T. Payne, Mrs. Wada and 2 children, Mr. T. Atsumi, Mr. R. E. Wright, Mr. E. W. Wright, Mr. W. H. Stone, and Dr. C. Macanley in cabin; Mrs. Mino and child, Mr. U. Takagi, Mr. J. Takagi, Mr. Tsune, Mr. Soyeshima, Mr. T. Okubo, Mr. Y. Kunikiyo, Mr. Muneyoshi, and Mr. Hagiwara in second class, and 43 Japanese, one European, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. Pereira, Mrs. Pereira and children, Mr. Bard, Mrs. Bard, 4 children and 2 amahs, Mr. Carl, Colonel Hermann, Messrs. W. W. Boag, J. L. Tensen, N. E. Pilley, J. W. Paxton, Higoutsi, J. Tobias, J. Gonzalez, A. E. Knights, Mrs. Knights, Miss Knights, Rev. A. Hudson, Mrs. Hudson, 2 children and 2 amahs, Dr. Blanc, Messrs. Luigi Fossenti, John Nottley, Mrs. Espeisse, Rev. C. N. Caldwell, Mrs. C. N. Caldwell and 3 children, Rev. Th. Gibson, Mr. S. Lyons, Mr. R. C. Tayasiyuo, Rev. W. H. Musson, Mr. A. W. Schellhass, Mr. E. Izawa, Mr. Bache, Mrs. Bache, Mr. Grimaud, Mr. Ferand, Lieut. Goudreau, Lieut. Thomine, Messrs. A. Seux, T. Kano, Saroldis, A. Crossley, Fernand Bounet, H. Furuya, Costesque, Caroff, Adolphe, and P. H. Cruickshank in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. E. J. Marshall, W. G. Macvicar, W. T. Payne, M. Yamamoto, R. N. Gray, D. W. Louing, and V. R. Bowden in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Kuro-sawa, Messrs. T. Yeto, S. Asada, S. Jissoji, S. Ishiura, T. Shirahama, and N. Kawamura in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Mr. R. Kondo, Lieut. General Kurogi, and Mr. I. Hamada in cabin; Mr. S. Adachi in second class. For Nagasaki:—Major M. Nagamine in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. M. Nyman, Mr. J. Smith, Mrs. Petersen, Mrs. Reid and children, Miss Georgie Stewart, Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. P. H. Bernays, and Mr. Emil Ehndörning in cabin; Mr. T. Matsumura in second class, and 77 passengers in steerage in all for ports.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Lieut. W. Evans, U.S.A., Surgeon P. Wasserfall, Mrs. S. Mertens, Jun., Mr. J. H. Robertson, Mr. G. J. Bradbury, Mr. Michel Gontharet, Mr. L. Grimmesey, Mr. Adolf Zikel, Mr. Chas. B. Hart, and Mr. Harry M. Hart in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$1,000.00.

Per British steamer *Hupoh*, for Vancouver, B.C.:

	TEA.				TOTAL PACK- AGES.
	CANADA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	
Foochow	773	1,118	2,593	—	4,484
Amoy	6,589	917	275	1,473	9,246
Higo	1,835	1,322	—	—	3,157
Yokohama	5,878	—	360	72	6,310
Total	15,075	3,357	3,219	1,545	23,196

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 322 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 50 bales.

Per British steamer *Evandale*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	
Higo	—	2,464	359	—	2,823
Yokohama	1,211	3,033	2,495	57	6,796
Total	1,211	5,497	2,854	57	9,619

Tea 14 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement \$11 Gold per ton.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	ODDEN.	
Shanghai	819	356	303	—	1,478
Higo	403	—	—	—	403
Yokohama	4,527	554	—	485	5,566
Hongkong	176	—	—	—	176
Amoy	13	6,417	2,002	—	9,332
Total	5,938	7,327	3,205	485	17,523

Vokohama 93

Total 93

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Rinder, reports:—Left San Francisco the 8th August and Honolulu the 15th. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th August at 2.52 p.m. Passage from San Francisco, 18 days, 4 hours, 4 minutes; from Honolulu, 11 days and 45 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 22nd August at 10.30 a.m.; had light to moderate south-easterly winds and fine, clear weather up to arrival at Nagasaki the 24th at 1.50 a.m., after half-hour's delay at Quarantine Station. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5.10 p.m.; had fresh to moderate N.W. and N.E. winds and continued clear weather up to arrival at Moji the 25th at 5.30 a.m. Left Moji at 11.40 a.m.; had light variable airs and calms with clear weather though whole of Inland sea. After 20 minutes' delay at Wada-misaki Quarantine Station, arrived at Kobe the 26th at

7 a.m. Left Kobe the 27th at 12 to 3 p.m.; had light south-westerly winds and clear weather; on passing Oshima at 8.10 p.m., experienced very strong south-easterly swell, which continued until approaching Omiasaki with wind veering to north-westward accompanied with clear weather; passed Rock Island the 28th at 9.35 a.m.; thence to arrival at Yokohama at 3.20 p.m., after the usual Quarantine delay, had moderate to light north-easterly winds and fine, clear weather. Saw nothing of importance during the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is a better tone in the market, but not much business done as yet. Buyers are on the *qui vive*, but holders are wary, higher prices at home and a low exchange here being the causes which produce these effects.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PICH.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$3.40 to 3.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.20
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 39 inches	PER YARD.
	0.15 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PICH.
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.62 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	70.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heel	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.34 1/2
Common	
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.25
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.10 to 0.20
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICH.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$36.50 to 37.50
Nos. 28/32, Singles	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	48.00 to 50.00
Nos. 2/50, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	81.00 to 85.00
Nos. 2/50, Gassed	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

Better feeling, but sales are small as yet.

	PER PICH.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.62 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Not much selling done, but holders are firm, in spite of the stock being increased by further arrivals.

American	\$2.15 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.20
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Dull at unchanged prices. Formosa—Nothing doing. White—More demand and prices firm.

	PER PICH.
Brown Takao	\$3.85 to 3.90
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daiteng (New)	3.35 to 3.40
Brown Canton	3.25 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 6.90
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

More doing at quotations, but yet the trade is anything but large. Most of the purchases made are for Europe, the New York market remaining demoralised. Latest news from Shanghai reports current market there, the Chinese merchants selling freely at old rates, and not strangling their market by absurd pretensions. Stock here is over 13,000 piculs, and arrivals plentiful.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$800
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	750
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	770 to 780

Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	715 to 725
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	740 to 760
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	710 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	680 to 700
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/18 deniers	—
Kakedas—Kvira	700
Kakedas—No. 1	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 11	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

A few sample parcels have been settled, but there is no general business as yet. Stock on hand about 8,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Moderate daily business at quotations. Arrivals plentiful and stock ample.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$24 to \$35
Choice	23 to 23
Finest	20 to 21
Fine	18 to 19
Good Medium	16 to 17
Medium	14 to 15
Good Common	12 to 13
Common	—

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 26th.
Hongkong wires the following quotations:—
Hongkong Banks 185 per cent. Sellers; Hongkong Lands \$75 Sales; China Fires \$95 Sellers; H. & W. Docks 183 per cent. premium ex dividend Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$55.50 Sellers; Douglas \$66.50 Buyers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$35

Sales; Panjom Mines \$15 Sales; Raub Mines \$5.40 Steady; Balmoral Mines \$2.50 Sellers; National Banks \$28 Sellers; Indo-Chinas \$53 Sales; Straits \$27 Sellers; Unions \$232.50 Sellers, and China Traders \$80.50 Sales.

Brett & Co. Shares have changed hands to-day at \$7.50 and \$7.75. We quote these at \$7.75 Steady. Grand Hotels and Club Hotels continue on offer at \$170 and \$75 respectively. Iron Works can be had at \$105 and Oriental Hotels at \$140. Club Hotel and Japan Brewery debentures are wanted at \$110.

August 27th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report that the market for stocks generally is somewhat excited, and that rates are rising and falling as shares are being wanted or offering. Indo-Chinas and H. & K. Wharfs have both suffered a decline, the former being quoted at \$40, at which rate shares were secured for local investors and the latter at \$54. Wharfs, however, have buyers at \$53.50.

No change in local stocks. Japan Breweries are enquired for. Club Hotel and Brewery Debentures are wanted at \$110.

EXCHANGE.

Fluctuations have been the principal feature in exchange rates during the week, but these have not been of a violent character.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2 to 1 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/2 to 1 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2 to 1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2 to 1 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/2 to 1 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	1.67 1/2 to 1.68
— Private 4 months' sight	2.7 1/2 to 2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 p.
— Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	182 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	185
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.20
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/2

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taries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist to
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YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1896.

月三年五十二治明
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 5TH, 1896.

BIRTH.

On Sunday, 30th August, at Nagasaki, the wife of Mr. W. K. WILSON, of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SOME amusing water-sports were held in Yokohama on Thursday.

DYSENTERY is spreading in Mayebashi and many towns of central Japan.

THE United States has recognised the annexation of Madagascar by France.

COUNT MUTSU, on the advice of Dr. Baelz, will take a voyage to Singapore.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG has arrived at New York where he was given a splendid reception.

THE opening of the regularly monthly line of steamships between Japan and Australia by the

Nippon Yusen Kaisha will take place on the 3rd proximo by the departure hence of the *Yamashiro Maru*.

GENERAL SIR F. CARRINGTON reports that owing to their recent reverses the Matabele are inclining to peace.

DURING the storm of the 31st August several railway accidents occurred through trains being blown off the lines.

THE amount of unpaid taxes in Kyoto-fu during 1895 was yen 12,846,323, the number of delinquents being 354.

PRINCE LOBANOFF, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, died suddenly whilst returning to Kieff from Vienna with the Czar and Czarina.

LI HUNG CHANG decorated General Gordon's statue in Trafalgar Square and the cenotaph in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, each with a superb wreath.

THE railway bridge connecting Mombasa, East Africa, with the mainland has been opened, and the line progresses at the rate of a half a mile per day.

T.I.M. THE EMPEROR and Empress have graciously contributed yen 2,300 for the relief of sufferers by the conflagration in Hakodate on the 26th ult.

SHIPBUILDING Regulations have been compiled by the Department of Communications. They have been approved by the Cabinet and will shortly be promulgated.

THE exorbitant rise in house and ground rents in Osaka of late has caused much misery to indigent tenants. The increase in rents is some fifteen to twenty per cent.

THE Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo has written, under date the 28th ult., informing the War Office that Colonel N. de Yanjour has been appointed military *attaché* to the Legation in Tokyo.

THE Palace at Zanzibar has been bombarded and reduced to ruins, and Said Kalid has fled. Hamoud, a cousin of the late Sultan, has been placed on the throne.

A MR. WEBB, second engineer in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha service, committed suicide from Yokohama pier on the Saturday last during a fit of temporary insanity.

THE Russian Press condemns German attacks on Lord Salisbury for declining to blockade Crete, which would prove futile, unless applied equally against Turks and Christians.

THE amount of cotton yarn produced in the month of May was 1,747,294 *kwamme*; yarn sold amounted to 1,928,845 *kwamme*; the average price realised was yen 92.47 per bale.

Kobe and Hyogo suffered severely by the storm of Sunday last, the Minatogawa bursting its banks and flooding the town. Many women and children were drowned as they lay asleep.

A DESTRUCTIVE earthquake that occurred shortly after five o'clock on Monday afternoon has done a great deal of damage in Akita Prefecture, many places being ruined and several lives lost.

STORMS and floods have again devastated various parts of Japan this week. The Tokaido railway has been damaged in many parts, and for three days nearly all the telegraph lines to the south and west were down.

TWELVE banks in Tokyo and Yokohama have started a credit investigation agency similar to

institutions of the same kind in London. The business of the agency is to furnish information as to the financial position of intending clients to the various banks.

CAPTAIN MCEURN, R.N., for many years Capt.-Superintendent of Police in Shanghai, and formerly in the Colonial Service at Hongkong, died at the Royal Naval Hospital on Sunday last and was buried in Yokohama Cemetery on Monday evening.

In the village of Sugawara-mura Nasugori, Tochigi Prefecture, an extensive deposit of iron ore, extending over an area of 60,000,000 *tsubo*, has been discovered. The land has been rented to Mr. Okawachi of the Tadzuna Coal Mining Company.

ALL the Ministers of State, with the exception of Viscount Enomoto, sent in their resignations last Sunday, but only Marquis Ito's, Count Itagaki's, and Viscount Watanabe's were accepted. His Majesty asking the other Ministers to remain in office.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND is sending several cruisers to Turkey. The Embassies at Constantinople are drafting a Note to the Porte pointing to the recent massacre of five thousand Armenians as being organized with the connivance of the authorities. The excitement is subsiding.

It is said that owing to the Hakodate fire the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company has had to pay yen 35,000 on policies, the Meiji Insurance Co., yen 10,890, the Meikyo Fire Insurance Company, yen 10,100, and the Central Fire Insurance Company, yen 8,450.

A BAND of Armenians, numbering about forty, have seized the Ottoman Bank at Constantinople, killing the guards. Simultaneously with the seizure of the Bank, rioting broke out in other quarters of the city, many persons being killed and the shops sacked. H.M.S. *Dryad* has left Therapia for the city and the French and Italian guardships are to follow.

THE Import trade is much about the same as last reported. Buyers of Yarns and Shirtings shy at the price demanded by holders, and consequently but little has been done. Fancy Cottons are well held, the principal business being in Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns. In the Woollen trade fair quantities of Italian Cloth have been moved, and a small demand has been made for Blankets. The Metal market remains dull, and what business has been put through was retail in extent. The Sugar trade continues fairly brisk. A dash at Browns has been made, and better prices paid for Takao sorts, but the demand was soon satisfied. White sorts have improved in value, and Refined has been taken in large parcels at late rates. There has been business done in Silk, and buyers, with orders on hand, were prepared to go on, but, directly a demand showed up, holders clapped on the price, and that stopped further transactions. Stock continues to arrive, and the Silk on this market totals 14,000 piculs, while the export to date is 2,000 piculs against 15,000 last year. Holders may be right, but the 31st of December next will decide this point. Similar conditions exist in the Waste Silk trade, the business being insufficient to make trustworthy quotations. There is a moderate business in Tea, and prices are fairly firm. Third crop leaf is now expected, but the second crop was poor enough in quality to satisfy all requirements for the low grade article. From July 1st to date present export is 30,000 piculs behind that of last year. Exchange has remained without alteration, partly due to lack of communications in consequence of the wires being down.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

As might be expected, the attention of the press has been absorbed by the question of the Cabinet crisis. Leader after leader has appeared in almost every paper of importance, producing a sense of satiety. The numerous articles published by the vernacular press may for convenience be divided into three kinds, namely, those dealing with the causes that have brought about the present crisis, those referring to the pertinence or otherwise of the resignation of Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki, and those prognosticating the nature of the coming Cabinet.

The *Nichi Nichi* avers that the cause of Marquis Ito's resignation was due to a want of unanimity among his colleagues, with no immediate prospect of reconciliation, and that his resignation was attributable to various circumstances that operated from within and not from without. The *Nichi Nichi* is entirely opposed to those who hold that failure to successfully manage the diplomatic and financial affairs of the Empire is the trouble at the bottom of the present ministerial changes, and writes at length to prove that the Empire's diplomatic and financial affairs were being dealt with as they ought to be. In regard to diplomacy and finance, the Ito Cabinet may not improperly be considered as having far excelled any of its predecessors.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* is more outspoken on this point. "The Ito Cabinet," it says, "has undoubtedly been overthrown by the so-called statesmen of meritorious services. It is also a fact that the *Genkun* are the personification of clan principles. It follows, therefore, that the Cabinet has been overthrown by clan influence." Whether Counts Matsukata and Okuma, now almost universally supposed to be about to enter the new Cabinet, will satisfy a certain section of the public, is merely conjectural. But what the *Tokyo Shimbun* can not regard without deep regret is the probability that the last Cabinet, which had advanced a step towards the consummation of party Government, may be succeeded by one professing to ignore party influence. This would be a retrogression in the matter of constitutional government.

The *Mainichi* attributes the fall of the Ito Cabinet to failure in post-bellum measures, and declares that inability to successfully deal with the national finance in the sequel of the war and unpopularity incidental to sudden additions to the burdens of the people without attaining any success in the various post-bellum measures, are contributory causes. Loud voices were suddenly heard at this embarrassing juncture urging the Cabinet to admit Counts Matsukata and Okuma into its circle, and this afforded a good opportunity to Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki to escape from the difficult situation in which they found themselves.

The *Kokumin* observes that, though the present fall of Marquis Ito was in part due to a blow which the clique of Satsuma statesmen dealt to his Cabinet from within, the real causes should be sought in the general tendency of affairs in the Far East, the derangement of finance, the force of public opinion, and the necessity to have statesmen of real power and ability in the Cabinet. The Satsuma clique merely utilised these four causes to serve their purposes.

The *Nippon* gives what it considers a home-thrust to Marquis Ito in connection with his resignation. It criticises it as a womanish resignation. The question, it says, whether or not to admit Counts Matsukata and Okuma into the Cabinet lay in a nutshell. It was simply this: either admit Count Okuma or retain Count Itagaki; yet Marquis Ito had neither the courage nor the sense of responsibility to determine upon either course. Moreover, the question had no direct bearing upon great affairs of State. A resignation resulting from such a trivial cause

can not avoid being called womanish. Nor is this journal satisfied with the method of Marquis Ito's resignation. His leaving Tokyo while a new Cabinet had not yet been formed is considered by it an act entirely opposed to precedents observed in a constitutional country.

The *Chuo* says that the resignation of the ex-Premier was due to the want of stability of his Cabinet, while that defect was traceable to his want of resolute determination. The resignation of Count Itagaki and of Baron Ito is regarded in a different light by the *Nippon*, which observes that if, as it is generally believed, the Count and the Baron tendered their resignations in consequence of their opposition to the entry of Count Okuma having been overruled, their present proceedings are more or less rational.

The *Fiji* also speaks in favourable terms of the action of the Liberals and their leader, Count Itagaki, in connection with the present affair. After predicting that the time will come sooner or later when the Liberals will be enabled to direct the affairs of State and to carry out more satisfactorily their long-chenshed ideas and principles, the *Fiji* observes that the present failure of the Liberals was not their fault. They have simply stumbled in their eager advance on the route marked out by them. Viewed from the standpoint of the characteristic features of political parties, the present fall of the Liberals is rather a honourable fall, and one they need not be ashamed of.

As to the composition of the future Cabinet and the policy to be adopted by it, the *Kokumin* makes very copious observations. It hopes that all the other *Genkun*, with the exception of Counts Inouye, Matsukata, and Okuma, will retire from active political life with honour and glory. The trio retain their ambitious aspirations and possess capacity to contribute something to the welfare of the country. All other posts should be filled by new statesmen of acknowledged ability. At present the public are more inclined to repose credit in the real worth of men than in their prestige. Consequently a Cabinet composed of younger statesmen with more intrinsic ability will command greater confidence from the people.

The *Nippon* points to Korea and its ceaseless Cabinet changes and trouble, as an object lesson in organizing the future Cabinet of Japan. The cause of the notorious instability of the Korean Cabinet is too apparent to require elucidation. In a similar way there is a standing trouble for the Japanese Government, namely, the presence of senior statesmen, called *Genkun*. So long as room is left for non-political influence in Japan's politics, and so long as there remains a corner where the authority and power of the Constitution does not extend, it is futile to expect any great things from the Japanese Cabinet, though it may undergo changes ever so many times. The labour of a Hercules is needed to cleanse the Augean stable of Japanese politics.

The resignation of Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki, observes the *Mainichi*, must have been actuated by the desire to allow unrestrained freedom to their successors; therefore if Counts Matsukata and Okuma are to assume seats in the coming Cabinet, they must do so with a firm resolution to carry out their programme thoroughly. Moreover, what the succeeding Ministry must keep uppermost in their mind is the absolute necessity of cordial union among themselves. They must not be merely concerned to collect together the so-called statesmen of meritorious service. The time for that is past.

The *Nichi Nichi* also is desirous of seeing the coming Cabinet organized from among men holding similarity of views and policy; otherwise its stability will be defective. In this context, the same paper and the *Tokyo Shimbun*, especially the latter, entertain doubts whether

Counts Matsukata and Okuma can run in harness together. The avowal of Count Matsukata that he does not take into consideration political parties in directing the affairs of State, will come into collision with the views of the other, who is the acknowledged leader of the *Kaishin-to*. The *Tokyo Shimbun* strongly doubts where Count Matsukata can shake himself free from private considerations and previous connections, as he told the representative of the *Fiji* at Kyoto, and whether Count Okuma too, can succeed in effecting a radical change in the Japanese Cabinet. The ex-Finance Minister (Matsukata) seems to have forgotten that it is by the aid of the ladders of private consideration and previous connections—ladders furnished by Marquises Saigo and Oyama and Count Kuroda and Viscount Takashima—that he is now enjoying such an eminent position in Japanese politics. By "radical change" Count Okuma must mean the extinction of clannism and the establishment of responsible cabinets. If the Count really means to effect such changes, he is sure to quarrel with Count Matsukata, with whom his name is now always associated. The Count of Waseda must remember how the *Genkun* statesmen are still wielding powerful influence over the Government and how any change that comes over a Cabinet is generally the result of compromise among those statesmen. The fact must be still fresh in his memory, for it is through the instrumentality of the *Genkun* that the Ito Cabinet has been overthrown, which event has opened to him a path leading to the Cabinet. And yet he is audacious enough to declare that clannism and private considerations must be abolished.

The *Nichi Nichi*, commenting on the future, of the Liberals and the *Shimpo-to*, observes that, judging from the recent actions of the former they appear to have passed the stage of sanguine views and impracticable ideas, and may now be considered as approaching the stage of prudence and discretion. Consequently, though they have once more resumed their former position of opposition, they will not indulge in any irresponsible talk or obstructive action. Now, supposing that Count Okuma enters the Cabinet with the full support—though this is hardly possible—of the *Shimpo-to*, can they carry into practice the policy they have announced throughout the country? Nothing is more impossible. The result will be that the *Shimpo-to* will incur the odium of being a party without any sense of responsibility. The present resignation of Marquis Ito will therefore serve as an occasion to test the true worth of political parties. As to the question what attitude the Marquis will assume in future, the same paper says that the Marquis will never attack or obstruct the Cabinet. He will for a while lead a quiet life. When, however, any emergency of State creates a necessity for his reappearance upon the political stage, he will not hesitate, according to the belief of the *Nichi Nichi*, to resume public life.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CLEARING UP A BURGLARY.

THE mystery that has so long enshrouded the burglary that took place at Messrs. Dodwell, Carill's office at No. 50, when the safe was broken into and \$1,000 abstracted, has at last been cleared up. From what we can gather from the police, a man named Eddey, who has since cleared out of Japan as a stowaway on the British ship *Henriette*, broke into the office and stole part of the contents of the safe. He had previously arranged with Allen—the man who was sentenced to two years' hard labour in the U.S. gaol, for breaking into Mr. A. H. Dare's house on the Bluff—that he (Allen) should get away with the "swag." To this Allen agreed, and on the night in question, having received the money, he took train for Tokyo. A Japanese pickpocket was in the same train, and, awaiting an opportunity, relieved Allen of his ill-gotten wealth. Allen then returned to Yokohama, and on arriving gave notice of the pocket-picking, and the police arrested the

culprit in Shidzuoka, with the thousand dollars still in his possession, so quickly had retribution followed on his steps. Meanwhile, Allen had come back to Yokohama, broken into Mr. Dare's house, been arrested, tried, and sentenced. The police were all this time endeavouring to find the man who had complained of the loss of \$1,000 on the Kobe train, but for a while their efforts met with baffling disappointment. But slowly the issues were narrowed, the man who broke into Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill's safe was traced up to the time he cleared out on the *Henriette*, while his companions were singled out one by one. Narrower and narrower became the trail, and at last Allen's complicity in the affair—as receiver, or “fence”—was beyond doubt. By a voluntary confession he cleared up matters on Friday, but no prosecution will follow, as he has two years' hard labour to serve, and will then have to remain in gaol for a further term, that is until he has paid the fine of \$200 that was a part of his sentence.

ELECTRIC TRAMWAY TO MIYANOSHITA.

THE promoters of the electric tramway to Miyanoshta are, we hear, meeting with considerable difficulty, as the labouring population thereabouts—the coolies, *jinrikisha*-pullers, and *kago*-bearers—see in the tram a menace to their already more than scanty income. Arrangements will, however, be concluded by which the road will be brought in order. It is now announced that work will be begun and completed before May of next year. The trolleys are to run from Kozu, following the older horse tramway, to Odawara and Yumoto: thence to Miyanoshta. As there could hardly be a more unpleasant road, in places, than that between Miyanoshta and Yumoto, the Company should make a success out of their undertaking. For two pullers, the charge to foreigners from Yumoto to Miyanoshta is now a minimum of one *yen*, or 50 *sen* per man. The promoters of the new road, however, are confident that a maximum of 25 *sen* for first-class fares will amply repay them, 10 *sen* being the lowest charge for third-class passengers. With the great amount of passenger-traffic between the two termini, it is quite possible that this idea is justified.

WINTER AND SPRING.

THE Japanese are not fond of overgreat disparity in the ages of newly-wedded couples. Ten to eleven years is the limit of decency, in popular opinion, and it is the groom who should be the elder of the two. A provincial contemporary, however, with a good deal of sarcastic humour, cites a recent instance where the husband was 63 and the wife barely 17—younger than her *fiancé's* youngest daughter. The bridegroom recently lost his first wife. The bride, O Kuni, described as being very attractive, was led to give a reluctant consent by means of golden argument.

MAJOR WAUGH.

THE *China Gazette* of August 28th, contains the following paragraph, that will be read with pleasure by many of our readers:—It may interest the Kobe and Yokohama papers, which have been writing touching obituary notices apropos of his supposed death, to learn that Major Waugh is alive and flourishing in Shanghai, and has no notion of giving occasion for the shedding of editorial tears over his lonely bier.

THE GALE AT KOBE.

KOBE suffered very severely from the gale of Sunday. The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—The town looks in a sorry condition this morning after yesterday's gale. The settlement is strewn with foliage, there being scarcely a single tree which has escaped injury. On the Hill some very fine trees have been blown down, as well as innumerable fences. Many of the Hill roads have the appearance of river basins, covered with a thick layer of sand, with erratic channels made by the torrent. Ikuta-maye is a good specimen of these roads. Houses have been flooded, drains have burst, and the foundations of many houses have been rendered very insecure. Last night about half-past ten, we are informed, the water was about eight inches deep in the vic-

nity of the Settlement Park. No sea had come over the Bund, as the wind was not blowing in that direction, the water covering the Settlement being rain water from the Hills. An old resident describes yesterday's rainfall as unprecedented. The most serious damage done in Kobe is in the vicinity of the Minatogawa. The river's banks burst this morning about three o'clock, a little north of Fukuwara, and a considerable area is still under water. Several houses were washed down and the people were naturally greatly alarmed as the torrent came upon them. Many people have been drowned and others injured. We learn also that houses have been either washed or blown down at Ono, and near the Waterfall Road. In the latter neighbourhood a match-factory suffered considerable damage, and a report states that one or two persons occupying continuous dwellings were killed by falling *débris* from the match factory.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF FORMOSA.

MR. HURST, the British Consul at Tainan, in Southern Formosa, concludes his latest Trade Report by saying that the Japanese are showing great energy in the development of the internal communications of the island, and during the five months that had passed at the date of the report in March, since they have landed left more marks of their presence on the face of the country than their predecessors effected in as many decades. One of their undertakings was the construction of a Decauville tramway of 20 in. gauge; they were prompted to make it, doubtless, by military considerations; and it has proved very useful for the purpose of forwarding supplies and war materials from the ports to the inland districts. One line of this miniature railway runs from Anping southward, *via* Tainan-fu to Takow, a distance of 35 miles; another runs from Tainan-fu north to Kagee, 50 miles distant, whilst a branch line connects Takow with the prefectural city of Hosan (Pithan), five miles distant. Surveys have been made for a line of rail between Takow and Anping. Scores of miles of good road have been constructed, so that the discomforts of travelling in Formosa bid fair soon to be things of the past.—*Times*.

NIKKO.

THE month of August has been a lovely one at Nikko, which has appeared truly “Kekko.” There have been only a very few really rainy days, of which one or two were Sundays; but all night on the 30th August there was a terrific wind and rain storm, which did some little damage. This was presumably the annual storm of the 20th day (O.C.) of the year. But, in the main, the weather has been delightful—if anything, a little too cool at times. The hotels have been full nearly all the time; but not so many houses have been rented to summer sojourners as in former years. The visitors, whether in hotels or in rented houses, have made the most of the pleasant weather for frequent excursions to beautiful scenes round about Nikko. The people of Nikko have felt especially delighted and honoured this year on account of the presence among them of H.I.H. Prince Haru, for whose entertainment in a suitable manner they made careful preparation in every way. The Crown Prince himself looks much better than when he came.

A STRANGE PROCEEDING.

A FASHIONABLE wedding took place at Singapore the other day at which a remarkable incident occurred, described by the *Straits Times* as follows:—The Governor, with Lady Mitchell, and accompanied by the Aide-de-Camp and Private Secretary, was among the guests present, occupying his usual seat well forward in the church, near the lectern. The service was fully choral, and the bride was received at the entrance to the Cathedral by the clergy and choir. Then, as the organ played “The Voice that breathed o'er Eden,” the procession advanced up the nave, preceded by the cross-bearer carrying the cross. As the cross came level with the Governor's seat, His Excellency started, seized his hat, and rushed out of the

church, resisting Lady Mitchell's efforts to detain him. He was followed by Captain Herbert, A.D.C. Having made his escape, the Governor drove away, and was not again seen at those wedding proceedings. One of the congregation (but, we fear, an irreverent person) says that the manner in which the Governor gazed at the cross, and then fled, recalled the effect produced upon Mr. Irving as *Mephistopheles* when the cross was exhibited on the stage. On Monday the Governor wrote to the Rev. W. H. Dunkerley explaining that there was no personal feeling in the matter, but that he had, individually, a strong objection to the use of the cross in such fashion. He had had an arrangement with Archdeacon Perham, by which he (the Governor) was informed when such ceremonies was to take place, so that he might have the opportunity to stay away. The letter was by no means a letter of apology for withdrawal, but simply an explanation to Mr. Dunkerley of the why and wherefore of His Excellency's leaving the church in such a manner.

THE “GAELIC” DAMAGES.

A VERY brief inspection of the hull of the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* as she now lies in the dock at Tategami, says the Nagasaki paper, would conclusively show, even those with absolutely no knowledge of ship construction, that the damages done to the vessel are far more serious than previously reported. Upon the starboard side, from her bows to a spot under the stokehold the plates are more or less bent and damaged, while in several places they have been smashed in. Upon the port side there is little damage visible with the exception of a few started rivets and an ugly looking dent just beneath the boiler space. Roughly speaking, about 40 plates, 9 frames, and 3 bulkheads will require renewal or repairs, and it may be accepted as settled that the vessel will have to go to Hongkong for these to be executed, after being temporarily patched up here. Altogether, the damage extends from the vessel's bow for about 250 feet aft, and the huge indentations in the plates, on the starboard side especially bear witness to the splendid riveting work done by the builders, Messrs. Harland and Woolf. It appears that at the point at which the impact with the rocks was most severe a number of bags of coffee with heavy general cargo stowed on the top of them acted as a species of buffer, and took off a considerable amount of strain from the frames, otherwise the damage would have probably been much greater. When the vessel first struck, the main-stay, a heavy wire rope, was carried away. The reason for this was not apparent at the time, as the heel of the main-mast was not shifted in any way. It now appears probable that when the keel of the vessel near the boiler space was struck, the jar caused the mast to jerk violently and thus carry away the stay. Just as the *Gaelic* was going into the dock on Friday last she touched the ground towards the south side of the entrance. What caused this we do not know, but we understand that the ship was in the hands of the Captain at the time. Mr. Crowe, Dock-master, had just seen the *Kokura Maru* out and was going on board the *Gaelic* as she grounded. Of course she was soon off again, but had she stuck upon the sill of the dock the probability is that she would have broken her back. The repairs to be executed here are not expected to occupy more than a few days, or a week at most.

A WIFE'S DESPERATE ACT.

WHEN a Japanese reporter, or other journalistic scribe, gets hold of a good, sensational suicide, he is apt to make the most of it; to gloat over details, and impart a touch of pathos that is peculiarly Japanese. As an instance in point, we translate the following from a Tokyo contemporary. The suicide was committed on August 25th:—“Hisako was the wife of Tsuneya Seifuku, now in the employ of the Korean Government. Her husband went to Korea the year before last and was immediately engaged by the local Government. Hisako continued to live in their former dwelling in Azabu. But being young and having no children, she

found this solitary existence most distasteful, and so went to reside with her father, Mr. Tsuneyo Seiyō, the chief factor of Viscount Abe Seiko. In his official capacity the father is a very busy man, his time being taken up with visitors and his employer's business. Here Hisa-ko was of great assistance, waiting on the guests and fulfilling all sorts of domestic duties. But the news reached her of her husband's extravagant life in Seoul, his numerous amours and dissipated conduct. Instead of remitting to his wife, he spent his rather large income in purchasing mistresses and running after every pretty face he met. All memory of his sweet, forsaken wife seemed to have fled; he stayed beyond his time; and reports reached the sorrowing wife that her husband had declared he would never return to Japan. She did not credit all she heard, yet soon drooped into a settled melancholy. Her woman's heart was often startled by the dripping of the rain, as she sat alone in her vacant room at midnight; and she would tremble as a flock of wild geese, flitting across the autumn moon at dead of night, emitted their strangely mournful cry. Ever were her thoughts with the faithless husband, whose inconstancy gave her such bitter regret. This accelerated the progress of her disease, and, from the middle of July, she often wandered in her mind. Greatly anxious about her mental condition, her parents consulted several well-known physicians, but without success. How could they minister to a mind diseased? So her gloom deepened, which her disordered intellect grew daily more pitifully apparent. The end was not far off. At 3 a.m. of August 25th she suddenly awoke, while all the family slept. Creeping noisily through the house and out into the garden, she reached the well—and threw herself in without a word or cry. The next morning every one was disturbed on finding that Hisa-ko had not yet come down. They knocked at her door and searched everywhere for the lost lady. Finally some one suggested the well. A stout rope and hook were let down, and the body was soon discovered and brought up. The grief of the bereaved parents was terrible to behold. Every means of resuscitation was tried; but Hisa-ko's soul had gone to the Elysian fields long hours before. Ah, when the dead lady's husband reads these lines, what will be his grief!

A YOUTHFUL KLEPTOMANIAC.

THE recent performances of a youthful kleptomaniac—as recorded in the columns of the *Miyako Shimbun*—deserve mention as an instance of truly precocious depravity. Young Watanobu Shigeru, now in his thirteenth year, is the son of samurai parents, his father having been until last year, engaged in teaching in Miyagi Prefecture. On the death of his father, Shigeru came up to Tokyo and was taken into the house of a gentleman residing in Kojimachi District. Already while at home he had exhibited thievish propensities, and had often been scolded and argued with, but to no effect. After coming to the Capital, the habit grew on him, and he constantly stayed away from school, wandering through the streets and consorting with questionable youths. He robbed his benefactor and one of his street comrades, and then, having exhausted his funds, broke into one of the factories of the Kōbu Railway Company, where he made off with everything he could carry. This theft was promptly detected, and the culprit summoned before the court. His local guardian and benefactor promised to do what he could with the boy, yet with small hope of his becoming any better. On July 29th, Shigeru took 76 *sen* from his patron's purse, and with this sum went to Oji. Here he stole a workman's lunch-box. Taking the cars he went on to Mayebashi, where he entered a public bath-house and stole several minor sums. With the proceeds he visited a high-class restaurant, and there ate an excellent meal. Going on to Utsunomiya the next day, he soon spent all he had, and sold his clothes in order to beg in the streets. Many charitable people gave him help, and at last a timber-merchant took him to his home, promising him food and clothing. That same night the young rascal stole 2 *yen* from his kind

friend and went to Shiogama by rail, then on to Ishinomaki, his birthplace. On the night of the 8th August, he broke into the dwelling of a judge near his own house and stole 1 *yen* 80 *sen*. The next day, he went to the Ishinomaki Primary School, from which he had formerly graduated, and took 3 *yen* from a drawer in a teacher's desk. He was detected and taken to the police court, where, his other crimes being unknown, he was—in consideration of his age—let off after a severe reprimand and caution. His mother now heard of what had happened, and, in great grief, brought him back to Tokyo on August 14th, where she succeeded in getting his former patron to receive him once more. But the boy was irreclaimable, for the very next night he decamped with the sum of 4 *yen* 60 *sen*. It is now said that despite his extreme youth, he will be given a long term of imprisonment when captured. So far he has succeeded in eluding pursuit.

A PROFITABLE GHOST.

TOKYO has a real ghost at last; so a metropolitan contemporary informs us. For the last week or so the "fox-fire"—as the Japanese called the *ignis fatuus*—has been seen after night-fall on the Tatekawa bank of the Sumida, between Ichome and Nichome of Matsuchō, Honjo District. As the night wears on plaintive cries are heard, and finally, with a low moan, a ghost rises from the dim marge of the river. Rumour has it that this is the disembodied spirit of a lad recently in the employ of a neighbouring silversmith, the boy having fallen in the river and been drowned some time early in August. At all events, true or not, the story has awakened more than local interest, and crowds assemble nightly near the haunted spot, so that it looks as if some festival were going on in the vicinity. This fact, again, has been taken due advantage of by sellers of *tempura* and other edibles, who, by reason of the hunger which ghost-seeing always excites, often clear as much as 3 or 4 *yen* in a single night. These good people declare themselves perfectly happy if the ghost will only continue his, or its, manifestations for another month. Three police-constables have now taken the matter in hand and are endeavouring to trace the origin of the "ghosts," their hard constabulary sense rendering them incredulous of such superhuman displays. But, so far, nothing definite has been discovered, and the ghost walks nightly.

THE SEAL CATCH.

THE *Empress of India* which tied up at the outer wharf, Victoria, recently, had on board the entire catch of the Victoria sealing vessels landed during the season in Japan. The skins, totalling 18,019 are in transit to London, England. The following are the catches reported:—*Allie I. Alger*, 602; *Aurora*, 325; *Annie E. Paint*, 814; *Arletes*, 1,032; *Borealis*, 325; *C. G. Cox*, 1,222; *Director*, 871; *E. B. Marvin*, 836; *Elsie*, 663; *Fortuna*, 477; *F. M. Smith*, 602; *Geneva*, 499; *Ida Elia*, 651; *Mary Taylor*, 261; *Mermaid*, 940; *Otto*, 719; *Ocean Belle*, 561; *Pioneer*, 849; *Sadie Turpel*, 560; *Triumph*, 461; *Teresa*, 231; *Umbria*, 742; *Viva*, 607; *Vera*, 559; *Agnes McDonald*, kept skins on board, spoken June 2nd by *E. B. Marvin*, 430; *Mascot*, did not call at Hakodate, spoken June 12 by *Otto*, 250; *Katharine*, lost June 11 with 208 skins on board. Losses on the Victoria fleet were heavy, including loss of a hunter named N. Morrison and two boat pullers from the *Annie E. Paint* on the 19th; loss of a boat's crew of two men from the *Agnes McDonald* in May. The sealers are now heading for Behring Sea.—*The Province*.

COLLISIONS AT SHANGHAI.

THE steamer *Tientsin* in swinging before going alongside the China Navigation wharf at Pootung, Shanghai, on Thursday afternoon, August 27th, dragged her anchor and fell across the bows of the Siamese barque *Aurora*, carrying away the barque's bowsprit and severely damaging her bows. The *Aurora* made water at the rate of about six inches an hour, and her damages are expected to be over \$1,000, which the *Tientsin*'s owners have offered to pay.

On the evening of the same day a collision occurred off the Point between the *Whangpoo*, which was returning from Woosung with 95 passengers and the mails from the *Saghalien* and the *Samson*. The *Whangpoo*'s engines were going astern when the collision happened and neither vessel had much headway, or the result would, in all probability, have been much more serious. The *Samson* struck the *Whangpoo* on the port bow, breaking the guard, and driving a part of it through the plate. The *Samson* sustained almost similar damage. Considerable alarm was caused among the *Whangpoo*'s passengers, but fortunately no one was hurt.

ACCIDENT IN THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD.

THE following appears in the *San Francisco Chronicle*:—By the breaking away of the caisson of the dry dock on the night of August 8th, one of the most destructive accidents which ever occurred at the Brooklyn Navy Yard was precipitated. The great gate of the dock was lifted from its place and sent whirling over a flood of water that was sweeping into the empty dock. The *Ericsson*, the swiftest and most powerful of torpedo boats, torn from its moorings, was drifting helplessly about, with its broken bow turned deep into the water. The Commandant's barge was already sunk beneath a lumber float; the water was literally a maelstrom of broken timber and bits of wreckage. Without the scene was one of expectant danger. The new monitor *Puritan* had broken three mooring chains in the tremendous suction of water, and was straining at the fourth. The newly commissioned monitor *Terror*, on the opposite side of the basin, had nearly broken away, and the *Atlanta*, in course of extensive repair, was struggling at her dock. The force of the waters was even felt by the *Raleigh*, 400 yards distant. High above the shouts of the officers and men was the terrible roar of the waters. It was like the rumble of an earthquake or the breaking of a dam. The *Ericsson* was badly damaged, and it will cost \$20,000 to put her in trim again.

THE STRIKE OF ENGLISH CRICKETERS.

THE following telegram appears in the Canadian papers relative to the recent strike of English professional cricketers, for higher pay:—London, August 8.—In sporting circles, and to certain degree among the general public, the conflict in the House of Lords almost sinks into insignificance beside the strike of the professional cricketers for higher pay for next Monday's match between the English and Australian players. Lohmann, Abel, Richardson, Gunn, and Hayward asked for £20 instead of the usual £10, and the Surrey Cricket Club, as organizers of the match, took the bull by the horns and engaged other professional players to replace the strikers. The public has been doubly excited by the hurt inflicted upon the national pride in haggling over a question of lucre in connection with the national sport.

DEATH OF MR. C. P. FALCK.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* reports that another of the early settlers in Japan passed away on Thursday in the person of Mr. C. P. Falck, who for the last twelve years or more had been a godown keeper in the employ of Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co. Mr. Falck, who was 57 years of age, had been in Japan about 35 years, residing first at Nagasaki. Latterly he had been suffering from serious lung trouble, and he expired on Thursday afternoon. His funeral took place in Kobe on Friday.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

THE American newspapers are now teeming with a thousand and one details of the lives, homes, attire, manners, disposition, and what not of the two rival Candidates for the Presidency of the United States. We find that the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* has taken pains to give the exact height, weight, and measurements of the two Presidential candidates. These figures show that Mr. Bryan, who is regarded by many people as very boyish in appearance and size, is in reality a powerful man, larger and taller than Mr. McKinley. He exceeds the Republican candidate in everything except girth of waist, Mr. Bryan we are told wears a hat two sizes

larger than Mr. McKinley's, and when brought into comparison with the Major he is shown to be much more stalwart than the Ohioan. The figures are:—William J. Bryan: Height, 5 feet 10½ inches; weight, 200 pounds; chest, 44 inches; waist, 39 inches; hat, 7½; shoes, 9; glove, 8; collar, 17. William McKinley: Height, 5 feet 8½ inches; weight, 185 pounds; chest, 42½ inches; waist, 44 inches; hat, 7½; shoes, 7; glove, 8; collar, 16½.

NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC.

MR. EDWIN W. WINTER, the new President of recently reorganized Northern Pacific Company, is one of the best-known railroad men in the United States. For sixteen years he was one of the leading officials of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Omaha road, which is operated in connection with the Chicago and Northwestern. He went to it in 1879 to become general superintendent of what was then the Chicago, St. Paul, and Minneapolis. In 1881 he was made Assistant President of the road, which position he held until the close of 1885, when he was made general manager, the position he resigned to become President of the Northern Pacific. In 1888 he was made a director of the company, an office he resigned with the general management.

TROUBLE ON THE "J. B. WALKER."

ON Wednesday afternoon Patrick Coonan, boatswain of the ship *J. B. Walker*, went aboard his ship in an intoxicated condition and began to pick quarrels with the men. The Chief Officer after a time ordered the man to be put in irons, and while proceeding to do so another sailor made a rush at him. The Second Mate seeing the position of affairs, rushed up and knocked the sailor down with a belaying pin, inflicting a scalp wound on the fellow's head. Dr. Munro was then called in to patch up the wounded man, who next day appeared little the worse for the adventure.

GENDARMES.

THE new gendarmes are to be taken from the conscript soldiers whose term of service expires in the current year. The Authorities are contemplating the enrolment of 165 men from the Imperial Guards, 165 from the First Division, 160 from the Second, 112 from the Third, 160 from the Fourth, 109 from the Fifth, and 178 from the Sixth; 1,060 in all. The candidates for the gendarmerie may sent in their applications up till the last day of the present month, and they will be examined in the middle of September. These new recruits are not to be sent beyond sea, but are all to be distributed among several stations in Japan proper.

QUEEN WILHELMINA.

THE birthday of Queen Wilhelmina, of the Netherlands, was celebrated in Yokohama on Monday, a good deal of bunting flying from the houses of her subjects now living in this Far Eastern land. In the afternoon Mrs. H. Klengen presented the prizes given by the Dutch residents for competition among the yachts of the Y.S.C., to the winners, the owners of the *Eclair* and *Bonito*. In the evening the Dutch residents of the port sat down to a banquet together at the Club Hotel.

RENAMED SHIPS.

THE *Nagasaki Shipping List* says that the steamer *Bonington*, which has been purchased by Mr. Matsuy, has been renamed the *Kobe Maru*; the *Wing Hong* has been given the name of *Feiko Maru*; while the *Porro* is now known as the *Hatsune Maru* and is, we understand, to be used by the Mitsui Bishi Company for carrying bunker coal to ships.

ONE OF THE PIONEERS.

THE late Mrs. Mackrill Smith, whose death is recorded by the *Daily Press*, was a resident in Hongkong, Shanghai, and Japan for many years, and has often been heard to tell how, when Consul-General Balfour (afterwards Sir George Balfour) was marking off the streets in the foreign settlement at Shanghai, she urged him to abandon his idea of making them wide

enough only for two coolies carrying their burdens to pass each other, and to give width enough for carriages. Her husband was the founder of the *North China Herald*, in August, 1850, and previous to that, we believe, he had been connected with one of the early journalistic ventures in Hongkong. One of her daughters, Mrs. Arthur Anderson, is now resident in Hongkong.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for July, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1895. SILVER YEN.	1896. SILVER YEN.
Exports	10,564,333.980	7,347,198.520
Imports	9,396,601.750	14,653,927.710
Total exports and imports	22,001,126.230	
Excess of imports		7,306,729.190
Exports	118,256.303	
Imports	433,189.163	
Miscellaneous	17,673.728	
Total	569,119.194	

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports, Silver Yen.	Imports, Silver Yen.	Total, Silver Yen.
China	1,000,190.780	2,875,822.110	3,875,962.890
Hongkong	1,444,373.120	521,513.000	1,965,886.120
British India	800,015.120	1,561,861.200	2,361,876.320
Korea	128,196.300	303,474.440	431,670.740
Russian Asia	164,996.860	90,116.660	255,113.520
Philippine Islands	37,680.830	168,979.480	206,660.310
Annam & other French			
India	666,430	143,636.450	810,066.450
Siam	20,900.440	31,288.310	52,188.750
Great Britain	408,077.840	5,770,316.770	6,178,394.610
Germany	269,731.300	1,189,774.580	1,459,505.880
France	476,005.900	907,181.530	1,383,187.430
Belgium	1,380.250	306,877.740	308,257.990
Switzerland	33,117.570	222,819.320	255,936.890
Italy	61,442.750	17,585.990	79,028.740
Holland	7,415.140	13,530.880	20,946.020
Spain	640.000	6,580.340	7,220.340
Russia	3,138.300	2,140.000	5,278.300
Austria	3,061.300	802.980	3,864.280
Sweden & Norway	187.120	3,453.130	3,640.250
Portugal		3,735.720	3,735.720
Turkey	1,246.000		1,246.000
Denmark	239.000		239.000
United States of America	2,431,594.650	3,254,448.780	5,686,043.430
Canada & other British America	334,373.550	9,281.640	343,655.190
Peru		915.840	915.840
Australia	102,614.800	51,508.380	154,123.180
Hawaii	29,386.470	376.000	30,762.470
Other Countries	33,064.950	61,613.710	94,678.660
Total	7,095,873.670	14,653,927.710	21,749,801.380

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	3,345,377.790	5,857,806.800	9,203,184.590
Kobe	2,830,973.710	7,374,284.670	10,205,258.380
Osaka	34,015.500	171,571.450	205,586.950
Nagasaki	41,163.190	881,218.020	922,381.210
Hakodate	207,019.930	37,688.740	244,708.670
Niigata	9,111.800	165,948.650	175,060.450
Shimonoseki	144,871.680	65,435.640	210,307.320
Moji	211,806.000		211,806.000
Kakata	957.070	1,716.850	2,673.920
Karatsu	13,386.000		13,386.000
Kuchinotsu	143,531.000		143,531.000
Idzumi	3,410.130	9,146.910	12,557.040
Shishimi	3,995.490	855.500	4,850.990
Sasabe	3,667.470	2,165.320	5,832.790
Fushiki	6,004.790	6,889.320	12,894.110
Muroran	45,796.490		45,796.490
Otsu	44,500.000		44,500.000

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

Imports	149,617.150
Specie and Bullion { Exports	149,617.150
Imports	3,670,256.360

TABLE SHOWING VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED FROM AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	7,742,663.330	14,273,188.440	22,015,851.770
February	10,081,111.080	21,268,065.160	31,349,176.240
March	9,454,041.480	16,441,026.810	25,895,068.290
April	9,714,017.750	13,505,191.010	23,219,208.760
May	9,370,717.160	14,433,386.380	23,804,103.540
June	7,579,889.390	14,184,000.510	21,763,889.900
July	7,247,195.320	14,653,927.710	21,901,123.030
Total	61,280,177.710	95,030,719.900	156,310,897.610

A NAVAL SPORTSMAN.

LIEUT. R. E. R. BENSON, of H.M.S. *Porpoise*, who during the visit of the ship at Sarawak, backed himself to walk a mile, run a mile, and ride a mile, inside twenty minutes, without preliminary training, brought the event off successfully on the 27th ult. The walking and running were done on the road inside the Kuching race course, and the riding on the course, Sulphide being the steed used. Time, 18 minutes 15 seconds.—*Free Press*.

OSAKA MONEY MARKET.

THE want of a sufficient quantity of subsidiary coins is keenly felt in Osaka. The Nippon Ginko,

says a correspondent of the *Yiji*, should see that an increased quantity of this kind of money is issued to the great commercial city. Transactions in shares and bonds are very brisk and carried on on a great scale just at present. There is a lack of notes of a higher value than one hundred yen. Osaka merchants are speaking of the desirability of the issue of notes of a face-value of one thousand yen. Money is now in great demand in Osaka, and rates of discount have risen to 3 sen 1 rin 5 mo per diem.

IMPORTS OF SILK TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE following were the imports of Raw Silk at New York and San Francisco during July, 1896:—

	Bls.	Lbs.	\$ Value.
New York	204	44,240	167,326
San Francisco	250	31,016	83,625
.....	454	75,256	250,951

Imports of Waste in the same period were:—

New York	102	32,000	15,806
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Imports of Japanese piece-goods and handkerchiefs from January 1st, to June 30th, 1896 were:—

Silk Piece Goods	98,124 pcs.
Silk Handkerchiefs	543,371 pcs.

ACCIDENT TO THE YOKOHAMA WATER-WORKS.

OWING to an accident to a tunnel on the system of the Yokohama Water-works, the town's supply through the mains was cut off on Wednesday from 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. It appears that the main pipe running through No. 3 tunnel in Miimura was damaged through the tunnel caving in. The repairs' staff at once proceeded to the spot and by dint of hard work restored the water service before evening.

THE SHOOTING CASE AT KOBE.

MR. A. BROCK, of Messrs. Popp and Co., No. 70 Settlement, Kobe, shot himself in his room on Thursday morning. No motive has been found for the rash act. He was a native of Hamburg, where his family are said to be wealthy, and was very popular in Kobe.

THE LEGION OF HONOUR.

A BILL has been introduced in the French Parliament with a view to restricting the number of Knights of the Legion of Honour. The maximum has been fixed at 12,000 knights, 2,000 officers, 300 commanders, and 50 grand commanders. Upon the death of a member of the order, a new appointment is to be made.

NAVAL APPOINTMENTS.

WE learn from a Hongkong exchange that Lieut. Frank C. Grover has been gazetted to H.M.S. *Pique*, and Lieut. Carlyon W. Bellairs to the *Tamar*, additional, for torpedo duties at Hongkong.

THE RECENT ECLIPSE.

ACCORDING to a London telegram that appears in the *Times of Ceylon*, the astronomical expeditions to Norway fared as badly as those sent to Japan, clouds obscuring the sky all day.

RESIGNATION OF MARQUIS ITO, COUNT ITAGAKI, AND BARON ITO.

The *Nichi Nichi* issued the following extra last evening:—The Cabinet meeting held at the residence of Marquis Ito, at Isarago, on Thursday, sat for 7 hours. The subjects of discussion were the proposed entry of Count Okuma and Matsukata into the Ministry rather than the filling of the vacant portfolios of Foreign Affairs and Finance, and the debate was singularly warm and interminable. In particular, Count Itagaki, as at the meeting held on the 17th inst., strongly opposed Count Okuma's entry into the Administration, and the Minister President seeing that his colleagues could come to no decision, declared his willingness to resign. Then the meeting became the reverse of peaceable. We now learn that the Premier on Friday personally asked H.M. the Emperor to relieve him of office. We further hear that Count Itagaki, the Home Minister, and Baron Ito, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, have also sent in their resignations.

THE CABINET CRISIS.

Monday, August 31.

Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is now the only Cabinet Minister in office, Marquis Oyama, Minister for War, Marquis Saionji, Minister of Education, and Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, having tendered their resignations late in the evening of the 28th instant, while Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, Viscount Takashima, Minister of the Department of Colonization, and Mr. Shirane, Minister of Communications, sent in theirs on the forenoon of Saturday. In the absence of a Premier, these Ministers entrusted their resignations to Marquis Tokudaiji, the Lord Chamberlain, for him to submit to the Emperor. The resignation of the last three Ministers was the result of a conference at Marquis Saigo's official residence on Saturday morning. As soon as Marquis Ito obtained an audience with the Emperor on Friday he tendered his resignation along with that of Count Itagaki. Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, intended to recommend Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council, to the approval of the Emperor for nomination as Premier *ad interim*, and the President was ready to temporarily assume the post. Count Hijikata therefore called on Marquis Saigo, the senior of the remaining Ministers, to ask him to countersign the document recommending the President of the Privy Council, for the approval of the Emperor, as Acting Premier. Marquis Saigo did not comply at once with the request of the Minister of the Household, but promised to give a definite answer next morning. The same day the Marquis sent an urgent message to his colleagues, requesting them to meet early next morning at his official residence. Marquises Oyama and Saionji and Viscount Yoshikawa declined to attend the meeting, as they had already tendered their resignation the previous evening. Viscounts Takashima, Enomoto, and Watanabe, and Mr. Shirane obeyed the summons and repaired to Sannencho at about 7 a.m. As soon as the nature of the meeting was known, Viscount Watanabe declared that as he had already tendered his resignation he ought not to take part in the proceedings, and therefore left the house. While the remaining four were conferring, Count Hijikata called on Marquis Saigo and asked for his promised reply. Marquis Saigo then told the Count that the affair being of grave importance he could not readily concur with the latter's proposal, and he then advised the Count to summon Marquis Yamagata and Counts Inouye and Matsukata, to settle the pressing question. For himself he had resolved to resign. This declaration was endorsed by Viscount Takashima and Mr. Shirane. Viscount Enomoto alone differed. He contended that such a wholesale resignation of the Cabinet would not only cause much inconvenience in the nomination of their successors, but that the countersignature of a Cabinet Minister was necessary in recommending a statesman to the approval of the Emperor for Ministerial nomination; the resignation of the whole Cabinet would also subject the Emperor to great anxiety. But the three Ministers remained firm.

The Ministers in tendering their resignations are not unanimous as to the reasons for the step. According to the *Nichi Nichi*, Marquis Ito declares that he resigns upon discovering his lack of ability, which has led to the policy of the Cabinet being marred by want of uniformity. Count Itagaki says that he resigns as a result of the Cabinet Council of the 27th inst. The other Ministers attribute ill-health as the reason for asking permission to be relieved of their portfolios. This allegation of ill-health is understood by the Tokyo papers to apply only to Marquis Oyama, who is suffering from an over-accumulation of adipose tissue. He expressed his desire some time ago to be relieved from the arduous labours incumbent on the post of Minister of War.

The *Asahi's* explanation in this context is worthy of notice. "Marquises Oyama and Saionji and Viscount Yoshikawa tendered their resignation with the sole idea of supporting

Marquis Ito. Marquis Saigo, Viscount Takashima, and Mr. Shirane, on the other hand, were dissatisfied with the measures that the Court wished to take in appointing an acting premier. They thought that the occasion required the immediate nomination of a Premier, but as the Court arranged to place the President of the Privy Council as temporary head of the Cabinet, they could not but tender their resignations."

Marquis Ito, upon his return from Court, left the official residence and removed to his private residence at Isarago. He went to Oiso by the 4.18 p.m. train on Saturday, taking with him some necessary effects and books. Count Itagaki, Viscount Watanabe, and Mr. Shirane have also removed to their private residences. The Court is now busy in summoning a meeting of the senior statesmen both in and out of the Government, messages being sent to Marquis Yamagata and Count Matsukata in Kyoto and Count Okuma in Hakone. They are expected to arrive in Tokyo to-day, although the *Nichi Nichi* says that the two statesmen in Kyoto asked for an extension of a few days. When they arrive in Tokyo, a council will be held in the presence of the Emperor, and among the statesmen who will attend, according to the *Yiji*, are Marquises Ito and Yamagata and Count Inouye (Choshu), and Marquises Oyama and Saigo and Counts Kuroda and Matsukata (Satsuma). Various conjectural Cabinets are sketched by the press. The *Yiji's* forecast is that the choice will be between Count Kuroda and Count Matsukata for the Premiership; that the portfolio of Foreign Affairs will be given to Count Okuma, while the other portfolios will probably be distributed as follows:—Home Office: Count Inouye, Marquis Saigo, or Viscount Shinagawa. War Office: A number of junior statesmen are well qualified to assume this portfolio, and the most prominent are Viscount Kawakami, Vice-Chief of the Central Staff; Viscount Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa; and Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War. There are besides, Marquis Saigo and Marshal Nozu, but the former is an Admiral, while the latter has not much experience in directing executive affairs. Viscount Takashima, Minister of the Colonization Department, may perhaps be given the post. Navy: Count Kabayama. Justice: Viscount Kawase, ex-Minister to England, has long been spoken of as a most suitable person for this office; there are also Count Ogi and Viscount Tanaka (Fujimaro) who are more or less connected with the Department. It is not improbable that Mr. Kojima Iken, ex-President of the Supreme Court, who distinguished himself in the Otsu affair, may be singled out to assume this portfolio. Department of Education: This may fall to Count Ogi, who filled it some years ago. Department of Agriculture and Commerce: Marquis Saigo may be appointed to this Department. Department of Communications: There are plenty of candidates for this post. Viscount Nomura, ex-Home Minister, Mr. Mayejima, ex-Vice-Minister of the Department, Counts Goto and Inouye, besides other more frequently mentioned names. The *Yiji* leaves out of this calculation the Department of Finance, but probably it believes that Count Matsukata will undertake the office in conjunction with those of Minister President.

The *Chuo* and the *Hochi* are inclined to believe that Marshal Marquis Yamagata will be nominated Premier, and that Mr. Shirane will be appointed Home Minister. Indeed the re-entry of Mr. Shirane into the Cabinet, whatever be the nature of his portfolio, is extremely probable. It is scarcely possible that Count Inouye will enter the reconstructed Cabinet.

Tuesday, September 1.

The *Hochi* issued an extra on Monday afternoon, giving further particulars of the Cabinet Crisis. That paper is usually an uncertain authority on political affairs, but as the *Nippon* and the *Yomiuri*, the only dailies that are issued every day the year round, do not publish so much as does the *Hochi* on this absorbing topic, we are constrained to quote from it to-day. Marquises Saigo, Oyama, and Saionji, Vis-

counts Takashima and Yoshikawa, and Mr. Shirane, it says, were summoned to the Palace about 4 p.m. on Sunday. The Emperor handed back to them their written resignations, graciously asking the six Ministers to remain in office. The *Hochi* adds that they respectfully declared their obedience to the Imperial demand, and received back the documents they had sent in the previous day. As no such step has been taken with regard to the resignations tendered by Marquis Ito, Count Itagaki, and Viscount Watanabe, it is presumed that the Emperor has given them permission to vacate their respective offices.

Marquises Saigo and Oyama and the other four statesmen having obeyed the behest of the Sovereign to remain in office, the ceremony of installing Count Kuroda as acting Premier took place at the Palace at 11 a.m. on Monday, Marquis Saigo, the senior of the remaining Ministers, and Count Hijikata attending the ceremony. At the same time Marquis Ito was relieved of the post of Minister President, in compliance with his request. The Emperor has graciously granted to Marquis Ito the official privileges and treatment accorded him while chief of the Cabinet.

Mr. Tsujiki, Chief of the Imperial Archives, was despatched as special messenger to Marquis Yamagata and Count Matsukata. On account of ill-health, the Marquis first asked for a few extra days in which to perform the journey, but he afterwards decided to start at once for Tokyo, where His Excellency is expected by the 5 p.m. to-day. Count Matsukata, who had retired to his villa at Mikage, after frequent colloquies with the Marquis at Kyoto, is also expected in the capital about the same time.

The above details are taken from the *Hochi's* extra, and appear to possess sufficient authenticity to warrant their reproduction.

Wednesday, September 2.

The *Nichi Nichi* and the Opposition papers are diametrically opposed in the versions they give as to the attitude of Marquis Ito to the proposed admission of Count Okuma into the Cabinet. The former alleges that the Marquis, especially on the occasion of the Cabinet Council held at His Excellency's private residence at Isarago on the 28th ult., returned a flat negative to the proposal to admit Counts Matsukata and Okuma into the Cabinet unconditionally. The *Yomiuri*, on the other hand, alleges that the ex-Premier was desirous of offering a seat to Count Okuma, while his wishes regarding Count Matsukata's re-entry admit of no contradiction.

Under the circumstances, the following account of the Cabinet crisis taken from the *Yiji*, the most impartial observer of the present political changes, may be of interest. The present crisis is attributable to the desire on the part of leading *Genku* statesmen to have the foreign and financial affairs of the country conducted in a more satisfactory manner, and they therefore desire to install statesmen of proved ability in the respective chairs. In regard to prestige, position, and experience there are only two statesmen who can satisfactorily fill these posts, namely, Counts Matsukata and Okuma. The ideas of Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, and Count Inouye on the subject being almost coincident, the project gradually began to assume practical shape, and a definite conclusion on the matter was arrived at among the three leading statesmen of Choshu after the return of Marshal Yamagata from Russia. It is also confidently believed that the notion must have entered Marquis Ito's mind on the even of his departure for Formosa, when his overtures to induce Count Inouye to undertake the direction of foreign affairs had been positively declined. Such being the case, the allegation that the ex-Premier opposed the proposal of some of the Ministers to admit Counts Matsukata and Okuma into the Cabinet when the discussion arose at the extraordinary Cabinet Council held at Isarago, is entirely without foundation. On the contrary, the ex-Premier earnestly maintained the necessity of admitting the two statesmen into the Cabinet. It was owing to Count Itagaki's opposition to the measure that prevented the Cabinet's opinions from being brought into line, and then Marquis Ito decided to resign. The

question of Count Okuma's entry was actually broached by Marquis Ito when the members of the Cabinet assembled at his private residence on the 17th ultimo, but the step could not be resolved upon, owing to the irreconcilable attitude assumed by Count Itagaki and the Liberals. When the attempt to induce Count Matsukata to enter the Cabinet alone had failed, the matter again veered back to the original point, and the question of admitting the two Counts was once again brought to the front. Marquis Ito then went to Oiso, leaving the task of reconciling the different opinions within the Cabinet to Count Kuroda and Viscount Takashima. These statesmen approached Count Itagaki and endeavoured to remove his prejudices against Count Okuma, even going so far as to call in Mr. Oye Taku, President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, who is on terms of intimate acquaintance with Count Itagaki. On the 25th, the Count proceeded to Oiso, with the intention of ascertaining the views of the ex-Premier upon the whole subject. The ex-Premier said that it was absolutely necessary that the two Counts should enter the Cabinet, and Count Itagaki returned to Tokyo the same day. He called on Count Kuroda, to whom he communicated Marquis Ito's views, but said nothing regarding his own position. Count Kuroda went to Oiso on the next day, and advised the ex-Premier to conclude the arrangement as quickly as possible. Marquis Ito promised to follow the advice, returned to Tokyo that same night, and instantly despatched express messages to the Cabinet Ministers, asking them to assemble at his private residence at Isarago next morning. An extraordinary council was then held. At the outset of the proceedings, the Marquis urged the necessity of admitting the two Counts into the Cabinet. This proposal was firmly opposed by Count Itagaki, whose views on the subject were not yet clear, and therefore was, so to say, the pivot on which the question turned. Marquis Ito saw that it was impossible to reconcile the conflicting opinions of the Cabinet, and thinking it against the dictates of courtesy and delicacy to allow Count Itagaki alone to resign, decided to go out of office himself. The *Yiji* adds that had the Marquis resolutely admitted the two Counts into the Cabinet as soon as the necessity for the step was seen, then the affair might have eventuated without engendering the present trouble. His excessive caution has proved the direct cause of his fall.

THE SITUATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

The Ministerial changes will considerably affect the leading political parties. The Liberals have announced hostility to the coming Cabinet, though some persons say that the party is in danger of being split into two, one section to be led by the Tosa politicians and the other by the leaders of the Kwantō Liberals. The two sections are not cordial in their relations, we are told, the project Count Itagaki's entering the Cabinet as representative of the Party being regarded with disfavour by the Kwantō Liberals. The arrangement was in fact carried through solely by their rivals, the Tosa men. We are further told that it was to reconcile the Kwantō politicians that Mr. Ishisaka Shoko, M.P., one of their influential leaders, was appointed Governor of Gumma. This want of cordial union is said to have manifested itself in the present case, for while the Tosa men tried to dissuade Count Itagaki from resignation, the others advised him to go out of office. The idea of the former was to make the Count continue in the Cabinet till the general elections of 1898, as his presence there would materially contribute towards obtaining a clear majority of the Party in Parliament. Now, however, that the Liberals are obliged to resume their attitude of opposition, the implacable enmity with which the two sections regard the *Shimpo-to*, should for the moment, perhaps, cause the murmurs of internal discontent to cease.

The Tokyo papers devote much space to discussing the future relations between Marquis

Ito and Baron Ito on the one hand and the Liberals on the other. The Opposition papers, are of opinion that the present joint resignation of Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki has repaid the obligation which the Liberals, by their strenuous support of his Cabinet, placed him under. The relations between him and the Party will therefore revert to those that existed previous to their *rapprochement*. Baron Ito, however, is supposed to maintain a close connection with the Party, over whom he is believed to wield a great influence, perhaps not much less than that of the acknowledged leader, Count Itagaki. It is even conjectured that the Baron may be enrolled on the list of the Party, in which event, should any rupture occur, the Baron will lead one section of the Party and the Count another. The Baron may succeed in attracting more followers than the Count.

It is well-known that a portion of the *Shimpo-to* are not favourably inclined to Count Okuma, while it is not certain whether the Party, as a whole, are ready to support Count Matsukata. The *Yiji* wishes us to believe that Count Okuma does not care for a majority in the House of Representatives, his idea being merely to keep in touch with the people while directing the affairs of State. He is ready to appeal to the conscience, or to the prudence, of the people whenever he has any measure of importance to carry out but would not care what the House might think of it. Whether such a position is feasible, remains to be seen. The *Yomiuri* gives as the opinion of a certain M.P. identified with the *Shimpo-to* "that the numerical strength of the Matsukata-Okuma Party within the House in the coming session will be 110, which may be reinforced by 30 members belonging to the so-called business section." There are besides some dozen independent members who would not scruple to support any Government. The National Unionists of Kagoshima and Fukuoka would also lend their support to the *Shimpo-to*, and the party may therefore hope to command the situation in the House. Should the coming Cabinet fail to command the support of the House, then it ought to advise the Emperor to dissolve the Diet. But when, after the general election, the support of the House is still refused to the Cabinet, the latter ought to resign. This anonymous opinion must of course be greatly discounted, still, when it is remembered that the Liberals do not number more than 105 in the House of Representatives and that it was owing to the support of some 30 National Unionists that they were enabled to defeat the Opposition in the last session, the notion that the *Shimpo-to* may hope to command a majority in the coming session may not be so very chimerical. The Unionists may work with them this time.

MARINE AFFAIRS.

The lighterage service between Tokyo and Yokohama, we read in the *Shogyo*, is entirely out of proportion to the increasing demands that the recent activity in business has occasioned. The *Shogyo* enumerates several causes for this state of things. (1) The unusual increase in the volume of material transported for building dock-yards, railways, and houses. (2) Increases in the volume of the lumber trade, (3) coals, (4) of general imports and exports, and (5) the insufficient storage accommodation at Yokohama. Now within the jurisdiction of Tokyo there are only 500 lighters or so, 200 of which are owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and the rest by the Tokyo Lighter Company and others. These companies are well aware of the increasing demands for lighters, yet they make no effort to increase their fleets. On the contrary, the number of lighters is decreasing. The root of the trouble, of course, lies in the sudden increase in the cost of construction, as the result of the appreciation of the market price of commodities. At present a lighter which formerly cost 1,500 yen or so to build can not be constructed for less than 2,500 to 3,000 yen, so that while worn out boats are disappearing from the service, new ones do not appear to take their place. This want of balance between supply and demand has con-

siderably affected the lighterage charges, the rates rising from yen 2.30 or so per day to about yen 3.50 and more, for lighter-owners are determined to avail themselves of every advantage presented by the present defective service, and frequently compel shippers to pay as much as yen 5 to 6.50 for the use of their boats. Charges are far more exorbitant in Yokohama than in Tokyo, for the last quoted rate has become the common charge, while 10 yen per day was recently paid.

The continued fall in the rates of freight is the cause of much anxiety to small owners engaged in the coasting trade. At present the freight on fish guano between Tokyo and Otaru is only 35 yen per 100 *hoku*; on rice between Tokyo and Hyogo 15 yen for the same quantity; while the freight on coal between Tokyo and Moji is 85 sen per ton. The keen competition prevailing among ship-owners also leads to discounts on these rates. It is evident that ship-owners must be experiencing considerable difficulty in making both ends meet. The sudden increase in the merchant marine of Japan has caused so much competition among ship-owners, that a Japanese captain who drew at most 40 yen per month before the war, will not accept less than 100 to 150 yen now. For similar reasons an increase has been made in wages of sailors and stokers, rates rising from 5 or 6 to 10 or 15 yen. A story is told of a small ship-owner who, after vainly seeking to dispose of a worn-out vessel, having the good luck to have his steamer strike an uncharted rock. The vessel sank and the owner drew his insurance money, three times the amount that the vessel would have fetched in the open market. Of course the *Shogyo* does not vouch for the authenticity of this yarn. None the less, it feels that ship-owners who are at a loss what to do with their ships may be tempted to such practices. It is high time for marine insurance companies to be on the alert in securing protection for their interests.

With regard to the present condition of Japanese marine insurance companies, the *Shogyo* prints a short note. The Tokyo Marine Insurance, the Imperial Marine Insurance, and the Nippon Land and Marine Insurance companies, it says, were started several years ago. At first keen competition was maintained among them, and each vied to cut the others' rates. At last, growing tired of this suicidal policy, a sort of agreement was established, the result being a raising of their rates by 10 per cent. Vessels going to the South Seas, that formerly insured at 75 sen per ton, will now have to pay 1.10 yen per ton, and so on. At this juncture a new insurance company, the Nippon Marine Insurance, has appeared on the scene, offering to undertake insurance to the South Seas at 60 sen, or about one-half the rate of the older companies. It is feared that the programme of the allied companies will be upset by the action of the intruder, while there is also talk of a fifth company starting before long.

THE CAUSE OF THE SEISMIC WAVE.

Dr. Kochibe Chusho, Rigaku Hakushi, is accredited by the *Asahi* with the following explanation of the recent Seismic Wave in the north-east:—It appears, after full consideration of all the facts, that the wave was caused by an earthquake. There are two kinds of earthquakes, however. If the cause of this earthquake was volcanic, the place of eruption would seem to have been somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, about 400 miles distant from the inundated coast and about 4,000 fathoms below the surface, that is, a little to the east of the Tuscarora Deep. Otherwise the vibrating shock would not have been felt simultaneously, and almost equally strongly, along some 70 *ri* of the coast-line, as was the case. The shock was felt at 7h. 33m. 30s. p.m., and the wave appeared at 7h. 53m. 30s., an interval of only 21 minutes: the wave must have travelled 400 miles in the interval. In the earthquake of the Ansei era, that shook the greater half of Japan, the wave caused thereby, travelled, it is said, across the

Pacific until it struck San Francisco. It progressed at the rate of 370 miles an hour. Another wave, that travelled from the southern coast of Southern America to Hawaii in 1868, progressed at the rate of 454 miles an hour. But in both these cases the seismic shocks were far stronger than in the recent disaster, in which they were only of a feeble character. An earthquake of volcanic origin is incapable of producing a disturbance in the ocean-bed sufficient to raise a wave of such proportions as was raised in the case under consideration. It must have been accompanied by another agency causing big changes in the ocean-bed. Besides, in the neighbourhood of the inundated districts there are no volcanoes, except to the northward of Hachinohe. Also no volcanic stratum has been discovered in the ocean east of these localities. It may be safely affirmed that we cannot attribute the great wave to an earthquake caused by volcanic action only. One other kind of earthquake is possible, that caused by a landslide. This must have been the origin of the recent catastrophe. From the inundated coast one must go out some 10 *ri* to reach a depth of 100 fathoms, but from that point depths of 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, and 4,000 fathoms, are found at short intervals until the Tuscarora Deep is reached, one of the deepest channels in the ocean yet discovered. These geological features must have been produced by a great land slip in prehistoric times through the contraction of the earth's crust. At the time of that tremendous landslide, numerous clefts must have been formed, running from N.E. to S.W., parallel to the coast of Sanriku. These clefts, it is easy to see, cause the ocean-bed in their vicinity to be very liable to disturbance. The wave must have been caused by a land-slip produced by the subsidence of one or more of these clefts.

THE PRESENT SITUATION.

There is joy in the camps of the various political parties. They believe, or have persuaded themselves into the belief, that the ministerial crisis is of their making. The *Shimpo-to* organs assert this in so many words. So powerful had the Opposition grown that the Cabinet was forced to yield, is their repeated statement. Probably nothing could be farther from the truth. The Cabinet changes originated in that body itself, and were in no wise influenced by the vapourings of any anti-Government demagogues. Yet, be this as it may, there is no doubt that the various parties are severally and distinctly on the rampage, and expect nothing less than that many ministerial posts will fall to the lot of certain of their leaders. It may be doubted whether things would fare well with this Empire if the Cabinet were formed wholly of *Shimpo-to* partisans. The great mistake made by these undoubtedly well-meaning if biased men, is that they believe themselves or their partisans capable of ruling the nation without experience. Many are facile writers or fluent speakers; but these two qualities are by no means indicative of sound statesmanship. Diplomacy is a game where silence and finesse are in greater demand than in whist; where tact and energy are of infinitely greater value than mere oratorical eloquence or literary skill. The late Cabinet was composed of men who had passed through the school of adversity and had mainly contributed towards bringing Japan so far on the road she is now seeking to follow. The nation as it is to-day was undoubtedly the result of their labour. Imagine a Tanaka Shozo at the Council table instead of Marquis Ito or Viscount Enomoto! The shoemaker must, after all is said and done, stick to his last; he can thus manufacture it may be a very decent pair of boots, while he would cut a very poor figure as a painter or a sculptor. It takes longer than half a decade to turn out a competent statesman; and no acquaintance with "primaries," political debates, or even the cudgels of rampant *soshi* can possibly make up for the lack of long years of experience in actual governing. The nearest approach to what one would expect of a statesman may be found in Mr. Hoshi, or perhaps

Mr. Kusumoto. But with these (and possibly one or two other) exceptions, we look through the Opposition in vain for some one adept enough to assume and support the dignity and responsibility of a ministerial post.

GOLD AND SILVER EXPORTS.

The export and import of gold and silver, writes the *Fiji Shimpo*, has a considerable bearing on trade in general, and we give below the imports and exports of the precious metals for the first seven months of the present year:—

Exported to	January.	February.	March.
Gold.	Silver.	Gold.	Silver.
India	4,869,000	710,000	300,000
China	9,368	12,505	7,123
Korea	59,000	682	10,000
Hongkong	35,000	30,000	—
Siberia	—	—	—
England	20,273	61,338	74,778
Germany	993,749	43,030	55,070
Exported to	April.	May.	June.
Gold.	Silver.	Gold.	Silver.
India	—	935,000	—
China	—	933	—
Korea	—	30,000	—
Hongkong	54,733	30,000	—
Siberia	—	60,000	—
England	—	71,943	143,955
Germany	—	144,884	—
Exported to	July.	August.	September.
Gold.	Silver.	Gold.	Silver.
India	—	—	—
China	—	21,687	—
Korea	—	20,000	—
Hongkong	—	300	—
Siberia	—	—	12,100
England	—	162,740	134,327
Germany	—	—	—

The aggregate amount of gold exported from January to July inclusive was 151,948 *yen* and of silver, 6,494,178 *yen*. England received the largest amount of gold, and Germany comes next, the amounts exported to these two countries being over 70 per cent. of the total export. This in all probability was due to the importation of large quantities of war-material and industrial machinery. India stands first among the silver countries, the amount it received constituting over 90 per cent. of the whole export. This must be owing to the increased importation of raw cotton and cotton yarns:—

Imported from	January.	February.	March.
Gold.	Silver.	Gold.	Silver.
India	—	—	—
China	—	11	546,705
Korea	59,688	2,515	3,437
Hongkong	—	69,300	34,796
Siberia	—	—	—
England	—	—	485,679
United States	—	702	755,021
Imported from	April.	May.	June.
Gold.	Silver.	Gold.	Silver.
India	—	—	—
China	128	5,000	—
Korea	—	1,112,002	394,705
Hongkong	79,550	1,784	2,343
Siberia	—	28,800	263,800
England	2,777,268	2,227,984	2,000,167
United States	—	245,914	918,312
Imported from	July.	August.	September.
Gold.	Silver.	Gold.	Silver.
India	—	—	—
China	—	5,000	—
Korea	—	2,002,828	99,152
Hongkong	84,064	30,377	1,369
Siberia	—	937,000	397,500
England	4,367	2,055,975	2,789,739
United States	—	792,922	870,754

The total amount of gold imported from January to July inclusive, of the current year, was 7,080,787 *yen*, and that of silver 18,190,192 *yen*. The greatest amount of gold was received from England owing to a portion of the Chinese indemnity being imported from London. Formerly no great quantity of gold was imported from any other country beside Korea, whence some 400 or 500 thousand *yen* of gold dust used to be imported per year.

ALTERED RELATIONSHIPS AND ALTERED FEELINGS.

A writer in the *Waseda Bungaku*, in a thoughtful article, reviews the changes that social feelings have undergone in Japan under the influence of modern institutions, employment, and modes of life and thought. In feudal times the feelings of all classes towards their superiors or inferiors were dictated by the strict social and domestic distinctions observed in those days. These distinctions have been to a large extent replaced by relationships based on Western modes of life and thought. Instead of the master and servant, or the retainer and his lord, and all the loyal feelings that this relationship im-

plied, we have the employer and the employé, which resolves itself into a mere matter of dollars and cents. In this relationship the employed simply aim at giving their employers their money's worth in the way of service and nothing more. The deficiencies and general unsatisfactoriness of this arrangement as regards feeling are well expressed in the term *hōkōnin kōjō*, which is always a term of reproach, and implies an utter absence of regard for a master's interests. But it is not the feeling of subordinates alone that has changed. Masters are not what they used to be. Instead of the kindness and consideration that formerly characterised the dealings of employers with those beneath them, the exercise of authority and the desire to make as much profit as possible out of their servants are conspicuous traits. That is one of the results of the egoism now prevailing. But it is only fair to note that in one respect the new order of things is superior to the old. Masters can no longer practise the despotism to which they were accustomed, and both male and female servants have lost the servility of spirit by which they used to be characterised. But the spirit of devotion which led men to die with, or for, their masters has well nigh been lost, and the modern employé thinks of nothing so much as his own ease and convenience, and at the slightest provocation throws up his place and tries his luck elsewhere. There are a few old shops that recognise the evil tendencies of modern notions on this subject, and are doing their best to maintain traditional relationships between the employers and employed, but the tide will prove too strong for them; they cannot hold out against the force of altered circumstances. Although we do not desire to see a return to the old state of things, yet we cannot but feel concerned when we see ourselves drifting into a condition in which the worst elements of American and Chinese life are combined—excessive independence and unqualified love of gain.

What is true of the relationship we have been considering is equally true of other relationships. That existing between teachers and pupils too often resolves itself into the mere paying and receiving of fees. Modern students, in too many instances, have no such feeling towards their teachers as existed in days gone by. Hence, during the past few years, school "strikes" have been common. The wave of insubordination is assuming alarming proportions, and if not checked will damage the whole country.

The relationship of parent and child cannot but be greatly affected by the new law codes. How to bring traditional moral notions into harmony with these codes is one of the most urgent questions of modern times. The *Fiji Shimpo* is in favour of the old ethical system being modified wherever it collides with new laws. It insists on the necessity of harmonising law and moral teaching. Mr. Fukuzawa argues that it is unreasonable for parents to expect their children to treat them with the deference to which their ancestors were accustomed. His observations are timely as regards parents, but what is to be regretted is that he has no word of reproof for the children who are deficient in filial virtue.

A radical change has taken place in conjugal relations and feelings. It is acknowledged on all sides that women ought to be raised from the subordinate position which they have hitherto occupied. They are treated with greater politeness and deference than they used to be. Men may be heard affixing the word *san* after their wives' names, and using such words as *irrasshai* and *doso* when speaking to them. In our opinion that is not to be attributed to foreign influence as much as to a desire to restore women to the plane she occupied in the days of the *Bakufu*. With a mere imitation of the outward behaviour of foreigners to their wives, we have no sympathy. That Japanese should walk about the city arm in arm with their wives or carry into practice other foreign customs, is not necessary. What is required is that husbands and wives should love and respect each other: forms and ceremonies may be left

to adjust themselves. The modern fashion of boasting of a wife's powers before others, or of seeking to make her outwardly attractive to the world, is not to be commended.

Coming to the subject of social relations and social pleasures, the changes that have taken place are less marked than in other spheres. Among the upper and middle classes the club is an institution that finds favour with men who are socially inclined. But with the lower orders things remain as they used to be prior to the Meiji era. Something more than the ordinary *sakamori* or *shimbokukai* is needed to enable men to know and respect each other. Compared with foreigners, Japanese may be said to have few social pleasures. It is said by some that the great popularity of the Tenrikyo sect is to be attributed to the way in which it has devised means for facilitating social intercourse. The *Fiji Shimpō* has frequently pointed out that Japanese modern life is ill-supplied with suitable opportunities for friendly interchange of thought. Many attempts have been made to supply this defect, but from one cause or another they have hitherto failed. The *Kokumin Shimbun* earnestly advocates the formation of international clubs and even goes so far as to say that closer intercourse between Japanese and foreigners is essential to the safety of the empire. When the student has finished his college course and goes out into the world, he needs facilities for perpetuating the friendships he has formed and for deepening the impressions he has received from men whose characters he admires. There are various schemes for providing a greater variety of social pleasures. There is a talk about improving the stage and shortening the time occupied by the acts. Musical societies have been organised, and Mr. Nakajima Chikuba has founded the 明治風教會, the Meiji-fukyo-kai, a kind of Operatic Company. But much still remains to be done. Among certain students of Ushigome and Yotsuya practices prevail which make it less safe for a boy than a girl to be out at night in those districts. We would rather not have to notice this abomination, but there is no use in shutting one's eyes to facts. The practice to which we refer prevailed among certain warriors in feudal days at a time when the use of prostitutes was condemned by the military authorities and by Buddhist teachers, and is a proof that in endeavouring to prevent what they think to be an evil, people are often instrumental in producing a still greater evil.

DR. HASEGAWA ON INDUSTRIALISM.

Dr. Hasegawa Tai, Director and Founder of the Saiseigakusha, the largest private medical institution in Tokyo, and a member of the Industrial Hygiene Investigation Committee, was interviewed the other day by a representative of the *Oriental Economist*, on the subject of the hygiene of Japanese workmen. The Doctor, not having yet undertaken the inspection of manufactories adjoining Osaka and Kyoto, could not furnish the representative with any particularly interesting details on the subject, but he elaborated certain opinions connected with industrial hygiene and the labouring classes. He is opposed to the theory that the working hours of factory girls and men, as well as the limit of age, should be regulated by law. The doctor adduced two reasons for taking up this position; one is that to restrict the number of working hours would affect the amount of wages that male and female mechanics are now receiving. This reduction in wages would drive them to more profitable employment, and the prosperity of the first industry would be crippled in consequence. It is owing to Japanese manufacturers being able to obtain cheap labour that they can maintain competition with the manufacturers of Europe and America; to restrict the number of working-hours and to limit the age of the employes would deprive Japan of the only great advantage she now enjoys in the industrial world. In the second place, Doctor Hasegawa did not believe in the practicability of enforcing such restrictions. It is true that such laws might be enforced in factories

and large establishments, but it must be remembered that quite a considerable proportion of male and female artisans in Japan do not work in factories, but at home. Over such a class, restriction as to the number of working hours and age would be found entirely out of the question. As to food, clothing, and shelter, the Japanese labouring classes are far better situated than are those of the West. This is no mere hypothesis, but a fact attested by those who have travelled abroad. The Japanese workman, for example, takes a bath at least once a day, and when he returns home he cheers his tired mind and exhausted body with cups of *sake*, tended by his wife and surrounded by his children. His dwelling may measure only $2 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ yards, and may be divided from his neighbour's by only a partition wall, but this tends to promote his comfort of life by cementing good-fellowship. Compared with the dwellings of Western working people, who live in badly ventilated rooms where the light of the sun can barely enter, the superiority is all on the side of the Japanese. Yet what a vast difference exists between Japan and the West in respect of wages! The average wage of male and female silk-reelers in the 14 sericultural districts of Japan is only 14.1 *sen*, while the average wage of spinning hands in Osaka is only 13.3 *sen*. Is there any other place in the world where similarly skilled labour can be engaged so cheaply? The advantages now enjoyed by the Japanese cannot, however, last long, and the time must come, sooner or later, when the evils always attendant upon industry must break out. The question that ought to be investigated at present is, how best to provide against these evils? In doing this, the precedents and examples of the West must not be too blindly followed; peculiarities only to be found in Japan must always be borne in mind.

OSAKA HARBOUR RECONSTRUCTION LOAN.

The City Assembly has consented to the raising of a Public Loan for the purpose of carrying out the reconstruction of Osaka harbour. The regulations governing the loan, and the manner of its redemption are as follow:—

Art. 1.—An Osaka City Loan of the face value of 13,450,000 *yen* shall be floated for the purpose of providing funds for the reconstruction of Osaka Harbour.

Art. 2.—This Loan shall be raised publicly, if possible at a premium, and the rate of interest paid on it shall be fixed by the City Council within the limit of 6 per cent. per annum.

Art. 3.—Interest on this Loan shall be paid twice yearly, in the months of June and December.

Art. 4.—This public Loan shall be floated in several installments spread over eight years, from 1896 to 1904, until it has reached the amount of 13,450,000 *yen*.

Art. 5.—None of the principal of this Loan shall be repaid until the full amount has been raised: it will be redeemed in installments in December of each year from 1904 to 1937 inclusive. The funds to be devoted towards repayment of the loan will be drawn from the proceeds accruing from rents, pier charges, sales of reclaimed land, and miscellaneous sources, the City taxes, etc., after interest has been paid for the year, and the various expenditures required for keeping up the harbour works have been provided for.

Art. 6.—The interest on this loan will be paid from 1897 to 1903 inclusive, from the City taxes and other revenues, and from 1904 forward from the proceeds derived from rents, pier charges, sales of reclaimed land, and miscellaneous sources.

Art. 7.—An estimated revenue of 8,045,000 *yen* is expected to be obtained by the sale of reclaimed land; 76,000 *yen* by miscellaneous sales; 120,000 *yen* by annual income from 1904 to 1913 inclusive; 180,000 *yen* per year from 1914 onwards from rents of reclaimed land; 109,500 *yen* annually from 1904 to 1913 inclusive; and 164,250 *yen* per year from 1914 onwards, from pier charges.

Art. 8.—The estimated expenditures to be defrayed out of the City taxes are 200,000 *yen* per year for seven fiscal years from 1897 to 1903; 158,000 *yen* for 1904; 200,000 *yen* per year from 1905 to 1936; and 146,646 *yen* for 1937. In case the actual proceeds exceed these estimates this last sum is to be proportionately reduced.

EXPIRING NATIONAL BANKS.

The almost immediate expiration of the charters of many National Banks is the most serious economical problem now confronting Japan. The charter of the 1st National Bank, of Tokyo, expires on the 25th of September next, while the charter of the 152nd Bank has to run till the 9th of December, 1899. Below is a list of dates of expiring charters for the next two years:—

		1896.
1st National Bank (Tokyo) ...	Sept.	25
2nd do (Yokohama) ...	Nov.	27
3rd do (Tokyo) ...	Nov.	30
4th do (Niigata) ...	Dec.	18
5th do (Tokyo) ...	Oct.	4
6th do (Tokyo) ...	Feb.	12
7th do (Kochi) ...	Feb.	19
10th do (Yamanashi) ...	March	21
13th do (Osaka) ...	May	14
15th do (Tokyo) ...	May	20
11th do (Nagoya) ...	May	25
12th do (Toyama) ...	July	1
20th do (Tokyo) ...	July	10
14th do (Matsumoto) ...	July	16
16th do (Gifu) ...	Aug.	7
17th do (Shizuoka) ...	Sept.	21
19th do (Uyeda) ...	Oct.	9
22nd do (Okayama) ...	Oct.	9
23rd do (Oita) ...	Oct.	11
18th do (Nagasaki) ...	Nov.	1
19th do (Kumamoto) ...	Nov.	21
21st do (Nagahama) ...	Nov.	29
27th do (Tokyo) ...	Dec.	6
30th do (Tokyo) ...	Dec.	14
25th do (Obama) ...	Dec.	16

SPINNING INDUSTRY.

Most of the Japanese capitalists, says the *Fiji*, are just now too much bent upon railroad and banking enterprises. The cotton spinning industry, which, during the first half of this year, proved far more profitable than banks or railroads, is at a discount with them. The companies engaged in this industry have declared, for the same period, dividends varying from 10 to 20 per cent., the average being 16 per cent. The reason why this profitable industry is less favoured by speculators than banks and railroads is, according to the explanations of some persons, the precariousness of the business. But to us it appears that the prosperity now enjoyed will continue for a long time to come. In the first half of this year the export of yarns amounted to 20,000 bales, valued at 2 million *yen*. This might be looked upon as an abnormal output due to temporary causes, but such is not the case. Until last year Japanese yarns, though long ago acknowledged as superior in quality, competed disadvantageously with Indian thread in the Shanghai market, because they paid a greater import than the former. This handicap was removed last year, hence the development mentioned above. For the second half of this year it may be reasonably expected that the value of exported yarns will amount to at least 4 million *yen*. The home consumption of yarns is also increasing. Indeed, it is stated that this will be more fully shown in the current half-year. On the other hand, the supply of cheap cotton from foreign countries is favourable, especially now that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have opened an American line. The *Fiji* says that, while England has 40,000,000 and India 4,000,000 spindles at work, Japan may profitably increase her total to 1,000,000, and when this is brought about, the present mania for banks and railways will subside and the spinning industry will again come into favour.

FORMOSA.

There were only twelve gendarmes at Shushu kai when it was attacked by the rebels. Of this number only one escaped death. The rebels not only killed the gendarmes but slaughtered their horses, and the eleven human and twelve equine heads were afterwards left to bleach in the street. When Nanto was besieged, a scout was caught by the enemy and burned to death. One Li U-mo of So-ai-ton, who had often acted as scout to the enemy, was afterwards captured by the Japanese and decapitated. His wife then set a price of 400 *yen* a piece on Japanese heads, and by this means obtained a couple.

AMERICA AND ENGLAND.

WHENEVER one digs deep enough into the proximate causes of the dislike entertained by so many Americans for the British, one inevitably reaches the War of the Secession. It was England's conduct at that time that thoroughly alienated American good-will, and thirty years have not sufficed to remove the feeling of resentment. The fact has received fresh confirmation from a controversy now on the *tapis*. Some months ago, *Blackwood's Magazine* published an essay in which American antipathy towards England was attributed chiefly to the teachings of American school histories with reference to the Revolution and the war of 1812. That idea seemed to some people so important that Mr. PLIMSOLL, son of the celebrated philanthropist, acted upon it at once. He commenced by collecting the whole of the 34 histories used in the Board Schools of England, and after examining them carefully, he failed to find "the slightest unkind allusion to the United States." "I marked and indexed," he says, "every allusion to America in them, and you can not find a hint of ill-feeling or envy. Being thus assured that England had put her own house in good order, so far as concerned this particular question, Mr. PLIMSOLL then proceeded to the United States to conduct a similar inquiry into the histories used in the schools there, his hope being that if, as was generally believed, their language fostered a wrong feeling towards the mother country, the educational authorities of the Great Republic would be persuaded to eliminate the objectionable passages. The result of his investigation is not yet published, but, in the meanwhile, his act and the fine motive prompting it, have brought the whole subject into prominence, and evoked some very emphatic expressions of kindly feeling in England. The London *Spectator*, for example, expounds its views with great earnestness, saying, among other things:—

It is not too much to say that no class here, rich or poor, is without the warmest feeling of sympathy for America. An English public man who showed hatred of America or insulted her in his speeches or writings would at once lose his place in the national respect—would be drummed out of public life. No poet could direct his verse against America; no man of letters attack our kinsfolk as a nation or express a desire for the downfall of the Union. The satirist might make fun of the American as he makes fun of the Yorkshireman or the Cockney, but anything like desire to insult the national honour or to rejoice at the difficulties or misfortunes of America would most certainly be treated with indignation. The notion of an English minister or ex-minister, or even of an English M.P., prophesying the downfall of the American Union and dwelling on it as a source of gratification for his country, is simply unthinkable. The man who gloated over the notion of America's ruin would be hissed as a traitor to the race. But though the knowledge of this friendly feeling is such a commonplace with us, it seems to be undreamt of in America. There, not only is a great deal of hatred and contempt expressed for the old country, but the people at large seem genuinely ignorant of the good-feeling for America which is so general and so genuine here.

Many of us will be disposed to think that the *Spectator* rather exaggerates the facts. It ought to know what it speaks about, but to say that no class in England, rich

or poor, is without the warmest feeling of sympathy for America, seems too rosy an estimate. Englishmen are unfortunately conspicuous for a trait that militates more strongly than any other against easy friendship: they are essentially supercilious. It is hard, terribly hard, to be on terms of genial intimacy with a supercilious man. He may be perfectly imperturbable, quite free from quarrelsome tendencies and uniformly courteous, but if he is supercilious, those fine traits render him all the more exasperating. There is immense strength in the confidence of superiority, but every display of such confidence provokes among outsiders a longing to undermine it. We do not think that the average American has inherited the superciliousness characteristic of his British ancestors. At all events, it is not yet apparent in his conduct. Extreme sensitiveness and strong self-assertion seem to be the dominant attributes of his mental attitude towards other nations, and they are precisely the attributes that clash most bitterly with British superciliousness. Let us hope, however, that the *Spectator* is right. At all events without following it to the extreme range of its enthusiasm, we may confidently assert that a sentiment of genuine goodwill towards her over-sea cousins has long been establishing itself in England's heart, and that America's magnificent development has totally ceased to be a cause of jealousy to Great Britain, and become, on the contrary, a source of genuine pride. To revert, however, to what we have called the proximate reasons of the dislike of England entertained by so many Americans, we find a striking illustration in an article written by Mr. F. S. DICKSON, by way of answer to the *Spectator* and *Blackwood's*. Mr. DICKSON can not, apparently, find a single justification of that dislike in anything said or done by Englishmen during the past quarter of a century. He is obliged to go back to the time of passion and perverted judgment, the time of the War of the Secession, and from the writings of that era he can of course quote excerpts intensely galling to Americans to-day. How long, we wonder, is that kind of retrospective animosity to be kept up? Is it impossible for Americans to appreciate that, whatever may have been the effective motives of British statesmen at that great crisis, the bulk of the British nation acknowledged one sentiment only, the sentiment of kinship? The average Englishman had got it into his head that the people of the South were much closer to him in consanguinity, and in friendship, and in community of feeling, than the people of the North, and his sympathies went with his belief. There is nothing stranger in history than the spectacle of a nation that had constituted itself the implacable foe to slavery and made immense sacrifices to abolish that hideous abuse, giving its moral support to States banded together for the maintenance of slavery. But

the gravest folks have their moments of vertigo. It was simply a vertigo, thirty years ought surely to have healed the scars that it produced. Mr. DICKSON does ill to resuscitate such memories. Still there is consolation in the fact that he has to go back thirty-odd years to find demonstrable grounds for umbrage against the mother country.

THE IMPERIAL GARDENS AT SHINJUKU.

THE Botanical Garden in Koishikawa District, Tokyo, is known to most foreigners, and very favourably at that: for while there are not many hot-houses and no lavish outlay of funds visible, the grounds are excellently laid out, and when the plum-trees, of which there are a dozen different varieties, each more beautiful than the other, are in bloom, the scene is indescribably picturesque. The Fukiage Gardens are perhaps quite as well known, permission to inspect them being always courteously granted by the Imperial Household authorities, on application. But the Shinjuku Garden, with its wonderful hot-houses and aviaries, its groves of cherry-trees and splendid assortment of vegetables, is very little visited, permission not being so readily obtained in this instance. Covering about thirty acres of ground, this garden yields the fruits and vegetables used for the Imperial table. Formerly the suburban residence of a wealthy *daimyo* was on this site, and it was not until several years after the Restoration that garden work of a systematic kind was begun. Now there is a staff of trained horticulturists and floriculturists on the spot, and everything goes with methodic regularity and scientific precision, the heads of the various sub-sections being University graduates or botanists of approved skill and broad practical knowledge. And as the result, fruits and vegetables of delicate flavour and often giant size are produced at all seasons of the year.

One of the first things that catch the eye of a foreign visitor are some half-a-dozen strange-looking plum and peach trees. Indeed, "tree" is hardly the right word; for the fruit-bearers have been made to grow something after the fashion of a vine, are trained as espaliers against the hothouse walls, and, at regular intervals, have two branches, bent at exactly right angles. These dwarf and forced specimens of the peach and plum produce enormous and most delicious fruits, albeit few in number. The peach is an importation from China, and is known as the *Suyemitsu momo*. The first to bring this strange variety over to Japan, was Mr. KAGESHIMA YONEMON. Entering the first hothouse to the right, there are several large and wonderfully trained vines of Black Hamburg grapes, the pendent bunches being of extraordinary size. On a long,

low shelf are forty picked pine-apple trees, which are made to produce their luscious fruit twice a year. To the left again are several flourishing plantains and bananas, said to yield most delicately-flavoured fruit. Some of these came from South China, others from Formosa. In glass-covered beds to the left of this fruit-house are two acres, approximately, of strawberries—the seed coming from America and three favourite varieties being represented—cucumbers, egg-plants, asparagus, radishes, cauliflower, Jerusalem artichokes, "Brussels sprouts," and a host of other vegetables. The management take care that these different vegetables may be served at the Imperial table throughout the year. And everything is regarded as almost sacred; no one would dare touch a single strawberry or a stalk of asparagus, though it must be confessed that the mouth of the present scribe watered at the seductive sight. Under other and happier circumstances he might have sampled a few of the strawberries in particular from motives of sheer scientific zeal; but under the Argus gaze of half-a-dozen vigilant gardeners, the experiment had to be postponed *sine die*.

In the long and beautifully-kept hot-houses, the sight is one of great beauty, the air being redolent with the perfumed breath of strange tropical plants, rare orchids, and a single gorgeous specimen of the *Victoria Regia*. Maidenhair ferns are everywhere, and in great variety; *Streptocarpus* and *Vanda batterni*, the latter from the Philippines, are in wondrous bloom and perfection. The perfect, minute, yet carnivorous "Venus fly-trap," of which one species is peculiar to Japan, is represented by several fine specimens. Very remarkable, too, is *Cleisostoma ionosmum*, a native of the Riukiu Islands. The collection of *Cattleya* is quite unique, over a dozen species being represented. Finest of all is the quaint *C. skinneri* from Mexico. A dozen different *Dendrobia*; *Phalaenopsis grandiflora* from Java; *Cancellaria*, *Begonia*, *Primula*, *Iris* and *Calamul* in every colour; the wonderful *Anthurium scheraerianum*, with its enormous petals and pistils—the eyes wearies at length with excess of floral beauty. Leaving the hot-houses—of which there are more than ten—a broad avenue lined with cherry-trees of a rare variety brings the visitor to the gate of the zoological and ornithological section. Close by the entrance is a large boarded enclosure, wherein two huge camels of the Manchurian persuasion disport themselves in uncouth gambols. But the aviaries! One large roomy house is given up to singing birds: songsters having been collected from all over the world. Here a free concert is kept up from dawn till nightfall. Two large cockatoos with a well-trained lory keep watch at the entrances. One of these cockatoos is inclined to be sociable and

talkative, greeting all comers, irrespective of sex, with an affable "Otottsan"! Fastened to a tall pole at the western entrance is an unusually large Hokkaido monkey, prolific of caresses and with a propensity for jumping on unsuspecting persons' necks. The scene to the right is most attractive: a triumph of Japanese landscape gardening, with miniature bridges, temples, waterfalls, and rustic groves. Here swan and all kinds of aquatic fowl breed on the sedge-grown banks. Several cranes raise broods every year on a little island knoll to the west. A little further on one comes to a perfect gem of a summer-house in Japanese style, only three small rooms, but of unsurpassed elegance and taste. Fronting this are a few pens of sheep and goats, and one or two smaller carnivores. To the left of the bird-house are several single aviaries, each containing a bird of historic or other interest. There is the fine, wild-eyed falcon that lighted on the main yard-arm of the *Taka-chiho* after the fight of the Yellow Sea; another hawk lineally descended from a famous bird of the early TOKUGAWA Shoguns; two sea-eagles, and others of interest. This part of the Garden is particularly attractive, not only for its beauty but also for the excellent, healthy condition in which the bipeds and quadrupeds are kept. The Ueno Park Zoological Garden is nowhere by comparison. On the whole, the Imperial Household Department may well boast of the beauty and excellent management of the Shinjuku Gardens. There may be finer places elsewhere, but surely none of such grace, elegance, and good order.

HEAVEN-SENT WEALTH.

"The good Lord gave me money, and how could I withhold it from the University of Chicago." That is what Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, President of the Standard Oil Company, said to the graduating students and friends of the Chicago University at the graduating ceremony on July 1st. The statement has elicited sundry and diverse expressions of opinion. The *Chicago Chronicle*, for example, writes (we quote from the *Literary Digest*):—

Some sincere Christians do, of course, believe that the Almighty directs their most trifling affairs. They rely upon Providence with a faith that is as firm as it is admirable. But for a hide-bound monopolist, a wrecker of other men's business, an oppressor and a commercial pirate to profess such a belief is as blasphemous as it is disgusting.

The man may deceive himself. He may really believe that his iniquitous methods of money-getting are sanctioned by Infinity, or he may believe that he has made his peace with the Almighty by bestowing a tithe of his ill-gotten gains upon institutions of learning. But if he deceives himself he deceives no one else. The story of John D. Rockefeller's rise to wealth is too well known to be glozed over by eleventh-hour benefactions.

The good Lord gave me my money! Let the ruined refiners, the impoverished producers, the corrupted legislatures of the oil belt, stand as an answer to the blasphemy.

On the other hand, the *York New Sun* writes:—

It is a very striking circumstance that at this time of decaying faith a man who ranks with the three or four richest men of modern time should be impelled by religious convictions to a course of life and of conduct which is so unusual in its austerity. Many Baptists have risen to wealth from very humble circumstances during the last generation, but most of them, or at least the most of their families, have drifted away from their early associations under the influence of fashionable ambitions. Mr. Rockefeller remains staunch and immovable. Magnificent as his many gifts for charitable, religious, and educational purposes have been, the sum of them has gone almost wholly for the furthering of Baptist interest. He has built up in the Chicago University an institution which will glorify the Baptist name, and in that way, according to Mr. Rockefeller's unquestioning belief, will glorify God.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In looking over the religious periodicals that have appeared since our last Summary, we are impressed with the fact that for the most part each sect is intent on pushing forward its own work. Though, as will be seen by the following record, there are not wanting writers who deal with questions that affect all religious bodies, the majority of the literary contributions which call for notice confine themselves to the discussion of topics of limited interest and importance. Though now and again advocates of union between the sects make their voices heard amid the din of theological controversy, the general feeling among leading religious sects seems to be that united efforts, while from some points of view desirable, are not at present practicable; no union is possible without serious compromises; and these compromises leaders of religious thought are not disposed to make. According to their view, union without thorough agreement as to fundamental principles and doctrines could effect no good object, and hence they prefer to keep aloof from fellow-workers with whose methods and ideas they have no sympathy. With these few introductory remarks we now proceed to give the results of our perusal of religious publications during the month.

The *Shūkyō*, No. 58, contains a speech delivered at the 元通學院, Senshingaku-in, a Unitarian school, on the occasion of the third annual graduation ceremony of the school, by Mr. Shimada Saburō, Vice-President of the House of Representatives. The following is the gist of Mr. Shimada's address:—I purpose considering what is the present state of Japanese society and showing the influence which an institution like this may exercise over the thoughts and actions of the rising generation. It is important to observe that the adoption of Western civilization by Japan was a matter of necessity. When, prior to the revolution of 1868, our rulers first came into direct contact with the representatives of Western powers, they were impressed with their immense superiority in respect of the physical forces at their disposal. While desiring to close the country against foreigners, they felt that they lacked the power to carry it into execution. They were convinced that the only course to be adopted was to take steps for placing this country in possession of those formidable physical agencies on which Occidentals place so much reliance. Men-of-war were built; new weapons of war were imported; our army and navy were transformed and placed under foreign guidance. Every effort was made to develop the resources of the country to the utmost limit; and, with this in view, the rapidity with which roads and railways were constructed astonished the world. The zeal with which the material elements of Western civilisation were appropriated in the first two decades of the *Meiji* era has no parallel in history. In 1888 I took a trip to Europe and America. It was the year when there was great excitement throughout the Western world about the electric light. You will remember that so earnestly was this subject studied that Mr. William Thompson, whom I met at the time to which I allude, was knighted as a reward for his researches in this line. What was my surprise when five or six months later I returned to Japan to find night turned into day in the streets of Tōkyō by the presence of the electric light. This is only one among many illustrations that might be cited. But the progress we have made is confined to the external world. The enlightenment we have received has not extended to mental states and feelings. Instead of deriving a new impetus from the numerous improvements of a material kind which we have witnessed, our minds have been oppressed and weakened thereby. From ancient times Japanese minds have been supplied with thought from two well known sources, Buddhism and Confucianism. Shintō exists only in the pages of history. For a long time past its life has been extinct, and in enumerating the various influences which sway the

thoughts of men in modern times Shintō need not be included. Neither Buddhism nor Confucianism wield the power they once had. In the Tokugawa age they both received a large amount of government patronage. In recent times Confucianism is only studied as a learned subject that cannot be separated from a thorough knowledge of Chinese ideographs; while the regard in which Buddhism is held rests on the fact that the observance of its rites ranks as a national custom, and not on a conviction of its intrinsic merits as a religion. It is owing to the realised waning influence of ancient creeds that such sects as the Tenrikyō, among Buddhists, have originated forms of worship of the most objectionable kind, known as 淫祀, *Inshi*. Buddhism has of late years departed from its original standard in the matter of allowing its priests to eat flesh and to marry, being content with the sanction of the civil powers to these practices, a state of mind that in itself is a proof of degeneracy. There is no denying that the founders of the leading Buddhist sects were remarkable men, whether as regards knowledge or character. Conspicuous among these was Shinran, the founder of the Shin sect. No other sect has aimed at reaching the masses, at popularising its doctrines and methods in the way that this body has done. The teaching of other sects, regarded as philosophy, no doubt has a certain value attached to it, but its influence on society as a whole has been almost nil. There are sects, like the Sōdōshū, whose petty squabbles create a scandal. The disputes of this sect, accounts of which have been published from time to time, wholly concern property, but have been carried on with a bitterness altogether unworthy of men professing brotherhood. The quarrel has been settled by a petty official of the Home Department. Mr. Shimada's criticism here is misleading. Some of our readers may be aware that there is a Bureau in the Home Department called the 社寺局, *Shajikyoku*, or Temple Bureaux. The dispute in question was referred to the head of this Bureau. The acceptance of a title by the head of the Shin Sect, continues Mr. Shimada, is a proof that the unworldly spirit which actuated the great founder of this body is no longer held in high esteem, and in consideration of the significance of such an event those are not far wrong who say that the career of this sect has practically closed. We find then that, alongside of the material progress that so astonished the Western world, Japan in religious and mental affairs is in a state of darkness that is equally remarkable, and for the dispersion of which special measures are required. The whole tendency of the age is to extol material advantages and possessions at the expense of mental enlightenment. Moreover, current ideas bearing on marriage and family relationship all tend to give additional power to selfishly inclined people. Educational establishments like this are needed as a corrective to the abuses to which I have referred. Dr. Kaiō Hiroyuki is asking what harm there is in prostitution, and argues as though there were no great objection to a practice that society has been in the habit of condemning. It seems to me that if once one allows oneself to doubt the correctness of prevailing ideas on the great social and sexual questions of the day, there is no limit to which scepticism may not be carried, and we may find ourselves advocating free marriages and the like. It does not require much foresight to perceive that if loose principles in reference to sexual intercourse are held and propounded by educational magnates, the gravest moral consequences will follow. It will prove to be quite impossible to teach virtue to persons who are so well furnished with excuses for license. It is bad enough for pupils to be able to point to the immoral lives of many of their teachers, but still worse that they should be able to quote their opinions in the defence of vice. Among the great wants of the day are the instilling of approved moral principles into the hearts of students by precept and example, the use of ethical text-books which deal with modern subjects and do something more than quote the sayings of men in whom the world no longer takes an interest, and, above

all, the establishment of a kind of filial relationship between teachers and taught. The practical and most urgent questions of modern times are connected with the relation of the sexes and that of the rich to the poor—questions of social and domestic life. I take it that the managers of this school are fully aware of this fact, that they aim at providing an antidote for many of the evils to which I have referred and therefore I find pleasure in offering my congratulations on the occasion which has called us together to-day.

We read in the *Shūkyō* that at a meeting of the Unitarians held in Boston on the 26th of May it was decided to reduce the grant hitherto made for mission work in Japan by one half. The opinions expressed on this occasion worthy of note were three in number. (1) There were members of the Committee who held that the proper principle for the churches to follow was to withdraw from all fields where the results of previous labours are not satisfactory, and who maintained that Japan was to be included in this category. (2) There were members who contended that in the present condition of Unitarian finances no money could be spared for missionary work in foreign lands. (3) There were others who maintained that under any circumstances, that is, irrespective altogether of the financial condition of the churches, money should not be expended on foreign missionary work. The main reason for the action in reference to Japan is said to be the interest taken by the American Unitarians in their Indian missions and the consequent increased expenditure on these missions, and the decision of the English and other Unitarians to subscribe no more money towards the Japan Mission. The organ quoted above informs us that the Unitarians have decided to introduce changes in the management of the Senshingaku-in. Mr. Onishi Shuku is to be Director, and Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta, Manager, while Messrs. Droppers and MacCauley will lend valuable aid. The connection of Messrs. Kikuchi, Omori, and Matsumoto with the school has been severed.

A book of considerable importance, says the *Shūkyō*, is in course of publication. It bears the title of *Bukkyō Kakushū Kyō* (綱要) "An Account of the Leading Features of the various Buddhist Sects." This work has been in hand since 1890. Messrs. Ashitsu Jitsuzen, Shimaji Mokurai and Shaku Sōyen being the compilers. The collection of materials from the representatives of the various bodies has occupied some time, but the first part of the work has already appeared. The history is to be divided into 12 books and to be bound together in 5 volumes. Book I. contains the history of the 法相, Hossō, and 華嚴, Kegon Sects; Book II., the 天台, Tendai, and 真言, Shingon; Book III., the 融通念佛, Yūzū Nembutsu, the 臨濟, Rinzaï and the 黃檗 Ōbaku Sects. These books have already been issued.

In the pages of the 禪宗, *Zenshū*, Mr. Otori Keisuke, a member of the Privy Council, gives some interesting information about Buddhism in China. Chinese Buddhist priests, says Mr. Otori, do not believe in a future life. All their hopes are centred on this world. Many practices common in Japan, such as the employment of a priest to say prayers on the anniversary of the death of relatives, are unknown in China. Worldly prosperity, freedom from severe afflictions, and long life are the chief things prayed for. The priests are expected to cast out devils and to deliver physiognomical predictions. There is nothing more popular in China than the fortune-telling of the priests. The fact that the things of this life form the chief centre of interest in the minds of Buddhist devotees is shown by the magnificence of their temples, by the number of halls attached to them and the gates by which they are approached. There is nothing so poor as the ordinary run of Japanese temples to be seen in China. Chinese Buddhist priests differ widely from their Japanese brethren in several particulars. In knowledge they are very deficient, but they practice greater austerities than the Japanese priests. They abstain

from eating flesh, do not marry, shave their heads and wear hempen clothes, either brown or some other quiet colour. No silk or gold brocade such as is worn by priests here is to be seen even on the persons of the highest ecclesiastical dignitaries. There are no priests in China, Singapore, Siam, or Korea who dress as gaily as the Japanese fraternity. The source of the Japanese practice of donning fine clothes is to be found in the patronage which Buddhism received from Emperors and Shoguns in ancient times. In the Ashikaga days numbers of Princes joined the priesthood and bequeathed an amount of worldly splendour to holy orders unknown in other countries and out of keeping with the life and teaching of the great founder of the Buddhist religion. Mr. Otori is of opinion that Japanese Buddhist priests, in view of the new openings for religious propagation resulting from the late war, should abandon the habit of dressing differently from their *confères* in other countries.

We read in the *Yui-itsu*, a Shintō organ, that the Kyōto police authorities have called the attention of the "Buddhist and Shintō Clerical Association" to certain existing abuses of priestly power. Last year during the prevalence of the cholera in various places, priests made money by selling what they called holy water, which it was said would effect a cure. This water had been standing in many cases for weeks in front of Buddhist idols or on Shintō Shrines and was absolutely unwholesome. There are certain sects whose methods of influencing converts in not a few cases calls for police interference. Among these may be mentioned the Tenrikyō, the Tsukiyomi-kyō, the Kinkōkyō, the Ontakekyō, and the Kurozumikyō. The heads of these sects have been summoned before the Clerical Association and warned against the continuance of injurious practices such as the one now referred to.

The same organ informs us that three Japanese Buddhist priests have lately been despatched to Russia for the purpose of inquiring into the methods employed by the Greek Church for maintaining its hold on the minds of the soldiers of the Russian army; it being considered that it would be a great gain to Buddhism could these methods be applied to the Japanese Army, which stands in need of more religious teaching than it now has.

The *Tōkai Zasshi* (Statistics) publishes the following statistics bearing on that peculiar custom known as *Yōshi* (情死), for which there is no exact equivalent in English, as some of the deaths of lovers are not suicides. Perhaps love-deaths is the nearest approach to the original that can be obtained. The table refers to the period extending from Jan., 1895, to May, 1896:—

Age.	Deaths by Mutual consent of the parties.		Deaths by violence on the part of one of the parties, without the other's consent.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Below 20 years ...	2	11	—	3
From 21 to 25 ...	18	21	6	4
From 26 to 30 ...	10	2	2	—
Over 30 ...	4	1	—	—
Unknown ...	2	1	—	1
Total	36	36	8	8

This table was drawn up by the well known statistician Kure Bunzō, who, after informing us that of the above number of cases those in which self-destruction was suggested by men were 17, and those in which it was suggested by women 8, while in five cases the decision to die together was the result of simultaneous feeling, proceeds to trace the causes of these tragedies. According to Mr. Kure they originate in (1) A belief in the Buddhist doctrine of transmigration, according to which a union that, owing to obstructions created in a past existence, can not be effected in this world, may be consummated in the next; the idea being that the sufferings of this life alone for the sins of a previous life and thus render happiness in a future existence possible; or (2) in the traditional notion that while the relationship of

masters and servants and parents and children are confined to this life, that of husbands and wives extends over two worlds—the present and the future. (3) Another source of these dire acts is to be found in the character of the *jōruri* and *kyōgen* which are represented on the stage, in which love tragedies occupy a high rank.

The *Tōyō-tetsugaku Zasshi* contains a report of a lecture delivered by Dr. Katō Hiroyuki at the Tetsugaku-kan a short time ago entitled "Obstacles to Truth," in which Dr. Katō contends that religion is one of the great obstacles to the discovery of truth. History records, says Dr. Katō, that in numerous instances the investigations of scientists and philosophers were impeded by religious bigots and that in many cases earnest inquirers were not able to publish the results of their inquiry. This religious oppression was less in China than in Europe, and less in Japan than in China, yet it existed to a greater or less extent in both the East and the West. Religious belief and scientific belief have always been antagonistic to each other. In the case of science it is only after the most full and searching inquiry, after all the methods of investigation possible have been utilised, that belief is attained; but in the case of religion doctrines are accepted as true without proper investigation, and in many instances the mind, whose function it is to institute this inquiry, is no longer free to act as it pleases. Christianity being an absolute religion, claiming perfection, inquiry as to its truth would be considered out of place, but with Buddhism, many of whose doctrines have a philosophical basis, the case is different. Yet in the case of all religions that originated several thousand years ago it is not for a moment to be supposed that inquiry will be satisfied. But the great thing to be desired is that, without becoming the slave of Confucius, Christ or Shaka, men should be free to examine their teaching, to adopt what they please and reject the rest, but nothing can be more fatal to the attainment of true knowledge than implicit faith in either of the existing religions.

The *Seikyō Shimpō*, a Greek Church organ, publishes an account of the Annual Meeting of the Japanese Greek Churches held in Tōkyō on July 13th. No less than 191 representatives of various churches assembled on this occasion. The report for the year (Aug., 1895 to July, 1896) stated that 954 persons had received baptism during the year, an increase of 143 on last year's numbers. In the years 1889 and 1890, says the *Seikyō Shimpō*, 100 baptisms a year were considered to be an evidence of prosperity. We are accustomed to be told nowadays that religion is not flourishing. What is meant is that compared to the results of 1887 and 1888 the present record appears to be a poor one. But, regarded without reference to abnormal years, 954 baptisms are no mean results of Christian work. Nevertheless, it is important to bear in mind that the baptismal register is in no sense the sole criterion of Missionary success; statistics are not altogether reliable.

A writer in the *Aoyama Hyōron* observes that religious believers are in danger of succumbing to the spirit of the age in which we live. The present era is remarkable, says this writer, for the manner in which the sacred precincts of religion have been invaded by persons who have no religious feeling. Marquises and Counts, learned Doctors and literary magnates, all have something to say on the subject of religion, and men's minds are swayed to and fro according to the bent of the criticisms they hear or read. All this is shallow-brained and foolish. In some quarters there is a great outcry in favour of making religion a State affair. To those who object to personal religion the device of insisting on the importance of those elements and characteristics of religion which may be utilised by the State has always recommended itself. To infer from the opposition of a few scholars that there is no such thing as religious power seems to us the height of absurdity.

In that portion of the *Waseda Bungaku* de-

voted to religious topics, reference is made to the prevalence of religious doubt among young men of both the Buddhist and Christian persuasions. Young religious believers belong to one of two classes, says the *Waseda Bungaku*. They are either of the class that is satisfied with the religion professed because it knows no other, or of the class which is engaged in the study of other creeds along with their own and in the investigation of philosophic and scientific truths. It is among this latter class that wide-spread scepticism and dissatisfaction prevail. The investigations made by these young men have led them to perceive that no one creed embodies the whole of religious truth; that creeds, like men, excel in some things and are deficient in others. Hence the only course open to a discerning and a sincere inquirer is to make a suitable selection from available material. But there is one serious drawback to playing the rôle of an eclectic, and that is the powerlessness of doctrines chosen from various sources to renovate the heart in the way that it needs renovating. The imperfections of all existing creeds, their unsuitability to the age in which they live creates a longing for a new religious leader in the hearts of many earnest young men. They are wearied of mere logic chopping and of the repetition of dry formularies that have no interest to the present generation. According to the saying, law only begins to exist when there are men to obey it or enforce its observance. So is it with all religious precepts and rules, their excellence can only be known when there are men whose lives are their ever present embodiment. The religious men whose careers made a stir in the world have passed away without leaving mantles behind them. There is a great gap in religion between the new and the old, which shows no signs of being filled.

The Shinto organ, the *Yū Itsu*, writes in the same strain. Religion, says this magazine, in its present degenerate state can prove of little use to society. Another Shintō Jeremiah records his lamentations in the following words:—"So low is the quality of the men who represent religion among us that it is as though Christianity were to be preached by Ishikawa Goemon or Buddhism by Dōkyō. With such preachers who could be induced to listen?"

There is nothing new in the answers to the six questions propounded by the *Nihon Shūkyō*, noticed in the two last Summaries, but the comments of various organs on the answers given are worth epitomising. The *Fukuin Shimpō* bitterly resents the action of the *Nihon Shūkyō* and ridicules the answers published by that organ. Dr. Katō, says this preacher of the gospel of peace, is unable to comprehend the meaning of religion and hence has no right to express an opinion thereon. The answer of Shaku Sōyen astonished us beyond measure, continues the *Fukuin Shimpō*. The dogmatic manner in which most of the writers state their beliefs, says the *Mitsugon Kyōhō*, is surprising. The most foolish of all the opinions expressed is that of Shaku Sōyen, in which he proposes a meeting of the sects to discuss differences and decide on the course to be followed. But the *Zenshū* maintains that this reply of Shaku Sōyen is preferable to the majority of those published, which remind one of the proverb, *Waga ta ye misu wo hiku*, as every one is for recommending his own creed, and thus rendering the discussion useless. The *Bungaku Kai* is of opinion that such controversies as that started by the *Nihon Shūkyō* can effect little good. Though objecting strongly to Dr. Katō's method of treating religion, and while maintaining that religion is a natural product of the human mind, this organ is opposed to the methods of discussion adopted by numerous religion publications, and thinks that the efforts of the *Nihon Shūkyō* to advance the interests of religion are misdirected and only calculated to excite merriment among the enlightened.

Although no direct answers to Dr. Katō's question respecting the depth of the religious sense in the Japanese mind have as yet been published, several articles bearing on this sub-

ject have appeared, which we now reproduce in an abbreviated form. The *Fukuin Shimpō*, under the title of "The Japanese religious sense and the difficulty of Christian propagandism," contends that the progress which religion makes in Japan at the present time depends entirely on its character. If it is materialistic it will prosper. If it is spiritual it will make little impression. It does not seem to us that the reforms and changes which have been effected in the present era have in any way altered the religious life and feeling of the Japanese. In religious matters we are still children, attracted by material objects.

It cannot be said, remarks the *Taiyō*, that the *Turanians* are religiously inclined. Religious ideas in China are of the shallowest kind. Although such terms as 天, *Ten* and 上帝, *Jōtei* are in constant use, no such deep sense is to be attached to them as to the God of the religions of the West. Religious longings of the more fervent kind are unknown in China. Such expressions as 從天 (*Ten ni shitagau*) refer to obedience or subjection to natural laws, rather than to following the will of God in a Western sense. Their 頌, *shō* celebrate the splendour of their Emperor, rather than set forth the glory of God. That both the Chinese and Japanese are deficient in respect of the religious sense seems to us to need no further proof. They know of no spirit apart from matter; they have no belief that has not profit as its ultimate object. What we call our religious literature has only one title to be thus classified. It abounds in religious terms, it alludes to divinities and the like, but for the signs of real religious devotion you look in vain through these literary productions. The *Sōtō Kyōhō* re-echoes these sentiments. Japanese prayers, says this Buddhist organ, are concerned with the things of this world. The various offerings made to gods and divinities all show how materialistic are the notions of devotees and their instructors, the priests. The custom of transcribing the names of donors near the temples in order that others may know of their religious zeal shows how thoroughly worldly are prevalent ideas on this subject. The popularity of local gods, the belief in the fox's connection with Inari-sama, the importance attached to pictures and images and the like, all show how the Japanese religious sense clings to the material and is unable to get beyond.

Commenting on the prevalence of those corrupt forms of worship known as *Inshi*, the *Shinri* contends that the attitude of scholars to religion is indirectly responsible for the existence of the abuses practised by such sects as the Tenrikyō and the Renmonkyō. The desire for religion exists, and if the genuine article is not forthcoming even corrupt forms will be welcomed. The government are doing their best to put an end to the evils which have attracted public attention, but the real remedy for such a state of affairs lies in the possession of Christians and with them lies the responsibility of applying it.

The *Kiristokyō Shimbun* quotes from an address delivered at the Hartford Divinity School by Mr. Richard, a Presbyterian Minister of Plainfield, New Jersey, to the effect that there is no greater impediment to efficient and well organised Christian work than want of union among Christian Sects. The increasing demands for evangelistic work in large cities can only be met says Mr. Richard, by Christian bodies combining in their efforts. The *Kiristokyō Shimbun* thinks this suggestion to be much needed in Japan, where, with the exception of the Episcopalians, there is a total lack of union and mutual consultation in evangelistic work. The Kumi-ai Churches are great defaulters in this respect, where the tendency is for each church to try and push its own interests, instead of considering what is best for the Christian Church as a whole. It is very plain that the success of Christianity must largely depend on the skill with which the forces at the disposal of the Church are handled and applied, and

there is an immense deal to be gained by placing all the evangelists available under definite management and thus avoiding the weakness attendant on the sporadic efforts made by many Japanese Churches.

Only a few replies to Dr. Katō's questions respecting prostitution have been published. The *Awoyama Hyōron* states the reasons which induce it to condemn prostitution *in toto*. The *Hakkō* considers the topic unworthy of the pen of a man like Dr. Katō. The *Kyōiku Hōchi* regards Dr. Katō's new departure as an unwarrantable attempt to defend immodesty, and accuses the ex-President of the University of assuming the character of a special pleader on behalf of fallen women. To this criticism the *Nihon Shūkyō* replies that the *Kyōiku Hōchi* is evidently incompetent to understand the sentiments of scholars like Dr. Katō. It is as necessary that learned men should discuss prostitution as that medical men should deal with a number of unseemly subjects. Social reforms would be impossible were such subjects habitually shirked by leaders of thought. We postpone a fuller notice of this subject till next month, when we hope to be in possession of articles which will deal with it in a more thorough manner than those to which reference has now been made.

The *Nihon Shūkyō* contains a notice of a new Christian Sect designating itself "The Society of Friends." Its origin, as stated by the *Nihon Shūkyō*, is to be traced to a difference of opinion between foreign and Japanese Christians, which, some time last autumn, resulted in the Japanese severing their connection with their foreign fellow-believers and starting a new church, if church it may be called. One of the chief characteristics of the new society is its determination to receive no foreign aid of any kind. The members of the body pursue their ordinary avocations, only meeting once a month at the house of one of their number. Connection with adherents in the provinces is kept up by correspondence.

The organ from which we have just quoted informs us that among the 50 literary students who recently graduated at the Imperial University, no less than 23 have determined to compete for the degree of *hakase*, and that three out of this number have chosen religion for special study. Mr. Anezaki Masaharu is to devote himself to the study of "Religious development;" Mr. Shimidzu Tomojirō to that of "Comparative Divine Revelation," that is the Revelations of different creeds; and Mr. Hirota Ichijō will investigate the "Connection of Buddhism and Brahmanism."

The *Pui-itsu* condemns the action of the Doshisha *vis-à-vis* the American Board as unfilial and unchristian. The relation of the institution to the Board, says this *Shinto* organ, was evidently that of a child to its parent and this being so, the appeal to legal rights and the like was altogether out of place. The feelings of the members of the Doshisha are not what they ought to be. Regarded apart from Christianity altogether, the conduct of the Doshisha is unseemly. How much worse does it appear when it is remembered that the chief actors in the scene just witnessed profess the gospel of love, peace, and charity. The same organ is of opinion that there is a large amount of hypocrisy and corruption among Christian converts, and that to this is to be attributed the waning influence of Christianity in this country. A close scrutiny of the motives of Christian converts reveals that with a very large number one of two considerations induced them to profess the Christian faith, says the *Pui-itsu*. (1) They became Christians in order to attain some other ulterior object; (2) or they join the church as a means of obtaining a living. Numbers of young men are discerning enough to perceive that connection with a foreign missionary enables them to become acquainted with foreign languages and Western thought in a more thorough manner than they could possibly do

without such aid. Having attained their object, they abandon Christianity. Among the men who are paid to preach there are a large number who have no deep religious convictions. Of a vast number of Christian converts superficiality is the most conspicuous trait. The moral notions of Christian believers are in many instances of a very low class, and in money matters there is not infrequently a great want of confidence between foreign and Japanese believers. Even in the Doshisha, which once was a great power in the country, mutual confidence between the native and foreign members of the institution exists no longer. We cannot say, concludes the *Pui-itsu*, that the moral effects of the adoption of Western civilization and the introduction of Christianity have been good. Western science has been taught, men's minds have been enamoured with the new learning, but have drifted into materialism. Morality has vanished like so much smoke, and the great object in life with the majority seems to be to amuse themselves, with literature, with politics, with religion, each in turn.

MR. WAEBER.

A person signing himself "Tekken-sei" writes from Sōul to the *Yiji Shimpō* that a Korean has furnished him with this character sketch of Mr. Waeber, Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* in the Korean capital:—Mr. Waeber is not a great man, but an experienced political strategist; he has a consummate knowledge of accurately gauging the tide of times and things, both in the East and the West, and is excelled by no member of the *Corps Diplomatique* in Sōul in making tools of Korean statesmen. He has built his power and influence upon the foundation of the King's Court, therefore his political stability will not be affected by any Ministerial changes. His brain is cool and clear; he never allows any Korean statesman to become too familiar with him; never shows himself too warm a friend to anybody so long as the latter is useful to him, yet as soon as his purpose is achieved, he does not hesitate to give his tool a cold shoulder. His keen vision has penetrated deep into the coil of Korean politics, and at present he does not turn any very attractive ears to the appeals of Korean Ministers. Nor does he mean to allow his country to lend Korean any large sums, nor permit many Russians to become advisers to the Korean Government, while he is opposed to stationing a Russian garrison in Sōul.

HONEST MONEY.

It is a pity that the extravagant proposals of the silver men in America should have imparted so much force to their adversaries' plea for "honest money." There is not a single dishonest plank in the genuine bimetallic platform, which contemplates an international agreement to fix the ratio between the precious metals at a figure in close proximity to that actually ruling in the market, or, at any rate, differing so little from the latter as not to put an immense and unearned profit into the pocket of every large holder of silver. But when it is proposed that a dollar intrinsically worth only 53 gold cents shall be suddenly raised to a value of 100 cents, much force is given to the statement of the *New York Times*:—"The time has come when men must array themselves on one side or the other of this supreme issue. Those who are not for honest money are against it, and honest money means the gold standard and nothing less. It is an issue high above candidates or party, for it is an issue between national honour and national dishonour. There is no middle ground, no basis of compromise, no halting-place between public and private credit on the one side and discredit and anarchy on the other. It is an issue between patriotism and agrarianism; between courage and cowardice; between national prosperity and national bankruptcy, and it must be decided in the battle of 1896."

TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE IN AKITA.

The *Yiji* issued an extra on Tuesday afternoon reporting the occurrence of a terrible earthquake in Akita about 5 p.m. on the 31st. The report of the disaster reached the Department in Tokyo from the Akita Meteorological Observatory. It says that Rokugo, in Senhoku District, has been entirely destroyed, that Omagari and other places have also suffered terrible damage. A message has also reached the *Yiji* from Morioka, saying a terrible shock was felt there on the evening of the 31st ult. At Hanamaki more than 30 buildings were destroyed, and Higashi Hei and the Kisen Districts that suffered so severely from the last seismic disaster, have received considerable damage.

The following telegrams appear in the vernacular papers this morning, in reference to the affair:—

Akita, Aug. 31, 5:30 p.m.

A most terrible earthquake shock has just occurred: many houses are levelled to the earth, and the bazaar, in course of construction, is destroyed.

Sakata, August 31.

At about 5 o'clock this afternoon a violent earthquake occurred. It stopped clocks, threw down fences, and demolished stone-walls.

Iwate, Sept. 1.

In the two towns of Hanamaki and Kawaguchi about 30 houses were wrecked; many godowns were demolished. Many breaches have been made in the roads, and from some of these water gushed out. The extent of the damage cannot yet be stated as investigations are still proceeding.

Sendai, Sept. 1.

The earthquake on Monday afternoon wrecked many houses at Sawamura, in the Toyomachi District; 12 houses were completely ruined. Much havoc was occasioned at Kurihara, Shida, and Motoyoshi. Many feeble earthquakes are still being recorded.

Tsu, September 1.

The floods have done much damage in the district of Kuwana (Miye Ken). A train on the Sangu Railway was capsized, and 11 persons were injured.

RUSSIANS AS VIEWED BY JAPANESE.

An anonymous writer in the *Yomiuri* says that a Russian is tall and stoutly built. He has a broad face and an elevated forehead; is fond of wearing a long beard; has large and sparkling eyes; is full of fire and fervour, but his expression is not fierce, it is mingled with gentleness and serenity. The most striking features of a Russian's character are boldness and courage, amounting almost to a fault. An educated Russian is, however, both gentle and intelligent. The Russian is remarkably eloquent, his language being suited to the expression of delicate ideas and sentiments, being highly inflectional, while he is also considerably gifted in the use of gestures. A Russian has a large amount of patience, and does not give up in the face of difficulty or hardship; he would rather die than abandon an object. Peter the Great, as a wise man once said, was no chance production of Russia. He was simply the *soul ensemble* of all the excellent qualities of all Russians. He was, as a boy, not educated by courtiers and bishops, like most princes of his day, but was brought up by a German tutor who succeeded in instilling into Peter's mind European knowledge and thoughts quite foreign to Russia in the great Czar's time. Thus was he freed from the greatest drawback in Russian character—conservatism. The Russian has no nice powers of discrimination. In reasoning he is more inclined to be synthetic than analytical. His philosophy is not materialism, but transcendentalism, therefore he is incapable, unlike the German, of excelling in scientific studies and discoveries. He is not a thinker, but a practical man. In civilization, he lags far behind other Europeans, but as a conqueror he is *par excellence*. He conquers not merely by sheer strength, but by artfully securing the sympathy of his intended victim.

HARBOUR RECONSTRUCTION.

Just at present, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, in view of the necessity for developing shipping facilities, projects have sprung up in many places for reconstructing the harbours of the Empire. The principal among them are Hakodate, Otaru, Osaka, Nagao, Hakata, Atsuda, Kobe, Minatogawa, Kelung, and Shimonoseki. The plans for Hakodate and Otaru have advanced so far as to fairly promise successful consummation. The Osaka works are being discussed by the City Assembly, while the Nagoya Prefectural Assembly are now endeavouring to come to a decision regarding Atsuta harbour. A private company of Fukuoka has applied to the Authorities for permission to reconstruct the harbour at Hakodate, and Dr. Furuchi, Chief of the Civil Engineering Bureau in the Home Office, has been despatched to Fukuoka Ken to report upon the Company's designs. The reconstruction of Kobe harbour and alterations at the mouth of the Minatogawa have become problems of great importance to Kobe. The reconstruction work at Kelung is being investigated by Rear-Admiral Tsunoda, Professor Burton, etc. The Authorities as well as the general public are said to look upon Nanao as an important military harbour of the future. The projected work at Shimonoseki will be very extensive, and the Authorities are paying all attention to it. It is said that business relating to this scheme has brought Mr. Oura, Governor of Yamaguchi Ken, to the capital.

WORK AT THE TOKYO TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

From the Report of the Minister of Education for 1894, we take the following interesting extract with reference to the work done at the Tokyo Technical School during that year:—

As regards the actual state of manufactured goods and the practical results achieved by pupils in the various workshops, it may be mentioned that in the dyeing and weaving section, experiments were made with silk obtained from various kinds of silk-worms, both native and foreign. The results obtained by this experiment were quite remarkable, for it was discovered that in silk fabrics in which diverse sorts of silk are woven together, the whole surface of the cloth thus manufactured is so conspicuously lined that the best sorts of silk fabrics could never be produced by the intertexture of different sorts of silk. This being a most important question connected with the sericulture, reeling, and weaving, attracted the special attention of all practically engaged in such industries. The experiments in dyeing and weaving which had been prosecuted in the previous year on fabrics for the use of umbrella manufacture have been followed up the present year, and good results were also obtained. In order to save the needless labour and expense of dyeing crape and cotton satin black, an experimental process with aniline black was tried on the fabrics and was attended with very fine results. Satisfactory results were obtained from experiments made in dyeing and weaving, chiefly with gauze silk, velvet, carpet, *habutay* (a kind of fine silk), etc. As regards the furnace work, experiments were made with the materials used for earthenwares in Aizu in the Ken of Fukushima, and investigations on the subject advanced so far that when the teachers in the main course officially visited the said locality during the summer vacation, they were ordered to put the experiments to the test of practical application. Various facts were also discovered on investigations being made into the chemical properties of earthenwares, which will also be attended with satisfactory results when put to practical tests. As to the glass manufacture, the construction of furnaces is now in the course of investigation. An experiment of burning gas as a substitute for coal to be used in furnaces, and another experiment of using coal as fuel for glazing porcelain and earthenwares, are now in the course of prosecution. Among the various substances manufactured and put to practical tests in the section of applied chemistry may be mentioned bone gelatine, bone fat, fatty acid, grossuline, fish gelatine, petroleum, petroleum naphtha, oil for machinery, starch, grape sugar, acetic acid, creosote, collodionized cotton, gun cotton, gallic acid, pyrogallie acid, Borneo camphor, India rubber liquid sulphurous acid, acetone, iodiform, parchments, blue print, black print, etc. Among these manufactures, fatty acid, grossuline, and pyrogallie acid need further investigation, but with regard to others, good results were nearly always obtained. Among the matters investigated in the section of electrical engineering may be mentioned the experiments relating to the strength of various iron materials, together with oil burner, gas engine, Bandy's radiator, pumps, etc.

All of these instruments are of recent invention, and no attempt has ever been made in this country of constructing them, but as they are most indispensable for carrying out our industrial projects, many efforts were put forth both in investigation and construction, and they were rewarded with good success. As to the present condition of the practical work done by the pupils in the various workshops, the results were satisfactory and considerable progress has been made by them. Though the arrangements in the various workshops were so far completed as the school finances would permit, there yet remain many urgent questions connected with the future works of the institution. In the dyeing and weaving section, a steam engine must be introduced, for giving instruction in the arts of dyeing and weaving silk and calico fabrics, as well as cotton cloths, which are generally manufactured by the aid of steam-engines. In the section of furnace work, complete arrangements must be provided for the practice of pupils, as well as for investigations to be made on porcelain, earthenware, and glass manufacture. In the section of applied chemistry, various apparatus connected with the manufacture of sugar, and the brewing of fatty acid, grossuline, and *sake* are required, for the purpose of facilitating the manufacture of sugar, soap, European candles, or the preparation of chemicals on the one hand, on the other for assisting investigations to be made into the method of *sake* brewing. In the section of mechanics, a collection of various machines is required to meet the necessity of promoting such arts as are connected with the casting of steel and the manufacture of lead pipes, etc.

"NO. 1 TALKEE-TALKEE."

Mr. E. H. Parker, writing in the *New Review* for July, gives a translation of the Emperor of China's refusal to George the Third's request for permission to send an Ambassador to Peking. The Emperor's reply contains the following paragraph, very suggestive of the height of the pedestal upon which China believed herself to be placed in the year 1793:—"The requests now submitted by thine envoys not only seriously concern the statutory rules of the Celestial Court, but are all quite futile and impracticable in own interests. We now once more set forth our meaning for thine instruction, O King, who shouldst enter into our views and for ever render obedience, thus enjoying thy due share of the blessings of peace. If, after this clear declaration, thou, King, shouldst peradventure lend misguided ear to the words of the men under thee, and allow barbarian merchants to go with their trading ships to Chêh Kiang, Tientsin, &c., and seek to land there for purposes of trade, know thou that the statutory rules of the Celestial Court are very strict, and that the civil and military officers in charge of each place will do their duty faithfully, and will not allow any ships of thy kingdom proceeding thither to remain there, but will positively have to drive them away at once to sea, so that the barbarian merchants of thy kingdom will have all their trouble in vain. Say not thou wast not warned! Tremble and obey, without negligence, this further command!"

KOREAN NEWS.

The Sôul correspondents of the Tokyo papers send particulars of the arrest of a number of Korean politicians holding progressive views; while all have something to say of the progress of the negotiations with regard to the grant of a charter to certain Japanese capitalists for the construction of the Sôul-Fusan Railway. But first to the political arrests. The ringleaders in the affair are Li Tai-sun, Minister of the Imperial Household; Sin Ki-sôn, Minister of Education; and Li Chong-kôn, chief of the Police Board, and a few others of less repute, all of whom are either notorious bigots of the old school, or are greedy of power and are not afflicted with dainty scruples about the means they employ in attaining their purpose. Conspicuous among the lesser agitators are Hong Chong-u, the assassin of the late Kim Ok-kyun; and Li Il-sik, who attempted the life of Pak Yong-ho, and was arrested by the Tokyo Police, and then shipped home. Hong is now a Court official, while Li has an appointment in the Judicial Department. These bigotted and unprincipled men elaborated an absurd charge against the leading Koreans holding progressive views, declaring that Kim Chhun-hwi, ex-Vice-

Minister of Education and a nephew of the lamented Kim Hoing-su, with some 43 others, had a secret understanding with local insurgents with the purpose of assaulting the Russian Legation, and then carrying off the King. Later the charge grew into one of more serious import, a design to dethrone His Majesty. On the 13th ult., a chamberlain reported to the Minister of the Household—in accordance with the original programme—the alarming news that the Progressive faction had arranged to enter the capital at the head of a large number of local insurgents, with a view to carrying off the King. An order was thereupon conveyed to the Police to arrest forty Koreans suspected of holding progressive views. The Police were of course prepared beforehand, and with malicious promptitude at once arrested Yu Se-nam, ex-Vice Minister of the Home Department, the nephew of the late Premier, and a number of others all reputed as belonging to the pro-Japanese faction. At first, a rumour ran to the effect that the object of the arrest was to exterminate the pro-Japanese faction, but the rumours gradually assumed another shape when it was seen that all Koreans on good terms with one foreign country or another, whether Russia or America, were becoming alarmed for their safety. The all-powerful Minister of Justice, who is a leading pro-Russian statesman, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his brother, the Minister of War, both of whom are identified with the so-called English Language Faction, or pro-American faction, were all obliged to put themselves upon their guard.

On the afternoon of the day on which the arrests commenced, the Japanese Minister sent in a strong protest against the proceeding, laying particular stress on the point that the arrest of Koreans merely because they were identified with the pro-Japanese party, as public rumour had it, could not be suffered to pass unheeded. This protest was followed by remonstrances of similar import from the English, American, and Russian Representatives. The result was that the Court and Cabinet were obliged to stop the proceeding on the 15th ult. The number of Koreans arrested is not definitely known, but it is generally thought to be between 10 and 20.

It is suspected that the unfortunate Koreans recently arrested have suffered torture, for the Police and jailers of the capital are notorious for their brutality. Fortunately, the Foreign Representatives in Sôul are resolved, since the shocking assassination of the late Premier and the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry, not to allow the Korean Government to judge or punish their political opponents as they please. Mr. Steerbrink (?), an English gentleman in the employ of the Korean Government, and Philip Jaison, the Korean Editor of the *Independent* and leader of the English Language faction, have been appointed councillors to the Police Board in connection with the present case. It is confidently hoped that the presence of these two gentlemen upon the Board will deter the Korean Police from indulging in their favourite practice of extorting false confession from prisoners by means of torture; and that the accused in the present case will be liberated as soon as possible.

The negotiations to obtain a charter for the construction of the Sôul-Fusan railway by Japanese are at a standstill. After repeated applications by the Japanese Minister on the subject, the Korean Foreign Office sent him a note on the 15th ult., to the effect that the granting of such a concession as the construction of the Sôul-Fusan Railway while the localities are still in a state of disturbance, would ultimately involve the Japanese in danger, and therefore the time has not yet arrived for the Government to accede to the request of the projectors. This note brought the affair to a definite conclusion, at least for the present, but the Japanese projectors do not despair of their scheme. A special covenant was arranged between Japan and Korea in 1894 in connection with the laying of a railway between Sôul and Fusan, the agreement being that the concession of the right to build the Sôul-Fusan

railway should be given to a company approved by the Japanese and Korean Government. It was in virtue of this covenant that the Japanese Minister pressed the Korean Government to grant a charter to Baron Ozaki and Mr. Omiwa, now in Seoul agitating on behalf of their fellow projectors of Tokyo and Osaka. So long as this covenant exists the privilege of constructing the Sôul-Fusan Railway must be considered as monopolized by Japan alone; and Japan, therefore, is entitled to bring forward a claim for the construction of this line at any moment. Some journals suspect that the two committees of the Fusan-Sôul Railway Construction Company, now in Sôul, may be placing too much importance upon the necessarily formal negotiations of the Japanese Minister. They must remember that the Americans obtained the concession for the construction of the Sôul-Ninsen line and the French of the Wiju-Sôul line, in virtue of their having freely spent money among influential Koreans both in the Court and the Cabinet. The Japanese are advised by the Sôul correspondent to be similarly liberal if they wish to obtain similar concessions.

THE GERMAN CIVIL CODE.

Telegraphic news that the German Civil Code had at length been passed, was received in this part of the world without any special comment. Yet it is certainly a very great event. The *Manchester Gazette*, referring to it, says:—

The German nation are to be congratulated upon the passing of their Civil Code, which after thirty years' preparation, has at length been finally adopted as the law of the empire, although it will not come into force until the beginning of the year 1900. For such a nation as Germany, nothing more essential to its well-ordered progress can be imagined than a code of civil law. This cluster of countries, which is now known as the German Empire, is under one government and one head, with one army and one navy. But, as long as its people lived and worked and died under such a number of different and conflicting legal systems, the very basis of true national unity, as distinguished from imperial power, was wanting. In regard to its laws, Germany is still in many places quite medieval, and although parts of Prussia have a provincial system, there are as yet numerous local codes and customs still extant, while the Rhine provinces continue to be under the French code. The work has been enormous, and it has been practically done three times over, the third commission having been composed of German judges and lawyers skilled in the actual administration of the law. Much of it is, of course, really based upon that great body of jurisprudence called the Roman Law, a work so massive and enduring in its character that it still forms the greatest monument of this wonderful race, which built and legislated as it were for all time, and left succeeding generations to use its materials of every kind in erecting a new order of civilization upon the ruins of the old.

When, we wonder, will Great Britain have a civil and a criminal code. The general conclusion is that she can never have one until she possesses a more practical form of legislature than the House of Commons. She has conferred upon India the boon of codes complete and satisfactory, but she can not, apparently, do as much for herself. Lying in some capacious pigeon-hole there is a draft of a British Criminal Code, elaborated by some of the country's greatest jurists after years of labour. The greater part of this Code was endorsed several times by the Legislature, but Parliament has never found time to dispose of the debated clauses. The business-like, common-sense faculties of the English people, as has been well observed, do not display themselves conspicuously in the work of legislation.

THE ANTI-CYCLE MOVEMENT.

A number of American ladies have formed themselves into an association called the "Women's Rescue League." Their object is to stop the use of the bicycle by females. They have scattered circulars broadcast, inviting all clergymen and "true women" to join in discountenancing a practice "as indecent as it is vulgar," which, they affirm, is in great part to blame for an alarming increase of immorality among young women. They formulate the following charges:—

A great curse has been inflicted upon the people of this country because of the present bicycle craze, and if a halt is not called soon 75 per cent. of the cyclists will be an army of invalids within the next ten years.

Bicycling by young women has helped more than any other medium to swell the ranks of reckless girls, who finally drift into the army of outcast women of the United States.

"Bicycle run for Christ," by so-called Christians should be properly termed "Bicycle run for Satan," for the bicycle is the devil's advance agent, morally and physically, in thousands of instances.

We presume that these good ladies know what they are about, but it seems to us that the bicycle has come to stay. As to its immodesty, that can be a question of costume only. If cycling helps to abolish the unpractical and ridiculous dress worn by ladies in Europe and America to-day, it will go down to posterity as one of the greatest blessings of the century. Why, again, should it promote immorality? The exercise itself is healthy and invigorating. It promotes muscular development, acts as a tonic to the nerves, and teaches self-reliance. Of course it presents opportunities to escape beyond the ordinary limits of restraint and supervision, but morality that can not stand that increase of latitude seems scarcely worth safeguarding. Certainly cycling can not be mentioned in the same breath with dancing, and that women should band themselves together for the purpose of checking the former while they treat the latter with indifference and freely indulge in it, is another flagrant example of the biblical beam and mote.

THE SEISMIC WAVE DISASTER.

The papers print an interview with Mr. Kume Kinya, a Councillor in the Home Department, who lately returned from an official tour in the districts inundated by the great seismic wave. The survivors, he says, have mostly lost one or more near relations, and now ten and sometimes as many as twenty persons—the individual survivors of once large families—are found living together in a house. They earn a livelihood by fishing, as in the days previous to the direful catastrophe, the fishing boats and tackle being rented out to them by capitalists. Most of the inhabitants of the Kisen and Motoyoshi Districts are at present engaged in catching cuttle-fish, and the more fortunate among them are taking 4 to 5 yen worth per day. The current price of cuttle-fish is 2 rin 5 mo per head: the fishery is therefore very prosperous. Shoals of *katsu* are also being obtained in these districts. The people in Kamaishi and vicinity are also doing well by the capture of cuttle-fish. Quite contrary to expectation, I have found the schools already resuming work in most of the towns and villages, principally in Buddhist or Shinto temples, as the old school-houses have been either wrecked or swept away. The people of Totsugawa, in Yamato Province, emigrated to Hokkaido or elsewhere after the great inundations that took place many years ago, and some persons thought that on the present occasion, the survivors might be willing to leave their old homes for safer places. But such is not the case. The people prefer to remain in their old villages, completely resigning themselves to the chances of fate. Those who have commenced to rebuild their houses have shown no inclination to select sites in higher places. Nothing beyond the relief of the destitute, wounded, or sick, has yet been attempted by the civil administration in the devastated towns and villages. This cannot be helped, for most of the old official documents are lost. The relief funds that have come in from various sources promise to produce very good results, though the young and improvident appear incapable of turning their gifts to the best advantage. A portion of the relief funds is still held by the Prefectural Offices, but enough has already been given to the unfortunates to pay for the reconstruction of their houses and the purchase of immediate necessities, agricultural implements, and seeds.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN ARBITRATION TREATY.

We are now in possession of the details relating to the proposed treaty for referring to arbitration all questions that may hereafter arise between Great Britain and the United States of America. The question is probably the most important that has occupied public attention since the beginning of the century, and its interest for the civilized world can scarcely be exaggerated. We take from *Bradstreet's* an excellent digest of the negotiations and the position reached up to July 25th:—

The original draft of a treaty for this purpose came from Lord Salisbury, who proposed that the two Governments each appoint two or more permanent judicial officers for the purposes of the treaty; that on the appearance of any difference between the two powers, which, in the judgment of either of them, cannot be settled by negotiation, each of them shall designate one of the said officers as arbitrator, and the two arbitrators shall hear and determine any matter referred to them in accordance with this treaty; that before entering on such arbitration, the two arbitrators shall select an umpire, by whom any question upon which they disagree, whether interlocutory or final, shall be decided; that the decision of such umpire upon any interlocutory question shall be binding upon the arbitrators, and that the determination of the arbitrators, or, if they disagree, the decision of the umpire shall be the award upon the matters referred. Among the subjects for arbitration are included complaints made by the nationals of one power against the officers of the other; all pecuniary claims or groups of claims, amounting to not more than £100,000, made on either power by the nationals of the other, whether based on an alleged right by treaty or agreement or otherwise; all claims for damages or indemnity under the said amount; all questions affecting diplomatic or consular privileges; all alleged rights of fishery, access, navigation, or commercial privileges, and all questions referred by special agreement between the two parties.

Differences in respect to questions of fact or of international law involving the territorial rights, sovereignty, or jurisdiction of either power, or any pecuniary claim or group of claims of any kind, involving a sum larger than £100,000, are to be referred to arbitration under the treaty, but if in any such case, within three months after the award has been reported, either power protests that such award is erroneous in respect to issue of fact, or some issue of international law, the award is to be reviewed by a court composed of three judges of the Supreme Court of Great Britain and three of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, and if the said court shall determine, after hearing the case, by a majority of not less than five to one, that the said issue has been rightly determined, the award shall stand and be final, but in default of such determination it shall not be valid; and if no protest is entered by either power against the award within the time limited it shall be final. Differences which, in the judgment of either power, materially affect its honour or the integrity of its territory are not to be referred to arbitration under the treaty, except by special agreement. Any difference whatever, by agreement between the two powers, may be referred for decision by arbitration with the stipulation that, unless accepted by both powers, the decision shall not be valid. The time and place of their meeting and all arrangements for hearing, and all question of procedure, are to be decided by the arbitrators, or by the umpire, if need be.

Mr. Olney, while welcoming the proposals of Lord Salisbury on general grounds, took exception to some of them and suggested substitutes. He proposed, for example, that arbitration under the treaty should also be obligatory in respect of all questions now pending or hereafter arising involving territorial rights, boundaries, sovereignty, or jurisdiction, or any pecuniary claim or group of claims aggregating a sum larger than £100,000, and in respect of all controversies not specially described in the treaty; provided, however, that either the Congress of the United States on the one hand, or the Parliament of Great Britain on the other, at any time before the arbitral tribunal shall have convened for the consideration of any particular subject matter, may by act or resolution declaring such particular subject matter to involve the national honour or integrity, withdraw the same from the operation of the treaty; and provided, further, that if a controversy shall arise when either the Congress of the United States or the Parliament of Great Britain shall not be in session, and such controversy shall be deemed

ed by her Britannic Majesty's government or by that of the United States, acting through the President, to be of such nature that the international honour or integrity may be involved, such difference or controversy shall not be submitted to arbitration under this treaty until the Congress and the Parliament shall have had opportunity to take action thereon.

Secretary Olney further proposed that in the case of controversies of the kind referred to the award shall be final if concurred in by all the arbitrators, and that if assented to by a majority only the award shall be final, unless one of the parties within three months from its promulgation, shall protest in writing to the other that the award is erroneous in respect of some issue of fact or of law. In every such case the award is to be reviewed by a court composed of three of the judges of the Supreme Court of Great Britain and three of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, who, before entering upon their duties, shall agree upon three learned and impartial jurists to be added to said court in case they shall be equally divided upon the award to be made. To the court there shall be submitted a record full of all the proceedings of original arbitral tribunal which record, as part thereof, shall include the evidence adduced to such tribunal. Thereupon the court shall proceed to consider said award upon the record, and may either affirm the same or make such other award as the principles of law applicable to the facts appearing by said record shall warrant and require, and the award so affirmed or so rendered by the court, whether unanimously or by a majority vote, shall be final. If, however, the court shall be equally divided upon the subject of the award to be made, the three jurists agreed upon as hereinbefore provided shall be added to the said court, and the award of the court so constituted, whether rendered unanimously or by majority vote, shall be final.

In support of these substitutes, Secretary Olney declared that they make all disputes *prima facie* arbitrable, and places where it belongs, in Congress and Parliament, the right and power to decide whether they are arbitrable or demand assertion by force of arms. The administration in authority, he said, when a serious international controversy arises, is often exposed to influences not wholly favourable to its impartial consideration. It is liable to view the honour of the country as not distinguishable from the good of the party. And if war and not arbitration is to be evoked the direct representatives of the people, at whose cost and suffering war must be carried on, should be properly charged with the responsibility of making it. By the scheme as amended, on the other hand, the controversy is finally ended, whereas under the original proposition there would be award only in rare cases in which the six appellate arbiters favoured it either unanimously or by a majority of five to one. Mr. Olney suggested that such an arrangement would be dangerous. In all cases where the arbitrators were equally divided or stood four to two, public feeling in each country would be aroused by the protracted proceedings, and the chances of a peaceful outcome would be rather prejudiced than promoted; and Mr. Olney pointed out that the United States, having no European alliances, has more to fear than Great Britain from the bias of foreign judges.

Secretary Olney suggested that if the amendments proposed by him should prove acceptable, there would be no reason against bringing the pending Venezuelan boundary dispute within the terms of the treaty by express words of inclusion while in case no general treaty of arbitration could be expected at present, the dispute would offer a good opportunity for a tentative experiment at arbitration. Lord Salisbury, in reply, disclaimed any intention to exclude the Venezuelan dispute, but held that the system of arbitration ought to be application to all civilized countries. Somewhat later Lord Salisbury proposed the establishment of a commission consisting of four members, two to be British subjects and two citizens of the United States, to report upon the facts which affect the right of Spain and Holland at the gate of Great Britain's acquisition of British Guiana, and suggested upon the report of such commission Great Britain and Venezuela should endeavour to agree upon a boundary, and that, failing in this, a tribunal should be appointed, to consist of one British and one Venezuelan member, and they to select a third, who should fix the line of boundary, but with a proviso that it should not include as Venezuelan territory any territory which was occupied by British colonists on or before January 1, 1887, or as territory of Great Britain any occupied by Venezuelans at the same time. Secretary Olney declared that the United States government was unable to treat

the proposals as well adapted to bring the Venezuelan dispute to a speedy conclusion.

Whether any steps beyond those outlined above have been taken since the date of the last installments of the correspondence, nearly a month and a half ago, is not known. Something has, however, been gained in bringing the question of arbitration, both general and particular, under discussion in a temperate spirit, and it seems not too much to hope that further advances will be made before the incident can be regarded as definitely closed.

CHINESE NEWS.

It is well sometimes to know what the natives of a country think of us, says the *N.C. Daily News*. Some time ago a steamer belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, named the *Fushima Maru*, while leaving Vladivostok, ran into and sank a Chinese junk manned by Shantung men. The case was brought into the Russian courts by the survivors against the steamship company, resulting, it is reported, in a verdict of damages against the latter, which was ordered to pay the sum of 20,000 roubles for each life lost by the collision. This judgment of the Russian court has made Russians more than ever popular amongst the Chinese, wherever the news has travelled, especially in the Treaty ports of this country, where it is claimed that the indemnities—whenever given—to Chinese by foreigners appear ridiculously small and insignificant in comparison with that recently ordered by the Russian court. It has even been remarked that "when a foreigner happens to lose his life, whether accidentally or otherwise in China, the native culprit is beheaded whenever turned over to the Mandarins for trial. But if, as sometimes happens, a Chinese is killed by a foreigner, the foreigner gets off with the payment of a paltry couple of hundred dollars."

A telegram dated the 10th inst. received from Peking by the *Hupao* states that Têng Hua-hsi, the Provincial Treasurer at Soochow, has been promoted to the Governorship of Anhui vacated by Fu Jun, resigned on account of ill-health.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 15th ult. mentions that Colonel and Mrs. Denby arrived at Peking on the 10th, and that their house-boat capsize on the 8th, on their way up the Peiho. It fortunately only turned on its side, and Colonel and Mrs. Denby were dragged out of the windows, after having been submerged.

The Chinese native papers at Shanghai give currency to a rumour, says the *N.C. Daily News*, that certain Japanese have employed a native to appear on their behalf for the purchase of some 130 *mow* of land on the Pootung side. There it is said will be built a number of steamer wharves for river and ocean going steamers to run between Shanghai and Yangtze ports, and Shanghai and the coast ports. Also on the Soochow Creek will be built a pontoon for a Japanese Steam Launch Company, with twelve launches to run between Shanghai, Soochow, and Hangchow.

The Mukden correspondent of the leading Shanghai journal writes:—The visions of heaps of gold to be taken up by scraping the ground have not as yet been realized. The tale is that most of the gold-diggers find it hard enough to make ends meet and that some of them have thrown up the business in disgust. Knowledge will, however, produce gold in quantities throughout the province in the future. Coal is doing better. There is a town, Yilu, half-way between this city and Tiehing, around which coal, cropping out of the ground in many localities, has been long begging to be picked up; but *Angshui* forbade. Now licenses have been granted and a good many pits are opened, producing meantime heaps of the coal dust so much used by smiths. It is confidently anticipated that at no great depth coal of a more tenacious kind and of excellent quality will soon be reached. The coal fields are of great extent and lie on or close to the surface. The main Liao river is not more than 20 miles away, and the country level. There should be no difficulty therefore ere long in sending down to the port of Newchwang great quantities of good coal. The quality of the coal usually produced in Manchuria excels that of Kaiping.

The following letter from the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Whasong Memorial fund has been published:—

Foochow, 7th August.

I am now able to inform you that the Monument, which has been placed over the graves of the victims of the Whasong Massacre, was unveiled by the British Consul on Saturday last, the 1st instant, a large number of the Missionary and Mercantile community being present.

With this I beg to hand you a statement of account which you will observe shows a credit balance of \$546.84. In accordance with the original plan, I have offered to hand over this sum to the English Mission, but Archdeacon Wolfe and other members of the Mission have expressed a wish that it should be devoted to the purpose of placing a Memorial Window in the British Episcopal Church of this place. Therefore, unless I find within one month from the date of this letter that the new proposal is not generally approved of, I shall adopt it.

The balance in hand will probably be insufficient to pay the cost of a suitable stained-glass window, but I have the assurance of a few members of the Community that any debit balance will be willingly made good.

News from Peking is to the effect that the Chinese-American National Bank scheme, which H.E. Chang Yin-huan and Dr. Yang Wing were supporting, has fallen to the ground by reason of want of funds. The necessary capital was to have been raised in the United States; the parties were confident of success, but it is reported that no success has attended their efforts. There are such advantageous openings, we presume, for the use of money within the Union itself, that there appears to be no great anxiety to invest in foreign stocks, railways, banks, and such like. China has yet to wait, it would seem, for her National Bank.

In a letter to the *N. C. Daily News* from its correspondent in Peking occurs the following paragraph:—

It was reported some time ago that Mr. Hsü of Canton was dead. It appears that this information was not well founded. We are now given to believe that he is still alive and that he has proceeded to the West—England it is said, to raise the necessary capital for the construction of this long-talked-of Hankow railway. Shortly after the appearance of the edict regarding the said railway in which Mr. Hsü's name appears first on the list of the four petitioners—their number has since become greatly augmented—he wired to the Military Board that he had already raised three-quarters of the amount required, viz., ten millions, and that by the fifth moon he would have collected the remainder and come to Peking. He was told to proceed to Hankow to see the Viceroy there so as to prevent delay. A certain person with whom he had entered into a preliminary agreement at Shanghai having failed to raise the necessary funds either in California among Hsü's compatriots, and being equally unsuccessful further East, there was apparently nothing for it but for Hsü to become defunct. We are glad to learn, however, that he is still to the fore and still lives and breathes the vital air. We learned lately that Shêng Taotai had been appointed Director of the Railway by the Hukuang Viceroy. This seemed to follow as a matter of course from his purchase of the Hanyang Iron Works—otherwise if the railway did not utilise his output, he would have a white elephant on his hands, and the Viceroy would have no hope of receiving the second million taels which was conditional upon the works proving a success. The appointment was, however, authoritatively denied, but since then we have learned on unimpeachable authority that it is really so. He is a good man for the post so far as his abilities go. As far as offices are concerned, he is a great pluralist. The Hankow railway, is not yet settled—as far as its construction is concerned. Speaking of railways, it is worth mentioning that the Peking station of the line to Tientsin is not to be at the so-called Marco Polo's Bridge (Lukouch'-iao), nor as later determined upon at Kantai, still a few miles distant from the capital, but is actually to come up close to one of the south-western gates of the southern city. For this change we must all feel devoutly thankful. The late rains have carried away some of the newly formed earthworks of the line, but a representation will be made to the Throne by Judge Hu so that the deficiency caused by repairs, say Tls. 20,000, will be refunded. The works have passed out of the hands of the contractors. We are always having rumours of the stopping of this railway or of the death of some foreigners concerned in its construction. Fortunately the late eclipse of the sun passed over quietly without any indication of heaven's displeasure at the iron road.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

WANTON DESTRUCTION OF WILD BIRDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A great and mighty wrong is being done in this country—one that the Government should at once stop and thus prevent a dire disaster that must eventually come upon this land,—in the stupid, cruel, and unnecessary slaughter of the wild birds of Japan. Thousands of these useful assistants of the farmers are being wantonly destroyed for the sake of a few *sen*. When the farmers find their crops destroyed by swarms of insects owing to the absence of their natural enemies, the birds, great will be the outcry, but the mischief will then be beyond redemption.

I am, Sir, yours truly, F. M. JONAS.
August 27th, 1896.

RAILWAY MISMANAGEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In response to the letter of Mr. Mitsugu Sengoku, in your issue of the 26th inst., in which he reiterates his denial of the truth of my charges against his employes, a denial which he dignifies as a refutation, it is, I think sufficient to state that, in the prolonged and careful personal investigation which he claims to have made, he has neither called for nor given me any opportunity to present the evidence in support of my statements which has been at his disposal from the first and which was specifically offered him in my letter of the 28th ult. published in your columns.

Mr. Sengoku's so-called investigation has been a farce, but whether any evidence whatever could shake that gentleman's sublime confidence in the perfection of his own administration and the impeccability of his employes, seems exceedingly doubtful.

To my charges against the minor servants of the Tokyo-Yokohama Railway it would now be very easy to add some of far greater importance against their superior; but, as I am disinclined to farther become a target for abuse for doing what any public-spirited citizen should do, and for which he would receive, from any properly managed corporation, thanks rather than contumely, I refrain.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE.

August 27th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to the recent discussion on "Railway Mismanagement" in your columns, the experience of an unbiased spectator may possibly interest Mr. Mitsugu Sengoku. He may be glad to learn from an unprejudiced party that Dr. Eldridge's case is by no means a rare one, and that the "check system," as worked at present in Japan, is anything but satisfactory. It may interest—and possibly be of use to—him to learn that in one week three cases have come to my personal knowledge (one case was my own) where baggage, duly checked and seen into the train at Yokohama, has failed to reach Nikko till a day after its owner. In one instance a trunk was lost altogether.

Most travellers, however, are either too easy-going, or not public-spirited enough, to complain as Dr. Eldridge has very rightly done: they prefer rather to accept such *contretemps* as an inevitable result of Government *à la Japonaise*. They usually swear at first, but matters having come right by lapse of time, they live in hope that some day the young idea may learn to shoot straighter, and go their ways in silence.

But as regards the discourtesy of which Dr. Eldridge complains I fear that where Japan's officials are concerned, most of us would use a stronger term; the studied incivility being as strongly marked as the deplorable rowdiness of the sailor and student classes. These traits in themselves are not so likely to injure Japan in the eyes of the world as the disgraceful impunity with which they flourish.

Enclosing my card, I beg to remain, dear Sir, yours truly, VIATOR.

Nikko, August 28th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Viator" describes three cases in which luggage checked at Yokohama for Nikko failed to reach in proper course; I can add to this record two cases within a week,

in which luggage checked in good time at Yokohama by the same person, for Kodzu, was not to be found on arrival at the latter station. I beg to commend these cases also to the notice of Mr. Mitsugu Sengoku.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully, HAKONE.
Yokohama, 31st August, 1896.

A CENSUS OF CHRISTIAN CHARITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Philanthropic work under the auspices of Christian Missions is associated with so many sects that it is almost impossible to gain any correct idea of the work as a whole or even of particular enterprises or the charities in any given locality, unless such happen to be connected with one's own denomination. It has long seemed to me that for many reasons a tabulated list of all institutions in Japan under Christian auspices was a desideratum. I have already made two partial attempts to prepare such a Census, and am hoping to publish shortly a new Revised List which shall include all schools of every sort, asylums, hospitals, institutional Churches, and other enterprises under Christian auspices. May I ask those of your readers who are willing to aid in the preparation of such a statistical survey to send me *at once* the data for any schools or other institutions in which they or their Missions may be labouring?

The Census when completed will be on sale at a merely nominal price—probably ten *sen*—and should prove of some interest and practical benefit.

DATA WANTED.

- 1—Name, both in English and Japanese.
- 2—Class (nature of the institution).
- 3—Location.
- 4—Date of first opening.
- 5—By whom organized.
- 6—Present director.
- 7—Number of students (or patients).
- 8—Denomination.
- 9—How supported.
- 10—Value of plant.
- 11—Annual income.
- 12—Expense per pupil.
- 13—General remarks.

Thanking you and any of your readers who may respond to this request.

I remain, yours very truly,

J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, August 27th, 1896.

FORMOSA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to your leading article of 10th of August, as a foreign merchant in Formosa, I should like to correct a few statements made therein regarding foreign trade in this island.

Whilst acknowledging that the treaties of foreign powers with China referred equally to Formosa, it must be admitted that in certain articles of production foreigners were to some extent pioneers of trade; they were allowed a certain amount of freedom in this island, which, as results have already shown, has been for the benefit of Formosa and of its rulers, whose revenues to a considerable extent were dependent on these very articles.

As to your remark "the Japanese have prudently suffered the *status quo* to be in great part re-established," I should like to point out that foreign powers agreed that the treaties of Japan should be applied to Formosa but that at the same time the acquired rights of the foreigners there should be confirmed.

As to your statement about "developed methods, which, though not reconcilable with Treaty stipulations, are essential for preserving the monopoly that these foreigners have acquired over the principal staples of production, camphor, sugar, and tea," I should thank you to inform your readers what these developed methods consisted of. I beg to state that these foreigners, unhappily for them, have never been able to establish a monopoly over any of these three articles. Tea, although you put it last, is the principal article, is handled on exactly the same principles as in China and Japan, with the exception that an extremely large proportion of tea is fired and packed here by Chinese, who themselves ship a considerable quantity of the same to Amoy for sale there. This proves that the Chinese merchant here is not more, but rather less, dependent on the influence which you choose to style a monopoly of the foreigners, than the Japanese tea merchant in Japan, where the packing is done by foreign firms. Secondly, sugar is by no means a monopoly of foreigners. In Takao, Chinese export quite as much sugar as foreign merchants, and in

Amoy the Chinese have by far the lion's share of the export. Thirdly, camphor. This article was at one time a government monopoly and the authorities sold at various times to either foreigners or Chinese. For years, however, the trade has been opened to everybody, and Chinese have during the last 4 or 5 years exported more than foreigners.

Your remark, "Japan's early attempt to bring the trade of the island within purview of Treaty provisions, or, at any rate to introduce a system of orderly control, at once aroused the alarm and opposition of these foreigners," is more unjust to foreigners here, than those straightforward lies of certain low class papers about foreigners in Formosa, as for instance the accusation of foreigners supplying arms to rebels, of foreigners, not Chinese or savages, being the troublesome element here, and other statements speaking for themselves. A considerable amount of friction was caused by the sudden application of a law regarding the taxation of camphor, which law being rather complicated caused at first difficulties to both officials and traders. The position of foreigners was ignored in that law, and disturbance of trade and complaints naturally followed; secondly, a great deal of dispute has been caused by Government not recognizing distillers who were unable to show permits for the production from the late Chinese government. Merchants interested made remonstrance, and after careful study of the question the Japanese Government has acknowledged those rights by Ordinance No. 14 of 20th June, 1896.

Now I trust to have convinced you that foreigners have not by any means any monopolies in Formosa (neither by law nor in practice), nor have they opposed any attempt of the Government to introduce orderly control, which is earnestly desired by every foreigner here, if done in an able and fair way.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, R. W. OHLY.

Twantutia, 23rd August, 1896.

POINTS OF SPELLING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—*Appropos* of certain recent leading articles, I send you the enclosed.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

August 27th, 1896.

SPELLING REFORM.

We are asked to be one of a kumpany of 300 editors, authors, prominent teachers, and other dignitaries who will agree to adopt simpler forms of spelling under the following rules:—

- 1.—To change final "ed" to "t" when it has that sound, when the preceding vowel sound is long and express by a single letter, except when it is expressed by two or more letters, and excepting, also, when a preceding "c" has the sound of "s"; for example, "whist" instead of "wished," but not "bait" instead of "baked" nor "crouch" instead of "crouched," nor "chance" instead of "chanced."
- 2.—To drop final "ue" when the preceding vowel is short or a diphthong, so as to write "catalog," "epilog," "synagog."
- 3.—To drop "e" from words ending in "ite" when the "i" is short: thus, "hypocrite," "requisite."
- 4.—To drop "te" in words like "cigarette" and "quartette."
- 5.—To drop final "me" in words like "programme."
- 6.—To drop final "e" in words ending in "ile" when the "i" is short, so as to write "fragil," "ductil."
- 7.—To drop final "e" from words ending in "ine" when the "i" is short: thus "disciplin," "doctrin."
- 8.—To drop final "e" from words ending in "ise" when the "i" is short: thus, "practic," "promis."
- 9.—To drop "a" from "ea" when it has the sound of short "e" as "fether" instead of "feather."
- 10.—To drop final "e" from words ending "ve" when the preceding vowel has its common short sound or is expressed by two letters, as, for example "repulsiv" for "repulsive" and "griev" for "grieve."
- 11.—To change "ph" to "f" when so sounded, as, "fantom" and not "phantom," "telegraf" and not "telegraph."

The principle underlying these proposed changes is, as the reader will see, fonetic. The plan has been much talked about, and a number of our editorial colleagues have expressed their approval and their readiness to enter into the Combination—the Great Spelling Trust shall we call it?—among them Mr. Higginson, Thomas W. Knox, Mrs. Daiz, Editor Ward of the *Independent*, Henry Holt & Co. President Andrews of Brown University, and Richmond Burton of the *Hartford Courant*. What do our readers think of the plan? Is it what they have wisht? Altho' few should adopt the new orthography, and some find it hard to decipher it, and others heap upon it their invectives, and pronounce it dreadful, and declare the movers in the reform overzealous, or regard it only as pleasantry, would they still like to know that it had triumf over all abusiv opposition? It calls for no new alphabet. It makes no new fraseology requisit. It may be better adapted to mercantile uses than to literature proper. But it can be easily practisid and without indulging in any harang about it, we would simply ask you to imagin how it would look to forgiv this experiment, and to help us by a negativ or affirmativ to solv the problem.—*Montreal Weekly Gazette*.

CRICKET.

MR. WHITE'S TEAM VERSUS MR. EDWARDS' TEAM.

A match was played on Saturday afternoon between teams captained by Mr. F. E. White and Mr. E. B. S. Edwards respectively, in fairly cool weather. Edwards' Eleven went in first, knocking up 92, though had the fielding been a bit smarter the score would have been somewhat smaller. Tennant secured one hit for six off White, the ball being full pitched. Goddard's bowling analysis reads very well, 7 wickets, 33 runs, 80 balls. White's Eleven made 81 in their essay, and then the other side went in again. This time runs came very freely, Morris sending the leather all over the field. He carried out his bat for 77, time then being called. Scores:—

MR. EDWARDS'S TEAM.				
1ST INNINGS.			2ND INNINGS.	
Dr. Todd, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Mr. Porch, c. Campbell, b. White...	...	...	...	...
Mr. Watt, b. White...	...	...	b. Goddard	...
Mr. G. Alcock, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. Tennant, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Mr. F. E. Bugbird, c. White, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Mr. E. R. Morris, b. Kingdon...	...	...	not out	...
Mr. Heap, c. White, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Dr. Chichester, b. Goddard...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. White...	...	...	b. Goddard	...
Mr. C. Moss, not out...	...	...	c. and b. White	...
b. 5, w. 2	...	...	b. 7	...
		93		
BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
1ST INNINGS.			2ND INNINGS.	
	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. F. E. White	60	34	3	3
Mr. H. S. Goddard	30	33	4	1
Mr. A. Kingdon	30	6	0	0
Mr. W. J. Showler	20	6	0	0
Mr. Mason	...	...	20	23
Mr. Brooks	...	...	20	30
Mr. W. Goddard	...	...	15	8

MR. WHITE'S ELEVEN.				
Mr. G. Brooks, c. and b. Edwards...	...	...	...	...
Dr. May, c. Alcock, b. Bugbird...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. E. Campbell, b. Edwards...	...	...	...	...
Mr. Kingdon, b. Edwards...	...	...	...	...
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Bugbird...	...	...	...	...
Mr. W. J. Showler, b. Bugbird...	...	...	...	...
Mr. F. E. White, b. Edwards...	...	...	...	...
Mr. W. Goddard, run out...	...	...	...	...
Mr. B. Mason, b. Edwards...	...	...	...	...
Mr. C. McGerrow, b. Bugbird...	...	...	...	...
Mr. A. J. Lloyd, not out...	...	...	...	...
b. 4, l. b. 3, w. 2...	...	...	...	...
81		92		

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
Mr. Bugbird...	...	...	...	...
Mr. Edwards...	...	...	...	...

LETTER FROM HAKONE.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Kiga, August 27th.

The mornings and evenings are growing perceptibly cooler and the deciduous trees lining the hillsides hereabouts are already assuming their autumn hues, while the exodus of guests and visitors has begun; inns that were overfull a few days ago are now not more than half-occupied. It has been, on the whole, a hot summer and this is undoubtedly the reason for the great crush of guests everywhere since July 25th. Never have the *yadoyas* done a better trade, and never have prices ruled so high. Why, for one day at an inn on Enoshima I was charged \$2.50 for the mere renting of an eight-mat room, Japanese style, and \$2.00 for good Japanese food; this with *chadai* and extras brought the charge up to nearly \$6 a day: a tremendous price anywhere, and one to which I strongly, if vainly, objected.

Ever since the early part of the month the Fujiya and Naraya at Miyunoshita have been turning away guests by scores. I met several parties who had come all the way from Shanghai for a breath of the cool Hakone breezes; but on reaching Miyunoshita they found no room obtainable in either of the larger hotels, and were forced to put up with third-rate accommodation at Sokokura or Dogashima. Quite the same may be said of the Fukuzumi in Yumoto and the Senshuo in Tonosawa. In the latter place on several occasions the crush has been so great that visitors have perforce had to be content to pass a night or so in the *futon-beya*, or room where the mattresses are kept during the day: a dark and rather ill-smelling apartment at the best of times. Even the Shintama inn at Tonosawa, the Suzuki, Fukuzumi, and Fujiya (the two last-named being branches of the larger hotels at Yumoto and Miyunoshita), have been so crowded as to refuse guests on several occasions—something quite out of the ordinary, I am told, for these inns are not so extensively patronised. The little "Gold-fish Inn," where I am now writing, has had its full show of patronage, and done a most profitable business. But I have, on most occasions, tried to keep out of the beaten track, and have conscientiously chosen such places as are not well-known to foreigners: and this for

two reasons. In the first place, a *yadoya* which is favourably known to foreigners is as unfavourably known to Japanese for higher prices and general lack of courtesy; and, secondly—it is hard to say but true none the less—I find the attendance in such inns simply horrible. The girls are all coarse, rude, loud-voiced, and flagrantly immoral. Now I do not mean to say that foreigners have directly brought about this state of affairs, but there is no doubt that they have largely contributed to it. For there always is—and always will be, I suppose—a certain portion of the Western visitors who encourage rather than discourage the tendency to immorality. It is unpleasant to see, as I have done on several occasions this month, foreigners coming to Yumoto, or Hakone, or Miyunoshita, with two or three notorious women from Odawara in their wake. There are, I learn, one hundred and eighty *geisha* in Odawara—a very large number for so small a place—and nearly every one of these is nothing less than a travelling prostitute. The physician resident at Yumoto has told me several pertinent stories in this connection, that deserve publicity if for the sole purpose of discouraging foreign patronage in this direction. *Verb sap*; I don't propose to say any more on this repellent theme, though I could and would write much more strongly. Let me add, in conclusion, that the Japanese *jeunesse dorée*, seeing the force of example, have commenced to do the same thing, to the demoralisation of several of the better and quieter inns, and direct physical injury to themselves. But, as I was saying, my idea is to avoid much frequented places. And, with this in view, I have spent five most enjoyable days at a lonely hillside farm-house about half a *ri* from Dogashima. One must cross brawling Hayakawa and climb the opposite rather steep hillside, then follow a broad and easy track to the house in question. It certainly has the finest view of any place in the Hakone mountains. Visitors cannot fail to see it nestled amidst a grove of dines, half-way up the hill on their right, as they go from Ohiradai to Miyunoshita. I have, moreover, had two very enjoyable days at Kawabata, midway between Yumoto and Hata, on the old Tokkaido. Most foreigners know this pretty place, having to pass through it on the way to Hakone; but I doubt if any one has ever exploited its resources. There is no inn, but one has a choice of three large, cleanly peasant-houses, and the food is wholesome, if not of the best class. Here the botanist and malaco-zoologist have rich fields awaiting them. Among the thickly grown trees in moist spots I have found splendid specimens of *Clansilia Yokohamensis*—what a misnomer by the by!—and *C. duclalis*, these being mere varieties of the self-same species. I propose the name *C. Hakonea*, which should cover both *Streptaxis sinensis* and three minute and beautiful *Diplommatina* are frequent everywhere. Overhead or among the flowering trees sail the elegant *Papilio bianor*, *P. agenor*, and *P. agamemnon*: all of a much darker coloring and smaller size than those found on the plains. Two of these five insects breed here. *Cettia cantans*, the Japanese nightingale, with two wrens, and a sweet-voiced thrush, sing here all the day long; while now and then the shriek, *Lanius shah* or *bicolor*, sets up his rather discordant contralto pipe. And speaking of bathing, there is a pool just below the village, in a bend of the river, which is deep, sequestered, and altogether attractive. The water is a trifle chilly, especially at present, but a dip here is invariably invigorating and refreshing, while the water is pure, clean, and eminently potable. Then, by way of Hata—to which the years seem to bring no appreciable change—to Hakone. Here I missed at once the Shimizuaya, a pretty little restaurant that, until two years ago, used to be at the entrance to the village. The proprietor had gone on to Mishima, five *ri* away, I was told, on account of the general dullness in Hakone. And, truly, in winter it is, I fancy, a very slow, disinteresting place. At the time of my three days' visit—rendered memorable by the absurdly high charges the Hafuaya made—two of the young Princesses of the Imperial Family, T.I.H. Kane and Tsune, were staying at the detached palace overlooking the lake. Nothing could be more beautiful than the situation and surroundings of this fine building. In attendance on these youthful scions of royalty were over fifty members of the Imperial Household Department, a posse of constabulary, but none of the Imperial Guards. On the day of my arrival the solar eclipse occurred and was most distinctly seen from first to last, a very small portion still retaining its light at the moment of greatest obscuration. The whole village turned out to watch the strange spectacle, and I was not a little amused to hear the remarks of some of the village children. "But what makes the sun look so queer?" asked a wee maiden of some eight or nine summers. "Why," answered

a lad beside her, better instructed and evidently proud of his knowledge, "the sun is hidden behind the moon." At this the little woman gave a sniff of incredulity; "That's not so," she said with positiveness, "why, I know better than that! My teacher, who is much, much, wiser than you, told me that the moon only shone at night, the sun in the day; so how could the moon, in broad daylight, get in front of the sun?" The position was evidently unanswerable, for the elder lad vouchsafed no reply. With regard to the eclipse, finally, I learned that an enterprising Japanese photographer had succeeded in obtaining a dozen good negatives of the obscured orb. At the moment of greatest darkness, the scene was indescribably impressive, the grand cone of Fuji looming up behind the hills beyond the lake, the hush over all, the sudden disappearance of shadow—all being buried in a dull light like that just before the break of day. It grew appreciably cooler, and I felt quite chilly, though dressed in no less than three Japanese cotton garments. With regard to Lake Ashi—so-called from the unpleasant water-weed, a kind of fresh-water polgy, growing therein—it appears that the fish caught are each year decreasing in numbers. One sees very few of those delicious *aka hara*, or the giant perch and trout of four or five years ago. They have taken to the greater depths of the lake, and grown exceedingly wary. Speaking of the lake's depth, by the way, it is frequently exaggerated. The very deepest point is just a few rods beyond Nishimura's picturesque inn, near Moto Hakone. Here it is forty fathoms by actual measurement, at the greatest depth: thus proving indubitably that the lake was once the crater of a volcano or chain of two or three volcanoes. The foreshore is gradually changing by the village, the weeds receding and the news and efts—once found in hundreds and thousands—nearly all gone elsewhere.

Coming back to Yumoto; one of the prettiest excursions one can make in the vicinity is to the Tama-dare-taki, or "A Dropping Gems Fall." This is, perhaps without exception, the prettiest place in the hills, though not very well-known to foreigners. The Japanese are fond of emulating the ascetic Mongaku—once Morito Musha Endo, the hero of Sir Edwin Arnold's play—and stand for five or ten minutes under the ice-cold fall. I made a like attempt, to my sorrow; for a false step brought me down with unnecessary and wholly uncalled-for violence on a large, slippery boulder just beneath the strongest part of the falls, and causing me to used objectionable language besides swallowing more water than my thirst warranted at the moment. The stream here runs on to the Yumoto Seishijo, a new silk-reeling factory with a most promising future. The works are very interesting and visitors are most courteously received and shown over the place. About one hundred hands are employed at present, and three *tsunamu*, or 25 pounds, of cocoons, can be reeled off in one day. The proprietors proposed to treble this amount by next summer. At Ashinoyu I have made only two brief visits. The Kinokuniya I found full to overflowing, Viscount Nakamura—a great man some years ago—there trying to get rid of rheumatic gout. Kowakidani, pleasantly situated and breezy though it be, has never been an attraction to your correspondent.

With regard to the tramway between Kodzu, Odawara, and Yumoto, there is every necessity for a thorough amelioration. The cars are getting very rickety and the rails are so carelessly laid that the journey either way is singularly unpleasant. Besides, the horses—albeit over 80 in number—are overworked, so that, on several occasions, it has been very difficult to get the jaded, stumbling beasts into Yumoto. Twice to my knowledge the horses could do no more than pull the overlaid cars at a slow walk from Odawara to Yumoto, and the passengers were compelled to alight whenever an incline made the work harder. The Tramway Company have been, on the whole, very fortunate from the outset. Yet they are responsible for the death of two children (last year) run over in the dark by reckless drivers. And of a truth nearly all these drivers are veritable Jehus, whipping the reeking horses with such cruel severity that it makes the trip most unpleasant. The horses are often kept at a mad gallop the whole way. In order to catch the train leaving Kodzu at 1.10 p.m., I was, the other day, carried from Odawara to Kodzu in less than 20 minutes, and this through blinding rain. It was a wild race the whole way.

At Oiso I have found many improvements. Dr. Yoshimatsu has now taken over the old Oiso Hospital and made it into one for the treatment of consumptives: his method being attended with marvelous success. It has, from the outset, been crowded to its utmost capacity. The Toyukwan has added a new wing to its already spacious premises. But Oiso has been very hot this summer, and it is

anything but pleasant to attempt to bathe or swim among the nasty, sharp rocks on the beach. Kugenuma, Enoshima, or even Katase are a thousand times better. Mr. Ezawa Kingoro, proprietor of the well-known Tenshodo, Tokyo, was the best-known victim of the surf this year. He had swum just a little beyond the outer rocks when a large wave submerged him and he was seen no more. It is supposed that the water had thrown him with violence against the rocks. I note, in passing, that the Shorindo and Kokiro have also been well-patronized this summer. At the latter, foreigners are sure of good treatment and excellent Japanese food. In Fujisawa I can recommend the Inazeya, with its recently-built and airy annexe, in preference to the older—and much dirtier—Kokubuya. The Inazeya, which charges 60 *sen* a day for first-class guests, is close by the station: good, clean, cheap. Yesterday being the last day of the local annual seven-days' festival of Suwa Myōjin, I went to Fujisawa, to see the busy little town at its best. There were eight or nine *dashi* (quite a large number, comparatively), representing among others Yoritomo, Susano-o-no-Mikoto, and the mythical Momotaro. I expressed my surprise at seeing Yoritomo—no better than a *chōkeki*—thus honoured; but was told, with quaint logic that the people adored his personal virtues, not his anti-imperialist policy. Suwa Myōjin, it is to be noted, is a deified *fā* or serpent, the cult coming from Shinshu. How strange to find such a cult in modern Japan! In all Fujisawa there is only one *geisha*, for here the *enfants perdus* are taught how to play the samisen and other musical instruments, so that *geisha* are *de trop*. On the other hand, there is a disproportionately large community of ill-fame. Fujisawa is growing steadily, and does a good export business, the staples being silk, rice, sweet potatoes, and ground-nuts: the two last named being the local *meibutsu* or "famous products."

But this letter is assuming preposterous dimensions and as "brief is the soul of wit"—as I once heard an unfortunate after-dinner speaker say—let me thus come to an abrupt close. It has been a pleasant summer on the whole.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, July 30, 1896.

This is the age of wheels and wires. These do not only reign but they govern. We cannot do without them, and sometimes it seems as though we had become their slaves. Nearly all kinds of business at present suffers more or less from the fads generated by the trolley and the bicycle. The horse would weep tears of grief did he but know that his species is threatened with extinction; that horseless vehicles are so multiplying, and that the idea of future roads calls for steel planks on which tires will move, but between which hoofs will not be necessary.

It is not only the livery-stable men, the hotel keepers, the sellers of alcoholic liquors, the book publishers, the librarians, and those who minister to human necessities and recreations—according to the old ideas—who find fault. Even the butcher, the grocer, and the vendors of hats, bonnets, and wares for the exterior and the interior of the human body are finding fault. With the wheel on top of the wire and the wire wheels on the earth's surface, they say that everybody seems going in debt for bicycles, while postponing the payment of their grocery bills. Riding on the trolley cars, up hill and down dale, seems less a necessity than a pastime, for coolness as well as for transportation.

Certainly it is very wonderful—this way in which our American cities have been strung in mid air with wires and the motive power changed from horse flesh to an invisible current. The superior cleanliness of the streets, over those of London, for instance, or Amsterdam, is one of the first things that strike the observer who compares Philadelphia or Buffalo with these same cities as they were a decade ago. In both these typical American municipalities, the cobble stone, the Belgian block, the macadamized surface have, from most thoroughfares, disappeared. Instead we have the asphalt, clean, smooth, delightful to the sinner over the wheel and excellent for the longevity of carriage and bicycle. In Philadelphia, the change has been wonderful. It has wrought even the advancement of good morals and what is next to godliness. Down in the purlieus of Bedford and similar streets, where of old the negro was displaced by the Irishman and then the Irishmen by the Italian, the proposal to lay down such clean pavements was quite fiercely resisted. The sons of Sicily, Connaught, and Africa, preferred garbage and bad drainage. It was actually necessary to call out the fire department which, with its hose and plenty

of Skynkill water washed away all opposition and let in the army contractors of black labourers equipped with kettles, rakes, hose, and smoothing irons. These have laid a pavement even in the narrow streets and lanes, that has wonderfully improved the old quarters once noted for their accumulation of filth. Now for a half dime, one can ride from one end of the great city to the other, while noting a vast increase of neatness, cleanliness, and comfort.

It is doubtful whether any new improvements which touches every day life can be made without danger. I see by the last report of the Inter-State Commerce Commission that on all the railways in the United States, during the past year nearly 27,000 people (most of them employes) were injured, and of these 2,000 of them were killed. Yet by means of horses, carts, and carriages I have no doubt the number was even greater, just as in London, the casualties from vehicles are more in number than in the whole of the United Kingdom. The introduction of the trolley so suddenly throughout the whole country, and its use by unskilled men, means almost as a matter of course much loss of life and limb. Brooklyn is a city which covers a vast area, and yet the concentration in the narrow streets around Suspension Bridge and Fulton Ferry means at least a mile space of great danger, and it is between the Ferry and the City Hall that most of the accidents take place. The death record is so far about 150, but with every month the record becomes less. Each car is furnished with a kind of projecting tray or scoop-net set in a frame in front, into which a person struck may fall without necessarily serious injury.

In the smaller towns and cities the trolley has solved the problem of quick and easy transportation over hills and valleys, in a way far more satisfactorily than even the best horses, and plenty of them, possibly could. In many of the hill towns, to see horses struggling up the hills with heavy loads of freight or passengers was one that often moved the pity of the beholder. Long rests were necessary to relieve the animals. Now, the car goes steadily up the steepest incline with remarkable speed and with a very high factor of safety. For, considering the great number of the trolley cars used throughout the country, the number of accidents is really very small.

When one remembers the scepticism which at first hung like a cloud over every suggestion that electricity could be used as a traction power, he wonders at what he sees to-day. In America, Ezra Cornell, the founder of the great University which bears his name, was one of the first business men to see the value of the telegraph and of the applications of electricity. He was the one also who first proposed the use of one wire instead of two, making in the earth a return circuit. He thus gave the idea to the Irish servant girl, who spoke better than she knew, when she described Ezra Cornell as "the man who invented telegraph poles." Yet even Ezra Cornell, on one occasion having gone to witness an experimental exposition of cars moved by electricity, lost all faith that this power could ever be applied to purposes of traction. He went home satisfied that there was "nothing in it." Now in his own city, there is one of the best trolley systems in active use, and power is furnished chiefly by the water-falls that flow down from the plateau on which were situated his own home and farm. In actual experience, though not yet in visible reality, "the mountain has become a plain," for the University hill is as the flats of the town. As a difficulty, the hill is a thing forgotten.

In the immediate vicinity of New York City, that is from Patterson, N.J., eastward to New Rochelle, southward to Coney Island, and eastward to Elizabeth and Newark, there are now probably not fewer than five hundred miles of trolley lines existing and projected. Yet this rough estimate does not include the double lines of rails which many companies operate. On one line built from Ocean Grove and Asbury Park up to Long Branch and Pleasure Bay we have an example of electric-traction provided almost entirely for summer use and for reaching places chosen simply as pleasure resorts. A large percentage of the passengers take the trip simply for pleasure. It is quite common also for two or three cars to be joined together and festooned over the top, down the front, along the sides, and up the trolley-pole with electric lights of many colours. With all the wood-work and wheels covered up with bunting and decorations, dash-board and sloping roof being also decorated with emblems, a band of musicians is taken on board, and then the cars freighted with hilarious young humanity, illustrate finely the pleasures derivable from electric motors.

The bicycle is a great improver of thoroughfares and a daily preacher of the gospel of good roads. Naturally, with so much land to subdue and replenish, forests to open and wildernesses to cultivate, Americans have not been noted for the excellence

of their average road ways. People from the long settled and wealthy, old (but rather small) countries of Europe, in their disgust at our rough roads, have hardly been considerate. As a matter of fact, there are certain portions of our country as in New England and portions of the Middle States, where the country highways will compare favourably with the land-ways of Europe. The matter goes by countries, rather than by states or regions. In general our country roads have been bad enough. Now, that so large a percentage of the population habitually use the wheel, there is steady improvement. In the cities, pavements made of brick or asphalt are taking the place of ruder materials, to the joy of the wheeler. The country roads are being steadily improved.

It is getting to be quite common now to have "cinder paths" or "bicycle roads," six feet wide, between two neighbouring cities. At Asbury Park there is a plank walk along the sea front, a mile long, on which pedestrians may go. A few feet inland is a brick bicycle thoroughfare on which pedestrians are not allowed, or on which they walk at their own risk. This fine path is a mile long. The recent decisions in legislature and court recognizing the bicycle not only as a vehicle but also as baggage—as the equivalent of a trunk—enables the summer pleasure seeker or general tourist to take his wheel with him, either for business or amusement. In the neighbouring lake city of Geneva, recently, at the house of the President of Hobart College at Commencement time, with the dozen or so of guests, were seven bicycles. The ladies attending dinner parties in the college city rode from the President's home in their fine dresses to their hosts' houses.

Every one knows the danger of puncturing a tire, for everybody nowadays uses the properly inflated pneumatic rubber cylinder, set upon a concave wooden or metal tire, the wheel bearing its weight by the suspension of the hub, rather than by resting the hub upon the spokes as in the ancient way. I heard of a lady who met with an accident by collision, and complained of a "punctured attire."

Between Schenectady and Albany is a well made "cinder path," and the shop-keepers of the smaller city complain that ladies now go to the larger municipality to do their shopping. Thus local trade is injured. What a Godsend the advent of Jack Frost will be, when for a few months the chill of ice and snow will paralyze the over activity of the bicycle! It is reserved for Brooklyn to do the handsome thing in roads, for already there is a large wide path, smoothed especially for the rubber tires, and sacred to the bicycle, which runs all the way to Coney Island. Along the sides are drinking fountains and settees at intervals.

On Sundays, so great is the exodus into the open air that the Church people complain bitterly, and some people think the institution of the Sabbath is likely to flatten out, like a punctured tire. One of the last new fads, reported in yesterday's newspaper, is for half a dozen athletic youths to mount a "sextuplet" and actually beat on their wheels set on one frame, along a selected space between the tracks, the Empire State Express which averages 53 miles an hour between New York and Buffalo.

By the way, the region between Manhattan Island and Niagara Falls seems to be the field for speed. In competition with the New York Central Railroad, the Lehigh Valley, which is the chief rival of the Central, has lately put on "the hand-somest train in the world." It is called the Black Diamond Express and covers the distance on steel between New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the New York lake and meadow region to Buffalo, in ten hours. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad is preparing to do something of the same sort, and if the Erie can find money enough it will probably do the same thing. Though all these railways run only diagonally across the State, while the Central has to follow two lines of the triangle, they are at a disadvantage. The Central by following the old Indian trails, runs on an almost level grade most of the way. Its only serious ascent and descent is between Albany and Schenectady, this is the only space on the continent where the great Appalachian range, which runs from Labrador to the Gulf of Mexico, can be crossed at a low altitude. On the contrary, the other lines traversing New York, especially the Erie, travel on a series of altitudes and depressions that suggest serrations of an old fashioned saw,—after it has been well used.

Soon prices will fall. Fashion will find new toys, and it will be seen whether the bicycle has come to stay.

W. E. G.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

BY JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, June 27th.

For the present, Japan and things Japanese are exciting little or no attention in Australia, the several colonies having sufficient to do in attending to their own affairs, most of the Australian parliaments being now in full session. All fear of an extensive Japanese immigration has ceased, but in the New South Wales and other parliaments bills are to be introduced dealing with the matter. At the same time there does not exist the slightest hostile feeling towards Japanese residents in Sydney and elsewhere. In fact, wherever they have commenced business they are invariably successful in attracting customers and satisfying their needs. They make excellent colonists and possess the respect of all enjoying their acquaintance. They certainly mingle more readily with Europeans and conform more generally with European manner and customs than do the Chinese, who seem, as a class, wholly unable to adapt themselves to Australian tastes and habits, and prefer living—an isolated class—by themselves. At the same time the old dread of possible industrial competition by Japan is continually making itself manifest. The other day one of the Sydney morning papers published a letter from a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, in which the industrial progress of Japan was described at some length, the writer concluding by stating that from his remarks it would "be seen that the Japanese are now fairly under way with their industrial revolution, and the workmen of Australasia cannot, therefore, afford to treat the possibility of Japanese competition as remote. When the new treaties are in vogue we will have to resort to protective measures, or our skilled workmen will have to go down to the Japanese level in wages. It remains for the workmen of New South Wales to say at the next general election which it shall be."

In reply, a leading Sydney resident said that the letter quoted should have been pleasant reading for the New South Wales people, as it showed them that Japan was going ahead, while their own country was retrograding.

"For instance, we are told that in that favoured country, where there are no coal miners' strikes, manufacturing establishments are rapidly increasing in number; that the Japanese are manufacturing Waltham watches, of course for their own use. Well, that is indeed good news, because the more prosperous the Japanese people become, the greater quantity of Australian produce they will be able to afford to buy. They will also be able to buy and to manufacture our wool, and to wear the woollen goods produced therefrom, to use our preserved meats, and to drink of our wines. So the writer's news is really a message of glad tidings, and we should feel, all of us, greatly indebted to him for the information which he has accorded us. Of course, if Japan purchases our productions, the probability is that our people will receive in exchange the productions of Japan, at such prices as they will bring in our market in competition with similar goods from elsewhere, for so astute a race are not likely to sell anything below its market value. But in his letter the writer resuscitates the old bogey of cheap labour. If Japan becomes prosperous, wages will rise; indeed, they are fast rising now. Their Consul says half a dollar to a dollar a day is the rate in factories. But the cheapness of labour must not be reckoned by its daily pay, but by its effectiveness; and by that standard English labour is unquestionably the cheapest in the world, for though paid daily much more highly than his Continental rival, and working shorter hours, yet from his greater skill and greater stamina the English workman will do far more work. Thus, according to Mr. Redgrave, the proportion of spindles to persons employed in the cotton factories of Europe is—France 14, Germany 40 to 50, and England 74, and in England they work at a greater pace; while in coal-mining, the annual output of the French miner is 152 tons and of the English miner 333 tons. I could readily give other well-authenticated examples. Possibly the Japanese workmen may in time become equal to the English; if, so, they will demand and obtain equal wages, that is if the surrounding conditions become equal also.

Not a few of the Australian papers have reproduced portions of the report of Mr. Gerald Lowther, British Secretary of Legation at Tokyo, on Japanese labour, the most quoted portion being the following, which has attracted general attention:—"Foreigners are too prone to be alarmed by the cry of cheap labour. Cheap labour, or, in other words, the absence of requirements on the part of the labourer or the artisan of this country, will very possibly be corrected to a certain extent

by the successes of the late war, and should an improved state of existence be the result, so infallibly will come an advance in requirements, and the present cheap labour of Japan may not have the terrors to commercial competitors that it now appears to present. That low wages mean a low condition of energy may be taken for granted. In attempting to conclude a bargain, and on my pointing out to the seller that he would have a fair profit if he accepted my offer, I have been more than once met with the answer, "If I give you the article for your price, it will necessitate my doing another day's work this week." Skilled labour is very limited in all branches of trade, and consequently cheap labour hardly applies to this portion of the working community. The price of labour, moreover, is daily increasing. The daily wage of a coolie is now set down at 33 *sen*, or about 8½d; and this is said to be about 100 per cent. higher than it was 10 years ago. The same may be said of many articles of consumption, which are rapidly rising in value."

The political future of Japan continues to be a theme for newspaper comment, the Melbourne *Leader*, in a recent issue, observing that:—"Japan is determined to establish her naval supremacy in the Far East. She is unwilling to relinquish all hope of securing the full fruits of victory over her recent antagonist. Russian diplomacy, with French and German assistance, stepped in to deprive her of the complete reward which the fortune of war seemed to have placed in her hands. Japanese statesmen accepted the rebuff at the time, though the national spirit was sorely chafed, but they are keen in making preparations for the future. They recognise in Russia their greatest enemy and rival, and are willing to make great sacrifices in order to strengthen their position in the more formidable struggle which is regarded as inevitable. The army is being reorganised and increased, but upon the navy the greatest efforts are being concentrated. Geographic position makes Japan, like England, a power dependant on naval strength. The navy did good service during the war and was really the most powerful factor in the Chinese defeat. Now the aim of the Japanese authorities is to raise it to a point which will equal, if not exceed, the combined force of the three leading squadrons in Chinese waters. The millions of indemnity obtained from China are being spent in England on new ironclads and cruisers. Japan is in earnest in her desire to make her navy the strongest in her own waters, and her resolve is not without some influence on the Australian position. At present the relations between Japan and Great Britain are of the most friendly character." This fairly represents the trend of Australian public opinion, which is decidedly on the side of Japan as a naval power. A writer in the *Queenslander*, alluding to the same subject, says:—"The Japanese are making preparations for the erection of a colossal image of Buddha, to commemorate their victories over the Chinese, and we learn at the same time that they have placed orders in Britain for the construction of four ironclad battleship and six cruisers. These two pieces of news must be taken together if we are to realise what a formidable power has arisen on our side of the world. Probable the ordinary British or Australian Philistine who daily thanks the goodness and the grace that made him a happy Christian child will think that the one piece of intelligence to some extent neutralises the other, and will feel less afraid at the enormous growth of the Japanese fleet when he reflects that the owners of this great armament are still in the primitive stage of erecting monstrous idols in celebration of their victories. If he thinks so, I am afraid he is in the wrong. I fear that this synchronous recognition of religion and of the need of more ships is a bad sign for the enemies, present and to come, of the Japanese Empire. It is the Japanese equivalent of 'Put your trust in Providence, and keep your powder dry'—the 'not d'ordre' of the finest body of fighting men the world ever saw. And do not let us lay the flattering unction to our souls that a monotheistic civilisation would never yield grounds before a mere nation of idolaters. Buddhism is a religion, but Buddha is not a god, far less a false one. Buddha is simply 'the ideal of what any man may become,' and his statue is but a symbol of that ideal, and when a Japanese orders the idea represented by the symbol he is actually adoring his own possibilities. And, by Jove, when I think of these plucky little Japanese returning fresh from their prodigious achievements and setting forth with to erect with one hand the wherewithal to adore their own possibilities, and with the other to write out orders for four more ironclad battleships and six additional cruisers, I am great inclined to fear that the happy frame of mind which rests on the double foundation of 'thank the goodness and the grace' and 'Rule Britannia' may one of these days receive a severe shock."

That Japan is destined to become a great commercial power is generally conceded, and Australian thinkers are beginning to discuss its future possibilities in this direction. The Melbourne *Argus*, in the course of a somewhat lengthy article on Sir E. Satow's report on the trade of Japan says:—"So far we have seen that a mighty nation has emerged from the profitless seclusion of centuries; that it has become sea-going, adventurous, militant—the Great Britain of the Pacific; that it has already laid an unmistakable hold upon a peculiarly Eastern trade that is rapidly increasing; that by energy, enterprise, skill, and industry it is achieving a great manufacturing position. If, moreover, Japan is manufacturing to supply the wants of its people, it is yet to be noted with satisfaction that those wants are increasing even at a faster rate than the capabilities of the factories. To imagine that an unalterable standard of wants has been fixed for the people, that the factories will supply all those wants, leaving nothing for foreign countries, and that Japan will thereafter drive British commerce from the East, would be absurd in the extreme. In the long run, the prosperity of one country means the prosperity of other countries, and it is not therefore surprising that, although Japan produced, manufactured, and exported far more merchandise in 1895 than ever, yet she imported more freely. But the increase in exports is represented by agricultural productions, such as silk, rice, tea, and camphor. As an exporter of manufactures, Japan does not yet shine, the principal reason, according to Sir E. Satow, being the inferiority of the articles manufactured. Thus he says that Japanese boots, the *bottes noires* of colonial protectionists, have less than one-half of the wearing capacity of English boots. In short, Japanese imitations of European manufactures may be tersely described as cheap and nasty. But the artistic natives wares remain quite unsurpassable for excellence and beauty. What of the Australian share of the growing commerce of Japan? In 1895 imports from Australia were valued at £107,000, against £59,000 in 1894, and the exports to Australia at £138,000, against £115,000. The imports consisted chiefly of wool, of which some 1,600 bales were imported in 1895. The Consul expresses the opinion, however, as he also did last year, that Japan can ultimately obtain all the wool she may require from China. But in the meantime, Australia will doubtless strengthen its hold upon the Japanese market. Generally, the colonies have to consider whether they will avail themselves of the great commercial benefits to be expected to accrue from their joining in the British-Japanese treaty. The question, from this point of view, is worthy of more attention than it has yet received, especially as it should not be forgotten for a moment that yet some time or other Australia must become one of the principal powers of the eastern hemisphere, and as such must be brought into close international touch with Japan."

The Australian protectionists seems to think that if the free trade policy of New South Wales is followed by the other colonies, there is a possibility of the sugar produce of Australia becoming displaced by that of Formosa. The Melbourne *Age* says:—"At present the Formosan Sugar refineries are of a most primitive character, and the question now under discussion by the Japanese Authorities is whether, with modern appliances and the break up of the Chinese merchants' control, the industry cannot be placed in such a position as to absorb a very considerable proportion of the sugar trade of the Far East. The soil in the two districts mentioned, it seems, is highly suitable for the production of a sugar rich in crystals, but the planters are in the hands of a few Chinese capitalists, and the latter are by no means disposed, it seems, to part with their control; but already the Japanese authorities have shown an intention of making drastic reforms in this direction; and if they are carried out, and new modern refineries are erected, Formosa sugar will doubtless be largely exported to Australia. The cost of production it is asserted, is so small that the raw sugar for refining purpose would beat Java and Manila in the outside markets, whilst the refined could be shipped at prices with which the Hongkong refiners could hardly hold their own. This, however, is a matter of the future, but still the subject is one of interest, both to Queensland and New South Wales, especially the latter, if Mr. Reid's free-trade policy is carried out. If matters progress as it is expected in Formosa, by the time the duty on sugar disappears in the sister colony, Japan's latest acquisition of territory will be in a position to absorb the markets of New South Wales and extinguish her local sugar industry. To Queensland it will also mean a loss of markets in the Australian colonies, which under a federated system of protection would be retained."

SUICIDE FROM YOKOHAMA PIER.

The adjourned inquiry into the death of Herbert William Webb, age 26, late Second Engineer on board the N.Y.K. steamer *Nagoya Maru*, whose body was taken out of the harbour on Friday afternoon, was held in H.B.M. Court on Saturday. Mr. A. H. Lay, acted as Coroner, and the Jury were Messrs. C. K. M. Martin; H. S. Adams, and E. Coutts.

The first witness called was Valentine Kaufman, a German seaman, who deposed—Shortly after eleven o'clock on Thursday morning, I was walking on the Yokohama Pier with another young sailor, when we saw a man, dressed in a white suit of clothes, up to his neck in the water. The man appeared to be swimming, or rather treading the water. I said—"It is a nice day to be swimming." The man in the water said—"I have no money." I took off my clothes to jump into the water, but just then the man sank. We had thrown him a piece of lumber, about as big as this table, but he did not take hold of it. I saw him go down before I could get my clothes off. I believe he had not got his senses when in the water.

To Mr. Coutts—All he said while in the water was, I have no money. He could have put his hand on the piece of wood and pulled himself across it.

To Mr. Martin—The first time I saw him was when he was in the water. I did not see his hat.

Christian Egli, another seaman, sworn, deposed—I was coming along the pier yesterday when I saw a man in the water about a ship's length from a steamer and about two fathoms from the pier. I said to my companion, "It's strange for a man to be swimming with his shoes on." I called to the man, but he gave me no answer. I ran for a boat, but he called out that it was too late; and then I threw two big pieces of rope down to him. I sang out to him again, then I saw him place his two hands together before his face. Then he sank, and that was the last I saw of him.

To Mr. Martin—I first saw him in the water. He was in a white suit, and swimming. I said to my companion, "There is a ship's officer taking a swim." Then I saw he had his boots on.

To Mr. Coutts—He was treading water, and I saw his boots shining through the water.

To the Coroner—The Japanese could see him in the water. A Japanese boat came along after he had sunk, and some boys dived after him.

Marmaduke Willis, Third Engineer of the *Nagoya Maru*, sworn, deposed—I know nothing of the deceased's movements after he went ashore. I was supposed to be relieved at 4 o'clock, but on the morning of the 27th, as the Second Engineer did not appear, I sent a fireman to him. I then went to his room and found his door locked. After talking to the officer of the watch, I went to his room again. This time the door was open. He said to me that it was not safe for him to go below to the engine-room, "as the firemen want to throw me into the furnace." This conversation took place about five minutes to five o'clock. I asked him if he was sick, and he said, no, rats. I offered to keep his watch for him if he felt unwell. I never saw him again.

The Coroner handed witness a letter that was found upon the body, and witness said he had never seen the letter before, nor did he know anything of the matter referred to in it.

To Mr. Martin—When I asked if I could keep his watch for him, he said, "No, rats." I heard that he went to the Chief Officer and said that the firemen were putting straw and feathers through his port—a most improbable thing.

To Mr. Adams—His manner was always eccentric.

To Mr. Martin—The voyage before we had trouble with the firemen, but not while the deceased was on board. I do not think he was afraid of the firemen; he had no reason to be. I do not know if he had been dismissed from the ship.

To the Coroner—He had been one trip with the ship. I was on good terms with him.

Phillip Cottier, Captain of the *Nagoya Maru*, sworn, deposed—The deceased left the ship without intimating his intentions of doing so at all. He left the ship between 9 and 10 o'clock on the 27th inst. He was a very good man, so far as I found him. I never noticed anything strange in his manner.

To Mr. Coutts—There had been no trouble in the ship this voyage. Last voyage, with the other Second Engineer, there was trouble with the engine-room staff.

To Mr. Martin—"On demand," written on the deceased's discharge, is a mistake for "on reserve." I do not know why he left the ship. There was plenty of work to do on the ship, and when the Chief Engineer applied to me, I asked for another engineer to take the place.

To the Coroner—I never noticed anything wrong with him.

To Mr. Martin—I do not know that he drank. I do not think he did.

Mr. Martin—In the letter found on his person, he speaks of "D.T.S.?"

Witness—That is wrong, I should think.

To Mr. Coutts—I do not know whether this letter is in deceased's handwriting.

Dr. Edwin Wheeler, sworn, deposed—I saw the body of deceased about 2.30 p.m. yesterday. The body was lying at the harbour police station. It looked to me as that of a man recently drowned. There were no marks on the body. The only remarkable thing about him was that the thumb and two fore-fingers of the left hand were saturated with nicotine, showing that he was a very heavy cigarette smoker. The body might possibly have been in the water about an hour and a half. I had seen the man before at Mr. Pass's, but did not know his name.

Kyoya Masano, police-constable, deposed—About twelve clock yesterday I heard a man had fallen from the pier. I went out but did not see anybody, so I went back to the station, called out the Japanese Police-boat and went out to search. We dragged the water and eventually the drag caught in the shoulder and we brought the body to the surface.

To Mr. Martin—I did not see the man before he entered the water.

Yamaguchi Shinosuke, a pier coolie, deposed—About twelve o'clock yesterday I saw two foreigners on the Pier, and one in the water. I ran towards the spot and then reported the fact to the Police.

To Mr. Martin—The man was up to his neck in the water; he was not swimming and was fully dressed. The man appeared not to be able to swim; nor could he reach a piece of wood near the side of the pier.

Mr. Martin asked if the witness had seen the man fall into the water.

Witness—I only saw him after he was in the water.

Mr. S. C. Pass, sworn, deposed—The day before yesterday the deceased came to my house about eleven o'clock in the forenoon. He was cleanly dressed, but in a great state of agitation. I asked him to take a chair, and to tell me all about his trouble. He said that the firemen on board the *Nagoya Maru* had badly treated him and shut him up in his cabin four days and nights, and during the time he was in there they were poking straws and feathers through the port, so that that he could get no rest. He said he was feeling very bad, and asked if I would allow him to take a bath and a rest, and then he thought he would be all right. He had a bath, and afterwards took some tiffin. Then he went out: He returned in the evening about 7 o'clock; had dinner, and then went out again, coming back about half-past ten, and going straight to his room. On enquiring next morning, I was told that he went out at 6 o'clock, and the next I heard was that he was drowned.

To the Coroner—Deceased came to my house on the 15th April, on reserve, and stayed until the middle of this month. I never noticed anything strange in his behaviour all this time; he was a very quiet, steady man. I did not know whether he was suffering from any trouble. He never drank.

To Mr. Adams—The night before last he was very nervous, and again said that the firemen had treated him badly and locked him up for four days.

To the Coroner—I thought he ought to be watched. He refused to see a doctor, saying that he was not sick, but that the firemen were after him.

To Mr. Martin—He said nothing about the matter referred to in the paper found upon him.

To the Coroner—While he stayed with us he was on mess-allowance from the Company, about \$30 a month, and he owed me some money for his board and lodging.

Inspector Ihashi Sodonosuke, deposed—I was returning on the Quarantine Launch when I heard that a man was in the water. I looked about but could not see him. I sent a coolie to dive below, and when he came up he said he could see nothing. We then dragged the place with a three-pronged drag. The body was eventually recovered as a previous witness has described. The doctor from the P. & O. *Verona* came out in the boat and tried to resuscitate the corpse, but without success. This was about one o'clock. I then searched the body and found the paper now produced in the left pocket.

To Mr. Martin—I do not know whether the deceased fell or whether he jumped into water.

To Mr. Coutts—The deceased's hat has never been found: the tide runs swiftly.

This concluded the evidence, and the Jury retired. Upon their return

Mr. C. K. M. Martin, the foreman, said that they found that Herbert William Webb had come by his death through drowning, while of unsound mind.

WATER SPORTS AT YOKOHAMA.

The summer water-sports of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Thursday afternoon in gusty weather. The wind acting on the incoming tide caused a nasty current to set right across the course staked out for the polo match and tournament, and thus detracted a good deal from the fun. The verandah of the Boat-house was, as usual, well-filled with ladies clad in the gayest of summer costumes, and between whilst the fair visitors indulged in dancing to the strains of the Town Band.

BATH-TUB RACE.

Five out of the eleven entries started in a choice variety of domestic tubs, ranging from the homely bath to the aristocratic rice-washer: these were propelled by means of wicker-brooms, and naturally their progression was a series of unexpected gyrations with occasional long drifts to leeward. Eric Irwine alone managed to weather the buoy—the others, Austen, Carst, H. Y. Irwine, and F. V. McNair all drifting over to the flagstaff wall, and from thence wading home. Eric Irwine was declared an easy winner. The contest provoked much laughter.

GREASY POLE.

The starters in this event included, F. V. McNair, jun.; J. B. Gibbs, jun.; A. Kingdon, A. Austen, W. Goddard, H. Lee, H. Poole, H. Y. Irwine, W. M. Carst, H. Goldman, H. R. Mair, R. Böhlke, J. Budge, E. J. Libeaud, J. F. Drummond, S. Kuhn, A. L. Manley, H. Goddard, W. B. Mason, and H. S. Goddard. Before half the competitors had essayed the slippery passage of the pole the old brown duck suspended at the end, escaped from its basket. Then ensued a duck hunt of the merriest description until the biped was again secured and placed in durance vile. Herbert Goddard was declared the winner, getting right out to the end of the pole; H. S. Goddard coming second.

WATER POLO.

This game was played by teams representing Tea, Silk, Curios, Insurance, and School-boys, (Red) versus the World (White). The players were (Red): H. R. Mair (Captain), E. H. Irwine, W. Goddard, S. Kuhn, H. S. Goddard, J. F. Drummond, E. T. Bethel, M. Schellenberg, H. Goldman, A. Kingdon, H. Lee, A. Austen, and H. Y. Irwine. (White):—H. Goddard, H. A. Poole, M. Stephens, H. E. Hayward (Captain), G. C. Allcock, R. Böhlke, F. V. McNair, jun., E. J. Libeaud, A. B. Smith, M. Sakamoto, A. L. Manley, and W. B. Mason.

The White team started with the wind in their favour, and soon worked the ball down into the Reds' territory. A wild throw resulted in the ball getting out of bounds, and White had a free throw in. Then Red by excellent play on the right wing worked the leather down the course, the passing being very pretty. Just as things were getting lively for the Whites' goal line the whistle blew half-time. Upon resuming Red had the wind and tide with them, and very quickly the ball was in the enemy's home water. Drummond secured the ball and threw it through, but being off side the point was disallowed. Very soon Red was pressing again and this time H. S. Goddard, after some pretty play in front of goal, secured the point. Within two minutes Irwine made another goal—two for Red; and the whistle blew.

SAMPAK RACE.

As usual this race caused a good deal of amusement, the amateur *sando* in most instances managing to propel their craft anywhere but in the right direction. Still there was a great improvement to be noticed among some of the competitors, the winners, W. M. Carst and J. J. Carst *yulioing* in splendid style.

TOURNAMENT.

The rough water spoiled most of the contests, though some were fought out very vigorously, particularly when McNair or Irwine happened to be in the engagements. The results were:—

1ST HEATS.

H. S. Goddard beat A. Kingdon.
F. V. McNair, jun., beat W. B. Mason.
Harold Irwine beat S. Kuhn.
H. E. Hayward, a bye.
Herbert Goddard, a bye.
A. L. Manley, a bye.

2ND HEATS.

G. C. Allcock beat McNair.
Harold Irwine beat Hayward.
A. L. Manley beat H. Goddard.

SEMI-FINAL.

H. S. Goddard, a bye.
Harold Irwine beat Manley.

FINAL.

Harold Irwine beat H. S. Goddard.

Mr. F. J. Hall acted most zealously as starter, judge, and referee; the Rev. E. C. Irwine was time-keeper; Mr. Schellenberg, Treasurer; and Mr. H. R. Mair, Secretary.

A BI-METALLIC QUESTION IN CHINA.

A very singular bi-metallic question has just been agitating China, though little or nothing of it has appeared in the European Press in those regions, still less in the Press of Europe. As it hardly concerns the European banks (except in so far as their "compradores" are doubtless quietly making fortunes out of it), perhaps this fact is scarcely to be wondered at.

A few years ago the Canton Viceroy Chang Chih-tung (since then at Nanking, now at Hankow) established a series of mints at Canton. Not only were excellent dollars and fractional silver coins struck for local use, but Hongkong itself was flooded with ten-cent and five-cent pieces. So far so good. No great consequences ensued. But, as copper cash were growing scarce in China (owing chiefly to the comparative failure under the four last Emperors to develop the copper industries of Yunnan, disorganised by the Panthay rebellion), Chang Chih-tung decided to start a cash mint at Canton, as well as a dollar mint. The cash were not quite so heavy as, but their workmanship was much finer and more regular than, in the case of the old-fashioned native article. As we all know, the Chinese "cash" is a coin rather larger than a farthing, having a square hole in the middle to facilitate its being strung. The tael, or Chinese ounce of silver, varies in every town; but, roughly speaking, the Mexican dollar is worth a string of a thousand cash, and is in value as 72 to 100 compared with the tael. In 1800 the Spanish dollar was worth 750 cash, and the Spanish Government at home had altered the value of the *quaruple de a ocho* from 15 to 16 Mexican dollars. The first Manchu Emperor, 250 years ago, had fixed the tael at 700 cash; but a century later the opium trade and the tea trade combined gradually had the effect of forcing the tael up from 1,000 to 1,600 cash.

At the beginning of this year strange news suddenly arrived in Shanghai from all the outposts. In Chinkiang, one of the centres of the opium trade, the Spanish dollar suddenly fell from 1,300 to 1,175 cash, and the tael from 1,480 to 1,345. At Hankow the Mexican fell to 920 cash, and the same thing at Ningpo. At both these last places proclamations had appeared announcing that the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's new dollars (coined at Hankow now in the same way as at Canton) would shortly be placed on the market, and must be received on the footing of Mexican, Japanese, French, and English dollars; that is, they must be taken freely by all good lieges, subject to market fancies. The proclamations announced moreover that the new dollars would be received in payment of taxes and Customs duties. That always sounds uncanny to a Chinaman, who knows by experience that all exchanges go against him when he pays his taxes. The authorities at Chinkiang and Nanking were therefore somewhat staggered to find that, when the troops received their pay in the new dollars instead of in copper cash, as usual, the money changers charged one per cent. discount, and would only give 935 cash for the dollar. From Hangchow came news that, although 1,000 cash were still procurable for a dollar, 20 per cent. of base cash were inserted in each string, so that in effect only 960 really good coins were given. At Yangchow the local tael had gone down to 1,300 cash, and the Mexican dollar to a little over 900. From Wuhu and the towns of the Poyang Lake similar reports arrived. It is the invariable rule for copper cash to advance in price as compared with silver at the Chinese new year (February), for in China it is the custom for everyone, rich and poor, to keep articles not required for daily use in the pawn-shops, and copper cash are required at that festive season, in order to regulate petty domestic transactions. The fall this year, however, was something quite abnormal, and as the holidays were rapidly approaching, great popular excitement and even distress was inevitable.

It never seemed to occur to anyone that the more dollars were coined the easier they were to get; and the easier to get, the less there must be to pay for the accommodation; in short, the dearer copper-cash must be. The export of cash from China has always been forbidden by treaty, but permission to export from port to port has invariably been granted under Customs surveillance. The illicit coinage and the melting down of cash are offences which have always been severely punish-

able. It was suspected that the present dearth in cash was in some undefined way connected with the Japanese indemnity; it was known that "smashers" were apt to coin inferior cash, for mixing with the standard article, whenever the demanded was active; and it was more than suspected that the high price of raw copper in the market made it worth the while of "roguish merchants," not only to export copper cash to Hongkong and Japan, but to melt them down to be fashioned into pots and basins. The Chinese mandarins accordingly everywhere took the same fatuous steps. Cash banks were "ordered" by proclamation not to fix "unreasonable" prices; the export of cash from port to port was either limited to a few stringsworth at a time, or entirely forbidden; dire penalties were threatened against any persons who should clandestinely melt down or coin each under any pretext; and so on.

It was not long before news came from Peking that there had been a similar crisis there too; to make matters worse, the two metropolitan mints were at a standstill for want of copper. Not only did matters not improve, but things went from bad to worse everywhere. The tea season was coming on, advances were required for purchases up country, riots were taking place, and consternation was in every man's eye. Some wiseacre at last discovered that, if all the authorities maintained the rigid prohibition against sending cash away to a port, it was evident that no cash could possibly arrive from a port. It was also discovered that so long as cash were so large and heavy that a string of them weighted eight English pounds, it was absurd to buy raw copper for coining at £30 to £50 a ton sterling, and with the other hand give away eight pounds of finely mixed and carefully stamped copper for a trifle over two shillings—the sterling value of the Mexican dollar.

The authorities at Hankow and several other great centres, especially tea marts, endeavoured to tide over immediate difficulties by issuing official cash-notes, receivable at some date, not special cash-notes, receivable in payment of taxes and Customs dues, but redeemable at some date not specified. However, in order to obviate loss from wear and tear, these notes were to be cancelled and exchanged for new ones immediately they were handed over the official counter. Proclamations were issued authorising the free export of cash from port to port. Enormous orders for cash were sent to the Canton mint, which for some reason had recently stopped working; copper cash were ordered to be struck on a wholesale scale in various provinces where mints existed, but where for years past they had been neglected; and the latest news is, in fine, that a general improvement is shortly hoped for, when the new cash shall have come into free circulation.

Incalculable popular injury has already been worked all over China by this singular monetary crisis, and it ought to be a lesson to all who rashly interfere with the *status quo* of currency, be it gold, silver, or copper. The increased production of silver and the increased demand for gold undoubtedly caused the fall of silver in civilised countries. The recent increased production of gold has not been so great as to overwhelm either the increased demand for it or the ever-concurrent increased production of silver. Things would probably have been much worse than they are, had not the silver mines drawn in their horns a little, and had not the general advance in "civilisation" kept up the demand for gold. Those who possess gold always possess it because they want it, and have paid for it. It is monstrous to try and induce them to part with it on any theoretical grounds. The only criterion is, "What will you give for it?" When it is gone, and inconvenience arises, the seller will raise his price in order to have it back. Hence the infallible result. Only the richer individuals and the richer countries can afford to possess gold. Why is it possessed? Only the richer countries live on such a scale that gold is required in the pocket at all. The chief use for gold is as a counter in the pocket. The next use is as a security, lying in the bank, for paper kept in the pocket; in other words, it is a secondary counter. All other uses of gold are purely mercantile, like the uses of paint, diamonds, or cheese. If these simple facts be kept in mind, "bi-metallics" will find their nerves considerably steadied.—*Economist*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, August 29.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has arrived at New York where he was given a splendid reception.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, August 29.

Her Majesty's ship *Swift* arrived here yesterday from the Behring Sea.

Hakodate, September 1.

At 5.09 o'clock last evening an earthquake occurred here that lasted two minutes.

A southerly gale is blowing, and the weather is very disagreeable.

Hakodate, Sept. 3.

H.I.J.M.S. *Kongo Kan* arrived here yesterday. Two strong shocks of earthquake shook Hakodate last night at seven o'clock.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, August 28.

A band of Armenians, numbering about forty, have seized the Ottoman Bank at Constantinople, killing the guards. Simultaneously with the seizure of the Bank rioting broke out in other quarters of the city, many persons being killed and the shops sacked.

H.M.S. *Dryad* has left Therapia for the city and the French and Italian guardships are to follow.

London, Sept. 1.

Prince Lobanoff, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, died suddenly whilst returning to Kieff from Vienna with the Czar and Czarina.

London, Sept. 2.

President Cleveland is sending several cruisers to Turkey.

The Embassies at Constantinople are drafting a Note to the Porte pointing to the recent massacre of five thousand Armenians as being organized with the connivance of the authorities. The excitement is subsiding.

The prevalent opinion in Europe is that Prince Lobanoff's successful policy will be continued.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17½
" " " " New York 4.84
(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 27.

H.M.S. *St. George* and *Racoon* have arrived at Zanzibar, and landed two hundred and fifty men, and the ships' guns command the Palace. Kalid's force numbers two thousand five hundred men, well armed. An ultimatum has been handed to Kalid that unless he surrenders by the morning the Palace will be bombarded.

London, August 28.

The Palace at Zanzibar has been bombarded and reduced to ruins, and Said Kalid has fled. Hamond, a cousin of the late Sultan, has been placed on the throne.

(FROM THE TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, August 12.

The Russian press says that the Powers will take action in Crete without England, who seems to separate herself from the European concert, but that they will not forget the Egyptian question.

Some fireworks exploded at the fête at Rennes last night and seriously injured six persons. The fête was given in honour of M. Faure, who is visiting Rennes.

(FROM THE BAROKOK PAPERS.)

London, August 10.

General Sir F. Carrington reports that owing to their recent reverses the Matabele are inclining to peace.

Li Hung-chang has decorated General Gordon's statue in Trafalgar Square and the cenotaph in St. Paul's each with a superb wreath.

London, August 11.

The railway bridge connecting Mombasa with the mainland has been opened, and the line progresses at the rate of half a mile per day.

London, August 12.

The Russian Press condemns German attacks on Lord Salisbury for declining to blockade Crete, which would prove futile, unless applied equally against Turks and Christians.

(FROM THE SAIGON PAPERS.)

Paris, August 14.
It is officially stated that the Czar and Czarina will arrive at Cherbourg on their way from England at the beginning of October. The Czar will remain eighteen days in Paris.

Paris, August 17.
The Czar will arrive at Cherbourg on the 5th October.

M. Melne, at the Remiremont banquet, said that France united was invincible, as would be seen by the Czar, whose visit would cement the Franco-Russian union.

Paris, August 16.
The United States have recognised the annexation of Madagascar by France.

The inauguration of the monument erected at Grenoble to Doudart Lagree was largely attended. M. Lebon eulogised the work of Doudart.

M. Le Myre de Vilers said that France was indebted to Doudart for an empire which will compensate for the loss of the Indies.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Fukui, August 31st.
A violent gale of wind and rain broke over the town to-day doing much damage. The weather cleared about 5 p.m.

Shidzuoka, Sept. 1.
The *Chi-yen* is expected at Shimidzu on the 3rd inst.

Nagoya, Sept. 1.
The damages done by the storm in this Prefecture are tabulated as follow:—Deaths, 26; houses entirely wrecked, 931; houses partially wrecked 398; houses washed away by water, 100; houses inundated, 2,196; breaches in embankments, 38.

Hakodate, Sept. 1.
Viscount Higashizono, the Imperial Chamberlain, bearing the Emperor and Empress's gifts arrived here at 9.12 a.m. to-day.

Osaka, September 1.
Count Matsukata arrived here at 5 o'clock this afternoon by steamer from Mikage *via* Nara. He will leave Kyoto by the 12.25 a.m. train tomorrow for Tokyo.

Gifu, Sept. 2.
Researches carried up till this morning now show the storm damages to be as follow:—Wrecked houses, 4,300; partially wrecked, 4,800; deaths, 23. The crops throughout this Prefecture are believed to be reduced by one-half.

Toyama, Sept. 2.
At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon a feeble earthquake was felt. The houses wrecked by the storm in Takaoka number 29; in Fushiki there were only four destroyed.

Kobe, Aug. 31.
The embankment of the Minatogawa in the vicinity of Aratacho was broken at 11 p.m. on the 30th inst. The water covered the whole of Aratacho and Fukuharacho and extended to Tamondori, Arimamichi, and Higashi Kawasaki. About 300 houses were wrecked, and 40 deaths are reported. The police and government officials are doing all they can. The dead bodies of several females and infants have been found below the floors. The Red Cross Association have started a branch hospital at Fukuohara, where 20 wounded have been attended to. The water police boats go down Tainon-dori to reach the bridge.

Tsu, September 3.
The wrecked houses number, up to the present, 2,067; houses swept away 121; deaths by drowning and crushing, 83.

Gifu, September 3.
According to researches carried on till yesterday, the houses wrecked number 4,300; houses partially wrecked, 4,800, deaths, 23.

Aomori, September 3.
Governor Maki left for Tokyo to-day to ask for yen 100,000 from the Treasury towards repairing the damages caused by the recent catastrophe.

Sendai, September 3.
Viscount Sano, Director of the Red Cross Association, arrived the night before last, and went to Morioka yesterday morning. He returned here to-day.

Hakodate, Sept. 3.
The *Kongo* arrived yesterday.

Sōul, Sept. 1.
To-morrow being the official anniversary of the birth of the King, the Tai Wōn-kun and his wife have come to the Min-yé Palace, and will pay homage to-morrow.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

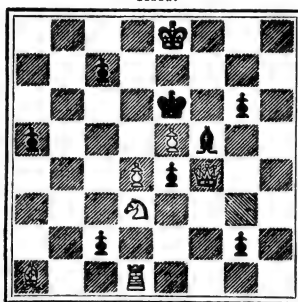
The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 244.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to Q Kt 7 1—B takes R
2—Q takes Q P 2—R takes R
3—Kt to Q 5, mate if 2—R takes R
3—Q takes R P, mate.

Other variations obvious.
Correct answers from W. d. H., Shogi, J.D., and Omega.

PROBLEM NO. 246.
By JAN DRITINA.

White to play and mate in three moves.

NUREMBERG TOURNAMENT.

The result has reached us by telegram dated Nuremberg, 11th August, wherein the names of the prize-winners are given as under:—

- 1—Lasker (13½ points).
- 2—Maroczy.
- 3 } Pillsbury and Tarrasch (12 each).
- 4 }
- 5—Janowsky.
- 6—Steinitz.
- 7—Schlechter and Walbrodt (tie).

We publish one of the early games, and hope to follow it up with further specimens as they come to hand.

GAME NO. 559.
AT NUREMBERG, 1896.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. BLACK.
Forbes. Lasker.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5 3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles 4—Kt takes P
5—P to Q 4 5—B to K 2
6—Q to R 2 (a) 6—Kt to Q 3
7—B takes Kt 7—Kt P takes B (b)
8—P takes P 8—Kt to Kt 2
9—P to Q Kt 3 (c) 9—Castles
10—B to Kt 2 10—P to Q 4
11—P takes P e.p. 11—P takes P
12—Q Kt to Q 2 12—P to K sq.
13—K R to K sq. 13—B to Q 2
14—Kt to K 4 (d) 14—P to Q 4
15—Q Kt to Q 2 15—B to Q R 6
16—B to K 5 16—P to B 3
17—Q to R 6 (e) 17—P takes B
18—Q takes B 18—P to K 5
19—Kt to Q 4 19—Q to B 3
20—P to Q B 3 20—R to K B sq.
21—P to B 3 (f) 21—Q to Kt 4
22—Q to B sq. 22—Kt to B 4
23—Kt to B sq. 23—Q to Kt 3
24—R to K 3 24—Kt to Q 6
25—Q to Q sq. 25—Kt to B 5
26—Kt to Kt 3 (g) 26—P to K R 4

27—Q Kt to K 2 27—Kt takes P (h)
28—K takes Kt 28—P takes P ch.
29—R takes P 29—B to R 6 ch.
30—K takes B 30—Q to Kt 5 ch.
31—K to Kt 2 31—Q takes R ch.
32—K to Kt sq. 32—P to R 5
33—Kt to R sq. 33—Q to K 6 ch.
Resigns (i).

(a) Two important variations occur here, viz:—
6—R to K sq. Kt to Q 3 6—P to Q 2 Kt to Q 3
7—B takes Kt Q P takes B 7—B to K 4 P to K 4
8—P takes P Kt to B 4 8—P takes Kt P takes Kt
9—B takes P 10—B takes P ch B takes P
10—B takes P Q P takes B Castles

(b) If 7....
8—P takes P Kt to B 4
9—R to Q sq. B to Q 3
10—P to K 6 P takes P
11—Kt to K 5, with a good game.

(c) Probably best. The following lead to even position:—
9—Kt to B 3 Kt to B 4 Castles
10—Kt to Q 4 Castles 10—R to Q sq. Q to K sq
11—R to K sq Kt to K 3 11—Kt to Q B 3 P to B 3
12—Kt to B 5 P to B 3
13—B to Q 3 P takes P
14—Q takes P B to B 3
15—Q to Kt 5 P to Q 2

(d) Prior to this move White appears to have slightly the preferable position. The move is ill-judged, and gives Black a small advantage of which he makes the most.

(e) White is fortunate to be able to save his piece in this manner, but Black retains the advantage.

(f) Hazardous, but White has nothing better. If 22—R to K B sq., P to B 4; 22—Kt to K 2, Q to Kt 4, should win.

(g) White defends himself very ingeniously, but his opponent's next move is bold and efficacious.

(h) This is a master-stroke. There were various ways of winning, but Black selects the shortest.

(i) If 33—K to Kt 2, P to R 6 mates.

LASKERISMS.

"A Pawn without a clearly defined purpose is to be blamed."

"When your position is not inferior to that of your opponent, and he, nevertheless, makes preparations to attack you, disregard them altogether, develop reserve forces, avoid his attack by the slightest defensive movement possible, and institute a quick counter-action."

"Don't attack unless you have some tangible superiority.—From 'Common Sense in Chess.'"

We take the following from Black Bishop's column in the *China Mail*, and specially commend to the notice of our readers the challenge to a "Correspondence Game" from two Hongkong amateurs. Now is the time for Hakodate and Nagasaki to wake up and show what they can do. Kobe and Tokyo also might take a hand. All who love a game of long-bowls have now a chance to distinguish themselves.

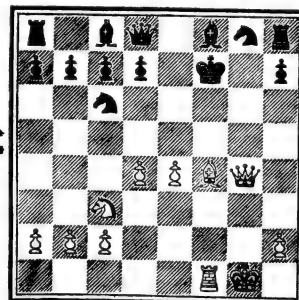
GAME NO. 560.

VIENNA GAME.

WHITE. BLACK.
Max Lange. Dryadski.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3 2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 4 3—P takes P
4—Kt to B 3 4—P to K Kt 4
5—B to B 4 5—P to K Kt 5
6—P to Q 4 6—P takes Kt
7—Castles 7—P takes P
8—B takes P ch. (a) 8—K takes B
9—Q to R 5 ch. 9—K to Kt 2
10—Q to Kt 4 ch. 10—K to B 2
11—B takes P 11—P takes R (Q) ch.
12—K takes Q (b) 12—Kt to K B 3
13—B to Kt 5 13—B to K 2
14—Kt to Q 5 14—R to K Kt sq.
15—P to K 5 15—P to K R 3
16—Q to R 5 ch. 16—K to K 3
17—Kt to B 4 ch. 17—K to B 4
18—Q to B 7 18—R takes B ch.
19—Kt to Kt 2 ch. 19—K to K 5
20—R to B 4 mate.

(a) A bolt from the blue after the preceding sacrificial play.
(b) White has given up three pieces in order to concentrate his attack and obstruct Black's development. See the diagram.
(c) Instead of resigning, as his position is now hopeless.

Position after White's twelfth move:—



I am requested to announce that two Hongkong amateurs are willing to play, singly or in consultation, correspondence games with residents in Japan or the coast ports. Communications may be sent to the *China Mail* office.

GAME No. 561.

ANOTHER OF MR. WYVILL'S GAMES.

The following is another of Mr. Wyvill's games, played in the 1851 tournament. His opponent, Captain Kennedy, was at one time president of the Edinburgh Chess Club.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

WHITE. Kennedy.	BLACK. Wyvill.
1—P to K 4.	1—P to Q B 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—P to K 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—Kt takes P	5—P to Q 3
6—Kt takes Kt	6—P takes Kt
7—B to Q 3	7—P to K Kt 3
8—Castles	8—B to K Kt 2
9—Kt to K 2	9—Kt to K 2
10—P to Q B 3	10—Castles
11—B to R Kt 5	11—P to B 3
12—B to K 3	12—K to R sq.
13—P to K B 4	13—Q to B 2
14—Q to B 2	14—B to K R 3
15—R to B 3	15—P to K 4
16—K to R sq.	16—B to Kt 5
17—P takes P (a)	17—B takes R
18—B takes B	18—B takes Kt
19—B takes B (b)	19—B takes P (c)
20—B takes R	20—R takes B
21—R to K B sq.	21—R takes R ch.
22—B takes R	22—P to Q 4
23—P to K R 3	23—K to Kt 2
24—P to Q Kt 4	24—P takes P
25—Q takes P	25—Kt to B 4
26—K to R 2	26—K to B 3 (d)
27—P to K Kt 4	27—Kt to Q 3
28—P to K Kt 5 ch.	28—K to K 3
29—Q to K R 4 (e)	29—P to K 5
30—R to R sq.	30—Q to K B 2
31—B to K 2	31—K to K 4
32—P to Q B 4	32—Kt to K B 4
33—Q to B 2	33—Q to K 2
34—P to B 5	34—Q takes K Kt P
35—B to K Kt 4	35—Q to Q B 8 ch.
36—K to R 2	36—P to K 6
37—Q to K Kt 2	37—Q to Q 7
38—P to Q Kt 5	38—P takes P
39—B to K 2	39—P to Q Kt 5
40—P to Q B 6	40—K to Q 3
41—Q to K B 3	41—Q takes P
42—Q to K B 4 ch.	42—K takes P
43—Q to K 4 ch.	43—Q to Q 4
44—Q to K 8 ch.	44—K to Q 3
45—Q to K B 8 ch.	45—K to K 4
46—Q takes P	46—Q to Q 3 (f)
47—Q to K Kt 4	47—R to B 3 (dis. ch.)
48—K to Kt 2	48—P to K R 4
49—Q to Q R 4	49—Q to K Kt 6 ch.
50—K to R sq.	50—Q to K 8 ch.
51—K to R 2	51—Q to B 7 ch.
52—K to R sq.	52—Kt to Kt 6 mate.

(a) An ingenious combination, but R to K B 3 would probably have been more profitable in the end.
(b) Taking with the Queen would have been preferable.
(c) If 19..... R to B 3, White would have replied P takes Q P and B to Q B 4. If 19..... K R to Q sq., White would have taken K B P with P, with a good position for attack and two Pawns to compensate for the loss of the exchange.
(d) The termination is ably and ingeniously played by Mr. Wyvill.
(e) B to B 4 ch. appears better.
(f) Decisive. The exchange of Queens or the discovered check forces the game.

THE DOYEN OF CHESS CLUBS.

The Council of the Edinburgh Chess Club, in announcing their removal to new premises at 46, Hanover Street, have issued the following notice:—"The Council have been fortunate enough to secure suitable rooms, now occupied by the club, and they hope that the membership, which at present is over sixty, will be thereby largely augmented. The club rooms, containing an excellent chess library, are open all day and evening. The annual subscription is £1, and no entrance fee will be charged to those joining the club before September 30th, provided that the number of members does not exceed one hundred. The Edinburgh Chess Club is the oldest in the British dominions, and there is every desire on the part of its present Council to further the cause of chess in the city, by giving every facility, not only to those who are accomplished players, but to those who are desirous of learning or becoming more proficient. Strong players may always reckon on meeting suitable opponents, and learners will find it of great advantage to attend the lectures which have been arranged for the coming season."

The claim of the Edinburgh club to the dignity of seniority among the chess clubs in Britain is disputed on behalf of the Manchester Chess Club. In 1888 a pamphlet was discovered in a second-hand book shop in London entitled "Rules of the Manchester Chess Club, established 1817, with Philidor's Laws of Chess annexed." In addition to the rules the pamphlet contains minutes of meetings and list of members. No doubt such a

club was formed in 1817 and probably had a successful career, but it must have become defunct, for the present Manchester Chess Club was founded in 1852 with a set of rules different from those of 1817.

The Edinburgh club was founded in 1822, and has had an uninterrupted existence to the present day. That was (and is) the club which won the great match by correspondence against the London Chess Club in 1824 to 1828. The stake played for was a silver cup of the value of 25 guineas, which is still in the possession of the club. The whole of the letters received from London during the progress of the match are preserved at the club, and are very interesting—embracing the controversy about the disputed moves. The original rules are still in force, and the minute book and treasurer's cash book date back to the inception of the club in 1822.

There was an Edinburgh chess club long before 1822, but the present club claims no succession to it. Twiss, writing in 1789, quotes from a letter from Edinburgh regarding chess—"There was formerly a chess club here, but of late in general every game has given place to cards. The game of chess is of great antiquity in Scotland, and is mentioned in several ancient Gaelic poems." It is believed that a chess club existed in Edinburgh before James VI., who was a chess player, quitted it for London in 1603.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Sept. 24th.*
From Hongkong	per F. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 21st.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 21st.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wed'ay, Sept. 9th.
From Hongkong	per F. M. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 20th.
From America	per F. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 22nd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 20th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'ay, Sept. 30th.

* Copie left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 26th. † Ansona left Hongkong on August 23th. ‡ Empress of Japan left Vancouver on August 24th. § Natal (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 1st. ¶ China left Hongkong on September 3rd. ** City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 5th.
For Europe, via Shang-hai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 6th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 7th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. F. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 10th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Sept. 11th.
For Hongkong	per F. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 13th.
For America	per F. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 15th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 15th.
For Europe, via Hong-kong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 2nd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Alcidas, British ship, 2,492, Leonard Dart, 29th August.—New York 30th April, 105,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Patroclus, British steamer, 1,670, Dickens, 29th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 28th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Iwanaga, 29th August.—Otaru via ports, 25th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kaio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 29th August.—Kobe 28th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,155, Rae, 30th August.—New York, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Elisabeth Rickmers, German steamer, 2,066, Anderson, 30th August.—Antwerp via ports, and Kobe 29th August, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 30th August.—Nagasaki 28th August, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
J. B. Walker, American ship, 2,105, Wallace, 30th August.—New York 28th March, 80,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Sandai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Barstow, 30th August.—Kobe 29th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, A. Gove, 31st August.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 15th August, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 31st August.—Otaru via ports, 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 1st September.—Hongkong 26th August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Chusang, German steamer, 623, J. Andresen, 1st September.—Iloilo, Sugar.—Chong Wyo Tye & Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Dwyer, 1st September.—London via ports, and Kobe 31st August, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, R. Davies, 1st September.—Hongkong, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 1st September.—Yokkaichi 31st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 2nd September.—Yokkaichi 1st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 2nd September.—Kobe 31st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 2nd September.—Hongkong via ports, 25th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 2nd September.—Guam 9th August, Copra.—Jardins, Matheson & Co.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 2nd September.—San Francisco 17th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 3rd September.—Yokkaichi 2nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Port Phillip, British steamer, 1,732, Smith, 3rd September.—Hakodate 1st September, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Kawamuro, 4th September.—Otaru via ports, 31st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saitio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 4th September.—Shanghai via ports, 29th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Norman, 5th September.—London via ports, and Kobe 3rd September, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 5th September.—Yokkaichi 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Germania, German steamer, 1,714, Bendixen, 29th August.—Java via ports, General.—M. Raspe & Co.
Glenloch, British steamer, 2,997, McGregor, 29th August.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 29th August.—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, P. Cottier, 29th August.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Chihli, British steamer, 1,158, Newcome, 30th August.—Hongkong via ports, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 30th August.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Finsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,411, Nakajima, 31st August.—Niigata and Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 31st August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, 31st August.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 31st August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 1st September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 1st September.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Iwanaga, 1st September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kaio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 1st September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 1st September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 1st September.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
L. Schepp, American ship, 1,776, E. O. Day, 2nd September.—Hongkong, Ballast.—Becker & Co.
Coronet, American yacht, 160, Crosby, 2nd September.—San Francisco.—A. James.
Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 2nd September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, A. Gove, 2nd September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Shanghai, British steamer, 1,672, J. Cowie, 3rd September.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 3rd September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrassowitz, 4th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,662, Fouck, 4th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Oopack, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 4th September.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 4th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 5th September.—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.—Mr. and Mrs. O. U. Lindholm, Miss T. Lindholm, Miss L. Lindholm, Miss J. Lindholm, Messrs. G. Luhrs, E. S. Whaller, Sealholm, C. H. Royce, G. Vasese, M. Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. H. Pollak and baby, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Turley, Mr. and Mrs. T. Yukino, Mrs. H. M. Faulder and daughter, Messrs. A. S. Fobes, Takeo Noya, Y. Horra, and Miss Duncan in cabin; 2 Europeans, 4 Japanese, and 57 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, from Hongkong.—Baron Yukichi Ito, Mr. G. Eschenburg, Mr. J. Lamke, Dr. Wilni, Mr. J. Gossmann, and Mr. Ch. Römbach in cabin; Mr. C. Kalkhof and Mr. A. Boljahn in second class.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco.—Miss Abenheim, Mr. R. Abenheim, Lieut. J. Chaghiin, Mr. Jose Miguel Robledo, and Mr. T. K. Dato in cabin; 5 passengers in European steerage, and 13 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong.—Miss M. Forrest, Miss D. Bennett, Mr. J. C. Goodchild, Mrs. Goodchild, Mr. V. Cabos, and Mr. A. M. Navarro in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. E. C. Welch, Surgeon-Major James, Lieutenant Voisin, Mr. H. L. Wilkinson, Mr. Stradniski, Miss N. C. Stewart, Mr. Pallant, Mrs. Pallant, Mr. F. Bull, Mrs. Bull, Mr. J. F. Lowder, Mr. T. W. McIlwraith, Mr. F. J. Nutter, Mr. E. Wisner, and Mr. K. Tsuzuki in cabin. For San Francisco.—Mr. G. Stafford Northcote, Mr. A. T. Hill, Mrs. Hill and 3 children, and Mr. Jno. C. Seigfried in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. Kozakow, Mr. J. Chamber, Mrs. Tsuji, Mrs. Lowder and 2 children, Mrs. W. Platt, Mrs. Mendham, Mrs. Freeman (to London), Mrs. A. Duncan (to San Francisco), Mr. K. H. von Lindholm, Mr. G. C. Boumann, Dr. T. Tanabe, Lieut. J. Yoshijima, Mr. V. E. Abraham, Mr. K. Matsushima, Mrs. T. Sone, Mr. C. Yoshida, Captain Crichton, Mr. Boweck, Mr. S. Murakami, Mr. O. Kawakami, and Mr. H. Takahashi in cabin; Mr. Sia Tieng Bo, Mr. Sia Tieng Aug, Mr. Masatada Naruse, Mr. Jiro Yamaoka, Mr. T. Nishi, Mrs. S. Indo, Mrs. G. Hay, Mr. K. Mayekawa, Mr. M. Iwano, Mr. K. Fujioka, Mrs. H. Yoshizawa and child, Mr. H. Futamura, Mr. I. Murakami, Miss Kumazawa, Mr. Takahashi, Mr. Murakami, Miss Saito, Miss T. Saito, and Miss K. Nishi in second class.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Pond and child, Miss Pond, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Anderson, Messrs. L. W. Doney, J. Mackey, W. H. Crawford, H. C. Brushfield, B. H. Pearson, J. F. Lowder, Mr. and Mrs. Bull, Mr. Perez, Mr. Davenport, Miss Harrison, Messrs. Hoschopf, P. A. Van de Stadt, W. J. Blackhall, and H. M. Arnould in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe.—Messrs. Ed. Jubiot, Schwob, M. Jonas, S. Nakamura, H. Yamaguchi, and M. Blum in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Nishihara in second class. For Taku.—Captain and Mrs. Barber in cabin. For Jinsen.—Mr. L. J. De Ryder in second class. For Chefoo.—Mr. H. Damstrom in second class. For Shimonoseki.—Mr. K. Wusagawa in cabin. For Nagasaki.—Mrs. Ringer and child in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. S. Goberman, Mr. H. Iwata, and Miss C. Akuta in second class. For Shanghai.—Rev. E. Faber, Mr. W. Carson, Mr. McMichael, Miss Vaughan, Miss Barnes, and Rev. G. H. Bondfield in cabin; 44 passengers in steerage for Kobe, &c.

Per British steamer *Shanghai*, for London via ports.—Miss Millar, Miss J. Russell, Mr. W. H.

Short, Mrs. Wilson, 2 children and infant, Mrs. Getley, child, infant, and amah, Mr. E. C. Wilton, Mr. J. Limby and son, Mr. Menpes, and Mr. Th. Röhren in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, for Hongkong via ports.—Mr. M. Marshall, Mr. E. Kellmann, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Lindholm and 3 daughters, Mr. George Lührs, Mr. H. Willner, Mr. Pow Fam Chin, and Mr. H. Blum in cabin; Miss B. B. Noyes, Mr. K. Uyeno, Mr. Hornstrass, and Mrs. Gilkerson and 3 children in second class; 2 Europeans in steerage, and 3 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports.—Silk, 465 bales; Waste Silk, 40 bales.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, for Portland, Oregon:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO.	NEW YORK.	PACIFIC TOTAL.
	CANADA.	AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST-PACKAGES.
Amoy.....	—	568	3,848	— 4,416
Shanghai	—	—	9,143	521 9,664
Hyogo	—	2,051	273	143 2,466
Yokohama	677	593	350	703 2,321
Total	677	3,211	13,513	1,366 18,767

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai via ports.—Treasure, \$195,171.00.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, for Hongkong via ports.—Raw Silk for Europe, 259 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 94 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain Gove, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 15th August at 4 a.m., and Victoria, B.C., at 2 p.m.; had moderate westerly wind pleasant throughout the passage; the meridian was crossed on 24th inst. in lat. 51.30 N.; considerable fog was encountered till we reached 170 E. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st August at 8 a.m.

The German steamer *Hohensollern*, Captain A. Harrassowitz, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th August at noon; had fine weather through Channel, light N. wind; later on high easterly swell, N. wind; passed Nagasaki the 29th at 6.30 p.m.; between Bungo and Siwo got on the 30th a heavy gale, in all appearance a typhoon with tremendous high sea, winds from N.N.E.-W.N.W. 9-10 greatest force, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; passed Rock Island the 31st at 6.30 p.m. and arrived at Quarantine the same night at 0.15 a.m.; anchored here the 1st September.

The British steamer *Doric*, Captain H. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 25th August, Nagasaki the 30th, and Kobe the 1st September. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd at 10 p.m. Had fine weather throughout the passage.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 15th June.—Bona, Algeria, Phosphate.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,668, Ward, 27th August.—Hongkong, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Chusang, German steamer, 623, J. Andresen, 1st September.—Iloilo, Sugar.—Chong Wo Tye & Co.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,155, Rae, 30th August.—New York, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Cromarty, British steamer, 1,789, W. Duncan, 27th August.—Glasgow via ports, 18th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Elisabeth Rickmers, German steamer, 2,066, Anderson, 30th August.—Antwerp via ports, and Kobe 29th August, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Dwyer, 1st September.—London via ports, and Kobe 31st August, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 1,961, Rebbel-mund, 26th August.—Antwerp via ports, Kobe 25th August, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Herman Veda Farsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 8th August.—Nagasaki, via Kobe 7th August, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July.—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 5th August.—Kobe 4th August, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, R. Davies, 1st September.—Hongkong, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 26th July.—Hongkong 12th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Patroclus, British steamer, 1,670, Dickens, 29th August.—London via ports, and Kobe 28th August, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sabine Rickmers, British steamer, 597, Sanders, 25th June.—Hongkong 18th June, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Aubert, 23rd August.—Marseilles 19th July, Hongkong 15th August, Shanghai 19th, and Kobe 22nd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Olympia, U.S. flagship, Captain J. G. Read, 8th June.—Hakodate 6th June.

Saida (16), Austrian cruiser, Captain Conrade, Spiller, 21st August.—Honolulu 11th July.

Zaragosa, Mexican cruiser, Admiral A. O. Monasterio, 2nd August.—Gumayas, via Honolulu 13th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarn and Grey Cloth—Holders are trying to advance quotations, but buyers are shy and there is but little done. Fancy Cottons—Some little stir in Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns. Woolens—Fair sales of Italian Cloth, and a line of Blankets has found a buyer.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.20
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 35 inches	1.70 to 1.91
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds. 44 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.32
	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.95 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.62 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.75
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—	0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32
Medium	0.25 to 0.27
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 @ 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16, 24, Singles	\$3.00 to 38.00
Nos. 18/32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	50.00 to 52.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

Very dull, and transactions of a retail character. There should be more doing as the summer-hheat passes away. Quotations nominally unchanged.

	PER PIECE.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.62 1/2 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

More doing, buyers being at last forced to replenish stocks. Holders are said to be firm, in spite of large arrivals from the Eastern States.

American	\$2.16 to 2.18
Russian	2.14 to 2.16
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Market closes quiet after a spurt. Prices generally improved, especially for Takao sorts. White—Ordinary has improved, and Refined is going strong with a good demand and large sales at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.00 to 4.10
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daileng	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.35 to 3.45
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.00
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business has gradually tailed off till at the close there is practically nothing doing. Holders have

themselves to thank for this; for they have again advanced quotations beyond all reasonable limits. At fair prices there are plenty of orders in town, and meanwhile the stock mounts up, 14,000 piculs now. While the export to date is 2,000 piculs against 15,000 last year!

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$810
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	780
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	790 to 800
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	775 to 785
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	765 to 775
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	730
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	700
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 21, 14/18 deniers	670 to 675
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	650 to 660
Kakedas—Extra	730
Kakedas—No. 1	700 to 730
Kakedas—No. 2	690
Kakedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

Same conditions prevail here as in the Raw market. Holders ask too much and buyers hold aloof as a natural sequence. No reliable quotations yet.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Moderate business at quotations. Market firm. Third crop is expected on sale every day, but there is not much anxiety among shippers for worse leaf than that which is already on offer. Total settlements from 1st July to date remain at 30,000 piculs less than last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$24 to \$25
Finest	22 to 23
Fine	20 to 21
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

In absence of news from Europe, rates remain unaltered.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 7/8 to 10 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/2 to 2 1/8
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8 to 1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8 to 1 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8 to 1 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.67 1/2 to 8
— Private 4 months' sight	2.7 1/2 to 10 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 9/10 p.
— Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	18 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	18 3/4
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.40
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/2

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, August 31st.

Luzon Sugars have been purchased from Hongkong at \$64.

Iron Works have changed hands locally at \$105 and Hyogo Gas at \$170.

Grand Hotels are offering at \$170, Iron Works at \$105, Club Hotels at \$75, and Oriental Hotels at \$135, whilst there are buyers of Japan Breweries at \$225, Langfeldts at \$185, and of Club Hotels and Japan Brewery Debentures at \$110 respectively.

We notice a paragraph in a local newspaper to the effect that Brett & Co.'s shares have changed hands at \$10, along with a gushing addition thereto. As far as we know there were no more than two shares sold at this price. There were buyers at \$7.75 and not higher, and sellers to any extent at \$10.

Yokohama, September 1st.

With reference to our remarks in our last night's Share Report we observe the *Japan Daily Advertiser* takes exception to what we wrote. We can only say we are sellers of a number of Brett & Co.'s shares at \$10. We believe the Company is doing well and that the shares will appreciate.

Yokohama, September 2nd.

Brett & Co.—With reference to the paragraph in the *Daily Advertiser* of this morning, we beg to state that, with the exception of two shares for which \$10 was paid, we have not sold a single share at a higher price than \$7.75. We have nothing to do with the consideration money stated in a deed of transfer; which is purely a matter between buyer and seller and does not concern the Broker. We many say, however, that where no stamp duty is charged the amount of consideration money named in a transfer is frequently a nominal one, and it would not have made any difference in

the instance referred to by the *Advertiser* whether the sum had been put down at \$1 or \$400.

Yokohama, September 4th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report the following changes in the share market:—H. & S. Banks 185 per cent. Buyers: Hongkong Lands \$74 Sales; China Fires \$95 Sellers; H. & W. Docks 193 per cent. ex dividend Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$53.50 Sellers; Douglasses \$65.50 Buyers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.25 Sellers; Punjom Mines \$14 Buyers; Raub Mines \$5.50 Nominal; Balmoral Mines \$2.25 Nominal; National Banks \$27 Sellers; Indo-Chinas \$46 Buyers; Straits \$27 Buyers; Union Insurance \$232.50 Sellers; China Traders \$81.50 Sales; and China Sugars \$123 Buyers.

China Mutual £10 Preference shares have changed hands locally at £8 and Hyogo Gas at \$170. A few China Mutual Ordinary £5 paid-up shares are on offer, also Club and Grand Hotels.



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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 11.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 1896.

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西曆九月十三日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PLUS ÇA CHANGÉ, PLUS ÇA MEILLEUR."

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 12TH, 1896.

DEATHS.

On Saturday, the 5th inst., at Kanagawa, AUGUSTIN STEIN, a native of Hamburg, in his 55th year.

At 119 B. Bluff, Sept. 9th, at 11 p.m., THOMAS SIMPSON KENDERDINE, age 47 years, late Master, Nippon Yusen Kaisha Service.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A FRENCH Squadron has been ordered to the Levant.

THE Nippon Ginko raised its rates of interest on the 7th inst.

A SEVERE earthquake has wrought considerable damage in Akita Ken.

THE standard for cavalry in the Japanese army has been lowered two inches.

RAILWAY and telegraphic interruptions are the order of the present summer in Japan.

SIR PHILIP CURRIE, British Ambassador to Turkey, has returned to Constantinople.

THERE has been a rising of natives and half-breeds in Manila, but the real facts of the re-

volt are difficult to obtain. It seems likely that the affair will be easily put down.

THE Nile railway has been reopened. Twenty miles of the line were relaid in ten days.

THE amount of money deposited in Post Office Savings Banks at the end of July is estimated at yen 1,066,500.

THE export of coal from Moji during the month of August totalled 53,178 tons, valued at yen 200,714.80.

MADAME INABUNE, the celebrated lady novelist, took poison the other day, and is now lying in a critical position.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha have transferred their iron works and smith's shops to the Yokohama Dock Company.

ANOTHER gale, lasting for nearly four days, has wrought immense damage in Shikoku and the Central districts of Japan.

MARQUIS MARSHAL YAMAGATA's health is very precarious. His physician, Dr. Hashimoto, has ordered him complete quiet.

THE Shinagawa Woollen Company's plant arrived by the *Pera*, on the 3rd instant. The machines weigh about 400 tons.

A MANIFESTO issued by the Mussulman Cretans appeals to the Mahomedans to resist the reforms which the Assembly has accepted.

THE Prince Imperial has left Nikko, and the Imperial Princesses Tsune and Kane have returned to the capital from Hakone.

MESSRS. DEN and MATSUNAGA, who were despatched to attend the International Telegraphic Congress at Buda-Pest, are now visiting Paris.

THE health of Count Mitsu is again causing grave anxiety, His Excellency having suffered though the strain involved by the recent Oiso meetings.

Two silk handkerchief brokers, who made away with \$2,000 worth of handkerchiefs entrusted to their care in Yokohama, have been arrested in Hokkaido.

THE amount of imports during August at Nagasaki, are estimated to have reached over yen 1,680,000, the highest amount since the port was opened.

DURING the absence of Mr. Pereira, the Portuguese Consul in Yokohama, Baron D'Anethan, the Belgian Minister, will take charge of Portuguese Consular Affairs.

MR. MATSUMURA YUNOSHIN has been deprived of rank and position for bringing a false accusation against the conduct of the standing army at Taichiu, Formosa.

MESSRS. BRETT AND Co., Limited, Yokohama, have declared a dividend of 5 per cent. for the year, beside voting \$500 to the Manager, Managing Director, and Advisory Committee.

THE schooner *Iolanthe*, that trades between Yokohama and Guam, Caroline Islands, has been wrecked in the harbours of Saipan. Mr. Shirley Mansfield, her owner, was badly injured.

THE sailing races on Saturday were full of incident, the high wind capsizing some of the smaller boats, splitting sails and spars of the larger ones, and eventually preventing the finish of the races.

T.I.M. THE CZAR AND CZARINA have visited Breslau where they were accorded a splendid

reception. At a banquet in honour of their Majesties' visit the Emperor William toasted the Czar as the bulwark of peace. The Czar's response was of the briefest character.

THE Cabinet crisis still prevails, though the possibility of Count Matsukata being induced to take the positions of Minister President and Minister of Finance, grows more hopeful every day.

DYSENTERY is rapidly spreading in certain districts. The total number of patients during the first half of August was 9,391; the total during the latter half of the month was 15,652; a grand total of 24,943.

M. EDWARD PAPINI and eleven other French residents in Japan were lately rewarded with some *Mokuhai* (lacquered *saké* cups) in recognition of the generous contributions they have given to the Orphan Asylum.

THE trade between Korea and Shimonoseki last month is estimated to have reached yen 126,151.585. Compared with last month, there is an increase of yen 14,288.292; in imports, yen 7,933.948; exports, yen 6,355.349.

FRANK RYDER, late Second Officer, and Ernest Dawson, late Third Engineer of the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyo Maru*, have been committed to take their trial on the charge of stealing \$2,000 from that the vessel on or about the 15th August.

THE National Convention of Gold Democrats held at Indianapolis has adopted a platform upholding the Gold standard and opposing the free coinage of silver. The convention has nominated General Palmer, of Illinois, for the Presidency.

LATEST researches show that the damages done by the recent earthquake in the Senhoku district, Ugo Province, were as follow:—Houses entirely wrecked, 3,256; other buildings, 951; partially wrecked houses, 1,407; partially wrecked buildings, 568; damaged houses, 3,458; damaged buildings, 1,900; deaths, 190; and injured 512.

It is estimated that about one thousand innocent Armenians have been massacred in the streets of Constantinople, the troops being passive spectators. Marines have been landed for the protection of all the Embassies at Constantinople. The embassies have appealed strongly to the Sultan direct to stop the horrors which are taking place, and refer to the violation and looting of foreign domiciles, and point to possible grave results.

LITTLE can be said of the Import trade of the past week, as the firmness of holders has prevented much business from being put through. In Fancies; perhaps, the demand has been met, but this was, at best, only small. Metals continue depressed, imports being in excess of requirements. Kerosene has been going strong these past few days, with prices tending upward. The market for Brown Sugars is quiet, the only thing passing being a few lots of Manila. Prices are well maintained for White, despite the quiet tone that predominates. In Raw Silk business is very dull, with little prospects of improvement. The total export to date is 2,630 bales against 17,510 bales this time last year: such decrease is more than alarming. Tea has experienced another quiet week only medium grade leaf finding purchasers. Prices remain firm. In this staple the decrease in export is also remarkable, 183,400 piculs against 215,650 piculs at the same date last year. In the absence of news from Europe exchange closes easy.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The forecasts of political wisecracks as to the formation of a new Cabinet are as uncertain and fickle as the weather now prevailing. The "bowl of the Premier" is being handed round from one statesman to another, but there is yet none who will come forward and accept it. The "bowl" (*ohachi*, is colloquially used by Japanese for "a turn") has been handed back and forth this week between Count Matsukata and Marquis Saigo, but it is believed that the former will be obliged to retain possession. In the meanwhile, other actors have appeared upon the scene, and we see Count Kabayama and Viscount Nomura, ex-Home Minister, calling upon one statesman after another, endeavouring by strenuous exertions to shorten the period of suspense. The Emperor, it is needless to say, is considerably perturbed at this state of affairs, and two or three days ago summoned the President of the Privy Council to his presence. He enjoined the President to arrange the difficulty as promptly as possible. The Tokyo papers aver that one of the chief reasons why Count Matsukata hesitates to assume the Premiership is the difficulty of finding a competent successor to Marquis Oyama, whose resolution to resign is said to be firm; while Marquis Saigo is also believed to have the intention of leaving the Cabinet as soon as a new Premier is nominated. Slight hope indeed exists of retaining the services of Marquis Saigo, and the appointment of Count Kabayama as his successor is believed to be difficult to achieve. The two candidates thus far mentioned in connection with the War Office are Viscount Takashima, Minister of the Colonization Department, and Marshal Nodzu, Superintendent of the Tokyo Defences, but neither have satisfactory qualifications for the post. The Viscount, having once held the portfolio of the Department, is credited with possessing experience and ability, but he does not carry sufficient prestige. The Marshal enjoys sufficient prestige to command respect in the Department, but he is essentially a soldier and not suited to the onerous duties involved by the nomination. Be that as it may, the one or the other must be induced to assume the portfolio on the eve of the nomination of a Premier. One thing to be specially noted in connection with the present Cabinet crisis is the entire absence of anxiety among business people: they are apparently quite unconcerned. This is a significant fact. Formerly in Japan, whenever any Cabinet changes occurred, the stock and rice markets were sure to be disturbed to a more or less extent. The present phenomenon must be attributable to the increasing stability of the Government, and to the people's beginning to realise their true position and importance.

The press seems somewhat tired of discussing the Cabinet crisis, and now chiefly bandy words among themselves on side issues raised by various writers. The most marked quarrel is that between the *Mainichi* and the *Nichi Nichi*, on the question of the financial measures of the Ito Cabinet. The former, as we mentioned in our last summary, ascribes the fall of the Cabinet to defective financial arrangements. The *Nichi Nichi* takes pains to upset the position taken by its political rival. The Opposition journal contends that at the recent meeting of the local chiefs of the taxes it was stated that the proceeds from the Business Tax would not exceed one-half of the original estimate of 7½ million yen; that the success of the Tobacco Monopoly is exceedingly problematical; and that similar doubt exist regarding the further calling up of the Public Undertakings Fund Loan, and the success of the Industrial and Agrico-Industrial Banks. The *Nichi Nichi* contradicts these statements and accuses the *Mainichi* of deliberate falsehood, especially as to the first point. The *Nichi Nichi* learns that the chiefs of the taxes represented that the yield of the Business Tax might fall below the original estimate by one million yen or so, but that this need not cause any apprehension, inasmuch as increases from other sources might, in their opinion, be expected with confidence.

What positive proof is there, continues the *Nichi Nichi*, that the sudden increase in the Business Tax tends to depress the rising industry of the people? "Can it be rationally argued that an increase of 50,000 yen to the burdens of the Nippon Ginko, and of 400 yen to that of Daimaru—a wealthy mercer of Tokyo—affects the prosperity of their businesses? The result of the amended *Saké* Tax can not be predicted with certainty. But subsequent to its enforcement in October, the opinion of competent authorities is that the yield will surpass the estimate by more than 2 millions; while the Registration Tax, though so much noise was raised against it at the time by the Opposition, is expected to yield more than one million yen above the estimate. Nor is the enforcement of the Tobacco Monopoly likely to cause any grave difficulty. In fact, even Count Okuma, the acknowledged leader of the *Shimpo-to*, has told a representative of the *Yiji* that the measure would bring a revenue of more than 10 million yen or so into the Treasury. The suspicions that the Opposition papers entertain as to the result of the further issue of the Public Undertakings Loan are not less absurd. They point to the alleged failure that attended the first issue of the loan, as their strongest reason for this contention, not knowing that the issue of 10 million of the loan on that occasion was chiefly dictated by the desire of the Government to adjust the War Expenditures, and not from any necessity for raising the sum. Indeed, as matters stand, can any person with any plausibility pretend that the credit of the Japanese Government has fallen so greatly as to prevent it from raising any sum it wants at home, or even abroad? The doubts entertained about the success of the Industrial and Agrico-Industrial Banks are chiefly based on the scrupulous care that the Authorities are exercising in the appointment of Commissioners, and for no other reason. Moreover, these pessimistic writers seem to have forgotten that the measure originated from their idol, Count Matsukata, who elaborated the scheme about 1880 when the Nippon Ginko was established. Lastly, their contention that the difficulty in compiling the estimates for the next fiscal year accelerated the fall of the Ito Cabinet, cannot be borne out when applied to the test of actual facts. It is true that the opinions of the Minister of Finance and his colleagues were not unanimous as to the amount of expenditures to be appropriated for the respective Departments. The latter demanded an aggregate sum of 245,285,911 yen for next year against an estimated revenue of 220,175,511 yen, thus showing a deficit of about 25 millions. The Treasury was of opinion that more or less retrenchment could be effected, and the Minister had in mind such a financial programme as would satisfactorily balance the Revenues and Expenditures. The Cabinet crisis was precipitated before that programme could be elaborated. Yet the Opposition papers declare that the Cabinet stumbled on the rock of finance, purposely ignoring how ample are the resources that the Government has at its disposal for bringing its financial measures to perfection." The foregoing article, that appeared in three successive issues of the *Nichi Nichi*, elicited a rejoinder from the *Mainichi*, and this of course evoked other replies. But the wordy disputation, which was not unmingled with abusive epithets, need not be reproduced in its entirety.

The *Mainichi* thinks it incumbent to find excuses for the delay in forming a new Cabinet. It finds the present interregnum a cause of congratulation, for it denotes, in its opinion, a distinct development in political ideas. It is a sign that statesmen do not, as in former years, blindly acquiesce in the request of others to enter the Cabinet, not caring much whether the policy to be pursued by it will be consonant with their views.

The *Nippon* displays some shrewdness in forecasting the future of the Japanese Ministry. It dwells at length on the probable character of the Ministry about to be born, and observes that, judging from the men that will compose the Ca-

binet, its nature will be heterogeneous, and therefore any great stability need not be expected. Still, as the coming Ministry is to succeed one whose policy alienated the confidence of the people, and as it will be formed on the principle of party, the people will watch it with more attention than formerly. Tired as they are of the policy of the Ito Cabinet, they will naturally expect something far different from its successor. Therefore the coming Cabinet must execute some bold stroke, for whether it is cautious or bold, it is fated, from the nature of its composition, to have only a short life. Indeed, viewed from the standpoint of personal interests, Counts Matsukata and Okuma must take a very resolute course if they wish to win the confidence of the people and so prolong the existence of their Cabinet. Even should they fail, their failure would win the sympathy of the people. Their chief endeavour should be not to suffer their successors to reap the glory of inaugurating party Cabinets in Japan. For it is plain that when Marquis Ito again comes upon the scene, he will not be so blind to the progress of time as to form a Cabinet pledged to maintain the old traditions. The next Cabinet headed by Marquis Ito will inevitably be based on the principle of party support. Thus the Marquis may stand in a more advantageous position than Counts Matsukata and Okuma in respect of enjoying the distinction of inaugurating party government in Japan. The two Counts must keep this before them and must prepare the way for future eminence. The adoption of a bold and vigorous policy is the best course they can pursue.

The *Osaka Asahi* tries to find an excuse for the disgraceful conduct of Lieut.-Col. Masuda, who abandoned Yun-lin when the insurrection broke out in its vicinity, and who led his troops in retreat before the mob. The officer and his subordinates are now being examined before an extraordinary Court-martial held at Taipei. The *Asahi*, from information gained from acquaintances of this officer, finds it impossible to attribute his retreat to cowardice. The cause must lie elsewhere. It surmises that the hardships to which the troops in Formosa are subjected may be the real cause of the apparent pusillanimity of the officers, for the lot of soldiers in Formosa is indeed very hard and no officer who has a heart can inspect them without feeling deep compassion for their pitiable state. Taipei is the cheapest place wherein to live, yet there everything costs about three times as much as it would in Japan. The charge at a bath-house, for example, is 3 sen. How much allowance does a soldier receive? Only 3.75 sen a day. Any idea of securing comfort or pleasure is out of question. Their happiest day is when, once a month, cigarettes and a few cups of *saké* are doled out to them. Then, as if to aggravate their hardships, they see around them the officials in the civil service amusing themselves at restaurants or collecting valuable curios by unjust processes. Many officials, though now considered as high dignitaries in Formosa, practically fled from Japan to avoid payment of their debts, shameful conduct, and so forth. That officers who disgrace the colours and commit an act calculated to undermine discipline in the army, can not be pardoned, the *Asahi* admits, yet it can but grieve that causes exist that betrayed them into a breach of trust.

The *Kokumin* loudly demands a radical reform in the Imperial Household Department. The points that need amendment at Court, according to this paper, are the necessity of keeping aloof from politics—which great principle is alleged to have been violated by the Court in the excessive favour and protection it extended to the Ito Cabinet—and the development of a greater intimacy between Court and people. Further, the Court should be pure and incorruptible. It therefore should not hold shares in business enterprises and undertakings that enter into competition with the people. That these defects disgrace the dignity and the sanctity of the Court is primarily due to the present incompetent occupant

of the post of Minister of the Imperial Household Department. In other words, the *Kokumin* calls for the dismissal of Count Hijikata.

An article that appeared this week in the *Kokumin* in connection with the rumoured disaffection in the Philippine archipelago, holds that just as the United States of America publicly extends sympathy to the rebels in Cuba, so Japan should extend her sympathy when the Philippine islanders openly declare for independence. In so doing, Japan must be prepared to encounter the interference of Russia and France, and therefore she must strive, on her part, to secure the alliance of England, so that the two countries that are the most intimately connected with the archipelago may take the lead in settling the question.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

GARDENS ON THE ROOF.

IN the centre of the metropolis, says a Tokyo contemporary, where one litre of earth costs about a litre of gold, it is impossible to have a large garden or enjoy the beauty of artificial lakes, groves, and hills. Moreover, there are special regulations affecting landed property in this part of the city; the houses are built touching each other, and so a very narrow plot of open ground is the most even the richest can hope to possess. And even were there a vacant acre, there is too much of that mercenary spirit about to suppose that the owner would forego the golden pleasures of land and house-rent for the simpler, healthier beauties of nature. Yet, no matter how inelegantly one may be compelled to live, there is no person who does not enjoy the sight of verdant grass, opening buds, or lovely blooms. And so we see, even in the windows of the largest and busiest stores, a pot of flowers, a posy, or a nosegay bought overnight at some *ennichi* in the neighbourhood; or else, trained on dainty trellises, we come across the same morning glory "whose tangles fall across the ruined fence of many an humble hut." With all this crowding out of nature, there is yet hope for the dwellers of these densely populated quarters. The problem is solved by a garden on the roof, according to a method lately invented and patented by a Mr. Hattori Choshichi. The idea is to get, in the first instance, available space of say 12 by 24 feet square. On the edge of the roof, facing the street, a small mound is raised, in which dwarf pines, cryptomerias and other perennially verdant trees are planted among the stones. In the centre of the roof is left a space eight feet square, in order to give light to the room immediately below. This aperture is enclosed by a bamboo-fence, and near this enclosure should be several clumps or patches of the scouring rush, giving the appearance of their growing near a well or pond. On either side of the roof there are tea-plants, about 3 feet high, these serving to cut off the view of the immediately adjoining roofs. In the right hand corner is a maple, say 6 feet high, at the base of which is a low paling of the style known as *Korai gaki*, or "Korean fencing." To the left of this again is a large rectangular artificial stone, like those leading to the entrance of a dwelling of the better class. In one corner there must be a small reservoir of water, built to resemble a rustic well. This should be connected by bamboo-tubing with the real well in the courtyard, and water pumped up daily, so that all the plants and trees may have a good drink of water every morning and evening. In this way they will preserve their freshness even in the hottest summer. Such gardens can be easily made on either gable or flat roofs. In the former case the whole roof is graded with artificial stones, terrace-wise, and plants are placed everywhere. In the latter case the side facing or parallel with the street is made into a rockery, miniature mountain, or a hill-surrounded pond, while stone lanterns are put here and there. Artificial stone must be placed over the whole roof as the first step, and this is covered with a layer of earth five inches deep. Each plant should be put in a box filled

with rich mould, and this box sunk into the artificial soil. The stones look very ponderous and immovable; but Mr. Hattori makes these artificial stones by covering wicker-baskets or sawdust with a preparation of his own invention. Their weight is very small and cannot possibly hurt the roof. When larger "stones" are required, Mr. Hattori covers some portions with club-moss, thus giving them a most venerable appearance. Landscape gardening in miniature, concludes our contemporary, has ever been fashionable in Japan; but this is the first time that roof-gardens have been attempted. A number of such pleasaunces have recently been constructed in the Nihombashi District, with most graceful result. Viewed from the street, a veritable garden seems to be springing into life above the embrowned tiles.

THIRTY YEARS AT WORK.

IN 1866 a side-wheel steamer, purchased by the then Shogunate from Holland, was wrecked near the harbour of Choshi in Shimosa. The vessel was known as the *Mikaho Maru*, of small tonnage and clumsy make; about 270 feet long by 60 broad. Yet, when wrecked, there were 30,000 *ryo* of treasure on board, all in old-fashioned gold and silver coins. The steamer was on her way to Yedo from Iwaki, and the bullion on board was being forwarded to the military authorities in the former city. Sinking quickly, the officers and crew had no time to save anything except their bare lives. Now in the town of Choshi dwells an old conservative, Sone Hachiro-zaemon, who skill keeps to the *chonmage* of the pre-*Meiji* days and adheres to the ways of his forebears. Ever since the loss of the *Mikaho Maru*, this sturdy old gentleman has been single-handed at work in trying to raise the sunken treasure. The ship lies broadside on the ocean-bed and at such a depth that she is not easily reached; yet Sone has succeeded in raising a large quantity of miscellaneous articles, sufficient in fact to supply the needs of his simple household. Even now he does not despair of reaching the gold and silver coins some day—worth at present at least ten times their former value—and declares that if he dies before achieving success, the task will be handed on to his eldest son, who is of like mind with himself. But without the aid of modern appliances, to which the Sone family strongly object, the undertaking would seem to be well-nigh hopeless.

NARRATIVE OF A SURVIVOR.

ONE of the Tokyo dailies publishes an interesting account obtained from a survivor of the earthquake in Akita. Of the 1,000 and odd houses in Rokuzo, where the narrator was at the time, only 60 or thereabouts were left standing. "Early in the morning of August 1st," says the man who fortunately escaped, "I set out from Yuzawa, reaching Kokuzo just one hour before the earthquake began. I went to the house of an uncle of mine, removed my travel-stained garment and had a cup of tea. I then entered into conversation with my uncle, and continued chatting for some little time. At 5 p.m. we felt a slight shock, but it was soon over, and we went on talking undisturbed. Then came a great volume of sound, like a huge clap of thunder, following by a terribly strong earthquake. I was greatly frightened and begged my uncle to run outdoors; but he shouted that it would be over in a moment, and stayed where he was. The swinging, heaving motion increasing in severity, I sprang from the verandah. It was impossible to keep my balance, so I crawled to a tree, clasped the trunk and so raised myself erect. Looking back, I saw that the house had been shaken down, and I could see scores of other houses either in ruins or toppling over. The whole thing was so unreal, so unnatural, that for an instant I thought it was a dream and nothing more. The tree which I was clasping was so shaken that I had the utmost difficulty in retaining my hold. This terrific earthquake continued for about three minutes. On the noise subsiding a little, I began calling for my uncle, but received no reply. I did not venture to leave my protecting tree, as the ground

was still quivering; yet soon I had the joy of hearing a faint cry from under the timbers of the fallen house. It was my uncle, telling me to fetch him some water. Running to his rescue, I soon had so much of the *débris* removed that he could crawl out: much bruised, but not dangerously hurt. On examination the lower-part of the flooring was found intact, the upper lintels of the doorway were also standing. The beams and pillars had all fallen, and towards the west. On going into the town a little later, the scene was one of the utmost confusion, desolation, and horror. Not more than 20 houses were intact, including the town-office, one school, and a large temple. Nine-tenths of the godowns had been leveled. Soon after the subsidence of the dreadful tremor, a fire broke out in O-machi, but fortunately was extinguished at once. By dawn the next day, 20 corpses had been recovered, but these did not represent the total number killed. In the roadway were many cracks and crevices, the largest being about a foot broad. One of the most terrifying features of the earthquake was the tremendous roaring sound emitted by Mount Habiro, close to the town. The uproar was deafening for some minutes. Another hill near at hand suffered from a landslip, the loosened earth and rocks doing immense damage to the fields round about. We did not see the peaks of the neighbouring range until the morning of the 2nd, for they were one and all obscured by a strange moist vapour that was neither cloud nor mist."

WHAT THEY READ.

A MAGAZINE of second-rate importance has been giving some interesting articles on the subject of the Tokyo press. It appears that officials read the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and *Fiji Shimpō*; merchants take the *Chugai Boyeki* and the *Fiji*, the *Asahi* coming third in their estimation; students and young politicians invariably prefer the *Nippon*, then the *Kokumin*, *Yomhuri*, and *Chuo*; literary and learned people select the *Hochi*, *Nichi Nichi*, and *Asahi*; *getsha*, women in general, and the *jeunesse dorée* subscribe to the *Asahi* and *Yamato*; independent politicians vote for the *Chuo*; lesser merchants, people who have not much time to read, and all houses where many people meet or congregate, are constituents of the *Yorodsu Choko*; novel-readers and those fond of learning the *chronique scandaleuse* of the capital, take the *Asahi*. The above data may or may not be true, but from our own personal experience we fancy the statements are not far out. The list shows, at all events, the preponderant influence of the *Nichi Nichi* and *Fiji*.

FEWER STUDENTS IN TOKYO.

RECENT investigations show that the number of students in the metropolis is far below the average of recent years; and those schools which have already begun their Fall terms complain of an extraordinary small number of matriculants. This is, and with indubitable justice, attributed to the fact that the seismic wave, floods, inundations, etc., have kept many young men at home this year. Instead of being able to go up to Tokyo for study, they have to put their shoulders to the wheel and help towards their own support. It will take, it is stated, fully two years to regain the normal average of students.

DEATH OF A NAVAL OFFICER.

LIEUT. WARREN, of H.M.S. *Hermione* lost his life during the Naval manoeuvres in trying to save one of the Engineers, who had jumped overboard. The officer for whom Lieutenant Warren sacrificed his life, Mr. John P. Good, the assistant engineer of the *Hermione*, was appointed to the ship, as were most of her officers, when she was commissioned in January last as one of the Flying Squadron. He had been in bad health, but had lately much improved until Sunday, July 26th, when he appeared to be depressed. The sentry noticed on the Tuesday morning that he kept looking over into the water. Suddenly he sprang overboard; the sentry gave the alarm and pulled the handle which released the calcium light life-buoy. Good, however, was not seen

to make for the buoy, and he was probably drowned before Lieutenant Warren had time to reach him. The Lieutenant sank from exhaustion before the lifeboat could save him. Lieutenant A. R. C. Warren entered the Royal Navy in 1877 as naval cadet. He served as midshipman on the *Nelson*, the flagship on the Australian Station, and as sub-lieutenant in the *Alacrity*, the admiral's yacht on the China Station, from 1891 to 1895. He was on the *Curacoa* when, under Captain Gibson, that vessel took part in the annexation of the Solomon Islands and the suppression of the rebellion in Samoa. He then served as first lieutenant of the second-class cruiser *Tribune* during the naval manoeuvres of last year, and in January last year was appointed to the *Hermione* when she was commissioned for the Flying Squadron.

A STRANGE PROCEEDING.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* hears of a very high-handed action of the Taotai towards the British firm of H. Bennertz and Co. Some months ago, it says, this firm chartered from the Nanking authorities for three years the steamers *Cass*, *Smith*, *Sin Fokien*, and *Kiangning*. The steamers when taken over were found to be in a very bad condition, everything portable having been taken out of them, and they needed very heavy repairs. Messrs. Bennertz and Co. were asked by the Nanking authorities, we are told, to see the steamers properly repaired and refitted, the latter to be charged with the expense. Messrs. Bennertz and Co. sent in their claim, a pretty large one, and the Chinese proposed to take the steamers back. As the Chinese delayed about payment, and Messrs. Bennertz and Co. did not feel very sure of their position with the steamers under the Chinese flag and in Chinese waters, they sent one of them to Hongkong to be in British waters, their charter-party allowing them to send the steamers anywhere they liked during its currency. On Monday last they proposed to clear the steamer *Kiangning*, fully loaded, for the river ports, but were informed by the Customs that the Shanghai Taotai had ordered the clearance to be stopped, and the steamer was unable to leave.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

THE *China Mail* announces that H.M.S. *Pigmy* is expected to arrive at Hongkong from the north shortly, and H.M.S. *Rattler* from the south. On the arrival of the *Pigmy*, the *Redpole* (if she has returned from Manila) will proceed to Nagasaki, and will then winter at Hankow. The *Rattler*, after victualling and storing, will proceed to Newchwang, where she will winter for the second successive year. The residents of Newchwang were sorry to part with "their protectors" this spring and will welcome back the *Rattler*, but it is doubtful if the officers and men of the gunboat will relish their winter quarters, in spite of the hospitality of the foreign residents at that far northern port. The cruisers *Rainbow* and *Pique* will come down to Hongkong for docking and repairs at the completion of the summer cruise with the Admiral. They will then go to Singapore to strengthen the southern squadron. The *Swift*, which has been in the Behring Sea watching over British sealing interests, is now on her way to Nagasaki en route for Hongkong. The *Pigmy* will remain in Hongkong. The cruising squadron, with Vice-Admiral Buller and Rear-Admiral Oxley, will reach Nagasaki in time to meet the English mail which passes through Hongkong on the 6th inst. So far as present arrangements are known, the *Spartan* will winter at Shanghai.

APPRAH between FOREIGNERS and CHINESE.
We take the following from the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—

A party of Hongkong gentlemen had a most unpleasant quarter of an hour's experience on Sunday afternoon. They were, without provocation, attacked in a most shameful manner near Deep Bay by a large body of Chinese villagers and it is to be hoped that the matter will be speedily reported to the Chinese officials in order that due punishment may be awarded the offenders, and

outrages of this kind, which unfortunately are not uncommon, be effectually put an end to. Six Hongkong gentlemen started on Saturday afternoon for Deep Bay for snipe shooting. The party went on shore on Sunday morning in a sampan and engaged three men for the day, one to carry the tiffin basket and the other two to carry the ammunition. In a short time the party separated into pairs and nothing happened to break the pleasure of the outing until the afternoon, when one or two pellets from one of the guns happened to strike the man who was carrying the refreshments, but only one of them caused a scratch, and that a very slight one. The man showed no signs of pain, he was at once attended to, and was then given \$2 as a solatium, that amount being all the gentleman concerned in the accident had with him, but a promise of another dollar upon reaching the launch was given. With this compensation he was perfectly satisfied and apparently he was really none the worse for the slight bruises: indeed for an hour afterwards he continued to carry the basket and showed no signs of fatigue. It was not until he met his two fellow carriers that he shirked his work, so it is probable that he related the circumstances of the accident to his companions and mentioned the amount which had been given to him, and they doubtless reproached him for accepting what they perhaps said was paltry compensation. At any rate he went away, but the Hongkong gentlemen had not the faintest idea that serious trouble was to follow. Towards five o'clock they all returned to the beach for the purpose of setting off for home and, very fortunately as it happened, they met another shooting party, consisting of four gentlemen, who were also returning to their launch. On arriving at the beach the ten gentlemen found a gang of quite sixty villagers waiting to give them a warm reception. Evidently the man who was shot had apprised the whole village of the shooting incident and they had now turned up determined, if possible, to get their share of compensation. It seems to be one of the established ethics amongst natives in cases of this kind to force smart money sufficient to provide the whole village with free board and lodging for six months as a reparation for a trivial personal injury to one of their number. In the present instance, however, the natives' little scheme was shattered by the plucky fighting of the ten men against a howling mob, which increased in numbers every minute. The natives were armed with bamboos, and their threatening attitude soon convinced the shooting parties that they would have a stiff encounter before reaching the launch again. The mob demanded money; the demand was instantly refused. The natives then produced ropes and rushed at the gentleman who had shot the man with the object of binding his legs and arms, and before they were beaten off his gun and hat were wrested from him, but they did not succeed in fixing the ropes on his body. There was now a most exciting scrimmage. Bamboos were freely used guns damaged, and many blows were given and returned. The ten men struggled their hardest and not a few of the natives were hauled with considerable force on to the soft mud and ignominiously rolled in it. The fighting lasted a quarter of an hour altogether, and then the wild mob, seeing that they could not hold their own with all their numbers, scattered themselves in all directions, leaving the gallant little party masters of the situation. But the victors had not escaped scot free. Their clothing was torn and damaged, most of the guns were rendered useless, and they were generally in a sad plight as they reached their launch once more. They arrived in Hongkong about 10.30 on Sunday night. This is certainly a case which the Chinese officials should be compelled to deal effectively with, as at present a shooting party cannot land anywhere on the mainland without feeling that they are risking their lives.

NEW N.Y.K. STEAMERS.

THE four large cargo-carrying steamers, each of about 6,000 tons, now building on the Clyde for the Japan Mail Steamship Company—two at Messrs. D. and W. Henderson's yard at Partick, and two at the work of Messrs. Napier, Shanks, and Bell, of Yoker—are all progressing apace. Surprising activity, it is understood, also characterises the work in connection with the construction of a fifth and somewhat larger steamer which the company are having built in Japan. But this highly important undertaking on the part of the Japanese is not being proceeded with entirely independent of help from this country. The plans and working data, for example, of a vessel of the type in question have been furnished by one of the Clyde firms. Most of the material required for construction

has been purchased from the Steel Company of Scotland and other makers in the Clyde district, and the company named has just finished the casting of a steel stern-frame of massive proportions for this vessel. Orders for castings and material, received from different parts of Japan, are also being executed at the Steel Company's Works. So far, we may congratulate ourselves, but many things point to a time not so far distant when, both as regards ship design and construction, and even the production of structural material, Japan will be largely independent of us, and probably our rival in supplying the needs of other countries. Meantime, the Japanese seem to be content to import material because the extra cost is much more than compensated for by the cheapness of the labour.—*Shipping Gazette*.

METALS.

MESSRS. S. W. BOYES Co. in their report, dated July 25th, say:—Shipments of Pig Iron from Scotland have been fair during this month, and the stocks in public stores at Middlesbrough have been decreasing. There is a very good consumptive demand for Pig Iron, there being considerable activity, and in some cases advanced prices, in the various branches of the Manufactured Iron trade. Under these circumstances, it is strange that Pig Iron should decline in value, but this has latterly been the case, prices having fallen steadily during this month, although only to a total extent of some 6d. per ton. This unsatisfactory state of things is expected to be of short duration, however, and sales at present prices are only for early delivery, considerably higher figures being asked by makers for delivery a few months ahead. Copper has fallen steadily during the month, the total drop being some 25s. per ton. Tin has lost some 10s. per ton, and Spelter is about 12s. 6d. per ton lower. Lead has been ruling quite steady, and remains so at present.

BOWLING.

ONE of the Australian Team has been writing of the difference between the English and Australian styles of bowling. What he has to say may interest Yokohama cricketers:—In Australia, when a coming bowler is mentioned, the question is at once asked, "What break has he got?" most people thinking the break the greatest essential to successful bowling. In England the first question with regard to a new bowler is, "Does he bowl an accurate length?" We have had a practical illustration of the two theories to-day in the first Mary-le-bone match. When the Australians were bowling there were plenty of breaks, but a very uncertain length, and consequently runs at times were coming very freely. Not so with Hearne, Pougher, and Attewell, every delivery being pitched either on or so near the "blind spot," which batsmen so dislike, that runs were almost impossible to get unless very risky strokes were adopted. It is not asserted that these bowlers do not break also, but where the Australians make the ball break a foot and miss the wicket, these professors only break a few inches, just enough to beat the bat, at the same time making the break subordinate to the length, and not *vice-versa*.

COUNT OKUMA AND THE "YORODSU CHOHU."

THE *Yorodsu Chohu* has consistently spoken in high terms of Count Okuma, advocating his admission to the Cabinet. This was clearly set forth in a recent interview between the Count and a member of the *Yorodsu's* staff. On the other hand, the holding of these views has caused several other Tokyo journals to declare that Count Okuma has bought up the *Yorodsu*. To this the latter journal replies as follows:—"It was supremely ridiculous to see that several of our contemporaries declared, on the 4th inst., that we had been bought by Count Okuma to advocate his cause. How could such a thing be? Even supposing that the Count should enter the Cabinet and use money freely to gain adherents, he could not possibly buy the *Yorodsu Chohu*. Ten thousand yen is popularly said to be the *douceur* handed annually to a certain semi-official organ; but such a sum would not cover one week's ex-

penses of our journal. There is, we understand, a distinct office in the Home Department for the revision and supervision of our *Porodsu*, but that does not in any way effect our policy. Our suspicious contemporaries are arguing from their own experience," etc.

THE RECENT BANK RAID AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The *China Gazette* of Monday, August 31st, contains a telegram, obviously sent by Reuter to its chief morning contemporary, though neither source is acknowledged, which runs:—Speaking from the windows of the Ottoman Bank, the Armenians who seized the institution have informed Sir Edgar Vincent, President of the Bank, that their purpose in taking possession of the Bank was to prove to the Powers their feeling on what they termed the desertion of Armenia in her hour of trial. They promised to leave the Bank on condition that they were allowed to do so unmolested and a guarantee being given for no violence being committed on their persons, and also that they be not compelled to give up their arms. Sir Edgar Vincent consented to these stipulations and the Bank was vacated. While the Armenians were holding the Bank the Mussulmans fell on all their fellow countrymen coming within their range and slaughtered them in the streets.

IMPORTANT ARRESTS.

The police have succeeded in arresting at Mororan, Hokkaido, two men who are wanted in Yokohama to answer a charge of larceny. Okura Tatsukichi and Murakami Zenzaburo are silk handkerchief brokers and live at No. 1,476, Nakamura, Yokohama. During July they made away with some silk handkerchiefs, valued at yen 1,700 odd, the property of Toyoda Senzo and three others employed by Messrs. J. R. Simon, of No. 14, Yokohama. The Ishikawa Police having been informed of the affair, placed the matter in the hands of Police Inspector Bando, and Detectives Kataoka and Sato. Through their efforts the thieves were traced to the railway station, where it was found that they left Yokohama by a Tokaido train. Then by means of letters and subsequently a telegram addressed by Okura to his sweetheart, a young woman who lives at Yamamotocho, Yokohama, the trail was followed to Mororan where the thieves were found. About 800 yen worth of the stolen goods have been found in Yokohama. The prisoners are coming back from Hokkaido escorted by constables of the Ishikawa Police.

BAD-ARREST.

"A SPA-DOCTOR," as Charles Lever puts it, the *Bade-arst* of the Germans, has not hitherto been recognised as one of the necessary impediments of a Japanese mineral-spring resort. The experiment has, however, recently been tried by an energetic Odawara physician, who has located himself at Yamato. Intimately acquainted with the healing properties of every hot or cold spring in the neighbourhood, this practitioner is said to enjoy well-deserved success. At Miyanoishi there are two resident physicians (Japanese), but neither is a Spa-doctor in the strict sense of the word. It would be, we should think, a profitable thing for young aspirants for medical fame to settle down, during the summer months, at some well-known mineral-spring resort; and by dint of personal observation and investigation acquaint themselves with the properties of each large spring. Analyses of the waters do not go far enough, for, to two people out of three, the technical terms fail to convey the desired information as to strength, medicinal qualities, etc.

ROBBING A FOREIGN VISITOR AT KYOTO.

An audacious robbery was perpetrated at the Yaami Hotel, Kyoto, on the night of the 4th inst., the victim being Mr. James E. Pease, an English visitor. The thief appears to have entered a window of the room occupied by Mr. Pease's friend, and although a gold watch and other valuable articles were in the room, the burglar passed through, without annexing them, to the room adjoining, which was occupied by Mr. Pease himself. Here he took three suits of

clothes which were lying on a chair within a foot of where Mr. Pease was sleeping, and a bag, which was on the other side of the bed, was also taken. The bag was found the following morning, cut open, on the roof of an adjacent building, with such of the contents as were worthless to the thief lying on the tiles. A Smith and Wesson revolver, and cartridges, a silver match box, a purse, and an aneroid barometer were lost, in addition to the clothes.—*Chronicle*.

CAPT. RIDDERBJELKE.

CAPT. RIDDERBJELKE, who is essaying a voyage across the Pacific in a small boat, has not gone very far on his travels before meeting with obstacles and detentions. A few days out from Yokohama he had to run for shelter, and now we learn from a letter received by a local resident on Tuesday, that he has again encountered bad weather. This time his damages are severe, the canvas covering of his boat being ripped up and many of the fittings have been carried away. He ran into Miyako for shelter and intends to go up to Hakodate for a thorough refit. He writes that he has received great kindness from all Japanese he has come in contact with so far on his voyage.

A STEAMER FOUNDERED.

The steamer *Toku Maru*, owned by the Kyoritsu Steamship Company, and plying between Osaka and Kiushu via Kobe, foundered off Temposan, Osaka, about 3 p.m. on Tuesday, over 60 passengers being drowned. She was on her way from Kiushu to Osaka and had on board about 90 passengers. On account of the wind, the Captain deemed it advisable to anchor off Temposan, and while this was being attempted, the steamer was carried away by a rapid current and driven aground. She then presumably heeled over. The O.S.K. steamer *Minatogawa Maru*, from Kiushu, was unable to call at Osaka on account of the gale and had to come to Hyogo. According to the *Kwansei Shogyo Nippo*, only seven passengers were saved by the water police.—*Chronicle*.

DEATH OF A SIAMESE PRINCESS.

BANGKOK papers, says the *Free Press*, announce the death, from old age, of H.R.H. Princess Phra Suda Ratna Raj Prayune, who died on the 17th ult. The *Observer* says:—The Princess has been alling for the past three years. She was the daughter of King Phra Nang Klao, and was the same age as Queen Victoria, having been born in the same year. She was as a mother to the present King, whose mother died when he was yet very young, so that the care of the young prince devolved upon this aunt, and all will sympathise with His Majesty in a loss that touches him so nearly.

AN INVOLUNTARY BATH.

A MAN belonging to the *Glenazon* fell from the Pier into the water on Wednesday afternoon. The quarter-master on watch on the P. & O. steamer *Ancona* seeing the accident, at once reported "man overboard," and life-buoys were thrown from that steamer to the struggling man. An American blue-jacket, who happened to be near, seeing the life-buoy thrown into the water sprang down from the pier and in a few moments placed the apparatus over the other man's head. The two were then pulled up on to the Pier by a life line, and the Surgeon of the *Ancona* applied restorative measures. The man appeared little the worse for the adventure after a few minutes.

MR. CONSUL GENERAL HILLIER.

It is reported that Mr. Walter M. Hillier, H.B.M.'s Consul-General in Korea, has sent in his resignation. Mr. Hillier joined the Consular Service in China in 1867, and rose to be Chinese Secretary at the Legation at Peking, whence he was transferred as Acting Consul-General in Korea in 1889, receiving the substantive appointment two years later.

A SMART RECOVERY.

MR. A. H. DARE has recovered the diamond pin that Allen, the convicted burglar, took from his house during his recent raid. Mr. Dare

did not miss the pin until after Allen's conviction, but as soon as the culprit had confessed to the robbery and indicated the place in Tokyo where he had disposed of the pin, the Police took the matter up, and within two hours had recovered the diamond, although in the meantime it had been reset in a ring. The detectives on the staff of the Settlement Police have done some smart work these past four months, but this latest recovery of stolen property must be their record.

THE FRENCH MAIL.

THE M. M. steamer *Natal* came alongside the Pier at Yokohama before 11 o'clock on Wednesday morning, but her mails for this port have yet to arrive. They were taken from the steamer at Kobe and put on the train, notwithstanding that through communication had been broken for many days, and have since been returned to Kobe. They will now come up on the *Empress*, due here to-day. By-the-way, at 9.30 this, Thursday, morning we are still without the Kobe papers published on Monday.

BOTTLED.

A TOKYO journal narrates the curious instance of a woman who, on losing her baby, felt it impossible to part from the tiny body and so put it in a large glass jar filled with alcohol and kept the jar on the *butsu-dan*, or household shrine. On her friends remonstrating with her for so doing, after some weeks had passed, she tried to get a proper certificate of death and permission for burial; but as the proper date had long passed, she was unable to do either: and now has to keep the gruesome object with her at home.

WRECK OF THE "IOLANTHE."

DURING the typhoon of 10th August the little South Seas trading schooner *Iolante*, belonging to Mr. Shirley Mansfield, was totally wrecked in the harbour of Saipan. Mr. Mansfield, in trying to save some of the cargo, was severely injured, so much so that he will be unable to come back on the *Minatogawa Maru* that is bringing back his crew to Yokohama. This vessel is shortly due here.

MISSING PROPERTY.

ON the 4th inst., a Kodak Camera, valued at about 30 yen, was found on the batoba. Yesterday Mr. Y. P. Baldwin, of the U.S.N., claimed the missing property. The police would be materially helped in the work of restoring lost property if persons would make prompt inquiries at the central police or Settlement stations.

A MUCH DARING LADY.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* notes that a Miss Strafford, of Walmer, has accomplished the daring feat of riding her machine across the Goodwin Sands. The lady and her machine were rowed out, and, mounting the circle, she made a circuit of the sands, the principal difficulty being the avoidance of the great amount of wreckage.

THE CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI.

THAT fine old gentleman, the Chevalier de Kontski, seems to have abandoned his intention of journeying home *via* Siberia, for by Australian papers just received we find that he has been delighting huge audiences in the Town-hall at Sydney.

MR. ERNEST DE BUNSEN.

THE *Siam Free Press* says:—It is asserted that Mr. de Bunsen will apply for leave on his return from Java, and that after leaving Bangkok he is likely to receive a home appointment, probably at Vienna. His probable successor is spoken of as Mr. Ralph Paget, of the Tokyo Legation.

DEATH OF CAPT. PRICE.

THE death is reported of Captain Price of the *Shengking*. He died of dysentery at Chefoo. Mrs. Price is one of three sisters, resident in Shanghai, all of whom have been widowed within the last year.

KOBE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

MR. REYNELL has been elected to the seat on the Municipal Council vacated by the retirement of Mr. Hellyer.

THE CABINET CRISIS.

Monday, September 7.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, as most of our readers probably know by this time, is the organ of the former Progressionists; that is to say, of the Party presided over by Count Okuma. It is therefore in a position, or should be in a position, to know a great deal about the political prospects and projects of that statesman. Hence the following article, which we translate from its issue of the 5th instant, provokes some curiosity:—"Various rumours have been circulated about Count Okuma's entry into the Cabinet, the most notably false among them being that he has formulated conditions with respect to his resumption of office, or that he has agreed to resume unconditionally. According to our information, however, not merely has the problem of conditions or no conditions never come upon the *tapis*, but up to the present day even the very question of entering or not entering the Cabinet has not been broached by any one to the Count, nor has the Count, on his side, made the slightest attempt to open the subject. Thus the person primarily concerned has neither essayed any negotiation nor been approached by any negotiators. What has apparently happened seems to be simply that the elder statesmen, apart from the Count, or the Ministers of State, have held some consultations, but the Count himself has not given expression to any desire." We do not suppose that this is to be interpreted as signifying that no conferences have taken place between Count Okuma and Count Matsukata. It is probably intended to be read in the sense that Count Okuma has not been officially approached, and has not himself made any approach to officialdom.

From the 3rd instant to the 5th, rumour indicated Marquis Yamagata as the most probable Minister President in succession to Marquis Ito. But the *Chuo Shimbun* (organ of the National Unionists), writing on the 5th, denied that the rumour had any foundation, and traced its origin to the circumstance that, on the 3rd inst., Counts Inouye, Kuroda, and Matsukata had a meeting at which Marquis Yamagata was not present, his absence indicating that the three Counts were concerting means of inducing him to accept the post, whereas the true explanation is that he was too illing to leave his house. There seems to be no doubt that the Marquis is in a precarious state of health, and that his journey to Russia aggravated his malady.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*—not, it must be confessed, an infallible authority on such a subject—alleges that although the resistance offered by the Liberals to Count Okuma's entry into the Cabinet has been fruitless, they will not range themselves in radical opposition to the new Ministry, but, on the contrary, will support it in so far as its measures accord with the policy of its predecessors. In the sphere of foreign affairs, however, supposing that Count Okuma is paramount there, the Liberals will not be sparing of hostile attacks.

In direct contradiction of the *Chuo Shimbun's* assertion, as quoted above, the *Yiyu* alleges that it has been virtually decided to organize a Cabinet independent of all political parties; that Marquis Yamagata will be President, and that the new Ministry will probably include Counts Inouye, Matsukata, Kuroda, and Oki. Evidently there is much groping in the dark.

A local English contemporary, we observe, asserts that "the obnoxious and persistent determination manifested to, if possible, bring Count Okuma into the Cabinet, has been one of the principal causes of the Premier's resignation." If that is to be read as indicating opposition on Marquis Ito's part to Count Okuma's inclusion in the Ministry, it is singularly incorrect, for Marquis Ito, as has been emphatically explained by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, raised no objection whatever to Count Okuma's return to office, and would willingly have accepted him as a colleague could an agreement in that sense have been secured among the Cabinet Ministers themselves.

The same English journal says:—"These recurring Ministerial crises, which result from agencies or causes largely enveloped in obscurity,

that bring about no alteration in the lot of the foreigners domiciled in this country, are regarded with apathetic indifference by most persons." We wonder how far that assertion is trustworthy. In every community there are men for whom politics possess no manner of interest. Why should they, indeed? But it is hard to believe that the mood of isolation and unconcern described by our contemporary prevails widely in Yokohama, or that the affairs of the land in which they live have become so uninteresting to the foreign residents in general. We suspect that such a condition of senile indifference is very limited.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in its issue of the 6th instant, emphatically denies the assertions quoted above from the *Yomiuri* of the 5th. It declares that the attitude of the Liberals towards the new ministry will not be influenced in any degree by personal considerations, and that they will support the Cabinet if they approve of its measures, or oppose it if they disapprove. Especially strong is our contemporary's repudiation of the notion that the mere fact of Count Okuma's assuming the portfolio of Foreign Affairs would ensure the opposition of the Liberals in that sphere.

The *Yiyu Shimpō* of yesterday inclines to the belief that Marquis Yamagata will be the new Premier, where the *Miyako Shimbun* is confident that Count Matsukata will receive the post. It is unnecessary to re-produce the details of these various conjectures.

Tuesday, September 8.

In criticizing the resignation of Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki, the *Tokyo Economist*, as an organ of the Opposition, travels along the path taken by the *Mainichi* and the *Nippon*. It attributes the fall of the Ito Cabinet to its failure to evolve practical financial measures. "We have often remarked that in the 3rd session of the Diet the Minister of Finance merely made a book balance of the State Revenues and Expenditures. That the Minister is resolved to resign must be due to his inability to carry these temporizing measures any further. It is said that the recent meeting of Local Tax Chiefs made it clear that the proceeds from the Business Tax would not exceed even one-half of the estimated 7½ yen." The *Keisai* then enumerates its doubts, and asks the Authorities whether the tobacco monopoly will really serve the purpose in view; whether the Industrial Bank and Agrico-Industrial Banks can issue shares of 250 million yen; and whether the installment of 8,300,000 yen of the Public Undertaking Fund can be successfully raised this year? After enumerating some other doubts of less importance, the *Keisai* concludes "that the resolution of Viscount Watanabe to resign must be attributable to these troubles, in other words, the Ito Cabinet has stumbled over the rock of financial affairs."

With regard to the resignation of Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki, the same journal observes that the epithet bestowed on Marquis Ito that his is a "smile-all-round" policy has been significantly proved by the present resignation. The Marquis intended to give seats to Counts Matsukata and Okuma; that was objected to by Count Itagaki, and he finally resolved to resign with the latter, being too tender-hearted to suffer Count Itagaki to leave the Cabinet alone. "Is not this a smile-in-all-quarters policy?" As Premier in a constitutional government, such a resignation is very absurd. A Premier of a constitutional government is responsible only to the Sovereign and the people. He is not allowed to regulate his movements at the impulsive dictates of private consideration. When the majority of the Cabinet were desirous of inviting the two Counts into the circle, and when the Premier himself held the same opinion, what necessity was there for the Marquis to resign? Count Itagaki who singly opposed a measure approved by all the other Ministers should alone have left the Cabinet. The Marquis tries to exculpate himself on the pretext of inability to bring about cordial unity of opinion in the Cabinet. If so, the Marquis seems to have overlooked an important principle observed in all constitutional governments, namely, the minority must bow

before the majority. What difficulty would there have been had he acted up to that principle? The resignation of Count Itagaki is entirely pertinent. His declaration that he could not sit at the same table with his political opponents was entirely in accord with the principles of constitutionalism that he and his followers maintained in years past. His resolution to resign when his objection was over-ruled by his colleagues was perfectly natural. The *Keisai* is even magnanimous enough to praise the step he took.

Wednesday, September 9.

The burning question of the hour, who shall be the Premier, still remains unsolved. A remnant of the Ito Cabinet, we read in the *Yiyu*, tried to persuade Marquis Yamagata to take the post of Minister President. But the delicate condition of His Excellency's health not allowing him to undertake any tiring labour, the Marquis positively stated on the 5th instant that he could not assume the cares of office. When the Marquis sent in this final refusal, Marquis Saigo, who was the prime mover in the scheme of the Marshal's taking the Premiership, went to his villa at Numazu, while Marquis Oyama retired the same day to his plantation at Nasuno. Then Count Kuroda and Viscount Takashima were once more obliged to ask Count Matsukata to undertake the task of forming a Ministry. The latter, instead of acquiescing in the proposal, declared that Marquis Saigo should undertake the task. The Marquis was instantly recalled, and on the morning of the 7th instant, a conference was held at Count Matsukata's residence, those present including Marquis Saigo, Counts Kuroda and Inouye, and Mr. Shirane. Count Matsukata and all the others repeatedly pressed Marquis Saigo to place himself at the head of the Cabinet. The Marquis, however, gave a firm refusal; then the negotiations reverted to the original position—the entry of Count Matsukata into office and his forming a Cabinet, Count Kuroda having declared that he was not able to undertake the difficult post of Minister President.

The Cabinet negotiations are still in a stationary condition, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, for while Marquis Yamagata has positively declined to undertake the arduous task of forming a Ministry, Count Matsukata, who has simply to stretch out his hand if he really wishes to succeed Marquis Ito, is still lost in the maze of deep deliberation; while Count Okuma, whose relations with Count Matsukata, the *Nichi Nichi* thinks, are not so intimate as people believe, is watching the progress of affairs from a distance, resolved to assume an attitude of obstruction should matters eventuate to his disadvantage.

The *Nippon* is firmly persuaded that Count Matsukata will be gazetted Premier. The reason why the Count, who so boldly announced his willingness to undertake the arduous task of adjusting the nation's post bellum finances, hesitates to come forward, arises from his characteristic conscientiousness that urges him not to incur any suspicion of his having overthrown the Ito Cabinet. A section of Satsuma statesmen, we read in the *Chuo*, is not much inclined to approve the appointment of Count Matsukata as Premier. For this reason, if the Count becomes Premier, he must be prepared to see Marquises Ito, Saigo, and Oyama ranged on the other side. This will considerably weaken the stability of a Matsukata Cabinet even though it secures the aid of Count Okuma. It is this consideration that precludes Viscount Takashima from urging with his usual warmth the entry of Count Matsukata.

The *Tokyo Shimpō*, organ of the Liberals, assumes a firm attitude. It urges Counts Matsukata and Okuma to enter the Cabinet as quickly as possible and to form a Cabinet of their own choice, irrespective of what ideas the *Genkun* may have on the matter. They must strive to eliminate any element of personal consideration and must, as Count Okuma averred, effect a radical change of policy within the Cabinet. Why is it that, while loudly declaring the necessity of suppressing all personal considerations and the introducing of a radical change of policy in the Cabinet,

Counts Matsukata and Okuma should hesitate when such a splendid opportunity of carrying out those ideas is offered to them? Count Matsukata seems to have been driven into the very vortex of personal considerations. At any rate, as the Liberals prefer a Cabinet composed of junior statesmen to one composed of *Genkun*, and a party Cabinet to one that professes to keep aloof from politics, they are desirous of seeing the two Counts organize their Cabinet from their own followers. In this connection, the *Ponturi* takes up an attitude rather savouring of bragadocio. It alleges that the relations between Counts Matsukata and Okuma are becoming more and more cemented, that either will not enter the Cabinet alone, and that this secret understanding between them is as firm as a rock. Further, if Count Matsukata is installed as Premier he is resolved to furnish a precedent for a responsible Cabinet, and that the resignation of some Ministers and their immediate subordinates, that rumour says will happen on the morrow of the appointment of Count Matsukata as Premier, will facilitate the execution of a radical change in the policy of the Cabinet and purge it of many accumulated abuses.

Thursday, September 10.

Now that Marquis Yamagata and Marquis Saigo have positively declined to undertake the control of the Cabinet, says the *Fiji*, the hopes of the *Genkun* centre round Count Matsukata, who still hesitates to take the position on the ground of the alleged difficulty of satisfactorily adjusting post-bellum finance. For all that, continues this independent observer, the Count can no longer avoid complying with the wishes of the senior statesmen either in the Government or outside, and must come forward and form a Cabinet. Some persons speak of persuading Counts Kuroda or Kabayama to take the post, but this is impracticable, for neither can be counted upon to give a favourable answer. The assumption of the Premiership by Count Matsukata being a foregone conclusion, the most serious trouble which his Cabinet will encounter is the resignation of the six ministers who, in obedience to the gracious wishes of the Sovereign, were obliged to withdraw their resignations the other day. All those posts must be filled by new men. In this context the greatest difficulty will be experienced in finding suitable Ministers for War and the Navy; candidates for the portfolios of the Departments of Communications, Justice, Agriculture and Commerce, Education, and Home Affairs may be sought with comparative ease, while Count Matsukata will assume the additional portfolio of Finance, and his associate, Count Okuma, will direct Foreign Affairs. Whether the Count desires to retain Marquises Saigo and Oyama, now Ministers of the Navy and War, or whether, in consequence of the firm resolution of the two Marquises to leave the Cabinet, competent successors have to be appointed, in either case Count Matsukata must ask the assistance of the *Genkun*. The *Fiji* believes that though the Count hesitates to give prompt acquiescence to the advice of his political friends on the plea of the difficulty of adjusting the State's finance, this question of filling the chairs of the Army and the Navy also constitutes a deterrent. Still, the *Genkun* now urgently persuading the Count to succeed to the seat vacated by Marquis Ito, will give him the utmost help in the matter of forming a Cabinet.

The attitude of the *Shimpo-to* towards the hypothetical Matsukata Cabinet is thus described by the same paper. The Party will be more favourably inclined to a Cabinet led by Count Matsukata than to any under the leadership of Marquis Yamagata. But the support which the Party would extend to Count Matsukata's Cabinet would differ greatly from the blind support with which the Liberals backed the Cabinet of Marquis Ito. The majority of the members of the Party aver that they have yet to determine whether or not they will back Count Matsukata's Cabinet. A decision would be arrived at after a close examination of the Count's measures in regard to effecting a radical change in the Cabinet's policy. As to the manner of the "radical change,"

opinions are somewhat divided, some professing that it would be enough for the present to carry out one-half of the proposed radical reforms, others declaring that seven to eight parts out of ten must be put into force, and so forth. However, some folk are unanimous as to the absolute necessity of introducing radical reforms in the Cabinet system. Leading members of the same party expect that the Matsukata Cabinet would not be satisfied with taking a merely temporary measure but would resolutely carry out any reform programme the Count now contemplates, even at the risk of shortening their term of office.

In this context, the following account of an extraordinary meeting of the *Shimpo-to*, taken from the *Asahi*, is worth noticing. The meeting was held on the 7th instant, with a view to determine the opinions of the party in connection with the formation of a new Cabinet. It was decided that Count Matsukata should be nominated Premier and Minister of Finance, and Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs. The meeting next took up the question as to what really brought about the fall of the Ito Cabinet. After a long debate, it was decided that defective financial arrangements must be ascribed as the real cause of its downfall. This decision incidentally involved the National Unionists. This party, led by Viscount Shinagawa, played a conspicuous part, in conjunction with the Liberals, in the matter of elaborating the post-bellum financial measures in the 9th session of the Diet. Consequently, if the *Shimpo-to* decides to attribute the fall of the Ito Cabinet to a failure to adjust the financial programme, they indirectly stand in the position of denouncing the actions of the National Unionists in the last session. To drive the Unionists into the Opposition camp would be a most serious matter, for it means that the Matsukata Cabinet would be confronted by an Opposition of over 160 votes in the House of Representatives—more than 130 Liberals and pro-Liberal members and 33 Unionists. Even should the coming session be dissolved, it is exceedingly problematical, supposing the Liberals and the Unionists work together, that the Cabinet would command a majority in a new House. It was decided at the meeting to send delegates to the Unionists and to ascertain the attitude of the latter party with regard to the *Shimpo-to's* explanation of the fall of the Ito Cabinet.

ECONOMIC TOPICS.

Many years ago, when the Nippon Railway Company was started, a foreigner in the employ of the Railway Bureau drew up a scale of rates to be charged by railway companies when lending engines, carriages, or trucks to one another. These rates for mutual accommodation have remained unchanged to this day, and the private railway companies, according to the *Fiji*, are ventilating their dissatisfaction with the scale. These rates are:—

	Per Day	Per Ton.
Locomotive, with conductors and other necessities	48 yen	
Locomotive only	21 yen	
Carriages (1st class)	3.00 yen	
Carriages (2nd and third class)	2.00 yen	
Trucks .....	.75 yen	

These rates were based upon the regulations of the English Railway Clearing-House, and are evidently unsuited to the present condition of Japanese railway traffic, especially as an English penny was at that time equivalent to 1 *sen* in Japanese currency. It follows that a railway company that borrows another's rolling stock is now enabled to reap an unjust profit, so that if things are allowed to continue in their present state railway companies will be disinclined to provide sufficient rolling stock of their own, being able to borrow it at considerable advantage. At present the Government Railways stand more in the position of borrowers than lenders of locomotives, and so forth, and though negotiations have been frequently opened by the private companies to induce the Railway Bureau to raise the charges, the Bureau seems disinclined to acquiesce in the demand.

The same journal publishes a table showing the amount of capital, mileage of lines, &c., of private railway companies throughout the country. From it we gather that there are in all 53 private railway companies in Japan which have obtained charters for the construction of 3,282 miles 78.6 chains, and of this length 1,652 miles 61.24 chains are already open for traffic. The total investment of capital is 143,354,250 yen, divided into 2,867,085 shares. However, as the paid up capital totals only 91,421,580 yen, the sum to be called in amounts to 51,932,670 yen. In other words, 32 yen have been paid on an average on every 50 yen share, so that 18 yen has yet to be called in.

As already noticed in these columns, the charters of quite a number of National Banks will expire either this year or next. All the expiring banks, in accordance with special regulations issued this spring with the consent of the Imperial Diet, have already secured the permission of the Finance Department to reorganize themselves into private concerns, or have forwarded applications for that purpose. In so changing their status, the capital of most of the banks will be increased to some extent. The *Shogyo*, from which we are quoting, publishes a list of 11 National Banks that have secured permission to reorganize their business, and calculates that the total capital of the 11 banks will be increased from 5,290,000 yen to 20,520,000 yen, that is to say, an increase of 387 per cent. If all the other National Banks are to increase their capital at this rate, the aggregate capital of private banks formerly national will reach 100 million yen or so, whereas the total of the National Bank's present capital is only 48,826,100 yen.

The *Oriental Economist* gives the latest estimate as to the probable result of sericulture this year. Investigations conducted by Government Authorities have shown that the crop is only half that of an average year in Nagano; 70 to 80 per cent. of the average in Guma; 70 per cent. in Fukushima, Gifu, Oita, Chiba, and Hiroshima, and 85 per cent. in Yamaguchi. It is only in Tokushima, Niigata, and Miye that results barely exceed the average. The amount of cocoons produced in Japan during the last 4 years is as follows.—1892, 1,480,705 *koku*; 1893, 1,686,894 *koku*; 1894, 1,800,596 *koku*; 1895, 2,258,273 *koku*. The *Oriental Economist*, without giving its data in detail, proceeds to observe that, supposing the result of this year's sericulture to be 30 per cent. less than the past year, the crop may be considered normal, and the total quantity of cocoons produced will amount to over 1,800,000 *koku*, or about equal to the quantity obtained in 1894. If so, no particular difficulty should be experienced in exporting 70,000 to 80,000 bales of silk. A point to be considered in this connection is the gradually increasing quantity of silk consumed at home. A trustworthy authority has arrived at the following result in connection with last year's cocoons:—

	Bales (Japanese).
Total quantity of silk produced last year ..	220,000
Quantity consumed at home	100,000
Quantity exported as fabrics	30,000
Quantity sent to Yokohama	120,000

Supposing this year's crop shows a decrease of 30 per cent. on last year's, the total quantity of raw silk produced in Japan should stand thus:—

	Bales (Japanese).
Total quantity of silk produced	154,000
Quantity consumed at home	100,000
Quantity sent to Yokohama	54,000

The Nippon Ginko has at last announced a rise in the rate of interest on loans, the increase being 1 *rin* per diem. In other words, whereas the old rates ranged between 1 *sen* 9 *rin* to 2 *sen* 1 *rin*, a day, that is 6.935 to 7.3 per cent. per annum, the average is now 7.4 per cent. approximately, or an addition of 0.2 per cent. as compared with the old rate. It is confidently believed that the present rise will not affect the money-market, as the majority of banks in Tokyo had already raised their rates from 2 *sen* 5 *rin* to 2 *sen* 7 *rin*. This rise in rates in the second

half of the year has been occasioned through the growing tightness of the market. Signs of a tight market always loom ahead, though not so markedly as this year, and the Nippon Ginko therefore thinks it advisable to take the step just announced. Other banks took this course some two months ago, and the fact that the Bank has not hastened in the matter is a clear proof that the rise is not due to any apprehension of a panic, so much spoken of by some sections of the public. August is a month, when, owing to various causes, as the *Bon* festival of the old calendar, the falling due of the *saki* tax, and so forth, the circulation of money is brisker than at other times. That the rate was not raised last month furnishes proof that the future of the money market does not cause apprehension. The *Nichiichi* observes that the step taken by the Nippon Ginko will conduce toward securing tranquility in the market. The sudden activity that brought the amount invested in commerce and industry since the termination of the war to about 700 million *yen*, and also the marked discrepancy in the balance between imports and exports, are enough to shake the money market were matters left to their own course. The excess of imports over exports might not create much trouble had the purchasing power of the people really increased. But this is not easy to credit, especially when it is remembered that the silk and tea markets are unusually depressed and that one calamity after another has devastated various parts of the country.

Tokyo papers give some information relating to deposits in Postal Saving Banks. The Post Office opened Saving Banks in 1875 and the deposits that year aggregated only 20,122 *yen* by 2,184 depositors. Since the Savings Bank Regulations were amended in 1878 and again in 1891, facilities were given for encouraging thrift, and the business began to markedly improve, as will be seen from the following table:—

Year.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.
1882.....	768,036.....	594,222
1883.....	1,886,225.....	747,739
1884.....	4,688,183.....	1,988,778
1885.....	6,770,074.....	3,357,330
1886.....	12,425,162.....	6,039,032
1887.....	10,901,419.....	8,826,165
1888.....	10,001,837.....	9,208,464
1889.....	10,712,635.....	10,843,121
1890.....	9,573,847.....	11,294,445
1891.....	10,826,585.....	10,437,852
1892.....	11,906,608.....	11,029,528
1893.....	13,941,842.....	11,889,412
1894.....	13,590,760.....	14,476,343
1895.....	16,287,986.....	14,520,335

In the above figures fractions of *yen* have been omitted. Depositors whose deposits are more than 500 *yen* each, number 2,529, their total being 1,066,500 *yen*. According to investigation made at the end of March last, the classification of depositors by occupation, and the deposit made by each class, are as follows:—

	Deposits. Yen.	No. of Depositors.	Average Deposit. per person.
Agriculture.....	8,213,686	453,445	11
Trade.....	6,750,466	224,246	30
Industry.....	2,607,806	954,022	7
Miscellaneous.....	2,402,580	79,711	31
Mechanics and la- bourers.....	1,476,001	68,604	21
Unknown.....	2,796,787	99,009	28
Officials and Military Coolies.....	2,605,806	83,448	31
Pupils and Students.....	342,156	66,301	5
Fishermen and Sailors.....	331,409	13,258	24
Unprofessional.....	331,395	12,238	27
Temples, Shrines, &c.....	1,017,426	27,427	37

The Japanese Central Tea Guild has decided to spend a sum of 2,000 *yen* on advertisements in American papers, so as to counteract the growing influence of Ceylon tea, which, owing to the skilful way in which it is pushed, is becoming more and more popular in the States. The Central Guild convenes an extraordinary general meeting at Miye on the 5th prox. One of the topics of discussion will be, how to tide over the present difficulty, and what steps should be taken to insure the future prosperity of this important industry in Japan. Some of the tea

men are in favour of applying to the Government for a loan of 350,000 *yen*, though it is considered doubtful whether this request would be acceded to.

A Tokyo periodical prints a note illustrative of the recent development of the textile fabrics industry in various weaving centres of Japan. The depreciation in the gold price of silver, it says, and the successful issue of the war, imparted a great impetus to the industry, as is shown in the following table, which excludes cotton and hempen fabrics and only deals with silk or mixed goods. In the figures for Ashikaga, cotton fabrics may be considered as constituting about a quarter of the total. The figures are based on official researches, and may be taken as tolerably accurate:—

SILK AND MIXED GOODS PRODUCED IN PRINCIPAL WEAVING DISTRICTS.

	Hachioji.	Nishijin.	Tango.
1888.....	Quantity... Not certain.	Not certain.	Not certain.
1889.....	Quantity... do	do	586,115 tan.
1890.....	Quantity... do	do	1,333,433 tan.
1891.....	Quantity... 485,000 pieces.	1,589,261 tan.	418,031 tan.
1892.....	Price... 32,000 <i>yen</i> .	5,164,177 <i>yen</i> .	1,035,206 <i>yen</i> .
1893.....	Quantity... 583,000 pieces.	3,040,799 tan.	611,800 tan.
1894.....	Price... 3,000,000 <i>yen</i> .	7,740,000 <i>yen</i> .	1,507,363 <i>yen</i> .
1895.....	Quantity... 608,000 pieces.	3,011,853 tan.	624,575 tan.
1896.....	Price... 3,010,000 <i>yen</i> .	8,104,580 <i>yen</i> .	1,624,459 <i>yen</i> .
1897.....	Quantity... 638,000 pieces.	3,021,884 tan.	1,071,001 tan.
1898.....	Price... 4,150,000 <i>yen</i> .	10,816,632 <i>yen</i> .	2,111,000 <i>yen</i> .
1899.....	Quantity... 641,000 pieces.	2,936,868 tan.	1,071,338 tan.
1900.....	Price... 4,000,000 <i>yen</i> .	10,371,388 <i>yen</i> .	1,893,780 <i>yen</i> .
1901.....	Quantity... 1,000,000 pieces.	Not certain.	1,500,000 tan.
1902.....	Price... 5,112,550 <i>yen</i> .	do	4,391,207 <i>yen</i> .
	Kiryu.	Isezaki.	
1888.....	Quantity... Not certain.	Not certain.	
1889.....	Price... do	do	
1890.....	Quantity... 1,660,441 tan.	166,820 hiki.	
1891.....	Price... 3,244,814 <i>yen</i> .	1,081,003 <i>yen</i> .	
1892.....	Quantity... 1,331,338 tan.	203,003 hiki.	
1893.....	Price... 3,269,027 <i>yen</i> .	971,196 <i>yen</i> .	
1894.....	Quantity... 1,003,856 tan.	304,657 hiki.	
1895.....	Price... 3,804,314 <i>yen</i> .	1,163,807 <i>yen</i> .	
1896.....	Quantity... 1,081,867 tan.	241,086 hiki.	
1897.....	Price... 3,025,682 <i>yen</i> .	1,247,446 <i>yen</i> .	
1898.....	Quantity... 2,081,704 tan.	377,893 hiki.	
1899.....	Price... 3,601,874 <i>yen</i> .	1,513,348 <i>yen</i> .	
1900.....	Quantity... 2,733,415 tan.	800,482 hiki.	
1901.....	Price... 4,160,149 <i>yen</i> .	1,953,127 <i>yen</i> .	
1902.....	Quantity... 2,820,000 tan.	Not certain.	
1903.....	Price... 7,079,673 <i>yen</i> .	do	
	Ashikaga.	Kai.	Kawamata.
1888.....	Quantity... Not certain.	Not certain.	189,313 tan.
1889.....	Price... do	do	801,441 <i>yen</i> .
1890.....	Quantity... 2,503,784 tan.	do	240,400 tan.
1891.....	Price... 1,795,900 <i>yen</i> .	do	481,171 <i>yen</i> .
1892.....	Quantity... 1,871,191 tan.	450,869 tan.	878,000 tan.
1893.....	Price... 1,715,941 <i>yen</i> .	940,708 <i>yen</i> .	436,153 <i>yen</i> .
1894.....	Quantity... 2,104,303 tan.	484,679 tan.	370,670 tan.
1895.....	Price... 2,609,840 <i>yen</i> .	904,721 <i>yen</i> .	433,479 <i>yen</i> .
1896.....	Quantity... 2,811,461 tan.	491,006 tan.	515,030 tan.
1897.....	Price... 2,956,073 <i>yen</i> .	1,227,851 <i>yen</i> .	608,013 <i>yen</i> .
1898.....	Quantity... 3,407,180 tan.	479,178 tan.	417,130 tan.
1899.....	Price... 3,467,167 <i>yen</i> .	1,241,167 <i>yen</i> .	825,865 <i>yen</i> .
1900.....	Quantity... 2,840,187 tan.	510,765 tan.	340,937 tan.
1901.....	Price... 4,115,104 <i>yen</i> .	1,994,824 <i>yen</i> .	516,788 <i>yen</i> .
1902.....	Quantity... 4,672,677 tan.	Not certain.	Not certain.
1903.....	Price... 8,671,593 <i>yen</i> .	do	do
	Yonezawa.	Fukui.	
1888.....	Quantity... Not certain.	Not certain.	
1889.....	Price... do	do	
1890.....	Quantity... do	do	
1891.....	Price... do	do	
1892.....	Quantity... 233,000 pieces.	174,190 <i>yen</i> .	
1893.....	Price... 370,960 <i>yen</i> .	249,310 hiki.	
1894.....	Quantity... 208,940 pieces.	1,095,684 <i>yen</i> .	
1895.....	Price... 467,080 <i>yen</i> .	307,192 hiki.	
1896.....	Quantity... 209,500 pieces.	1,779,875 <i>yen</i> .	
1897.....	Price... 566,300 <i>yen</i> .	373,090 hiki.	
1898.....	Quantity... 243,866 pieces.	481,493 <i>yen</i> .	
1899.....	Price... 481,493 <i>yen</i> .	515,999 <i>yen</i> .	
1900.....	Quantity... 603,530 <i>yen</i> .	507,617 <i>yen</i> .	
1901.....	Price... Not certain.	643,579 hiki.	
1902.....	Quantity... do	6,076,229 <i>yen</i> .	

It will be seen from the above that, taking the figures of the first year as the standard, the increase ranged between 1.05 to as much as 9.08 times and that values increased between 1.45 to 11.33 times. Besides the above, the crape of Nagahama, the *nanako* silk of Kawagoye, the mixed fabrics of Nagoya and of Echigo are also important products. When so rapid a development is achieved with the old fashioned methods of weaving, it is conceivable that much greater increases will follow when machine-weaving becomes more popular. It ought to be remembered that Fukui looms chiefly turn out *habutaye*, and Kai a special kind of silk used for lining and so forth; Tango, a crape, and other places mostly figured goods used for clothing.

Captain Ito Gigo, I.J.N., the newly appointed *attaché* at the Japanese Legation in France, and his wife; Dr. Kimura Shosuke, Naval Surgeon, who has been ordered to England; and Captain Narita Katsuro, I.J.N., who was appointed an *attaché* in the Japanese Legation in the United States, were received in Imperial Audience by T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress on the 9th inst. at 10.30 a.m.

THE WAR AND ITS EFFECTS ON COMMERCE.

The Bureau of Taxation in the Department of Finance has compiled a concise review as to the effect of the war on the foreign commerce of Japan during the last year. It is epitomized as follows:—(1.) The sudden increase in the demand for clothing and other materials needed in the Army and Navy, and the extraordinary increase in the import of these materials must be considered as the greatest influence that the war exerted on the foreign commerce of the country. (2.) Since the outbreak of the war, in consequence of the departure of Chinese merchants from Korea, who virtually monopolized the markets there, the influence of Japanese merchants in that Peninsula became paramount and led to an expansion in the volume of commercial transactions between Japan and Korea. (3.) The removal of the absurd delusion that foreigners entertained of Japan, namely, that her civilization was superficial and the Empire was no match for the Colossus of China, the significant removal of this idea by the glorious issue of the war, tended considerably toward increasing the value of things Japanese, so that foreigners began to inquire for the products of the victorious country. (4.) The expectation that every trade and industry in Japan would be stimulated into excessive activity, even beyond the degree of necessity and usefulness, tended to increase the volume of imports. (5.) The unusual wages that military coolies and common people earned during the war increased their purchasing powers, and this ultimately tended to encourage imports. (6.) The war has enhanced the value of Japanese goods and eliminated to a certain extent the vicious customs that previously existed between foreign and Japanese merchants engaged in Japanese commerce. So many labourers were drawn off to the seat of war or requisitioned for work connected with it, that the Japanese merchants, who were only too ready to accept any cheap order, regardless how such goods would affect the reputation of Japanese products, could not undertake to supply these demands. Foreigners also were fully aware of this fact, and did not press for delivery of shoddy goods. (7.) The requisition of thousands of men for the war affected the production of Japanese commodities, and the excess of demand over supply tended to raise the prices of goods. (8.) The rise in interest on money during the war more or less checked free investment in works of production, so that the export of goods was to a certain extent reduced. (9.) The requisition of steamers for Government service considerably interfered with the shipment of goods, so that the market rose and obstructed the export of commodities. (10.) During the War the people naturally strove to cut down all superfluous expenditures as much as possible, and this frame of mind must have, to a certain extent, interfered with the purchase of imported goods. (11.) The payment of the war indemnity by China and the consequent derangement of the silver market must have affected the commercial relations of Japan. (12.) The interference of the three Powers and the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula led the people to be on their guard and convinced them of the absolute necessity of maturing and developing the resources of the country. This may have temporarily affected the sale of foreign goods. (13.) The departure of Chinese merchants from Japan largely affected commercial transactions between Japan and China, though it was found at the end of the year that the total trade did not suffer a great diminution as compared with ordinary years.

The report then proceeds to enumerate the principal commodities whose export or import show either an increase or a decrease in consequence of the war. Commodities whose import was augmented by the war were: woollen cloth, flannel, blankets, serges, shirtings, and T-cloths, hempen and cotton canvas, leather, coal, iron and steel articles, zinc, lead, watches, liquors, hemp and flax, cotton and cotton yarns, wool and worsted, paper. Com-

modities whose export was augmented by the war were; liquors and tobacco (for consumption of officers and men in Korea and China), coal, camphor, and fine art goods. Commodities whose import was decreased by the war were beans and machinery. Commodities whose export was lessened by the war were timber and dried cuttlefish, both owing to the scarcity of labour. The commodities whose export or import was influenced by the restoration of peace, and show an increase were:—Imports—Cotton and woollen fabrics and mixed goods, cotton-silk goods, tobacco, watches, raw cotton, wool and worsted, hempen cloth, aniline dyes, liquors. Export: fine art goods. Reductions in imports were in rice, owing to the bettering of the condition of the poorer classes, the principal consumers of inferior imported rice. There was a reduced export of cotton yarns, owing to the excessive home demand. Taken as a whole, the war, by enhancing the market price of commodities, interfered with the export of goods, while it facilitated the import of foreign stuffs, owing to the requirements of the army and the public at large. The influence of the war upon Japan's foreign commerce does not end here; there are other factors whose influence will continue for a long time. The annexation of Formosa is the most important of these. The sudden expansion of shipping is another, as also the steady extension of railways. Most of the steamers purchased by the country during the war are of a size not suited for the coasting trade, but for navigation on the high seas. Naturally, therefore, those steamers will be applied to the expansion of marine communications between Japan and distant countries. The war has thoroughly convinced the country of the absolute necessity for building satisfactory railways. The unusual prosperity that the railways enjoyed subsequent to the war also encouraged railway enterprise. The following figures show the number of steamers that were added to Japan's shipping register during the two years 1894 and 1895:—

	No. of Steamers.	Cost. Yen.
First half of 1894.....	6	898,000
Second half of 1894.....	32	7,304,549
First half of 1895.....	26	3,419,790
Second half of 1895.....	13	1,280,765

In the third place, the indemnity which Japan is to receive from China will not only promote the wealth of the country, but will directly and indirectly develop its productive power and thus tend to augment the volume of the export trade. In the fourth place, the opening of four new inland ports in China, as the result of the victory of Japan, will also tend to promote commercial relations between the two countries. In the fifth place, the extraordinary demand that the war made on woollen fabrics, and the consequent unusual prosperity that woollen weavers at home enjoyed, enabled them to expand the scope of their business. At the same time the necessity for starting an iron foundry, so long spoken of, became more urgent. When these two industries are established on a firm basis, the features of Japanese commerce will be greatly changed. In short, the war gave an impetus to commerce in this country. But it is not unattended by evils, the most important being the rise in the cost of production and living.

TROUBLE IN THE TOKYO CITY ASSEMBLY.

The Water-works Scandal is a perennial source of trouble in the city of Tokyo. Once more the City Council are contemplating resignation *en masse*. The cause of the pothole is the amount of remuneration that Mr. Masujima, Barrister-at-Law, and other lawyers entrusted by the Council with the task of prosecuting the defendants of the Water-pipe Scandal case, have demanded from the city while the Court that is hearing the suit is still sitting. The fault lies both with the Council and the lawyers, the former thinking the affair one of public interest, and especially as the five lawyers, with the exception of Mr. Masujima, are members of the City Assembly and did not at first demand any fees, while the

six lawyers on the other side acknowledge that although they did not speak about remuneration at all in the beginning, they now feel they should receive something for their trouble. Mr. Masujima, after accepting the City's brief, was subsequently obliged to go to America on business of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, whose legal adviser he is, and during his absence he recommended the City Council to employ in his stead Messrs. Motoda, M.P., and Iyo, both of whom are members of the City Assembly. Even before Mr. Masujima's return, the question of remuneration began to cause trouble in the Council, the lawyers having demanded what the Council considered quite an exorbitant sum. The affair was, however, temporarily laid aside, pending the return of Mr. Masujima, the principal Counsel for the city. Mr. Masujima returned, and negotiations were opened by the City Council with him as to the terms of remuneration. Though we are not exactly certain as to his answer, we are led to infer, says the paper from which we quote, that he must have asked 20,000 yen for himself and 10,000 yen each for his five associates. A bill asking for the approval by the City Assembly of such a sum was laid before the meeting of the Assembly held on the 3rd instant. The Governor, Marquis Kuga, questioned by some of the members, announced that the Council had not arranged the terms beforehand as the lawyers signified that they would undertake the prosecution without remuneration. Another member then charged the lawyers with want of faith, and urged that no remuneration be given them. After promising their services gratis it was most unscrupulous for them to demand such a sum, and especially before the case was concluded. Should they resign their trust on account of the Council refusing to pay their fees, so much the better. Not a single member defended the Bill, which was rejected on the first reading by an unanimous vote. The affair, however, can not terminate here. Some steps must be taken to arrive at a definite conclusion. Opinions are divided among the members of the Assembly and also among the Council. Mr. Tomita, ex-President of the Nippon Ginko, and ex-Governor of Tokyo, but now a member of the Council, says that now that the bill relating to the lawyers' remuneration has been rejected by the Assembly, the Council ought to resign *en masse*. This was objected to by another speaker, but Mr. Tomita forwarded his resignation.

A section of the City Assembly who hold moderate views on the subject, argue that whether or not the Council had any clear idea of what they were about in entrusting the affair to Mr. Masujima and his associates, it is evident that suitable remuneration must be paid them for their services. They would like to ask the lawyers to reduce their bill. This proposal is regarded with disdain by the extremists, who now charge the Council with conduct savouring of personal consideration. They accuse the Council of failing to arrange the terms beforehand, and of a breach of trust towards the City in employing Messrs. Motoda and Iyo after the return of Mr. Masujima. Further, they accuse them of having given 100 to 150 yen to each of the lawyers as actual legal expenses. These they consider as acts of personal consideration. They therefore maintain that the Council must resign in a body, otherwise they may move a vote of want of confidence in the Council at the next sitting of the City Assembly. The next sitting therefore is likely to prove a very stormy one.

MINING IN JAPAN.

Mining is essentially a speculative business, writes the *Yiji*, but yields an immense profit should circumstances be at all favourable. The copper mines of Besshi have contributed to the present prosperity of the Sumitomo family; the Copper mine of Ashio has raised Mr. Furukawa from a mere citizen to a millionaire; while the Takashima and Miike collieries have added millions to the treasury of the Mitsubishi and the Mitsui family. Again, Mr. Yasuda has reaped considerable wealth from his sulphur

mine in Hokkaido. Now, what is the total output of the mines in Japan and what advance has been made lately? In 1892 the output amounted to 15,145,817 yen; in 1893 it was 16,385,817 yen, and in 1894, 20,199,874 yen. An increase of more than 40 per cent. in three years is not a bad record. Here is the table enumerating the principal minerals obtained during the two years 1893 and 1894:—

	1893. Yen.	1894. Yen.
Coal	6,837,809	9,585,155
Copper	4,903,515	5,567,947
Silver	2,723,402	2,716,769
Gold	607,365	788,574
Iron	392,473	567,491

This table shows what the principal minerals of Japan are, but it would be erroneous to infer that other minerals are of small importance in Japan. That is not the case. In point of fact gold, iron, and other mines have developed to a greater or less extent because of the facility for working them. Yet the output of kerosine increased from 200,000 yen in 1893 to 260,000 yen in the following year. Sulphur, plumbago, tin, lead, manganese, and so forth, all show a similar increase. It would not be an exaggeration to say, that the supply of various ores is almost inexhaustible in Japan, and that the mining industry has not yet advanced beyond its threshold. What the *Yiji* can not help but wonder at in this context is that capitalists are so engrossed in the mania for speculating in railways and other business, all of which must, from the nature of things, fail to achieve original expectations, that a source of big profit is entirely neglected. At any rate, now that the railway mania is passing away and transactions in "potential shares" have dwindled to a narrow margin of profit, the attention of capitalists and enterprising men will be inevitably turned to mining affairs.

NAGASAKI DOCK-YARD.

The Mitsubishi Dock-yard at Tategami, Nagasaki, has recently undergone an extensive enlargement and is now engaged in building steamers of a size that has never before been attempted in Japan. The principal steamers in course of construction at the Dock-yard include one of over 1,500 tons capacity for the Osaka Steamship Company; another of over 5,400 tons, for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and a third of about 2,600 tons for the Mitsubishi, besides a number of smaller craft. The Osaka Company's steamer will be completed by May, while the Yusen Kaisha's vessel is to be delivered by October, 1897. In July of next year the construction of another ship of the same size will be commenced. This also is for the N.Y.K. The Tategami Dock-yard having been considered inadequate to meet the increasing demands of the public, it was decided to construct another dock in the proximity of the Akiura works. This was started in August last year, and was to be completed by November. There is also the Kosuge yard, owned by the same firm, where slips are provided for the repair of steamers. At present the slips are occupied by nine steamers, two of which are owned by foreigners, the *Gaelic* being the biggest. More than 30 other steamers are waiting their turn. Between January and June of this year, 104 Japanese and 84 foreign ships were overhauled at this Dock. The staff of the Dock-yards and the mechanics and workmen employed include thirty Japanese and foreign experts and business managers, and 87 clerks on the staff, 2,000 mechanics, and about 1,500 workmen. If to those are added the men engaged on the small boats that convey the staff, mechanics, and workmen, from the shore to the respective stations, the whole aggregate over 3,800. Supposing that a man is paid on an average 50 yen a day, the pay-sheet amounts to more than 55,000 yen, or 660,000 yen per annum. But the amount really paid to the men in a year reaches over 1,000,000 yen, as they are frequently engaged on overtime work. The proprietors were fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Clark, a noted English ship-builder, formerly in the service of the Spanish Navy.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

PENDING the nomination of a new Administration, the broad differences existing between the two "slates" forecast by public speculation, seem to be briefly these: first, that if Marquis YAMAGATA become Premier, a Ministry comparatively independent of party support will be formed, whereas, if Count MATSUKATA preside, the nation will be carried one stage nearer to party Government than it was carried by the alliance between Marquis ITO and the Liberals; secondly, that the former event will not be attended by any sweeping changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet, while the latter will involve thorough re-organization of the Ministry. To put this into other words, the assumption is that Marquis YAMAGATA'S accession to power would not signify any reversal of the policy pursued by his predecessor, whether in home affairs or in foreign, and that, consequently, many of the present holders of portfolios would consent to serve under him; whereas a Cabinet directed by Counts MATSUKATA and OKUMA would strike out a route so new that few of the Ministers now in power could agree to follow. There are among the present Ministers six whose positions would not, apparently, be affected under Marquis YAMAGATA'S regimen, though it must be noted that the six include Marquis SAIONJI, who is determined—so rumour alleges—to follow Marquis ITO out of office under all circumstances. Assuming His Excellency's intention to be rightly interpreted in this matter, and observing that, apart from the President, the Cabinet numbers ten members, it follows that five vacancies would have to be filled under Marquis YAMAGATA, whereas, under Count MATSUKATA, there would be about eight new portfolio-holders, according to the *Fiji Shimpō's* estimate. That journal does not essay the interesting task of actually designating the names on the two slates, but it appears to think that, whoever may succeed to the office of Minister President, Count OKUMA and Count MATSUKATA will certainly be in the new Ministry. As to the party relations of the Cabinet, our contemporary's idea is that, if Count YAMAGATA comes into power, he can not count on the *Shimpō-to* as allies, neither need he reckon with the *Fiyu-to* as open enemies. He will, in fact, stand virtually aloof from political parties, being secure of support from the National Unionists only. On the other hand, if Count MATSUKATA assume the direction of affairs, he can be tolerably certain that the *Shimpō-to* and the National Unionists will support him, and he must be prepared to find that his alliance with Count OKUMA will convert the *Fiyu-to* into open enemies. We do not, for our own part, perceive any reason for assuming the possibility of a Cabinet presided over by Marquis YAMAGATA and including Counts MATSUKATA

and OKUMA. If the two latter statesmen agreed to join such a colourless combination, pledging themselves, at the same time, to pursue, without radical deviation, the policy hitherto adopted by the statesmen they displace, they would most assuredly see themselves severed, on the one hand, from their present supporters, the *Shimpō-to*, and by no means reconciled with their enemies, the *Fiyu-to*. That would be a species of political suicide such as Count OKUMA, at least, will never commit. He has allowed the Progressionists, over whom he has presided with great ability ever since their birth as a party—he has allowed them to identify themselves irrevocably with the principle of "Responsible Cabinets," and there is not, in our opinion, the remotest probability that his return to office will become a means of re-establishing the old system of Administrative independence. That, indeed, would fairly lay him open to the charge of employing his party and his platform as mere stepping stones for climbing into office. The *Tokyo Shimpō*, it is true, accuses him of precisely that manoeuvre, and, at the same time, alleges that all the minor sections forming the *Shimpō-to* are nothing better than tools of the Progressionists, by union with whom they have lost their individuality and been completely overshadowed. But the *Tokyo Shimpō* being the organ of the Liberal Party, its utterances on such a subject must be read with reservations, and, for the rest, the lesser elements of the Opposition must have foreseen pretty clearly the fate that awaited them when they abandoned their independent organizations for the purpose of fusion with a party of such intellectual eminence, political sagacity, and stubborn fighting power as the Progressionists. In the context of this question of party relations, it is interesting to note the views held by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, a journal of acknowledged political insight, though not unbiassed as to its judgment in the present instance. It says that a MATSUKATA-OKUMA Cabinet can not reckon on receiving the full support of the *Shimpō-to* (the present Opposition); that it will have to reckon with the hostility of the *Fiyu-to*, and that the attitude of the National Unionists towards it will depend on the legislative measures framed by the Ministry. Frankly speaking, we do not attach much importance to these forecasts. In every instance that we can recall, journalistic predictions as to the grouping of political parties have proved erroneous in Japan. During the last session of the Diet, the balance of power was held by the National Unionists; and that it will remain in the same hands next session, seems beyond question. Further, it is certain that the National Unionists temporarily broke away from the ITO Cabinet and its Liberal supporters towards the close of the session, and that their invertebrate shuffling on that occasion involved disgrace, the memory

of which only a strong *coup* can efface. Whether the *coup* will be made at the cost of the outgoing or the incoming Cabinet, we have no means of judging.

It should be noted in conclusion that neither the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* nor the *Tokyo Shimpō* includes a YAMAGATA Cabinet within the range of practical possibilities: they both think that the future Minister President will be either Count MATSUKATA or Count OKUMA.

The *Tokyo Shimpō* predicts the following as the most probable organizations in each case:—

MATSUKATA CABINET.	OKUMA CABINET.
Minister President...Count Matsukata.	Count Okuma.
Foreign Affairs .....Count Okuma.	Count Okuma.
Home Affairs .....Count Goto.	Count Goto.
Finance .....Count Matsukata.	Count Matsukata.
Navy .....Count Kabayama.	Viscount Nakamura.
Army .....Viscount Kawakami.	Viscount Kawakami.
Communications .....Viscount Mayeshima.	Viscount Mayeshima.
Justice .....Count Ōki.	Baron Kitabatake.
Agriculture and Commerce .....Uncertain.	Count Sano.
Colonization .....Viscount Takashima.	Viscount Takashima.
Education .....Viscount Kuki.	Count Ōki.
Chief Secretary .....Mr. Hirayama.	Mr. Shimada Saburo.

JAPANESE OFFICIALS.

JAPANESE officials, railway officials or otherwise, will be glad to see that one foreign resident, at any rate, is willing to bear testimony to the courtesy and helpfulness that distinguish their general behaviour, entitling them to a character very different from that assigned to them by recent correspondents in this journal. "Et Cetera" has only nine years' experience to draw upon, but we ourselves have thirty, and we can affirm most positively that during the whole of that time we have never witnessed an act of wilful discourtesy on the part of a Japanese official towards a foreigner, though in places largely frequented by foreigners we have observed instances of distinct breaches of Japanese etiquette in the conduct of petty officials. The "studied incivility" spoken of by a correspondent, "Viator," is to us an astounding revelation, totally inconsistent with our own observation. Indeed we have no hesitation in saying that, so far from meriting the bad reputation given to them by two of our correspondents, Japanese railway, postal, and police officials deserve to be classed among the most civil and obliging in the world. One fact, undeniable and universally attested, is that, whereas in Western countries officials of inferior grade, whether railway porters and guards, police constables, or post-office folk, are ready to accept a *douceur* in the great majority of cases, nothing of the kind is known in Japan. Over and over again we have offered money, or seen money offered, to a Japanese railway porter for discharging services that a traveller in England could not hope to obtain without payment, yet in no instance could the man be induced to accept anything. On the other hand, the most trivial inquiry, the slightest application for assistance, usually elicits a cheerful and polite response. There may be, and probably are, excep-

tions to this rule : no rule is without exceptions. But it is well to avoid the injustice of mistaking the exceptions for the rule, and there seems to be some danger of that kind of error on the present occasion. On the whole, however, not much can be gained by general affirmations or contradictions. No description of the experiences of others will convince a man that his own experience is isolated and exceptional. A more useful and essential point is the demeanour of foreigners themselves when travelling in Japan. We are well aware that to discuss such a subject is only too likely to provoke recrimination and indignant protest, yet, as no just estimate can be formed without looking at both sides, we may not close our eyes to the fact that the attitude of the foreigner is not calculated, in many cases, to elicit courteous and helpful treatment. If this assertion surprises any of our readers, we invite him to direct a little practical attention to the subject. He will not see anything in the nature of personal violence: the days when that kind of thing occurred are long past. But if he recalls the demeanour invariably adopted towards railway officials by travellers in England, and if he contrasts his recollection with the demeanour of foreign travellers towards railway officials in Japan, he will soon discover a very marked difference. Not in all cases, of course. Very often the foreigner pursues his way quietly, politely, and in precisely the same manner as though he were journeying at home. But very often, too, he is rough, impatient, and overbearing, treating the Japanese *de haut en bas*, and allowing every obstacle to betray him into exhibitions of angry and imperious remonstrance. An example of this has been furnished even in the letters recently addressed to this journal. One of our correspondents accused the Yokohama railway officials of "absolute insolence" because, on the ground of certain articles of baggage having arrived too late, they had refused to check them. How can the epithet "absolute insolence" be properly applied to such procedure? "Gross mismanagement," "flagrant neglect of duty," or any cognate expression would seem appropriate, but "absolute insolence" introduces us to a new order of ideas, illustrating precisely the demeanour referred to above. A still more striking illustration was furnished in the subsequent course of the correspondence. The Japanese Traffic Manager, in reply to our correspondent's letter, wrote a most civil explanation, in which, after giving an epitome of the statements made by the railway porters and booking clerks with reference to the incident in question, he concluded by saying:—

The authorities are fully aware that in operating a large Railway System such as this, occasions will now and again arise for complaint against the conduct of their employés. The courtesy and kindness of travellers, however, in bringing the circumstances direct to the notice of the management is always duly appreciated, for only by those means can irregularities be promptly seen to and

notice taken of the offending officials, and repetition guarded against.

Certainly nothing could have been more courteous or considerate than this. Yet in the answer it evoked we find the following:—

Finally, and with regret, to the charge of carelessness, insolence, and neglect of duty which I make against your employés, I must add that of conscious, deliberate, and detailed falsehood.

Now as to the point directly under discussion between our correspondent and the Traffic Manager, we venture no opinion, but we do think that such charges are those quoted above, couched in such language, would never have been publicly advanced, under the circumstances, in any Western country. Like begets like. We can not expect the Japanese to treat us with deference and kindness, if our own attitude towards them is harsh, masterful, and supercilious. There may be grounds for an occasional complaint, but general accusations of "studied incivility," such as "Viator," for example, prefers, are diametrically opposed to the facts.

EARL LI.

MR. ARCHIBALD COLQUHOUN'S panegyric on Earl Li, written for the *Saturday Review* and re-produced elsewhere in these columns, seems to exhaust all that can be urged on behalf of that undoubtedly remarkable man. But probably to no part of the world, nor to any section of the human race, may be applied with fuller justice the old saying that the unknown seems always magnificent. Were it possible to analyse the feeling of respect for Chinese statesmen that still survives their interminable blunders, and to probe the sentiment of awe inspired by the multitudinous spectacle of the Chinese people and the vastness of their territory, we should find that the *ignotum* is at the bottom of it all. There is a remnant of mystery about the Chinese. We can not quite fathom their potentialities or gauge their resources, and wherever knowledge fails, imagination steps in to fill the blank with something very like chimeras. Japan, in the late war, supplied an object lesson that should have dispelled many illusions; but somehow as the memory of the war recedes into the past, the phantasy of China's greatness emerges from the obscurity to which it had apparently been relegated for ever, and we are again called upon to worship a statesman whose career was recently supposed to have closed with one of the most gigantic fiascos on historical record. Excuse after excuse may be found for the "Great Viceroy." Mr. COLQUHOUN, indeed, devotes only 7 lines to the task of extenuation, against 314 occupied by the business of eulogy. But others, imbued with a truer sense of proportion, have pleaded for Li that he was the victim of inevitable circumstances, and that, although

his achievements, when submitted to the crucial test of practice, proved absolutely *nil*, he nevertheless made as much out of the elements at his command as could possibly have been made out of Chinese elements under the conditions of his time. That proposition may be true; but, if so, we are compelled to accept the corollary that nothing could have been made out of Chinese elements during the past thirty years; which means that all idea of China's potentialities must be abandoned, and that her place is in the lowest rank of helpless monsters. What other conclusion is tenable? It appears to us that the alternatives are very distinct. Either LI HUNG-CHANG abused his opportunities and failed signally to utilize the resources within his reach, or else China's resources are mythical and her condition is such that no opportunities whatever can be turned to her solid advantage under the Government now ruling. During thirty years, that is to say, from the subjugation of the Taiping rebellion until the outbreak of the war with Japan, the whole responsibility of developing China's military strength may be said to have rested on the shoulders of LI HUNG-CHANG. He was virtually dictator in that matter at all events, and when the nations saw him acquiring a powerful, well-equipped squadron of modern war-ships; building magnificent fortifications and supplying them with the best armaments of the age; organizing armies, drilling them, nominally, on Western lines, and arming them with weapons of precision, the natural conclusion was that, with the instincts of true statesmanship and at the dictates of intelligent patriotism, he had appreciated his country's wants and set himself resolutely to supply them. Yet what happened when Japan raised her hand against this apparently impregnable structure? The whole thing fell to pieces as helplessly as Death went down at the first touch of GARETH'S lance. It may be urged that the ships were not properly found in ammunition; that the soldiers were ill-trained; that the Generals were corrupt and incompetent; that the defence of the fortresses was a mere farce. Perhaps so. But they were Li's fortresses, Li's soldiers, and Li's ships. No failure could have been more signal, and that the failure was due either to Li's errors or to China's hopeless impotence, is an inevitable conclusion. That is the broad fact: details are insignificant. Passing, however, beyond the sphere of material development, it is claimed for Li that he evinced remarkable diplomatic capacity at the supreme moment of his country's difficulties. But history will scarcely endorse that claim. For, in the first place, Russia's interference to keep Japan out of the Liao-tung Peninsula was not Li's contriving. The Northern Power acted solely in its own interests, and if Li failed to appreciate the sinister significance of Russia's preference for Chinese propinquity as compared with

Japanese, his political insight must be singularly defective. Moreover, if upon him rests in any degree the responsibility of having facilitated Russia's meddling with the Shimonoseki Treaty, events will certainly convict him of having contributed, in precisely that degree, to the disintegration that awaits his country, and to the advent of the supreme struggle that the Far East is destined to witness. Thus the ex-Viceroy's record, as we read it, consists of only two chapters: one containing a tale of unvaried failure as a military organizer; the other, an indictment for having brought China perceptibly nearer to the worst danger that menaces her.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

It has been customary to contend that the Irish have no genuine basis for the grievances alleged by them against England, and that, in agitating for Home Rule, they are simply playing the part of rebels. Even those that were disposed to admit the existence of grievances at some era in the past, alleged that everything of the kind had been remedied, and that Irishmen being now placed on exactly the same footing as Englishmen, Plans of Campaign, Parnellism, and so forth, deserve no manner of sympathy. But it now appears that Ireland has still a substantial ground of complaint, whatever efforts England has made in modern times to do her justice. "The Royal Commission," says the *Saturday Review* of July 25th, "appointed to inquire into the financial relations of Great Britain and Ireland, published its Report weeks ago. Ten out of the thirteen Commissioners agree that we have taken £2,750,000 a year more from Ireland than Ireland ought to have paid. And this fleecing of England's weak sister has been going on at this rate for something like half a century. According to the finding of a Commission mainly composed of Englishmen, we owe Ireland considerably over £100,000,000 sterling; a sum that, wisely expended on light railways, harbour extensions, and drainage schemes, would go far even now towards making Ireland prosperous. Had this sum been left in Ireland to fructify, it is more than likely that Ireland would never have suffered as she suffered in the early Eighties, and then we should have had Home Rule in a much milder form."

The only thing to be said about this discovery is that, in all probability, the Irish themselves had no idea of it until ten Royal Commissioners stumbled upon the facts. Had any such knowledge been common property, it would have figured long ago in the manifestoes of the agitators. Scarcely less interesting than such a revelation is the attitude of the *Saturday Review* towards it. Here is what that journal says:—

But what is to be done now? The politicians have paid no attention to this Report; it is, in fact, being met with silence—the "Todesschweigen" that allows no whisper to disturb the grave wherein unpleasant things are buried. For our part, as we have already said, we rejoice in this Report; it shows that the cry for Home Rule has not its root in sentiment, but in material grievances, and a rich country like England can easily turn these grievances into gratitude. But will England even now act generously in this matter?—that's the rub. We hope so, and shall press the point in and out of season. This Report has yet another bearing; it explains the existence of the physical-force party in Irish politics, just as the illegal levy of ship-money explained Hampden's revolt. Consequently we hope that the Home Secretary will imitate President Kruger's magnanimity, and set the so-called Dynamite prisoners free; for these men, at any rate, took no lives and shed no blood. Moreover, we want to make friends with the Irish, and that is to be accomplished by giving them what they want, so far as their desires are consistent with higher laws and not what think they ought to want.

Truly the *Saturday* has blossomed out in a new place.

FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKE.

The Kinai (Kei-Han) districts suffered considerable damage to life and property from the last storm. The following details appear in official reports sent from the afflicted districts to the Home Department:—

In Kyoto 10 persons were wounded, mostly owing to the blowing down of houses, of which 21 were reduced to ruins and about 1,100 were more or less severely injured. Five bridges were washed away; embankments were broken in two places, the number of houses flooded aggregated above 1,600, and the damage done to public roads and other works was extensive.

It was in Fukuchiyama, Tamba Province, however, that the gale wrought the greatest havoc. Over 150 houses were washed away by water inundating the streets through breaches in embankments, and some 200 persons were drowned, among whom the corpses of not more than one half have been recovered and identified. In other parts of the Kyoto district, about 35 persons were killed; dwellings, farms, and so forth suffered heavily.

The section of Ise situated at the mouths of the rivers Kiso and Yebi was also much devastated, the calamity being aggravated by huge waves blown landward, so that all the regions along the sea were more or less inundated. Up to the 2nd instant, the reports showed that 30 persons had been killed and 35 wounded. The houses washed away totalled 172, and those wholly or partially wrecked were above 4,000. Ships and boats were sunk or damaged to the extent of 168, while roads, embankments, and arable land suffered extensively. In four villages in northern Ise 8,000 persons are receiving State relief, their houses or furniture having been washed away.

The districts in Aichi Prefecture bordering the sea, as Chita, Kaisai, and so forth, were swept by the storm-driven tide. Eleven persons were killed, 15 were wounded, more than 1,300 houses were either totally or partially destroyed, and 100 others were swept away.

The following returns from Nara and Shiga Prefectures give the effects of the gale there:—

Nara: houses totally destroyed, 193; sheds blown down, 237; houses flooded, 272; houses washed away, 46; persons killed, 44; persons wounded, 6; bridges swept away, 20. Besides the above, roads were demolished in 5 places and embankments breached in 32 localities. The returns from Shiga are: persons killed, 36; persons wounded, 34; buildings entirely or partially destroyed, 2,377. Roads broken up and embankments breached in numerous places. Landships also occurred, burying a number of persons.

A representative of the *Tokyo Shimbun* has learnt from the Home Office Authorities that the number of persons drowned or killed by falling houses and landslides, must aggregate about 1,000. Truly this is a most unfortunate year for Japan.

The Governor of Akita notifies the Home Office that the earthquake that lately visited that prefecture killed 159 persons and totally destroyed 1,562 houses. From despatches received by the *Yiji Shimo* from special correspondents, we gather that the rural town of Rokugo and its vicinity suffered most from the calamity. In the district that comes within the jurisdiction of the Rokugo Police Office, over 110 persons were killed. In the town itself all the buildings, except a dozen or so, where entirely destroyed. The same despatch puts the number of wounded at 412. In another village a piece of ground measuring over 10 acres was suddenly elevated to a height of 20 ft., while another plot of ground subsided to a depth of more than 15 ft.

In Iwate the calamity was fortunately not so severe. The town of Hanamaki suffered most. Fissures were made in several streets and muddy water issued from them, covering the streets for more than 3 ft. Casualties to life seem to have been slight. In this respect and also as to the extent of damage done to property, no accurate account has yet appeared.

In reference to the gale that visited the central portion of Japan, we find that the casual-

ties to life and property were very extensive. In the Kyoto Municipal district the town of Fukuchiyama, as already noticed in these columns, suffered most, the river running close by suddenly breaching its embankments and rushing into the streets before the people could escape to elevated spots. In the town 204 persons were drowned, though the number of houses hurled to the ground by the flood did not exceed 151. In other districts under the control of the Governor of Kyoto 42 deaths have been reported. From Tango no intelligence has yet been received owing to interruption of telegraphic communication, and the extent of the disaster in that province is apprehended to be as serious as in the surrounding districts.

In Hyogo Ken 90 persons were either killed or are missing; while 49 cases of injury have been reported. The embankment of the river Minato was breached for a length of 195 yards and the resulting flood washed away 28 houses, entirely or partially destroyed more than 200 houses, while those flooded exceeded 1,800. In Mukogun and Kawabe-gun embankments were similarly breached and considerable havoc was wrought. The oldest inhabitants do not remember the like of this flood. The extent of the calamity is likely to increase as particulars come in from distant places. In Shiga Prefecture the gale killed 48 persons and wounded 65. It also totally destroyed 2,648 dwelling houses and 1,334 sheds. Damages caused to roads, embankments, etc., are proportionally great.

The Governor of Osaka reports that the calamity caused the death of 21 persons and the wounding of 19, while six are missing. Five cattle were also killed. Houses totally and partially destroyed aggregated 445 and 6,617 respectively. From Fukui, Nagano, and Nara reports have also reached the Home Office, though they tell less fearful tales than come from other districts.

ANOTHER STORM.

The storm that swept over the central part of Japan and Shikoku from the 5th to the 8th inst., was unusually heavy. In several places railway traffic has been suspended and telegraph lines are down everywhere. The districts visited by the storm were Kochi and Tokushima, in Shikoku, and Osaka, Kyoto, Shiga, Gifu, Aichi, Shizuoka, Ishikawa, Toyama, and Yamanashi in the central part of Japan. The storm was especially heavy at Hikone, where in 24 hours the rain gauge recorded a fall of 685 millimetres, that is to say, 3,770 *koku* of water per *tan*. Such a fall is not only very rare in Japan but also in other parts of the world. The storm that visited Tanabe, Wakayama Prefecture, on August 20th, 1889, when the rain gauge recorded 900 millimetres, and another that occurred at Daisen, Hoki Province, three years ago, when 747 millimetres of rain fell, are the only cases in which the rain-fall exceeded that at Hikone since the meteorological observatories were inaugurated in Japan. In consequence of the storm, telegraphic communication between Nagoya and Tsu, between Tsuruga and Kanazawa, as also the Tsuruga-Nagahama line, one of the two lines directly connecting Tokyo and Osaka, Kobe, and Hakodate, are interrupted, and messages for foreign parts are refused at the Yokohama Post Office. The Tokyo-Hiroshima and Tokyo-Kyoto direct lines, the Toyama-Kanazawa, and the Nagahama-Gifu lines have also ceased to operate. In some places, as at Fukui in Echizen, Takasago and its vicinity in Harima, and a few others, telegraphic messages, even when received at the offices, can not be forwarded to their destinations owing to floods.

The following telegrams are to hand this morning:—

Fukui, Sept. 9.

Owing to the incessant rainfall, that has continued since the 4th inst., several embankments were breached, and some houses in the town were flooded five feet above the floor. The telegraph is interrupted. On the 8th inst. the water began to abate, but the rain has not stopped yet.

Niigata, September 9.

The embankments at Kurojo-mura Koshi district being damaged, about 300 houses were flooded.

Nagano, September 9.

Cultivated lands along the banks of the Chikugawa have been flooded.

Takaoka, Sept. 8.

The embankments of the Futatsukamura have been breached for a distance of 120 yards and that of the Yanagase for 60 yards. The town of Takaoka has been inundated.

Utsunomiya, Sept. 9.

The railway bridge over the Kinugawa has been rendered dangerous by the recent heavy rain, and trains have stopped running.

Yokkaichi, Sept. 8.

(Delayed in transmission.)

The Tsuge and Yatomi line of the Kansai Railway is blocked.

Kanazawa, Sept. 9.

The recent heavy rain caused the rivers to overflow and several districts are flooded.

India, like Japan, Siberia, and Northern China, has been suffering severely from floods this summer, great damage being done to railways, roads, crops, and houses. In reference to the storms of this week in Central Japan more news is to hand this morning. The Sangu Railway has been blocked by floods, and at Tsu the sea-wall is considerably damaged. At Gifu the river embankments are again breaking down in several places, and the adjacent lands are flooded. Wires are down in and around this unfortunate town, and now, owing to the sudden stoppage of all means of transport, rice is getting scarce and the general discomfort is thereby considerably increased. A telegram from Nagoya announces that Takama-mura, Nijo-mura, of Higashi Kasugai district, and Kawanaka-mura in the Nishi Kasugai district, are entirely under water, in some places the flood being eight or nine feet above the floors. About 60 houses have been swept away. The railway bridge on the Ryomo line, near Takasaki, has been completely washed away. From Shizuoka comes news that the embankments of the Oigawa have been broken for 300 yards to the west, and 60 yards east of the town have gone. Some railway cars were upset near Tsu, on the 8th inst., and the fireman and driver were injured. Kobe has had a full share of the storm and reports much damage. Many Japanese there are receiving public relief.

TREATMENT OF ANIMALS IN THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS AT UYENO.

A correspondent addresses us again on the subject of the inhuman treatment to which animals are subjected in the Uyeno Zoological Gardens. Our readers may remember that, during the course of the past two years, we have more than once referred to this subject, especially with regard to the unhappy elephant. Concerning the latter, our correspondent says:—"The elephant stands from morning till evening with three of his legs closely chained to poles, in such a manner that the poor beast is unable to move at all. Nothing of the sort has ever been witnessed in any zoological garden in the world. It can scarcely be doubted that the donor of the elephant presented a tame animal: no ship would have taken an untamed one on board. Why, then, this unnecessary brutality?" We agree with our correspondent that the elephant must have been tame when it reached the Gardens, but what its condition is now after two years' incessant torture, who shall say? The thing is terrible to think of, but apparently to draw attention to it is mere waste of time. "Farther on," continues our correspondent, "one finds some horses—why they should be there at all I can not say—with their halters fastened in such a way that they can neither raise nor lower their heads. The bears' cages, moreover, are all too small." Evidently the persons charged with the control of the Gardens are quite indifferent about the treatment extended to the animals. It is sad that in a highly civilized city like Tokyo, no influential person can be found to espouse the cause of these tortured animals.

FUNERAL OF MR. A. STEIN.

The mortal remains of Mr. Augustin Stein, late Assistant Manager at the Yokohama office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha—whose death occurred suddenly on Saturday forenoon—were interred in Yokohama Cemetery on Monday afternoon. The cortege left the house of the deceased at Kanagawa about 2.30 o'clock, reaching the place of interment about two hours later. In the sad procession walked all the heads of the various departments of the N.Y.K., Captains and officers whose vessels happen to be in harbour, many Japanese, and nearly the whole of the German community. The coffin was covered with lovely wreathes, silent witnesses to the high esteem in which the deceased had been held. The Rev. E. Schiller, of Tokyo, conducted the funeral services, and during the proceedings, Mr. R. Suzuki, on behalf of the residents of Kanagawa-machi, delivered a funeral oration in Japanese. It ran somewhat as follows:—Alas, our friend, whom we had all come to love and esteem, has left this world of ours, leaving us plunged in deepest sorrow. Some of us had known him from the day when he first arrived on these shores; other only made his acquaintance after he had joined the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. What his services have been to that company, its officials can but inadequately tell; what he did for Japan, in encouraging her development, in extending to her wise council in the early as well as in the later years of his sojourn here, can also never be fully told. Since he came here, the flag of the company that he served so well has gone forth from Japan to distant countries, so that now Europe and America have both seen it fluttering in the breeze. Much of the success of these distant ventures are due to the untiring zeal and foresight of our late friend. Similarly his heart ever expanded in the cause of charity. Few have been the cases of distress around Otsuna-yama, where he lived, that have not received generous and kindly help from him. He subscribed liberally to the funds raised for the benefit of the soldiers in our late war. He expressed sympathy in many ways for the soldiers' families. His munificence was again seen in his ready subscription to the relief of sufferers by the late seismic disaster in the north-east of Japan. In all verity, he was full of good works, and for these loving traits in a loveable character we esteem him highly. Many are the foreign residents who now live in our midst, but none have won more truly our affection. Difficult, indeed, is the task of administering consolation to the bereaved, and I feel it almost impossible to find the words that would adequately express our deep grief at our friend's untimely decease. I merely offer these few remarks as a token of our gratitude for our friend's great kindness and surpassing benevolence to the people of the land from whence he has gone to his last long home.

THE GALE OF THE 30TH AUGUST.

A correspondent writing from Hiyezan, where many residents of Kobe, Osaka, and Kyoto spend their summer holidays in tents, says:—"The gale on Sunday night made sad havoc in this old mountain. Sugit trees ten feet in circumference were snapped like lead pencils. In the court before the Shaka-do, fourteen immense trees have fallen prostrate. Two of them fell across one corner of the temple and still rest there, illustrating the enormous strength of the framework of the building. Naturally many tents were over-turned, but there was no serious loss or injury to any one in the camp, though some of the trees fell unpleasantly near the tents. The priests say they never heard of such a destructive gale in the past." In addition to the exceptional violence of the storm, we have to note the great area over which its ravages extended. While big trees were being snapped across or torn up by the roots at Hiyezan, near Kyoto, a similar catastrophe was occurring on the plain between Chiusen-ji and Yumoto, where striking evidences of the typhoon's fury are now visible.

KOREAN ITEMS.

Referring to the want of a foreign physician at the Police Head-quarters in Seoul, *The Independent* says:—

Visiting the Police Head-quarters the other day, we saw a butcher who had gotten into a quarrel and during the course of it had received an ugly cut across the side of the neck, and he was in immediate danger of dying from loss of blood. Again, visiting the prison inside the little West Gate, we found a number of criminals who had been caught in the country and before being sent up here to Seoul had been beaten across the legs below the knee until the bones were all fractured and the flesh had been terribly torn. The lack of surgical aid together with the heat had caused the wounds to putrefy and the whole prison was filled with an almost unbearable stench.

With reference to the rebellion in the peninsula, we collect the following items from the last three issues of the above journal:—

Magistrate of Pyeng Yang reports that 500 rebels entered that district and commit outrages among the people and demand money from the Magistrate. He asks for an immediate relief by dispatching troops to that place.

Governor of South Chung-Chong reports that four rebels entered a private house in Jiksan and carried away two bags of rice and \$85 in money. The Government troops captured them and recovered the stolen goods, and also found on their persons the War Office passes indicating that they are on parole. Their crime is greater because they have broken their promise of good behaviour. The Law Department is going to sentence them to be hung. The rebels in Chul-Won carried away \$1,740 of Government revenue. But the people in that district made up \$870, and pray the Government not to make them pay again for the rest, as it is impossible for them to pay the tax twice in a year.

Captain Kim Myeng Whan reports that 400 rebels led by Min Yong Ho and Sung Ik Hyen arrived in Hyo-Yang and Kim-Sung districts and burned the houses and robbed the people in the most outrageous manner. The Captain sent a company of his troops and drove them away, but they are now holding a strong position on the high mountain in Kim-Sung. He asks the War Office to send him reinforcements in order to make an attack on them at this position.

It is evident from all this that tranquillity and good order have by no means been established as yet in Korea.

In its issue of August 25th, *The Independent* has an article from which we extract the following:—

The history of Korea for 1896 will be read by future generations with as much interest as the chapters for the two previous years. A special chapter cannot be omitted in recording the events of this year, in regard to the formation of two political parties in the country. These parties not being organized as in other countries, one who looks from the outside will see no distinctive parties in the Government. But the fact is that there are two strong opposing parties. Their objects and policies are diametrically opposed one to the other, and the party line is pretty tightly drawn between them. The one party is composed of men whose ambition is to return to the old state of affairs that existed before the Japan-China War; and the other is to extend the reformation to different Departments, to diminish the old abuses, to promote friendly intercourse with foreign powers, to increase educational facilities, and to adopt foreign laws and customs as far as expedient. From the complexion of their platforms we might term the former the Conservative and the latter Progressive party.

The strength of each party is hard to estimate from the outside, but we dare to say that the Conservatives are stronger numerically and otherwise. Naturally, most foreigners sympathize with the Progressives, but do not care to show their feelings in such a manner as to be objectionable to the other side.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

A telegram from Head-quarters in Formosa, dated the 20th ultimo, reached the War Department in Tokyo on the 3rd instant. It ran as follows:—

The officer in command of the Kelung garrison having reported by wire that from 150 to 160 insurgents had assembled at Tsu shang, with two field-pieces, Captain Hanazaki was instructed to march against them at the head of two half-

companies. He set out from Kelung on the morning of August 19th, and one half-company of his men was to reach Hwang-tsz-lia, the camp of the rebels, at 7 a.m. that day.

The officer in command of the garrison at Shui-pin-kew reports, under date of the 19th instant at noon, that having received from the natives information of the presence of two rebels, he took steps to arrest them, but one escaped over the river by boat, and the other swam across but was shot on reaching the opposite side. The same officer reports that a party of ten men and women, who were engaged picking tea on the hills at Shwang-chi-kow and Chang-sso-heu, outside Ku-chih-chwang, were suddenly attacked, on the morning of August 16th, by a number of the aborigines, and nine of the tea-pickers were killed, one woman only escaping.

We do not understand why the above telegram should have taken such a long time in transport, or how a body of insurgents can have been found in the neighbourhood of Kelung, as seems to have been the case.

Referring to opium smuggling in Formosa, the *Yomuri Shimbun* says that one of the methods adopted by the smugglers is to place the drug in hermetically sealed kerosene tins, which are then lowered into the water and tied under the ship. Another plan is to pack balls of opium in the middle of cases containing pickled vegetables, which the Customs officials pass unsuspectingly. We fail to see how the former device could serve its purpose, since without the Customs mark the kerosene tins could not be landed.

Fuller intelligence has now almost disposed of the injurious reports originally circulated about Japanese atrocities in Formosa. The stories, as we showed at the time, bore intrinsic evidence of falsehood and exaggeration, but were nevertheless credited without scrutiny and published by a section of the local foreign press, comments of a strong character being added. Examining the evidence lately furnished by English or American correspondents, who write from Formosa, presumably with full access to trustworthy sources of information, we have little difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that, though many innocent people doubtless suffered at the hands of the Japanese soldiery, the indiscriminate violence and wholesale cruelty charged against the Civil and Military Authorities are without foundation. Two explanations offer with reference to the fact that law-abiding inhabitants were involved in the troubles. One is that many of them, despite their own inclinations, were forced by the bandits to become participants in the latter's crimes; the other, that the Japanese were sometimes quite unable to distinguish between peaceful citizens and insurgents. The burning of villages, about which such curiously exaggerated reports were published, seems to have been limited to cases where some of the villagers had sided with the rebels, and, further, retaliation of that kind was evidently on a very small scale. Mr. J. W. Davidson, whose letter to the *Hongkong Daily Press* we reproduce below, thinks that the grant of money made by the Emperor and Empress of Japan and the Treasury—53,000 yen in all—will amply suffice to alleviate any suffering inflicted on peaceful folk during the operations against the insurgents. If that be a correct estimate, the amount of suffering cannot be very large.

Taipeifu, August 15th.

The reports that have been circulating in the north regarding the Mid-Formosa rebellion are as legion as they are contradictory. It is with the hope of gaining a closer insight into the true condition of affairs that I am leaving to-morrow morning for a several weeks' trip through the lately disturbed districts. Unfortunately, there has not been much of an attempt made to get at the facts, the enemies of the Japanese seemingly being satisfied in accepting the Chinese reports as authentic, and the Japanese and their new friends are inclined to stamp the same reports as exaggerated, if not falsehoods without a semblance of truth. That many innocent people have suffered during the trouble is a point upon which they both agree, but whether such suffering could have, as a consequence of war, been prevented or not is where they differ. At all events the affair was not of such seriousness or of such magnitude as one would be led to believe after reading the voluminous reports that have been published during the last

month, the editor of one journal being so far deceived as to express editorially that the whole island was seething with rebellion. It touched the district in which the foreign merchants of Anping have camphor interests, subjecting them to a heavy loss. This has led to a thorough ventilation of the subject, which may be fortunate in the respect that it will lead to a careful investigation.

The insurgents have all fled to the mountains. Those about Tai-ping-ting are supposed not to exceed two or three hundred in number. At present one battalion is garrisoned at Hoolin and another at Lim-ki-po. These troops hold the insurgents in their mountainous strongholds, cutting off all communication with the outside. Tai-ping-ting has the savage territory to the rear and a steep rocky pathway from the plain below is the only entrance. As a stronghold, it is almost impregnable, and, with provisions and ammunition, could be held against a considerable force of invaders for an unlimited time. There are some few small tracts of cultivated land within their enclosure, yet not sufficient to afford the required food. Formerly this clan, who were but a little better than banditti, resorted to Lim-ki-po, the village in the plain below, during times of peace, and retreated to their mountainous resorts upon the approach of danger. Under the Chinese Government it is said that the prefecture of Hoolin, which was originally established at Lim-ki-po, was so often threatened with plunder and attack that it was thought best to remove it to Tau-lak.

Now that the Japanese have garrisoned the village, shutting off the rebels from supplies, the latter have made several attacks upon them. The latest report received from Tai-chung (Taiwanfu) states that on the morning of the 9th inst. the rebels opened a continued fire on the Japanese sentinels stationed at Lim-ki-po; also during the darkness of early morning a few shots were fired at the sentinels at close range, the rebels retreating to the south. It will be the policy of the Japanese to guard these places carefully and to attack the rebels when they are eventually forced to evacuate their strongholds from want of food. Major-General Tatum, Commander of the troops in Formosa, returned to the capital on the 12th, after being satisfied of the thorough routing of the rebels. At an interview I had with him on his arrival I gained some information regarding affairs in the south. The causes of the rebellion he thought were not difficult to account for. The Chinese who started the rebellion no doubt found it easier to live under the Chinese than the Japanese Government. It was a well-known fact that many of the bands who took the lead in the late trouble had never been thoroughly subjugated by the Chinese authorities, and in certain districts it had been the custom to pay tribute to these robber bands. For such classes to come under the laws of any government would be to sacrifice the life of ease they were enabled to live as a result of their raids. The worse part of this was that these banditti often forced the country people to join them in opposing the Japanese. The poor country people, not having the force to resist, were obliged to desert their homes and fields to carry on a conflict with which they had no sympathy. In answer to the report published in the Japanese papers that certain foreigners had supplied the rebels with ammunition, the General informed me that he was unable to account for its origin. In examination of the prisoners it was found that the rifles were either those that had been distributed by or secured from the Chinese troops or had been in the possession of the rebels for a long time. One prisoner claimed that he had received powder from a foreigner, but there was no evidence to support this nor any reason to believe that, if secured from that source, it had not been procured before the arrival of the Japanese, as it was formerly found necessary to protect themselves against the savages. The General expressed his dissatisfaction with the commander of the troops at Hun-lin, who, he thought, deserted his camp when he might have held it until reinforcements arrived. While the rebels were considerable in numbers, they were sparsely provided with weapons, from one-fifth to one-half only of their number possessing fire arms. No doubt the officer referred to, seeing a comparatively great number advancing, over-estimated their strength, and, fearing that his troops might be surrounded and communication cut off, withdrew to a safer district. Of a different metal was the commander of the troops at Nantow, for with only 200 men he held his post against the attack of four times that number of rebels for four days, when reinforcements arrived to release him.

Fighting in the interior is specially difficult, for the irregularity of the ground and the numerous plots of underbrush and jungle, offers an opportunity for guerrilla warfare which could be scarcely equalled.

As to the Chinese report of an engagement, sent by a correspondent from the south, in which it was stated that the Japanese loss was 200, I refer to the records at head-quarters, which gives the total loss up to the present day:—

	Wounded.	Killed.	Total loss.	
Officers	13.....	7.....	20	
Sub-officers	22.....	6.....	28	
Soldiers	114.....	53.....	166	
Gendarmerie officer.....	1	}.....	14.....	24
" Sub-Officers	2			
Gendarmes	7.....	}.....	2.....	9
Policemen	7.....			
Civilians				
Native coolies	2			
Total	168.....	82.....	247	

* Drowned.

The Chinese loss has not been ascertained. Several villages in which the residents had taken part in the rebellion have been burnt. In these districts there were many innocent people who necessarily suffered as a result of the rebellion. With such people Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan have shown their sympathy by graciously presenting 3,000 yen to be distributed among them, 50,000 yen for the same purpose will follow from the State funds. This amount is more than an abundance, and it is hoped that the Chinese in their ignorance and simplicity will not receive it with the idea that it has been given by the donors through fear and that all that is necessary to receive a similar amount is to rebel again.

A report appeared in the *Kokumin Shimbun* from its Formosa correspondent at Chang-wha under date of 10th July, which was generally copied in the foreign papers, stating that Li Chung Sing (Li-shun-sei), the well-known merchant of the north, was of doubtful loyalty to the Japanese, and even going so far as to state that he had aided the rebellion. To the higher Japanese officials and to the foreigners who are acquainted with this most estimable gentleman, it is unnecessary to state that the whole report is a lie plain and unvarnished. What the petty Japanese who give life to such reports expect to gain by it is difficult to imagine. But at the present time, while the island is slightly disturbed, to circulate such reports is criminal and should be considered as such, for the loss of liberty and even life of the perfectly innocent is endangered by them.

CHINESE NOTES.

The Japanese Authorities are endeavouring to recover and transport to Japan the remains of the two youths executed in Nanking in the autumn of 1894, on a charge of being spies. Application has been made to the Viceroy, and it is expected that His Excellency will give the necessary permission. These ill-fated sufferers were the youths handed over to the Chinese by the United States Consul-General.

Mukden was visited by a heavy gale one night towards the close of July. Despite the great heat prevailing at the time, large hail-stones accompanied the torrents of rain, some of them as big as a man's fist, it is said. Numbers of boats were dashed together and sunk in the river. Among other incidents, the case is reported of a boatman who, after effecting his escape, threw himself again into the river on learning that the fleet of grain-vessels with which he had been serving was lost.

The great volume of water sweeping down the Peiho has burst the mud embankment at the southern end of the Tientsin reach, and poured into the plain, with a result that a large tract of country is under water six feet deep. The damage to farm produce is extensive, but there are hopes that as the millet crop is in a very advanced stage and the stalks exceptionally long, it may be harvested from boats. This accident has seriously impaired the scouring process that was taking place in the river, for the current below the breach has been reduced almost to nothing. A steam tug that attempted to pass the breach with a lighter in tow, was drawn in by suction, and left high and dry among the cabbage fields.

It is rumoured that Earl Li, on his return to China, will be re-instated in all his former positions, including the Viceroyalty of Chihli, and that Viceroy Wang, the present holder of that post, is rapidly losing credit in Peking.

An anti-foreign *émeute* was anticipated on

August 24th in Kien-ning, the town having been placarded with notices fixing that date for burning down missionary property and massacring all foreigners. In point of fact there was only one foreigner there at the time. Telegrams giving intimation of what was pending were received in Foochow on the 15th of August, and due instructions were sent thence to the officials in Kien-ning, the result being that the expected trouble did not occur.

The native preacher of the English Mission in Longong has been arrested and beaten by the official runners there, and four foreign missionaries have left Foochow for the scene of the outrage.

In Shanghai during the last three nights of August gongs were beaten and lanterns were displayed for the benefit of those friendless souls who have met death by drowning in river or sea.

On the 1st of September the journalistic globe-trotters, M.M. Leroy and Papillaud, left Shanghai for Peking, where they intend to issue, in Chinese and English, another number of *En Route*. The *North China Herald* opines that this is a bold undertaking, as it supposes it will be the first foreign paper ever published at the capital of the Middle Kingdom.

A native correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Wuchang, the provincial capital of Hupeh, states as follows:—H.E. Chang Chih-tung is raising a body-guard battalion of 500 men, between the ages of 16 and 30. The new battalion will be drilled and officered like the Tzech'iang Brigade (*Ad Astra*) raised by H.E. last year at Nanking and now quartered at Woosung, and is intended to be the nucleus of a new army corps for Hupeh. There is great reason to believe that a rumour, recently going the rounds of mandarinism, that Viceroy Liu has strongly recommended to the Throne the advisability of placing Viceroy Chang as the former's successor at Nanking, is true. Viceroy Liu desires to retire into private life and he is patriotic enough to wish to see the best man at such an important post.

The military telegraph line connecting Shanghai with the neighbouring cities of Ch'uan-sha and Nanhui (colloquially pronounced Ts'ay-so and Nay-way respectively), erected during the late war with Japan, is being now taken down by the local mandarins acting under instructions from Nanking, and the telegraph operators are ordered back to Shanghai. The telegraph poles, however, will remain under the care of the local garrisons of the three cities.

News received from Kinchou, Manchuria, not far from Shanhaikuan, reports that the Roman Catholic priests have built a church, schools, etc., in that city since the late war. Prior to this there was no Roman Catholic station in that part of the country though further east the converts of that faith number nearly 50,000 souls. An irate mother-in-law of the city, recently hammered her spindle into the bosom of her son's wife, one night, while the latter lay asleep, and to make matters more sure hammered a two inch nail into the top of the skull of her victim. The murderess and her son then absconded, and are now being searched for by the officials.

Despatches received from Peking by the *N.-C. Daily News*, from native sources report that at a meeting of the Grand Council to discuss a memorial of H.E. Li Hung-chang sent from Europe, the Emperor is credited with the remark that H.E. "was the best man, after all, for the important post of Viceroy of Chih and Imperial High Commissioner of the Peiyang Administration, and that Wang Wen-shao, the present incumbent, was more fit to be a Court Minister than a Provincial Viceroy," or words to that effect. Perhaps this may have been "a feeler," at the instigation of the Empress-Dowager, H.E. Li's staunchest supporter, put out by the Emperor to test the temper of his advisers. It is, however, said that His Majesty made the remark in so assertive a manner that not a single Grand Councillor ventured to openly criticise it, or seemed inclined to risk his post by daring to oppose what was well-known to be the pet desire of the powerful Empress-Dowager. If this report be true, then the return of H.E. Li Hung-

chang to his old *yamen* at Tientsin where he has ruled for twenty years will not be long delayed, after he has gone to Peking for an Imperial audience to report upon what he has done and seen in Europe and America. As for H.E. Wang Wen-shao, a place will very likely be given him in the Grand Council, with a probable Assistant Grand Secretaryship.

Says the *China Gazette*—The interior of China is not exactly the place where one would look for pictures by the great masters, yet within a short distance of Shanghai there are three beautiful examples of Munkacsy's genius. These three pictures, all of large size, were presented by the great Polish painter to one of his school-mates, who is now a member of the Jesuit Order. One of the pictures is at Woosieh; another at Sungkiang, and the third at Naiziang in the little Jesuit mission churches at these places.

According to Chinese advices, says the *Mercury*, the post of Minister to the United States, Peru, Spain, and the Brazils will be likely given to Yu Kang, at present Chinese Minister to Japan, but it has not transpired who will succeed the latter.

THE TROUBLES AT MANILA.

With reference to the revolt at Manila, reported on Monday in a press despatch from Tokyo, we find in Canadian exchanges a telegram from London, bearing date of August 21st, that runs:—"An official despatch from Manila announces the discovery in the Philippine Islands of a separatist conspiracy, the object being to secure independence from Spain. According to the official advices, 21 persons have already been arrested in the Philippine Islands, several being Freemasons. The news has caused great excitement in Madrid and the police in consequence to-night raided the Hispano-Philippine Club and seized a large quantity of papers." Commenting on this, a London letter writer says:—The development of the troubles of Spain is followed here with considerable interest. The outbreak in the Philippine Islands is regarded as seriously increasing her difficulties, and the news of the discovery of the conspiracy has caused great excitement in Madrid, where it is stated that the Government is considering the advisability of promptly reinforcing the Spanish garrisons. The outbreak, however, is not a surprise to the Government officials, as news reached them some time ago of considerable activity among the half-breeds. The object of the conspirators is to secure the independence of the Philippine Islands from Spain, and a committee of the refugees at Hongkong is said to have relations with the Cuban insurgents.

The *Shanghai Mercury* publishes the following telegram, that bears date, Hongkong, August 29th, 9.17 a.m.:—"A very serious and great conspiracy has just been discovered at Manila. There have been hundreds arrested on the charge of treason and imprisoned. A Madrid telegram, dated the 22nd of August, and published in the Manila papers, states that the conspiracy was hatched in the Philippines. It has raised unanimous protest throughout Spain and the Government has closed the Hispana-Filipano Club and imprisoned its officials."

The *China Mail* of August 29th says:—"A sensational account has already been published of an attempted revolt amongst the natives of the Philippine Islands, but from extensive inquiries made we are led to believe that the state of affairs has been greatly exaggerated. That some trouble had taken place was quite apparent to those who have recently been in Manila. It has been alleged that the natives and half-castes are once again endeavouring to subvert Spanish authority. Revolutionary Clubs have been formed, and seditious pamphlets are constantly being circulated amongst the natives, and the leaders have been actively engaged bringing the conspiracy to a head. It has been stated that during the past three weeks over three hundred natives have been thrown into prison. It has also been alleged that this is a bogus conspiracy instigated by the priests to draw the attention of the Spanish Government to

what they consider their very dangerous position. The natives are said to be very peaceful, but the priests are so haunted with a terrible dread of the natives, and the fear of a revolt in the near future, that they have without the slightest reason, thrown these natives into prison at Manila, and they hope that by this means the Spanish Government will be compelled in their own interests to considerably increase the strength of the European garrison. The discovery of four hundred stand of arms near Manila has been regarded by the priests of supreme importance for the success of their scheme, and they have represented that these were imported by the natives. As a matter of fact, however, the arms were intended for Mindanao. The third version of the story is perhaps the most remarkable. In 1892 Dr. Rizal, a native, was banished from Manila to Dapitan, near Mindanao, for having published two books in which he strongly condemned the Spanish Government. On the 6th August he was transferred from the fortress at Dapitan to the steamer *Espana* and taken on to Manila, where he was put on board the gunboat *Ovalora*, and afterwards transferred to the cruiser *Castilla*. The priests are said to have circulated stories to the effect that the natives were only waiting for Dr. Rizal to land when the rebellion would take place, and on this report it is supposed the sensational rumours have originated. The opinion has been expressed that the conspiracy was really formed with the object of turning the attention of the Spanish Government from Cuba to the Philippine Islands, as it is alleged the European soldiers are woefully in the minority, it being estimated that of the 13,000 soldiers quartered in the Philippines only 1,500 are of true Spanish blood.

On Monday, August 31st, the *Daily Press* wrote:—"Further particulars are to hand concerning the conspiracy in Manila. They strongly support the idea that the priests are alone responsible for the agitation, their object being, as was stated in our account on Saturday, to prejudice the natives in the eyes of the Spanish Government by spreading absurd fabrications about their increasing restlessness and thereby inducing the Government to send a few regiments of soldiers of true Spanish blood in order to safeguard the priests' authority. More natives have been thrown into prison, and it is also reported that an American named Collins has been apprehended. The *Puensang* arrived from Manila on Saturday morning and reports that as she was about to leave on the 26th August the captain was ordered to remain in the harbour. After waiting for about five hours the Customs officials came on board and arrested two first class passengers who had taken tickets for Hongkong. They were natives of Manila, and the reason given for their arrest was that they had taken an active part in stirring up strife. The vessel was then allowed to proceed on her voyage. It is further reported that the President, Treasurer, and Secretary of an association alleged to have been concerned in the conspiracy have been arrested. There is also a story that some of the leaders are in Hongkong and Japan, and that arms have been sent from Japan to Manila, but of course it is difficult to say whether any reliance can be placed in these reports."

The conspiracy in Manila, says the *Daily Press* of Sept. 2nd, has culminated in a rebellion, and it has been deemed advisable to send the British gunboat *Redpole* in order to protect our interests there in case assistance is necessary. The first news of the outbreak reached Hongkong on Monday night, when Commodore Boyes received a telegram from the British Consul in Manila stating that a serious rebellion had broken out and that there had been a conflict between the rebel forces and Government troops just outside Manila. The Commodore at once concluded that affairs had reached such a climax that it was necessary to send a gunboat to Manila to safeguard British interests, and orders were immediately given for the *Redpole* to proceed without delay. She got up steam and left here at eleven o'clock yesterday morning, and is due in Manila on Thursday

night. The information conveyed in this telegram was certainly of a very serious nature, but yesterday morning another telegram was received which somewhat allayed the alarm occasioned by the British Consul's wire. This second telegram was from the manager of the Manila branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and was as follows—"Small rebellion has broken out in Manila. In our opinion is not serious. There is no cause for anxiety." The news of the receipt of this telegram was soon spread about the colony and those who have interests in the Philippine Islands were naturally pleased with its tone. We think more reliance can be placed on the Bank telegram, because it was despatched twelve hours after the British Consul's telegram, which was probably sent during the panic that would be created by the receipt of the first news.

It is exceedingly difficult to form a correct impression of the prospects of the rising in the Philippines, says the *China Mail*. Our inquiries lead to the belief that the Mestizos are the only native or semi-native faction against the Government. As the Mestizos are not so very numerous, it is believed in some quarters that the disturbances will meet with the same fate which has followed all previous attempts to upset Spanish rule in the Philippines. The priestly element, which is generally regarded in the Provinces as a rule—by the natives—as their best, or only, form of government, is reported to be altogether with the Spanish authorities. A new element seems to be now imported into the situation, and that is a wave of sympathy (direct or indirect) with the insurgents in Cuba. It is not credited by those who are in a position to know that the rebels (as they are now called) can have the remotest chance of succeeding against the Spanish troops, unless disaffection among the troops themselves favours the rebellion.

AGRICULTURE IN AMERICA.

The terrible distress that prevails in the agricultural districts of the United States, that is to say, in the West and the South, may be inferred from the fact that many farms which, in past years, brought a substantial income to their owners, can not now find tenants, even at nominal rents, the net profit derived from working them being insufficient to pay the taxes. The growing of wheat in the West is said to be a thing of the past. For example, California, in 1883, exported more than 43 million bushels of wheat, valued at over 50 million dollars, whereas, in 1893, her export was only 18 million bushels valued at less than 9 million dollars. In other words, the quantity exported fell 57 per cent. in 10 years, and the value per bushel depreciated more than 50 per cent. That these appalling statistics are due, in great part, to competition from silver-using countries, as India and Russia, there can be no question.

THE OBSTRUCTIVE PEIHO.

There is promise that Tientsin will soon be as accessible as ever by river. The Peiho behaved very badly this summer, silting up in such a fashion that steamers could not get within many miles of the bund at Tientsin, or were caught and held prisoners by the mud in their attempts to struggle down stream. But now a current of 4½ knots is rushing down, and the volume of water has increased so much that the lead shows 20 feet alongside the *Monacacy*, which was aground a few weeks ago. The bed is scouring rapidly in the upper reaches, and it is expected that steamers will be able very soon to reach the old berths opposite the settlement, provided that the breach in the embankment below be speedily repaired.

M. EDMOND DE GONCOURT.

Not much notice seems to be taken in Japan of the death of Monsieur Edmond de Goncourt, yet the Japanese owe him a great deal for the enthusiasm and appreciation that marked his attitude towards the art of this country. The Goncourt brothers are regarded in France as great novelists, and to them belongs the credit of having taught the world to understand Watteau, and Fragonard, and Chardin. But what especially interests us in this part of the world is that they were the first French collectors, and genuine admirers, of Japanese chromo-xylographs. Monsieur Edmond de Goncourt devoted a whole volume to discussing the excellences of the two Utamaro, and well worthy the Japanese masters are of such appreciation, though Dr. Ernest Hart, whose point of view we totally fail to grasp, declines to accord to either of the Utamaro a place in the gallery of great Japanese artists. It is alleged that Mr. Whistler in London adopted the same attitude at the same time towards Japanese pictorial art as did the MM. de Goncourt in Paris, but we believe that Mr. Whistler was a later convert than the French amateurs. At all events, he never succeeded in arousing among London dilettanti the genuine yet discriminating love of Japanese art that exists in Paris, to which latter city, as a consequence, most of the gems of this country's artists, above all in the line of pictures and prints, have gravitated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MR. UKITA AND THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am exceedingly sorry for the notoriety I have obtained in the pages of your paper on account of my religious opinions and consequent unfortunate relation with some of the missionaries in Japan. However, one of the two recent articles on the Doshisha, published in the *Mail* of the 29th August, obliges me to trouble you with this communication in reference to myself, as it is nothing more nor less than a libel on my personal character.

In the first place, a correspondent whose name is not given, but whose sources of information are said by the editor to be exceptional, states that the "prime cause of the difficulty" in the Doshisha is "the growing influence of the Kumamoto men in the College," and "their disposition to make a clan affair of the institution." He speaks emphatically of "downright partisan administration," and of "strong clan feeling, reinforced by chauvinism," which "is blinding the eyes of the Trustees of the Doshisha." Now the term clan-administration is an opprobrious name in this country, so often used by the Opposition party against the present Government, but it is entirely inapplicable to the Doshisha Institution. It is true that the Kumamoto men were engaged in the Institution, both as students and teachers, ever since 1876, two years after Mr. Niishima's return from America. But clanship has nothing to do in the matter. The Kumamoto men in the Doshisha are very few in number, at present only three in the faculty, including the President. Among the trustees, one half of them have always been not Kumamoto men, and in recent years the majority of the active members were not so. Moreover, the Kumamoto men in the Doshisha have no backing from their clansmen at home or abroad on account of their connection with Christianity. Whatever influence they may have in the college, they do not owe it to any cause of clanship whatever. It may be that some of them do not wish to give up the Doshisha to the theological and sectarian influence of the missionaries, but to say that they have a "disposition to make a clan affair of the institution" is a misnomer, if not an injustice.

In the next place, it is alleged that "the Kumamoto men had" not "been willing to refrain from ridicule and attempts to bring their foreign colleagues into contempt." I wish that the correspondent would cite the names of the Kumamoto men who did such an act in the college, and the time when they did so. The lectures of Capt. L. L. James, which offended the missionaries, were delivered not at the instance of the Kumamoto men in the school. In my own case, I have publicly dissented from orthodoxy,

and denied the infallibility of the Bible, which is not essential to the belief in Christianity. If that is contempt and ridicule, I have nothing to say against the statements made by the correspondent except the collective term used in it which is a great injustice to my colleagues in the school.

The whole subject has been thoroughly discussed by President Kozaki in the open letter to the Prudential Committee of the American Board, first published in the *Japan Daily Mail*, August 6th, 1896. He states therein that the missionaries "have urged the Trustees not to allow in our institution, either by our teachers or by temporary lecturers invited from the outside, any expression of opinions which they have judged to be adverse to the interest of Christianity." Again, "more than once they have proposed to put restrictions on the freedom of thought in our institution, while the policy of the Trustees is to extend the sphere of this freedom and quicken the spirit of faith by the positive method rather than by any negative means of restriction. From this course arose the conflict of views, and from it the misunderstanding now existing between us." He states the reasons why the Trustees were not able to grant their request: "firstly, because such a policy, we believe, is against the original purpose of the founder of this institution; secondly, because it would rather injure the influence of Christianity and retard the progress of true religion; and thirdly, because the opinions considered so heretical by the Missionaries are not so in our view."

In the last place, wherein is the libel on my name, the correspondent writes as follows:—"The case was also embarrassed not a little by the fact that Professor Ukita—not Uchita—while a beneficiary of Yale University, and actually in the receipt of considerable pecuniary aid, wrote a critique of the University work, including some disrespectful language of one of the most respected instructors, a man of well-earned European reputation." And what turns out to be the real fact which has any reference to the above misrepresentation may be seen in the following statements which I made while I was in New Haven:—

HIGHER CRITICISM.

A few decades ago Americans regarded such scientists as Spencer, Huxley, Tyndall, as almost angels of the devil. But since Spencer's visit to the States, the late H. W. Beecher, Lyman Abbott, and others are earnestly insisting that the law of evolution is a revelation to this age. Thus those professors who stand in the front of progressive thought and are in danger of losing their positions by opposing new thoughts, have commenced to apply the scientific methods to religious investigation. They say that the Pentateuch was not written by Moses himself; the book of Isaiah was written by two different persons; Daniel is a later composition; these statements are being more and more received. Even an aged professor in Yale seminary—a progressive institution on a conservative foundation—now acknowledges the results of higher criticism in the Old Testament. Only in the case of the four gospels, the centre of critical discussions, he cannot get rid of the old views. When we ask the grounds of his reason, he says there is less difficulty in regarding John as the author of the fourth gospel than in ascribing it to any other person, and that it is extremely necessary to have the testimony of the immediate disciples of Jesus in regard to his life. In my view it is impossible to know who the author of John's gospel was, but it is almost certain it was not written by the immediate disciple of Jesus, John, because the author clearly applies Alexandrian philosophy to the life of Jesus, and regards Christ as "the only-begotten son of God," a phrase not once found in the Old Testament, but found in Plato. There is also a manifest borrowing from Philo in the logos idea. And there is no reason why John should describe himself as the most beloved disciple while humbly concealing his name.

So long as the dogma prevails that the four gospels give the real life of Jesus, and that there is no error in the whole Bible, there will naturally be opposition to the results of higher criticism. But this is limited to common believers who hold to many errors, while in seminaries there is a tendency to apply scientific methods of literary investigation. This tendency is manifest in the fact that in spite of the decision of the Presbyterian assembly against Professor Briggs, the seminary continues to employ him as before.

The whole essay, out of which the above is an extract, was originally published in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, and contained some of my criticisms on the American life. Some missionary in the Doshisha, having caused the essay to be translated into English, the Rev. Mr. De Forest sent it to New Haven, where I lived, and published it in the *Morning Journal and Courier*, without my permission and any knowledge on my part. But I was willing to take full responsibility for the opinions I had published, so that I acknowledged my essay and showed it to anybody who asked me, whether it pleased him or not. However, I considered the conduct of the missionaries in regard to my essay as a breach of courtesy and of the social morality recognized in the civilized world. But I have received no discredit from my Professors in Yale University; on the contrary, one of them expressed his high appreciation of my article and gave me great encouragement in my studies while I was there and also after I had come back to this country.

Such being the facts, I do not care what further claim any individual makes against myself with regard to a pledge which I have not given. I have received help from Professor Ladd, who secured for me on his own responsibility the fund from Mr. Harris of New London. I asked Prof. Ladd to act in this case on his own responsibility, and this I did expressly for several reasons, but especially as I did not know Mr. Harris personally and his religious opinions as I knew those of Prof. Ladd.

The question in regard to the Doshisha is not a personal one. It is not "a solitary Professor's freedom of thought and speech" which is involved in the case. The point at issue is whether the Doshisha is to be controlled by the missionaries, who are not the Trustees of the Doshisha, or by the Trustees themselves, according to the constitution of the corporation, as framed by the Trustees while Dr. Niishima lived. The fundamental principles of the Doshisha are as follows:—

I.—This company is established to promote moral and intellectual education in close union.

II.—The name of the company is the Doshisha Company. All schools of the company must have Doshisha as a part of their name, and this constitution applies to them all.

III.—Christianity is the foundation of the moral education promoted by this company.

IV.—The company is located at Kyoto.

V.—The principal of the permanent funds of the company is not to be used under any circumstances.

VI.—The above five articles are unchangeable.

The question hinges entirely on the interpretation of the term "Christianity." Now, the missionaries claim their interpretation to be the true one, while the Trustees have refused to define it in any way so as to narrow its meaning. To accept the claim of the missionaries amounts to a change of the constitution itself, as it would compel the Trustees to refuse any one as teacher in the school whose views are not evangelical. If such were to be the method of administration in the school, the Trustees ought to have forefixed some qualifying term to the word "Christianity" before they fixed the constitution unalterably. Now the Trustees, at the time they fixed the constitution for the Doshisha Schools, knew of the existence of several forms of Christianity, but they deliberately framed the constitution as it is now left. If the missionaries are right, they can make further appeals to the Trustees, the graduates, and the students of the Doshisha. There is nothing wrong in their appealing to public opinion here and abroad. But to try to defame their former colleagues in the Doshisha, and to instigate the movement against them, by using such opprobriums as "down-right partisan administration," "strong clan feeling," &c., is morally wrong. To try to destroy the reputation of a single Professor by means of insinuations and evil reportings through various irresponsible channels, is mean and cowardly. If the missionaries have not resorted to such a method, the correspondent—if he is not himself a missionary—could not have written in such a way as he did to the editor of the *Japan Mail*. If he is a missionary himself, I should say that his conduct is unworthy of his high calling as a moral and religious teacher. But if he means to indulge in *odium theologicum*, let him indulge in it to any amount to his soul's satisfaction. Only we would not care to notice him, so long as his name is withheld from the public. However, as the Editor did introduce him as being exceptional in his sources of information, I beg of you to publish this letter.

I am, Sir, yours most truly,

K. UKITA.

The Doshisha College, September 2nd, 1896.

THE DISCOURTESY OF JAPANESE OFFICIALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There has been a discussion going on in the columns of your paper concerning railway mismanagement, a discussion into which it is, however, not my intention to enter. But there is one point in the letter of "Viator" to which I should like to draw the attention of "unbiased spectators"; that is the alleged discourtesy of Japanese officials, for which, as is farther alleged, most of us would use a stronger term; the "strongly marked," "studied incivility" of those officials and the "disgraceful impunity" with which these traits (together with others which do not concern us here) "flourish."

Now my opinion is, that every truly "unbiased spectator" must have been amazed at the gross injustice which is done by the above indiscriminate accusations to the officials of this country. My own experience in a nine years' residence here has

invariably been that the civility of these officials, whether they belong to the railway, the post, the police, or any other service, and their zealous readiness to oblige foreigners as much as it is in their power, are deserving of the highest praise, and I have no doubt that my experience is very far from standing alone. I have still to hear of a country which surpasses Japan in this respect, although I know of not a few where the reverse of that obliging disposition of officials is most notorious. Of course, it cannot be expected that no exceptions whatever should be met with even among Japanese officials, but these exceptions, few as they are and at the same time certainly the more conspicuous and objectionable by their very rarity, ought to be treated as such and not be given to the public in Japan and the world at large for the rule.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

ET CETERA.

September 2nd, 1896.

SIR,—I have travelled on the various Railways in Japan since the first one was opened in 1872, and I do not recall a single instance of incivility or want of attention. On the contrary, I have found the officials uniformly polite and attentive, to the wants of foreigners especially. I can recall several cases in my own experience in which they were especially considerate of the comfort and convenience of the passengers. In this statement I would especially include the officials at Yokohama. I fully endorse your Editorial and the statement of a correspondent in this day's issue.

Yours truly,

H.

Yokohama, September 8th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have much pleasure in confirming the remarks made by "Et cetera" in your issue of yesterday, and as my experience in Japan dates from "pre-Railway" days I have probably more right to offer an opinion on the subject of Japanese officials than your very irate correspondent "Viator." I could if necessary give many instances in which officials went out of their way to oblige, the last and not the least on a very recent railway journey, but such writers as "Viator" do not deserve so much attention.

You certainly point out a good cause for incivility on the part of the Japanese in referring to the demeanour of Foreigners (in your yesterday's leader). It is sometimes positively annoying to watch and have to listen to one's fellow travellers. Not long since I heard the officials at one of the Tokaido stations informed that their refusal to put on another carriage was a "brutal outrage which should be made public!"

Yours faithfully,

OLD RESIDENT.

Yokohama, 9th September, 1896.

ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is unfortunately true that there is in the United States a good deal of antipathy toward England, though it is dying out among educated people. I think the causes of it are as follows:—

1.—The remnant of the ill-feeling aroused by the war of the revolution and of 1812. This has probably, as you suggest in your editorial of Sept. 1st, been stimulated and kept alive by the school histories. It is of course very silly that two men should hate one another because their great grandfathers quarreled, whichever great grandfather was in the wrong; but such is human nature in its present stage of enlightenment.

2.—The attitude and conduct of the English Government and the English press generally during our civil war. We were disappointed and hurt at finding England, after preaching to us so long about the iniquity of slavery, giving it her sympathy and support.

3.—The influence of the Irish in the United States. This, I believe, is less than is commonly supposed in England. It is exerted most upon the politicians and editors, and even their expressions are often mere pretence. It is not great in the people generally.

4.—The superciliousness of Englishmen, of which you speak in your editorial. This has the same effect upon the continent of Europe, as I have been told by natives of various European countries.

5.—The course of the protectionist and free-silver politicians and newspapers in the United States during the last ten or fifteen years, who, after the manner of their kind, have not scrupled to do the devil's work of preaching hatred and ill-will against England for the sake of making political capital. The world is not yet so civilized but that in every country such appeals to cheap patriotism

are taking with the masses. But a higher and better patriotism is happily beginning to grow everywhere.

There is probably no cure for these foolish and wicked national antipathies but time and the slow progress of civilization, and these are doing their work. If there are any two peoples in the world who ought to be friends, they are the Americans and the English. And I and thousands of my countrymen hope and believe that the time is not far off when they will be. If an international treaty of arbitration can be made, it will do much to bring about that result.

Very truly yours,
Sept. 4th, 1896.

AMERICAN.

THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Now that the Gold Democrats have put up candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, it is quite likely that nominations are closed, and no more candidates will enter the field. It may not, therefore, be out of place to gather up a little gossip of the present campaign, which promises to be very interesting, exciting, and uncertain. The following are the tickets in the field:—

REPUBLICAN.

McKinley, of Ohio, and Hobart, of New Jersey.

DEMOCRATIC.

Bryan, of Nebraska, and Sewall, of Maine.

POPULIST.

Bryan, of Nebraska, and Watson, of Georgia.

PROHIBITION.

Levering, of Maryland, and Johnson, of Illinois.

NATIONALIST.

Bentley, of Nebraska, and Southgate, of North Carolina.

GOLD DEMOCRATIC.

Palmer, of Illinois.

SOCIALIST AND LABOUR.

Matchett, of New York, and McGuire, of New Jersey.

The vote of the Socialist Labour Party in 1892 was only 22,613, and will probably be so insignificant again this year as not to effect in the least the final result. And yet it is the only party which takes a candidate (Matchett, of Brooklyn) from the Empire State. It is, moreover, rather a singular coincidence that the Socialist candidate for Vice-President hails from the same place (Paterson), as the Republican candidate for that office.

It is an interesting fact that three parties (Republican, Democratic, and Prohibition) split and suffered bolts on account of the currency question, which has thus become the principal issue of the campaign. The Nationalist party is an offshoot of the Prohibition party; calls itself "the broad-gauge wing," and includes in its long and broad platform free coinage of silver. The Prohibition Party platform is "narrow-gauge," demanding only the legal prohibition of the liquor traffic, but Levering is a gold man.

While Paterson, New Jersey, is the home of two candidates for Vice-President, it remains for Lincoln, Nebraska, to have the honour of furnishing two candidates (Bryan and Bentley) for the Presidency. And, while the Prohibition Party has twice before taken a Presidential candidate (St. John, of Kansas, in 1884, and Bidwell, of California, from States west of the Mississippi, in 1892) the Republican party has never, and the Democratic party has for the first time this year, taken its candidate for President from that district. The Populist Party took Weaver, of Iowa, as its candidate for President in 1892.

It was quite appropriate for the two wings of the cold water party to take their Presidential candidates (Levering and Bentley) from the ranks of the Baptists, and also for one wing to take its Vice-Presidential candidate (Johnson) from the Baptist "Christian Church." Senator Palmer, of Illinois, is also a Baptist, and Bryan is the son of Baptist parents, but is himself a Presbyterian, as is also Hobart, while McKinley is a Methodist. It is a matter of congratulation, therefore, that the leading candidates are all earnest Christian men. Bentley, by the way, is a minister.

Bryan and Palmer, the two Democrats, represent the extremes in age. While Bryan was a mere child in Salem, Ill., Palmer was the "War Governor" of that State, and then a Republican. He became disgusted with the Republican Party during Grant's administration, and, supporting Greeley in 1872, after that affiliated with the Democrats, by whom he was in time elected to the U.S. Senate. John M. Palmer and Lyman Trumbull, of Illinois, and James R. Doolittle, of Wis-

consin, were intimately associated with Lincoln, but later became Democrats.

Mention of Lincoln is a reminder of the following curious paragraph from an American paper:—

Bryan's election is called for next November for much the same causes as led up to Abraham Lincoln's election. Epoch-making events occur in cycles. The coincidences are striking. Lincoln's mother came from Kentucky; so also did Bryan's mother. Lincoln lived in Salem, Ill.; so did Bryan. Lincoln was nominated in Chicago, and unexpectedly; so was Bryan. Then as now the issues were momentous, and then as now a westerner was selected by the convention. Like Lincoln, Bryan has boldly taken a stand in defence of principles which at the most may only be deferred—never destroyed. Could I whisper in Bryan's ear I would say:—Be like Lincoln and go forth preaching the newer emancipation untrammelled.

At first sight, indeed, it would look as if Bryan is sure of election, because he is on both the Democratic and Populist tickets, and, to offset the defection of Gold Democrats he will gain the Silver Republicans. It is true, that, except the Nationalists (Silver Prohibitionists), all the "silver men" of the country are united in support of Bryan; while the "gold men" are divided between McKinley and Palmer. And, although the Democrats and Populists put up separate candidates for Vice-President, it is quiet likely that, in most States, they will be able to agree on some plan of fusion on the electoral ticket, so that the vote of the "silverites" will be divided on Vice-President only, and be plumped for Bryan for President. (In some Southern states, however, the Populists, strange to say, will be found in fusion with the Republicans.) In 1892 the popular vote for President was as follows: Democratic—5,556,562; Republican—5,162,874; Populist—1,055,424; Prohibition—264,066; Socialist—22,613; Scattering—4,664. The electoral vote the same year was as follows:—Democratic, 277; Republican, 145; Populist, 22. These figures also, if we estimate the defection of the "silverites" from the Republicans as about the same as the defection of the "goldites" from the Democrats, would indicate a sweeping victory for Bryan.

But the hope of the goldites is this: that, in many States, nominally Democratic, Palmer will draw off enough votes from Bryan to give a majority to McKinley. This is likely to happen in New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and possibly other Southern states. Many Gold Democrats cannot bring themselves to support actively a high-tariff man like McKinley, whose policy of "protection" they have fought so bitterly; but they can conscientiously vote for Palmer, even if, by so doing, they indirectly aid McKinley's election.

The fact of the matter is, that party lines are being tremendously broken up in this campaign, so that estimates and prophecies are not worth much. One estimate of an independent paper gives as sure for silver 171 electoral votes, coming from most of the States either south of the Mason and Dixon's line, or west of the Mississippi; as sure for gold 190 electoral votes, coming from most of the states, either north of Mason and Dixon's line or east of the Mississippi; and as "doubtful" 86 votes, coming from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, North Dakota, Tennessee, and West Virginia. Total, 447; necessary for a choice, 224. But, with two tickets to divide the Democratic vote in Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa, those three States are pretty sure to give majorities for McKinley. On the other hand, with two tickets to divide the gold vote in Connecticut, Delaware, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, some of those states are quite likely to give their electoral votes to Bryan.

It can, therefore, be readily seen that the political situation is decidedly "mixed," and that the outcome is uncertain. It is quite possible that no candidate will receive a majority of the electoral votes; and that the election will thus be thrown into the present House of Representatives. This contains about 250 Republicans, 100 Democrats, 6 Populists, and 1 Independent Silverite. These figures would seem to assure the election of McKinley, if it were not that silver Republicans are very numerous in the House and are bitterly opposed to the Ohio man. His chances would evidently be the best, but *dōmo wakarimasen*.

UNCAS.

Sept. 7, 1896.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The paragraph in your last "Summary of the Religious Press," translating from the *Shukyo* items relative to reduced appropriations for the Unitarian work in Japan and to a change in the organization of Senshiu Gakuin is, between the writer and the translator of the items, so wholly

misleading, that I am compelled to ask permission to correct it.

The facts are simply that the American Unitarian Association, like all religious and philanthropic societies in the United States, has been obliged to economize under the stress of "hard times," but it has made its reduction for the Japan work in accordance with the judgment of its representative in Japan. The "three opinions worthy of note" expressed at a meeting of Unitarians held in Boston, last spring were not (1) publicly expressed, and not (2) expressed in the form given in the "Summary," and, indeed for the most important part, (3) were not expressed at all. Moreover "the main reason for the action in reference to Japan, the interest of the American Unitarians in their Indian missions and the consequent increased expenditure on these missions," is no reason at all, just for the fact that the American Unitarians have no missions in India.

The Senshiu Gakuin is being reorganized largely in the direction of Unitarian extension work, with Mr. Onishi as Dean, and Mr. Kishimoto as Secretary. Increased usefulness is looked for as the result of the changes made. The number of courses of lectures, a larger number of lecturers, and a more thorough treatment than ever of the topics taught in this important institution, are in purpose. While the Senshiu Gakuin is in no sense of the words a sectarian or proselytizing establishment, it is supported by the money of Unitarians, and it has the care and counsel of the representative in Japan of the American Unitarian Association.

Yours truly,

C. MACC.

Tokyo, September 5th, 1896.

INCIVILITY—JAPANESE AND FOREIGN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In view of the recent discussion about the rudeness of some railway officials and clerks, but without the desire of reflecting in the least upon the particular individuals who were the victims of that incivility, I beg leave to offer the following resolutions upon the subject in general:—

Whereas, the Japanese are naturally, by virtue of the long training of heredity, a very polite and courteous and kind people; and

Whereas, there is abundant testimony that this was for centuries a characteristic trait of this nation; and

Whereas, since the opening of the country to Western civilization, this charming trait has been gradually spoiled by contact with rude "barbarians" of the Occident; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, as fair-minded and Christian men, hereby express our sorrow over the decadence of the unvarying courtesy and gentleness of the Japanese; our contempt for the arrogance and insolence of so many Occidentals; our sympathy with the Japanese in the many trying positions in which they have, and are being, placed; our congratulations upon their long-suffering and forbearance; our regret that their nature, being human like our own, is not always able to endure the tests of patience; and our hope that all rude Westerners will "pack up their tents like the Arabs and silently steal away" from Japan.

Yours most humbly,

A FOREIGN RESIDENT.

Tokyo, Sept. 7, 1896.

BRETT & COMPANY, LIMITED.

The eighth half-yearly meeting of shareholders in Messrs. Brett and Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the Company, No. 63, Main Street, on Tuesday afternoon. There were present Mr. J. H. Boag, Managing Director, in the chair; Messrs. G. Blundell, H. MacArthur, A. T. Watson, C. E. Miller, F. W. Thomas, Manager, and Mr. J. R. Best, acting as secretary.

The CHAIRMAN waited half-an-hour for the benefit of late-coming shareholders, and then asked

The SECRETARY to read the notice calling the meeting. This being done the minutes of the last general meeting of Saturday, March 14th, were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN then moved from the chair that the report and accounts of the Managing Director be taken as read, they having been in the hands of shareholders for the past seven days. He then said that he would like to make a few remarks on the business of the Company. At that time last year, the Company stood indebted to the Bank to an amount of \$11,000. When he took the position of Managing Director he made it a rule, and proposed to the Manager of the National Bank of China that all the daily takings should be deposited with the Bank on the following day. In this way he hoped to gradually reduce their overdraft with the Na-

tional Bank. The Manager of the Bank agreed to this proposal and the overdraft was distinctly and almost daily reduced. This went along until October. Now up to this time Mr. Thomas had had the whole management and working of the business upon his hands, but we did not feel that we could send to England for an assistant for him. We heard that Messrs. Watson and Co., of Hongkong had at their disposal an assistant who was occasionally lent to the coast ports, so we asked the Bank Manager, who was a friend of Mr. Humphreys, the managing director of Messrs. Watson and Co., of Hongkong, if he would telegraph to Hongkong to see if he could get this assistant for us. He agreed to telegraph to Hongkong. In a little while a wire came back that the assistant was at our disposal, "terms later on." A few days before the arrival of this gentleman in Yokohama, I was asked by the Manager of the Bank to go and call on him as he had something to announce to me. When I went to the bank he showed me a letter from Mr. Playfair, the contents of which greatly surprised and startled me. I asked that I should acquaint the Advisory Committee of the contents of the letter, and withdrew. On the following Sunday Mr. Nobbs arrived and was met by myself and Mr. Blundell. Nothing was then said as to why he had come here, but when I asked him if he had received my chit informing him of the arrangement I had made for his accommodation at the Club Hotel, he very pleasantly gave me to understand that he had been sent up by the Bank, and that he was to receive his instructions from the Bank. This of course surprised us and placed his arrival here in a different aspect. I went to the Bank about the matter and learnt that Mr. Nobbs had not come up here as an assistant for the Company, and that unless we paid up our overdraft the Bank would put us into liquidation. We said that we could not agree to that, and then it was positively stated that unless the overdraft was cleared up, the Bank must put us into liquidation. The Bank therefore had sent up Mr. Nobbs really to take stock. They said that his charge would be \$10 a day and expenses. This charge we said was much too high. The Bank Manager, in demanding the paying up of the overdraft, had put us into a serious position. But your Advisory Committee by their own personal efforts raised a sufficient sum, on debentures, to pay off the Bank's overdraft and thus wiped out our debt. The Bank then instituted legal proceedings to recover the price of Mr. Nobbs' hire, legal expenses, etc. We determined to fight the action and things went on until the 31st July last, when orders came out from home instructing the Bank to withdraw from all proceedings in the action. Thus we have now no overdraft, and now no legal proceedings hanging over us. The balance-sheet now presented to you is a true transcript from the books. You will see that we state our profits on sales to have been \$15,913.69, and on adulated waters \$1,698.19. I should like to state that this profit is in part due to the under-estimating of our stock in hand last December. We took the stock at that time on the estimates of Messrs. Nobbs and Brower, as we were anxious to put it down to the lowest possible figure, but the estimate was a little too low, I think. Otherwise the accounts are correct. The Chairman then eulogised the Advisory Committee for the manner in which they had given their services on behalf of the Company, and particularly in the matter of raising the money for the debentures. He also paid a high tribute to Mr. Thomas, the Manager, for the manner in which he had worked during the past year. With these remarks he proposed that the accounts be passed.

Mr. WATSON said he would like to ask one question.

The CHAIRMAN said the proposition from the Chair had not yet been seconded.

Mr. BLUNDELL—I will second the adoption of the accounts.

Mr. WATSON—Now I should like to ask, if I am in order, what have been the gross returns—the profits have been given in the accounts—from the 30th June, 1885, to June 30th, 1896. I would then have a better idea of the working of the Company.

The CHAIRMAN—Surely, Mr. Watson, you have not so completely changed your opinions since last year? When I put that question last year, you objected to the Press being present when it was answered. Surely you do not forget that?

Mr. WATSON—I remember it, but the question need not be answered, or it can be answered just as you please. I got into very hot water over the matter last year for attempting to keep the matter private, and because I fought against the matter being made public. I only want to understand how the business is proceeding, and if you answer the question I should be in a better position to judge of our prosperity.

The CHAIRMAN—I don't think it would be in the interests of the Company to answer the question.

Mr. MACARTHUR—I think that on the occasion to which Mr. Watson refers, there was other matter, and not really trade secrets, that was attempted to be obtained. At that time we had a very serious deficit and we were anxious to discover how it had been brought about. It was about that that Messrs. Watson and Ure joined together to prevent the matter from reaching the public.

Mr. THOMAS, as Manager of the Company, thought it unadvisable to make such a matter public. They were not ashamed of their position or as to the amount of their returns, but some of the public when they saw a drug company making more than 10 per cent. were apt to compare it with similar businesses and thereupon took their custom elsewhere.

The matter then dropped, and there being no other questions, the accounts were adopted unanimously.

Mr. BLUNDELL, on behalf of the Advisory Committee, wished to say a few words. Mr. Curtis and himself, just before the former left for England, thoroughly examined the state of affairs and both were thoroughly agreed that the bulk of their present prosperity was due to Mr. Boag, their Managing Director. Mr. Thomas had certainly worked very hard, but it was owing to the foresight and energy of the Managing Director that the Company was where it was that day. He moved a hearty vote of thanks to him.

Mr. WATSON—After the remarks that have fallen from Mr. Blundell, it gives me very great pleasure to second the proposition that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr. Boag and Mr. Thomas, for the work they have done for Messrs. Brett & Company.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. BLUNDELL—A substantial vote I should have said.

The proposition was carried.

Mr. WATSON then moved that some extra remuneration be voted Mr. Thomas for the hard work he had accomplished during the year. He suggested that the Chairman, being the best man acquainted with the financial position of the Company, should fix the amount.

The CHAIRMAN quite agreed with Mr. Watson's proposal. He also thought that the Advisory Committee's labours should not be forgotten.

Mr. MACARTHUR said that if Mr. Watson included the Advisory Committee in his motion he would gladly second it.

Mr. WATSON—Most certainly the Advisory Committee's labours should be recognised.

Mr. MACARTHUR said that he had some knowledge of accounts and also of the drug business; he therefore could appreciate the labours of their Advisory Committee. They had pulled them out of the mud in which the Company was floundering, and not only by their technical knowledge, but also through their personal influence had saved the company from the clutches of the bank, and instead of putting their hands into their pockets to pay off debit balances, they were now putting out their hands to receive dividend warrants.

The CHAIRMAN asked if the proposer of the resolution would name the sum to be voted.

Mr. MACARTHUR—We must of course cut our garment according to our cloth.

The CHAIRMAN threw out a suggestion. He had not recommended any dividend in his report, but he knew many people thought that it would be prudent to declare a dividend of 5 per cent. They had a sum of \$1,700 odd to their credit now: suppose they took \$1,100 for dividend—then they would have an idea of the cloth they could cut.

Mr. WATSON then moved that the sum of \$500 be voted as a honorarium to their Manager and the Advisory Committee: \$200 to be voted to the Manager, and \$300 to be divided among the Advisory Committee and the Managing Director.

Mr. MACARTHUR seconded. This vote was merely to mark the shareholders appreciation of their service, and did not represent the value at which they estimated them. If the Company were more flourishing then the sum would have been very much larger.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks for the handsome way in which the Company had recognised their services.

Mr. MACARTHUR moved that a dividend of 5 per cent. be paid from the available assets on the 30th June, 1896, and that it be paid forthwith.

Mr. BLUNDELL seconded.—Carried.

Mr. THOMAS then returned thanks for the unexpected manner in which the shareholders had rewarded his exertions. He hoped to do even better in the future.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. MACARTHUR inquired if the Chairman knew at what rate the Company's shares were

selling in the market. There had recently been some controversy in the papers about it.

The CHAIRMAN—Putting aside all newspaper reference, I can inform you that 60 shares of the Company changed hands at \$8.50 each on Saturday.

Mr. MACARTHUR—Then we are not bankrupt yet!

The CHAIRMAN—The transaction was *bona fide*. Mr. MACARTHUR—Messrs. Bisset and Ure may take note.—(Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Curtis had left for England recently for a short visit home, but his place on the Advisory Committee had not been filled. He thought that Mr. Curtis would like to resume the position upon his return.

Mr. MACARTHUR—Certainly. If necessary you could call in another shareholder should you want advice.

Mr. BLUNDELL—The path is fairly smooth now. A vote of thanks to the Chair closed the proceedings.

REPORT.

The statement of Assets and Liabilities, also Profit and Loss Account, for the year ending 30th June, 1896, accompany this Report.

Business for the year under review will be seen from accompanying accounts to have been highly satisfactory.

The indebtedness of the company has been reduced by a sum of \$4,271.05, and now only consists of 130 debentures—\$13,000.

There has been written off:—

Goodwill	\$1,500 00
Furniture and Fixtures	895.96
Aerated Water Plant and Fixtures	243.59
Old Debts Irrecoverable	942.58

In all

Stock has been thoroughly and carefully taken and now only represents actual cost value.

JNO. H. BOAG, Managing Director.

Yokohama, August 31st, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET—30TH JUNE, 1896.

CAPITAL—	LIABILITIES.
2,800 shares (fully paid up) @ \$10 per share...\$28,000	
Less 500 shares in hand	5,000
Debitures—	
130 Debentures @ \$100	\$13,000.00
Bills Payable	
Deakin Bros.	370.81
Sundry Creditors—	
Amounts owing	105.41
	\$36,476.22
Stock—	ASSETS.
Value of Stock as per Inventory and Stock-Books:	
Drugs, Chemicals, etc., in Store and	
Godown	\$20,028.36
Outstanding Consignments	862.21
Aerated Water Stock	2,143.21
Plant Furniture and Fixtures—	
Value per Inventory of Aerated Water:	
Plant and Fixtures	\$1,000.00
Store and Godown Furniture and Fixtures	3,346.81
Goodwill	4,146.81
Value of Goodwill as at 30/6/95	\$4,500.00
Less Written off	2,500.00
Cash—	
Cash in hand	3,000.00
Fire Insurance—	
Value of Unexpired Policies	211.34
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China—	
Balance at Credit of Current Account	1,634.58
Sundry Debtors—	
Sales Ledger	\$1,274.76
Aerated Water Ledger	434.64
S. Maw, Son, and Thompson	52.88
	1,762.28
Balance at debit of Profit and Loss Account	4,019.97
	\$36,476.22

WORKING ACCOUNT JULY 1ST, 1895, TO

JUNE 30TH, 1896.

To Salaries and Wages	\$ 5,267.57
To General Expenses	2,218.30
To Auditor's Fee	100.00
To Interest—Bank and Debentures	954.93
To Advertising	228.50
To Commission—Discounts on Local Bills	234.92
To Fire Insurance	259.48
To Rent	2,448.00
To Balance Transferred to Profit and Loss accounts	6,953.38
	\$17,611.58
By Profit on Sales—	
Goods account	\$15,913.69
Aerated Water	1,698.19
Working account	
	\$17,611.88

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—30TH JUNE, 1896.

To Balance—	
Per Balance Sheet 30th June, 1895	\$ 6,008.23
To Bad Debts	
Amount written off	7,042.64
Goods Account difference in value of Stock at 1st July, 1895, and estimated valuation as per statement of account at 31st December, 1895	\$21,102.99
Value at 1st July, 1895	18,000.00
Valuation at 31st December, 1895	6,402.99
To Good Will	1,500.00
Amount written off	
To Furniture and Fixtures—	
Amount written off	895.96
To Aerated Water Plant and Fixtures—	
Amount written off	243.59
	\$10,992.41

By Transfer Fees	\$ 14.00
By Old Debts—	
Amount recovered	\$100.16
By Capital Account—	
500 shares in hand	5,000.00
By Working Account—	
Balance transferred	6,008.38
By Balance carried forward to new account	4,019.97
	\$16,992.41

E. & O. E.

I certify that I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and find them to be correct.

PARRY A. ANGIER, Auditor.

Yokohama, August 30th, 1896.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

BY JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, July 30th.

In the Queensland and South Australian Parliaments, the question of Asiatic immigration is being somewhat warmly discussed. In the Queensland Legislative Assembly, Mr. Browne, a labour member, moved that in the opinion of the House, the continued immigration of coloured aliens was detrimental to the best interests of, and a menace to, the white inhabitants of Queensland; that the Government should without delay take steps to restrict such immigration; and that if fresh legislation was necessary to effect this object, such legislation should at once be introduced by the Government. Mr. Browne said that the best plan to prevent the influx of coloured races would be to tax their employers. The Premiers of the various colonies had recognised the necessity of federal action on this matter, but nothing had yet been done. Mr. Byrnes, a member of the Queensland Ministry, in reply, said that the conflict between Eastern and Western nations had been going on for years, and the question could not be dealt with in the way suggested by Mr. Browne. The question was whether the facts warranted the drastic steps advocated by those opposed to coloured labour. He thought we were too much inclined to over-rate the dangers from Japanese immigration. The Japanese had their hands too full at home to permit of any emigration to Australia. Referring to the Chinese, he said that all the countries of Europe were striving for the trade of China. He predicted that the whole Chinese population would yet be required to develop that vast country. The way to overcome the difficulty was to settle a large European population in the colonies. The question must be treated in a conciliatory way. In this matter we were not our own masters. Diplomacy was required, as other Powers besides Great Britain were concerned. Ultimately, the discussion was interrupted by the taking of Government business, but it will be renewed in some form or other at an early date.

In the South Australian Legislative Assembly, Mr. Griffiths, a Labour member, on an informal motion for the adjournment, pressed the Government for their policy in respect of the Japanese Treaty and the influx of alien labour, calling attention to the fact that 100 Japanese labourers were being landed in Queensland, Mr. Griffiths was followed by another labour member, Mr. Homburg, who asked for legislation shutting out both Japanese and their goods. The South Australian Premier, in reply, said that all Australia knew that his Government was against the Japanese Treaty and the influx of coloured races. He further informed the House that the details of a bill as to which there was federal agreement were now being discussed, and that the measure to restrict immigration would be introduced as soon as practicable.

Commenting on the discussions in the Queensland Parliament, the *Brisbane Courier* says:—"Queensland is virtually unanimous in its determination to take all possible measures to prevent the permanent settlement of coloured populations to whom European civilisation in all its range of privilege and responsibility is at present an impossibility. There is no political difference or quarrel about that. The duty of this generation of enfranchised Queenslanders is to preserve the country for a nation of English speech and European civilisation, and there is no proof or sign that the duty will be neglected. Coloured aliens who have to be seriously reckoned with in this colony are either Polynesians, Chinese, or Japanese. Any others are here in only insignificant number. . . . As to the Japanese, it may be admitted, we touch the most serious phase of alien immigration: serious for more reasons than one. We do not want to see an Eastern race settled permanently on our territory, and least of all the Japanese. They are in many respects a fine and promising people; it is impossible not to admire the progress exhibited in their recent history; it is difficult to avoid the conviction that they are insuring for themselves a great destiny. But their ways are not our ways, and their thoughts are not

our thoughts. Their presence amongst us in large numbers and as permanent settlers would set up on our soil the everlasting conflict between the Western and Eastern civilisations. The races would continue separate, and would certainly have their deadly quarrels in the course of time. The Japanese are ambitious, high-spirited, brave, and intelligent, and would not accept the position of an inferior people; while their frugal habits and limited wants, the heritage of centuries of life under the pressure of extreme conditions, would give them enormous advantage in the competitions of industry. In our future commerce we may yet develop an important exchange of commodities with the Japanese; it is conceivable that we and they may yet enter into defensive alliance against Russia or China, or both combined; but we trust that the Japanese in considerable numbers will never be a welcome or even tolerated permanent resident in Australia. So far, the only colony this enterprising person has entered to work in is Queensland. Tropical agriculture is now attracting him here. He comes as a humble servant under contract. But we allow that this is the thin end of a dangerous wedge. The Registrar-General estimated that the number of Asiatics other than Chinese, and such Asiatics would be mostly Japanese, in Queensland at the end of 1894 was 2,139. There is no terror in that total. Even if the whole of the 2,139 were Japanese they would only amount to about half a Japanese to every hundred of Europeans. "All Asiatic races combined only number some four per cent. of the entire population," reported the Registrar-General; thus it is evident that there is at present at least, but little occasion for any alarm that their influx will damage the interest of Queensland. Since 1893 the proportion of Chinese has fallen 0.07 per cent; whilst Polynesians and other Asiatic races have increased 0.10 and 0.06 respectively, the latter due to the arrival of Japanese on the pearl-shelling grounds of Torres Straits. The population of Japan although but a tithe of that of China, is of sufficient magnitude to invest the question of their arrival in increasing numbers with a significance which cannot attach to arrivals of the Polynesian race." It would be well if all the movements of the Japanese in Queensland during the last eighteen months could be ascertained with approximate accuracy and published. Let us know the facts. The vague generalities which were uttered in the Assembly may cause disquiet, but what is required is information as to the location of these people now in the colony and their employment. Are the sugar-planters encouraging this undesirable form of immigration? Is it possible for the Government to influence the planters in the way of inducing them to set their faces against the Japanese as plantation workers? There is no legislative restriction of Japanese immigration, and possibly it would be one of the most foolish of imprudences to pass such laws. The case may be one for Imperial diplomacy. That seems to be the opinion of most of the responsible politicians of Australia. The matter is now under federal consideration, and perhaps representations as urgent and united as the circumstances justify have already been made in the proper quarter. All we ask is that in view of the fact that Queensland is the colony immediately concerned, our Government shall intelligently and earnestly lead and not reluctantly follow in the endeavour to prevent anything in the nature of a formidable invasion of our tropical territory by Japanese settlers. This is one of the matters to which the maxim applies that prevention is better than cure."

The *Adelaide Observer*, discussing the debates in the South Australian Legislative Assembly, takes Messrs. Griffiths and Homburg somewhat severely to task. It states that Japanese immigration into Australia is inconsiderable, and that in the great majority of cases these immigrants have merely been brought under contract to take the places of other Japanese plantation labourers whose terms of agreement have expired, and many of whom are already on their way back to Japan. "Parliament will be seriously misled if the returns of immigration to Queensland are not discounted by the statements of migration from Queensland. There is little more proof or indication now than there was ten years ago of anything like an embarrassing influx of Japanese. Though these industrious people from the Far East have had the advantage of free access to the Colonies ever since the beginning of the convict days there are probably not more than 2,000 of them in all Australasia. In the future, as the population problem presses more and more heavily in Japan, these conditions may be changed, but in this connection 'the future is neither to-morrow nor next year.'" Referring to Mr. Homburg's demand for the exclusion of Japanese goods from the Australian market, the *Observer* says his request "is peculiarly inopportune just after

Japan has begun the free admission of Australian and other wool to its ports, and besides there is not at present any reason for it, or much reason in it. Mr. Homburg's idea is obviously that foreign goods manufactured much more cheaply than similar articles could be produced here should be specially taxed in the interests of the Australian labour market, but the application of such a principle would be extremely difficult and dangerous. There is no doubt that we shall not overcome the possible consequences of Japanese competition by excluding Japanese immigrants; for the rapid progress of manufacturing industries in Japan, and the establishment of a line of State subsidized Japanese steamships between Kobe and Australia may in themselves constitute a menace to the prosperity of the Australian artisan. But on the other side of the question may be urged the fact that many of the distinctive products of Japanese factories could not in any case be fabricated here on account of the absence of the necessary raw material. Mr. Homburg must remember also that Japan is not the only nation guilty of 'the sin of cheapness.' On the same reasoning by which he would exclude Japanese manufactures he must also place a ban upon German imports to the Colonies. Cheaply as the operatives at the great industrial centre of Osaka are paid, and low as is the price of the raw material employed, articles similar to some turned out there may be purchased in Bohemia and in several German towns for less money than they cost in Japan. If the Australian Governments attempt to insist that the price of imported goods shall approximate to that of locally produced articles they will undertake an impossible contract and produce such a crop of international complications as has never yet been known. Clearly, Mr. Homburg's expedition has a long way to go before it can enter the region of practical or permissible policies."

Alluding to the provisions of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, which are engaging the attention of the South Australian Parliament, the *Observer* continues:—"The Colonies are left by the mother country perfectly free to enjoy its advantages or to spurn them. If they choose the latter alternative—if, as the Japanese Minister of Commerce suggested during the course of a recent interview with a representative of the *Observer* 'they prefer to stand in their own light'—they may act foolishly, but they will be acting well within their rights; and in the proposed restriction of Japanese immigration there is no suggestion of illegality. Judgment of the propositions may thus fairly be based on the standard of inherent merit or demerit. In this view, though there is little more probability of an incursion of Japanese into Southern Australia than there is danger of a migration of Esquimaux to the tropics, much may be said on account of racial considerations against a wholesale infusion of Oriental blood in a European population within the temperate zone. As was indicated in the report of the interview already referred to, even the Japanese Government does not object to the Australian Colonies raising up a barrier against the indiscriminate introduction of coolies 'under contract.' The only subject of protest in this relation is the possibility of all Japanese—even those wishing to visit the Colonies as purchasers of raw material—being subjected to hindrance and humiliation. The drawing of distinctions here may be difficult, but surely it is not impossible. If the various Governments are taking extra time to solve this problem before introducing legislative proposals to their Parliaments, they have an excellent excuse for their delay, and if they had not justification in this respect for a postponement of action they might reasonably urge that they could not courteously proceed in the matter so long as the British and Japanese Governments are negotiating concerning it. Already an inexcusable cause of affront has been given to Japan by the contemptuous attitude of the Sydney Conference towards the Anglo-Japanese treaty. Mention of this fact suggests the need for reminding Australian politicians that the people of the Rising Sun are not barbarians. Indeed, only by a latitude in terms can they be styled a coloured race. The average subject of the Mikado is almost as white as the average Australian, and the Japanese Parliament is composed of gentlemen at least equal in ability and character to Australian legislators. Surely the opinions and the *amour propre* of such men should be treated with respect in representative assemblies of Australian Englishmen."

The *Launceston Examiner*, Tasmania, has been discussing the character of the Japanese labourer, greatly to his advantage. It says:—"The Japanese who work for 3d. a day and the men here who recently refused 7s. 6d. a day afford a very remarkable contrast. The Japanese is content to live on a modest diet mainly composed of rice, whilst the European likes his 'drop of good

beer,' and the colonial workman usually insists upon having meat three times a day. With such contrasts as these, which may be said to be found in Great Britain as well as the colonies, we need not wonder at the fears that are expressed of the competition of the Japanese workmen in the markets of the world. For, if the Japanese workmen should acquire the skill of the Europeans, which does not appear to be at all unlikely, and if, having acquired that skill, they are still content to live as at present on the same wages, it is evident that a very serious industrial problem must arise. So far as the hard work of the world goes, we do not believe that Asiatic labour, except in the tropics, will be able to compete successfully against the British, for the navy will be so much the superior in work that his higher wages will be cheaper in the end. The boast of Mr. Burns, will we think, be justified, that a British workman can outwork four or five foreigners, but this will not apply to the manufacturing industries, or to some others. Thus, it is possible that Asiatic goods will come into competition with European goods in many parts of the world, so that the crowded populations of some parts of Europe will find the employment question a very serious one indeed. This subject is attracting a great deal of attention at the present time, because the population of Germany is increasing very fast, so fast, that there are writers who predict that an outlet must be found for it very shortly. The pressure is felt all the more, because the United States have taken steps to prevent the influx of paupers, drunkards, and persons who have not gone through their military service in Europe, so as to prevent the country being swamped with the dregs of the nations of the world. The problem of the industrial future presents itself in several alarming aspects to many writers, who frankly confess that they are unable to see the outcome of the new conditions that are developing in such a rapid manner."

The subject of Japanese industrial competition is being discussed in other Australian papers, but in a broader and more comprehensive spirit than formerly. It seems to be generally understood that while limited numbers of Japanese will make their way to other countries, the great mass of industrial energy and skill will find a practically unlimited field for remunerative exercise at home. The Hon. J. L. Parsons recently, in a lecture delivered in the Adelaide Town Hall, said that "with a country rich in coal, iron, and minerals, and very fruitful, girt about by the inviolate sea, and so almost incapable, with their great and increasing navy, of being invaded by land—with a people brave, capable, industrious, and ambitious, Japan will maintain her prestige, will advance along the path of progress in manufactures, in arts, in learning; will become a first-class military and naval Power; will have a mighty influence in regenerating and enlightening and stimulating the vast Empire of China; and, like Australia, will be one of the two dominant Powers in the Eastern Hemisphere." This is the view taken by the better class of Australian papers, and it is very unlikely to become changed.

KARUIZAWA.

READ AT THE ANNUAL SOCIAL IN KARUIZAWA,
AUG. 31, 1896, by J. WALLACE CATE.

When in the centuries gone, that grand old prophet of Israel,
Who with his single hand, withstanding the foes of Jehovah,
Called down the fires of Heaven to witness the falseness of Baal;
Who, when a recreant king with his wicked and infamous consort,
Sought to war against God, slaying his prophets and teachers,
Dared to upbraid the false monarch in the ill-gotten vineyard of Naboth,—
When this prophet of justice, freed from his trials and battles,
Vanished from mortal sight, upborne by the chariots of Heaven,
Upon his gazing disciple, the sorrowing awestruck Elisha,
Fell like the power of the spirit the robe of his vanishing master.
Would that this might befall the witless and unlucky sinner,
Who stands before you to-night thinly disguised as a poet!
Would that the mantle of those who in charming mellifluous measure,
Have sung in the days that are past the praises of Karuizawa,
Might now descend upon me, their frail and unworthy successor!

Or, what is more to be wished for, that lacking no shred of her mantle,
She whose song has once charmed us, might charm us again with its music;
But 'tis wrong to waste time in regrets, and though the measure be halting,
I put on the armour of Saul to take up the work of a David.

In a nook of the rugged mountains which traverse the island of Nippon,
(Excuse the lack of the *Dai*; it doesn't fit well in the measure),
Stood an insignificant village whose chief excuse for existence

Was that in olden times, when feudal lordlings were masters
And travelled from village to village with gallant trains of retainers,
It formed a convenient shelter and resting place in their journeys.

E'en in these later times many an unkempt matron,
Boasts of the time when fortune brought to her humble roof-tree,
One of these lords of the country to sip his tea from her teacups,
And rest his lordly corpus beneath her smoky rafters.

Among her cherished treasures in the *Yashiki's* sacred enclosure,
Hangs a wonderfully wrought *Kakemono*, the work of the lord's own fingers.
Ah! those were days of glory, days full of wonder and gladness.

Gone are the days of glory. A change came over the village,
Vanished the feudal chieftains and their bowing obsequious vassals;
The Samurai's sword and his top-knot, vanished like mist in the sunlight.

Through the single street of the village ran rivers of water unheeded,
Wearing the yielding roadway into deep impassable gullies.

Into decay fell the houses along with their miserable tenants;
Down went the trim little hamlet in grim and awful decadence;
Doomed was *Kanizawa*, by the law of survival of fittest.

Look here, my muse, now what's the use
Of being so awfully grumpy?
Your silly croaks will bore the folks,
And make them all quite humpy.
So come along and change your song,
And pipe a lighter strain,
Your doleful face is out of place,
For the dead is alive again!

With this abuse my mournful muse
Dried the tears she fain would shed,
Smoothed out her clothes and blew her nose,
And this is what she said:—

Some years ago, one summer day,
A weary traveller bent his way
O'er *Usui Togé's* lofty height,
Just as the sun's resplendent light
Bathed the clouds with gorgeous hue,
Which hung superb in heaven's blue,
Above the mountains' jagged crest—
Which stood against the distant west.
The traveller stood transfixed with awe
Before the wonders which he saw.
Unconsciously he bared his head,
And with his bated breath he said:
"How good the God who deigns to share
With mortal man a scene so fair!"
While thus he stood transfixed in thought,
The guide most ingently besought
That he would go to yonder height,
From which appeared a wondrous sight.
With every step his wonder grew,
With every step a vision new,
Till from the vantage of the height
The whole grand vision burst in sight.
Before him stretched a verdant plain,
Begirt with mountains, chain on chain;
Mountain crags and mountain glens,
Woods and rivers, hills and fens,
And far above, reared high in air,
With steep incline and summit bare,
Asama's dread and smoking crest
Loomed full and grand upon the west.
Behind him, stretching far away,
Where lights and shadows faintly play,
To where the low sun's latest rays
Lose themselves in distant haze;
Till earth and sky seem to be
Melting into eternity.

A wondrous scene of field and glade,
Of everchanging light and shade,
With stretches vast of softest green,
And rivers calm and broad between.
Upon his left in strange contrast,

Like castle walls secure and fast,
Across whose scarred and craggy face
Fantastic lights and shadows chase,
Like flitting birds in eager flocks,
Tower on high, Cathedral Rocks.
And still beyond, with many spires
Tinged by the sunset's ruddy fires,
Miogi's heights in beauty rise,
The boundary 'twixt earth and skies.
Below him, at the mountain's feet,
A little village nestled sweet,
Giving no hints to him on height,
Of filth and dirt. But fair and bright,
Seemed a retreat prepaired and rest,
By God himself for health and rest.
E'en as he stands with dimming eye,
The light fades out in the western sky.
The shadows o'er the mountains creep,
As if to lull the world to sleep.
To the soul of the traveller standing there,
The earth seemed lost in evening prayer;
And sinking there upon the sod,
His heart went up in thanks to God,
That by the beauties He hath given
Men may climb so near to heaven.
Thanks be to God for this vision of light,
Given to men through His infinite might!
For my brothers and sisters here exiled afar,
Soldiers of Christ in his glorious war,
'Gainst all the soul-marring sins of mankind,
Messengers sent to be eyes to the blind,
Feet to the lame, strength to the weak,
To the ends of the earth his lost children to seek.
This spot I proclaim as a Mecca of rest.
What afterward followed is easily guessed,
Year after year came the weary and worn,
The toiling and tired ones, seeking this bourne.
Nature still spreads her rich feasts for their eyes;
Morning and evening their thanksgivings rise.
What's here written, history has taught,
Some poets are prophets, this one is not,
'Tis history's province to tell of the past,
And therefore it happens this line is my last.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before ARTHUR HYDE LAY, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

FRIDAY, September 4th, 1896.

THE "SAIKYO MARU'S" MISSING TREASURE.
The third hearing of the charge against Mr. Edwin Ryder, late second officer of the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha's* steamer *Saikyo Maru*, in connection with the robbery of \$2,000, in twenty cent pieces, from the bullion-room of that steamer, was resumed this morning.

Mr. Tamio Hayashi, manager of the Yokohama Office of the N.Y.K., again prosecuted, and the Chief Public Procurator of the Local Court was present.

Mihashida Riuzon, freight clerk in the employ of the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha*, cautioned, deposed—On the 13th August I shipped 50 cases of silver coin on board the *Saikyo Maru*, then in the port of Kobe. I was assisted by *Toyoshima Eibun*, *Konokoru*, and *Terada Hihei*, tally-men, while the Superintendent of the Kobe Office, Mr. *Maki Komataro*, was standing by. We arrived in Yokohama on the 14th August, and we sent the silver ashore on the forenoon of the 15th ult. The treasure had been stored in No. 3 hatch, in the mail-room. I was in No. 2 hatch working at the time, the treasure being handled by *Toyoshima*. *Toyoshima* told me that one of the 50 cases was missing, and I immediately went with him to the mail-room and examined the place and then searched the 'tween decks. I searched the lighter, then at the side of the ship, and found there were only 49 boxes of the silver on board. After all the cargo had been discharged, I, with the second officer and the tally-clerk, made another search, but could not find the missing case.

By the Bench—I did not enter the treasure-room between leaving Kobe and arriving at Yokohama. The chief officer had the keys of the room: they hung up with others above the bed in the chief officer's room. The keys remained in his room, I believe, all the voyage, untouched. That was the custom. Probably the chief officer would lock up the room, but that I do not positively know.

The accused had no questions to ask.
The accused was then remanded in custody until 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, the *Saikyo Maru* being expected to arrive from Kobe during Friday afternoon, when two more arrests will be made.

SATURDAY, September 5th.

George Washington Conner, Master of the *Saikyo Maru*, sworn, deposed—I merely know that there is a box of treasure missing from the ship, and that in Shanghai I discovered, by opening the

Third Engineer's—Mr. Dawson—box, part of the missing treasure. I only know of Ryder's connection with the case by Dawson's confession to me.

Sakurai Seishiro, a freight clerk on the *Saikyo Maru*, cautioned, deposed—At Kobe I had nothing to do with shipping the treasure. On the freight list, I saw a document in Japanese giving a list of the cargo on board. I asked the chief freight clerk if I was to translate this, but he said he did not require it. I knew nothing about the affair until about 11 o'clock on the 15th August. That morning I went to the Yokohama Office about the accounts, and returned to the ship just as *Toyoshima* had discovered that a case of the silver was missing. The Manager of the *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* and the Purser of the *Tosa Maru* then came from the shore. I saw the cases of silver first on my return from the shore.

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution, and His Honour read over the depositions to the accused.

His Honour then cautioned the accused in the usual terms.

Accused had nothing to say.
The money found in his possession was counted in Court and amounted to \$929.80.

His Honour—Edwin Ryder, I commit you to trial on the charge of larceny from the *Saikyo Maru*.

THE THIRD ENGINEER'S CASE.

Edward Dawson, third engineer of the *Saikyo Maru*, then appeared at the bar.

Mr. Tamio Hayashi, Manager of the Yokohama office of the N.Y.K., cautioned, said—I charge Mr. Edward Dawson, formerly third engineer of the *Saikyo Maru*, with having in his possession part of the missing treasure supposed to have been stolen from that ship on or about the 15th August. Dawson being an engineer, and having no connection with the cargo, was allowed, when the treasure was found to be lost, to go on with his work, there being no suspicion against him. The deck officers, however, all had to leave the ship. Later on, by the advice of the police authorities, we wired to our Shanghai agent to order Capt. Conner to bring Dawson back to Yokohama. Later we received information that Captain Conner had found some of the missing treasure in the third engineer's cabin, while we were also told to search the baggage left by Dawson at Mr. Pass's boarding house, 184, Bluff. We searched this house and in the baggage was found part of the missing money. On this account I lay the charge against Dawson.

Dawson had no questions to ask.
George Kircher, Usher of the Court, deposed—Yesterday I proceeded on board the *Saikyo Maru*, as per warrant, at 16 minutes past 3. I found Mr. Dawson locked in a cabin on deck. A box was produced on board, in which I found some money, all in 20-cent pieces. This I now produce. I brought Dawson on shore and proceeded to 184, Bluff. There I found a trunk belonging to Mr. Dawson. It was in the store-room. This trunk was locked and Dawson gave me the key. I unlocked the trunk and found more money, in 20-cent pieces. This was brought to the Court, sealed, and put in the safe. There was about \$850.

Witness was not cross-examined.
The money was then counted by the officers of the Court and found to be a little over \$900.

Captain G. W. Conner, again sworn, deposed—A telegram was received by our Manager in Shanghai, and on that information I called the Chief Engineer and informed him that I did not want Mr. Dawson to leave the ship. The Chief Engineer soon after came back and said that he had looked into Dawson's window and saw that Dawson's boxes were packed, as if ready to leave the ship. I then took proper steps to detain Dawson on the ship. On the 29th, the day we left Shanghai, I went to Dawson and told him that I had searched the baggage in his room and had found some of the missing money. On my advice, he made a confession. He said that on the night of 14th Aug., when the ship arrived from Kobe, the second mate, Mr. Ryder, came and asked him to come to his room for a night-cap. In the second officer's room he saw a box of treasure. The second officer said: "A part of this is for you." Then the second officer took a small hatchet he had in his room and broke open the box, throwing the iron hoops overboard. Ryder then gave him a part of the money. I asked him how much, and he said he did not count it, but he thought that it was not quite half. He told me that he had spent only *yen* 1.80, and that the balance of the money, minus 120 *yen* that I had found in his baggage, was in a box belonging to him in Pass's boarding-house in Yokohama. He said he had carried the money ashore in a flannel belt. I asked him if any Japanese were concerned and he said he did not think any Japanese were concerned; so far as he knew they were innocent.

To the accused—You were going to leave at Shanghai.

Accused—Excuse me sir, I was not going to leave there.

His Honour (to accused)—You are remanded in custody until 10 o'clock on Monday morning.

MONDAY, September 7th, 1896.

This morning, Edward Dawson, late third engineer on the *Saikyo Maru*, was brought up on remand, for the leading of further evidence on the charge preferred against him, of complicity in the theft of \$2,000 from the vessel.

Mr. Public Procurator Okiyama was present. Maki Komataro, former purser of the *Saikyo Maru*, cautioned, deposed—In the former case, while giving my evidence, I made a mistake as to dates. It was on the 12th August, not the 13th, that I shipped the 50 boxes of silver at Kobe. We arrived in Yokohama on the 14th and the silver was discharged the following day. When we found one box missing, I reported the matter to the police. I do not know if any one went into the mail-room on the voyage. A man named Miyashita counted the boxes at Kobe.

Miyashita Rinzo, Freight Clerk on the *Saikyo Maru*, cautioned deposed—The evidence I have to give is the same as I gave in the case of Ryder. On the 12th of August we shipped 50 boxes of silver at Kobe; arrived at Yokohama on the 14th; on the 15th discharged the silver. We found that one box was missing, and made all endeavours to trace it. I did not enter the mail room between Kobe and Yokohama.

Kitamura Juisan, an official in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, cautioned, deposed—I went on board the *Saikyo Maru* on the 11th Aug., succeeding to Maki Komataro as Purser of the ship. I know nothing about the loss of the treasure. I know only that we brought Dawson back from Shanghai on the ship. I do not fully know why Dawson was brought back in this manner. I never saw any of the missing money in his possession. On the morning of the 29th of August, I searched Dawson's cabin at Shanghai in company with the Captain and found \$120 in an iron box. The money was in 20-cent pieces of the 29th year of Meiji. The money was locked up in the cabin and brought to Yokohama under my care. Dawson was not present when we searched the cabin, there were only the Captain and myself.

Heinrich Wilhelm Rahberg, formerly chief officer of the *Saikyo Maru*, sworn, deposed—I can give no evidence regarding the charge brought against the accused.

Sydney Charles Pass, of 184, Bluff sworn, deposed—I only know that Mr. Dawson left a chest at my house. He brought it there on the 27th April last. It remained there until Friday last. Accused came to my house that afternoon in company with the police. The last time he was in my house was the day before the *Saikyo Maru* left on the trip after the alleged loss of the treasure. I believe he came in the evening. I am not quite sure whether I saw him or not on that occasion. The box was in one corner of the hall downstairs, where it had been since April. After Dawson went away last voyage, the box was put into a baggage-room. The box was locked and lashed with a good stout rope; Dawson having the key himself. I never saw him go to the box; nobody has seen him go to it.

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution. His Honour then read the depositions and formally cautioned the accused.

The accused preferred to make a statement. He said—I hardly know how it came about, but on the night before we left Kobe, I was sitting on the rail outside my room, when the Second Officer, Ryder, came along and said, "Here, Dawson, I want you." I said, "I'm going to bed." He said, "Come along and have a nightcap before you go"—that means a glass of whisky. I went round to Ryder's cabin, and there was a box, with some of the hoops torn off, standing on the floor of the Second Officer's room. I said, "What in all the world, have you here." He said, "Be quiet, you can have the half of that." He threw the hoops over board, and tore the lid of the box off. Then he gave me a good lot of the stuff, about half I think, but I did not count it. I don't remember taking the stuff to my room that night, but when I awoke it was lying on the floor among my boots. I threw my dirty clothes over it and went down into the engine-room. I came up soon afterwards and went into Ryder's room. I told him, "For God's sake get that stuff away." He just pool-pooled it off with another glass of whisky. He said: "Put off that whim with a glass of whisky." It remained that way until we got to Yokohama. At Yokohama I concealed part ashore—the greater part—the rest I kept in my box on board the ship. We left Yokohama, and between here and Kobe, the Chief Engineer

and I quarrelled. I told him to consider me finished at Kobe, where I intended to land and return to Yokohama. I packed up my clothes with that intention, but the Chief Engineer told me I could not leave at Kobe, also that I should be considered a deserter. We then went on to Shanghai, arriving on the Tuesday. On the Friday night I got a book or something out of my portmanteau to show to the Second Officer. While I was standing talking to him the Captain and another gentleman came along. The Captain said, "This is the man I want." So I was locked up in Shanghai that night in the police-station; next day brought on board, put in a second-class cabin, put in irons, and locked up. I came back to Yokohama, though I was not in irons all the way. That is all I wish to say.

After the statement had been read over, accused added—During the whole of this night in Kobe, I was drunk the whole time—that night in Kobe.

His Honour—Edward Dawson you are committed to trial as an accessory to the larceny of \$2,000 from the *Saikyo Maru*.

EARL LI.

It is satisfactory that Li Hung-chang is to be received in this country as a guest of the Government, and that he is to be treated with becoming ceremony. The excessive homage paid him in Germany has been made the occasion for warnings addressed to this country not to fall into a similar mistake, not to assume such an undignified and impolitic attitude. We are reminded, in effect, on the one hand, that he is not the great man—the Bismarck of China—he was once considered to be, but an ordinary "mandarin on the make;" and on the other, that nothing is to be gained by being civil to him, as he has no power to give orders, make contracts, or negotiate concessions. Anything "made in Germany" is not to be endured at present, but we shall want something more than the famous policy of *ambler les Allemands*, which seems so much in vogue, to convince us that Li should not have a fitting reception at our hands; and if it be true that he can give no orders, he still remains a big figure, not only in China but in contemporary history. He most certainly is no *quantité négligeable*.

Li's half-century of service under four Emperors, of which thirty-four years have been conspicuously successful, his prominent official position, especially in regard to foreign affairs, his marked sympathy with the progressive spirit and with a broad-minded policy, his constant courtesy and accessibility to strangers—a new departure in the Chinese official world in the treatment of the Outer Barbarian—have gained him the respect of all those who are at all acquainted with affairs in the Far East. Some four years ago, on the occasion of Li's seventieth birthday, the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung composed a panegyric on "Earl Li,"* in which, amid a mass of hyperbole, he said some things not untrue. "During the eighteen years of His Majesty's reign," Chang wrote, "the influence of your counsels has been perceptible in every act of State, and your position is now firmly established as first among statesmen. Surely you are He that Hefei was destined to bring forth! Councillor, Governor-General of the Metropolitan Province, Naval Minister, Superintendent of Trade; we see you engaged in these quadruple duties, and in each *facile princeps*. You have vindicated your right to all your titles. Our Prince is, indeed fortunate in the possession of such a Minister." And again:—"You are altogether admirable; in literature deep, in warcraft terrible, in perception acute, in genius sublime; you are entrenched on every side, unassailable." In estimating the value of the eulogy one must remember that it was Chinese etiquette on such an occasion, and perhaps also the fact that Chang did not love Li. Under somewhat similar circumstances do not our own statesmen occasionally say very handsome things of each other?

From the Western point of view, let us see what Li has done—what, as Americans say, he "amounts to." More than thirty years ago Li Hung-chang assumed an important place in the political world, and not merely of his own country, and he has ever since continued to play that part with no diminished lustre, except on the occasion of the Sino-Japanese war, whereby his influence was undoubtedly shaken. When the Peking Government was engaged in what was a life and death struggle with the Taiping rebels, Li became *taotai* (magistrate) in the province which was then the centre of the rebellion. The situation was critical, and demanded the exercise of exceptional talents and attributes, altogether different from those usually required in such a posi-

tion. Li grasped the situation—one of those in which capable men of action find their opportunity—and rose to the occasion. He at once commenced the work of organizing the Imperial forces, which were in a state of the most complete confusion, amounting to anarchy. Having the brains to see the value of Western organization and leadership, he had the courage to employ these. By the aid of Europeans of ability—such as Gordon ("Chinese Gordon"), Giquel, Macartney (now Sir Halliday), and others—who took service with him, he was able not only to crush the Taiping rebellion, but at various points to lay the foundations of the Government arsenals, which led to the introduction of European machinery and skilled appliances into the Middle Kingdom. The first factories—at Shanghai and Nanking—were followed by other places. If the results achieved in this, as in other directions, have fallen short of what was hoped, one must bear in mind the stupendous opposition which had to be met and overcome.

The prestige gained by Li from the successful campaign against the Taiping rebels (1862-65) was great. Raised at once to high office, he was overlaid with honours, accompanied by multifarious and onerous duties. Other risings of minor importance—two of them Mahomedan—were then suppressed by him; and in 1870 he was appointed Viceroy of Chih-li, a post which he has since retained. In addition to the laborious office, he has been Imperial Commissioner for Trade and Coast Defence, and more recently Vice-President of the Board of Admiralty and Director-General of Railways. Beyond these officially gazetted appointments, he was Chief Adviser, and practically Foreign Minister, being always pushed into the breach when action was imperative. He was the negotiator of treaties and, in a large degree, the arbiter of peace and war. The amount of unceasing labour involved by these duties, considering the minutiae required by Chinese official routine, it is almost impossible for a Westerner to realize. It is a marvel how the work was got through. And all the time Li found leisure to see any foreigner, from a plenipotentiary to a bagman, who wanted to see him on any reasonable pretext. A marked feature in Li, and one to his credit, has been this readiness to receive foreigners and assimilate Western ideas. Always tolerant, always accessible, always urbane, his association with foreigners has helped to beat down the deep-rooted, colossal objection of the Chinese official world to any such intercourse. And hereby Li has rendered the Western world and his own country a very considerable service.

It has been well said of Li that the key to his character is "practical." An Opportunist of Opportunists, he deals only with the practicable, goes step by step, only moving when sure of his footing. He has sympathy with the visionary or enthusiast. His strong points from our standpoint—and in a Chinese official how astonishing they are!—are his indifference to tradition, his disregard for the veneration of things simply because they are ancient, his interest in the present, and not the past. In other words, he is touched, if not imbued, with the modern spirit. And there he stands apart, absolutely alone, in the whole Chinese official world.

In the making of railways he has not been able to accomplish much, and his Director-Generalship may be considered a mere sinecure, in the almost total absence of railways. But it must not be forgotten that, if there is little to show in the matter of railways, there has been much talk, and also *something* has been done. It is not only in China, too, that the period of palaver, as a prelude to the introduction of useful railways, is prolonged. Li was a firm believer in railways years ago, and is still. I remember well how, in 1883, he told me that, in his opinion, had railways existed from Central China to the South, there would have been no Tongking question; and I believe he meant it.

Not only in matters of defence, military and naval, has Li, contrary to the most violent prejudices and established tradition, attempted to introduce Western invention and appliances; but he founded, and was the leading spirit of, the China Merchants' Fleet, created with the view of introducing European business management generally into the Chinese system. Far from being a brilliant success, compared with what has been accomplished in Japan, still it has been of service to China. The Chinese way of looking at this step of Li's is interesting, and we have it from the pen of Chang Chih-tung, in the address to Li already quoted:

"In the old days Russian ships came hither, and Persian merchants were met in Tang's capital. 'Nibble away at the husk and you will at last reach the grain'—this was the guiding principle of the foreigners who came across the seas and entered our ports. We admitted them and they

* Translated by Mr. H. C. Brewitt-Taylor.

were guests. Presently the positions were reversed; we were guests, they masters. Wishing to stop the drain, we had to turn to ourselves for aid. The Wu rice comes from the south, hemp from Shuh, in the west. We saw how we could turn the sea to our advantage and have ships for defence. Now our ships carry the skins of Ch'eng to the markets of Chow. Produce of every kind pours into every land, and foreign cloth and gold are piled in heaps in our provincial stores. There is plenty for all, and poverty ceases to exist. We hold our own and more—the water begins to return from the sea. These advantages are due to You, for the formation of the Steamship Company was Your work."

Mainly owing to the influence of Li the Chinese Government were induced to adopt the telegraph, which now covers the empire in all directions, to permit the construction of railways, which have been started whenever and wherever opposition could be overcome, and to encourage mining enterprise. In the field of education, too, he has done good work. The various schools established by him—military, naval, torpedo, telegraph, railway, and, last but not least, medical—are all surely, though silently, unobtrusively, and slowly, effecting a change. And, in all this work of reform, he has stood a solitary figure. If he has not attempted any sweeping reform, if he has not taken in hand the "regeneration of China," he has at least, in his opportunist way, introduced the thin end of the wedge which will shake to the foundation the abysmal self-conceit and slavish submission to tradition of the Chinese mandarin. Already the strongest, ablest, and at one time also most bigoted, among the viceroys has compromised with the spirit of the age and is following Li's example. And this is significant.

What all this means only those who know China—the China which lies apart from the China of the treaty-ports—can possibly in a measure appreciate. With jealous critics in the Pekin Tsung-li Yamèn, clinging to the Past as the sole source of knowledge, with the people indifferent or solidly opposed, not always supported by the British Minister and the powerful influence of the Chinese Customs service, under Sir Robert Hart, who paid court to the Tsung-li Yamèn, he faced the difficulties alone. National reforms, even administrative reforms, are not easily accomplished in other countries than China, and considering the condition of the empire, the verdict on Li's life-work must be that he has rendered good service to civilization.

On several occasions it has been my fortune to have interviews with Li, and, in common with all others, I was struck by the shrewdness of his remarks and by a feeling that he was getting to the bottom of things. He had a habit of "pumping" all he came across, and as he had men of all nationalities and representing a variety of interests, the amount of information he amassed from his interviews must have been very considerable. Being in the north of China, at the time of the Tongking war, when the so-called Fournier Convention was concluded, he asked me what I had been doing in Tongking and what I was about in China. On my telling him, he said "But you are in Government service," I endeavoured to explain that I was on leave; but he replied, "I understand; we also have our *weiyuans*. You are an official spy." In China, I presume, only a Government agent would have been collecting information as I then was.

In the field of diplomacy Li has shown skill, sagacity, and breadth of view, and his reputation in this respect has, in Chinese opinion, if not in reality, been maintained by his last act, after it had suffered in a military sense, for he succeeded, though at a price which may prove heavy, in depriving Japan of almost all her advantages in the hour of victory. His two former chief achievements in this arena were the negotiations arising out of the Margary affair, in connection with the Chefoo Convention of 1876, when, as generally admitted, out of a most difficult and dangerous situation for China he managed to secure an arrangement which, intended as a chastisement, turned out to the advantage of China. At the time of the Franco-Chinese conflict (1883-85) Li was entrusted with the negotiations, and if the result was not altogether satisfactory to China, that was certainly not Li's fault. Both in regard to the Bourée treaty and Fournier Convention, Li did well for his country, and it would have been to China's advantage if either had been accepted and maintained. Neither pleased the Chinese Jingo, and the latter treaty was by them wantonly broken, involving China in a year's war, an expenditure of sixty million taels, and the loss of that fleet in the Min (which I witnessed), after which the original terms obtained by Li were perforce accepted.

It is commonly believed, in this country, that Li's measures of "reform" were largely influenced

by the opportunities offered for self-aggrandizement in power and wealth, that he only differed from his brother colleagues in doing things on a bigger scale, and that his combination of business with statesmanship has made him one of the world's millionaires. However he may have acquired the greater portion of his means, there is no doubt he is wealthy; but it is doubtful whether his fortune would compare with that of several South African millionaires, not to speak of dozens in Europe or America. It seems unnecessary to dwell further on this subject; we have to examine both sides of the medal; and it is the balance of services we have to arrive at.

As regards Li's military failure in the Sino-Japanese conflict, it must be remembered that the war was forced on China. He alone, unsupported, had attempted anything, and when the old-time Chinese system failed, and failed miserably, the whole blame was laid on Li, and not unnaturally, for we all know that nothing fails like failure.

More might certainly have been accomplished by Li, but also less. In estimating the degree of success which has attended his efforts, we must bear in mind that the temper of the time in China has not been favourable. Had that been kinder, the result would have been very different.

Li has come to Europe, as a *wei-yuen*, to spy out the land, to see which nations are really great; and on his return he will advise the throne. Let us avoid over-homage by all means. But it would be foolish, indeed, to underrate and neglect Li because in the Sino-Japanese war he failed to justify general expectation, or because Germany has been overletting him. The German manufacturers may have lost their heads in the bustle to secure orders; but the German Government and capable Germans from China like Mr. Detring know perfectly what they are about. The *impressions de voyage* which the distinguished Chinese statesman will take back they judge to be important, and they wisely determine that to the best of their ability they shall be favourable to Germany.

It is right that he should be received as a great man, for he is one; with all his faults he has rendered a signal service to civilization. It is politic that he should be impressed with the power of England, for he is still a force in the Far East, and the one prominent figure in the Chinese Empire. And if Germany has her workshops for war and battalions of soldiers, we have our London and our industrial centres, our Armstrong works and our fleets; and at sea we can best impress Li with our "flying clouds, ranging the ocean by submerged vessels." If, too, there are at present no orders for artillery, and munitions of war and strategic railways for a "regenerated China," there are still alliances in Europe to be sought for, allies who will be paid for with trade privileges and concessions of various sorts, and so long as China exists, with her 350 millions and her immense latent resources, there is something—and a big something—to be gained.—ARCHIBALD R. COLAHOON in the *Saturday Review*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(RUITER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, September 3.

The National convention of Gold Democrats held at Indianapolis has adopted a platform upholding the Gold standard and opposing the free coinage of silver. The convention has nominated General Palmer, of Illinois, for the Presidency.

Count Shouvaloff has been seized with a paralytic stroke and his condition is critical.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, Sept. 4.

Her Majesty's ship *Humbar* and H.I.J.M.S. *Saiyen* left this port to-day.

The *Kongo* arrived at 1 p.m. yesterday.

Hakodate, Sept. 9.

Her Majesty's ship *Swift* and H.I.G.M.S. *Princess Wilhelm* left this port yesterday.

(Ruiter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, September 5.

A manifesto issued by the Mussulman Cretans appeals to the Mahomedans to resist the reforms which the Assembly has accepted.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17

Exchange on London at New York 4.84

London, Sept. 7.

T.I.M. the Czar and Czarina have visited

Breslau where they were accorded a splendid reception. At a banquet in honour of their Majesties' visit the Emperor William toasted the Czar as the bulwark of peace. The Czar's response was of the briefest character.

A French Squadron has been ordered to the Levant.

Sir Philip Currie, British Ambassador to Turkey, has returned to Constantinople.

The Nile railway has been reopened. Twenty miles of the line were relaid in ten days.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 31.

It is estimated that about one thousand innocent Armenians have been massacred in the streets of Constantinople, the troops being passive spectators.

Marines have been landed for the protection of all the embassies at Constantinople.

The embassies have appealed strongly to the Sultan direct to stop the horrors which are taking place, and refer to the violation and looting of foreign domiciles, and point to possible grave results.

Hongkong, September 1.

A rebellion has broken out in the Philippines, and fighting has commenced. H.M.S. *Redpole* has been despatched to Luzon. The rising is not considered serious.

London, September 1.

Germany has refused, on the ground of his offence being a political one, to extradite Khalid, the Pretender to the Zanzibar Throne, who took refuge in the German Consulate at Zanzibar.

London, September 2.

Prince Ranjitsinhji's cricket score for the season is two thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine runs, which beats the previous record score made by Dr. W. G. Grace.

The Embassies at Constantinople have refused to illuminate their houses in honour of an anniversary [the 20th] of the Sultan's accession to the Throne, and are drafting a note pointing out that the recent massacre of Armenians was organised with the connivance of the authorities. The excitement is subsiding. Altogether five thousand Armenians have been massacred in Constantinople.

Prince Lobanoff died of aneurism at a country station. The general opinion is that his successful policy will be continued. H.I.M. the Czar will continue his tour.

London, Sept. 3.

A new Organic Law embodying reforms has been promulgated in Crete.

Colonel F. Carrington reports that operations are now proceeding against six forces of the rebels, who are located chiefly in the Buluwayo and Salisbury districts.

Mr. Thornton's eleven has beaten the Australians by an innings and thirty-eight runs.

(FROM THE BANGKOK PRESS.)

London, Aug. 21.

Two native Egyptian papers have been suppressed in consequence of their shameless attacks on Queen Victoria.

London, Aug. 31.

The further advance of the Nile expedition commences about 5th September, and it is expected that Dongola will be reached about the beginning of October.

(FROM "LE COURRIER D'HAIPHONG.")

Paris, August 22.

The political situation in Crete is less alarming, the Powers having agreed on the reforms to be demanded from the Sultan in favour of the Cretans.

Paris, August 23.

The Colonial Minister is considering a project intended to give more elasticity to the Administration of Cochinchina, but he is not sure that the Government can grant complete autonomy to Cochinchina or destroy the unity of Indo-China.

Paris, Aug. 25.

General Weyler has interdicted the coffee and sugar cane crops in Cuba, because the proprietors pay taxes to the insurgents for gathering them.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Soul, Aug. 31.

The Japanese Minister has sent in a formal note of protest against the answer sent him by the Korean Government, in which they urged that they could not entertain the proposal to give the concession of the Seoul-Fusan railway to the Japanese by reason of the Southern rebels being still unpacified. Li Wan Yong, Minister of the Foreign Office, presented the note to the King yesterday. Some time must yet elapse ere the question is settled.

Nara, Sept. 2.

The damages done by the recent storm are tabulated as follows:—Wrecked buildings, 430; houses flooded, 272; houses swept away, 46; deaths (by crushing), 44; injured, six; bridges swept away, 20; breaches in embankments, 32; hillocks demolished, two; temples wrecked, two; school buildings wrecked, two; house burnt, one; telegraph posts destroyed, three.

Takamatsu, Sept. 2.

The damages in the neighbourhood of the Tokigawa and the Kurakawa are very serious.

Nagasaki, Sept. 2.

It has been decided by the Prefectural Assembly to spend yen 250,000 on improving the harbour.

Kagoshima, Sept. 2.

Messrs. Haseba and Kashiwada, Members of the Diet, left for Tokyo to-day.

Soul, Sep. 3.

The Tai Wön-kun and his wife, and Li Chai-sung, went to the Min-yé Palace to offer birthday congratulations. The King did not appear, and the Tai Wön-kun became very angry. After a while the King received his mother in audience.

Akita, Sep. 3.

The number of wrecked houses in Rekugo and vicinity, amounts to 1,777; deaths, 76.

Nagoya, Sept. 3.

According to the researches of the Authorities the number of deaths by drowning in the recent storm was 36; houses swept away, 28; houses wrecked, 1,000; and in the district of Kuwana 3,600 persons are receiving aid.

The Sanyo Railway Company has restored its lines to working order.

Soul, September 3.

The anniversary of the King's birth was very quietly observed in the capital. The foreign representative attended court, but the only flag to be seen flew above the Foreign Office.

Nagasaki, September 3.

The Bayard, the French flagship, has left for Vladivostock.

Yokote, Ugo, Sept. 4.

Governor Hirayama arrived here to-day to inspect the scene of disaster; he will proceed to Rokugo to-morrow.

Yokote, Ugo Sept. 4.

The Tokyo Red Cross Association has sent a doctor and three nurses here to assist in succouring the injured.

Fukui, Sept. 4.

A feeble shock of earthquake was felt at 4 p.m. to-day.

Kyoto, Sept. 4.

H.I.H. Prince Fushimi arrived here to-day.

Yokote, Ugo (Akita Ken), Sept. 5.

Owing to the heavy rain last night, those people who left their houses when the earthquake occurred are drenched. There was a big shock of earthquake this morning.

Utsunomiya, Sept. 5.

Fire broke out in Motomachi, 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon and about 50 houses were destroyed.

Sakata, Sept. 5.

Since the great earthquake of the 31st ult. many feeble shocks have occurred every day.

Tokyo, Sunday, Sept. 6.

The natives of Manila have risen in revolt against Spain. A British man-of-war was despatched from Hongkong for the protection of British residents, and the Japanese Government will also despatch a war-vessel.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

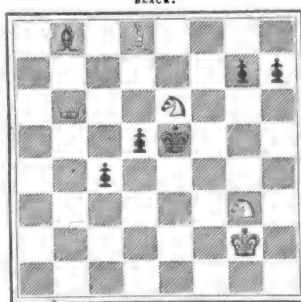
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 245.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to Q sq. 1—Any
2—Mates accordingly.

Correct answers from Shogi, J.D., Omega, E.J.K., W.D.C. and W.d.H.

PROBLEM No. 247.

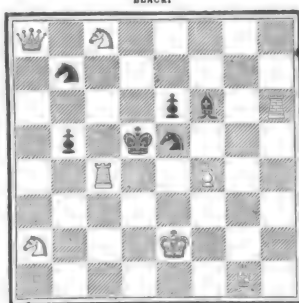
By J. F. ANDREWS.

(First prize *ex æquo* in the Schoolmaster tourney.)

White to play and mate in two moves.

PROBLEM No. 248.

By W. A. CLARK, Molesey.

(First prize *ex æquo* in the Schoolmaster tourney.)

White to play and mate in two moves.

We give two problems this week, the composers having "tied" for first prize in a recent tourney. Now that our contributors are returning from their summer excursions, we hope to find a full solvers' list once more.

GAME No. 562.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. BLACK.
Dobrusky. J. Fischer.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4 3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4 4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3 5—B to B 4
6—Castles 6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4 7—P takes P
8—P takes P 8—B to Kt 3
9—P to Q 5 9—Kt to K 4
10—B to Kt 2 10—Kt to K 2
11—B to Q 3 11—Castles
12—Kt to B 3 12—K Kt to Kt 3
13—Kt to K 2 13—P to K B 3
14—K Kt to Q 4 14—P to Q B 4
15—Kt to K 6 15—B takes Kt
16—P takes B 16—P to B 5
17—B takes Q B P 17—Kt takes B
18—Q to Q 5 18—Q to B 2
19—Q R to B sq. 19—Q R to B sq.
20—P to K 7 ch. 20—R to B 2
21—R takes Kt 21—Q to Q 2
22—R takes R ch. 22—Q takes R
23—R to Q B sq. 23—Q to Q 2
24—B to R 3 24—Kt takes P
25—Q to Q 3 25—P to B 4
26—P to K 5 26—P to Q 4

27—Kt to B 4 27—Q to K sq.
28—P to K 6 28—R to B 3
29—B takes Kt 29—Q takes B
30—Kt takes P 30—Q takes P
31—Kt takes R ch. 31—Q takes Kt
32—Q to Q 5 ch. 32—K to B sq.
33—R to B 8 ch. 33—K to K 2
34—Q takes Q, Kt P ch. 34—Resigns.

GAME No. 563.

HOW LADY EXPERTS PLAY.
IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE. BLACK.
Mrs. Showalter. Mrs. Worrell.
1—P to K 4 1—P to Q Kt 3
2—P to Q 4 2—B to Q Kt 2
3—Kt to Q B 3 3—P to K 3
4—B to Q 3 4—P to K Kt 3
5—Kt to K B 3 5—B to K Kt 2
6—P to K 5 6—Kt to K 2
7—Q Kt to K 4 7—P to K R 3
8—P to Q B 3 8—B to Q R 3
9—Castles 9—B takes B
10—Q takes B 10—P to Q R 3
11—P to Q Kt 3 11—P to Q 4
12—Q Kt to K Kt 3 12—Kt to Q 2
13—B to R 3 13—P to Q B 4
14—Q R to B sq. 14—Castles
15—K R to K sq. 15—Q to Kt sq.
16—P to Q B 4 16—K R to Q sq.
17—B to R 2 17—Q to Kt 2
18—P takes Q P 18—Q takes P
19—K R to K 4 19—Kt takes K P (a)
20—Kt takes Kt 20—B takes Kt
21—R to K R 4 21—B to Kt 2
22—Kt to K 4 22—P to K B 4
23—Kt to Q B 3 23—Q to Q 3
24—Kt to R 2 24—Kt to Q B 3
25—Q to K R 3 25—Kt takes P
26—Kt takes Kt 26—P takes Kt
27—R to Q sq. 27—P to K 4
28—B to B sq. 28—P to K B 5
29—P to K Kt 3 29—P to Kt 4
30—R to Kt 4 30—R to K B sq.
31—P takes P 31—K P takes P
32—Q to Kt 2 32—R to R 2
33—P to K R 4 33—P takes P
34—R takes P 34—R to B 4
35—B to Kt 2 35—R to Q 4 (b)
36—R takes R P (c) 36—Q to Q B 4
37—R to K Kt 6 37—R (R 2) to Q 2
38—R to Q B sq. 38—Q to Q Kt 4
39—R to B 8 ch. 39—K to R 2
40—Q to K 4 (d) 40—R to K 4
41—Q to K sq. 41—R to K 8 ch. (e)
42—Q takes R 42—K takes R
43—Q to K 6 ch. 43—K to Kt 4
44—B to R 3 44—Q to K B 4
45—B to K 7 ch. 45—R takes B (f)
46—Q takes R ch. 46—Q to B 3
47—Q takes Q ch. 47—B takes Q
48—R to B 6 48—H to K 2
49—R takes P 49—P to Q 6
50—K to Q Kt 7 50—R to Q 7
51—R to Q 7 51—B to Kt 5
52—K to B sq. (g) 52—P to B 6
53—K to Kt sq. 53—K to B 6
54—K to R 2 54—K to Kt 5
55—K to Q 4 ch. 55—R to B 4
56—K to Kt 3 56—K to K 4
57—R to Q 3 57—K to K 5
58—R to Q 7 58—B to B 6
59—R to K 7 ch. 59—B to K 4 ch.
60—Resigns.

NOTES BY EMIL KERNENY.

(a) Black selected an irregular opening, which hardly gives a satisfactory development. White, it seems, advanced the King's Pawn too early, and the exchange of Q P brought the Black pieces into action. The present move of Black is quite ingenious and forces the win of a valuable Pawn.

(b) Of course it to Kt 4 would be of no value on account of R to Kt 4. The text move nevertheless is inferior. Black certainly overlooked the ingenious continuation White had on hand.

(c) Splendid play. If Q takes R then White replies Q takes R ch.

(d) This looks very tempting. It seems, however, that R (B 8) to B 6 was much stronger. White then threatens R takes Q Kt P as well as Q to K 4, and the defense would be very difficult.

(e) Brilliant play, which forces the exchange of Rooks and relieves Black's game somewhat.

(f) The sacrifice of the exchange is forced, for if Black plays K to Kt 5, then P to B 3 ch would win the Queen. It seems Black should have played on his 4th turn K to R instead of K to Kt 4.

(g) A disastrous error. White should have played P to B 3, followed by K to B 3 and K to K 2. Being the exchange ahead a victory was quite assured. The text move enables Black to advance the K B P, which cuts off the adverse King. Subsequently Black wins the game by excellent end play.

STEINITZ-LASKER MATCH.

This is fixed for next month, October, at Moscow. We are making arrangements to obtain early telegraphic records of its progress, and shall place them before our readers as received.

GAME No. 564.

The following game was played at the Nuremberg Chess-Club between Dr. S. Tarrasch and the

well-known problem-composer, Mr. Max Kuer-schner. Score and notes from the London Field:

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. M. Kuer-schner.	Mr. Tarrasch.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—P to Q 3
5—P to Q 4 (a)	5—B to Q 2
6—P to B 3	6—K Kt to K 2
7—Castles	7—P to K Kt 3
8—B to K 3	8—B to Kt 2
9—Q Kt to Q 2	9—Castles
10—P to Q 5 (b)	10—Kt to Kt sq.
11—Kt to K sq.	11—P to K B 4
12—B to K Kt 5	12—P to R 3
13—B takes Kt	13—Q takes B
14—B takes B (c)	14—Kt takes B
15—P to K Kt 3 (d)	15—P to B 5
16—Q Kt to B 3	16—P to K Kt 4
17—P to K Kt 4 (e)	17—Kt to B 3
18—Kt to Q 2	18—Q to Q 2
19—P to B 3	19—P to K R 4
20—P to K R 3	20—K to B 2
21—Kt to Q 3	21—R to R sq.
22—K to Kt 2	22—P to R 3
23—R to R sq.	23—Q R to R sq.
24—P to B 4 (f)	24—P takes P
25—B P takes P (g)	25—R takes P (h)
26—R takes R	26—Kt takes Kt P
27—R to B 3	27—Kt to B 3 (i)
28—Kt to B 2	28—P to Kt 5
29—R to Q Kt 3	29—P to Kt 6
30—Kt to B 3	30—Kt takes K P (j)
31—Kt to K 4	31—K to K 2
32—Kt to Q 4 (k)	32—P takes Kt
33—Q to K 4	33—B to K 4
34—R takes P (l)	34—P to Q 6
35—Q takes Kt	35—Q takes Kt (m)
36—R to Kt sq.	36—R to R 8 ch. (n)
Resigns.	

NOTES.

- (a) Against such an opponent as Dr. Tarrasch, it would be better to select a less complicated form, and simplify the game with 4—B takes Kt, followed by 6—P to Q 4.
- (b) This advance only weakens the centre; the Black Kt can be brought into play again over Q 2. 10—B to Kt 3, to retard Black's threatened 11..... P to K B 4, would have been better.
- (c) Bringing the Kt into play, which Black could have done by losing some time, whereas now he has it easy. 14—B to B 2 seems the obvious alternative.
- (d) White has a difficult game, and it is not easy to mend it. Perhaps 15—P to B 3 would have been as well.
- (e) A very dangerous-looking move, but it is more ingenious than would appear at first sight.
- (f) To prevent 21..... Q to K 4; but, Black's object being the powerful K's side attack, White should have secured the position with 24—Kt to B 3 first. White's game looks safe enough but for the Doctor's brilliant sacrifice, which, however, is not so transparent at this stage.
- (g) With the Kt at B 3, he could now have retaken even with R.
- (h) This deep combination White overlooked although Dr. Tarrasch had it in view, no doubt, all along. The sacrifice wins by force.
- (i) A fine coup de repos, and much stronger than 27..... Kt to K 6 ch.
- (j) Another fine move, but only the sequel of the whole combination.
- (k) 32—Kt to Kt sq. would have been answered by 32..... R to K 5.
- (l) If 34—Kt takes B, then simply 34..... P takes Kt (best) and wins. White cannot survive the check with K R 6.
- (m) Threatens 35..... P to B 6 ch.; 37—Q takes P, R to R 7 ch., etc.
- (n) Very pretty in spite of the Q guarding the square. If 37—Q takes R, then 37..... B to Q 5 ch.; 38—K to Kt 2, P to B 6 ch.; 39—K to Kt 7 ch., and wins. A remarkably fine game.

"COMMON-SENSE" RULES.

In *Common Sense in Chess*, Emanuel Lasker gives the following rules for the development of the pieces:—

I.—"Do not move any Pawns in the opening of game but the K and the Q Pawns.

II.—"Do not move any piece twice in the opening but put it at once on the right square.

(Mr. Lasker believes that the Kts should be posted on B 3, and the KB "somewhere on his original diagonal, if not exposed to exchange, at Q B 4.")

III.—"Bring your Kts out before developing the Bishops, especially the Q B.

IV.—"Do not pin the adverse K Kt (by B to Kt 5) before your adversary has castled."

We quote the following from Tinsley's masterly column:—

ANCIENT AND MODERN CHESS.

An eminent authority, Sir Duncan Forbes, formed the conclusion that the invention of chess was due to the ancient Hindoos. The exact details are never likely to be known, but Sir Duncan Forbes concluded that all the writers of Arabia and Persia agreed *nem. con.* that chess was invented in India and introduced into Persia in the 6th century of the Christian era. Four hundred years ago Caxton gave forth, as the first specimen of the divine art of printing, *Ye Booke of the Chesse*. Dr. Hyde, of Oxford, two hundred years later, and Sir Williams Jones towards the close of last century, "ransacked the treasures of the gorgeous

East with the view of discovering the origin and of tracing the progress of the royal game."—(*Chess Players' Chronicle*, N.S., vol. I., 25). When and how chess made its way into Europe is an interesting question. There is no doubt, as we have shown in past issues, that Italy and Spain produced many notable players and writers between 1250 and 1800 A.D.; but chess history generally, and previous to the advent of Philidor in the middle of last century, stands out with anything but distinctness.

Several writers have discussed the question whether the ancient Greek and Roman writers knew chess. A writer in the old *Chess Players' Chronicle* concludes that neither the Greeks nor the Romans were acquainted with the game. The fact that there is no very distinct allusion to the game in the classical writings, that their authors and men of sedentary habits played ball and other trivial amusements, and that the old Roman writers lament that the youth were addicted to dice and games of hazard seem to justify the conclusion above noted. Had chess been known to the Greeks it is scarcely probable that their writers would have refrained from theorizing on the subject; the game would also probably have been referred to as an unexceptionable amusement or in disparaging terms.

Perhaps one of the strongest arguments is that the Greeks were a nation of soldiers, and that the gymnastic element was that which was most favoured in ancient educational systems. The conclusion of the argument is therefore that chess was not known to the ancient Greeks and Romans, and that had they been acquainted with the fact that chess was practised among other nations they would not have looked with favour upon its introduction into their own countries.

The earliest chess column printed in England is said to have been that in the *Liverpool Mercury* in 1813. The diagrams were printed without the squares being shaded, but in other respects the pieces and general arrangements differed little from those at present in use. Ten years later a chess column appeared curiously enough in the *Lancet* (1823), the game being introduced to the medical profession as "the only one to which the medical student may profitably devote any portion of his time and attention. It is liable to none of the objections which apply to games of chance; it holds out no encouragement to cupidity. And while it affords an agreeable relaxation from more serious pursuits, it strengthens the intellectual faculties by the unremitting attention which it demands, and may even have some influence on our moral habits by the lessons of foresight, patience, and perseverance which it inculcates." The column appeared without diagrams, and its life was a very short one. The following is the *Lancet's* first problem, and it will be found easier than most modern two-movers:—No. 382—White (6 pieces), K at Q R 3; R at Q B sq.; B at Q R 5; pawns at Q R 4, Q Kt 2, Q B 7. Black (4 pieces), K at Q R 2; Q at Q 4; pawns at Q R 3, and Q Kt 2. White mates in three. The chess column in the *Illustrated London News* has been running for over 50 years. Its original author and conductor until about 1874 was Mr. Staunton. Our own column commenced May 26, 1893.—*Weekly Times*.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From America	per O. & C. Co.	Monday, Sept. 15th.
From America	per P. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 16th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 19th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 22nd.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 22nd.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed. day, Sept. 30th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 8th.

* Captain left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 26th.
† City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 13th.
For America	per P. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 15th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 15th.
For Europe, via Shang-		
hai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 14th.
For America	per O. & C. Co.	Wed. day, Sept. 17th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 19th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 22nd.
For Europe, via Hong-		
kong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 2nd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 5th September.—Hongkong via ports, 28th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 5th September.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Iwanaga, 6th September.—Kobe 5th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, J. de la Lande, 6th September.—Fushiki 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 7th September.—Vancouver, B.C., 25th August, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 7th September.—Kobe 5th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peter Rickmers, German steamer, 2,815, J. H. Westermeyer, 6th September.—Cheloo 26th July, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Heathfield, British barque, 1,535, P. McKenzie, 7th September.—Middlesboro' 14th April, Iron.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

Tancred, Norwegian steamer, 764, S. E. Kroger, 7th September.—Iloilo 27th August, Sugar.—Chong Wyo Tye & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, C. A. Anderson, 7th September.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 6th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, P. Cottier, 7th September.—Otaru via ports, 4th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 8th September.—Nagasaki 5th September, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Humber, British store-ship, Commander Frank W. Wyley, 9th September.—Hakodate 7th September.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, G. Bourdon, 9th September.—Marseilles 2nd August, Hongkong 1st September, Shanghai 4th, and Kobe 8th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, K. Nakajima, 9th September.—Takamatsu 7th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Shimadzu, 9th September.—Hachinohe 7th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, A. B. Cubitt, 10th September.—London via ports, and Kobe 8th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 10th September.—Yokkaichi 9th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Olga, British steamer, 2,146, G. Harris, 10th September.—New York, 127,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 10th September.—Hongkong via ports, 2nd September, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, P. Cottier, 10th September.—Hakodate 7th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 11th September.—Hongkong via ports, 3rd September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, J. W. Ekstrand, 11th September.—Shanghai via ports, 5th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Hayashi, 11th September.—Mororan 8th September, Coal.—Tanaka Shoten.

Frogner, Norwegian steamer, Goelisein, 12th September.—Newchwang, Bean-cakes.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Suyehiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,150, 12th September.—Mororan 9th September, Coal.—Nakai Jiai.

DEPARTURES.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 5th September.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,960, R. Davies, 5th September.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Patroclus, British steamer, 1,670, Dickens, 5th September.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Aubert, 6th September.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 6th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, S. Kawamuro, 6th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Helena Rickmers, German steamer, 1,961, Rebbel-mund, 6th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Iwanaga, 7th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 7th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Elisabeth Rickmers, German steamer, 2,066, Anderson, 7th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Chusang, German steamer, 623, J. Andresen, 8th September.—Hongkong, General.—Chong Wo Tye & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 8th September.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Gowing, 8th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, J. de la Lande, 10th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, MacMillan, 10th September.—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, 10th September.—Seattle, Wash., via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Herman Veda Farsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 11th September.—Victoria and San Francisco, Ballast.—Captain.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 11th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 11th September.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Queen Olga, British steamer, 2,146, G. Harris, 12th September.—Kobe, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Smith and child, Rev. K. Hayakawa, Mr. E. W. Blodgett, and Mr. M. Fernando in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. L. D. Abraham, Miss Bessie Alcorn, Mrs. W. P. Anderson, Miss Isabel Anderson, Miss L. Atkinson, Miss W. Atkinson, Miss E. C. Bennett, Captain J. M. Benson, Dr. and Mrs. Begg, Mr. F. S. Blackwell, Rev. and Mrs. A. C. Borden, Mr. John S. Bradstreet, Mrs. M. E. Calloun, Mr. Chong Hock How, Miss Colman, Mrs. Coxon, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Davies, Mr. H. Davies, Mr. J. V. Davies, Mr. R. J. Davis, Miss Davis, Mr. F. B. Deacon, Miss D. M. Douw, Surgeon-Major Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Ellsworth, Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Fiedler, Mr. E. Evans, Rev. and Mrs. C. Goodrich and child, Miss B. Goodrich, Miss G. Goodrich, Mrs. Graham, Miss Gurrie, Miss Lizzie Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, Miss Hancock, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Miss Haigraue, Mr. R. M. Harter, Miss E. Hartwell, Mr. T. M. Henderson, Commodore and Mrs. Swinton Holland and servants, Miss Joan Holland, Miss Margerie Holland, Master Holland, Mr. M. R. Jeffers, Mr. C. S. Joslyn, Miss King, Rev. and Mrs. Henry Kingman and child, Miss C. Kingsmill, Mr. Albert Kahn, Mr. Leopold Kahn, Mr. Edward Kahn, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Lathrop and servant, Mr. Vincent Lawford, Mr. Louis Longin, Colonel and Mrs. John Magee, Miss E. Mitchell, Mr. W. J. Morse, Miss C. McCormick, Miss B. McCoy, Rev. and Mrs. W. P. McVey, Miss Grace Newton, Rev. J. E. Pease, Mr. S. Pohle, Mr. E. Runge, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Scott, Mr. H. Scott, Mr. H. Scott, Miss M. Scott, Miss B. Scott, Miss Shimizu, Mr. H. Shoda, Mr. E. M. Schlussel, Rev. and Mrs. Shepard, Miss M. E. Shockley, Mr. E. T. Shortland, Captain A. Leigh Smith, Mr. W. G. Smith, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. H. E. Soules, Mr. D. P. Thompson, Mr. Taylor, Miss Vautier, Mr. Yee Chu Ta, and Mr. Zarese in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 132 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Garonne, Mr. Lamore de Lamivaude, Mr. G. de Cuers de Cogolien, Mr. Gatillou, Mr. Baieu, Mr. Blum, Mrs. E. O. Kellog, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Macklin, M.D., Mr. Fletcher, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Tollahomed, Mr. E. D. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll and 4 infants, Mr. Pidgeon, Mr. Oshima, Mr. G. Reiffinger, Mr. Leu Ono, Mr. Kamakidji Oishi, Mr. D. H. Hagaska, Mr. and Mrs. Ballet Reymand, Mr. Choza Ouchi, Mr. Koyabe, Mr. Prigent, Mr. Soloyef, Captain C. S. Johnson, Colonel A. Houlett, Mr. E. S. D. Pereira, Mrs. Suanah, Mr. Campagnol and boy, Mr. O. Conner, and Mr. Kanaka in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. St. A. Baylee, Lieut. Barnardiston, Mr. J. H. Watson, Captain Rowlett, Miss MacIntosh, Mr. and Mrs. Vidal, Miss Vidal, Messrs. H. E. Yen Nien, F. F. Jaques, S. Dean, G. Caldwell, R. Tauzalin, Dr. and Mrs. Ringer,

Mr. W. H. Howard, Rev. and Mrs. Caultis and child, Mr. and Mrs. Craddock and 2 children, Mr. E. W. Sharples, Mr. Chaw Tze Koi, Mr. and Mrs. Cheukoff, Messrs. O. Gilmour, E. Stypmann, J. W. Broadbent, Mrs. Netland and 2 children, Captain Sarnon, Mr. J. Seymour and 2 children, Messrs. E. White, E. B. Skottowe, B. Dallas, Miss F. Dallas, Mr. M. Ginsburg, Mr. R. R. Reed, Captain Crawford, Lady Tichborne, Mrs. B. Merlin, H. J. Owen, H. Britschneider, H. F. Arthur, P. H. Bernays, Y. Saito, T. H. Joseph, G. Whiting, Miss Skinner, and Mr. P. C. Forsyth in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 289 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Chas. Seymour, Mrs. MacHaffie and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. Meier, Mr. and Mrs. Sachse, 3 children, governess, and amah, Captain Clark, Dr. E. Bailey, Hon. and Mrs. J. F. Connelly and 2 children, Mr. H. Heitmann, Mr. H. Dieckmann, Mr. H. Blum, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Tallien, Mr. T. Brinne, Mr. Frank Burton, and Mr. E. H. Tusk in cabin. For San Francisco:—Messrs. W. P. Connelly, N. W. Pond, K. Noro, M. Yenyah, and K. Shida in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Miss Nelson, Mr. Wade, Colonel Strelbetzky, Messrs. Clayton, Oshima, Kobayashi, Mikigawa, Nemoto, Viscount Nomura, Misses Nomura (2), Iriye, Tanaka, Messrs. Kajitori, Oka Azabu, Nakano, Fukunaga, Kobayashi, Kawamura, Tajima, Sakurai, Sugiyama, Major-General Isobe, Messrs. Sugiyama, Suzuki, Fukui, Yoshisuye, Jesselson, and Shibayama (2) in cabin; Messrs. Oda, Yanagase, Kawasaki, Urano, Nakata, Asukai, Kawano, Matsunoto, Miss Mori, Miss Shobara, Messrs. Yera, Noguchi, Nasaka, Ito, Shimidzu, Nagashima, Kikuchi, Edkarpi, Larson, and Tson Tsem Yuen in second class, and 211 natives and 5 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. R. F. Bickerton and son, Miss S. P. Birnie, Baron R. de Batz, Mr. G. Clark, Mr. A. Chamberlain, Mr. W. F. Crichton, Mrs. A. Duncan, Lieut. and Mrs. H. F. Fickbohm, Mrs. M. Freeman, Miss Hellyer, Miss Haggood, Mrs. A. T. Hill and 3 children, Miss M. Hennessey, Mr. and Mrs. F. Hellyer, Mr. Krausch, Mr. C. Lichtenfelder, Mr. E. R. Morris, Mr. G. Morris, Mr. Chas. H. Mitchell, Mr. F. V. McNair, Jun., Mrs. F. V. McNair, Mr. Otto Messing, Mrs. E. Morris, Miss G. Morris, Mr. G. S. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. V. Gilpin Robinson, Mr. O. Reichter, Commander W. W. Reisinger, U.S.N., Mr. R. Shewan, Mr. K. Stadniski, Mr. B. O. Squire, Miss B. Smith, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, and Mrs. A. Whartenby in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Addis, infant and amah, Mrs. S. Yajima, Miss A. Rotz, Mr. and Mrs. Rickman and 2 infants, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Meuser, Mrs. Moore and infant, Mrs. Edye, Sister St. Dominique, Sister St. Odile, Messrs. O. Pollak, R. de Souza, Chew An Pang, Show Fun and infant, C. F. Stockwell, Miss Cobb, Miss Dresser, Messrs. Marcus Goldstein, A. Fong, Loo Tsu Yuen, Lai Hong How, Arabi Fairer, F. Cloux, Lieutenant McIntosh, Captain Armstrong, Messrs. Millochau, H. Spony, K. S. Torii, and Van Roskowski in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Gregson, Mrs. Pemberton, Mr. R. E. Toeg, Mr. W. U. Beauchler, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. P. Bland, Miss Melvin, Mrs. Jos. Cunningham, Mr. Stafford Sassoon, Rev. and Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Toeg and 2 infants, Mrs. Haskell and son, Miss Jamieson, Mrs. J. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Shapleigh, Mrs. and Miss Humphreys, Mr. A. P. Probst, Rev. and Mrs. S. R. Hope and child, Col. The O'Gorman, Rev. W. McGregor, Mrs. N. Clerk, Mr. G. A. Goodwin, Miss E. R. Scidmore, Miss Talmage, Miss Coppon, Major W. de B. Hatton, Mr. S. A. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Moorhead, Miss Moorhead, Mrs. J. D. Thompson, infant and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Ballant, Mr. E. U. Smith, Mrs. Pieters, 2 children and infant, Miss Takata Tane, Mrs. Hulhold, Messrs. A. L., and G. Kahn, Mr. F. J. Bardens, Mr. V. E. Abraham, Rev. J. W. and Mrs. Moore and child, Miss N. C. Stewart, Mr. R. Barton Wright, Mr. E. W. Barton Wright, Mr. Valentine Chiroi, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Mr. John Liddle, Mr. and Mrs. O. Mordhorst, Mr. C. J. Dudgeon, Mrs. A. Coxon, Mr. Jose Vidal, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. E. H. Tusk, Lady Lima Tichborne, Mrs. Beaufoy Merlin, Mr. R. C. Forsyth, Mr. F. T. Gause, and Captain Wynn in cabin; Mr. A. Lugebil in second class, and Mr. and Mrs. Yue Sing and daughter in third class.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. E. W. Rutter, Mr. M. Zumoto, Miss Fox, Mr. K. Tagi, Mr. K. Satake, Mrs. Tipple and 2 children, and Rev. C. Rambach in cabin; Messrs.

R. Saito, K. Kato, K. Shiraki, M. Shimizu, K. Shimomura, and K. Ishida in second class. For Shimomura:—Mr. Fardel and Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hind in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. G. C. Bouman and Mr. J. H. Ross in cabin; Mr. Y. Umehara and Mr. N. Hidaka in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Ford, Mr. J. Chambers, Rev. and Mrs. T. J. Arnold, Mr. E. W. Pugh, Mr. G. W. Hooper, Mr. A. M. Howe, Mr. H. A. Little, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson, Mr. S. Hayashi, and Mr. A. H. Heath in cabin; Mr. William Curtis and Mrs. Shirazawa in second class, and 71 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Lieut. Barnardiston, Rev. St. A. Baylee, Mr. Geo. Bowack, Mr. J. M. Chambers, Mr. S. Dean, Mr. R. C. Forsyth, Mr. C. de Granphrey, Mr. T. M. Henderson, Mr. T. H. Joseph, Mr. Stanley Leathers, Mr. R. Metz, Miss MacIntosh, Mrs. Beaufoy Merlin, Mr. Rudolph Metz, Mrs. Netland and two children, Mr. R. Oshima, Captain Rowlett, Captain Sarnow, I.G.N., Mr. J. Seymour and two children, Miss L. A. Skinner, Mr. E. Stypmann, Mr. M. Suzuki, Rev. and Mrs. E. F. Tatum, Miss Joy Tatum, Mr. Robert Touzalin, Lady Lina Tichborne, Mr. A. Vidal, Mrs. Vidal, Miss Vidal, Mr. J. H. Watson, R.N., Miss L. M. White, Mr. E. White, Mr. Giles Whiting, Mrs. Wyley, Miss Wyley, and His Excellency Yen Nien in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	CHICAGO	ODDERS	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	8,665	1,012	—	—	—	4,675
Yokohama	100	1,081	—	—	—	1,184
Yokohama	2,076	451	282	—	—	2,822
Hongkong	251	—	—	—	—	251
Total	6,090	1,476	1,366	—	—	8,912

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	CHICAGO	ODDERS	OTHER	TOTAL
Hongkong	—	25	—	—	—	25
Yokohama	—	50	—	—	—	50
Total	—	75	—	—	—	75

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 186 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 17 bales.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	CHICAGO	ODDERS	OTHER	TOTAL
Calcutta	—	—	73	—	—	73
Hongkong	12	—	30	31	—	79
Amoy	—	3,584	35	—	—	3,619
Fouchow	1,122	—	384	209	—	1,715
Shanghai	3,193	2,713	3,825	268	—	9,999
Colombo	242	—	—	—	257	499
Kobe	1,302	300	291	—	—	1,793
Yokohama	3,792	688	—	—	—	4,480
Total	9,563	3,701	8,084	261	288	22,257

	SHANGHAI	YOKOHAMA	CHICAGO	ODDERS	OTHER	TOTAL
Hongkong & Canton	15	—	—	—	—	15
Shanghai	50	—	—	—	—	50
Total	65	—	—	—	—	65

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 5th September.—Hongkong via ports, 28th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 15th June.—Bona, Algeria, Phosphate.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,668, Ward, 27th August.—Hongkong, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, A. B. Cubitt, 10th September.—London via ports, and Kobe 8th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,155, Rae, 30th August.—New York, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Cromarty, British steamer, 1,789, W. Duncan, 27th August.—Glasgow via ports, 18th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Dwyer, 1st September.—London via ports, and Kobe 31st August, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Norman, 5th September.—London via ports, and Kobe 3rd September, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July.—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 5th August.—Kobe 4th August, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, G. Bourdon, 9th September.—Marseilles 2nd August, Hongkong

1st September, Shanghai 4th, and Kobe 8th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 5th September.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 26th July.—Hongkong 12th July, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Port Philip, British steamer, 1,732, Smith, 3rd September.—Hakodate 1st September, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Taucaed, Norwegian steamer, 764, S. E. Kroger, 7th September.—Hilo 27th August, Sugar.—Chong Wo Tye & Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Humber, British store-ship, Commander Frank W. Wyley, 9th September.—Hakodate 7th September.
Olympia, U.S. flagship, Captain J. G. Read, 8th June.—Hakodate 6th June.
Saida (16), Austrian cruiser, Captain Conrad, Spiller, 21st August.—Honolulu 11th July.
Zaragoza, Mexican cruiser, Admiral A. O. Monasterio, 2nd August.—Gumayas, via Honolulu 13th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is very little during in these staples, the firmness of holders preventing business. In Fancies there is more enquiry though the actual business reported is not large.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER PICK.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 35 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 35 inches	2.75 to 3.20
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 35 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 41 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 35 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	7.95 to 9.50
Victoria Lawn, 12 yds, 25 1/2 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 4 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 3 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 inches	1.62 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3 1/2 to 4 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 inches	2.25 to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4 1/2 to 5 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 inches	2.80 to 3.25

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.37 1/2
Mouseline de laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2 yds	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 34, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	50.00 to 52.00
Nos. 2 50, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

Market continues depressed, imports being in excess of requirements.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized iron sheets	9.80 to 9.90
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.62 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Market strong, with an upward tendency in prices.

American	\$2.16 to 2.18
Russian	2.14 to 2.16
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Market very quiet, though some sales of Manila are reported. In White prices are well maintained. The market is quieter.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	\$4.00 to 4.10
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daiteng	3.45 to 3.50
Brown Canton	3.35 to 4.25
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.00
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business is very dull and there seems to be but little prospect for speedy improvement. Total export in this season to 2,630 bales against 17,510 bales at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$800 to 810
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	750
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	720 to 725
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	700 to 705
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 13/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	710
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	690
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	670
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	660
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	640 to 650
Kakedas—Extra	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 1	685 to 695
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 2	680
Kakedas—No. 2	—

WASTE SILK.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Business during the past week has been small, about 2,700 piculs having been purchased, mostly of medium and fine grades. Prices remain firm. Total settlements from May 1st to date amount to 183,400 piculs against 215,650 piculs at the same date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$24 to \$25
Choice	22 to 23
Finest	20 to 21
Fine	18 to 19
Good Medium	—

Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Owing to the breakdown of the telegraph wires in Japan, news from abroad was impossible for a day or two, but a late wire of September 8th getting through, rates were quoted easier.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— Bills on demand	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— 4 months' sight	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— Private 4 months' sight	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
— 6 months' sight	2 1/2 to 2 3/4
On Paris—Bank sight	2.66 1/2 to 7
— Private 4 months' sight	2.70 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 p.
— Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	179
— Private 30 days' sight	183
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.15 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.19 1/2
Bar Silver (London, 8th inst.)	30 1/2

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 11th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report that the following changes have taken place in the share market:—Hongkong Banks have risen to 192 per cent. premium, H. & W. Docks to 200 per cent. premium, H. & K. Wharfs to \$54.50, and Indo-Chinas to \$47.50.

New Amoy Docks have been sold to Hongkong at \$13 and West Points at \$18.

Club Hotels have changed hands locally to-day at \$69, at which rate a few more shares are on offer. Grand Hotels have also been sold at \$170, and at this rate shares are wanted. Iron Works are in demand at \$105, and Debentures of all kinds at quotations. A sale of Langfeldts is reported at \$130.

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September 12th, 1896.

1y.

IMPORTANT

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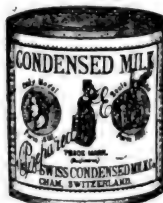
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1896.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXVI.
西曆九月十三日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 19TH, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. the Prince of Wales won the St. Leger with Persimmon.

THE cricket match on Saturday resulted in an easy victory for Mr. White's Eleven.

THE floods in Mino and Owari have been most destructive of life, property, and crops.

It is estimated that the recent storms did damage to the extent of 10,000,000 yen.

BARON SUYEMATSU, of the Legislative Bureau, sent in his resignation on the 15th inst.

THE new treaty between Japan and Holland was ratified on the 8th inst. at the Hague.

COUNT MATSUKATA has been appointed Minister President of State and Minister of Finance.

THE Tea Merchants' Bank of Yokohama will be inaugurated on or about the 1st of November.

MOST of the telegraph wires damaged by the late gales have been restored to working order.

THE train-service is slowly getting into working

order again, but some weeks must elapse ere through communication between Yokohama and Kobe is established.

MISS ELSIE ADAIR and a versatile company have drawn big audiences to the Public Hall this week.

THE Government of Korea has granted the privilege of felling timber in Ham-gyôg-do to a Russian.

CONSTANTINOPLE is still in a condition of nervous unrest. Trade is paralyzed and the Treasury is empty.

TYNAN, the notorious No. 1, of the Fenian organization, after 14 years' hiding, has been arrested at Boulogne.

ALL the steamers that left Yokohama on Friday and Saturday for Kobe encountered bad weather on the passage down.

THE Kiushu Beer Brewery Company is to be established in Kokuramachi, Buzen, with a capital of yen 300,000.

NEARLY all the small boats capsized during their race on Saturday. *Mary* won the big yacht race with only a few minutes to spare.

ADMIRAL KAWAMURA, Privy Councillor, and others, will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the death of the late Saigo Takamori.

DURING the week the dramatic company of H.M.S. *Humber* have given two performances at the Public Hall of the drama "Blow for Blow."

VERY little news has reached Japan regarding the Manila disturbances, but at Hongkong the revolution is believed to be more serious than was at first expected.

A BORING started by the Zo-o Kerosene Oil Company, Limited, has struck oil at a depth of 166 yards. The oil spurted up to a height of 86 yards above ground.

MAKONI, the rebel Mashona leader, has been captured, tried by court-martial, and shot. Major Watts has been arrested in connection with the execution of Makoni.

MR. FUKUZAWA YUKICHI held a *conversazione* from one o'clock on the afternoon of the 13th. Li Shun-young, Yu Ki-shun, and other Koreans were among those invited.

HEEDLESS of the objections lodged by Great Britain and Italy, the Porte has deported a shipload of Armenians and has adopted rigorous measures to prevent their return.

OWING to the inclemency of the weather on Tuesday the *flle* arranged on board the Mexican corvette *Zaragoza* in honour of President Diaz, had to be postponed for two days.

SHOULD Viscount Katsura become Minister of State for War it is expected that Baron Kodama, now Vice-Minister of the Department, will be appointed Governor-General of Formosa.

THE preliminary meeting of the committee entrusted with the task of investigating the merits of the broad gauge system, was held at the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce on the 14th inst. at 6 p.m.

THE late Yezawa Kingoro, ex-proprietor of the Tenshodo, who was drowned the other day at Oiso, while bathing, bequeathed yen 1,000 to the poor students' library in his native place, Chiba.

By a notification promulgated on the 12th inst., it is announced that the Government of Portugal will suppress all private telegrams that

are supposed to be tinged with the suspicion of connection with treason or plots against the State.

THE *Kokumin* reached its 2,000th number on Tuesday, and to celebrate the occasion issued a large plate, a study by the celebrated master Beisen, the subject being "Moonlight on mountain and lake."

THE First National Bank's charter expires on the 25th inst., but from the 26th, the Bank will reappear under the new name of the First Banking Corporation, Ltd., with a capital of yen 4,500,000.

MONSIEUR DESLANDRES, the Principal Astronomer of France, who came out to this country to observe the recent solar eclipse, was received in audience by his Imperial Majesty on the 11th inst. at 10.30 a.m.

THE Armenian Revolution Committee has sent a circular to some of the Embassies declaring that, unless the reforms asked for are granted by the Porte, demonstrations of a serious character will ensue.

THE amount of deposits in Post Office Savings Banks during March was yen 1,600,497.195. The amount of withdrawals was yen 1,436,989.763. There has been an increase in withdrawals of yen 212,210.211, i.e. 17.3 per cent.

At the end of last month the banks in this empire numbered 1,249, with a total capital of yen 223,500,044. Comparing these figures with those of the preceding month there is an increase of 26 banks, with an increased capital of yen 8,465,501.

BARON NABESHIMA KAN (ex-Governor of Hiroshima Ken), Mr. Todama Shosuke, Rear-Admiral Kodama Toshikuni, Rear-Admiral Tanaka Tsunatsune, Mr. Samejima Takenosuke (*chargé d'affaires* and *ad interim* private secretary to the Premier), were recently raised to the House of Peers.

THERE is not much improvement to be noted in the import trade, as the fluctuation in exchange appears to have made both buyers and sellers proceed with caution. At the commencement of the week holders asked more money for the Yarns and Grey Cloth enquired for, and as rates of exchange rose as the week wore on buyers hung back in the hope of a further rise in their favour. Fancy Cottons have been moved to some extent, but the business is not great. Woollens are not entirely neglected, but enquiries have not resulted in much actual business. Only a few enquiries for Metals, the stock rapidly increasing and prices are nominal. In the Kerosene market, holders are firm, and buyers do not appear to be anxious to operate. There is very little doing in Sugar of any kind, but stocks are ample. The Silk market looks healthier. Holders, who seem to be scared by a small fluctuation in exchange, made a substantial reduction in their demands at the commencement of the week, but a better feeling in the States was cabled with a slight rise in the value of silk there, when up went prices on this market and dealing once more became impracticable. Nothing doing in Waste Silk, buyers and sellers being wide apart in their ideas of values. In the Tea trade there continues to be a moderate business, buyers having looked up the parcels of the better qualities that were still to be found on this market, the third crop having proved to be generally undesirable leaf. Exchange having further declined at the beginning of the week, then took a turn in the opposite direction, and rates gradually improved till at the close they leave off rather better than a week ago.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

On Friday, the *Fiji* and other metropolitan journals thought the reorganization of the Cabinet by Count Matsukata was doomed to be a fiasco, as the Count himself thrice asked the Emperor to relieve him of the task. The difficulty in filling the vacancy at the War Office was the immediate cause of the trouble. Viscount Katsura positively refused to listen to Marquis Saigo and Count Inouye upon the matter, and reiterated his declaration that he would leave his post. When he found himself in this very difficult situation, Count Matsukata proceeded to the Palace on the 16th inst., and represented to the Emperor that he was unequal to the task of forming a Cabinet. The Emperor, however, graciously told the Count to think the matter over and endeavour to overcome the obstacle. Immediately after the Count left the presence of the Emperor, His Majesty sent Marquis Tokudaiji, the Lord Chamberlain, to Count Kuroda, enjoining the latter to expedite the formation of the Cabinet. The result was another gathering of the senior statesmen at the residence of Count Kuroda early on the morning of the 17th. What transpired is of course unknown, says the *Fiji*, but at a little past 10 the same morning Count Matsukata again proceeded to the Palace and for the third time requested the Emperor to release him from the obligation of forming a Cabinet. The Emperor again enjoined the Count not to give up the task, so that in the end, His Excellency could not bring himself to persist in his request. The *Fiji's* news was corroborated by other papers favourably inclined to Count Matsukata and Okuma, notably the *Yomiuri* and the *Nippon*. The first went so far as to say that it gave up the affair in despair. It averred, in tones of bitter regret, that the possibility of a Matsukata Cabinet was ended by the events of the 17th instant, when the Count proceeded to the Palace and was received in audience by the Emperor. The *Yomiuri* grieved to be obliged to declare that the formation of a responsible Cabinet pledged to introduce radical reforms in the administration of the country was impossible. The same paper and the *Nippon* accused, either explicitly or implicitly, the wire-pullers of the Choshu statesmen for having instigated Viscount Katsura to take up his present position. The *Yomiuri* observed that Marshal Marquis Yamagata was at heart not disinclined to place himself once more at the head of the Cabinet. The main reason why he declined when first asked by the wire-pullers of Counts Matsukata and Okuma, was because he saw that those wire-pullers were only offering him the post in the hope that he would decline and that then they could turn with clean hands to the two Counts.

The press this week did not neglect to discuss topics not directly connected with the leading problem of the day. We shall deal in this summary with those topics, as we have followed the progress of the Cabinet crisis from day to-day and have reproduced the opinions of various papers of the metropolis regarding the matter. The educational policy of Japan is discussed in a grave manner by the *Mainichi*. It grieves to observe that the status of scholars is steadily falling and the dignity and influence of instructors as steadily waning. The cause of the former phenomena must be sought in the defective educational policy of the State, while the latter must be due to the decay of the true spirit of scholarship. The educational policy of the Government calls for urgent reform, the main defect being the subordination of educationists to Government officials dealing with the educational affairs of the country. So thorough is this subordination that even the President of the University and the Heads of its respective colleges are in danger of being removed at the pleasure of obscure officials in the Department of Education. This vicious and entirely mischievous system prevails all through the land down to the petty village schools, whose teachers have to become servile servants of village and district councillors and

obliged to fawn on them to save their miserable pittance from being cut down. Under these circumstances, the true progress of sound education is impossible. Nor are the instructors themselves free from blame. They themselves have no true conception of the noble pursuit in which they are engaged, and they can not call forth a determination to devote their life to the investigation of science or in training men of sterling worth. Of course it must not be forgotten that they are constantly tempted by worldly considerations to forsake an ill-paid calling, and this of course destroys their influence among their pupils. Is there any scholar now of the type of the late Senator Nakamura Kein, whose career lay beyond the pale of fame or interest? He devoted his whole life to the cause of learning. Is it possible to find an equal of Mr. Fukuzawa, who furnishes such an admirable example to his pupils? In short, to rescue education from its present state of backwardness and stagnation, the Department must be distinctly separated from politics, and society should be taught to regard educationists with respect and consideration.

The *Fiji* discusses China's attempt to impose duties on goods manufactured on her soil, whether by natives or aliens. Our contemporary is rather glad to see China making such an attempt, holding that it is calculated to promote the interests of Japan. Theoretically, China's idea of imposing such duties is entirely untenable, and Japan has a perfect right, in virtue of the Shimonoseki Treaty, to refuse the appeal of the Middle Kingdom. But viewed from the standpoint of material interests alone, the proposal of China deserves the deliberate consideration of Japan. China is a very good customer of Japan, and the import of Japanese commodities, especially cotton yarns, is steadily increasing. The causes for this must be sought in the fact that while, on the one hand, home industries are still in their infancy in China, foreign competitors, on the other, are at a disadvantage with regard to dispatching goods to China, as compared with the Japanese merchants and producers. Can it be conducive to the interests of Japan when, in strict accordance with the provisions of the Shimonoseki Treaty, both foreign and Japanese capitalists start manufactures in China? It was partly owing to this consideration, the *Fiji* learns, that the Mitsui Firm decided to abandon for the present its original idea of starting a spinning mill at Shanghai. Japan must not be actuated by mere theoretical considerations in the matter, but should view the question from every standpoint of practical value and interest. Needless to say, Japan must not give away prescriptive rights secured to her by Treaty, unless, on the eve of conceding a step to China, she ask the latter for suitable compensation.

As a corollary to the discussion relating to proposed Chinese imposts, the *Fiji*, in a subsequent issue, gives some suggestions as to the compensation that ought to be demanded from China in return for expunging the free manufacture clause in the Shimonoseki Treaty. They are, the free export of raw cotton from China, the free import of marine products, and, lastly, free navigation between ports not yet opened for purposes of commerce.

The *Mainichi* devotes two leaders to discussing the problem of railway construction. In the first it observes that in laying a railway attention should be paid to preventing the marring of the landscape, while obstructions to the currents of rivers should be avoided for the sake of irrigation works. The second article deals with the present interruption of railway communication, and maintains that this untoward occurrence must partly be due to the negligence of railway experts to provide against floods. The *Mainichi* points to the case of the Sanyo Railway which is constructed along a slope terminating with the sea. The Sanyo track is always in danger of damage by flood. Efficient drainage schemes have also been entirely neglected. No wonder, therefore, that a slight storm often interrupts traffic on this

line. But such defects are not confined to the Sanyo road, similar remarks may be applied to all lines throughout the country, whether Government or private. The delays and inconvenience that a temporary suspension of railway communication brings about, subject the people, and especially merchants and producers, to serious loss. How much more serious would be the consequence should such suspensions as those now prevailing on several lines occur during time of war!

The *Nichi Nichi* writes in strong terms about the necessity for subjecting life insurance companies to more rigid control. Leaving out of the calculation the hundreds of petty companies, there are some fifty organizations dealing with life insurance, and the number of persons insured totals over 210,000, with paid-up premiums of 45 million yen. In other words, the number of policy-holders does not exceed 1/10 of the total population of the country and the paid-up premia average a little over 1 yen per head. Life insurance business in Japan is therefore still in its infancy. The *Nichi Nichi* observes that the defective development of this business is partly attributable to unfair competition now prevailing among the companies, and to the distrust in which the public hold them. The companies overlook one important matter with respect to their business. They seem to forget that, from the very nature of the business, they must be content with a narrow margin of profit. Far from being satisfied with small profits, the insurance companies of Japan, in their eagerness to secure large returns, do not scruple to invest their funds in risky concerns and often indulge in sheer speculation. A certain insurance company is understood to have absolutely no capital of its own, while only 19 out of the 50 companies are provided with statistical death rates, the majority undertaking business without a fixed standard to go upon. It is as if a ship should sail without a compass; nothing could be more dangerous. There is also a considerable difference in the charges, chiefly in connection with life insurance. In some companies the rate is as high as 38 per cent. of the premium, while in others it is only 7 to 8 per cent. The want of competent control lies at the root of these evils. The *Nichi Nichi* learns that the Authorities are legally authorized to enforce strict regulation of newly-established joint-stock companies dealing with life insurance, but that they cannot interfere with companies established prior to the enforcement of the Law of Companies, Firms, and Partnerships. Our contemporary now urges the Authorities to improve the law relating to the control of life insurance companies, so that every company or firm engaged in it may be subject to strict supervision.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The *Official Gazette* this morning announces that at 4.20 p.m. yesterday Count Matsukata Masayoshi was formally appointed Minister President of State, the ceremony being performed at the Palace in the presence of Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household; Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy; Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council; and other Ministers. Count Matsukata will hold the portfolio of Finance in conjunction with the Premiership, Viscount Watanabe Kunitake being relieved of the office.

The *Asahi* announces that the following appointments will be made to-day:—Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Count Kabayama, Minister of Home Affairs; Viscount Takashima, Minister of War, *ad interim*, and Minister of Colonization.

The exports from Yokohama last month were valued at yen 3,562,451.930; from Kobe, yen 3,039,117.560; the imports at Yokohama were yen 6,720,973.170; Kobe, yen 8,525,370.230. The amount of duties paid last month was yen 572,150.322.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FOUR BEARS KILLED IN ONE HUNT.

A HOKKAIDO man narrates a most successful bear-hunt, which took place on August 27th at Kurizawa-mura, near Sorachi. In a forest not far from the village is a forestry station of the Konishi Agricultural School, and several bears had been seen prowling in the vicinity for about a fortnight before the hunt took place. They did considerable damage on the experimental farm and caused much alarm, so that their extermination was resolved upon. Taoka, a local hunter of great repute, set out with ten beaters at noon of August 27th, and thoroughly searched the woods. After a prolonged hunt, suddenly one of the hunters came face to face with a huge bear. He might have touched the shaggy brute, so near was he; and it was impossible to use his gun. Taking to his heels, the hunter became the hunted, for Bruin followed rapidly and even succeeded in biting him twice in the thigh. This made the fugitive utter a loud yell, which was heard by Taoka. Advancing at full speed in the direction of the cry, Taoka found that the bear had reached his fainting prey and was about to make an end of him. At this moment a bullet from Taoka's rifle struck the bear in the abdomen, inflicting a fatal wound. Hardly had the bear been killed, when other cries were heard, the hunters shouting that they had come across the female with two half-grown cubs. Taoka was soon on the spot, and killed the trio with three clean shots at rather long range. Thus four bears had fallen to his rifle, and all in less than ten minutes. On the return to the village, Taoka was fêted and made much of—as indeed he deserved to be.

THE MESSEAGERIES MARITIMES.

THE report presented at the recent meeting at the Messageries Maritimes states that in conformity with the new conditions of the last convention entered into with the Government, the work of transforming the machinery of the steamboats *Caledonien*, *Océanien*, *Salaste*, *Sydney*, and *Yarra* into triple-expansion engines of greater power had been proceeded with. This transformation has been the means of accelerating the speed of the boats one knot per hour. The report also mentions the change effected in the internal arrangements of the cabins of the *Oronogue*, in view of its transference to the Mediterranean service; the application of lateral keels to the mail boats *Armand Behic* and *Ernest Simons*; and the installation of the electric light on board the *Haiphong*. The report goes on to state that the fleet is composed of 59 steamers, of a total tonnage of 213,091 tons, with a horse-power of 167,550, showing an increase compared with the previous year of three vessels of 12,136 tons, and 9,600 horse-power. Two new twin-screw boats were being constructed for the principal line of Indo-China. They form the first of the new series of steamboats to be put in hand in consequence of the renewal for nine years of the convention of 30th June, 1886. These steamboats were of a splendid type and of great power. They had all the latest improvements calculated to give satisfaction to their customers, and to meet all the wants of the service. The postal service had been executed with the usual punctuality. The rate of speed on the Indo-China line and on the Japan line had been 13.25 knots. The conditions of the convention of 30th June, 1886, stipulated 13 knots for the principal lines of Indo-China.

THE DONCASTER ST. LEGER.

THE belief has been steadily gaining ground in England as the summer's racing proceeded, that the St. Leger would be left to St. Frusquin and Persimmon when it came to racing, as the Duke of Westminster's Regret, who at one time was thought to have a great chance, gradually showed that he was not equal to the distance—in fact the length of his tether is a mile, and it is probable that he was not started on the Town Moor, that is to say in the Leger. However, yesterday's telegram settled all doubts, and the Royal owner of Persimmon has had the pleasure of leading in a

winner that must now be classed as the best horse of his year. It will be interesting to read the details of the race, as the Duke of Westminster, in the probable absence of Regret, started a couple out of the seven horses he had entered in the race that ran second and third—Labrador and Rampion. The former colt—by Sheen ex Ornament—never distinguished himself as a two-year-old, having only won the Ham Stakes at Goodwood, and in not very brilliant company, though he tried five times during the year; but he must be credited with a place in the Guineas. Rampion, a chestnut colt by Amphion ex Rydal, first sported silk in the Coventry Stakes at Ascot—won by Persimmon, to whom he ran unplaced, his only other appearance on the T.V.C. being at Goodwood, where he won the Molecombe Stakes from Faversham by a neck. The Prince's win will have been immensely popular at the great northern gathering, and for that matter throughout the country, and Persimmon's win at Doncaster gives evidence that the colt will have a good show in his remaining three engagements this season. The first of these is in the rich Jockey Club Stakes at head-quarters—10,000 sovs.—though here he will have to put up 12lb., but the course is only a mile and two furlongs across the flat. The second engagement of Persimmon is in the Lowther Stakes at the Second October Meeting, and the third the Limekiln Stakes at the Newmarket Houghton, the latter over the Rowley Mile.

NEW P. AND O. STEAMERS.

MESSRS. HARLAND and Wolf launched from their yard at Belfast recently a large new steamer, the *China*, for the Peninsular and Oriental Company. The *China* and the *India* her sister ship—recently launched at Greenock—are the largest steamers yet built for the company, the dimensions being—length 500 feet, breadth 54 feet, depth 37.7 feet, and gross tonnage 8,000 tons. The *China* will be driven by single screw triple expansion engines of 11,000 horse-power, but the distribution of power and smoothness of working will be ensured by employing engines of the four-cylinder tandem type. She will carry 500 saloon passengers. The ceilings of the saloon, library, and music and smoking-rooms will be highly decorated, a special feature being the fifteen panels representing the different aspects of the day, such as dawn, sunrise, twilight, and evening. The state-rooms on the promenade, spar, and main decks are exceptionally large and roomy, and well supplied with every comfort. The ship is, of course, fitted throughout with the electric light and has a large number of solid marble baths. For working cargo the arrangements are of an equally perfect character. The *China* is built on similar lines to the *Caledonia* (belonging to the same company), but is larger than that vessel. She will run on the Company's India and China mail lines.

PROFESSOR MILNE AND THE SEISMIC WAVE.

THE London *Daily Chronicle* has the following editorial note:—"Very timely is a brief article in the *Geographical Journal* for August by Professor John Milne, F.R.S., who holds that the Japanese great waves are due to seismological rather than volcanic agency. He recalls that in 1293 a great sea-wave carried away 30,000 Japanese a little south of the recent disaster, while coasts still further south have frequently suffered enormously. In 1703, on the coast of Awa, the loss of life from this cause exceeded 100,000. There was an awful loss on the Peruvian coast in 1868 and again in 1877, and these waves were felt in Japan. So the great sea-wave of 1883 in Java and Sumatra was also felt in 'the Britain of the Far East.' Happily the Britain of the West knows no greater disturbance of the sea than the great bore in the estuaries of the Severn and the Wye. But it seems Mother Earth tells us, if we only care to read her dumb language, of such great catastrophes on the other side of the world. Perhaps, if we had a national seismographic observatory, properly placed on the basalt or the granite which crop out at so many points on our islands, we should be able to tell of, and in time come to locate, great earth-disturbances the world over. At present Italy

leads the way in this department, and our only observatory is a private one on the southern chalk. Yet they say, Comrie, in Perthshire, has an earth-movement about every other day. We might surely try a seismological apparatus on a Devonshire tor, or add it to our observatory on Ben Nevis."

MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENTS.

HERE is an item taken from a London journal:—

An interesting German law came into force lately, the "Law against Unfair Competition," intended to punish the swindling of the descriptive advertiser. Next to the land of the wooden nutmeg, Germany is probably the country where devious commercial transactions most prevail, and as we in London are not infrequently the sufferers by enterprise of Hamburg and Bremen, we wish well to the new "self denying ordinance." By the way, a newspaper which publishes a false trade description may be made *particeps criminis*, and prosecuted as an accessory. This opens up an interesting prospect for those newspapers which make a good thing out of money-lenders, quack medicines, and City companies.

How would this new law operate, we wonder, in the case of a newspaper that invited advertisements by professing to have a larger circulation than any of its local contemporaries? Would it be possible to arraign the proprietor on a charge of false pretences, and compel him to prove his circulation?

CHINESE OPIUM.

THE following note by Mr. Frank Browne, F.C.S., Acting Government Analyst, Hong-kong, appears in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of the 1st August:—

In a previous paper (*Pharm. Journ.*, 1895-6, p. 493) are recorded some observations on the smoking value of Chinese opium. Further testings have been made, and the results of two series of independent observations by experienced Chinese smokers are here recorded:—

First series:—The Chinese opium extracts have a grassy taste, and are deficient in flavour and strength. Three parts of Indian extract are equal as regards the smoking effect to five parts of the Kweichow extract. Yunnan is weaker than Kweichow, while Szechuen is the weakest.

Second series:—The taste (flavour) of Kweichow extract is much weaker than that of Patna, and the strength, as regards smoking effect, is one half that of Patna. The taste of the Yunnan variety is weaker than that of Kweichow, and its smoking effect is one third that of Patna extract. In taste and in smoking effect, Szechuen extract differs but little from Yunnan. The effect produced by smoking either of the Chinese extracts is similar to that from a proportional quantity of Patna extract.

Conclusions:—As regards narcotising power, it is noteworthy that the three opiums yield extracts greatly inferior to Indian extract, although the Chinese opiums have been shown, especially in two varieties, to contain larger quantities of morphine than are present in Indian opium.

FOUR IN A BUNCH.

THE *Yomiuri* reports that the wife of Mr. Ozawa, a well-known merchant of Nihombashi District, Tokyo, gave birth to quadruplets on and inst. Two of these were boys, and of the girls one died shortly after being born. The others and the mother are doing well. Curiously enough more than one child at a birth is thought most unfortunate in Japan. The idea, handed down from ancient times, is that twins or triplets are the result of some feud or wrongdoing in a former state of existence. The enemies or those harmed thus take vengeance on the parents by forcing them to rear and educate them until they, the one-time foes, reach maturity.

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

THE last mail from Hawaii has brought news of the expected return of Princess Kaiulani to that country during the month of September. Private advices inform us that many rumours are floating with reference to this event: that she is to be placed on the throne with President Dole as her Prime Minister, and that England and the United States have joined to form a protectorate. It is not at all probable that the Republic can be overthrown; but it is not unlikely that an attempt may be made to restore the monarchy in the person of this popular Princess.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CANTON.

THE *China Mail* of September 4th announces that its Chinese contemporary the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tse Yat Po*) received a telegram from Canton that morning stating that a serious conflagration occurred in Canton on Sept. 3rd. The fire broke about eight o'clock in the Tong-yu-lan,

the Western suburb; and raged with great fury until about midnight. Over two hundred houses were destroyed. The cause of the fire is unknown. This part of the city is occupied chiefly by the *Yoshiwara*.

THE MANSION HOUSE "TIDAL WAVE" FUND.
A KOBÉ contemporary notices by the subscription lists appearing in the latest home papers received, that the Mansion House fund for the relief of sufferers by the tidal wave on the north-east coast of Japan amounted on August 6th to £3,473 9s. 6d. The Elawick Shipbuilding Company alone contributed £1,050; Lord Armstrong £250; Sir Andrew Noble £250; and Mr. A. R. Brown, Consul for Japan at Glasgow, collected £54 7s. od.

"BLOW FOR BLOW."

A VERY small but extremely sympathetic audience witnessed the second performance of "Blow for Blow" at the Public Hall on Monday evening. The piece went even better than on Saturday, and *Charles Spraggs* achieved a most notable success. We trust that when the dramatic company of H.M.S. *Humber* again appear upon the boards they will meet with the patronage to which their merits entitle them.

DEATH OF AN OLD RESIDENT.

News has been received of the death in Germany of Mr. Boehmer, late of the Yokohama Nurseries. This gentleman did much in the early days of foreign residence to make known the flora of Japan to the outer world, and few knew the Hokkaido so thoroughly, from a horticulturist's standpoint. He had been in failing health for some years past.

BURGLARIES IN SAPPORO.

The house of the Rev. W. W. Curtis, of Sapporo, was broken into by thieves on the night of the 3rd inst., and a safe containing sixty yen and a quantity of silver plate carried off. The safe, broken open and empty, was found the next day a short distance from the house. On the morning of the 4th the house of the Rev. S. C. Niven was broken into and a clock, over-coat, rug, and various other articles carried off.

THE "CATTERTHUN'S" GOLD.

The divers have succeeded in recovering 5,000 sovereigns from the wrecked steamer *Catterthun*. The work of recovery is being carried on under great difficulties on account of the strong currents and the depth—26½ fathoms—which is said to be the greatest depth of water in which diving work has ever been attempted.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

The *Kokumin* reached its 2,000th number on Tuesday, and to celebrate the occasion issued a large plate, a study by the celebrated master Beisen, the subject being "Moonlight on mountain and lake."

THE REVOLT AT MANILA.

EVERYTHING, says the *China Mail*, seems to point to the fact that the Manila authorities are blocking all details of the trouble in the Philippines. Quarantine now exists against telegrams.

SHIPPING STRIKE.

ACCORDING to a telegram in the Australian papers, a great shipping strike is anticipated in Great Britain, for a minimum wage and the compulsory employment of Unionists.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR HAIGHT.

MR. MILTON HAIGHT, sometime Professor in the Agricultural College at Sapporo, died at Waterloo, Canada, on the 4th August, and was buried at Newmarket on the 6th.

BARON VON BIEGELBEN.

BARON VON BIEGELBEN, formerly Austro-Hungarian Minister at Tokyo, has retired, says a Reuter's Vienna telegram, from the diplomatic service on a pension.

A LONG DRIFT.

A LIFE-BUOY belonging to the Japanese gunboat *Banjo* has been picked up by a trading schooner in the Hawaii Channel and taken to Honolulu.

THE "PAMIAZ AZOVA."

VLADIVOSTOCK papers of the 24th ult. says that the *Pamiaz Azova* has arrived there quite safe.

THE CABINET CRISIS.

Saturday, September 12th.

Judging from the Tokyo papers, the Cabinet crisis is apparently on the eve of definite settlement. The *Yiji* and others note that Count Matsukata proceeded to the Palace at about 10.20 a.m. the day before yesterday and conferred with the Emperor till past 1 p.m. On his way back, he called on two or three of the senior statesmen. Judging from these circumstances, and also from the fact that the hopes of the senior statesmen were centred round the Count, he must privately have been asked by the Emperor to accept the premiership. The Count must also have laid his views before the Emperor. In the afternoon of the same day, Marquises Yamagata and Saigo and Count Kuroda held a conference at the residence of Count Matsukata, most probably to discuss the Cabinet problem. Their carriages were still in front of his residence at 7 o'clock in the evening. Count Hijikata and Viscount Tanaka, Minister and Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household respectively, called on several of the elder statesmen that day and they then went back to submit their reports to the Emperor. All the papers, with the significant exception of the *Nichi Nichi*, say that Count Matsukata has promised the Emperor to undertake the task of forming a Cabinet, and that the new Cabinet will be gazetted within two or three days, or even earlier. The *Tokyo Asahi* sketches the following list of probable portfolio-holders:—

Premier and Minister of Finance	Count Matsukata.
Minister of Foreign Affairs	Count Okuma.
Minister of Home Affairs	Count Kabayama.
Minister of the Navy	Marquis Saigo.
Minister of War	Viscount Takashima.
Minister of Colonization	Viscount Enomoto.
Others not yet settled.	

The *Chuo's* schedules are:—

Schedule A.	Schedule B.
Premier	Count Matsukata.
Finance	Count Matsukata.
Home Affairs	Count Kabayama.
Foreign Affairs	Count Okuma.
Army	Viscount Takashima.
Navy	Marquis Saigo.
Agriculture and Commerce	Viscount Shinagawa.
Education	Baron Kuki.
Justice	Count Oki.
Communications	Mr. Shirane or Count Mr. Shirane.
Colonization	Viscount Torio.
	Viscount Takashima.

The *Chuo* says that of the two, Count Matsukata prefers schedule B. As the Count can not be governed solely by his own choice there will perhaps be several changes up to the eve of the new Cabinet being gazetted. Three candidates are mentioned by the same paper as the probable successor of Baron Ito, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, namely, Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, Chief Editor of the *Osaka Asahi* and ex-chief of the *Official Gazette* Bureau; Mr. Narukawa, ex-Governor of Miye; and Mr. Inagaki Manjiro, author of "Japan in the Pacific," all of whom enjoy the confidence of Count Matsukata. The *Chuo*, while giving these three names, points to the probability of Mr. Takahashi's appointment.

Marquis Saigo, who had determined on resignation, has been dissuaded from the step by the earnest persuasions of the *Genkun* entrusted by the Emperor with the task of making arrangements for the formation of a new Cabinet. The fact is, writes the *Tokyo Asahi*, the Marquis's continuance at his present post is found absolutely necessary for bringing the present crisis to a definite close. Consequently, Counts Kuroda and Inouye earnestly advised the Marquis to give up the idea of leaving office, and to undertake the most important task of perfecting the programme of naval expansion. The Marquis was therefore obliged to abandon his original intention, and called on the two Counts on the 10th instant to convey them a favourable answer.

The rumoured entry of Admiral Count Kabayama into the Cabinet as successor to Count Itagaki must strike our readers with some surprise. The following, from the *Nippon*, may therefore interest them, though we are not, of course, in a position to vouch for its authenticity. "The Admiral is most favourably inclined towards the formation of a Matsukata-Okuma Cabinet. This is ascribable to his aversion to *Genkun* Cabinets, for he is a most pronounced

anti-*Genkun* statesman. He is conscious of the accumulation of vast abuses in the Government, and holds that to cleanse it a resolute step must be taken and a radical change effected. As to whether the time has matured for such drastic measures, the Admiral cannot yet decide, but he clearly perceives that a Cabinet headed by Counts Matsukata and Okuma approaches nearer his ideal than one formed by Count Kuroda or Marquis Yamagata. His entry into the Cabinet will therefore add much weight to its decisions." Indeed, the *Nippon* and *Chuo* affirm that Counts Matsukata, Okuma, and Kabayama will in reality direct the affairs of State.

Apparently, some of the Progressionist Party are desirous of inducing the public to believe that the entry of their leader into the Cabinet is due rather to the warm persuasion of Count Matsukata than to any wish on the part of Count Okuma. The *Mainichi* and *Yomiuri* repeatedly allege, in contradiction to statements made by the *Yiji* and other papers, that Count Okuma has not yet been approached on the subject of his entry, and that he will not enter office unless the Cabinet declares to be a *bona fide* party Cabinet, and so forth. The *Nippon*, not being shackled by any consideration of party interest, does not hesitate to declare that a Matsukata Cabinet without Count Okuma would reduce the present shifting of Cabinet seats to an entirely senseless and absurd farce. The consummation of such a meaningless change would place Count Matsukata in a very ridiculous position, and it would militate against the future influence of Count Okuma. The statement of the organs of the Progressionists, that the Count will only enter a party Cabinet, may be due to their intention to eliminate the *Genkun* element as much as possible from the Matsukata Cabinet. They intend in that way to deter the *Genkun* from interfering too much in the arrangement of the coming Cabinet. This supposition is somewhat corroborated by the following note from the *Tokyo Asahi*, which is tolerably free from party prejudice. "The *Asahi* says that the Count of Waseda was visited a day or two ago by a certain publicist, to whom the Count gave his opinions regarding the complexion of the new Cabinet. He felt sure that, whatever its merits, it could not last long. Still, he would enter office, provided the Cabinet's policy was satisfactory, even though its was to be organized on clan principles." The reason for his willingness to enter the coming Cabinet was that it would prove highly convenient and advantageous to him, for the Cabinet that followed would certainly be formed on the principle of party support.

Tuesday, September 15th.

Count Matsukata's negotiations, that were apparently proceeding towards a prompt conclusion, have encountered another difficulty, and are brought to a sudden standstill. The difficulty consists, says the *Nippon*, in the Count's declaration that he can not undertake to form a Cabinet unless certain views entertained by him regarding the future administration of the State are endorsed by the elder statesmen and others who now direct the Nation's affairs. The *Nippon* declares that the elder statesmen were struck with surprise when Count Matsukata announced his views. After an interval of apparent bewilderment the flames of jealousy and suspicion began to appear and vicious plots were formulated to bring about an estrangement between the elder men. The puppets of the elders were aroused to sudden activity by wire-pullers working from "behind the curtain," so that the prospect is now overclouded. The labours of the elder statesmen, that were on the eve of bearing fruit, have unexpectedly been checked, and a crisis is imminent. Nor is the surprise confined to the seniors alone, panic has overtaken political parties also. While they were loftily declaring in their overweening confidence that they did not care much who entered the Cabinet, as they had determined to support it should the Cabinet's policy square with their political ideas, or oppose it if it differed, Count Matsukata has assumed the initiative and announced a platform of his own, leaving political parties to support or oppose him just as they please. In fact the position has undergone a sudden change by this move

of the Count's. The *Nippon* adds that, as the line of the drift of affairs is fixed and immovable, nothing will prevent the formation of the Matsukata Cabinet: only it will take more time than had been anticipated.

The rumour, first published by the *Nichi Nichi*, is repeated by the *Yomiuri*, that Marquis Saigo and Mr. Shirane, who, on the advice of Marquis Yamagata, were induced to abandon the idea of leaving the Cabinet, have once more reverted to their old position. The cause is attributed to something that transpired at the conference of the elder statesmen held at Count Matsukata's residence on the evening of the day that the Count was received in audience by the Emperor. That evening the rearrangement of the Cabinet was discussed, and something seems to have induced the Ministers of the Navy and of Communications to believe that the *personnel* of the Cabinet had previously been privately arranged. This caused umbrage to the two statesmen, and they therefore decided to resign. The same paper says that on the morrow of its formation the Matsukata Cabinet will announce its platform.

Wednesday, September 16th.

The breach between Count Matsukata and the National Unionists appears to be gradually widening. The party held another secret conference on Saturday. The *Shogyo* does not pretend to a knowledge of the particulars of the proceedings, but judging from the professions of almost every member of the party that the policy that Count Matsukata intends to inaugurate is opposed to the ideas of the Unionists, and that the organization of a Cabinet on these lines can not be viewed with complacency—judging from this unanimous declaration, our contemporary thinks that the party will not only oppose the entry of their leader, Viscount Shinagawa, into the Cabinet, but would also endeavour to dissuade Marquis Saigo and Mr. Shirane, from remaining in office.

The *Chuo*, the organ of the Unionists, that up to the present has taken the part of spectator in the present drama, has begun to move. In its yesterday's issue, the *Chuo* ridicules Count Matsukata for relying so much upon the elder statesmen and the leading members of the *Shimpo-to* and pro-*Shimpo-to* publicists in regard of the formation of his Cabinet. It doubts whether the Cabinet, depending upon the support of so many props, can be expected to last long. In another note, the same journal writes strongly against prolonging the present interregnum. The *Tokyo Shimbun* describes some alleged "scenes behind the curtain." One of the most curious of these stories is the allegation that the platform, about which so much noise is made by the *Nippon* and its colleagues, was the result of a long conference between the *Shimpo-to* and their political friends, at the residence of Count Matsukata on the evening of the 6th inst.; that Mr. Oishi, ex-Minister to Korea had sketched the outlines, and that, with the unanimous consent of all present, he and Mr. Inagaki Manjiro drew up the draft of the platform. This was produced at the general meeting of the *Shimpo-to* held next day, and was adopted unanimously. The *Fiji* observes that the difficulty in finding a suitable candidate to succeed Marquis Oyama is the principal cause of the delay in announcing the organization of the Cabinet.

Thursday, September 17th.

The *Fiji* gives the following review of the political situation:—

The political sky, that promised to clear up so quickly, has again suddenly clouded, and it is not easy to predict how things will eventuate. In fact, a serious obstacle has suddenly presented itself on the road that appeared to lead to the formation of the Matsukata Cabinet. The situation is critical, and a blunder committed at this juncture may entirely undo all the negotiations of the elder statesmen. The first difficulty consists of the question of the so-called platform. On the 10th inst., Count Matsukata was received in audience by the Emperor and was privately asked to undertake the task of forming a Cabinet. The Count then submitted the views he entertained as to the future policy

of the Administration. Some hours after, Marquises Yamagata and Saigo, and Counts Kuroda and Inouye—the seniors—met at the residence of Count Matsukata, who disclosed to them the proposals he had just submitted to the Emperor. The seniors did not express any definite opinion upon these views and the Count therefore took their silence as tacit compliance. The conference then proceeded to discuss the *personnel* of the future Cabinet. When the views of the Count reached the ears of other statesmen, and they perceived that the scheme contemplated by him was the paving of the way for the inauguration of the *Sekinin Naikaku* (a Cabinet responsible to the people), so long demanded by politicians outside the Government, opposition was created. Thus the progress of the Count's negotiations was arrested. A second difficulty is presented by the Budget for the next fiscal year. In the Count's opinion, the period for perfecting the Armament Expansion programme should be prolonged, but this is stoutly opposed in certain quarters, and is a reason why a successor can not be easily found for Marquis Oyama at the War Office. A third difficulty relates to the disposition of seats in the Cabinet. The Count asked the four seniors to dissuade the remaining Ministers from resigning their posts. At the same time he adopted the opinion of his political friends outside the Government, the so-called platform, and then announced that the Ministers who sat in his Cabinet must regulate their procedure in accordance with the provisions of that platform. Some of the Ministers who remained in office at the repeated advice of the seniors think that this action of Count Matsukata in pledging them to implicit obedience to his policy is nothing short of an insult to their honour and dignity. They have taken so much umbrage that Mr. Shirane and others are about to peremptorily decline to serve in the Administration. It is true that Count Matsukata, at the conference held on the 10th inst., stated his views respecting reforms in the future Administration, but this is a totally different thing from determining a platform to regulate the movements of the Ministers of his Cabinet. Under the circumstances, the seniors, who tacitly acknowledged the views of the Count, and who, in compliance with his request, tried to arrange his Cabinet, are in a very embarrassing situation. As things stand at present, one of two alternatives should be adopted, either to give up the idea of establishing a platform or to retain the services of the remaining Ministers by making concessions. Perhaps the former may be adopted, for the demands for the platform have not been heard so loudly among the political wire-pullers for a day or two. If so, the crisis may pass without particular trouble and a Cabinet may promptly be formed.

The accounts in the *Mainichi* and *Nippon* with regard to the attitude of Marquis Saigo and Mr. Shirane are contradicted by all the other journals, including such independent papers as the *Fiji* and the *Shogyo*. The former reports that Mr. Shirane's decision to resign is firm, and that even Marquis Yamagata's influence is not likely to be of any avail. The *Shogyo* even reports that Marquis Saigo's whereabouts since the noon of the 14th inst. is unknown. The Marquis' disapproval of Count Matsukata's naval programme will make it difficult for the latter to secure the services of the Marquis. The same paper, the *Chuo*, and others not on the side of Count Matsukata, allege that the private decision of the seniors to recommend Viscount Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa, as successor to Marquis Oyama gives umbrage to Viscount Takashima, who was secretly promised by Count Matsukata the seat at the Department of War, and that, therefore, the promotion of Viscount Katsura may lead Viscount Takashima and his bosom friend Admiral Count Kabayama to refuse to enter a Cabinet presided over by Count Matsukata. Be that as it may, the whole affair is considerable tangled. The *Mainichi* says that the only things required at this juncture is resolute decision. "Let those who want to keep away be left to follow their own choice." The *Fiji* is highly vexed at the dilatoriness manifested in the pre-

sent affair. As things are at present, due arrangements for administrative business are out of the question, which is the more regrettable as the damage done by floods in various localities needs urgent attention. Affairs of State must necessarily lag behind. Viewed from outside, indeed, the failure to promptly reorganize the Cabinet is entirely inexplicable. The whole thing lies in a nutshell, that is for the seniors either to approve or oppose the views enunciated by Count Matsukata. If those views are opposed, then the Count ought to declare his determination not to accept the Premiership, but if the seniors approve they must endeavour to promptly seek suitable candidates for office. That so much time has been wasted must be due to want of resolution on the part of the seniors, who have not sufficient courage to either offer opposition or to extend support.

The attitude of the Unionists toward Count Matsukata appears to have undergone a complete change. The Unionists, observes the *Asahi*, were formerly on good terms with the Count, who once signified his approval of the fundamental policy of that party, namely, the expansion of national armaments. The present declaration of the Count that a limit must be set to this programme has created a gap between the two. The Unionists now declare that they cannot approve the views of the Count, whom they hold has surrendered to the *Shimpo-to*.

Friday, September 18th.

The Cabinet crisis has once again veered round to the original position. The chief trouble, observes the *Fiji*, that prolongs the suspension, consists in the difficulty of bringing about a cordial consensus of opinion in regard the appointment of a successor to Marquis Oyama, one section recommending Viscount Takashima and the other Viscount Katsura. The Emperor is said to be greatly annoyed at the interminable shilly-shallying, and on the 16th inst., a special messenger was sent to Count Kuroda, Premier *ad interim*, requesting his opinion as to whether it was not advisable to announce the nomination of such of the candidates for office whose acceptance of the respective portfolios had been received. The next day the Count proceeded to the Palace and put before the Emperor the exact circumstances of the case. He then called on Count Matsukata and related what had taken place at the audience. Count Matsukata declared that so long as the selection of a Minister for the Department of War was beset with so much difficulty, he could not hope to comply with the wishes of the Emperor, and therefore should be released from undertaking the task of forming a Cabinet. This statement of Count Matsukata alarmed the senior statesmen, who at once endeavoured to remove the difficulty, and resolved to place Viscount Takashima in the chair of War, in conjunction with his present office. This occurred on the 15th inst., at a meeting held at the residence of Count Kuroda, and progress was then steadily maintained along that line of policy. The trouble apparently seemed to have been settled, and a hope was entertained that the nomination of two or three new Ministers might have been made yesterday. But trouble again cropped up, involving all parties in difficulty. This arose from the declaration of Viscount Katsura that he should be relieved of the Governorship of Formosa. It should be remembered that the Viscount was first persuaded by the seniors to undertake the task of directing the affairs of the War Office and the Viscount agreed to take this advice. The arrangement, however, caused umbrage to Viscount Takashima, who, it seems, had previously been promised by Count Matsukata, the reversion of this portfolio, in addition to the one he now holds. When the Minister of Colonisation heard that the senior statesmen had decided to recommend Viscount Katsura for the War Department, and that Count Matsukata acquiesced in the new arrangement, his complacency was greatly disturbed. He told Count Matsukata that he could not think of directing the affairs of the Department of Colonization, when Viscount Katsura on whom everything pertaining to Formosa devolved was to be substituted for another. He therefore expressed

a desire to resign if the former programme was not carried out. Admiral Count Kabayama, a great friend of the Viscount, also showed an inclination to keep aloof. Such are the dissensions that have arrested the progress of forming a Cabinet, and have obliged the seniors to abandon their plan of nominating Viscount Katsura for the Department of War. The next trouble is in connection with Viscount Katsura, who refuses to remain at his present post despite the persuasions of Marquis Saigo and Count Inouye. Under the circumstances, the vexed question of Cabinet reorganization is as far from being settled as ever it was. Perhaps when the difficulty with Viscount Katsura is disposed of the whole affair may be brought to a definite conclusion.

Several Tokyo papers, some of which are completely independent, now say that Marquis Saigo and Mr. Shirane will probably be induced to remain in office, in consequence of the concessions made by Count Matsukata in regard to his platform.

THE "CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE" BARRICADED.

AN IDYL FROM CHUZEN-JI, BY A VISITOR.

Now is the time for Japan to strike a great stroke. The whole "corps diplomatique" is barricaded, shut up in Chuzen-ji. The bridges leading to the valley of Nikko are broken, the telegraph line destroyed, and no sort of communication remains between the Foreign Ministers, enjoying a well-merited rest in their far-away summer resort, and the capital of Japan. Now is the time for this country to get level for all the injuries done her by the "triple alliance." Whatever Japan declares, there is no possibility of protest by the Foreign Ministers, and, as the old Latin proverb says, *qui tacet, consentire videtur*. It is a rather hazardous matter for a Foreign Minister in Japan to leave hislegation for a country placely nearly ninety miles away from the capital and liable to be shut off from communication by a few rainy days. The lake risen more than five feet within two days, roads and houses inundated,—that is the present situation in Chuzen-ji. Here you see the genial secretary of a foreign legation prepare his proud sailing boat, not for a trip round the lake, but for getting into his dining room by a clever nautical "manoeuvre," the plain before his house being under water. A German lady with her children has two feet water in the house, and the waves are lapping against the walls. But help is near, it comes from a French gentleman and his lady, who kindly offer their house to the German, *honneur à la courtoise française!* Another "diplomatic family" living in a small house at the foot of Nantai-san is suddenly frightened by a tremendous noise, heavy stones and enormous quantities of water rolling and rushing down from the top of the mountain. They have to move, and are kindly received by another French family. And it rains and rains, day and night, night and day. Nobody knows what the end will be. Victuals become scarce, and, unless the rain ceases at once, there may come the time when a Minister who erstwhile used to drink the best of wines and to smoke the best of cigars will be satisfied to gnaw a piece of bread and smoke the dried leaves of some mountain tree. And, what is yet worse, the whole "corps diplomatique" is doubtful what course politics may have taken in the meantime, while they were shut up in their pleasure retreat. Who is the new Japanese Minister President? How is the situation in Korea? What has happened in Europe? They know nothing. A nice situation for people who are accustomed to direct the fate of the world and to make history! The only hope of the barricaded diplomats is that the Japanese Government will return good for evil and help them to get out of their scrape and into politics again before their home governments get knowledge of their representatives being barricaded in the mountains.

THE STORM AT FUKUCHI-YAMA.

There was, it will be remembered, a great storm at Fukuchi-yama on the 30th of last month, enormous damage being done to the town, while very many lives were lost. According to the local correspondent of the *Pomfuri*, at 3 or 4 a.m. of August 31st it was seen that the Fukuchi River was momentarily threatening to overwhelm the town. Everywhere people began carrying furniture and articles of value to the upper storeys or on to the roofs of their dwellings. As the river burst through the embankment, the whole town was instantly covered with water to a depth of over four feet. The embankment broke in two places: at Ukyo-guchi and Hirokoji. The waters continuing to rise, many scores of houses were soon floated off, the people on the roofs screaming for aid as they were borne rapidly away. The sight was terrible. Many of the floating dwellings collided, were crushed to pieces, and disappeared beneath the dark brown water. Day had now dawned, and the confusion increased as the water steadily rose to a still greater height. Many tragedies occurred at this hour, and heart-rending scenes were to be observed everywhere. Just before the embankment gave way, Mr. Yanagishima Kun, the chief local official, went to warn the members of a large corporation having very friendly relations with him. The oldest inhabitants of the town—for everybody was up and awake all that sad night—said that the like of such a storm had never been known. As Mr. Yanagishima reached his own house again, he heard the loud, thundering roar of the bursting flood. There was no possibility of escaping on foot, so he mounted rapidly to the roof, but only to see one house after another swept away with all their inmates. A fire just then broke out in Aza Nagamachi, and many still uninjured dwellings began to burn fiercely. The people in these houses were threatened by a double danger—fire and flood—and their piteous cries for assistance were heard on all sides. In a few minutes, however, the flames were extinguished, probably by some of the burning houses subsiding into the flood below. At Aza Naiki, close to the Kyoguchi embankment, is the barracks of the local regiment. Two men were soon seen to mount the roof—a sergeant and private—the latter bearing the Imperial Edicts tied in a bundle on his head. When they saw that the building was about to collapse under the tremendous pressure of the flood, they gave a great cheer of *Tenno Heika Bansai!* and sprang into the waves, both being expert swimmers. Fortunately, the two men reached the walls of a dismantled fort, and were afterwards taken off by the rescue-boats.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION WITH NIKKO.

Great inconvenience has been felt both in Yokohama and Nikko owing to the difficulty of obtaining trustworthy information about the state of the railway between the two places. It may have seemed strange to our readers that we have not been in a position to furnish details of the damage suffered by the line, the possibility of travelling by it, and the probabilities as to its repair. But the fact is that things have been changing from day to day, so that information furnished by us in one issue might prove misleading or valueless before it could be practically utilized. The first trouble that occurred was at Fubasami, a station on the Nikko-Utsunomiya line, some 13 miles from Nikko. There the floods injured an embankment, and the service was at once interrupted. Of course no arrangements could be immediately made to meet the emergency, but after two days' delay the Railway Company succeeded in organizing a service of trains from either side of the injured place, and by traversing the interval in *jinrikisha*, passengers were able to get through. Two more days sufficed to repair the embankment, and there is now no impediment to transit between Nikko and Utsunomiya. Meanwhile, however, the waters from the hills had found their way to the plains, and a section of the Tokyo-

Utsunomiya railway between Kurihashi and Koga was completely inundated. Here, again, for an interval transit ceased altogether. But the delay was brief. Services of trains were quickly organized up to the edges of the inundation. The crossing of the latter, however, proved a matter of trouble, chiefly on the score of the expense. It might have been supposed that if the Railway Authorities undertook to carry travellers, the undertaking would have extended to getting them over the flooded section. But there appears to have been temporary difficulty in organizing arrangements of that nature, and thus, for a period, travellers had to trust to the resources of private enterprise, and to pay through the nose for every assistance they obtained. After two days, productive of considerable squeezing and corresponding complaint, the Railway Company were able to take the matter in hand, and a service of flat-bottomed boats, supplemented by a narrow bridge of planks, was duly organized. That means of transit, though presenting no special difficulties to male travellers with good sight and reasonably steady nerves, could scarcely be used by women or children, for the current at the place where the plank bridge was fixed, swept down so swiftly and the length of the bridge was so great, that danger of giddiness might be apprehended at any moment. Soon, however, the subsidence of the flood and consequent slowing of the current made it possible for boats to cross the whole distance, and then, for a brief interval, the journey was comparatively easy, the boats traversing the flooded section in about 2 hours, and the transfer from train to train being smoothly effected. Some travellers that made their way to Nikko at that particular period, reported favourably on the state of affairs, and the Railway Authorities gave assurances that no serious inconvenience need be apprehended. Bulky baggage could not be carried, of course, and through tickets were issued only once a day, it being evidently essential that the difficulties of the water transit should be negotiated in full daylight. Very soon, however, the conditions changed for the worse. The gradual falling of the flood and consequent shoaling of the water on either side of the river proper, made the passage of the boats very difficult. Frequent groundings took place, and it generally proved necessary that the travellers, or, at any rate, the greater part of them, should leave the boats and accomplish the rest of the way by wading. That was the state of affairs on the 14th instant, the date of our latest detailed advice, and it is not probable that things have greatly mended since then, for the uncovered section of the line doubtless needs repair, and the shallows beyond the river's banks are less easy to traverse by boat in proportion as their depth diminishes. Our readers will understand, therefore, that it has been virtually impossible to publish any trustworthy information from day to day, so constantly have the conditions changed. On Sunday, the 12th instant, for example, the Railway Authorities at Nikko stated in the morning that through tickets could be issued only by the 7.30 a.m. train, yet, two hours later, a telegram from the flooded section authorized them to forward passengers by the mid-day train also. We may note here that the unfortunate Railway Authorities are placed in an unhappy position, for whenever circumstances compel them to modify an announcement made a short time previously, they are incontinentally dubbed "liars" by foreigners of the moral bias that obtains among a certain class of "treaty-porters." On the whole, we are disposed to think—speaking with all reserve, of course—that the best way to reach Nikko from Yokohama or Tokyo, is to make a *détour* by the Ryomo Railway *via* Mayebashi to Oyama, striking the Utsunomiya-Nikko line at the latter place.

Italy is about to lay down three ironclads of a modified *Re Umberto* type, one at Spezia, one at Castellamare, and one in Ansaldo's yard at Leghorn. They will have somewhat thinner armour and much heavier secondary batteries than the *Re Umberto*, and will steam 20 knots with natural and 22 knots with forced draught.

NIKKO WEATHER.

Holiday-seekers have had a most melancholy experience in Nikko this year: the weather has been unprecedentedly bad. Up to the beginning of this month occasional intervals of sunshine relieved the dull monotony of rain, but at mid-day on the 6th instant, the place fell within the range of a typhoon that visited the north of Japan, and from that time until the morning of the 12th, the downpour was almost continuous, the moments of cessation being too brief to constitute exceptions to the unvarying deluge. On the morning of the 8th, the clanging of the alarm-bell was heard, and people peered in astonishment through the mists, marvelling at the idea that anything inflammable could exist under such circumstances. It soon transpired, however, that there was question, not of a conflagration, but of a possibility that houses might be washed away. The Daiya-gawa had risen some twelve feet above its ordinary level, and its boiling torrent threatened to undermine the land on which half a dozen dwellings stood in the lowest street of the village. Happily the catastrophe was not consummated, but that the people deemed it imminent could be inferred from the fact that all movables were taken out of the threatened houses, and some three score men, supplied with ropes and grapnels, stood on guard throughout the forenoon. It might have been expected that the unceasing rain would produce a further rise of the river, but that result depends rather upon the rapidity, than upon the quantity, of the down-pour. So long as the volume of water falling in a given time does not exceed the capacity of the channels available for its escape to the valleys, no trouble is experienced, and as matter of fact, though the rain never desisted throughout the whole day, the river had fallen fully five feet before evening. Meanwhile, the lines of communication throughout the whole district had suffered terribly. In this mountainous region, the roads are very seldom provided with culverts to carry off the torrents that descend upon their routes in bad weather, and it often happens that a road is simultaneously sapped from below and ploughed out from above, the result being total collapse. Thus at several spots on the main road from Nikko to the Ashiwo mines the rails of the tram by which the ore is carried to Nikko were left hanging over a watery abyss, the road having been completely washed out from below them. Even in the street known as Irimachi, which leads past the Nikko and Arai Hotels, a veritable quagmire was formed, and only by making a long detour could communication be preserved in this, the most fashionable, quarter of Nikko. As for the road to Chiussen-ji—a route pre-eminently subject to vicissitudes, since in places it does not rise above the dignity of a mass of clay plastered against the side of a mountain—it collapsed *in toto*. Communication was not wholly interrupted, since the worst spots could be avoided by clambering along the hills above, but for all purposes of ordinary traffic the road was useless, and Chiussen-ji's daily supply of provisions had to be sent round by Ashiwo, a *detour* of some 8 miles. Nor does that description exhaust the inconvenience, for provisions themselves became very scarce, railway communication with Tokyo being temporarily interrupted, so that the beef, bread, and flour usually despatched every morning from the capital, either failed to reach Nikko at all, or reached it in such diminished quantities as to leave only a small surplus for Chiussen-ji. Indeed, the Foreign Representatives and other members of the *Corps Diplomatique*, who have made Chiussen-ji their resort this summer, must have been in a decidedly uncomfortable condition for a short time, their inconvenience being augmented by a rapid rise in the level of the lake, so that roads were swamped, gardens inundated, and even the sanctity of bed-rooms invaded. The interruption of the railway to Tokyo was due to a landslide in the immediate vicinity of Fubasami, a place about 13 miles from Nikko, and during two days the service of trains had to cease. But with rapidity, commendable in view of the difficulties to be overcome, arrangements were

organized for running trains to either side of the damaged place, and from the 10th instant travellers to and from Tokyo had nothing to complain of beyond a detention of about an hour and a half. Northward of Utsunomiya, however, several landslips occurred along the line, and an important bridge collapsed. Communication might have been restored within a comparatively brief interval had the weather cleared, but as the rain continued with few intervals, the repair of earthworks became virtually impossible and the swollen state of the river forbade any attempt to re-build the bridge. It seems probable that several days must elapse before the service of trains can be re-opened, and in the meanwhile, visitors from Sendai and other places in the north, are held prisoners in Nikko. There has been very little interruption of the telegraph, however, for though posts were here and there tumbled into the torrents, they were dragged out again and re-erected without delay. It has certainly been most unfortunate for Nikko that such abominable climatic conditions should have prevailed there this year, for the number of visitors was altogether exceptional, more, indeed, than the hotels could accommodate, and the evil impressions carried away by them must find proportionately wide circulation. The pleasures of the place were greatly marred; also by the measures pursued in connection with the presence of His Imperial Highness the Prince Imperial. Of course the Prince himself had no cognisance of the restrictions to which his Chamberlains seemed to think it necessary to subject the public in the interests of his comfort and privacy. Nor, indeed, would any complaint have been preferred by the public had not those restrictions been rendered needlessly irksome by mismanagement. Thus, although the perpetual closure of the temple gardens, a favourite resort of ladies and children, proved an immense disappointment to many persons, no one, so far as we know, questioned the propriety of these grounds being reserved exclusively for His Imperial Highness' use. But many murmurs were uttered, justly we think, at the want of consideration shown by the Chamberlains in failing to publish any information about the Prince's intended movements from day to day. Naturally, His Imperial Highness wished to visit the various spots celebrated for scenic beauty in the vicinity of Nikko, and beyond question the limited tea-house accommodation procurable at those places had to be engaged entirely for the use of the Imperial party on such occasions. But nothing would have been easier than to send to the three principal hotels, each morning, an intimation of the Prince's destination that day, and had such a precaution been adopted it would have effectually prevented the constantly recurring unpleasantness and inconvenience of picnic parties reaching a place after a tramp of several miles only to find that neither there nor anywhere in the neighbourhood might the business of eating be consummated, a visit from His Imperial Highness being imminent. In some instances, too, a journey had to be abandoned after the travellers had set out with all their paraphernalia, for horses were not allowed to proceed by any route along which the Prince intended to proceed on the same day. These disappointments—occasionally of serious moment—might also have been obviated by a measure of the kind indicated above. To return, however, to the rain and floods. After the tremendous downpour during the night of the 7th, the rain, although continuous, did not fall in sufficient quantities to produce alarming results until the evening of the 11th, when once more the deluge recommenced, accompanied by violent gusts of wind. Next morning the Daiya-gawa had again attained destructive dimensions, and again the alarm bell summoned the inhabitants to save tottering bridges and crumbling roads. It may well be supposed that the damage wrought on this second occasion, after a week's steady sapping had loosened the foundations of paths, honeycombed embankments, and undermined precipices, was on a wholesale scale. Houses were not washed away, indeed, but mischief of many other kinds was accomplished everywhere. Perhaps the most striking catastrophe occurred

on the tram road beyond Dainichi-do. There not only were the road, the rails, the embankment, and the breakwaters swept away like so much chaff through a distance of about 200 yards, but the river cut a circular sweep out of the mountain, just as though a colossal trowel had descended vertically from above and shorn its way through the hill from summit to base, leaving a sheer precipice a hundred feet high where previously there had been a wooded slope. How this road is to be restored we cannot easily see. The labour, the engineering difficulties, and the expense must be very great, and however vigorous be the steps taken, the so called "lower route" from Nikko to Umagayeshi must long remain inaccessible. In truth, engineering skill is the great desideratum in Nikko and its vicinity. The people have not been sparing of toil, and, speaking technically, the roads they have constructed are as good, on the whole, as the materials at their disposal permitted. But the routes selected seem, in many cases, to have been the choice of men quite indifferent to the inevitable operation of natural forces. Other routes not exposed to such overwhelming dangers might easily have been found, and certainly if it was deemed necessary to defy nature in the matter of direction, some provision should have been made to mitigate her ravages. But if engineers forget that waterfalls usually tear-out beds for themselves, and that roads situated so as to play towards mountains the same part that an eaves-spout plays towards a roof, must either be made of iron or crumble to ruin when torrents descend on them from overhanging hills, it avails little that hundred of coolies should drive piles, ram mud, or construct interlacements of pine-branches. Even the folks that planned the telegraph lines, Government experts presumably, appear to have been imbued with the same lordly *insouciance*, for they caused posts to be erected on the very margin of rivers that needed to rise only a few feet in order to reach and sweep away these precarious structures. If new roads and lines of wire are to rise from the ruins of the old, it is to be hoped that a little engineering skill will be employed to avert a recurrence of very avoidable catastrophes. We may also venture to inform the owners of institutions like the Nikko and Arai Hotels that their patience does not meet with general appreciation. At the very commencement of this tempestuous time, the entrance to Arai's hostelry was converted into a criss-cross of deep fosses, and the approach to the Nikko inn from the north became a bottomless quagmire, yet the managers of the two resorts placidly left their guests to stumble, day after day, into the ditches and wallow knee-deep in the morass, though a mattock would have filled the former in a couple of hours, and a few planks and stones would have made the latter negotiable without any difficulty. The new hotel at Chiussen-ji—a beautiful building, picturesquely situated—is less helpfully circumstanced. It is not easy to negotiate with the waters of a big lake whose affluents are much more generous than its exit is capacious. For several days visitors could not reach or leave the hotel without the aid of boats, and it is to be hoped that this disastrous experience at the outset of its career will not injure the prospects of the enterprise. Some of the diplomats' residences were in equally sorry plight before the rain had ceased, and never was sunshine more welcome than the long looked-for rays on the morning of the 12th. We may add, here, that the injury to the Nikko-Utsunomiya line, at Fubasami, was repaired by the 12th instant, and that the first through train left Nikko at 2.30 p.m. that day. Between Koga and Kurihashi, however, extensive floods were reported on the 11th, and though the line was not impassable for male travellers, ladies or children would have found much difficulty in getting across. Unfortunately it has to be recorded that five casualties to life occurred at Nikko. Four charcoal-burners were buried under a land-slide, and a man who went to net fish in the backwaters along the river seems to have been swept away, for an exhaustive search by a large body of coolies in the pay of his relatives had not revealed his whereabouts up to the evening of the 12th.

FLOODS IN TOKYO.

The Sumida River has risen far above its highest mark in consequence of the persistently heavy rains. On Saturday the whole surface of the stream was covered with wreckage, and, near Etajima, hundreds of bales of rice were to be seen floating in the dark water. Scores of men were eager in their endeavours to get these bales ashore, with poles, staves, and all sorts of implements. At 11 p.m. of the 10th instant, a strong breeze blowing at the time, the river presented a scene of indescribable confusion. Two large cargo-boats drifted down and struck the Eitai Bridge, sinking almost immediately. Of smaller boats, fishing-craft, etc., anchored or moored between Teppo-zu and Akashi-machi, about one hundred and forty were borne away by the turbulent stream, the cables being severed like so many bits of string. The boats thus set adrift bore down on others near at hand, and did immense damage. The boatmen's cries for help were most lamentable, for the frail craft were rapidly being carried out into the stormy Bay. The shouts were, despite the storm, heard at the Water Police Station, and immediately two launches were sent to the rescue. With the utmost difficulty and by dint of impressing every available constable, somewhat more than one hundred of the boats were laboriously brought back to their mooring-ground. Nearly two score were swept out of sight of land, and much apprehension is felt concerning the safety of the men in them. Even the rescued boats were, for the most part, much damaged, and all had lost either oars, masts, cordage, or other gear.

FLOODS.

The papers are full of the disasters wrought by the recent gales. Most of the messages now arriving in the capital are from districts east of Nagoya, telegraphic communication further westward being temporarily suspended. The Governor of Gifu wires that the railway traffic east of Kiyosu, a rural town some 10 miles from Nagoya towards Kyoto, has been stopped, while the postal service has been entirely blocked. The wires to the south-west of Gifu are out of order, and official despatches of urgent importance alone are dealt with at Ogaki. According to reports thus far received, the disasters caused by the floods in various districts appear very serious indeed. A private telegram says that at Ogaki the floods have risen to the second storey of the houses, and that the inhabitants are suffering from insufficient food supplies. At Maebara, a small town close by Lake Biwa, a similar disaster is confronting the people; they are eagerly waiting the arrival of steamers laden with rice from Bamba. More shocking news is to hand from Nagoya, in which it is stated that owing to the collapse of the embankments of the three rivers in the Nishi Kasugai District and the sudden flooding of the adjoining villages, more than 2,000 persons are reported to have been drowned or injured. The Police went to the rescue, requisitioning 25 boats for the service. Most of the Tokyo papers, however, suspect the accuracy of these alarming figures. In Kuwana the majority of the houses are reported to be under water; and the river Yebi has risen about one foot higher than on the occasion of the floods in July. Fukui is also flooded, the water rising from 8 inches to 6 ft. above the floor, according to locality. As the floods occurred at night the damage to property is believed to be heavy. About 5,000 persons are receiving State aid. Owing to the total stoppage of all means of communication, it is not possible to ascertain the extent of disasters in the surrounding districts. Intelligence from the immediate vicinity detail the death of eleven persons, besides a similar number of missing. The damages in Toyama seem as great as in Fukui, though casualties to life do not appear in the report given by the Governor. In Tochigi, Ibaraki, Fukushima, Iwate, and Aomori, reports of similar disasters have reached the Home Office, though full details are not yet forthcoming. Nikko and its vicinity suffered from the storm.

The water in the river Daiya, that steadily rose from the 7th instant, was 10 ft. above the normal level by noon of the 9th instant. More than 10 telegraph poles were washed away, the wire between Nikko and Chusenji, and the private telephone wire connecting Nikko and the copper mine at Ashio, were interrupted, while the road between Nikko and Chusenji was damaged in more than 10 places. Landslips occurred at various places, and the passage of men and beasts was completely interrupted between Nikko and Ashio. Hichiriyama, that lies between Nikko and Imaichi, also fell. The people living along the Daiya-gawa left their houses and went to more elevated spots. Landslips killed four persons and wounded one in Nikko, while at Ashio ten were killed, two wounded, and one is missing. Disasters to life and property are also heavy in Ashikaga and Aso districts, in Tochigi Prefecture.

Railway traffic is interrupted on several lines. Trains on the Tokaido line cannot go beyond Anjo. The Yoshida-Kuroiso section of Nippon Tetsudo line was interrupted from the evening of the 9th instant, the Kansai Line is interrupted between Nagoya and Kameyama. A big break has occurred between Kodzu and Matsuda stations. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha announces a temporary increase in the number of steamers plying between Yokohama and Kobe, so as to furnish means of communication to travellers to the Kei-Han districts, now inconvenienced by the interruption of the Tokaido line. The following steamers are arranged to leave Yokohama:—*Hiroshima Maru*, at noon on the 12th inst.; *Nagoya Maru*, at noon on the 13th inst.; *Kaiyo Maru*, at noon on the 14th; *Kobe Maru*, at noon on the 15th; *Soya Maru*, at noon on the 15th; *Yamashiro Maru*, at noon on the 17th.

News from Gifu is to the effect that the houses flooded in that town and immediate vicinity are roughly estimated at 60,000, that is, twice the number of those flooded in July last. According to official researches, more than 271,300 persons are receiving State relief. The sky is still overcast, and there is no immediate prospect of its clearing up. Ogaki has already been inundated twice. Such a serious inundation has never been known before in that town. Owing to the collapse of the floodgate at Imaomachi, situated along the river Yebi, that town has been completely flooded, the water rising 4 ft. higher than on the last occasion. The break-down of this gate has been followed by the inundation of the whole circuit of Takasu, where the water rises above the roofs of the houses. A despatch from Nagoya says that the breaches in the embankments of the rivers Katsukawa and Tamagawa have caused the inundation of more than 300 *cho* of arable land, and that more than 822 people had been rescued by the Police up to the 10th. Similar tales of disaster come from Osaka, Kyoto, Shiga, Nara, Hyogo, Wakayama, Miye, Shizuoka, and so forth, though the damage is not so heavy as in Gifu, Aichi, and Shiga.

The surplus from the 27th fiscal year, writes the *Shogyo*, amounted to 20,019,464 odd *yen*, but of that sum 19,526,374 odd *yen* were appropriated for supplementary budgets for the 28th and 29th years, so that at the beginning of the current year the reserve was reduced to less than half a million *yen*. The Second Reserve of last year being practically exhausted, recourse had to be had to the Reserve set aside for extending State aid to devastated districts, in providing relief funds for the present calamities.

On the 14th inst., with the sanction of the Emperor, two sums of 176,849 *yen* and 210,000 *yen* were taken from this reserve as grants-in-aid of repair works in Toyama Ken and Niigata Ken respectively. A further sum of 123,150 *yen* was also taken from the Second Reserve for Toyama, so that now the 1,000,000 *yen* set aside for the Second Reserve for this year has been entirely expended within the first six months of the current fiscal year. Again, owing to the present expenditures, the surplus of the 27th fiscal year has been reduced to 66,240 *yen*. A surplus amounting to 2,766,658 *yen* is estimated to accrue when the accounts of the 28th year are

settled, so that funds for expenditures over and above the estimates for the current year may therefore not be totally exhausted. But such a surplus will apparently be inadequate to satisfy the claims which have been, or are to be, laid before the Treasury by the various localities that have suffered in consequence of earthquake, fires, or floods. It is estimated by the *Nippon* that the State subsidies to all these places must amount to over 10 million *yen*. The matter requires urgent attention, so that the work of repair may be completed before the first fall of snow. The expenditure of such a large sum as 10 million *yen* must not be undertaken by the Government on its own responsibility, the consent of the Diet should be secured before disbursing it. Viewed from this standpoint, the formation of a Cabinet should be concluded as promptly as possible, and an extraordinary session of the Diet convened to discuss this urgent matter.

The extent of the damage that the last floods have inflicted on crops is not yet clearly known. The Governor of Miye reports, under date of the 11th inst., that the rice harvest in the five northern districts may fall to 50 to 70 per cent. of an average year, and that the result in the nine southern districts may be 70 to 80 per cent. of an average crop. Cotton and indigo crops have been entirely destroyed in most places, while millet and crops of similar description may not exceed one half of an average year. But the damages to crops in Mino and Owari must prove very great, judging from the extent of land under water. The two provinces produce above 1,800,000 *koku* of rice, and as the districts in Mino devastated by repeated floods are the most fertile in the whole province, producing at least one-half of the entire yield, it would not be going beyond the bounds of possibility if we estimate the damage to the rice crop in Mino at 400,000 *koku*, worth at present prices 4 million *yen*.

FLOODS NEAR TOKYO.

The Nakagawa, a tributary of the Sumida that flows a short distance east of Tokyo proper, breached its embankment for a length of over 360 yards early on the morning of the 16th inst., and the villages adjoining Senzu and also those situated on the right bank of the upper course of the Sumida have been flooded. The overflow of the upper reaches of the Tone, and the consequent swelling of the current of the Nakagawa, led to the present disaster. A representative of the *Yomiuri* who visited Matsugi, where the river had forced its way through the embankment, describes the difficulty experienced by the people of the adjoining villages in procuring materials to strengthen the embankment. They usually pile up rice bags stuffed with earth when they notice signs of weakening, but the supply of bags becoming so scarce—the price rose from 1.8 *sen* to 5 *sen*—and even then an insufficient supply only could be obtained. For want of other materials to strengthen the embankment, mats and timber were piled up against the weak places. But these measures were of no avail, the water, when stemmed at one spot, threatening to break through another. At last a number of villagers, stripping off their clothes, attempted to fill the widening gap with their bodies. This, of course, was ineffectual, and the hundreds of villagers collected on the spot at last gave up the attempt as totally beyond their powers. Thus the breach at Matsugi, at first only 60 yards or so in length, gradually widened. The rural town of Shinjuku—not the Shinjuku to the west of the city, but a place along the highway leading from the north east of Tokyo to Mito—was flooded, the water rising 2 ft. above the floors. The surrounding fields have been converted into a big lake. The collapse of the embankment of the Nakagawa swelled the stream of the Ayase, and a few hours after the breakdown of the Matsugi embankment, the eastern bank of the Ayase fell, flooding the villages close by. The vicinity of the two rivers presents a scene of utmost confusion, villagers, young and old, being busily engaged in harvesting such of the rice and other crops not yet reached by the flood.

WHEN THE REVISED TREATIES GO INTO FORCE.

Here is a paragraph from the *Japan Gazette* :—

A foreigner in Kobe has had a foretaste of the unpleasant incidents we may expect to be frequent when Treaty Revision comes into force. The policeman, with that insolence which the Japanese police always display to civilians, practically arrested the foreigner because of a dispute with a *ricksha* coolie, and the foreigner, being unaccustomed to that form of police protection, resented the seizure somewhat forcibly. Thereupon he was knocked down and dragged to the police station, like a common criminal. There is of course no redress. But it is becoming quite clear that when Japanese laws come into force the officiousness of the police will be intolerable.

It is scarcely possible for a newspaper to write more unjustly, more ignorantly, or more mischievously. In the first place, the facts of the case, as narrated by the *Hyogo News* on the authority of the foreigner concerned, and as reproduced by the *Japan Gazette* itself, show that the foreigner would have been arrested by the police in any country in the world under the circumstances described. He hired a *jinrikisha*, proceeded to a certain place, and then set out to walk along the bank of a river in company with a friend, telling the *jinrikisha*-driver to wait for the purpose of carrying him back to his starting point. The *jinrikisha*-driver objected and asked to be paid at once for the journey already accomplished. The foreigner replied that he had no money and that unless the man agreed to make the return journey, he must wait until the following day for payment, and must, moreover, come to his fare's house to get payment. The man complained to a police constable; the constable stopped the two foreigners, one of the latter—not the party directly concerned—was offering explanations when the other, "impatient at this interference, started to take his friend on;" the constable thereupon caught hold of the foreigner's arm, "was called a fool, told to clear out, and thrust back;" and therewith the arrest was made. Possibly, in making it, undue force was resorted to by the police. On that point we can not speak. But it is certain that constables in any civilized country would have arrested a man behaving with similar lawlessness and violence. What connection, however, can possibly be traced between such an incident and the probable consequences of Treaty Revision? "It is becoming quite clear," says the *Japan Gazette*, "that when Japanese laws come into force the officiousness of the police will be intolerable." Japanese laws, forsooth! What on earth have Japanese laws to do with the matter? Does the *Japan Gazette* imagine that British law allows a man to refuse to pay for services already rendered by a hired cab unless a further service, not previously contracted for, be rendered; that it allows him to force upon the driver the option of performing the additional service or waiting until the next day to be paid, and then coming to his fare's house to be paid; that it allows him to start off without giving explanations to a constable whose intervention the cabman has solicited, and that it allows him to call the constable a fool and thrust him back when the constable seeks to detain him? The laws of all civilized nations agree in penalizing such behaviour. We do not imagine for an instant that the foreigner had any deliberate idea of ignoring the rights of the *jinrikisha*-driver, or of defying the police. But unfortunately he did both things, thus putting himself in the wrong and exposing himself to humiliation and suffering which we cannot fail to commiserate though declining to shut our eyes to the original responsibility. Surely such a text is badly chosen for the purposes of a tirade against the Japanese police and a prediction of the horrors awaiting foreigners when the revised treaties go into operation. If the Japanese police employed needless force, or were brutal in their methods of procedure, when making the arrest, the means of obtaining redress against them are precisely the same at present as they will be after the Revised Treaties go into operation. The *Japan Gazette* says "there is, of course, no redress." If that be true now, when the old Treaties are still in force, in what respect can

things become either better or worse after the new Treaties go into operation? But of course, there is redress: a complaint can be preferred through the Consul of the sufferer's nationality, and if necessary, strengthened by diplomatic support. This talk about the terrors of Japanese laws and Japanese police under the Revised Treaties is the veriest moonshine. It has not an iota of foundation in either recorded facts or reasonable theory, and its only effect can be to produce blind prejudice in the minds of ignorant persons. It cannot postpone the operation of the new Treaties by a second of time, and it must tend to diminish the chances of their smooth working when they do go into operation. It is a disgraceful parade of racial prejudice, proving incontrovertibly that the anti-foreign feeling attributed by some foreigners to the Japanese bears no comparison, in respect of intensity and thoroughness, with the anti-Japanese feeling entertained by those foreigners themselves. It would be difficult to find a more flagrant exponent of that anti-Japanese feeling than the *Japan Gazette* has shown itself during the past two years; and if its capacities for mischief were at all commensurate with its animus the results would be most unfortunate. Its charge, now advanced that "the Japanese police always display insolence towards civilians," is a typical example of its blind prejudice, for no more villainously false slander could be uttered against a body of men proverbial for courtesy and forbearance.

INTERRUPTED RAILWAY COMMUNICATIONS.

The repairs to the Kodzu-Matsuda Section of the Tokaido Line have been completed, and from 5 p.m. on the 13th inst., this section was reopened for traffic. The Kanzaki-Nishinomiyama section, between Osaka and Kobe, is still in the hands of the navvies, but in consequence of the waters having receded from the high-road that adjoins the railway, passengers and goods conveyed to either of the two stations alight, and passing along the road, join the train at the other end of the interruption. From Tokyo railway service along the Tokaido is available as far as Gifu, while from Kobe, excepting for the interruption between Nishinomiyama and Kanzaki, the service can be availed of as far as Kusatsu. Between that place and Gifu, however, the floods are still very high and it is not possible to predict with any certainty when this section will be restored to working order. The damages caused by the floods are especially heavy on the Mayebara-Fukui section. It is feared that before the section can be re-opened at least two months must elapse.

In regard to the private lines, the Kusatsu-Tsuge section and Takamiya-Tonda section, of the Kansai Railway; and the Koyama-Sano section of the Ryomo line, resumed traffic from the forenoon of Monday, as also did the Numazaki-Komaki and Shiriuchi-Shimoda sections of the Nippon Railway. The Furuta-Nagakubo, Shiraishi-Okawara, and four other sections, also of the same Company, are not yet restored. Between Kurihashi and Koga passengers and goods are conveyed in boats, and thus communication with the capital is maintained. But the boat service is confined only to the day time, the passage of the river by night being considered dangerous. The Sakuma-Chiba section of the Buso Railway Company is closed to traffic.

At a meeting of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held on the 12th inst., it was decided to despatch Messrs. Nakano Buyei, Okabe Hiroshi, and Asabuki Yeizo to the Department of Communications to ask that the complete restoration of the means of telegraphic communication be restored as quickly as possible, especially between Tokyo and Osaka.

The Admiralty have, wisely we think, at last decided to send out two "catchers" of the new type to Hongkong. The vessels will be the *Handy* and the *Hart*, and they will probably start about the end of the month.

THE WAR INDEMNITY.

The *Tokyo Economist* has some strong remarks to make in connection with the management of that part of the War Indemnity already received by Japan at present entrusted to the care of the Nippon Ginko. The question is discussed in two leaders. The Treasury, observes the *Keisai*, allows the Nippon Ginko to apply a sum of 50 million *yen* deposited at the Bank of England on behalf of the Government, as a specie reserve against the issue of convertible notes, the Bank paying interest for the use of this sum of 2 per cent. The situation stands thus :—

	Unit of 1,000 Yen.	Total. Unit of 1,000 Yen.
Convertible notes in circulation	165,000.....	165,000
Specie Reserves	55,000.....	—
Deposit at the Bank of England	50,000.....	105,000
Government Bonds	22,000.....	—
Loans advanced to the people	38,000.....	60,000
		165,000

If the deposits at the Bank of England are withdrawn and transmitted to Japan, the account will assume a different aspect, thus :—

	Unit of 1,000 Yen.	Total. Unit of 1,000 Yen.
Convertibles note in circulation	165,000.....	165,000
Issues over and above the ordinary limit	50,000.....	—
Specie Reserves	—	55,000
Government Bonds	22,000.....	—
Loans to the people	88,000.....	110,000
		165,000

The Bank will eventually issue 50 million *yen* of extraordinary notes with a view to lending to the people, and then the Treasury will collect a tax of 5 per cent. on this extraordinary issue, that is, a sum of 2½ million *yen* a year. But at present, as the Treasury allows the Bank to use the sum of 50 million *yen* at an interest of only 2 per cent, and moreover as one-half of that interest is to be refunded to the Bank as charges in connection with the costs of the deposit, the Treasury really receives only half a million *yen*. In other words, this strange method of managing the indemnity is actually causing a loss of 2 million *yen* to the Treasury.

"AT HOME" ON THE "ZARAGOZA."

The fête on board the corvette *Zaragoza* in honour of President Diaz of Mexico, arranged for the fifteenth instant—his birthday—but postponed on account of inclement weather, took place on Thursday afternoon under most pleasant climatic conditions. Admiral Monasterio and Officers converted the upper deck of their vessel into a perfect fairyland for the occasion, the artistic taste displayed in arranging bunting, foliage, and other decorations suitable to such an occasion, evoking warm expressions of pleasure from the guests as they arrived. From half-past three o'clock onward the steam-launches were kept busy running between shore and ship and by half-past four dancing commenced to the strains of the Town Band. One of the most charming features of the entertainment was the natural warblings of some dozens of song-birds that hung in cages in various parts of the main and quarter decks. The Admiral and his officers were most indefatigable in attending to the creature comfort of their guests, being unremitting in their attentions whether at dance or board, and thus a glorious afternoon was most pleasantly whiled away. Nearly all the staffs of the various Consulates were present, as well as many from the Legations in Tokyo, the Governor of Kanagawa, and other officials. Towards dusk the *Zaragoza* was illuminated, creating a very pretty effect, and causing many to wish that so pleasant an entertainment might be indefinitely prolonged.

MARQUIS ITO'S CRITICS.

AT a time of political excitement like the present one is prepared to find a great many unreasonable accusations and recriminations in the columns of party organs, but we certainly did not expect that Marquis ITO would be severely blamed for refusing to remain in office under circumstances that had driven Count ITAGAKI into retirement. Regard the matter from what standpoint we please, it is beyond practical question that the alliance between the Liberals and the Cabinet last year was the prelude to party Government in Japan, and it is also beyond practical question that without the assistance given by the Liberals the Cabinet never could have carried successfully through the Diet its various *post-bellum* measures. In other words, the Liberals, at a most important crisis of the nation's career, abandoned their old attitude of opposition, as they had previously abandoned their destructive policy, and threw their whole strength into the cause of the Administration. No one doubts that they adopted that course in the sequel of an understanding with Marquis ITO, and that Count ITAGAKI'S subsequent admission to the Cabinet, in the important position of Minister of State for Home Affairs, must be interpreted in the light of a consensus of policy between the Liberals and the Ministry. What, then, would have been said by the public if, within a very few months of Count ITAGAKI'S entry into the Cabinet, Marquis ITO had thrown him over, not because of any disagreement on an administrative question, but because the Liberal leader could not consent to become a member of a new alliance between the Government and the Liberals' inveterate opponents the *Shimpo-to*? We do not hesitate to say that had Marquis ITO pursued such a course, he would have been universally pronounced unworthy the confidence of any political party in the future. Count ITAGAKI'S resolve to leave the Cabinet was due, so far as we can see, to the prospect of Count OKUMA'S entry. Count OKUMA is the leader—nominally but none the less certainly—of the *Shimpo-to*, and his union with Count ITAGAKI in the same Cabinet would have been as though Lord SALISBURY held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs in a Ministry where Mr. GLADSTONE was Home Secretary. At one time an idea prevailed that even an anomaly so glaring might be contrived. People imagined that Count ITAGAKI, remaining in the Cabinet with Count OKUMA, might retain the allegiance of a moiety of the Liberals, and that, since Count OKUMA would bring with him the greater part of the *Shimpo-to*, the reconstructed Ministry would find itself supported by a powerful majority in the next session of the Diet. But even admitting the scarcely conceivable hypothesis that Count ITAGAKI could have

reconciled himself to the disruption of the great party at whose head he has stood for eighteen years, there would have remained the hopelessness of inducing Count OKUMA'S old and new followers to work in combination with the Liberals for constructive purposes. Thus the choice presenting itself to Marquis ITO lay, not simply between Count ITAGAKI and Count OKUMA, but between loyalty to the Liberal Party, by whose allegiance the Cabinet had already profited, or disloyalty to that Party for the sake of winning the adherence of its inveterate political foes. There could not have been any hesitation between two such alternatives. Quite another question, however, is the chain of events or complications that brought Marquis ITO face to face with a dilemma of the kind. That problem remains to be solved. Many believe that inability to procure competent statesmen for the Foreign Office and the Finance Department was the origin of the trouble. But the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* denies the correctness of that explanation, and maintains that Marquis ITO'S failure to bring the Cabinet Ministers into line was the reason of His Excellency's resignation. Surely our contemporaries must see that what the public want to know is not the fact, but the cause, of a divergence in views in the Ministry.

YOKOHAMA AND ITS RAILWAY STATION.

THE question of changing the route of the Tokaido Railway so as to convert Yokohama into a branch station, seems to have assumed fictitious importance. From the point of view of the Railway Authorities the problem doubtless appears simple enough. The Tokaido road is a section of the great trunk line of the empire: its terminal points are the two capitals, Tokyo and Kyoto. Yokohama lies altogether outside the general direction of that road, and cannot be included in the system even by means of a loop line. If the through trains from capital to capital are to be deflected to Yokohama, they must be virtually reversed at the latter place in order to recover their original route. Under such circumstances, the idea of carrying the main trunk road away from its natural course and making it follow two sides of a triangle having Yokohama at the apex, would scarcely be entertained by any engineers in the world, unless absolutely imperative reasons dictated so strange a plan. Yokohama would be brought into the system by means of a branch line, and in view of the great tradal importance of the town, arrangements would be made at the junction of a character so complete as to obviate every inconvenience on account of either freight or passenger traffic. That is exactly what the Railway Authorities seem to contemplate. Hitherto, through trains running between Tokyo and Kyoto have been carried round by

Yokohama, diverging, for that purpose, almost at right angles from their natural direction at Kanagawa. But it having been now decided to undertake extensive works of reconstruction for the purpose of doubling the Tokaido line, the Authorities propose to revert to the natural order of things, making the road to Yokohama a branch, and connecting that place with two points in the Tokaido system, namely, Kanagawa and Hodogaya. By that arrangement Kanagawa would be the junction for all traffic northward of Yokohama, and Hodogaya the junction for all traffic southward. Very strong exception to such a plan is, however, taken by the Japanese merchants of Yokohama. They have compiled and presented to the Railway Bureau a lengthy statement of their views, but the arguments marshalled in the document do not appear to strengthen their cause materially. Considerable space is occupied by the memorialists in demonstrating the great importance of Yokohama as a commercial centre, its rapidly growing population, and the comparatively large sum contributed by it to the earnings of the line that connects it with Tokyo. All those things are beyond doubt, but their bearing upon the question under consideration is difficult to detect, unless it can be proved that Yokohama's prosperity or tradal development would be impaired by the Railway Authorities' plan. We fail to see that the memorialists have proved anything of the kind, and we shall briefly analyse the various points of their contention in order that our readers may judge for themselves. In the first place, replying to the argument of the Railway Authorities that the necessity of diverging from the natural route ought not to be imposed on the mass of persons using the Tokaido line, for the sake of the fraction using the line to Yokohama, the memorialists, with more ingenuity than ingenuousness, point out that the number of through passengers from Tokyo to Kobe is only 80 in every 10,000 of the total passengers, and claim that the convenience of the numerous travellers to and from Yokohama should not be sacrificed on account of that small number. Such a contention betrays singular superficiality. Not the through passengers from Tokyo to Kobe alone have to be considered. Every passenger whose destination is any point along the whole route of the Tokaido road between Tokyo and Kobe (or more properly Kyoto), on the one hand, and Kobe and Tokyo, on the other, has a right to object to the inconvenience of being carried out of his course to Yokohama. If a ratio of the kind suggested by the memorialists is to be set up, it should be between the number of travellers to and from Yokohama and all points south of Kanagawa, on the one hand, and the number of passengers to and from Tokyo and all points south of Kanagawa, *plus* the number to and from Kobe and all points north of Kanagawa,

on the other. In the second place, the memorialists contend that delays highly injurious to trade would be caused by the new system. But they fail together to show how such delays would occur. Consider the case of goods from the south destined for Yokohama—goods from the north need not be considered as there would be no change in the present system of direct trains between Tokyo and Yokohama. On reaching Hodogaya, the waggons containing such goods would be shunted, coupled to an engine held in readiness, and carried on at once to their destination. What would be the resulting delay? Certainly it need not exceed ten or fifteen minutes. Would that appreciably interfere with the course of trade in Yokohama? Then again, the memorialists speak of the necessity of certain goods—particularly tea—being accompanied by their consignors. Why should they not be accompanied by their consignors under the new system as easily as under the old? Is it impossible for a consignor to change cars? Could he not step out of a car at Hodogaya and transfer himself to the train by which his goods are to be carried on to Yokohama? In the next place, the memorialists dwell at some length on the importance of making the express Tokaido trains accessible to Yokohama people. They write as though Yokohama were to be excluded altogether from the express service, and they talk at large about facilities of rapid communication, promptitude of transactions, and so forth. But in point of fact the express trains will all be accessible to Yokohama people. It will be a question simply of boarding them at Hodogaya instead of at Yokohama, and since, under any circumstances, the distance between Yokohama and Hodogaya must be traversed, the whole delay involved will be the time required for changing carriages at Hodogaya. To write as the memorialists write in connection with this point indicates great want of reflection. And they have no other arguments to advance. They refer, indeed, to the projected transfer of the Yokohama station to Hiranuma, but that is an independent matter which does not call for any digression here. The question seems to turn entirely on the efficiency of the railway folks' management. If prompt and efficient measures be organized for the handling of goods and the transfer of passengers at Hodogaya and Kanagawa, Yokohama need not suffer one iota because its railway becomes a branch, instead of being an integral part, of the Tokaido main trunk road. It appears to us that the agitation fomented in connection with this subject is sentimental rather than practical, and that its result will be to create discontent where no valid cause for any such feeling exists.

THE APOTHEOSIS OF RUSSIA.

A VERY remarkable essay appears in the July number of *Blackwood's Magazine* under the above heading: we reproduce it elsewhere. Its readers will probably agree with us in thinking that the writer somewhat overstates his case in his anxiety to make it striking. But on the whole, his estimate of the situation deserves full consideration, and accords with the impressions that have gradually been fixing themselves in the minds of careful observers during the past eighteen months. So far as concerns the position recently won by Russia in the East—which, after all, is the chief point of interest for people at this end of the world—*Blackwood's* essayist does not appear to discriminate sufficiently between the real and the hypothetical values of facts. For example, he speaks of Russia's loan to the Chinese as having invested her with "an official right to interfere with the maritime customs, which is the creation of Sir ROBERT HART, and over which British subjects have exercised from the first a predominant influence," and he hints very plainly that Sir ROBERT may at any moment be replaced by a Russian. Why so? Nowhere has it been recognised that a creditor is entitled to impose new terms on a debtor, or to lay hands on the latter's property, so long as the conditions under which the debt was contracted are duly fulfilled. If the Government in St. Petersburg had entertained the project of having the direction of the maritime customs of China transferred to a Russian subject, the time of guaranteeing the loan would have been the moment for pushing that design. No such opportunity can occur again unless China fails to discharge her stipulated obligations as to the payment of principal or interest. It seems to us that the importance of Russia's monetary intervention in 1895 has been greatly over-estimated. London is the world's last resort in financial affairs, and so long as huge sums of British capital await investment, it is inconceivable that a paltry debt of fifteen millions sterling should be suffered to furnish a pretext for imperilling British interests of large magnitude in the Far East. Any menace to China's integrity, or any contingency distasteful to England, arising out of the Middle Kingdom's debt to Russia, could be at once averted by recourse to British capital. China might have to pay more for such accommodation than she now pays on the note carrying Russia's endorsement, but the difference could not be deterrent unless the reasons for a change of creditors were insignificant. It should not be forgotten that British statesmen watch all these matters far more closely and with far keener insight than any essayist or journalist. Every step taken by Russia is the object of sharp scrutiny. Less intangible, perhaps, is the apprehen-

sion so frequently expressed, and now repeated by *Blackwood's* essayist, that the Siberian Railway is to be run through Manchuria to Port Arthur. It is within the range of conception, but barely within the range, that Russia may contemplate such a proceeding. On a previous occasion, however, we pointed out the flagrant inconsistency between that supposition and the generally entertained belief that Russia's movements of absorption in Korea are hampered by the pledge she gave in 1886, on the occasion of England's evacuation of Port Hamilton. Her annexation of Korea would be of incomparably less moment to British interests than her establishment in the Liaotung Peninsula, where she would command the Gulf of Petchili and stand within arm's length of China's principal tradal routes with the outer world. Yet we are invited to suppose that, while she is restrained in Korea by the hypothesis of British dissent, its absolute certainty does not check her at all in the case of Liaotung. Unless England choose to efface herself altogether in the Far East, she can not possibly permit Russia to seat herself in Liaotung. Russia understands that thoroughly, and is shaping her programme accordingly. Heroic measures are not to her taste. No nation has manifested larger faith in time. She can afford to wait much better than to precipitate a life-and-death struggle for which she is not fully prepared. She and Great Britain are essentially aggressive Powers. It is the law of their existence. They must either grow or decline, and they are both growing. What concerns their statesmen chiefly is that the growth should be along lines of least resistance. Tsitsihar and Port Arthur is not a line of least resistance for Russia: it is, on the contrary, a line of greatest resistance. Her field of immediate operations lies much farther East—in Korea. With what object has France secured concessions for building railways from Söul to Wiju and from Söul to Wonsan? What conceivable interests can she have, or hope to have, in those regions? Is it not evident that she is playing, wittingly playing, Russia's game, and that these roads will ultimately become adjuncts of the Siberian route? The outlines of the true programme stare us in the face, yet people talk gravely of such a precipitate and desperate procedure on Russia's part as the deflection of the Siberian Railway direct through Manchuria to Liaotung. Still, it is better to be sounding alarms than to fall asleep, or to delude ourselves with the fatuous idea that a warm port is the goal of Russia's ambition in the Far East, or that her progress southward and westward would be checked by such an acquisition. She has no choice: the possession of half-a-dozen warm ports would not absolve her from the inexorable law obeyed by everything human, from a cabbage plant to an empire, the law of motion, progressive or retrogressive. She and England

may be compared to two huge glaciers moving slowly but surely forward. Unless one of them be disintegrated *en route*, their ultimate collision is inevitable. How much weight of outside assistance each will have acquired before the final impact, is a vital question, and *Blackwood's* essayist evidently attaches due importance to it.

PATRIOTISM IN KOREA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Sŭl, Sept. 5, 1896.

The Editor of the *Korean Repository* in the last issue of that magazine tells us that Korea has or is about to slip back into the old ruts of the olden times. As a statement of the tendency, if not avowed purpose, of the Conservative party, this may perhaps be accepted as a correct declaration, but there is also another spirit abroad in the country. It is the new spirit born as the result of the general upheaval in 1894. It found expression in a rather peculiar, if not unique, way on the 45th anniversary of the birth of His Majesty the King.

I have lived in Korea some years, and I do not recollect that the common people ever took any notice of this day. The officials of course did, but the people went about their usual duties. This year some of the Christians suggested that it would be eminently appropriate for them to assemble in their places of worship and offer special prayer and thanksgiving to God for their King. The suggestion was made to the Rev. Dr. Underwood. He immediately acted on it and asked the several churches in the city to observe the day. From this beginning it was but a short step to the idea of a general mass meeting at Mo Ha-kwan, the place where Korea has for centuries acknowledged the suzerainty of China, but which is now to give way to Independence Park.

The meeting was called for four o'clock in the afternoon. It was mentioned in the issue of *The Independent* the previous day. Long before the hour of opening a large company, variously estimated from 2,000 to 3,000 people, gathered. It was a good-natured crowd. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works, and military men, were on the platform. The greater part of the assembly probably had little or no idea what they came for, but not so the management. The Vice-Minister already referred to, Dr. Jaisohn, of *The Independent*, Dr. Underwood, and several Koreans, made strong addresses on the duty and necessity of patriotism. It was eminently fitting that the first meeting of this kind should be held in Independence Park, and that such patriotic sentiments should find expression there.

The very fact that some of the highest officials attended and took part in a meeting where all classes were assembled shows conclusively, it seems to me, that there is a new spirit at work in the country. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Christian Church. His Majesty knew of it, and encouraged it, and, we are informed since, was much pleased with it. The very fact that such a meeting was held and that high and low were told their duty to their King and their God is a most hopeful sign.

On the 4th inst., the mortal remains of the late Queen were brought from the Royal Palace in the northern part of the city to the Hon Chim—Spirit House—just completed in Chong Dong, in the western part of the city, where all the foreign Legations (Japanese and Chinese excepted) are located. The weather was pleasant and the crowd that lined the streets immense. The Russians had a squad of soldiers in the grounds—which to some people's way of thinking was not only unnecessary but out of place, perhaps the King requested their presence; so much the worse for him.

SOME EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The alleged preponderance of the coolie element is one of the stock phrases of those disposed to sneer at, or, at all events, underrate Japan's development in recent years. Some go so far as to state, in so many words, that these coolies form a direct source of menace to the State; that, in case of an armed invasion of Japan or an attack directed against her shores, these men would prove unmanageable and contribute to the immediate confusion certain to ensue in such a case. For ourselves, we hold diametrically opposite views, and while we are ready to concede that measures should be taken to up-lift the masses: to bring them to a truer realization of their status and duties as Japanese subjects, we neither can nor do regard the so-called coolies as threatening in any way or under any circumstances the stability of the nation as such.

In the first place, what is the "coolie?" Etymologically the word is of Hindustani origin, and denotes a "labourer." But it would be quite incorrect to infer that the coolies of Japan, as a class, are labourers. True, they are often glad of the first or any job that turns up. Micawber like, they are generally waiting for a chance to enrich themselves at the expense of the minimum of hard work. Yet this is equally true of the vast hordes of the unemployed, the "submerged tenth," in any land. Japanese coolies, on the other hand, often include men of more than average education; impecunious sons of small farmers; boys set adrift in the world by reason of family misfortunes or other untoward circumstances; and, besides these, a substratum of day labourers, composed principally of petty peasants, and handicraftsmen, whose skill in their special branch is not sufficient to procure them a livelihood. There is also a well defined proletarian element: scapegraces and well-nigh irreclaimable vagabonds—as indeed may be found in every community the world over. These last named, in common with the hot-headed, penniless youths already described, are directly responsible for all trouble coming from the coolie class. And there is one thing more to be considered: a large proportion of these men are the offspring of petty *samurai*—many still cling to their inherent *shisoku* rank—and these have bellicose, military instincts, the free, bold bearing so characteristic of their progenitors. Untrained in early years to any useful employment, deprived of the blades by which their ancestors carved their name to fame, their plight truly is an unfortunate one. With gentlemanly instincts they have to herd with persons socially and mentally their inferiors; and so it comes that the very qualities that were laudable in their parents or grandparents, drag these men down to ruin, cause them to lead reckless lives, and scatter broadcast the seeds of discontent, disobedience, and disturbance.

The question is: How can the Government best reach and work in the sense of a mental and physical amelioration of this numerous class? There are unquestionably good qualities to be found among the coolies; instead of letting these qualities run to seed or disappear under the weeds of vice, what shall be done to raise their possessors? The only solution lies in the educating of these masses. According to statistics recently published in these columns, it is clear that, for so progressive and enlightened an empire as Japan, the number of illiterate men and women—or particularly those who have not acquired more than the mere rudiments of knowledge—is disproportionately great. Moreover, and this is an essential point, the schools of Japan take too long a time in fitting young men for practical careers in life. Five years in a Primary, three years in a Higher Primary, and three to four years in an Ordinary Middle School—and what is the result? The student has acquired a fair knowledge of written, but not spoken English; can cipher with tolerable accuracy; knows a little each of chemistry, botany, zoology, and astronomy; is very feeble in his geographical and historical know-

ledge of any country except Japan. In a word, seven-tenths of what he has so painfully acquired are not at all adapted for launching him in some practical, bread-winning pursuit. Within three years after graduating from an Ordinary Middle School, the student forgets fully 50 per cent. of what he has learned. We speak in this connection from positive experience, and are certain of our position. These ten or twelve years of study are, in the instance, impossible to the majority of young people: their parent's position not admitting so long an abstinence from lucrative employ or, at any rate, paying work, and even when the young man is enabled to go through the whole course, he is, upon graduating, not at all fit for practical work and not so trained as to be able at once to support himself and an eventual family. This is, it must be confessed, a very unsatisfactory showing.

What possible good could such education do the lower or lowest classes—the, for the want of a better word, "coolies," and their children? It could only inspire them with a dissatisfaction with their lot and aspirations impossible of fulfilment. Some other method must be devised to give the necessary mental pabulum to these knowledge-hungry people; to fit them to take, at the earliest possible moment, a place in the struggle for existence and the means of winning their daily food. We would suggest two measures, either of which is not difficult of achievement. First, then, the heightening of the standard of the Higher Primary Schools, with a view to preparing the alumni to enter upon some practical career; combined with technical education, though not obligatory, from the third or fourth year of the Ordinary Primary Schools. Secondly, the establishment of an increased number of Technical Schools, of not too high a grade, in as many of the larger towns as possible, together with a minimum of tuition fees. Were this done, we are convinced, a great step would be taken towards rendering the coolie population innocuous, and spreading a thorough, practical education among the masses. Knowledge is power, and never more so than when kept in the right direction and leading towards a desirable goal.

IMPROVEMENTS IN LEGAL PROCEDURE.

It is exceedingly satisfactory to find that the strong acumen of the British Bench at last promises to rise superior to the tyranny of technicalities and legal quibbles, by which the ends of justice have so often been defeated. At the Jameson trial, Sir Edward Clarke, who appeared for the defence, made a brilliant speech on a motion to quash the indictment, which it appears, had been drafted with considerable slovenliness. We read in the London papers that, in other days, Sir Edward would have won his point, but on this occasion the Lord Chief Justice over-ruled him, and in doing so employed the following remarkable language with reference to the recorded cases that Sir Edward had cited:—"Many of them belong to a time when the right and the justice and the substance of the thing were sacrificed to the science of artificial statement." Let us hope sincerely that this wise dictum of the Lord Chief Justice points to the opening of an era when legal documents can be couched in the language of every-day life, and freed from formalities and technicalities at once superfluous, perplexing, and absurdly antique. Such a reform would be of immense value, and worthy to rank with it would be some method of restraining the abuses of cross-examination. The ordinary barrister, now-a-days, when he stands up to cross-examine a witness, deliberately sets himself to play the part of a clever and artful bully. If he can not shake the testimony hostile to his client's cause, he can at least essay to humiliate the witness, or render him, in some respect or another, antipathetic to the jury, with which object he too often resorts to methods as indefensible as they are rude. Cross-examination undoubtedly has its uses, but the license accorded to cross-examining barristers often outrages all canons of decency.

BREWERIES IN JAPAN.

Mr. Uyeno Kintaro, chief expert of the Yebisu Beer Brewing Company, was despatched by his employers to Germany by the last European mail, his object being to inspect the condition of the brewing industry in Germany and to equip himself with a knowledge of the latest improvements there. He is to stay in Germany for two years. On the occasion of a farewell banquet given him at the Seiyoken, Uyeno Park, Mr. Umakoshi, a Director of the Company, delivered a speech upon the condition of the company and the brewing industry in Japan. He observed that the brewers of Japan have not only succeeded in nearly putting a stop to the import of most malt liquors into Japan, but now export their produce to China and Singapore, and even as far as Bombay. In fact, the supply is hardly adequate to meet the growing demand. There are at present only four breweries in Japan carrying on business on a large scale; namely, the Kirin, (Japan Brewery Company, Ltd.); the Asahi, the Sapporo, and the Yebisu. The output of these four breweries does not exceed 50,000 *koku* per annum. Compared with the yearly output of *sake*, amounting to 4 million *koku*, the quantity of beer produced in Japan does not exceed $\frac{1}{80}$, while from the point of view of the alcohol contained in the two, the ratio falls to 1 in 300. Consequently, if the steady increase in the consumption of Japanese beer in foreign markets be taken into consideration, the quantity of beer brewed in Japan may be increased by ten or even twenty times the amount now manufactured. Of the various fermenting industries of Japan, beer brewing is generally admitted to be one of the most profitable, and this even though malt is imported from abroad. The profits would therefore be very much greater where this material produced at home. The Yebisu Beer Company is paying earnest attention to this point and is manufacturing malt experimentally from German barley with the latest appliances available. It was for the purpose of investigating this important branch of the industry that the Company decided to despatch its expert to Germany. Success in producing malt in Japan would mark an epoch in the history of beer brewing in Japan. It is said that the Yebisu Company has decided to establish another brewery capable of producing 16,000 *koku*, so that, on the completion of this scheme, the total output of the company will be increased to about 60,000 *koku*. For this purpose the Company's capital is to be increased from 600,000 *yen* to 1,300,000 *yen*. The scheme will be laid before an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders to be held on the 25th instant.

DYSENTERY.

Dysentery, writes the *Nippon*, is causing considerable havoc in Japan, especially in Gumma Ken, where the cases totalled about 7,300 up to the 10th instant. Lack of wholesome drinking water, in consequence of the floods, must be at the root of these fearful ravages, while another factor is the tendency of the people to neglect the usual sanitary precautions. This negligence is proving very fatal. Between 1889 and 1895, cholera cases totalled 115,085 throughout the country, of whom 84,666 were fatal. During the same period dysentery patients amounted to 557,851, of whom 135,057 died. Thus the mortality caused by dysentery is greater by about 70 per cent. Classified by professions, farmers are found to be far more susceptible to dysentery than others, as is shown in the following figures:—Farmers, 80.99 per cent.; mechanics, 1.94; merchants, 4.68; other professions, 8.78; non-professional, 1.99; miscellaneous 1.62. In cholera the mortality among the farming class constitutes 45.23 per cent., while in typhus the ratio is 58.71. Consequently dysentery must be put down as a farmer's plague. From Jan. 1st to Aug. 15th of this year dysentery patients totalled throughout Japan 16,873, of whom 2,752 succumbed.

A MANILA SCHEME THREE CENTURIES AGO.

The *Mainichi* prints an interesting account of the career of Harada Magohichiro, who about three centuries ago plotted to annex the Philippines to Japan. The early life and career in Japan of this warrior are shrouded in the mists of tradition, and the *Mainichi* simply states that he was one of those bold adventurers who, becoming weary of internecine troubles, left the country at the beginning of the *Tensho* era (1573-1591 A.D.). In time, Harada arrived at Manila, where he stayed for some years, making himself thoroughly acquainted with the place and its inhabitants. He was convinced that the despatch of Jesuit missionaries by Spain to the Philippines was with the object of subsequently annexing the islands, and that, unless the idea could be summarily checked, Japan might be placed in jeopardy. His experience of the world told him that Japan should anticipate Spain and prevent her gaining possession of the Philippines. With that purpose in view, Harada returned to Japan and laid his project before Hideyoshi, then at the zenith of his fame and power. Harada represented to Hideyoshi that the latter should despatch a message to the Governor of Luzon, urging him to pay homage to Hideyoshi and bring tribute. Harada's idea was to provoke the Governor of Luzon and then to send an expedition to the South on the plea of the Spaniard's discourtesy. This proposal was highly acceptable to the ambitious Hideyoshi, and he wrote a letter, which Harada charged his nephew to carry to Luzon. The letter was drawn up in haughty language, and the Governor despatched Father Fanzobio (?) to Japan to return an answer to it. When the messenger arrived, Hideyoshi was in Nagoya, Hizen, actively directing the expedition against Korea. Harada accompanied the messenger to Nagoya, where the latter submitted the letter and presented the tribute sent by the Governor. The messenger represented at the same time that he was sent by the Governor to ascertain the authenticity of the letter from Japan. The statements of the messenger were somewhat ambiguous, but Hideyoshi, absorbed in the Korean affair, had no leisure to attend to the matter. Harada was highly rewarded by Hideyoshi for this service, and was sworn into the group of his immediate retainers and received a fief of 300 *koku* of rice. But Harada's ambition did not lie in that direction, he was impatient to obtain a definite answer from the Governor. In 1593 Harada set out for Luzon, but upon his arrival at Manila, was highly disappointed at finding that the returning Embassy had been shipwrecked and drowned, so that Hideyoshi's second letter had not reached the Governor. This was a great blow to Harada's project. But he did not despair. After remaining awhile in Manila, an ingenious idea occurred to him. He represented to the Chief of the Jesuit Mission the advisability of sending missionaries to Japan, where, he promised, they would meet with a warm reception. The chief was delighted at this, and after consulting with the Governor, determined to despatch two priests, Gonzales and Baptiste. These men, in company with Harada, arrived at Nagoya and were seen by Hideyoshi. After a short stay, Gonzales left Japan, and in 1595 Baptiste was joined by four of his brethren from Manila, and the five were allowed to engage in the work of evangelization. In the meanwhile, rumours began to circulate that the Jesuit priests, while pretending to spread the Gospel, were really intent on extending the dominions of Spain. Whether this rumour originated from Harada, or whether Hideyoshi really believed in it, history does not relate, but from that time onward the Taiko manifested distrust of the priests, whom he caused, at the instigation of Harada we are told, to be put to death. Hideyoshi then promised to follow the advice of his councillor and fit out an expedition to take Luzon, but before he could carry out this ambitious project, he was taken ill and died. Thus Luzon was saved from the misery that overtook Korea.

FUNERAL OF CAPT. KENDERDINE.

The funeral of the late Capt. Kenderdine took place on Friday afternoon and was attended by touching expressions of esteem and regard, the deceased gentleman having truly won the hearts of all who came in contact with him in the course of his busy life. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. C. Irwine, M.A., and was most impressively rendered. The eldest son and Mr. J. W. Cain were the chief mourners. The pall-bearers were Capt. Martin, Capt. Efford, Capt. Olsen, Capt. Forbes, Mr. W. Barrie, and Mr. P. Andersen. At the close of the service the Rev. E. C. Irwine said that it was with feelings of deep regret that they laid the body of their friend Kenderdine to rest within the grave. He was a man who won the affection of all his friends, and as a commander had gained the esteem of the service in which he was engaged, alike of his employers and by the passengers who had the privilege of travelling with him. He was also much liked and esteemed by his officers, which was a strong testimony of the good qualities of his character. In his home relations, as a father and a husband, we all know how kind and affectionate he was. I myself had long since found him to be a man who firmly believed in God and the truth of the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so while we shed the tear of sympathy for the sorrowing woman left behind, and for her young and tender children, yet we feel that Him whom he served so faithfully will not leave her and them without protection, but will guard and comfort them. I am also sure that among his friends will be found those who will be always ready with succour and encouragement for the loved wife he has left behind. Wreaths were sent by following:—Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. E. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Eustace, Mr. and Mrs. James Martin, Capt. and Mrs. J. Turner Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Moss, Capt. and Mrs. Thompson, Capt. J. W. Ekstrand, Capt. J. F. Allen, Capt. and Mrs. J. J. Efford, Capt. W. H. Forbes, Mrs. Frances Cameron, Capt. and Mrs. R. Swain, Dr. Runkwitz, Mr. and Mrs. Holyoake Box, Mrs. Rose, Mr. R. Kondo, Mrs. Noordhoek Hegt, Mr. F. Staniland, Mrs. F. Staniland, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Tresize, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Clausen, Mr. F. J. W. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Macarthur, Mrs. Charles Grant, Mr. and Mrs. B. Roth, Mr. and Mrs. Pope, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Apcar, Mr. J. Hellendall, Mr. E. Leopold, Mr. and Mrs. Manley, Mr. Ah Sung, Mr. E. P. Pallister, Mr. and Mrs. G. Booth, Mr. C. Charlesworth, Mr. J. Johnstone, and Mrs. Charles Parker.

PROMOTING BRITISH TRADE.

A Shanghai contemporary notes that among the steps that are being taken to promote British Commerce, Mr. Curzon mentioned the following in the House of Commons, on the 27th of July:—(3) The Consular Staff in Siam will be increased by two new appointments, but the exact areas of the new Consuls' jurisdictions are not yet fixed. (4) We hope before long to appoint additional British Consuls in Yunnan to promote the interests of British trade in that quarter. (5) Several new Consulships are in course of being created for now that ports have been opened to foreign trade by the Treaty of Shimonoseki between China and Japan. (6) Mr. Brenan, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, has been despatched on a special mission of inquiry to the Treaty Ports of China, Korea, and Japan, to report upon the manner in which British trade has been affected by the recent war. (7) Mr. Austin Lee, who is about to succeed Sir Joseph Crowe as Commercial Attaché at Paris, is engaged in the preparation of a special report upon the regulations with regard to trade and shipping of the Continental ports competing with the Port of London. (8) As a result of communications which have passed between the Foreign Office and the Associated Chambers of Commerce, supplementary instructions are in course of being

issued to Her Majesty's Consuls regarding assistance to trade, the collection of samples, and information of a commercial nature. (9) More complete arrangements have recently been made for the immediate publication in the Press of invitations for tenders for work abroad. (10) Arrangements have been made for the official participation of Great Britain in the Exhibitions to be held next year at Brussels and in 1900 at Paris, and Parliament will be asked to make grants for this purpose.

A NEW VIEW OF MR. CECIL RHODES & HIS COMPANY.

L'illustration Européenne, translated by the *Literary Digest*, says:—

Several days' journey from Mafeking, where the English rapid-fire guns are massing to-day under the distrustful eyes of the Boers, and Fort Salisbury, where the Honourable Cecil Rhodes supports an agony of suspicion, 27 kilometers [17 miles] from the station of Zimbabwe, and more exactly yet, in latitude 20° 16' 30" South and longitude 33° East, enormous masses of ruins extend along the river Sabi. Occupied as they have been in seeking for gold-bearing strata, the English have not absolutely neglected the archeological treasures that these ruins without doubt conceal.

The explorer Bent made here some preliminary excavations, and his conclusions tend to no less a result than the location, here in Mashonaland, of the mysterious kingdom of the Queen of Sheba, whence Solomon obtained, in the year 992 before Christ, a mass of gold estimated at more than a million kilograms [more than two million pounds avoirdupois].

In fact, the mineral wealth of this land had already been pointed out by Arab traders to the Portuguese when they disembarked for the first time at Sofala. Now the name Sofala may be nothing else than a derivative of the Greek word Sophira or Ophir, and if we compare this name with that of the river Sobi or Saba, we must conclude that Ophir or Saba was situated in the country now granted to the Chartered Company. This latter also—it is scarcely necessary to mention—makes special allusion to the "wonderful relics" of Zimbabwe in its prospectus.

These ruins bear the distinctive characteristics of Phœnician construction. Certain of the walls are five meters [16 feet] thick and ten [33 feet] high. Mr. Bent visited numerous enclosures, several towers, and a fortress and in various places he found the remains of foundries and of working in gold. He gathered from this exploration the certainty that this dead city was not of South African origin, and that it had been abandoned and destroyed after some great invasion; for the gates of several houses are provided with walls as if it had been desired to transform them into fortresses, and from the disorder that reigns everywhere, one gets the impression that these mute ruins must have witnessed, at some time or other, a terrible war of extermination.

To-day the Mashonas dwell in primitive huts near the crumbling palaces, and 21 kilometers [15 miles] to the north rises Fort Victoria, flying the British flag.

Strange destiny! This enchanted country, this kingdom of the Arabian Nights, has become the social capital of a syndicate of speculators; and to the Queen of Sheba, that brilliant figure of Bible story, that princess of fairyland, has succeeded the administration of the British South Africa Company.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There is no occasion to call public attention to the contrast between the conduct of the American Board Missionaries in this country during recent events and that of the Doshisha Company as championed by President Kozaki and Prof. Ukita. If the spirit of the one is that of "conservatism" in theology, and that of the other the spirit of "freedom of thought" the incident may furnish food for reflection. The one is Christianity, the other is anything else. Small wonder that there is a distinct cleavage visible in Japanese Christianity, that the so-called defence of orthodoxy is no longer dependent on the foreign missionaries.

But I set out to say something else. Recent events have been viewed with much more than passing interest. There has been a good deal of "I told you so" talk, and one Christian has written to the *Japan Mail* a letter such as few missionaries would have the heart to write. If facts are not greatly misrepresented, the Doshisha is not the only mission school that has undergone this secularizing process. What about the Canadian Methodist School at Azabu, Tokyo? What about the M.E. School at Aoyama and the Episcopal School at Nara? Have not the first and last named, and the Preparatory Department of the Aoyama School, been "put in line with Govern-

ment schools?" Does any sane man suppose that a pupil from one of these schools will ever secure entrance into one of the higher Government schools until the school from which he comes, like the Doshisha, has broken loose from Christian moorings, and its Japanese teachers and trustees are prepared to kick the missionaries out and join President Kozaki and Prof. Ukita in their chorus of base ingratitude? Laying all prejudices aside, when there are thousands of pupils every year for whom there is no room in the higher Government schools, what can the pupils of these little, very little, Chin Gakko expect?

The essence of this secularization of mission schools is denial of Christ. That being accomplished, nothing more remains to be done, unless it be for the actors to hide their faces in shame.

Very truly,

September 11th, 1896.

OBSERVER.

THE CONDUCT OF RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Though I have not been in Japan so long as your correspondent "H." my twelve years experience of almost constant travel fully corroborates what he says with reference to the Japanese railway officials being "uniformly polite and attentive, to the wants of foreigners especially." I have travelled very much in almost every civilized country of the world, and can truthfully say that I have nowhere received better treatment from railway officials than in Japan. I would, however, most respectfully submit, that if the ticket-offices were opened somewhat earlier than is usually the case, it would be a matter of convenience to the travelling public generally, and to those having baggage cheques to procure in particular, and this would, at the same time, lessen the "rush" which not seldom takes place a few minutes before the departure of the train.

Yours truly,

Tokyo, September 9th, 1896.

F. W. V.

CRICKET.

MR. CRAWFORD'S ELEVEN V. MR. WHITE'S ELEVEN.

This match was played in pleasant weather on Saturday afternoon, when Mr. Crawford's team was beaten badly by the eleven captained by Mr. White. Crawford, winning the toss, sent his men in first, but with the exception of himself (19) and Murray (21), the side did badly. Kingdon's bowling being very effective. Kingdon's analysis reads, 40 balls, 7 runs, 3 maidens, 5 wickets; an exceptionally bright performance. White's team opened badly, the first man being dismissed at 8, and Dickinson going out l.b.w. at 22; but upon White and Campbell coming together a stand was made and 130 was hoisted ere White was cleaned bowled by Murray. The out-going bat made ten fours and four threes. Campbell was caught at long-on by substitute off Murray, at 160, and his score included eight fours, two threes, and ten twos. The only other man on the side to get into double figures was Dr. Todd, 11. Scores:

MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.				
Mr. G. C. Murray, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	28
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. sub. b. Goddard	...	...	...	1
Mr. K. F. Crawford, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	10
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, b. Goddard	...	...	...	1
Mr. H. R. Harries, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	1
Mr. G. Allcock, b. White	...	...	...	3
Mr. H. Goddard, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	0
Mr. S. Thomson, run out	...	...	...	0
Mr. W. Goddard, b. Goddard	...	...	...	0
Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	3
Mr. E. Eddisou, not out	...	...	...	0
b. 9, l.b. 1, w. 1	...	...	...	11

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WI.
Mr. F. E. White	30	19	2	2	2
Mr. H. S. Goddard	65	26	4	3	—
Mr. A. Kingdon	49	7	3	5	—

MR. WHITE'S TEAM.

Mr. H. V. Dickinson, l.b.w. Edwards	...	...	...	...	6
Mr. E. Owen, b. Goddard	...	...	...	...	3
Mr. F. E. White, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	75
Mr. H. E. Campbell, c. sub. b. Murray	...	...	...	...	76
Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. S. Goddard, c. Crawford, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	3
Mr. H. Tennant, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	0
Dr. Todd, not out	...	...	...	...	11
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. C. McGerrow, not out	...	...	...	...	5
Mr. C. Gibbs, did not bat.	...	...	...	...	—

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. H. B. S. Edwards	120	64	5	4
Mr. W. Goddard	105	69	2	3
Mr. G. C. Murray	45	37	3	1
Mr. H. R. Harries	90	18	1	0

"BLOW FOR BLOW" AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The dramatic company of H.M.S. *Humber* deserved a much larger audience than that which gathered at the Public Hall on Saturday, when the drama, "Blow for Blow," was given in aid of the funds of local charities. Yokohama does not care for heavy drama: that is a fact amply demonstrated by the experience of the past few years; still the meagre attendance on Saturday exhibits but scant appreciation of the self-denying efforts of a party of amateurs belonging to lands afar, who so kindly volunteer their services to add to the gaiety of this dead-and-alive Settlement. It is to be hoped that this evening some amends will be made, for, putting the claims of charity altogether aside, the entertainment is well worth patronage. A good deal of healthy amusement was derived from some of the unrehearsed situations occasionally developed, as when the low comedian, in the exuberance of his spirits, tugged too heartily on his moustache, and caused the ill-gummed hirsute appendage to fall to the floor, where it was incontinently trampled on before the accident was discovered by his fellow Thespian; or when the landlady in Act I, with unskilful, clumsy fingers tried to remove poor *Alice Petherick's* dainty bonnet and found herself in a wild tangle of hairpins, that were no sooner brought into submission than she dropped the bonnet on the floor—a thing no lady, we understand, could or would do with such an article of head-gear. Some of the ladies of the audience, too, were also a little hypercritical as to the actions of the would-be females in some of the love-passages, averring that there was too much masculine abandon and muscularity about the billing and the cooing. But as for the draping of the skirts, etc., they had nothing but praise. The action of the piece is divided into a prologue and three acts, an interval of five years separating the prologue from the rest of the drama. The *dramatis personæ* include the usual characters found in thrilling drama, the heavy villain, the wrong-doing father, the good sister who is tempted by the villain to revenge a wrong done to her dead sister by Villain Number Two, against whom the heavy villain has a grudge; a couple of light comedy parts, a Number Two leading lady, and a serio-dramatic good genius. Vice predominates in the prologue till towards the end, when one personage gets thrashed, and the other arrested, while a gleam of triumphant Virtue is vouchsafed by the intended Villain Number Two declaring in all the solemnity of melodramatic art that though the girl he loves is a forger's daughter he intends making her an honest man's wife. Cheers should have followed this outburst of heroics, but "the gods" are ever absent from the Public Hall, and only mild applause greeted the fall of the curtain. Then the drama proper began. Act I., "The Plot," gives the clue to the further proceedings of the villains; Act II. introduces "My Lady Linden" and carries on the action in the higher strata of society. Vice predominates, and almost prevails, in the first scene of Act III., "On the Scent;" scene two is introduced for the sole purpose of giving the lady and gentleman low comedians a chance to irradiate the gloom, that is now setting in thickly, with some flashes of superlative humour of the homely, understandable kind. Then in Scene III., the drama culminates, Vice proclaims his triumph prematurely and is "downed" by Virtue in the nick of time, and the beautiful lesson that it is better to live a goodly, forgiving life than to attempt to return "blow for blow," is drawn, and given utterance to, by *Alice Petherick*, the charming heroine.

Mr. F. J. de Maurie made a beautiful *Alice Petherick*, twin of the injured sister, moving gracefully and speaking nicely, save that he in company with the rest was inclined to talk too fast, and thus destroyed the charm of many excellent passages. Mr. S. T. Gascoigne was an heroic *Lady Ethel Lilian Linden*, a true wife always ready to believe against belief. The part of her husband, *Sir Henry*, who thrashes the chief villain in the prologue and fails to satisfactorily carry out his promises regarding the forger's daughter, was well taken by Mr. H. J. E. Gow. *Kitty Wobbler*, the devoted milliner, found a good exponent in Mr. S. G. Lancefield, while Mr. D. Casey took the part of *Mr. Alex Bolder*, banker, in the prologue, and *Mrs. Moulsey*, landlady, in the drama. Mr. J. P. Roberts made an excellent *John Drummond*, the villainous head lawyer's clerk, and thoroughly won the hisses that such villains receive when their machinations fail; Mr. S. Renals was *Fosiah Craddock*, the embezzling lawyer and forger. Mr. F. J. Grady threw considerable life into the dull part of *Doctor Sidney Grace*; and Mr. J. Gee was inimitable in the low comedy part of

Charles Spraggs, betting-man—whilom lawyer's clerk—who has an experience of all grades of society till Dame Fortune, sorry jade, reduces him to the level of a street flautist, and tries in vain to deprive him of his Mark Tapleyish philosophy. The minor parts were all satisfactorily filled and the play moved along with pleasant celerity, no lines being forgotten or the prompter's services requisitioned. The performance this evening begins at 9 o'clock, sharp.

ELSIE ADAIR AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Miss Elsie Adair has brought a very clever company with her this time, and a taste of their quality that they gave at the Public Hall on Tuesday creates a desire for more. From first to last the large audience was most thoroughly amused and endores very quickly became the order of the evening. The opening piece was a bright little comedietta, "A happy Pair," played by Miss Elsie Adair and Mr. Vanderlip, containing many witty lines and up-to-date pleasantries about "the spirit of the age." Then Madame Jardyne, who possesses a highly cultured soprano voice, sang "O, promise me," a German *lied*, and "Little Tillie Taylor." The singer was recalled three times. After a few remarks from Mr. Vanderlip in the stumpy orator's best manner, Miss Elsie Adair sang three songs that included "The little Mademoiselle," "I want you, my honey," and then a plaintive ditty that most unexpectedly developed an encore verse pitched in an entirely different vein that gave rise to most uproarious laughter. In every way Miss Adair has considerably improved since her last appearance here, voice, delivery, and action being more charmingly finished, while her merry face is ever wreathed in smiles. Mr. Hugh J. Emmett opened the second part of the programme with a very clever performance on the violin, and then taking the audience into his confidence he proceeded in a Corney Grain manner to hold their attention, while one succession of jokes, merry stories, and telling witticisms came tumbling along close on one another's heels, the violin assisting the while. Needless to say Mr. Emmett was recalled again and again, but at last had to decline further encores. The entertainment concluded with the Serpentine Dance, Miss Elsie Adair giving four different expositions, each more charming and wonderful than the other. Vociferous cheers greeted her at the conclusion.

The Public Hall was packed to its utmost capacity on Thursday evening, on the occasion of the second appearance of Miss Elsie Adair and her company. Somehow or other the programme, clever though it was in its way, did not seem to please so well as did the "bill" presented on the opening night, and the performance consequently lacked that happy spontaneity that arises when audience and players are of one accord. Madame Jardyne played the overture, then Messrs. Emmett, Vanderlip, and Kenake gave a sketch, a Negro Idyl, entitled "Les Miserables." During the course of the piece Mr. Emmett introduced two violin solos of pleasing beauty. Miss Elsie Adair having contributed four songs that were well received, Master Elmer Russell sang some ballads in his high-pitched resonant voice, while limelight views were thrown on a screen behind him. This lad's voice is very powerful, but it seems a pity that he should be allowed to force it unnaturally. With a little training and less exacting work the boy would develop a voice both pleasing, true, and powerful. In the second half, Mr. Hugh J. Emmett gave a ventriloquial act that proved rather wearisome, and Madame Jardyne sang three songs; the entertainment concluding with four serpentine dances by Miss Adair.

THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIVOR, Esq., Consul-General and Judge.—WEDNESDAY, Sept. 16th.

KNAPP AND SARDA V. JAMES CURTIS.

This was a case in which Messrs. E. Knapp and Paul Sarde, French citizens, sued James Curtis for the recovery of \$275, the reasonable worth of the premises at No. 76, Settlement, rented by the defendant from plaintiffs from June 10th, 1896, to September 10th, 1896.

Mr. Geo. H. Scidmore appeared for the plaintiffs. Defendant, who had filed no answer, was not present.

After opening the case briefly, Mr. Scidmore called evidence.

Emil Knapp, sworn, deposed—I am one of the plaintiffs in this case, the defendant being James

Curtis. Mr. Sarde arranged with the defendant that he should occupy the premises, No. 76, Settlement, at a certain monthly rental. Previous to this arrangement myself and Mr. Sarde were in possession of these premises, and the arrangement for the delivery of the premises to Curtis was made by Mr. Sarde with my consent. The details were left with Mr. Sarde.

Paul Sarde, sworn, deposed—I and Mr. Knapp were in possession of the premises No. 76 previous to the 10th June, 1896. On that date I delivered up the premises to Mr. Curtis. The terms were, rent at \$65 per month, and \$60 as a first instalment of \$120 for alterations in the house, to be paid on July 10th, and the rest, \$10 per month, for six months. I made a memorandum of the facts and embodied them in a lease.

Mr. Scidmore then put in the memorandum to prove the terms of the arrangement entered into between the parties, that bore out the statements made by witnesses and alleged in the petition. It was put in not as a lease, but as a memorandum proving the value and the occupation of the premises by the defendant.

Witness continuing—Defendant has occupied the premises since the 10th June, but has paid no rent whatever. I have demanded payment and have not received any of the rent.

To the Bench—I made the alterations mentioned in the memorandum at the request of defendant before he entered into occupation. He agreed to pay for the alterations, \$60 in the first month and \$10 per month afterwards. These alterations enhanced the value of the premises. I have made application for payment of these sums, but he has refused to pay them. I have left him in complete and free occupation of the premises and have never disturbed him. I have a building lease of the premises starting from 12th March, 1896, for six years.

Mr. Scidmore, in summing up, said that the claim had been proved by the satisfactory evidence of the two plaintiffs and the memorandum, signed by defendant, that had been put in. He contended that all the requirements of the law had been fulfilled and proof of occupation substantiated. The defendant had been, by permission of the plaintiffs, tenant of the premises, but having failed to carry out his agreement—paying the rent—the plaintiffs were entitled to the relief they sought.

His Honour—What is the extent of the premises?

Mr. Scidmore—A two storied house standing on the corner of Main street and the intersecting road, with two entrances on its frontages.

His Honour—And the value? No evidence has been lead as to that.

Mr. Scidmore quoted "Gear on the Law of Landlord and Tenant," but his Honour suggested that a better way of proving the value of the premises was to recall one of the witnesses.

Mr. Knapp, recalled, said that \$90 per month; in his opinion, was the value of the premises as they now stood. He had been a property owner for some eight years and knew something of house values in Yokohama. He had six or seven tenants on his properties, and so had knowledge of these affairs.

Mr. Scidmore said that defendant had entered no appearance, and had really proved his opinion of the value of the premises by the memorandum that he had signed.

His Honour said that had the defendant appeared he might have brought evidence on the point itself. Anyhow, one of the plaintiffs had stated that the value of the premises was \$90 per month, and they could not mulct the defendant in more than that sum.

Mr. Scidmore—The figure \$90 was for occupancy during a given period, your Honour.

His Honour—Judgment is entered against defendant by default: defendant will have to pay 270 yen and costs.

Mr. Scidmore asked for execution without delay, and his Honour granted special execution in accordance with the terms of judgment.

Consequent upon the subdivision of the Main Island of Japan into four "Jurisdictions" or dioceses the Committee of the Church Missionary Society have been led to modify their scheme for the administration of the Mission, and have authorised the formation of Missionary Conferences and Standing Sub-Committees for each of the dioceses—the two in the Main Island and in those of Kiu-shu and Hokkaido—in which the Society is represented, and of a General Conference of the missionaries of the whole Mission to meet once in three years. The first General Conference since these changes took effect was held at Osaka in April.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

The Spanish Government is advertising in Europe for tenders for the construction and delivery at Manila of a steamship required by the Government of the Philippines in connection with the lighthouse service of those islands.

The *China Mail*, commenting on the proposed establishment of an Imperial Chinese Mail service, says:—One of the most welcome reforms in the eyes of all lovers of China is the inauguration of a postal system on Western lines. Native opposition, inevitable and characteristic, will soon be overcome. The Chinese officials know how to deal with their own people, and if the entire private postal organisation, which is a powerful corporation, protests or proves recalcitrant, that opposition to an Imperial Edict will be unavailing, while such opposition will afford another illustration of the late T. T. Meadows' asseverations, in his work on "The Chinese and their Rebellions," that the black-haired race is the most rebellious in the world but the least revolutionary. From our own experience in Hongkong, we know that the Chinese will oppose any change or innovation even although the proposed reforms are for their ultimate good. They have no idea of reforms. It is not, however, with the opposition of the postal hongs in China that we are concerned most intimately. Our interest is centred in wishing to know what the Colonial Government intends to do with native letter service established in this Colony. An abortive attempt was made several months ago, at the instance, if we remember right, of Commander Hastings (then Acting Captain Superintendent of Police) to bring these establishments under the cognisance of the Post Office authorities. Is that attempt to be renewed? With the Imperial authorities taking most decided action regarding native postal hongs on the mainland, the question will be forced upon the Hongkong Government. How does it propose to act? In 1886, Mr. Lister, then Postmaster General, was, we believe, most anxious to include in the mail-bags the large mass of correspondence which evaded the Post Office; but without assistance on the part of the Customs he was powerless to do so. This illegal procedure on the part of the native postal hongs can now be stopped if the Hongkong Post Office decides to co-operate with the Imperial Chinese Post Office. For years the entire body of native letter-carriers have flouted the Postal ordinances, as the Chinese population ignore the Stamp Act, thereby entailing an immense loss to the Treasury, while tons of China mail matter enter and leave the Colony as if no such institution as the Post Office existed. These native postal hongs contribute nothing to the postal revenue, and in the majority of cases pay nothing to the steamer; at least, neither owners nor shareholders derive any benefit, the compadore and his staff appropriating the proceeds. The monopoly enjoyed by the native letter hongs has lasted long enough. It is the stereotyped objection to innovation in Hongkong that "the Chinese will not agree to it, and the peculiar situation of the Colony on the coast of China prevents us from compelling them;" but here we have the Chinese authorities armed with an Imperial Edict enforcing the reform in China; Singapore and Bangkok make spasmodic efforts to bring the Chinese illegal letter-carriers under the law; are we in Hongkong to do nothing? As we have already said, we shall be interested to know what steps the Post Office authorities intend to take to bring the native postal hongs under their control.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st Aug., 1896, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	1,868,542	1,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	4,254,769	2,500,000
National Bank of China, Ltd..	385,444	205,000
Total	6,508,755	3,705,000

According to a Hongkong contemporary, the total force of the French army in Indo-China is 24,100. The force is composed as follows:—3 regiments infantry marine, 4,800; 5 battalions of the foreign legion, 3,600; 4 regiments of native tirailleurs, 14,100; 6 batteries of European artillery, 800; and artillery auxiliaries (European), 500. There have to be added to the above the auxiliary services and the gendarmerie, which bring the total up to 24,500, under the orders of a General of Division and two brigadiers. There is also in Indo-China a native militia of 10,000 men.

The death is announced in Haiphong papers of M. Victor Roque, formerly ship-owner in Hai-

phong. He used, notes the *China Mail*, to run the steamers *Sattee* and *Nampan* between Haiphong and Hongkong. He died in the Chateau de Montifray near Tours. M. Roque, it may be remembered by some of our readers, was captured by Chinese pirates in the neighbourhood of An-chau in Tonkin, and had to pay a ransom of \$55,000 besides jewellery and piece-goods. It was after this exciting episode that M. Roque retired to France.

A telegram from Manila to a leading firm in Hongkong is to the effect that import business has been entirely suspended, owing to the Rebellion; that the troubles are more serious than was at first anticipated, and no further consignments should be forwarded.

It is believed at Singapore that the Admiralty authorities are carrying on negotiations for the construction of an Admiralty dock in the Southern Colony. There is a strong feeling amongst naval men that it is desirable to have a dock at Singapore.

There is a proposal to lay down cycling track at Singapore in connection with the Sporting Club.

The reiterated assurances of H.E. Sir William Robinson that his term of office as Governor of Hongkong is almost at an end have given rise to speculations as to who is likely to prove his successor. There is a belief in official circles that Sir Charles Mitchell, at present Governor of the Straits Settlements, is to be sent to Hongkong. In that case, how about crucifixes, asks the *China Mail*?

The *China Mail* has seen a private letter from Canton giving fresh particulars regarding the recent destructive fire. We copy the following extract:—There was a big fire in the suburbs last night, just across the Canal and immediately behind the Canal road. What breeze there was, fortunately, was from the South-east; the fire started at 7.30, and was finished about 11. The story of the fire in this; fifty ruffians of the lowest type decided to abduct a lot of women, and with that intent proceeded to the neighbourhood of the brothels—a locality where, it is said, there are 7,000 women leading immoral lives. The visitors fired one house, and in the panic that followed had secured forty women, whom they were proceeding to abduct. The energetic Chinese fire brigades coming up at that identical moment somewhat interfered with the plan of the robbers, who drew their shooting irons and shot four of the gallant fire brigade men. Not being accustomed to this kind of fire, the fire brigades were somewhat disconcerted and exhibited considerable backwardness in coming forward, and it seemed likely that the unsavoury quarter of the city would be entirely wiped out by cleansing fires. However, the robbers, probably finding it getting too hot for them, cleared out with ten of the inmates.

THE APOTHEOSIS OF RUSSIA.

It needed the horrible disaster of the Khodinsky Plain to remind Nicholas II. that he is but a man. Such would have been the ancient envisagement of the calamity, and we are still so far in bondage to the theory of Nemesis that, though we may not put it so bluntly, the explanation corresponds to a lurking sentiment in most minds. For even to those who go no further for their political conceptions than the illustrated newspapers, there was something almost awfully solemn and impressive in the pictures of this small, slight young man as the centre of such dazzling glory. The remotest ends of the earth sent their greatest and most imposing figures to do him homage. There were his own subjects of every race and creed—Russians from all the Russias, Finns, and Lapps, Courlanders and Poles from the fringes of his European dominions, Cossacks and Tartars, Kalmucks and Mongolians, Emirs from Samarcand and Bokhara with centuries of mysterious romance in their train, and half-starved savages from the remotest north-east—Greeks and Catholics and Protestants, Mussulmans and Buddhists and Pagans. The absolute power exercised by the young man over all these has passed into a commonplace of rhetoric. But there was also a second group which, to many minds, bore even more significance than the crowd of recognised tributaries. There were the unofficial vassals, the representatives of thrones nominally free, but, in plain truth, almost as subservient to the lightest whisper of their master as the meanest *moujik* struggling for his life and a tin mug with *bombons* on the Khodinsky Plain. From Count de Montebello downwards, Prince Ferdinand and Zia Pasha, Li Hung-chang, Count Yamagata, and Abbas Mirza, uncle of the new Shah—they were all *moujiks* in their degree, and they were all struggling for a tin mug with *bombons*. In this assembly, as among the recognised subjects, there was more than a parade of empty vain-glorious-

ness. Each envoy stood for a very real factor of the Emperor's power—the outer circle, as it were, of his liegemen, not less abjectly obedient than their acknowledged fellows.

The coronation came aptly as the visible embodiment of a complete and almost world-wide authority, such as no Emperor of Russia has ever wielded before. It happened to coincide with a series of brilliant diplomatic triumphs following so hard on one another's heels, that what would have supplied foreign politics for a year's meditation has become merely one point in a sequence—the successor of the last and the usher of the next. During the months that Nicholas II. has been on the throne and Prince Lobanoff has been at the Chancellery, they have made huge strides towards empire such as might have sufficed for half a century. Or perhaps it would be more true to say that with the advent of the new Emperor came the harvest of what had been sown long before, and all the crops began to be garnered together. Peace or war, Russian aggression never stands still, and it is most characteristic of her patient and far-sighted diplomacy that she reaps more in peace than at the close of her most successful wars. To explain this ceaseless and pauseless advance upon all her neighbours, they tell us that she wants an open port on an open ocean—that it is absurd to ask an empire like Russia to put up with an outlet to the sea that is blocked by ice four months in every year. But that is no answer to the accusation, if accusation it be, of universal aggression. The possession of such a port is not the end but the means. There is no end to Russian ambition; each point won is a stepping-stone to the next. Eastern Siberia has no glut of merchandise struggling for a vent at Vladivostok, nor would Constantinople be any better fitted for the export grain trade than Odessa. The port may foster a trade as yet in its infancy, but this is just another reason for saying that it is not the goal of Russian aspiration, but only a milestone on the road. If not for empire and for competitive trade, why seek an open port at all? Still less can the constant absorption of new territory be explained by any superfluity of population in the old. It is nothing, after all, but the genuine earth-hunger, the lust of unlimited dominion. England is accused of it—probably without truth, since, if England could win markets without possession, she would be too grateful for the opportunity. Conquerors like Alexander and Napoleon have been inspired by it. In our own days whole nations have been bitten by it, as in Africa, because they have realised that even the world's surface is limited, and that they must peg out their claims now or never. But Russia has been hungering and thirsting for the whole earth ever since Russia was. She pursues her unchanging aim by peace or war—most surely, as had been said, by peace. The reign of Alexander III. the Pacificator, and the activity of M. de Giers, were a perpetual struggle for empire. And if Nicholas II. and Prince Lobanoff appear more enterprising, it is only that now is the time to garner, when before it was the time to sow. And all the sheaves are coming home together. If it is a port that is wanted, Russia has now the choice of half-a-dozen. If it is territory, there are several desirable empires waiting to be carved up. If it is universal hegemony, it is hers. Russia is the arbiter of the world. The Powers that are collectively in league against her are individually as desperately anxious for their tin mug as are her direct dependants and allies. Such as have most reason to dread her, and as command the force which might throw her back, are silent and bewildered. From one end of the world to the other she has established a kind of divine right. "There is even a new language fitted to the new cult. "A service to the peace of the world" is the new name for an act of complaisance to the Tsar, as "treachery to the common interests of civilisation" is the brand of such as seek to thwart him.

This language sounds extravagantly, but it is hardly a word more than the truth. And it is well worth the while of Britons to consider in a little detail the factors which have combined into what may be very literally called this commanding position. It is Britain that this position threatens, beyond any doubt—not perhaps by the choice of either Russia or of ourselves, but certainly by the imperative necessities of our relative positions in the world. In the Eastern hemisphere Great Britain and Russia are the only two expansive Powers in any real sense. There are others, such as France and Germany, which resist absorption, and even seek out barren spheres for the expansions that never comes. But the fact that such Powers resist absorption is only the more reason for certainty that the time will come when there will be no room left for the simultaneous enlargement of both. The moment may come in the twentieth century

or in the twenty-first, but come it must and will. And however the advocates of an Anglo-Russian understanding may delude themselves or others in London, there is no delusion in Petersburg. "Hostility to England is the alphabet of Russian policy," says the forward school; "an understanding if you will," say even the most moderate, "but it must be an understanding, not of common interest, but of rivalry." That such an understanding must be either impossible or useless will be argued later; at present we may endeavour to see what the dangers are against which, whether by understanding or by opposition, we have to guard ourselves.

The beginning of the Russian "boom" was, of course, the French connection, growing almost imperceptibly, from ordinary courtesy on the one side and slaving sentiment on the other, through the nebulous limbo of *rapprochement* and *entente*, into full-grown, full-armed alliance. To what extent and in what conditions this alliance is valid it is at this moment neither possible or important to determine. What is important, is that French people and French deputies believe that Russia and France are one, and that Prince Lobanoff is quite content to suffer them to think so. To see how far the alliance goes we must see it in operation, and that we shall hardly see without a European war. It is true that the diplomacy of the two countries plays together, as in Constantinople or Cairo; but on the other side, French and German diplomacy have played together for two years in Africa against Great Britain, and between France and Germany there is certainly no alliance. Nevertheless, it is in such diplomatic concert as is to be found between Messieurs de Nelidoff and Cambon at Constantinople, between the French and Russian representatives on the Caisse de la Dette at Cairo, that the practical working of the alliance has hitherto been best seen. It has brought Russia no very palpable advantage in Europe, but it has secured her flank there and given her a very useful leverage for work elsewhere. International rivalries during the last few years have shifted almost entirely from Europe to Asia and Africa. This is due partly to the completion of European military systems and the mutual fear springing from them, which results in an equilibrium neither stable nor unstable, but rather what the statist calls neutral equilibrium—where a body is impelled by any force, there it remains so soon as the force is exhausted—and partly to the conviction, already noticed, that those who wish to take up unoccupied patches of the earth must do so in this generation or never. The French alliance freed Russia to enter into the scramble with both hands.

A few weeks ago it looked as if by this alliance Russia had not only defended her European flank, but had actually broken up any possibility of danger from that quarter. The Triple Alliance appeared to be on the point of falling to pieces. Germany had plunged into the torrent of colonial rivalry, and it washed her up alongside of France and Russia. It may be that she was impelled to improve her relations across the Rhine and the Vistula by a wholesome respect for the increasing solidarity of the Franco-Russian combination. But in the main the Kaiser's policy appears to have been determined by rivalry with this country in Africa. This rivalry dated from the days of Angra Pequena and Walvisch Bay and Dr. Peter's futile raid on Uganda. It had been embittered when Mr. Rhodes forestalled German concession-hunters at Bulawayo. It was stirred into new life by the unlucky agreement which Lord Rosebery or Lord Kimberley concluded with the Congo State in the early months of 1893. This wild and blundering arrangement brought France and Germany together: they protested simultaneously against various parts of it, and they protested successfully. Association with France led up naturally to an introduction to Russia, and as naturally we found the three Powers taking common action in the Far East. Meanwhile, bad blood grew worse between this country and Germany, until it issued in the outbreak of January last, as everybody knows.

This breach affected the Triple Alliance, and therefore Russia's European position, in two senses. First, there was the new friendliness of Germany—or rather the revival of the old Bismarckian friendliness; and secondly, there was an unequalled opportunity of turning the screw on Italy. Italy was never a very whole-hearted member of the Alliance, nor could be unless it were quadrupled by the accession of England. Ten years ago her navy, especially if reinforced by such a fleet as Austria commands, might conceivably have sufficed to keep France from invading her at any point she pleased. To-day it is quite inadequate for that purpose, and each year sees it fall farther behind. If Germany and England were to fall out, what was the use of Ger-

many to Italy, seeing that the Kaiser was far more able to involve her in hostility with France than to defend her if she were attacked? The conclusion was obvious. If Germany joined the Dual Alliance, Italy must join too; even if Germany were refused by the allies, Italy would still—failing any hope of the British fleet—do better to agree with her adversary quickly. We have been told again and again by our special correspondents that the counsel of prudence had become an actuality; that Italy had come in and made her submission to Russia with the rest. And after the disaster of Adowa such a result might have been reasonably expected at any moment. The chronic necessities of the situation were rendered acute by the Russian relations with Abyssinia.

Into the history of this queer connection it is not necessary to enter minutely, although the whole affair is an admirable lesson in Russian diplomacy. Russian traders and Russian travellers had quietly percolated through Abyssinia for years; some of the bashful traffickers even went by way of Persia to escape observation. It has been notorious for years that Menelik has been armed from Onok by Russia's good friends the French; and doubtless here again the allies worked in concert. Out of these underground workings there suddenly cropped up a certain Prince Damto, personally conducted by M. Leontieff, on a mission to gladden the Emperor with the gift of Menelik's Order of Solomon's Seal—as it were a prize at a flower show. The authorities at Moscow were vastly interested to discover that the Abyssinian Church was a long-lost sister of their own (which it is not in the least), and much ecclesiasticalunction was outpoured upon the fortunate Damto. The deputation returned with the politest of messages for Menelik. Then came Adowa and the Red Cross mission to the wounded Abyssinians. The Abyssinian methods of ambulance are hardly more orthodox than the Abyssinian Church, and the Russian army surgeons were certain to find their patients either fully recovered or eaten by sorrowing relations. But no matter; the expedition sailed. It is true that the nurses all turned back, but the soldiers went on. All this was but the thinnest veil over the menace to Italy. Russia had got a footing in the country from which Italy had just been thrown out neck and crop. If Italy wished to get back, she could either do it by purchasing the favour of Russia with her adherence, or attempt to do it at the cost of her enmity. Or else she could resign her African ambitions altogether and make her peace with Russia or not as she chose. The one spirited and dignified course, which was to smash Menelik at Axum, was not taken. For the rest, Italy could either keep her sphere of influence with Russia's leave or stand the chance of being ousted when Russia saw a favourable opportunity. Russia is not as yet an African Power, but she sure she would have no objection in becoming one—especially when thereby she could command the Indian route through the Red Sea, while France dominated the Cape line at Madagascar.

But here, it may possibly be guessed, Russia, for a wonder, sustained a check. It is difficult to explain exactly what happened between Italy and the other members of the Triple Alliance, and between Italy and England. But judging from the evidence of the Italian Green-book, perhaps it was this. The Kaiser was unwilling to go the whole way towards cordiality with the Dual Alliance, or else his overtures were not favourably received. Thereon he would have pressed King Humbert, when he met him recently at Venice, to maintain the Triple Alliance—in opposition to the tendency of Rudini, his new Premier—and therewith to persevere in the African policy also as far as might be. Italy asked England to help her with a demonstration against the Khalifa, which would, and did, relieve the pressure on Kassala. Lord Salisbury agreed, by way of keeping up a counterpoise to France and Russia; this would explain the unexpected cordiality of Germany with regard to the Soudan advance. The Triple Alliance, in short, was set on its legs again by Lord Salisbury, and Russia was disappointed. Such, at least, is a possible reading of the events of the past few weeks. Yet, even if it be correct, Italy is badly weakened, and with her the anti-Russian combination in Europe. Moreover, the very discourteous publication of the recent Green-book, and the studious omission therefrom of all that might offend France or Russia, shows that Rudini, at least, is all for the Russian connection. And in Abyssinia Russia has fitted a thumb-screw which she may twist upon Italy whenever she will, and also—should Menelik be willing to lend his formidable power to the Khalifa—upon British supremacy in Egypt.

It is not in Europe, however, but Eastward, that the recent triumphs of Russia have been won; and these triumphs were duly summarized in the presence of many illustrious envoys at the coro-

nation. For the first there was the half-sinister, half-abstract figure of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria. A triumph over so pitiful a creature was not, perhaps, worthy of the full magnificence of the occasion. Since he nerved himself, first to get rid of Stambouloff, who had made and mastered him, and next to stand aside while the maker and master was murdered by semi-official agents of his Government, it was quite plain that all the Prince needed was permission to abase himself. Yet the victory cost nothing, and, poor as it is, is not without a definite promise of advantage for the future. The enmity of Alexander III. towards Prince Ferdinand was rather personal than political: it is said that Ferdinand promised the late Emperor that he would in no case accept the throne of Bulgaria, and accepted it three days later. But once the Prince had proved his fidelity after the manner of Judas, and it was plain that all he asked was permission to grovel, there was no political reason why that grace should not be accorded him. When Alexander III. died personal hostility ceased, and Prince Ferdinand was allowed access to the doormat. Arrangements are accordingly being made to reinstate Russian trade in Bulgaria at the expense of Austria. There is likewise a plot to heal the schism in the Orthodox Church by handing over the Bulgars of Macedonia to the spiritual care of the Greek Patriarch, thereby destroying all hope that this province will ever pass to Bulgaria. We have not heard much lately of this project, which aroused the most furious opposition in Bulgaria; but because it is in abeyance it by no means follows, where Russia is concerned, that it is given up. It is true that Bulgaria is no longer of prime importance as regards Constantinople, since Prince Lobanoff and M. de Nelidoff have flown at the taller game, and secured the Sultan himself. Yet it must always be of value as an outpost close to the objective: the sea-route to Constantinople might be cut, in conceivable eventualities, by a superior British fleet, and with Bulgaria friendly Roumania might be attacked in front and rear. In any case the submission of Prince Ferdinand means one thing: it puts an end to the scandal of the smallest of European Powers openly defying the greatest. Stambouloff snapped his fingers and bade Russia come on, while Britain and the Triple Alliance stood by and applauded the performance. That is over now. Bulgaria has repented in sackcloth and ashes, and the Emperor of All the Russias is exalted.

Possibly the most sensational of Russia's bloodless victories was personified in the presence of Zia Pasha, envoy from the Sultan of Turkey. That Abdul Hamid should throw himself bodily into the arms of his ancient enemy and the avenger of his persecuted Christian subjects, came to the general public as a most bewildering reversal of all their ideas. Turkey combining with Russia against England! It was the first step towards the restoration of the Empire of Chaos. But to any one who had penetrated even a little way behind the scenes at Constantinople, the revelation was no way surprising, and was indeed but the accomplishment of the inevitable. They had seen it coming for years, long before this country finally threw away any shred of influence she still had at Constantinople by her mad campaign for the Armenians. The truth is that Lord Beaconsfield's Berlin Treaty and Cyprus Convention, instead of being the dawn of a new Anglo-Turkish policy, were the last flicker of the old. The policy of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and of the Crimean war was dead—killed by the religious intolerance of Great Britain. The fanatic Turk, except in times of especial excitement, tolerates the Armenian, and allows him to wax rich before his eyes. The fanatic Briton found himself unequal to the tolerance of the Turk at the opposite corner of Europe. As soon as Mr. Gladstone came into office in 1880, the British Government set itself sedulously to work to destroy British influence in Turkey. The Turk is like all other Orientals: yet you can let him alone, you can bribe him, or you can beat him; but you must do one of the three. Our Government preferred a system of perpetual nagging with a view to reform, backed neither by secret-service money nor by gunpowder. Years before the Sassun massacres the consistent refusal of commercial concessions to Englishmen showed that our influence was dead: it was this attack on our pockets—so Murad Bey, the young Turkish leader, has told us—which convinced him that soon or late Great Britain would be avenged on Turkey. Of course that is not the true reason of our intervention after Sassun; but the instructiveness of the explanation lies in the fact that it is the honest belief even of an enlightened Turk. Russia's policy, on the other hand, was clear-sighted and resolute, as always. She began with the advantage of having put pressure upon Turkey in the only way Turkey can

understand—at the cannon's mouth and at the point of the bayonet. Turkey was therefore naturally disposed to turn to her rather than to Britain. She followed up her advantage by buying up any man who was likely to be of use. One of her very first purchases, if we may believe the unanimous report of Constantinople, was Ghazi Osman, the hero of Plevna, to whom in war it would fall to lead the Turkish armies against her.

Thus she was well prepared when the crisis came in the spring of last year. It is perhaps excusable that Sir Philip Currie, new to his place and conditions, should have underrated, as he did, the astuteness of M. de Nelidoff, but it was not the less unfortunate. "I can do what I like with that man," he is reported to have said of the prince of diplomats; after which the man naturally did what he liked with Sir Philip. How completely Great Britain was befuddled we did not know till the Blue-books made a clean breast of the dismal muddle. M. de Nelidoff divided his time between the Yildiz and the consultation-chamber of the three protesting Ambassadors; he urged reform with one breath, and advised the Sultan not to grant it with the other. Every step taken by the British Cabinet drove Abdul Hamid further back upon the support of Russia. To what extent the Armenian agitation was semi-officially fostered at Tiflis and in Russian Armenia it is not easy to say. It is possible enough that Russia opened the campaign, but that the general appeal emanating from the Gregorian monastery of Echmiadzin changed the direction of her policy. In any case, it was head she won, tails we lost: either the Armenians would appeal to her alone, so that he had a pretext for coercing Turkey, or they would appeal to Great Britain, in which case Russia was fully prepared to take her place as the Sultan's defender. It came down tails, which perhaps was the alternative Prince Lobanoff preferred. Then came the exposure. Whether there is a secret treaty or not matters very little; no treaty is needed. Turkey is to all intents and purposes the vassal of Russia, and the only obstacle to an occupation of the so-called Armenian vilayets, or even to a descent upon Constantinople, is now to be found in the somewhat decayed patriotism of the Turkish populace. But for that, the centuries of Russo-Turkish struggle are over, and Constantinople wants only the reconsecration of St. Sophia to be Russian in name as well as in fact.

Abbas Mirza, the deputy of Persia, arrived with a numerous suite the day after the ceremony. Persia is habitually a day late, and Russia has not been unobservant of the fact. Persia lies today absolutely at her mercy. She dominates the rich province of Azerbaijan on the north-west from Trans-Caucasia; she threatens Teheran from Ashurada at the southern extremity of the Caspian; her Transcaspian railway gives her indisputable command of Khorasan on the north-east. More than that, her agents are creeping into Seistan, on the British Beluchistan border, and she has more than once attempted to extort a port on the Persian Gulf or the Arabian Sea. The only efficient troops in Teheran are called Cossacks, and are duly offered by Russian Russians. Ministers dictate at Teheran without the barest decencies of diplomatic circumlocution; Russian newspapers openly state that all of Northern Persia is to be Russian when Russia wills. Years ago a secret treaty is said to have set down in the inevitable black and white. Last autumn one sheaf in the diplomatic harvest came from Persia. A road is to be constructed from Resht on the Caspian to Kasvin: it is to be built by Russian engineers, and the interest on it is guaranteed by Russia. And already the surveys are being made for a Russian railway from Baku (probably) to the great trading city of Tabriz, and thence by Kasvin to the capital. This was more than a set-off to the British tobacco monopoly of 1890, which had to be cancelled owing to the one successful popular agitation of Persian history. We heard of no popular agitation when Russia decided thus finally to shackle the captive. And if one rivet more was wanted, it came when Shah Nasir-ed-Din was shot down before the mosque of Abdul Azim. The late Shah had yielded much to Russia; yet he was a strong man and kept all he could. His successor is a young man of whom very little is known; but that little is very much to Russia's purpose. He has had no experience of government. He is of a mild and retiring disposition. He has always been counted the friend of Russia as against his elder illegitimate brother, late Governor of Isfahan, who was supposed to favour Britain. It is the disastrous custom of Persia that the Crown Prince is titular Viceroy of Azerbaijan, the one province most completely overshadowed by Russian power: he resides at Tabriz. Shah Muzaffar-ed-Din has seen the mob of Tabriz, after the bread riots of last year, carry the bodies of the slain in protest, not to him, Viceroy and

heir to his father's throne, but to the Russian consul. Has he learnt his lesson? It would be wonderful if he had not, and in him Russia is like to have the most submissive of all her vassals.

No statelier envoy brought sincere and humble congratulations to the new Emperor than Li Hung-chang. For thirty-five years he has stood for his country in every emergency of peace or war; at the end of a long life he is coming for the first time to visit the barbarians of the West. He has brought his coffin with him, but that he has consigned to London, feeling the impoliteness involved in dying at a coronation. Is not this also an omen, even as the belated advent of Abbas Mirza? And does Li Hung-chang also conceal a secret treaty in his yellow riding jacket? It has been confidently so asserted by those who should know; but here again there is no need to insist on the superfluous. Treaty or no treaty, China also has found her asylum in Russia's hospitable bosom. When once the Siberian railway began to wind round her northern frontier, the fate of China was sealed. It was absurd to ask Russia to tolerate any but a weak and subservient Power on the flank of this railway, said the journalists of Petersburg, and Rossophiles in London repeated the cry—as if the Canadian Pacific railway were to justify a British protectorate over the United States. Soon, as the railway crawled from post to post, it became obvious that much expense and trouble would be saved by running the line through a huge corner of Manchuria direct to Vladivostok. Better still were second thoughts; run the line through Manchuria to a Chinese port that is open all the year round. It is true that American ice-crushers have now opened Vladivostok in the hardest winter, but Port Arthur and Port Lazareff were not the less attractive for that. The Chino-Japanese war gave Russia the needed opportunity, and France and Germany supplied the needed pretext of action in the interests of civilised Europe. Neither of them gained anything they could not have got without irritating Japan—but that in their affair. Russia, on the other hand, was enabled to play with the Sick Man of Asia exactly the same game as she had played with Turkey. It was our traditional policy to support China as a barricade against her. But we neither knew the feebleness of China nor, when the Japanese war revealed it, were we prepared to reinforce it. Again, therefore, we left the way open. We were so apprehensive of the hostility of Russia to our client that we forgot that her friendship was even more to be feared. Thus we gave China into the arms of Russia. The service done to the Son of Heaven by keeping the Japanese off the mainland was clinched by the Franco-Russian loan. Here again we let winning cards slip through our fingers. It is said that the loan had been promised to an English house, but our Government did not insist on the bargain. It is also said that the loan was offered to the Rothschilds, and that Lord Rosebery dissuaded them from floating it. The result was that the money was found in France, and interest guaranteed by Russia on the security of the maritime customs. The result to-day is, that Russia has an official right to interfere with the maritime customs, which is the creation of Sir Robert Hart, and over which British subjects have exercised from the first a predominant influence. At the same time the chronic impetuosity of China affords unlimited opportunities of screwing out of her any concession that may from time to time be desired. The corrupt administration of Peking offers as fatal a field for secret service money as Turkey itself, and no doubt many eligible mandarins have been bought up already. In a word, Russia holds every card at Peking, and has only to play them out at her leisure.

How many of her trumps she has already played, it is not so easy to say. Great Britain appears to have scored a point or two in the game, but hardly against Russia. We have secured half a loan of a hundred millions of taels, the issue of which is to be divided between the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Deutsch-Ostasiatische Bank. This is a disappointment to the French house which tendered for the loan; but there is nothing official about it, and the security ranks after that of the transaction with Russia. We have secured the opening of the West River, which would counterbalance the concessions granted to France on her Tongking frontier, and help to bring the trade of Yunnan down to Hongkong; but the West River, open in theory, is in fact still closed. Sir Robert Hart has been trusted with the postal service as well as the maritime customs, but before this is greeted as a victory for British influence it might be wise to wait a while and see how the new arrangement works out. It may be such a victory; it may be the prelude to Sir Robert's suppression in the customs by a Russian, as Russian organs have long

recommended. We may be sure that Russia on her side has not been idle. The recent assaults upon German officers are said to have been instigated by her agents, and there is nothing improbable in the story: without doubt we shall soon see Cossack regiments and Russian officers in Peking as in Teheran. The hardly less recent trespass on the rights of British subject at Chefoo is a small thing, but it is Russia's own. The fact that the Russian Pacific squadron wintered in the bay of Kiaochau is interesting as showing the direction of Russian policy and the complaisance of China: the annexation of the position itself is improbable, since it has no inland connection with any Russian bases, and is thus defenceless against a superior fleet. Most significant is the admitted fact that the Siberian railway is to be run by Tsitsihar through Manchuria to Port Arthur, or any other more convenient port. This means handing over the vast potential wealth of that country to Russian exploitation, and, once a position is occupied on the Gulf of Pechili, handing over the keys of whole stable to the horse-thief. Men of great knowledge and tried honesty have declared positively that this arrangement is down in black and white. This was denied, but Li Hung-chang has more than half confessed it. Secret treaties are made to be denied, though it may be that they are also made to be broken. But the point is, that Russia has it in her power to take what China is said to have given her, and when she wants it she is not likely to hold her hand.

Japan was represented at the Emperor's coronation by Marshal Yamagata, the oriental Moltke who organised the conquest of Korea and the southern regions of Manchuria. But is Japan also among the vassals? Hardly in the same sense as Turkey and Persia and China; yet is it not probable enough that Japan also has recognised the hopelessness of a struggle with superior force, and has been glad to make decent terms with her antagonist? All we can say for certain is, that Japan has pocketed a defeat in Korea with a humility hardly to be expected otherwise from her by no means humble temperament. The treaty of Shimonoseki, as first negotiated, endowed Japan with a protectorate over Korea. As modified by European intervention, it left the country nominally under its own king, but really under the control of Count Inouye, the representative of the Mikado. He had the tact to leave Korean palace intrigues pretty well alone, but when he was succeeded by Viscount Miura the old struggle broke out between the Queen's family, representing Russia and the old corruption, and the Tai Wön-kun, the King's father, representing Japan and, more or less perfunctorily, reform. In October last the palace was stormed by an armed mob, and the Queen was murdered. It is certain that the assassins were Japanese bravos, and Viscount Miura was brought to trial for complicity in the act. He was acquitted, however, for want of evidence, nor does it appear that the judgment was a partial one. The result was that the unstable king was left to the care of a ministry of Japanese tendencies, while the Japanese troops proceeded to evacuate the peninsula. But on the night of the 10th of February this year happened a revolution at Seoul which has not received in this country one tithe of the attention that it deserves. That night a force of marines and blue-jackets with artillery started inland from Russian warships which happened to be lying at Chemulpo. On reaching Seoul they occupied the Russian Legation, whither the King of Korea immediately repaired. Under the protection of this Russian force he issued a proclamation condemning his whole Cabinet to instant death. Some of the right honourable gentlemen escaped; the majority were despatched in the street. A Russophile Ministry was appointed in their stead, and to this day the King governs Korea from the Russian Legation. Russian schools have been duly instituted, and the familiar expedient of a Russian loan is in progress. In plain language, Russia exercises a protectorate over Korea, and can bring down the railway terminus to any of its harbours she will. Against this cool aggression Japan, so far as has been heard, has not uttered one word of protest; certainly none has been listened to. Russian newspapers—speaking, it must be remembered, only with the approval of their Government—declare freely that Japan has given in and has made her submission. To judge by the signs vouchsafed us, it is certainly very far from impossible.

So vast is the inheritance into which Nicholas II. has entered. If his direct and recognised power is tremendous almost beyond human comprehension, how much more tremendous is his unacknowledged supremacy over all the peoples that encircle his frontiers! It needs only a word from him to call up convulsions that may change the face of the earth. In what direction this change is

likely to be set in motion it is difficult to say certainly, but it is easy to guess. Prince Lobanoff has so far unveiled the intentions of his department as to acknowledge that it holds all its spheres of activity of no account beside China and the Far East. What is known of the Emperor himself makes it very probable that he is in the fullest sympathy with his Chancellor. He is the first Russian Emperor who has himself travelled in the East and allowed his imagination to be played upon directly by its allurements. He has manifested the most constant and lively interest in the great Siberian Railway, which is the outward symbol of the new trend in Russian policy. It may be concluded with some confidence that master and servants alike recognise the boundless possibilities of this policy. China is a hundred times richer than Turkey and Persia together, and in the prospect of its easy spoil even India may well be set aside for the moment. The fruit of India is set about with thorns; China is waiting only to drop into the open mouth. The whole Pacific, moreover, will shortly witness a shifting of the world's equilibrium. As the centre of civilisation and trade moved from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, so even in our day it will begin to swing towards the Pacific. The growth of Australia and New Zealand, the development of the western coast of North America consequent on the trans-continental railways, the rise of Japan, and the complete exploitation of China and the East Indies, all are throwing an increasing proportion of the world's weight into the Pacific. The completion of the Siberian Railway and the construction of the Central American Canal will spin round the wheels of progress more swiftly still. Nicholas II. may well resolve that he too shall be well posted to take a strong part in this huge operation.

It can hardly be any other inspiration that has dictated the extraordinary development of the Russian navy in recent years—a development which has not been regarded by us with the keenness that it surely merits. Ten years ago the Russian naval estimates were well under five millions; to-day they are about six and a half. The rapidity of the increase will be best appreciated by the proportion of ships building to ships completed. Russia at this moment has under construction exactly the same number of battleships—eight—as either Great Britain or France. But whereas, taking first and second-class battleships, the British increase is roughly one ship building to every four built, and the French two building to five built, Russia is constructing four new vessels for every five she possesses already. That is to say, that at the present rate the Imperial navy doubles itself in five or six years. Now it is tolerably plain that this rate of armament is not warranted by considerations of defence alone. If Russia is cramped in her access to the sea, there is the correlative advantage that she is singularly invulnerable to naval attack. Her fleet in the Baltic is sufficient for the strategical necessities of a war with Germany, while it is ridiculous to suppose that she needs seven of the most powerful battleships afloat to hold the Black Sea against the rusty ironclads of Turkey. So that the naval policy also squares with the supposition that ambitious schemes of foreign aggrandisement are in contemplation at St. Petersburg. If the new fleet is not to be used against this country, and with an eye to the command of the Pacific, where is the use of it at all?

In one word, it is idle to blink the fact that the Power most threatened by the colossal strides which Russia has been taking in every direction is the British Empire. To go no further than the barest material considerations, is it likely that with Russia supreme at Peking we shall be allowed to go on doing more than half of the enormous and enormously increasing business of China? Or, to take one strategical aspect out of many, when Russia could not permit a small, if enterprising, Power, like Japan to post herself on the flank of the Siberian Railway, with what comfort can we see Russia established on the Yellow Sea or in Korea on the flank of our connections between Hongkong, Sydney, and Vancouver? It is true that there is a considerable body of not unpatrician opinion which advocates agreement rather than antagonism. It is said that before Lord Rosebery left office such an understanding had been concluded, and that it was only shattered by the unexpected advent of Lord Salisbury. But if Lord Rosebery really had made such a deal on behalf of this country, it is pertinent to ask what this country got by it. Russia got China, as it appears, but what did we get? Lord Rosebery made one or two bargains of this one-sided kind while he was in office, and Lord Salisbury appears not indisposed to follow up the precedent; but in this case it is satisfactory to know that the Premier's advent was enough to close the negotiations. It may

further be asked on what lines any such agreement could be drawn. Some have made the urbane suggestion that in return for an undertaking to abstain from India, to cease co-operation with France against us, and to respect our trade, we should permit Russia to occupy Constantinople and absorb a slice of Northern China—including, it is to be presumed, Peking. Perhaps this idea was fostered by belief that M. de Nelidoff was pulling squarely together with Sir Philip Currie in the Armenian business. But in case the theory still survives that disillusion, it must be inquired what, in the first place, should we gain by such an arrangement, and how far, in the second, is Russia likely to accede to it? We should be relieved of a certain embarrassment to our diplomacy; in return for which (since the arrangement must always issue in rivalry, not in alliance) we should have to increase our naval expenditure in the Mediterranean and the Pacific. And what would Russia gain? Absolutely nothing that she could not get without us. The very hypothesis of the suggestion is that we should in no case oppose an advance to Constantinople, while Lord Rosebery certainly did nothing to oppose the advance upon Peking. And if Russia is likely to leave us our China trade, when she can take it for herself, it can only be said that Russia must be strangely changed.

The truth is that Great Britain and Russia are too big ever to agree for any time. We believe that to our race will fall the ultimate supremacy of the world; Russia believes exactly the same of herself. Sooner or later the two ambitions must collide, and we had better be making ready for that great day at once. To allow Russia to absorb all possible strength before conflict is to put a premium on defeat and ruin.

What, then, do we want? We want above all a new Eastern policy and a definite one—such a policy as is pigeon-holed in the bureaux of St. Petersburg. We have cast China overboard; we might ballast the ship with Japan. We talk of Japan as a friendly Power, and even as an ally, but with what warrant? Inasmuch as we put no pressure on her to abandon her Chinese conquests, and were the first Western Power to recognise her adolescence by compromising the privileges of extra-territoriality, is it probable that she harbours less resentment towards us than towards Russia. But we have done nothing for her; on the contrary, we have made a singular exhibition of impotence at the recent crisis of her national life, and such an exhibition is apt to depreciate the value of the exhibitor's friendship. If we are to ally with Japan, we must be prepared to fight for her if it is necessary. In some years she will command a navy which, with our own China squadron, could easily sweep the Pacific, while on land she will dispose of half a million trained men. Only, if we want the aid of this force, we must not repeat the pitiful abandonment of the Chinese policy. In one word, alliance or no alliance, we ought to be clear what we will fight for and what we will permit without fighting. It was this clarity of purpose that gave Russia each one of her recent triumphs, and it was just on this account that she never needed to fire a shot. There is an idea growing up that this country will never declare war. Yet there is such a thing as offensive defence in international politics as in strategy, and if we wait till war is declared upon us when an aggressor knows he can have his will without it we shall wait till we have no interests left to defend. We have to guard the treasure of India and take our share in the spoil of China. And as our worst enemy is and must be Russia—which is rather a tribute to her than an accusation, for it means that she is the one Power in this hemisphere which can still be formidable to us after the lapse of a couple of generations—we should make it the single-minded aim of our policy to strip the young Emperor of his gorgeous vassals and add them to the retinue of the Queen. Which cannot be done except by plain dealing and plain speaking, and the manifest resolution to follow words with blows. Otherwise there may be those alive to-day who will see the grandson of Nicholas II. saluted in the Kremlin by the Emperor of China and the tributary Princes of Rajputana and the Deccan.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

A message having been sent on the 4th Aug. to the Prince of Wales at Cowes from General Booth, saluting his Royal Highness in the name of 10,000 Salvationists gathered at the exhibition now being held at the Agricultural Hall, from all parts of that vast British Empire "over which it might please God to call his Royal Highness to reign," the Prince replied by telegram as follows—his message being publicly read amid loud cheers in the Agricultural Hall—"I sincerely thank you for your telegram and the kind terms in which you express yourself towards me and the members of my family. I wish every success to your exhibition.—Albert Edward."

A JAPANESE HOME.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

[MARY MCNEIL SCOTT, IN THE "INDEPENDENT."] Now if you should visit a Japanese home, Where there isn't a sofa or chair, And your hostess should say: "Take a seat, sir, I pray." Now, where would you sit? Tell me where? And should they persuade you to stay there and dine, Where knives, forks, and spoons are unknown, Do you think you could eat with chopsticks of wood, And how might you pick up a bone? And then, should they take you a Japanese drive In a neat little "rickshaw" of blue, And you found, in Japan, that your horse was a man, Now, what do you think you would do?

WHAT I WOULD DO.

[E.S., IN "THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE," TOKYO.] If I should visit a home in Japan Where there isn't a chair or divan, And my host should say, "O-kake-nasare,"¹ I'd sit on a futon,² that's where. And what if to dinner I'm asked to remain Where I look for knives and forks, but in vain? Why! in my right hand I'd take up o-kashi,³ And fare very well on rice and o-kwasshi.⁴ And if out a-driving they ask me to go, Ichi-nin-nori⁵ or as nori no lo⁶ A man for a horse! omoshiroi,⁷ my! But for the riksha⁸ man omoshiroku nai.⁹

¹ Be seated. ² A cushion. ³ Chopsticks. ⁴ Sweetmeats. ⁵ Riding singly. ⁶ Riding double. ⁷ Pleasant. ⁸ Little two-wheeled buggy pulled by a man. ⁹ Not pleasant.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, Sept. 10. Makoni, the rebel Mashona leader, has been captured, tried by court-martial, and shot.

London, Sept. 11. Heedless of the objections lodged by Great Britain and Italy, the Porte has deported a shipload of Armenians and has adopted rigorous measures to prevent their return.

Major Watts has been arrested in connection with the execution of Makoni, the rebel Mashona leader.

London, Sept. 12. Constantinople is still in a condition of nervous unrest. Trade is paralyzed and the Treasury is empty.

The increase in the Bank rate of discount to 2½ per cent. was quite unexpected and was designed to arrest the drain of gold. A further rise is expected.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17½
Exchange on London at New York 4.84½
(Tel. Trans.)

London, September 14. The Armenian Revolution Committee has sent a circular to some of the Embassies declaring that unless the reforms asked for are granted by the Porte, demonstrations of a serious character will ensue.

London, Sept. 16. The Fenian Tynan, the notorious "Number One," has been arrested at Boulogne on a warrant issued in the year 1882. It is suspected that he was engaged in other plots when arrested.

Mr. Powers, the Republican Candidate, has been elected Governor of Maine by a large majority. This election is regarded as a triumph for the Sound Moneyites.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.19½
Exchange on London at New York... 4.84½
(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

London, Sept. 4. Details of the seizure of the Ottoman Bank have been received. Twenty-five well-dressed and educated Armenians entered the Bank at midday in twos and threes, whilst porters introduced bags ostensibly of bullion but actually of bombs. Suddenly several bombs were thrown,

and profiting by the alarm the Armenians closed the doors, keeping a hundred clerks prisoners, and maintaining a siege with bombs and revolvers for twelve hours.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.")

Canton, September 4, 2 p.m. At 9.30 last night fire broke out in the densely populated part of this city known as Tong-yuan. Upwards of 200 houses have been destroyed. It is reported that at least a dozen persons were burnt to death.

The Shameen Fire Brigade did splendid work in rescuing women and children from burning houses.

(FROM "L'INDO-CHINE FRANÇAISE.")

Paris, August 31. Prince Lobanoff, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who was accompanying the Czar on his visit to Vienna, died suddenly in the Imperial train last night, at the station of Scheptacka on the Brema-Kieff line.

(FROM "L'EXTREME ORIENT.")

Paris, August 27. The English have bombarded and destroyed the Palace where Kaled, the usurper, had installed himself. After returning the fire for some time, Kaled sought refuge in the German Consulate. The English are busy extinguishing the fire in the Palace, and burying the bodies of the rebels. There is still some fighting in the neighbourhood of Zanzibar.

Paris, August 28. There has been some sanguinary conflicts in several towns in Brazil between Brazilians and Italians with regard to the proposals to settle a previous difficulty.

Paris, August 30. Italy has sent a Plenipotentiary to Brazil to claim reparation for the loss of Italian lives. Brazil has already intimated its willingness to punish all culprits.

Paris, September 2. Order has been re-established in Constantinople. The places of business are re-opened, and confidence is restored.

The Spanish Cortes has adopted a proposal for a loan of one thousand million (francs?) to meet the expenses of the civil war in Cuba.

An English journal reports the escape from Cayenne of Captain Dreyfus. The French Colonial Minister has no information of the escape.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kyoto, September 16. Researches made by the police of Kyoto up to the 15th inst. show that the damages done by storms in this city and vicinity are as follow—Deaths, 28; injured, 71; houses swept away, 1,132; houses wrecked, 1,721; houses partially wrecked, 1,739; houses flooded above the floor, 14,622.

Nagoya, Sept. 16. Latest researches regarding flood damages are:—Deaths, 20; injured, 10; buildings completely wrecked, 660; buildings partially wrecked, 1,048; buildings flooded, 63,566; boats lost, 36.

Otsu, Sept. 15. The action of the people of Kyoto in shutting the flood-gates of the canal, has caused much resentment on the part of Otsu citizens. Mr. Tanizawa, M.P. for Otsu, has called a public meeting to discuss the subject.

Sendai, Sept. 15. The railway line between Shiraisi and Okawara is repaired.

Gifu, Sept. 15. Seven-tenths of the flooded houses at Imao machi have since been wrecked by a heavy wind. Fatalities number 46.

Osaka, Sept. 16. The election of a representative for the Second Division of this city has resulted in the return of Mr. Matsumoto Jutarō, the voting showing a majority of 421 over Mr. Shibukawa Matayemon, the latter receiving but one vote.

Shimonoseki, Sept. 16.
Prof. Dr. Nakahama has left here for Korea by the *Chikugogawa Maru*.

The two companies that were projecting the Nagato Railway have been amalgamated.

Kofu, Sept. 17.
The mountain range adjacent to Gokaimura, in Minami Koma district, for a distance of three *ri* (1 *ri*—2½ miles) has been fissured for a depth of six feet. An expert has been despatched there.

Gifu, Sept. 17.
Researches up to date give the following details of damages:—Houses swept away, 2,401; houses wrecked, 2,764; houses partially wrecked, 3,599; houses flooded above the floor, 19,086; deaths, 148; injured, 44.

Gifu, Sept. 17.
Dysentery is raging in the flooded district. The local branch of the Red Cross Society has despatched some medical assistance.

Gifu, September 16.
The damage done by the storm of August 30th is tabulated as follows:—Wrecked houses, 4,125; partially wrecked, 2,819; deaths, 26; injured, 193.

Hiroshima, September 17.
Prof. W. K. Burton has been making a survey of the springs intended to be used for the new Water-works, and this evening left for Kobe.

Wakayama, Sept. 17.
The storm of the 11th inst. caused 80 landslides at Mitsuno-mura, Higashi Muro District. Over 5,500 *tsubo* of land have been displaced, and 58,600 trees were carried away.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

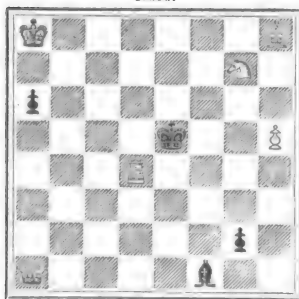
The Yokohama Chess Club is now closed for the off-season, and re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is closed for the holiday-season; it will reopen on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 246.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1—Q to K B sq. | 1—P takes Q (Q) |
| 2—Kt to B 4 ch. | 2—Q takes Kt |
| 3—P to Q 5, mate | |
| | 1—K to Q 4 |
| 2—Kt to B 4 ch. | 2—K to B 3 |
| 3—Q to R 6, mate | |
| | 1—P takes Kt |
| 2—Q to B 3 | 2—P queens |
| 3—P mates | |
| | 1—P takes R (Q) |
| 2—Kt to B 4, mate. | |

Correct answers from F.G., Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., Omega, W.D.H., and W.H.S.

PROBLEM No. 249.
By VALENTIN MARIN.

White to play and mate in three moves.

NUREMBERG TOURNAMENT.

We take the details of the final score from the *Literary Digest*, and give a few of the games from our various exchanges.

The prize-winners are as follows:—First, E. Lasker; second, Geza Maroczy; third, H. N. Pillsbury; fourth, Dr. S. Tarrasch; fifth, D. Janowski; sixth, W. Steinitz; seventh, C. Schlechter and C. Walbrodt.

THE STANDING OF THE PLAYERS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TOURNAMENT.

Name.	Won.	Lost.	Name.	Won.	Lost.
Lasker	13½	4½	Blackburne	9	9½
Maroczy	12½	5½	Charousek	8½	9½
Pillsbury	12	6	Marco	8	10
Tarrasch	12	6	Albin	7	11
Janowski	11½	6½	Winawer	6½	11½
Steinitz	11	7	Porges	5½	12½
Schlechter	10½	7½	Showalter	5½	12½
Walbrodt	10	8	Schallop	4½	13½
Schiffers	9½	8½	Teichmann	4	14
Tschigorin	9½	8½			

TABLE SHOWING GAMES WON, LOST, AND DRAWN BY EACH PLAYER.

Players.	Lasker.	Maroczy.	Pillsbury.	Tarrasch.	Janowski.	Steinitz.	Schlechter.	Walbrodt.	Schiffers.	Tschigorin.
Lasker	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maroczy	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pillsbury	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tarrasch	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Janowski	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Steinitz	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Schlechter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Walbrodt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Schiffers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tschigorin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackburne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charousek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marco	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Albin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Winawer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Porges	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Showalter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schallop	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teichmann	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Games lost 4½ 5½ 6 6½ 7 7½ 7½ 8½ 8½

Players.	Blackburne.	Charousek.	Marco.	Albin.	Winawer.	Showalter.	Porges.	Schallop.	Teichmann.	Games won.
Lasker	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13½
Maroczy	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12½
Pillsbury	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Tarrasch	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Janowski	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11½
Steinitz	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Schlechter	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10½
Walbrodt	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10½
Schiffers	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9½
Tschigorin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9½
Blackburne	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Charousek	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	8½
Marco	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Albin	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Winawer	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6½
Porges	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5½
Showalter	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5½
Schallop	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	4½
Teichmann	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	4

Games lost ... 9 9½ 10 11 11½ 12½ 12½ 13½ 14

From the above table, it will be seen that Maroczy lost only one game, to Steinitz, and made 9 draws, Pillsbury won from the Big Four—Steinitz, Lasker, Tarrasch, and Tschigorin; Schlechter lost only 2 games, to Janowski and Steinitz, and made 11 draws.

GAME No. 565.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE.	STEINITZ.	BLACK.	LASKER.
1—P to K 4		1—P to K 3	
2—P to Q 4		2—P to Q 4	
3—Kt to Q 2 (a)		3—P to Q B 4 (b)	
4—P takes P		4—B takes P	
5—Kt to Kt 3		5—B to Kt 3	
6—P takes P		6—Kt to K B 3 (c)	
7—B to Kt 5 ch.		7—B to Q 2	
8—B takes B ch.		8—Q takes B	
9—P to Q B 4		9—P takes P	
10—P to B 5		10—B to B 2	
11—Kt to B 3		11—Kt to B 3	
12—Castles		12—Castles K R	
13—Kt (Kt 3) to Q 4		13—Kt takes Kt	
14—Q takes Kt		14—K R to K sq.	
15—B to K 3		15—R to K 5	
16—Q to Q 3		16—Q R to K sq.	
17—K R to Q sq.		17—P to K R 3	
18—P to Q R 3		18—Q to Kt 5	
19—P to Q Kt 4		19—P to K Kt 4	
20—Q to B 3		20—Q to B 4	
21—Q to Q 3 (d)		21—Q to Kt 3	
22—Q to Kt 5		22—Q to R 4 (e)	
23—Q takes P		23—B takes P ch.	
24—Kt takes B		24—R to R 5	
25—P to B 3		25—R takes Kt	
26—Q to B 7		26—R to R 8 ch.	

- 27—K to B 2
28—Q to Kt 3 (g)
29—K takes Q
30—R takes R
31—R to Q B sq.
32—P to R 4
33—P to Kt 5
34—R to Q Kt sq.
35—P to Kt 6
36—P takes P
37—K to Kt 4
38—K to R 5
39—P to Kt 7
40—R to Kt 6
41—P to B 4
42—K to Kt 4
43—K takes P
44—R to Kt 4
45—Resigns.

NOTES BY EMIL KEMENY IN THE "PHILADELPHIA LEDGER."

- (a) Tarrasch's move against the French defense. The move is generally adopted, but Lasker believes it is an inferior development.
(b) Kt to K B 3 is the usual play. The text moves give a quicker development, but the Q P becomes isolated.
(c) Gains an important move. White cannot well play P takes K P, on account of Black's reply, B takes P ch.
(d) White loses valuable time by his manoeuvring with the Queen, R to Q 4, followed by Q R to Q sq. would have been much better.
(e) Black gained not less than three moves, and succeeded in bringing the Q to the rook's file with a powerful attack. In the present position Black threatened B takes P ch, followed by R to R 5. Black also had the continuation P to Kt 5 on hand. There was hardly a satisfactory defense. The move selected, however, enables Black to win quite brilliantly, R to Q 4, it seems was preferable.
(f) A hopeless position for White. He cannot move the Kt on account of R to R 8 mate. Q to B 7 would be of no value, for Black then replies Kt to Kt 5.
(g) Loses a piece, as the progress of the game shows. White however, had no better play. He could not play P to Kt 3 on account of Q to R 5 mate. K to K 5 would have lost, as follows: R takes R and P to Q 5 winning the Bishop.
(h) White now resigns. Black forces a win by K to K 5, followed by Kt to Q 3 and R takes P. A further resistance would be quite useless.

GAME No. 566.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Blackburne. | Teichmann. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to B 4 | 3—Kt to B 3 |
| 4—P to Q 4 (a) | 4—P takes P |
| 5—Castles (b) | 5—B to B 4 |
| 6—P to K 5 | 6—P to Q 4 |
| 7—P takes Kt | 7—P takes B |
| 8—R to K sq. ch. | 8—B to K 3 |
| 9—Kt to Kt 5 | 9—K to Q 4 (c) |
| 10—Kt to Q B 3 | 10—Q to B 4 |
| 11—P to K Kt 4 | 11—Q to Kt 3 (d) |
| 12—Kt (B 3) to Kt 4 | 12—B to K 3 |
| 13—P to B 4 | 13—Castles Q R (e) |
| 14—P to B 5 | 14—B takes P |
| 15—P takes B | 15—Q takes P (B 4) |
| 16—K to R sq. | 16—Q takes P |
| 17—Q to B 3 | 17—Q takes Q ch. |
| 18—Kt takes Q | 18—Kt to Kt 5 |
| 19—Kt takes B P (f) | 19—Kt takes B P |
| 20—B to B 4 | 20—Kt takes Q R |
| 21—R takes Kt | 21—P to B 6 |
| 22—P takes P | 22—P takes P |
| 23—R to Q B sq. | 23—R to Q 6 |
| 24—Kt to K sq. | 24—R to Q 7 (g) |
| 25—Kt to B 2 | 25—R to K 7 |
| 26—Kt to Q 5 | 26—B to R 4 |
| 27—Kt to Q 4 | 27—R takes P |
| 28—Kt takes P (B 6) | 28—B takes Kt |
| 29—R takes B | 29—P to Q B 3 |
| 30—Kt to B 5 | 30—K to Q 2 (h) |
| 31—R to Q 3 ch. | 31—K to K 3 |
| 32—Kt to Kt 7 ch. | 32—Kt to K 2 (i) |
| 33—R to K 3 ch. | 33—K to Q sq. (k) |
| 34—R to Q 3 ch. | 34—K to R 2 |
| 35—R to R 3 ch. | 35—K to Q sq. |
| 36—R to Q 3 ch. | 36—K to R 2 (l) |
| 37—Drawn. | |

NOTES BY EMIL KEMENY IN THE "LEDGER," PHILADELPHIA.

- (a) Kt to Kt 5 wins a Pawn, but it gives Black a powerful attack. For that reason it is not frequently played.
(b) This is the Max Lange attack. White gains a lively attack, but ultimately Black gets the best, notwithstanding his being obliged to sacrifice a piece. Mr. Shipley, in his game with Lasker at this point, played Kt to Kt 5, and on Black's reply Kt to K 4 he continued Q takes P. This line of play is more conservative, and probably better, than the one adopted by Blackburne in the present game.
(c) Evidently Black could not play Q takes P. White had continued Kt takes B, followed by Q to R 5 ch, thus winning the K B.
(d) Black could not play Q takes P on account of Kt to Q 5 followed by R takes B ch and Kt takes P with winning attack for White.
(e) White is one Pawn ahead, and he can safely sacrifice a piece for two additional Pawns. White's attack, of course, is then completely broken.
(f) From this point White plays splendidly. It would have been bad for White to attempt the saving of Q B P and exchange. White would then be unable to develop the Queen's wing and Black's advanced Pawns would become very threatening.
(g) Of course White cannot capture the Rook without losing a piece.
(h) Black should now have played R to K B 7, and eventually given up the exchange. Being four Pawns ahead, he had good winning chances. Very likely he underrated White's attack.
(i) If K to B 3, then White continues R to Q 4 ch, and if K takes Kt, then B to R 6 ch, followed by R to Q 8 mate.

(b) If Black had played K to B 3 he would have lost the game White would continue H to K 5 ch. If Black then plays K to K 4 he gets mated in two moves, and if he plays K to K 3 then he loses the Rook. Black could not play K to B 4 either. White would simply answer K to B 3, and Black could not escape.
(c) Black can not play K to B 4, for K to B 5 would become very threatening, and thus he is obliged to accept a draw, notwithstanding the fact that he has a Rook and four Pawns against two minor pieces. A remarkable position indeed.

GAME No. 567.
RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Forges.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—Kt takes P
5—P to Q 4	5—B to K 2
6—Q to R 2	6—Kt to Q 3
7—B takes Kt	7—Kt P takes B
8—P takes P	8—Kt to Kt 2
9—P to Q Kt 3	9—Castles
10—B to Kt 2	10—P to Q 4
11—P takes P e.p.	11—P takes P (a)
12—Q Kt to Q 2	12—R to K sq.
13—R R to K sq.	13—B to Q 2
14—Kt to K 4 (b)	14—P to Q 4
15—Kt (K 4) to Q 2	15—B to Q R 6
16—B to K 5	16—P to B 3
17—Q to R 6	17—P takes B (c)
18—Q takes B	18—P to K 5
19—Kt to Q 4	19—Q to B 3
20—P to Q B 3	20—R to K B sq.
21—P to B 3	21—Q to Kt 4
22—Q to B sq.	22—Kt to B 4 (d)
23—Kt to B sq.	23—Q to Kt 3
24—R to K 3	24—Kt to Q 6
25—Q to Q sq. (e)	25—Kt to B 5
26—Kt to Kt 3	26—P to K R 4
27—Kt (Q 4) to K 2	27—Kt takes P (f)
28—K takes Kt	28—P takes P ch.
29—R takes P	29—B to R 6 ch.
30—K takes B	30—Q to Kt 5 ch.
31—K to Kt 2	31—Q to R 6 ch.
32—K to Kt sq.	32—P to R 5
33—Kt to R sq.	33—Q to K 6 ch.
34—Resigns (g).	

NOTES BY EMIL KEMENY IN THE "LEDGER," PHILADELPHIA.

(a) The opening moves were similar to those adopted by Pillsbury against Lasker at St. Petersburg. It is questionable whether P takes P e.p. is the strongest combination or not.
(b) Bad play. Black with P to Q 4 forces back the Kt, and at once gains a winning position. White should have played Q to Q 3.
(c) Black gains a powerful centre and the open K B file, and he forces the White Queen into a very inferior position.
(d) Black plays the game admirably. Every move compromised White's position. The nineteenth move caused White to advance the Q B P, thus enabling Black to enter his Kt at Q 6. The twentieth move forced the advance of the K B P, weakening the King's side. Since White played his Queen to B sq. Black is enabled to play Kt to B 4, and subsequently Kt to Q 6 and Kt to B 5, and White's position has become quite hopeless.
(e) White in all probability could have resisted better by playing R takes Kt.
(f) Brilliant and sound. This ingenious sacrifice of the Kt forced the win as the progress of the game shows. Black's play that brought about this position as well as the finishing moves of this game are of the highest order. Lasker's play in this game could hardly be excelled.
(g) White can not play K to Kt on account of the threatened mate P to R 6. If he interposes the Kt then Black forces a mate in a few moves by R takes Kt.

GAME No. 568.
RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Maroczy.	BLACK. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Q to B 3
5—P to Q 3 (a)	5—P to K R 3
6—Q to K 2	6—K Kt to K 2
7—B to K 3	7—B to Kt 3
8—Q Kt to Q 2	8—Castles
9—P to K R 3	9—P to Q 4 (b)
10—Kt to B sq. (c)	10—P to Q 5
11—B to Q 2	11—Kt to Kt 3
12—B to R 4 (d)	12—P takes P
13—P takes P	13—Kt to B 5
14—B takes K Kt (e)	14—P takes B
15—Q to Q 2 (f)	15—R to Q sq.
16—P to Q 4	16—B to R 4 (g)
17—Castles Q R (h)	17—Kt takes P
18—Kt takes Kt	18—P to B 4
19—P to K 5	19—Q to K 2
20—Q to Kt 2	20—P takes Kt
21—R takes P	21—B to B 4 (i)
22—Kt to Q 2	22—R takes R
23—P takes R	23—R to B sq. ch.
24—K to Q sq.	24—B to B 6
25—Q to Kt 5	25—B takes P
26—Kt to B 3	26—P to R 3

(a) This move is too inactive against this defence. P to Q 4 is necessary.
(b) This position is not unlike the Giuoco Piano. Whenever the second player can thus play P to Q 4, he is bound to get the best of it.
(c) There is no time for this manoeuvre particularly as Black can now advance on the Queen's side by P to Q 5 etc., which would make casting on that wing very dangerous.
(d) White's tactics have already landed him in difficulties;

he might have attempted to block his position by P to B 4 to prevent the disarrangement of his Queen's side, but then Black would probably have played Kt to B 3.
(e) There was no help for this but the absence of White's Q B adds weakness to the feeble position of his game on the Queen's side.
(f) P to Q 4 was open to objections, but Q to B 5 might perhaps have been better as a defence of the threatened Q B P.
(g) Admirably played. Anyone now can see a sacrifice looming in the distance, as the Q P is practically unprotected through this pinning of the Q B P.
(h) A dying effort which does not detain Black for a moment.
(i) To this, White should have replied with R takes R.
(j) The game is quite hopeless now.

FROM THE ANTIPODES.

Mr. O. Balk gave an interesting lecture on Chinese and Japanese chess in the rooms of the Otago Chess Club. He detailed the many movements of the various pieces, rules of the game, &c., in a clear manner.—*Otago Witness*, 16 July, 1896.

STEINITZ AND LASKER.

According to late advices from Europe, Steinitz is not yet willing to admit that Lasker's play is superior to his own. He is at the present time endeavouring to arrange for a postponement of the Buda-pest tourney, which is timed to take place on September 14th, until sometime early in November, so that an opportunity may be afforded him to have a long rest before his encounter with Lasker at Moscow, October 12th. As the latter player is also desirous of taking a rest, it is very probable that in the event of the Hungarian tournament taking place according to schedule the match between the two masters will be played off in November, unless, as does not now seem likely, Steinitz withdraws from the contest.

The Buda-pest tourney will probably rival the one recently played at Nuremberg, as most of the leading masters have signified their intention to attend, and the Emperor of Austria, it is understood, has offered a prize of \$300.

A BRILLIANT "EVANS."

(FROM THE "BALTIMORE NEWS.")

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—B to Kt 3
8—P takes P	8—P to Q 3 (a)
9—P to Q 5	9—Kt to K 4 (b)
10—Kt takes Kt	10—P takes Kt
11—B to R 3 (c)	11—B to Q 5 (d)
12—Kt to Q 2	12—B takes R
13—Q takes B	13—P to K B 3
14—P to B 4	14—P takes P
15—P to K 5	15—P to B 3 (e)
16—Kt to K 4	16—P takes Q P
17—Kt to Q 6 ch.	17—Kt to Q 2
18—B to Kt 5 ch.	18—Kt to K 3
19—P takes P	19—Kt takes P (f)
20—R to K sq. ch.	20—Kt to K 5
21—Q takes P	21—Q to Kt 3 ch.
22—Kt to R sq.	22—Q to R 4

And White mates in six moves as follows:—
23—R takes Kt ch.
24—B to B 4 ch.
25—Q to K B 7 ch.
26—Q takes Q ch.
27—Kt takes K P ch.
28—Q to K Kt 5 mate.

NOTES.

(a) This is the normal position. White has now three continuations, viz., 9—Kt to B 5; 9—P to Q 3, and 9—B to Kt 5, all of which are good.
(b) This and Kt to K 2 are sometimes played, but Kt to R 4 is superior to either.
(c) An attacking move. White may also play 11—Kt to Q 2, or 11—B to Kt 3, followed by 12—Kt to R sq., and 13—P to B 4.
(d) Black rarely succeeds by this move in defending the Evans Gambit. Time is all important both in attack and in defence. The present game is an excellent illustration.
(e) Weak play, allowing the White Kt to get planted at Q 6 with a result disastrous for Black.
(f) Any other move loses at once by 20—R to K sq. ch.

HASTINGS TOURNAMENT.

The "Authorised Account" of this great contest has been published at last. It is a handsome volume of 368 pp. and contains full score and notes of all the games played, together with fine portraits of all the combatants. We understand that the enthusiastic Secretary has secured an early copy for the Library of the Yokohama Chess Club.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kaio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 12th September.—Kobe 11th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, E. Porter, 13th September.—Hongkong via ports, Kobe 12th September, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 13th September.—San Francisco 26th August, via Honolulu 2nd September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Irene, German steamer, 2,145, Schneder, 23rd September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 13th September.—Yokkaichi 12th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,507, Gregory, 14th September.—Kobe 13th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 14th September.—Kobe 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghaese, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 15th September.—New York via ports, General.—Kobe 14th September, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 15th September.—Otaru via ports, 11th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oolong, British steamer, 2,308, R. Couradi, 16th September.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 15th September, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 16th September.—Kobe 15th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 16th September.—Yokkaichi 15th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Funcke, 17th September.—North Pacific, Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Hio Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 17th September.—Shimonoseki via Kobe, 14th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,982, L. Davies, 17th September.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 15th September, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Oak Branch, British steamer, 2,264, H. Sheil, 17th September.—Batoum 6th August, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 17th September.—Nagasaki 15th September, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,040, Iwanaga, 17th September.—Otaru via ports, 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, Barstow, 17th September.—Hakodate 15th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 17th September.—Yokkaichi 16th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 17th September.—Yokkaichi 16th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 18th September.—Shanghai via ports, 12th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telena, British steamer, 5,100, Scott, 19th September.—Batoum, via Kobe 17th September, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 11th September.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Glenawon, British steamer, 1,911, Norman, 12th September.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, C. Anderson, 12th September.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Queen Margaret, British ship, 1,988, D. F. Faulkner, 12th September.—San Francisco, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,730, 13th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 13th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 14th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 14th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,668, Ward, 14th Septem-

ber,—New York via ports, General.—Dudwell, Carill & Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, E. Porter, 14th September.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Saida (14), Austrian cruiser, Captain Conrade Spiller, 14th September.—Hakodate.

Tancred, Norwegian steamer, 764, S. E. Kroger, 14th September.—Kaisatsu, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 15th September.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 15th September.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Humber (1), British store-ship, Commander Frank M. Wiley, 15th September.—Kobe.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, A. G. Cubitt, 16th September.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, Inman Sealby, 16th September.—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Cromarty, British steamer, 1,789, W. Duncan, 16th September.—Kuchinotsu, Hongkong, Singapore, and Java, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Olympia, U.S. flag-ship, Captain J. G. Read, 17th September.—Yokosuka.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 17th September.—Otau via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, W. Thompson, 17th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dudhope, British ship, 1,987, Low, 18th September.—Port Angeles, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, S. Muramatsu, 18th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 18th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 18th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 18th September.—Hakoda and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Dublin, British steamer, 2,155, Rae, 18th September.—San Francisco, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 18th September.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Braemar*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. W. R. Krump in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu.—Messrs. H. Iquini, E. G. Ackermann, S. Iwanaga, H. J. Slater, H. Passavant, and Miss Sarah Peters in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. A. Maclean, Rev. Edward James, Mrs. James, Rev. Jas. Simester, Mrs. Simester, Rev. J. L. Hendry, Mrs. Hendry and 2 children, Rev. W. A. Main, Mrs. Main, the Misses L. R. Martin, Ida C. Deaver, Ella Leveritt, Margaret Polk, M.D., J. M. Gates, M.D., Ida Kahn, Clara E. Merrill, Mary Stone, Mary Robinson, and J. Sanders in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. G. E. Longeway, Miss H. Wallace, Mr. R. Earle, Miss C. A. White, Miss H. Stone, Miss S. Bancroft, Mr. G. Earle, and Miss Edna Webster in cabin. From Honolulu to Yokohama:—Mr. W. B. Vanderlip, Mr. Hugh J. Emmett, Miss Elsie Adair, Miss Tillie Jardine, and Mr. Uyetani in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports.—Mr. and Mrs. Blackhuy, Messrs. R. M. Lambuch, Tseng, Keswick, Nishikata, Yokoyama, Ozawa, Okazaki, Kikuchi, Katakata, Fukushima, Ichiji, Nakamura, Yamazaki, Kawasaki, Mnakuchi, Otake, Takagi, Habuto, Asano, Ishiguro, Chitenden, J. E. Pease, Ito, Mochizuki, Yonei, Mizuno, Sakamoto, Governor Omori, Mr. and Mrs. Umeda, Mr. and Mrs. Horibe, Mr. and Master Saito, Major Uchida, Viscount Hojio, Mr. and Mrs. Kawakami, and Mrs. Takahashi and daughter in cabin; Mr. Tashiro, Mr. and Mrs. Ogata, Messrs. Sato, Chow, J. P. Rose, F. Jesclinat, S. Ijuin, Yamada, K. Ijuin, Matsunaga, Hayashi, Fujita, Wm. Hay, and Kawachi in second class, 214 Japanese and 11 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via

ports:—Mr. Benning, Mr. N. P. Peterson, Mr. Solovieff, Mrs. C. Sanson, Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Evans, Mr. Justice Blair, Mrs. Blair, Miss S. M. Thomson, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mr. H. W. Lea, Miss Jones, Master and Miss Pakenham, Mr. Mowles, Mr. and Mrs. J. Stemme, Mr. H. D. Humphreys, Mrs. L. Welchman, Mr. Lu Kew Sam, Mrs. Hoo and infant, Mrs. Lum, child and infant, and 2 Japanese guides in cabin; 3 Chinese and 2 children, and one Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Charles Burkhalter, Mr. P. H. Bernays, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Bentz, Mrs. Dr. Cushing, Mr. Wm. P. Connelley, Mrs. S. H. Frank and 2 children, Mr. Spencer T. St. George Carey, Mr. K. von Lindholm, Mr. Louis C. Masten, Mrs. M. Miller, Mr. K. Noto, Lieut. Joseph Polo, Mr. N. M. Pond, Mr. K. Shindo, Dr. G. E. Shuey, Prof. J. M. Schaeberle, Mr. G. Schull, and Mr. M. Yeuya in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Valentin A. Blacque, Messrs. Alexander Price, S. Furuzawa, Y. Uyeno, K. Okakura, Miss C. Summer, Messrs. T. Chishima, K. Aota, S. Tanimichi, K. Kajiwara, T. Yamamoto, G. Migido, T. Hayashi, Miss N. Shikimori, H. Matano, Mr. and Mrs. Matsui, Mr. S. Uchida, Miss Hayakawa, Mr. K. Mizuno, Mr. S. Takahashi, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kragh and 2 children, Mr. F. Marshall, Mr. K. Mukai, Colonel Strelitzky, Mr. and Mrs. K. Lennan, Mr. S. Y. French, Mr. and Mrs. T. Brown, Mr. J. S. Bruce, Mrs. Vaughan Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Bois, 2 children and nurse, Mrs. A. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Marshall, Mr. C. H. Casey, Mr. C. S. Graham, Miss M. Slade, Mr. F. L. Slade, Mr. A. P. Stokes, Miss Blackwood, and Mr. T. E. Stockwell in cabin; Mr. S. Hiragata, Mrs. Yanagita, Messrs. B. Honami, S. Imai, Y. Okita, K. Tamiya, K. Shirai, Y. Takeshita, N. Takeshita, Miss Takeshita, Messrs. K. Yendo, Y. Seki, H. Watanabe, T. Mizuno, B. Ihara, Mrs. Ihara, Messrs. Y. Hirotsu, F. Takagaki, K. Kishi, H. Tokunaka, S. Yamataka, H. Miyoshi, Y. Mizuno, and Yensoshi in second class, and 160 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Canton*, for London via ports:—Mrs. Gordon Lowder, 2 children and amah, Rev. T. E. Sandeman, Mrs. Sandeman, infant and amah, Mr. J. A. Maclean, Mr. H. B. Clayton, Mr. H. Harvey, Mr. E. Hickman, Miss Howard and servant, Miss Bosanquet and servant, Miss Jackson, Miss Macquire, Mr. G. E. Boardman, Mr. J. Robledo, Mr. H. J. Neville, Mr. Price, and Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Evans in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. Simester, Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Main, Dr. Kindeleberger, U.S.N., Miss H. Thomas, Mrs. Diehl, Mr. Geo. H. Rollison, Mr. R. T. Wright, Mr. J. Allen Hunt, Captain and Mrs. Welman, child and maid, and Mr. John Derby in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 157 bales; Waste Silk, 14 bales.

Per British steamer *Braemar*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	TEA.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	TOTAL
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST.			COAST.	PACKAGES.
Shanghai	—	1,626	713	250	2,629
Hyogo	350	319	384	—	1,053
Yokohama	2,950	2,837	1,175	136	7,108
Amoy	—	—	12,351	—	12,351
Foochow	3,694	457	2,432	717	7,300
Total	7,004	5,279	17,052	1,143	30,438

	SILK.	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO.	TOTAL.
Yokohama	25	—	—	25
Total	25	—	—	25

	RATES.
Tea	12 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk	3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement	\$1 Gold per ton.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	ODDEN.	TRAIL.	CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	62	—	—	—	—	—	62
Hyogo	70	—	—	—	—	—	70
Yokohama	3,670	349	—	—	435	31	4,485
Hongkong	320	—	—	—	—	—	320
Total	4,122	349	—	—	435	31	4,937

REPORTS.
The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain I. Sealby, reports:—Left San Francisco the 26th August at 4.07 p.m. Arrived at Honolulu the 1st September

at 6.19 p.m. and left the 2nd at 2.42 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th September at 11.11 a.m. Passage, 17 days, 1 hour, 35 minutes. Had variable winds and moderate weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain R. Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 12th September at 2.15 p.m.; had light N.W. winds and clear weather and comparatively smooth water up to arrival at Nagasaki the 14th, at 4 a.m. after half-hour's detention at Quarantine Station. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5.15 p.m.; had moderate northerly and north-easterly winds and continued clear, pleasant weather up to arrival at Shimonoseki the 15th, at 5.45 a.m. Left again at 11.15 a.m.; had light south-easterly and north-easterly winds through whole of Inland Sea, arriving at Kobe the 16th at 8.20 a.m., after the usual quarantine detention. Left Kobe the 17th at 12.40 p.m.; had moderate northerly and north-east winds, cloudy but fair, pleasant weather; passed Oshima at 8.50 p.m. with continued north-easterly and easterly winds and fine, clear weather to Rock Island, which was passed the 18th at 10.35 a.m.; thence to arrival at Yokohama at 4.30 p.m., had fresh to moderate N.E. winds and continued fine, clear weather. At 6 a.m. on the 18th approaching, and in the vicinity of, Omai-saki passed a quantity of drift wood, also a square rigged ship standing to southward about 20 miles to south-westward of Omai-saki; at 10 a.m. passed a square rigged ship on port tack apparently bound to Yokohama. Nothing further of importance during passage. At 2 p.m. passed a Japanese man-of-war south of Sagami at target practice.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 22nd
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 22nd
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 20th
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Sept. 22nd
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 22nd
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Sept. 30th
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 8th

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 3rd. † Calcutta (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 18th. ‡ Panama left Hongkong on September 18th. § Balise left Hongkong on September 14th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 20th
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wednesday, Sept. 24th
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. D. Lloyd	Thursday, Sept. 25th
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Friday, Sept. 25th
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 26th
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 28th
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 2nd
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 2nd
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 9th

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarn and Grey Cloth.—Market somewhat, holders asking increased prices to compensate for the drop in exchange, and now that silver is a little better, buyers hold off thinking that it will work further in the right direction, from their point of view. Fancies began to move a little, but the business is not of great extent or importance at present. Woolleins.—There is more enquiry, but not many bargains conducted.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 45 inches	2.75 to 3.20
I. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.10 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.05 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-44 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.50
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.62 to 1.90
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.25 to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.25

WOOLLEINS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.474
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.324
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.274
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.45 to 0.52
Cloth—Pilotas, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloth—Presidentas, 54 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloth—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Woolleins—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARDS.		PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	37.00 to	38.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	40.00 to	41.50
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to	46.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to	44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	50.00 to	52.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	66.00 to	69.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	84.00 to	87.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	105.00 to	108.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	77.00 to	82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.00 to	98.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to	127.00

METALS.

Very few enquiries and stock increasing. Prices more or less nominal all round. Dealers hoping that exchange (which has turned upwards from the lowest point) will go yet further in their favour.

Mit Bars, 1 inch	13.40 to	13.45
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.45 to	3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to	3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to	3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to	4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to	9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to	5.40
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to	5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.62 to	1.65

KEROSENE.

Holders endeavour to preserve a bold front, in spite of fresh arrivals. Buyers, however, are not very keen, hoping for better terms by some delay.

American	\$2.16 to	2.18
Russian	2.14 to	2.16
Langkat	—	—

SUGAR.

Brown—No change to report. Takao somewhat lower, other sorts nominally unchanged, but with very little doing. White—A very moderate business at late quotations.

Brown Takao	\$1.90 to	4.00
Brown Manila	5.00 to	5.10
Brown Daiteng	3.45 to	3.50
Brown Canton	3.45 to	4.45
White Java and Penang	6.90 to	7.00
White Refined	7.00 to	9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Holders got rather scared at their small sales, and increasing stocks, so at the beginning of the week, they announced a substantial reduction in quotations. But, on the further drop in silver, they hardened their hearts once more, and are doing their best to check the enquiry which has sprung up from America. Cables from New York at the beginning of the week reported a better feeling, as the sense of the majority of voters appeared to be turning in favour of "Sound Money" with the "Silverites" losing ground. This gave more confidence to Bankers, Merchants, and Manufacturers in the Eastern States, and caused a firmer tone (with slight rise in values) in the Silk market there. At closing things look brighter still, and our quotations are now hardly practicable.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Katra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom.
Filatures—Katra 43/15, 14/16 den.	\$730
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	700
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	650
Re-reels—No. 21, 11/18 deniers	650
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	630 to 640
Kakadas—Katra	700
Kakadas—No. 1	680 to 690
Kakadas—No. 14	670
Kakadas—No. 2	—
Kakadas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

No business and no market. Buyers and sellers are quite ten per cent. apart in their ideas of value, and, while this state of things continues, nothing can be done.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

A moderate business only, on the basis of recent quotations. Shippers have recently been taking-up what they could find accessible of the higher grades. The "third crop" Commons appear to be pretty poor stuff.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$24 to \$25

Finest	22 to	23
Fine	20 to	21
Good Medium	18 to	19
Medium	16 to	17
Good Common	14 to	15
Common	12 to	13

EXCHANGE.

Rates went a point lower at the commencement of the week, but quickly revived, and, rising day by day, close with a further upward tendency.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2 to	1 1/4
— — Bills on demand	2/1 1/4 to	1 1/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8 to	1 1/8
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8 to	1 1/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8 to	1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2.64 to	5 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.69 1/2	
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 to	P.
— — Private 10 days' sight	par.	
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72	
— — Private 10 days' sight	72 1/2	
On India—Bank sight	178	
— — Private 30 days' sight	182	
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50 1/2 to	1 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	52 1/2 to	1 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14 1/2	
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.19	
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/2	

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 14th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report the following changes in the share market:—H. & S. Banks 194 per cent. Buyers; Hongkong Lands \$75 Sellers; China Fires \$97 Sales; H. & W. Docks 202 per cent. premium Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$55 Sales; Douglasses \$67.50 Sellers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.25 Buyers; Pongjom Mines \$14 Sellers; Raub Mines \$4.40 Buyers; Balmorals \$2.50 Sellers; National Banks \$27 Sellers; Straits Insurance \$27 Buyers; Indo-Chinas \$47 Sales; Union Insurance \$230 Sales, and China Traders \$82 Sales.

Club Hotels have changed hands locally at \$69. Grand Hotels are in demand at \$170.

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No. 13.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1896.

月三十五十二拾
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 26TH, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Two Cricket Matches have taken place during the week.

COUNT OKUMA is the new Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Snow fell on Mount Fuji on the 20th inst.—the first this autumn.

The Japanese Government is building a new consulate at Manila.

The Commander of the U.S.S. *Albatross*, who has been investigating the sealing grounds of the North Pacific, says that the herds will be exter-

minated within a few years if more stringent regulations are not enforced.

THE telegraph lines throughout the Empire were restored by the 18th inst.

THROUGH train communication on the Tokaido line has been re-established.

THE health of the Prince Imperial has much improved through his stay at Nikko.

THE excess of exports over imports into Japan in August was yen 279,237.630 in value.

A PARCELS POST service between Japan and Great Britain will be started from October 1st.

THE Czar and Czarina are visiting Queen Victoria at Balmoral. The Czarina is again *en route*.

THE Yokohama water-supply is again continuous throughout the day, the repairs to the mains being completed.

THE Treasurer of the Yokohama Chinese Guild is said to have made away with over \$1,400 of the Guild Funds.

THE Emperor and Empress have made most munificent donations to the districts recently devastated by floods.

An exhibition of weaving and other industries was opened at Hamamatsu on the 19th inst. The affair was very successful.

THE sailing race of last Saturday was spoiled through lack of wind, the yachts taking more than four hours to get round the short course.

WITH the beginning of October, the Choral, Philharmonic, Literary, and Chess Societies of Yokohama start on their autumn and winter work.

PRINCE MICHAEL HILKOFF, Russian Minister of Public Works and Railways, passed through Japan this week *en route* to the United States.

IN Katashiro, Kinejima district of Hizen, an extensive vein of anthracite coal has been discovered. The quality of the coal is said to be very high.

THE Kurds have attacked and pillaged the Armenian quarter of Eguin in the vilayet of Kharput, Asia Minor. Upwards of six hundred Armenians were killed.

COLONEL DE WOGACK, of the Russian Legation, is bringing out several decorations for Japanese military officers, principally of the Orders of St. Stanilaus and St. Anne.

LI HUNG-CHANG is expected to arrive in Yokohama on Monday next. He will not land, simply transferring from the *Empress* packet to his yacht the *Kwang-li*.

THE Czar has been appointed a German Admiral. During dinner at Breslau, the Emperor William thanked, in German, the Czar for having paid a visit to the country.

THE Mitsui family have sent yen 3,000 to relieve the Kyoto people that suffered by the recent floods, and yen 1,000 to the people of Tokyo that suffered from a similar disaster.

THE 20th anniversary of the death of Saigo Takamori was observed on the 20th inst. in the compound of the exhibition building at Ueno. The ceremony was large attended by officials and people of note.

THE British gunboats have returned from Dongola, where it was found that only women and old men were left. General Kitchener has

offered to pardon Bishera, the Mahdist leader, and his followers, if they surrender. The whole Egyptian expedition has now advanced to Dongola.

THE Italian Legation in Tokyo and the Italian residents in Yokohama celebrated, on the 20th inst., the anniversary of the removal of the capital of United Italy to Rome.

A LETTER from Lord Rosebery has been published in which he declares that he cannot agree to the proposal that Great Britain might depose the Sultan in view of Russia's resolve to oppose the independent action of any Power.

A CORONER's jury has returned a verdict of death from accidental drowning in the case of a Swedish quartermaster who fell from the gangway of the *Flintshire* on Saturday while in a state of helpless intoxication.

THE Armenian agitation in England is fomented by letters of Mr. Gladstone, Lord Rosebery, and Mr. Asquith, and by the increasing comments from the Pulpit and Press. Mass meetings have been arranged in various localities.

ON the appearance of the Egyptian army at Dongola the Dervishes fled to the southward, several Emirs surrendering. The gunboats and cavalry are pursuing the enemy. The Egyptian flag has been hoisted in Dongola. The Egyptians captured six guns and a large quantity of munitions of war.

THE Fenian Tynan, the notorious "Number One," has been arrested in Boulogne on a warrant issued in 1882. The Fenians Bell, Wallace, and Haines have also been arrested, as all were acting together. The same gang had organised a laboratory at Antwerp, where a complete dynamite armoury was discovered. The object of their plot is uncertain, but it is rumoured that Nihilists had joined the Fenians and that attempts on the life of the Czar, or of the Queen, at Balmoral, were meditated. All those concerned in the plot have been arrested. Tynan travelled in the guise of a Queen's Messenger.

THE general condition of the Import market is not at all satisfactory. The demand for Yarns and Grey Cloth is dull, and Fancies are not in much better request, a few small sales of Prints and Velvets being all there is to report. There have been but small sales in the Metal market, and though quotations are unchanged, Iron in general is quoted lower on the home side. The Kerosene trade has seen large purchases, buyers being at length forced into the market, where they have had to come to sellers' terms, and the position of holders continues strong. A fair amount of business has been done in Sugar, and values have somewhat improved for China and Manila kinds. Takao is quiet and nominal, and White sorts have been but sparingly taken though the market for these is steady. A revival has taken place in the Silk trade, both the States and Europe being in the market. For the latter destination a considerable quantity of fine-size Filatures were taken, but the business done had the effect of encouraging holders to pursue their usual tactics by putting up prices to the extent that further business was declined. The reduction of the stock on this market induced arrivals on a liberal scale, and buyers no longer pay the prices demanded. Nothing doing in Waste Silk. The stoppage of railway traffic through floods has kept back arrivals of leaf for the Tea market, and this has induced a firm attitude among holders, but when communications are again restored there will be as much as is wanted. Exchange has fluctuated slightly during the week, the latest movement being the rise of a point.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The formation of the Cabinet having been virtually completed with the entry of Count Okuma, the press has much to say about the new Ministry. The *Nippon* devotes several articles to the subject. It holds, with others, that the new Ministry represents a transition stage from the old *Genkun* oligarchy to the system of responsible Cabinets which is destined to be established in the near future. Occupying such a precarious position, the present Ministry, whatever may be its policy, is necessarily doomed to fall soon, and the manner of its fall will bear a most important relation to the future career of its members, for if they fall owing to inaction, their fate will be sealed, whereas, if they fall because of adopting a resolute course, their discomfiture will only be temporary. Hence action and decision must be the watch-words of the new Ministry.

The situation of the Matsukata-Okuma Cabinet, observes the same friendly paper in another article, is most delicate, for although a *Genkun* and *Clan Cabinet* combined, the very circumstances that culminated in its birth oblige it to regulate its action in accordance with the dictates of constitutionalism. It is as if a surgeon were to perform an operation upon his own body. Born amid innumerable difficulties, the new Ministry can not be expected to accomplish much. The *Nippon* will be fully satisfied if only the accumulated abuses and evils of clannism and of the *Genkun Naikaku* can be abolished for ever. Questions relating to the management of the Diet and to the arrangement of post-bellum measures are altogether secondary.

The *Osaka Asahi* writes that the attempt of the *Genkun* to secretly exert influence on the Cabinet while themselves holding aloof from it, may be said to have been practically frustrated, a circumstance constituting one of the Cabinet's sources of future danger. The *Asahi* wishes to warn the *Genkun* against any inclination of the kind, if indeed they still entertain it. Our contemporary asks them to bear in mind that the present Ministry was not organized through their endeavours, but was born after they had given up the matter in despair. Enjoying, as some of them do, great influence over the National Unionists who hold the balance of power, and great prestige among the public at large, and being at the same time numerically stronger than the Ministry, they may, even without being firmly united, discredit the acts of the Cabinet and obstruct its work, though themselves unable to form a Cabinet, and though the present Cabinet does not commit any blunder of such serious moment as to necessitate its resignation. The memory of how far they were themselves instrumental in organizing the Cabinet should shame them from adopting any such rash, irresponsible, faithless, and purely destructive course. Thus the *Osaka* journal in one breath declares that the *Genkun's* attempt to interfere has been frustrated, and in the next asserts that their interference at the outset should deter them from subsequent opposition.

The *Yomiuri* considers that the formation of the present Ministry marks an epoch in the political history of the country, for it inaugurates, so to speak, the second Restoration in the administration of Japan. Our contemporary desires once more to remind the new Ministry that diplomatic and financial blunders were the rocks on which their predecessors made shipwreck, and that it must consequently be their prime aim to strike out prudent and suitable plans in the domains of finance and foreign affairs.

The *Mainichi* publishes a lengthy article over the signature of Mr. Shimada Saburo, Vice-President of the House of Representatives, and editor of that journal. It is merely a recapitulation of arguments that have already appeared in the columns of the *Mainichi*, which we may

mention is now generally understood not to faithfully mirror the sentiments of the *Shimpo-to*, or even of the Progressionists. The *Kokumin*, the *Nippon*, the *Ponturi*, and even the *Hochi* are credited with possessing greater facilities for obtaining accurate information about that Party. Mr. Shimada argues, in the article under consideration, that the Cabinet must be built upon the nation, and that, therefore, with the view of establishing an important precedent in the constitutional history of Japan, the Ministry, should they fail to command a majority in the House, must unhesitatingly resign. In the next place, the Cabinet must keep itself pure and incorruptible, and Government servants must be strictly warned against any attempt to abuse the advantages their position confers for promoting their own selfish purposes. In the third place, the uneasiness of the people must be allayed by assuring them that they shall not be burdened with any further taxes. The writer doubts whether a sudden addition to the expenditures of the State and consequent increase of the people's burdens, such as the last Cabinet effected, can fail to impair the development of national prosperity. By way of strengthening his position in that respect, he points to the representations submitted by the Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo and Osaka to the Ito Cabinet while the 9th session of the Diet was in progress. One chief cause why the people feel deep anxiety in this context is their dread lest the recent addition to their burdens may not be the last. Hence it should be the duty of the present Cabinet to dispel all apprehensions of that nature. Mr. Shimada does not necessarily ask the Cabinet to reduce the State expenses fixed by the Ito Cabinet. What he desires is that a limit must be strictly fixed, and that measures should be devised to make ends meet in the economy of the State. Fourthly, the problem of individual rights must be attended to, and the people must be relieved from various unreasonable restraints that now impair the free exercise of those rights. Fifthly, Formosa must be purged from corruption. Sixthly and lastly, the Administration must be conducted with simplicity, integrity, and promptitude, and the speciousness, conventionality, and literary redundancy that marked the actions of the preceding Ministry must be done away with. These six reforms constitute the irreducible minimum of what Mr. Shimada expects from the Cabinet, and he avers that if his advice be not acted upon, he will be compelled to take a path different from that chosen by the Cabinet.

"We were among the persons surprised at the apparent inability of Count Matsukata," writes the *Tokyo Asahi*, "when week after week passed without any definite prospect of the organization of a Cabinet, and when the Count seemed to be chiefly relying on the help of the *Genkun* for that purpose. However, now that the composition of the Cabinet is virtually fixed the new Ministry does not appear to be so feeble as the action of the Premier seemed to suggest. The *Asahi's* hypothesis is based on the elimination, practically at least, of Choshu elements from the new Cabinet. During the three decades that have elapsed since the rehabilitation of the Imperial régime, this is the only instance of the Satsuma and Choshu clans publicly separating from each other. The abuses of favoritism that permeated previous administrations were mostly the outcome of compromises between the two ruling clans, and, at the same time, the collisions between the two constituted one of the weak points of the Government. The Choshu clan being eliminated from the Ministry now in power, the latter may prove neither so feeble nor so short-lived as the public apparently anticipate.

The *Nichi Nichi* has some strong comments to make about Count Okuma, whose entry into the Cabinet our contemporary declares to be unconditional. The four points on which the Count dilated before his entry, and concerning which he demanded a consensus of opinion on the part of his future colleagues, have fallen to the ground. On three of these important questions

the views of his future colleagues could not be brought into unison with his own, and it was only with reference to an undisputed matter, namely, the necessity of cordial unanimity among the members of the Cabinet, that he succeeded in securing the endorsement of the statesmen with whom he now sits at the same table. The whole thing was a species of fiasco. Some observe, and the *Nichi Nichi* agrees with the idea, that it would have been far better for Count Okuma not to assume such a pretentious attitude, and not to lay before his future colleagues any points concerning which he demanded their approval previously to his entry into the Cabinet, seeing that, all the while, he was prepared to enter unconditionally. Such an ill-judged proceeding on his part has materially impaired his credit in the eyes of the people.

The *Yiji* writes much on the new Cabinet. It feels more and more satisfied at finding that the political ideas of the people are so far developed that even a Cabinet change of such magnitude as the last has not affected the market in any degree. Another thing that pleases the *Yiji* is the entire change that has come over the attitude of the senior statesmen towards the Government. Hitherto, these statesmen were prone to regard the Government as their own property, and seemed to view any transfer of the control of the administration in much the same light as though a matter affecting their own possessions were on the tapis. Even when the administrative power changed hands, those previously holding it continued to hanker after it, and not infrequently attempted to subject their successors to considerable annoyance. It seemed as if the spirit of womanish jealousy regulated their whole conduct. The War has put a stop to such vicious practices, for the radical change that has taken place in the situation of Japan has made it imperatively necessary for both rulers and ruled to view national affairs from the standpoint of their relation not to domestic politics, but to foreign. Posts in the Government can no longer be regarded in the light of private property. The last Cabinet change originated, for instance, in a decision of the Ito Ministry to endure what, privately considered, must have been very distasteful, namely, the admission of statesmen belonging to a different school from those in power. The *Yiji* is therefore confident that traces of the so-called "camera influence" will disappear entirely from the future administration of the country, and that the Ministry in power will be left free to frame their own decisions and follow their own inclinations. Our contemporary can not repose any particular confidence in the new Ministry, nor can it predict the results of their administration at this moment. But the considerations enumerated above induce it to regard the situation with considerable hope.

In connection with the portfolio of the Department of Education, the same paper has a suggestion to offer to the Authorities. It strongly urges the absolute necessity of setting aside any candidate educated in the old Chinese spirit, and disposed to advocate the teaching of Confucian doctrines. Affairs in Japan are marching forward in accordance with the principles of Western civilization, and however deeply versed a man may be in the Chinese classics, or however deft in penning a Chinese essay, he can not be called a man of erudition. Indeed, a person of that description, who is out of touch with the progress of social affairs, may be considered entirely ignorant. The idea of abandoning educational matters to the charge of such a person is preposterous. Though Marquis Saionji has not held the portfolio for any considerable time, and has therefore been unable to effect much, yet the ideas he entertains and the principles on which he has acted are broad and liberal. The *Yiji* concludes that, if it is impossible to retain the service of the Marquis, a statesman of the same type must be found to succeed him.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A SCENE FROM THE FLOODS IN SHIMOTSUKI.

On the 8th instant, says a Mayebashi paper, a carpenter living at Nabeyama, on the banks of the greatly swollen Nagano River, had occasion to go to the stream. A sudden rise took place while he was still on the bank, the rushing water carrying him off his feet and dragging him out into the river. His son-in-law, one Otokichi, heard Matazo's cries and, being an excellent swimmer, sprang to the rescue. So powerful was the current, however, that he could make no headway against it. Tosé, Otokichi's wife, had seen her husband's attempted rescue; losing all control over her own actions she, too, sprang madly into the boiling river, and tried to swim to her husband. After drifting down-stream for nearly half an hour, Otokichi was violently struck by a floating log, and lost consciousness, while the devoted wife redoubled her efforts to get within reach of the sinking man. Meanwhile, a fourth member of the family, Otokichi's younger brother, who lived several *cho* farther down the stream, had caught sight of the tragedy, and also sprang to the rescue of his relatives. Expert swimmer though he was, the tremendous force of the current proved too much for him, so that he was fain to make his way painfully towards the thicket or underbrush growing on the river's edge. Here, to his joyful astonishment, he found Matazo, the father, who had been washed thither, half-drowned, by the waves. After leading the exhausted old man to a house near by, the younger brother returned to search for his sister-in-law and her husband. Thinking that they, too, might have reached the underbrush in safety, he looked carefully among the sedges. After a prolonged search he caught sight of the forlorn pair stranded on a small mud-flat in midstream, Tosé calling loudly for help. Otokichi was dead, and Tosé was vainly endeavouring to call him back to life. In an agony of grief, the younger brother once more breasted the waves and this time succeeded in reaching the place where Tosé was. The rising of the waters continued, until only a few feet of sodden soil kept them above the waves. The two continued calling for help till they grew hoarse and hardly able to speak. Night fell, and the horrors of the river and their surroundings were still more intensified. At last, towards morning, a rescue-party put off from the nearest bank, but so great was the violence of the current that the boat threatened to capsize before the rescue could be completed. With infinite trouble and in imminent danger of their own lives, the rescuers brought the three back to the shore. Everything was done to strengthen and relieve the two survivors, but poor Tosé was found to be a hopeless maniac.

"BIMYOSAI."

THE death is recorded, under very painful circumstances, of the lady novelist Inafune-joshi, otherwise Mrs. Yamada, wife of the well-known author and poet Bimiyosai. For some years past the latter has been leading a most dissipated life, getting into a number of very shady transactions on several occasions in order to fill his always empty purse. Two or three times he has been brought up before the Courts by his victims, generally wealthy females. Yet Bimiyosai's style remained as popular as ever, and his stories invariably sold well. Last year, the novelist married a young lady, the daughter of a well-to-do Tokyo physician. She brought her husband a good dowry, and it was thought at the time that the happy couple might collaborate works of fiction, for the lady was already favourably known in second-rate magazines and other periodicals as a writer of very pleasing skill. After his marriage Bimiyosai sobered down for a month or two, but soon returned to his old loose habits and companions. Inafune-joshi, who was as faithful to him as he was faithless to her, bore with his excesses as long as possible. In July of the present year, her mother heard of her sorrows and brought her home, where she should stay until Bimiyosai could be made to confess the error of his ways. But as one ugly report

after another reached the ears of the wife, she resolved on committing suicide. About six weeks ago she took poison, but, thanks to the energetic treatment of her father, recovered. Her health, however, was permanently injured, and now the announcement of her death has caused much comment on the case in the columns of the Tokyo press. Bimiyosai is severely blamed, as indeed he richly deserves.

GERMAN NOTES.

A PRIVATE telegram, which has been substantiated officially, says that Emperor William will not, as had been supposed, go to Hungary during the coming autumn.

The city of Kiel is to have a Bismarck monument. Herr Harro Magnussen, of Berlin, has already prepared a life-size model which was found very satisfactory and has been accepted.

An interesting discussion has been going on between the two leading Hamburg papers, the *Hamburger Correspondenz* and the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, with reference to the participation of Germany at the Paris Exhibition in 1900. The former paper is supposed to represent the views of the Foreign Office at Berlin, which is in favour of taking part in the Exhibition, while the latter is regarded as voicing Prince Bismarck's opinion, and is not in favour of participation. The *Hamburger Correspondenz* says the Government had considered the subject from a political standpoint, and did not therefore consult Boards of Trade. It has decided to participate in order to obviate the impression in Paris of a deliberate slight. The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, on the other hand, regards the political side of the question as of slight importance. Many changes may take place in France between now and the year 1900. The question of representation at the Paris Exhibition must not be treated in a way that might ultimately compel the industries of Germany to participate in order to uphold the national honour. It would be a mistake to endeavour to create enthusiasm and allow oneself to be carried away by it.

In number 28 of the German *Medizinischen Wochenschrift*, Professor O. Leppin gives an interesting account of an experiment made with the X-rays. It may not be generally known, he says, that the X-rays have the property of producing a similar effect upon the skin as the rays of the sun. I had a good deal to do with the Roentgen experiments, and availed myself of the opportunity to experiment on my left hand. After a few days the skin was of a peculiar red colour and showed signs of being swollen, while on the middle and ring finger there were blisters developing, just as though I had burnt myself. The only part that remained white was where the ring encircles the finger, and at the middle joints of the fingers the red hue was less intense. After applying Gonard water, the red colour decreased, and yet, after five weeks there is still a marked difference between the right and left hand. While the right hand is white and smooth the left is reddish and wrinkled and appears many years older than the other.

INUNDATED TOKYO.

IN connection with the floods near and about Mukojima (Terajima-mura in particular), certain Metropolitan journals report that large numbers of racoon-dogs, martens, stoats, and weasels have been caught in the upper stories of half-submerged houses. The rodents were "washed out" of their holes and dens, and, having nowhere else to go, took refuge in the nearest dwellings. Quantities of these animals may now be seen in the neighbourhood of Mukojima, "which looks for all the world like a zoological park at present," adds the *Miyako Shimbu*. In this part of the city the distress is very great, and although the authorities are doing everything possible to give succour to the needy and homeless, there is, nevertheless, a great deal of suffering. In this connection the *Fominuri* tells of a gilded youth who, in company with four or five *gelsa*, went out to "see the sights" and to view in ease and comfort the distress of his unfortunate countrymen. The

inhabitants of Terajima-mura, however, failed to appreciate attentions of this sort, and so bespattered him and his companions with mud that they were fain to beat a prompt retreat.

YOKOHAMA POLICE ITEMS.

INSPECTOR IKARIYAMA, of the Bluff Police, reports that since the incarceration of J. J. Allen in the American Consular gaol, burglaries and robberies on the Bluff have entirely ceased. Comment is superfluous.—A Peruvian giving the name of Charles Adams, was found wandering over the Bluff, barefooted and in rags, on Saturday. He has been handed over to the Settlement Police.—Uyeda Hyojiro, a house-boy, aged 16, in foreign employ, is now being tried in the criminal section of the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho on the charge of stealing a cheque for yen 300 from an office in the Settlement and affixing thereto a false signature.—Nishimura Umekichi, who lately underwent examination on a charge of sending three cows to Tokyo in contravention of the Rinderpest regulations, has been fined 3 yen and severely reprimanded.—A Portuguese named Collaço has been arrested on a charge of complicity in a stamp robbery from an old postage stamp dealer in Motomachi. The man has been handed over to the Local Court.

AFFAIRS IN PERSIA.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *Neue Freie Presse*, of Vienna, had an interview with the Persian Minister in Vienna, General Meriman Khan. The General, who has represented his sovereign at the Austrian Court for nearly two decades, is a stout, broad-shouldered gentleman of the Slavonic rather than Oriental type. He speaks with considerable *verve*, and uses French very fluently. In the first place, the reporter says, he expressed his indignation with reference to what he termed the "wanton banalities" of a large part of the European press in its recent utterances with reference to the murdered Shah, whom it represented as a ludicrous figure. There is not a word of truth in it. Shah Nasr-Ed-din was no European, but he did much for the development and civilization of his fatherland. From the fact that his successor ascended the throne in as well regulated order as could take place in the most orderly European State, you can readily see that with regard to the question of law and order among us, it cannot be as bad as some of the large organs of the European press in recent days pretended. The new Shah, Musaffer-Ed-din, is no doubt a few degrees more European than his predecessor. Many of the Austrian officers that I have engaged for Persia since my stay in Vienna, are able to inform you of the good qualities of the new ruler. Scarcely had he been proclaimed as successor of Nasr-Ed-din, when he sent me a dispatch confirming me in my present position. The last reports from Teheran say that England and Russia have recognized Shah Musaffer-Ed-din. The Sultan, France, and Austro-Hungary have also recognized him, and there is no power in Europe that will hesitate to recognize him. That Shah Musaffer-Ed-din is no ordinary man is proven by the fact that he left the governorship of Tabriz a poor man. It would have been an easy matter to enrich himself. However, there are also numerous fables in circulation about him. One familiar with Persian affairs has held him up as a "sick man" because he is of delicate constitution. It is not exactly necessary to be robust in order to be well. The new Shah will show great strength in the administration of his office. "Does your Excellency believe that Shah Musaffer-Ed-din will visit Europe, as his predecessor did?" "I believe so, but I suppose it will be some considerable time before he will come to Europe. The Shah will have many things to put in order, and has to adjust matters according to his ideas before he will go abroad. Dispatches have come from Teheran according to which there is considerable fermentation in some of the provinces of Persia." "Do not regard this too tragically," said the General, "there are elements there that love to fish in turbid waters. The turbulent performances of the nomads of Fars is by no means a criterion of the

peaceable disposition of the other inhabitants of the kingdom." "It is supposed, your Excellency, that, whereas Russian sympathies are imputed to the new Shah, Russian influence will increase." The Minister replied: "Where is Russia not influential at present? Russia operates also here with you in Europe with great skill. Russia's sphere of power in the Balkans is constantly increasing. By skilful diplomacy Russia has also been very successful in Persia, while England, as in Turkey, has not always managed with success." In conclusion, the Minister said that Musaffer-Ed-din will lay much stress on the continuity of a well regulated administration, and as a man that is well acquainted with European culture he will endeavour to stand in good relation to Europe.

ON THE BIRTH OF A PERKINSE.

THREE days after the birth of a male child of well-to-do people, his parents celebrate his nativity, which is called Hsi San, i.e. "washing the child," when eggs, sugar, and sago, which are used for nourishing the mother, are presented by near relations and intimate friends, principally ladies. The way to celebrate this is to engage a nurse called a Lao Niang, "to wash the body of the infant." One month after birth, the celebration of Man Yueh, i.e. "full month," takes place, when relations and friends come again to congratulate the family, and present gold and silver ornaments and dresses of satin, &c., to the baby, to which a musical and theatrical performance as well as a delicious lunch and dinner are prepared by the family. When the child is one year old the celebration of Chua Chow, i.e. "to reach one year," is held. The rule is to place books, flowers, cards, artificial bows and arrows, an abacus, and some buttons on his bed, and seating the little child in front of them to see which article he will pick up first. If he takes a book, it shows that he will be a literary man; the flowers and cards indicate that he will be fond of gambling; the bow and arrows destine him as a military officer; the abacus proves his future career as a merchant; and the buttons augur that he will hold the exonerating position of a high mandarin. On reaching the age of seven the boy is sent to school; the cost of tuition for a beginner being at most 10,000 Peking cash or \$1.00 Mexican. He has to learn to read the San Tze Ching, i.e. "three character classic;" Po Chia Hsing, i.e. "names of 100 families;" Chian Tze Wen, i.e. "1,000 characters." After completing these lessons the tutor will teach him Sze Shu, i.e. "four books." In the meantime, he explains the books with colloquial idioms to the student, after which he is taught the Wu Ching, i.e. "five classics," poetry and essays. Should the parents desire their son to attend the literary examinations the teacher will instruct him how to compose poems and write essays; but if they decide on a business career, at the age of thirteen or fourteen he will be sent to some Shop or Hong to learn its daily routine. In Peking most of the people marry between fifteen and twenty years of age. As soon as a man is married a heavy yoke is put on his back; he has to earn enough to support his own family, even should his parents be rich, and he carries this burden until he himself becomes the father of a son who is able to succeed him, after which he may enjoy himself for the rest of his days.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

JUGO YA.

THE evening of the 21st instant was the 15th of the 8th month of the lunar calendar, and used, in bygone days, to be a sort of family festival. On large trays heaps of huge rice-dumplings (*dango*) were placed with persimmons, chestnuts, raw eggs, salt, wine, and sometimes ginger. Trays were then exposed on the veranda or in some open part of the house to the rays of the "harvest-moon," the whole being an offering to *O-tsuki-sama*, or the Moon Deity, about whose personality some confusion existed even in the minds of the worshippers. Besides these edibles, stands of autumn-flowers, particularly the *susuki* and *karukaya*—supposed to be special favourites of the "man in the moon"—were also placed in the moonlight. The in-

mates then proceeded to drink hot *sake*, with boiled *tofu* or bean-curd as a relish, while songs and instrumental music served to make the hours until midnight pass in innocent revelry. This pretty custom is still observed in many country homesteads; and even in Tokyo, on Monday night, there were hundreds of houses where at least huge rice-dumplings were prepared for the general refection, while the wine-cup was kept going merrily. This is unquestionably the last remnant of that lunar worship peculiar to most Oriental peoples, and very noticeable in ancient Japanese records. But what was then a religious act is now no more than a family merry-making.

THE U.S.S. "ALBATROSS."

THE U.S. fish-surveying vessel *Albatross*, Capt. J. F. Moser, came into harbour on Tuesday morning. She has been carrying on investigations at the sealing grounds of the North Pacific Ocean into the effects of the seal-hunting of the last few years. It would appear that if the present pelagic operations of the numerous sealers who now sail from Yokohama and other places are not radically altered the seals of the North Pacific will soon be entirely exterminated. The *Albatross* is splendidly fitted up for the purposes of scientific exploration of the ways, homes, and natures of the denizens of the deep. Her collection of North Pacific zoophytes is especially noteworthy and complete. She will go to Yokosuka for cleaning soon.

WRECK ON THE SIBERIAN COAST.

THE Norwegian steamer *Hoeveding* went ashore on the Siberian coast on July 14th. The vessel, which is of iron, of 1,313 tons register, was going from Nicholaievsk to Vladivostok and ran aground during a dense fog. When the fog lifted it was discovered that she was firmly fixed on the beach. No difficulty was experienced in getting ashore, and the men got all their belongings out of the vessel before proceeding to Vladivostok. A Russian man-of-war was sent to see if the steamer could be got off, but this was found impossible. The officers and crew have arrived in Nagasaki, the captain remaining at Vladivostok until the vessel is sold.

THOSE LAWYERS.

THE *Maru Maru Chimbun* makes fun, in its peculiar way, of the Tokyo City Assembly. It depicts one of the condemned water-pipes in the act of letting a flood from a leak, but instead of water the leakage is labelled "70,000 yen," in reference to the enormous sums claimed by barristers working in behalf of the municipality. There was reason for prompt investigation, and investigation of these notorious pipes, comments our humorous contemporary; for now in the very first break they have inflicted damages on the city's pocket not far short of one hundred thousand yen—and the pipes are leaking still!

"HEROIC JAPAN."

WE learn from the authors, Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada, that their so-long delayed "History of the War between China and Japan," under the style of "Heroic Japan," will be forthcoming during the course of the present week. Instead of being 400 pages as announced in April, the book has 560 pages or thereabout, with close upon 130 illustrations, including most pleasing colotype reproductions of recent pictures of T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress. Five maps serve to elucidate the text, while as many appendices help to bring the narrative up to February or March of the present year.

THE THEFT OF POSTAGE-STAMPS.

J. P. COLLACO, the Portuguese charged with the theft of some old and valuable postage-stamps from a stamp-dealer's in Motomachi, Yokohama, has been found guilty by the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

SEAMEN'S MISSION.

By kind permission of Captain Leonard Dart, divine service will be held on the ship

Alcides on Sunday morning commencing at 10.30 o'clock. The mission launch will call round in time to convey any officers and seamen wishing to attend, returning them to their respective ships at the close of the service. The launch will also call round on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, for those who wish to attend the regular meetings held at the Mission.

POISONOUS MUSHROOMS.

GUMMA Prefecture papers report that, on the 7th instant, no less than sixteen persons in one village were poisoned by eating toadstools; of course, by mistake. Of the whole number four have since died and three others are not expected to recover. The rest, though barely escaping with their lives, are now well on the road to convalescence. Such instances are quite rare in Japan, where every country child is taught the difference between the poisonous and edible species of the mushroom.

AN ASTUTE DIPLOMATIST.

WHEN in Germany Li Hung-chang praised her armies; in France the military academy at St. Cyr, "as the nursery of future Generals," won his approbation; and now in England the astute old diplomat is reported to have observed: "I am much struck with the vastness of England's resources. It seems to me you have everything the biggest and grandest in the whole world."

EARL LI'S YACHT.

THE *Kwang-li*, the handsome steamer that is to convey Li Hung-chang from Yokohama to Tientsin, arrived in harbour on Thursday. She has a very distinguished company of mandarins on board,—who have come over to receive Earl Li,—as well as Mr. Li Ching Mai, the youngest son of H.E. Li Hung-chang, Mr. Pethick, and Dr. Liu.

SAD FATALITY IN YOKOHAMA.

COLLAPSE ON THE YOSHI-HAMA BRIDGE.

A deplorable accident attended by sad loss of life occurred in Yokohama about 5.45 o'clock on Friday evening. A new iron bridge is being built across the Creek connecting Horikawamachi with Yoshihama-cho; and for the accommodation of foot passengers and jinrikisha while the bridge is building a temporary structure has been thrown over the water a little to the north of it. On Friday evening a new junk was being yulod up the Creek with all the ceremonies usual to the occasion, and a number of people naturally gathered to see the fun, principally tea-firing women, with babies on their backs, who were just then knocking off work for the day. To obtain a better view of the diversions of the junk-men, the crowd collected on the temporary Yoshihama bridge, and more particularly in the centre of the structure. The bridge, never intended to carry such a weight, stood the strain for a few minutes, and then, almost without warning, collapsed. Over fifty persons were precipitated into the water, among them Mr. Vladimir Blad, who happened to be crossing in his jinrikisha. Mr. Blad escaped with a ducking, and the police, who appeared promptly upon the scene, managed to rescue 48 women and children alive. But some score persons were carried down by the stream and sank. Dragging operations were at once started, and by this morning nine bodies had been recovered. The scene on the banks of the Creek in the near vicinity of the accident presented a strange spectacle last night. Huge fires were lighted on the roadway, several electric lights were rigged up to assist the searchers, while hundreds of people bearing *chochin* (Japanese lanterns) wandered up and down, some in idle curiosity others searching for missing relatives or friends. In a very short space of time sweetmeat and *tofu* sellers took their stalls to the spot, and toward midnight quite a little fair was in progress. The bodies thus far recovered are those of women.

THE NEW CABINET.

At last, after weeks of intense suspense, Count Matsukata has been nominated Premier with the additional office of Minister of Finance. This sudden cutting of the Gordian knot—for the consummation of a Matsukata Cabinet had been given up in despair by some of the papers favourably inclined to him—was brought about by the withdrawal of the senior statesmen from the scene. After Count Matsukata proceeded to the Palace on the morning of the 17th inst., to ask the Emperor, for the third time, to relieve him of the task of forming a Cabinet, the seniors held a conference at the residence of Count Kuroda, and determined to no longer participate in the negotiations for the organization of a Ministry, thus leaving the Count to do just as he pleased in the matter. Upon the Count joining the meeting, the first thing he heard was the announcement of their determination. The Count then proceeded to the residence of Viscount Takashima, with whom he held a *little-a-little* council for a few hours, after which he drove to Waseda. The conference between Count Matsukata and Count Okuma lasted from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. next morning. At this conference the constitution of the new Cabinet must have been determined, for on the morning of that day Count Matsukata proceeded to the Palace, to be received in audience by the Emperor, to whom he announced the accomplishment of the task of reorganizing the Cabinet in obedience to the wishes of His Majesty. The ceremony of his formal nomination as Minister President was performed on the afternoon of the 18th inst.

On Saturday, a long discussion was held at the official residence of the Premier, the discussion lasting from 8 a.m. till half-past 6 in the evening. The meeting was attended by Count Matsukata, Count Okuma, Marquis Saigo, Count Kabayama, and Viscount Takashima. Marquis Yamagata and Counts Kuroda and Inouye were also to have attended the meeting, though not to take an active part, but did not make their appearance. The *Yomiuri* and the *Mainichi*, especially the former, print an alleged account of what took place at that Council. According to them, Count Okuma was the first to speak, dwelling at length on the necessity of cordial union among the members of the Cabinet, especially with reference to the programme that the new Cabinet should adopt. The Count observed that the failures of previous Cabinets were traceable more to dissensions within than to causes operating from without. Therefore it was imperatively necessary for the members of the new Ministry to present a united front and to resolve on surmounting any and all obstacles that might be thrown in the way of measures they had once decided on carrying out. The *Yomiuri* goes into more detail. Count Okuma observed, it says, that the Government must be prepared to hold themselves responsible toward the people. In other words, the new Ministry must be formed on the principle of *Sekinin Naikaku* (cabinet responsible to the people). The extension of individual rights is a fundamental principle of constitutional politics, and hence the new Ministry must resolve on purging the Government of its accumulated abuses. Not only must the freedom of press, platform, and meeting be extended, but the special municipal system, that now puts a curb on the free exercise of individual rights, must be resolutely reformed. The expansion of the national armament is a subject that admits of no gainsaying, while as for finance, viewed from the standpoint of national resources, there were ample hopes of its being adjusted satisfactorily.

A half-past 11 a.m. on Sunday, Admiral Count Kabayama, and Viscount Takashima, Minister of Colonization, were nominated by the Emperor as Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of War respectively, the Viscount to direct the affairs of the Department of Colonization in addition to those of War. At the same time, Marquis Oyama and Count Itagaki were relieved of office. The Emperor has ordered that treatment similar to that extended to him while in the Cabinet is to

be accorded to the Marquis. Baron Ito was also relieved at his own desire of the Chief Secretaryship of the Cabinet. Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, ex-Director of the *Official Gazette* Bureau, and editor of the *Osaka Asahi*, succeeds the Baron.

Count Matsukata remained a short while at the Palace after the nomination of the new Ministers of Home Affairs and War and consulted with the Emperor. The new Premier returned to his official residence a few minutes after 12 o'clock, and then another Council was held on the lines of the meeting of the day before.

Marquis Saionji and Viscount Yoshikawa have firmly resolved on resigning and Mr. Shirane is also believed to be of the same resolution. Mr. Shirane is suffering from dysentery and does not receive any visitors. Viscount Enomoto tendered his resignation on Saturday last, though he may remain in office if asked by the new Premier to do so. The successors of the other three statesmen are not yet definitely settled, though the *Yomiuri* avers that Prince Konoye, member of the House of Peers and President of the Nobles' School for Boys, will be nominated to succeed Marquis Saionji. The *Mainichi* protests strongly against admitting Count Goto into the Cabinet. It does not hesitate to say that his admission would impair its credit in the eyes of everybody.

It seems, from an account given in the *Asahi*, that the new Cabinet will not announce its long discussed platform. Both the Premier and Viscount Takashima have told those who suggested this plan that they did not see any necessity for so doing. Viscount Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa, has gone to Oiso, ill-health necessitating the step. The Tokyo papers say that he will resign his post. Count Inouye also went to the seaside when the new Premier was gazetted, without even telling his family of his determination. Count Okuma is suffering from a severe attack of toothache.

REASONS FOR THE CABINET CRISIS.

One of Count Matsukata's strongest points as a financier is the skill he has always shown in obtaining the confidence of the leading business-men of the nation. Before undertaking any measure or inaugurating any policy, he invariably consulted the principal merchants and manufacturers, understanding thoroughly that without the co-operation of these men he could not hope to succeed. The *Taiyo* now alleges that Viscount Watanabe's resignation was due primarily to his failure to work in unison with the great traders and capitalists: in other words, to his departure from, or inability to follow, the routes so carefully adhered to by Count Matsukata. In proof of this assertion, the *Taiyo* points to the fate of the loan of ten millions which the Treasury attempted to float a few months ago. It is absurd to suppose, says our contemporary, that Japanese capitalists were unable to put up such a paltry amount. The truth is that they had not been properly approached beforehand, and the Minister of Finance recognised his error when the time for remedying it was past. Stated briefly, the *Taiyo's* idea is that the leading merchants and capitalists have no faith in the skillful carrying out of the *post-bellum* measures unless they are directed by Count Matsukata; and Marquis Ito, whose sensitiveness to the public pulse is proverbial, perceived that successful finance would be out of the question unless the portfolio of the *Okurasho* were in Count Matsukata's hands. It should be noted, perhaps, that the *Taiyo*, having always been a strong supporter of Count Okuma and the *Kaishin-to*, can not be acquitted of a tendency to bias. Neither are we surprised to find that this plausible reason for Viscount Watanabe's retirement is extended, by the same authority, to the case of the Foreign Minister, whose Korean policy, it asserts, has so lowered this Empire's prestige that Japanese merchants and capitalists shrink from investing their money in a country where so little consideration or protection is to be looked for. Such a criticism was to be anticipated, nor can we pretend to think that it is entirely without foundation.

THE PRESS AND THE NEW CABINET.

The Ministry not yet being completely organized, the greater portion of the vernacular press has reserved its energies for the present in the matter of criticism, but some papers have a few words to say. Before Count Matsukata was gazetted Premier, the *Yiji* observed that those persons who felt annoyed at what they considered an unconscionable tardiness betrayed their ignorance of the present state of Japanese politics. The administration of this country is in a transition stage, and therefore persons must take into consideration all outside influences while paying equal attention to any compromises that are effected within.

The *Kokumin* can not pretend to say that the constitution of the Cabinet is sound, but it can aver that it possesses the principles upon which to build a firm government. The present Cabinet is based on the confidence of both the Court and the people. It holds that the confidence reposed in the new Premier by the Emperor is greater than that enjoyed by the ex-Premier, or Marquis Yamagata, or Count Inouye. At the same time, the business circles of the Keihan districts, and all the farming, industrial, and trading communities throughout the country, base firm expectation on the Matsukata Cabinet, while Count Okuma's installation in the chair of the Foreign Office would meet the desires of nearly the whole of the country. Count Kabayama and Viscount Takashima are generally credited with having now passed beyond the narrow pale of clannism.

The *Nippon* states that, owing to its birth amidst hostile surroundings, the new Cabinet's policy will be of the feeblest. Even before it was ushered into being it encountered the opposition of civil and military circles. It is confronted by the rank and file of the Liberals; it has estranged the Unionists, and is not liked by a section of the Progressive Party. Its free movement will be checked by the remnant of the preceding *Genkun* Cabinet. No wonder, therefore, the Cabinet rests on a feeble basis. However, it will evoke the sympathy of those who are of humane disposition, for in respect of justice and impartiality, the present Cabinet will excel the last. The *Nippon* compares the Matsukata Ministry to the Southern Court the during Civil dissension, between Takauji and Yoshisada. The latter was beaten, yet the sympathies of the people were with his cause. Human sentiment is always disposed to side with the weak.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* prints some strong invectives against the new Premier. It accuses him of having overthrown the last Ministry by mean shifts and despicable devices. The Premier is represented by this journal as having obstructed the financial measures of the last Cabinet, with the help of such millionaires as the Iwasaki and the Matsumoto (of Osaka), with whom he is connected by ties of matrimony. It alleges that he instigated Viscount Takashima to make excessive demands for the Colonial Department, thus forcing Viscount Watanabe to resign the portfolio of Finance. In short, the Liberal organ charges Counts Matsukata and Okuma with being political robbers and deliberate violators of the principles of constitutional government.

CURRENT POLITICS.

On the 20th and 21st inst., Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, Count Kabayama, Minister of the Interior, and Viscount Takashima, Minister of War and of Colonization, met at the official residence of the Premier, and discussed with His Excellency matters relating to the organization of the new Cabinet. Count Okuma also was to have been present, but the severe pain that he is suffering from his teeth confined him to his residence on both days. The meeting of the 21st was chiefly occupied with proposals that Count Okuma had submitted on the 19th. On the conclusion of the conference, the Premier proceeded to the Palace, and reported the result of the dis-

cussion to the Emperor. At about half-past three on the same day, His Excellency visited Count Okuma at Waseda, and talked with for about an hour and a half. A satisfactory understanding was arrived at by the two statesmen, and Count Okuma's entry into the Cabinet having been definitely settled he was gazetted Minister of Foreign Affairs on the 22nd inst. It is alleged that the views enunciated by the Count at the meeting on the 19th, were of such a character that the three Cabinet Ministers present on that occasion found much difficulty in endorsing them, and the conference between them and Count Okuma threatened to develop serious complications. But on that evening and during the next day several consultations took place, and mutual concessions having been made, a consensus was finally reached, so that a formal meeting between the Premier and Count Okuma was alone needed to consummate the arrangements for the latter's admission to the Cabinet. The *Fiji* notes that the Cabinet has not yet arrived at any decision about the portfolios of the Departments of Education, Justice, Communications, and Agriculture and Commerce. The choice of Ministers for those positions will be made immediately after Count Okuma's installation at the Foreign Office.

The views of the vernacular press are divided as to the selection of statesmen for the above four Departments. Even Prince Konoye's entry into the Cabinet as Minister of Education, though regarded by some journals as virtually settled, now appears to be problematical. The *Fiji* and others tell us that the Prince is not inclined to accept a portfolio, since he considers that such a step would be premature, and his opinion in that sense is so definite that no pressure is likely to influence him. The candidates thus far mentioned by the press are Mr. Kiyoura, Vice-Minister of Education, and Mr. Kojima Iken, formerly Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, for the portfolio of Justice; Mr. Yasuba, member of the House of Peers, for that of Agriculture and Commerce; the names of Counts Oki and Goto are also mentioned in the latter context, but it seems improbable that they will prove acceptable to the new Ministry. The Premier, on his way back from Count Okuma's residence on the 19th instant, called on Viscount Enomoto, doubtless to ascertain the latter's attitude towards the policy of the new Cabinet. It must soon become definitely known whether the Viscount will resign or remain in office.

With regard to the prospects of the new Cabinet in the Diet, it is scarcely possible yet to speak confidently. The *Fiji Shimpō*, however, notes that the strength of the various political parties in the Lower House is as follows:—

The <i>Shimpō-to</i> (i.e. <i>Kaishin-to</i> and amalgamated sections of the Opposition) ...	94
Members not registered in, but usually supporters of, the <i>Shimpō-to</i>	5
The <i>Fiyū-to</i> (Liberals).....	107
Members not registered in, but usually supporters of, the <i>Fiyū-to</i>	4
The National Unionists.....	33
Independents	57

Total 300

It will be seen that the question of a majority depends on the attitude of the National Unionists and the Independents. Our contemporary alleges that eleven of the Unionists will find themselves precluded from opposing a Cabinet in which Counts Matsukata and Kabayama, and Viscount Takashima hold portfolios, and that of the Independents, the Extremists (*Ko-ha*), numbering 22, and 19 of the Moderates will vote for the Cabinet's measures. Thus the Ministry can count on a following of 151 members, and if to these be added the five Liberals holding official positions at present, namely, Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Sakurai Tsutomu, Ishizaka Shoko, Misaki Kamenosuke, and Sukeno Michichika, the Government's supporters aggregate 156. It is difficult to appreciate the soundness of these figures. But in truth they can not be of much value. No forecast hitherto made at such an early date concerning parliamentary contingencies has proved correct, even under circumstances far less perplexing than those that now exist.

THE SEPTEMBER FESTIVAL AT NIKKO.

It was fondly hoped that the presence of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince at Nikko this year would have prompted some special display of magnificence in connection with the autumn festival. But in truth Nikko's resources for festival purposes are absolutely inelastic. Nothing is available except a quantity of very old and very soiled vestments and armour, and so soon as these have been expended in pranking out some scores of toil-worn coolies, horny-handed artisans, and other varieties of weather-beaten bread-winners, the potentialities for parade are at an end. When the expectant tourist finds himself seated under a canopy at the end of the noble avenue that leads to the Shrine of Gongen, and catches glimpses, through the great gateway, of yellow, purple, and white robes, fluttering hither and thither, lances bristling in phalax, and sunbeams glinting on armour, he experiences a thrill of happy forecast, and prepares to take accurate mental notes of a grand pageant. But, after weary waiting, he discovers with bewilderment that what he has come out to see is a long procession consisting, in chief part, of the very men that have become familiar to him in his excursions as bearers of *kago*, runners between the shafts of *jinrikisha*, and porters of tiffin-baskets; no longer, indeed, clothed chiefly in the skins that God gave them, but decked out in faded, moth-eaten, and soiled garments, two or three centuries old and not looking a day younger than their age. It is not a spirit-stirring spectacle, and the insignificant parties of loungers that turn out to view it, do not trouble themselves to be either critical or enthusiastic. Indeed, there appear to be only two men that take it really seriously. One is the leader of the procession, the eloquence of whose strut has never been surpassed on any stage; the other, an ancient priest of tall stature who beats the great drum, delivering every stroke as though he were hammering a sentient and possibly ferocious monster, and as though the spectators ought to appreciate and applaud his temerity and peril. Certainly the one and only object of beauty and gorgeousness at the festival this year was the gold brocade covering the table at which the Prince Imperial sat, and it goes without saying that the attention bestowed by the spectators on the procession itself was as nothing compared with the interest centering upon the future ruler of Japan. The Prince looked bright and healthy. Nikko air seems to have agreed with him, for after two years during which His Imperial Highness caused considerable anxiety by remaining absolutely stationary as to weight, the scales are now beginning to tell a different and more satisfactory story. On the Prince's left sat the mother of the Emperor and on her left His Imperial Highness' mother. The ladies were in Japanese costume, and the Prince wore, as usual, a shooting coat of black cashmere, light trousers, and a straw hat. His Imperial Highness may often be seen walking about in Nikko with a small retinue. Two or three times he has visited the apology for a tennis court that some foreign sojourners have had prepared on ground kindly lent by Baron Iwasaki. The Prince evidently takes much interest in the game. He has signified his desire to play, but has been recommended by his medical advisers to defer commencing until next spring.

IMPERIAL BENEVOLENCE.

Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress have made the following munificent donations for the relief of sufferers by the recent inundations:—To Gifu Prefecture, 10,000 yen; to Shiga Prefecture, 7,000 yen; to Miye Prefecture, 6,000 yen; to Aichi Prefecture, 4,000 yen; to Kyoto City, 4,000 yen; to Hyogo Prefecture, 2,500 yen; and to Fukui Prefecture, 2,000 yen; the total grant being 35,500 yen.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

On the 15th instant the *Kokumin Shimbun* published its 2,000th issue. The day's paper was filled with congratulatory poems and letters—among the latter we noticed two from well-known foreigners—and consisted of eighteen pages. It gave as a supplement an excellent large-sized collytype reproduction of a landscape by the prominent artist Kubota Beisen, one of the *Kokumin's* "discoveries, and erstwhile war correspondent in Korea and China. The paper on the whole distinctly reflected credit on the management, and was, outside of the many elegantly worded poems, filled with interesting matter. Though opposed to the *Kokumin*, we heartily congratulate our contemporary upon the completion of six successful years of existence. In the leading article, Mr. Hitomi, the editor now replacing Mr. Tokutomi—who arrived in London in the early part of this month—gives a breezy sketch of the *Kokumin's* history. It started in February, 1890, with a subscription list of two thousand only. From this the paper went on until, during the war-months, the subscribers numbered over twenty thousand. At present, it is said, the average issue is fifteen thousand copies. "The history of our paper," says the editor, "has been one of constant struggle. It has generally sided with the Opposition, but ever held independent views. We cannot complain of any over-great petting on the part of the people; yet we have held our own from first to last. The *Kokumin* has been attacked at various times by enemies from every point of the compass. At one time we espoused, for a while, the cause of the Liberal Party; but now we are thoroughly hated by the members of that party. Stubborn educationalists, superficial loyalists, and prejudiced scholars have all waged war with us at times. When we were suspended for the fourteenth time—the ban on this occasion was not removed for 138 days—it was the guerdon of our warfare with clan Government. . . . That which we have thought advisable to say we have never hesitated to say freely. Our journal received undoubtedly great and favourable impulse for its energetic work during the war-months; but our present position is still more due to the fact that we have even held aloof from partisan politics, and kept up an independent opposition of our own." The editor further remarks that the *Kokumin* has long endeavoured to expose the "rottenness" of the *Fiyū-to*: "Where is that party now? Then too, have we always argued in favour of a Coalition Cabinet, with Counts Matsukata and Okuma at the head; and now we are about to see this wish realised. But even towards such a Cabinet the *Kokumin* will still pursue its independent policy. We form no company with men, but with justice; we are opposed to no man, but to sin and crime. We do not espouse the cause of any political party, but we may laud its doctrines and methods. We do not recklessly attack the Government, but we may its plans and working. In our eyes there is neither *Genkun*, nor Government, nor political party. There is but the single Nation." The policy endorsed by the *Kokumin* is put under no less than fourteen headings. We give a brief summary of the whole:—(1) Domestic Policy; to do away with the last vestiges of feudalism and bring about a Responsible Cabinet; (2) Foreign Policy; this should be strong and so powerful as to maintain the honour and guarantee the prosperity of the country, while Japan should have a deciding vote in all matters affecting the Northern Pacific and the Far East in general; (3) Finance; methods must be chosen to maintain the economical equilibrium of the nation after the War. We (*Kokumin*) urge the practice of frugality and temperance; (4) Army and Navy; these shall be kept sufficiently powerful to preserve peace and tranquillity in the Far East and the Pacific. Our navy must be supreme in the Pacific Ocean, seas of Japan and China, from the Philippines in the south to Korea in the north; (5) Korea; the independence of Korea shall be maintained at all costs; (6) Philippine Islands; sympathy must be expressed with those now trying to

throw off the tyrannical yoke of Spain. When the war of independence fairly begins we must protect Japanese life and property in the Islands, and assist in restoring order. Let us help make the islanders independent, or else buy up the whole group! (7) the Liaotung Peninsula; we must positively combat the temporary or perpetual occupation of Liaotung by any foreign country whatever. (8) Formosa; our policy in the Island must lie midway between mildness and severity. The use of opium and the wearing of queues must be strictly prohibited. A poll-tax should be paid by every Chinese coming to reside in or visiting the Island. The civil and military officials must be selected from among the best of their kind in Japan. (9) Encouragement of Talent for Government service; let gifted men be gathered from all parts of the Empire, and the balance be kept between their talents and the offices they fill. Men should rise on their abilities only. Civil Service examinations ought to be improved in this sense. (10) Enlargement of the Franchise. The present restrictions relating to age and property should be withdrawn. There must be more representatives among the electors of the mercantile and labouring classes. (11) These Liberties, we insist upon, free speech, free meetings, and a free press. (12) Farmers, labourers and merchants; for the development of agriculture, industry, and trade the necessary machinery must be procured. So soon as we have outrivalled foreign products, see that our manufactures are properly protected. We need more Consulates to ensure the interests of Japanese merchants abroad. (13) Education; maintain a soldierly morality in the schools, and search the world over for new knowledge. Our schools must be so constituted as to turn out representative citizens. (14) Literature and the fine arts; every encouragement should be given to the growth and spread of literature and art. Bounties or scholarships should be established for excellent work. (15) Society; we urge the building of more Charity Hospitals, Homes for Poor Boys and Girls, and Disabled or Aged Persons, thus lessening the sum total of distress. This is certainly a broad and, in many respects, a most excellent platform. The editor then winds up with the statement that the *Kokumin* will ever side with those who do right and work for the good of the nation; not, however, with the men as such, but with their principles. "But should even a friend make a serious blunder, we shall never hesitate to strike the needed blow: not that we love Caesar less, but Rome more!"

COUNT OKUMA.

"At the meeting of the five statesmen—Count Matsukata, Count Kabayama, Marquis Saigo, Viscount Takashima, and Count Okuma—on the 19th instant," writes the *Fiji Shimpō*, "Count Okuma urged the adoption of the system of responsible Cabinets, arguing that the obscurity now enveloping the appointment and retirement of Ministers was not in accord with the principle of constitutional Government. His proposition did not evoke any special objection, but neither was it received with marked approval. Considerable discussion ensued, and no final decision was reached. The Count also insisted that perfect freedom of the press and of public meeting should be inaugurated, and that the suspension of newspapers should be abolished. These views, also, elicited no marked opposition. Count Kabayama, however, Minister of State for Home Affairs, asked what course should be pursued in the event of a newspaper's publishing diplomatic or military secrets, and Count Okuma replied that special provision should be made to meet such contingencies. This problem, too, did not find a unanimous solution, and is to be made the subject of further discussion."

Count Okuma being the central figure of the new Cabinet, the vernacular press has naturally a great deal to say about him. The *Tokyo Asahi*, for example, professes to be in a position to describe exactly the propositions advanced by him at the meeting of the 19th instant, when Count Matsukata, Count Kabayama, Viscount

Takashima, and Marquis Saigo assembled to discuss the policy of the Cabinet. The *Tokyo Shimbun*, also, under the caption of "a great secret," informs the public that the "tooth-ache" supposed to have prevented Count Okuma from attending the subsequent conferences of his colleagues, and even from proceeding to the Palace to receive his nomination, was not a tooth-ache at all, but an attack of acute pain in the stump of his amputated leg. We do not believe that the details of the discussion between the five Ministers on the 19th instant can possibly be known to the *Asahi*, nor do we think that the Liberal organ (*Tokyo Shimbun*) is likely to have obtained special information about the state of the Count's health. The public will not have to wait long before something definite is known about the new Cabinet's political programme, and in the meanwhile it would be merely misleading to reproduce untrustworthy rumours.

CURRENT POLITICS.

Mr. Shirane, Minister of Communications, tendered his resignation on the 21st inst., but it was sent back, the Premier intimating, at the same time, by letter, that he should like to see Mr. Shirane. Next day, Marquis Saigo called on Mr. Shirane on behalf of the Premier and tried to dissuade him from resigning, but Mr. Shirane adhered firmly to his resolution, and again submitted his resignation. Viscount Nomura, ex-Home Minister, is now expected to succeed Mr. Shirane, and it is said that the Premier and Marquis Saigo are pressing him to accept the portfolio of the Department with which he was connected a number of years ago.

Prince Konoye is not inclined, it is alleged, to become Minister of Education, and a section of the Extremists in the Upper and Lower Houses of the Diet have sent for Viscount Tani, now leading a retired life in his native place, Tosa.

The desire gathers force that Mr. Kiyoura, Vice-Minister of Justice, should receive the portfolio of that Department.

Viscount Enomoto has decided to remain at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, in deference to the urgent representations of Counts Matsukata and Kuroda. It was Viscount Enomoto that acted as proxy for Count Okuma when the latter was nominated Minister of Foreign Affairs on the 22nd instant, at the Palace.

Changes more or less numerous are expected in subordinate posts. Mr. Hoshi, Minister to America, will probably resign, and Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, is thought likely to succeed him. The post vacated by Mr. Komura may be given to Mr. Oishi, ex-Minister to Korea. As successor of Baron Suematsu, Chief of the Legislative Bureau, who has already tendered his resignation, Mr. Tazuki, now Chief of the Imperial Archives, is mentioned. Baron Sonoda, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, is another important official resolved, it is said, to sever his connection with the Government. As successor of Viscount Katsura, whose decision to resign is understood to be irrevocable, Lieut.-General Baron Nozu, Commander of the Sendai Division, is mentioned by some of the vernacular papers.

The *Fiji* has a long note intended to lay bare the true relations of the *Gen-kun* and Count Matsukata in connection with the organization of the Cabinet, to defend the former from the charge of excessive interference, and the latter from that of indecision. When the four senior statesmen, Marquis Yamagata and Counts Kuroda, Inouye, and Matsukata, were first enjoined by the Emperor to expedite the formation of a new Cabinet, they promised each other that whoever might undertake the task of forming the Cabinet, the others should forbear to interfere in the matter of selecting candidates for the portfolios, but that should they be asked by the one nominated Premier to undertake the task of dissuading this statesman or that from resigning, or persuading such another to enter the Cabinet, they would do everything in their power to meet the wishes of the Premier. When Count Matsukata declared his resolve to accept

the Premiership, on the evening of the 10th inst., the first difficulty that he experienced was to find a successor to Marquis Oyama. He asked the opinion of Marquises Yamagata and Saigo on this point, and was told that only two competent candidates could be recommended, namely, Viscount Kawakami, Vice-Chief of the Central Staff Board, and Viscount Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa. It was afterwards found that Marquis Oyama's opinion also coincided with that of the above two statesmen. Investigation showed, however, that Viscount Kawakami could not leave his present post, so that there was in reality no room for choice. Accordingly, Marshal Yamagata, having been entrusted with the task of persuading the Governor-General of Formosa to accept the portfolio of War, sent for Viscount Katsura on the evening of the 10th inst., Count Matsukata having then consented to place himself at the head of the Cabinet. The Governor-General did not readily fall in with the suggestion, and it was not till the next day that Marshal Yamagata obtained a favourable answer from him. The Marshal at once conveyed the news to Count Matsukata, and the latter expressed his satisfaction in warm terms. On the 12th inst., Count Kabayama happened to call on Viscount Takashima and told him that the candidate for the War Office had been definitely settled. The Viscount was surprised to hear the news. He observed that, if that was so, he could not see how Formosa was to be governed, to say nothing of a promise that he himself had received from Count Matsukata about a week previously in the matter of the portfolio of War. The embarrassment caused by this complication necessitated another gathering of the *Gen-kun*, all of whom were surprised to learn that such a promise had been made to Viscount Takashima so early as the time when Marshal Yamagata having declined to accept the Premiership, the senior statesmen were endeavouring to persuade Marquis Saigo to form a Cabinet. No very serious import, however, was attached to the incident. Count Matsukata, however, having been asked about the affair, denied that he had made any definite promise, and said that he had merely alluded to the contingency, but, at the same time, he expressed a desire to abandon the task of forming a Cabinet. He was again persuaded, however, to continue his efforts, the senior statesmen promising to arrange the complication about Viscount Katsura. Still Marshal Yamagata, finding himself in a very awkward position, asked Count Inouye to see the Viscount, and restore things to their *status quo ante*. Accordingly, the Count called on Viscount Katsura that evening, and conferred with him until three o'clock next morning, but all to no purpose, for the Viscount, indignant at what he considered an act of bad faith on the part of Count Matsukata, declared that he could not give any definite answer until he had seen the latter. When the Count reported to Marquis Saigo the result of his unsuccessful mission, the Marquis was much perturbed, but it was considered best that Count Matsukata should apprise the Governor-General of his willingness to meet him at an early date. Meanwhile, the illness from which the Governor-General was suffering became so much worse owing to his mental agitation, that he had no choice but to go to Oiso for the benefit of his health. The *Fiji* declares the foregoing particulars of the last Cabinet crisis were obtained from an influential politician.

THE MUCH ABUSED POLICE.

"The slanderers who assert that Japanese police always treat civilians with insolence," writes a correspondent from Nikko, "might possibly be ashamed of themselves—though indeed it is doubtful whether they retain any capacity for such a sentiment—had a recent experience of mine befallen them. My family went to Nikko at the close of July to spend some weeks there. Shortly afterwards, the Crown Prince arrived, and every one turned out to observe the event, among the number a young lady staying with my family. To her surprise a policeman ordered her to take her hat off when the Prince

was about to pass. She declined to obey, and, being conversant with Japanese, told the constable that it would be an act of rudeness, not politeness, for a lady to remove her hat under the circumstances. The constable did not press the point, and there the matter ended, the young lady being rather amused than annoyed. But some weeks later, being myself in Nikko, I received a visit from the local Chief of Police, who not only apologised for the man's mistake, but also begged to be informed whether any complaints had reached my ears from other foreigners, and stated that he would be grateful for any suggestions calculated to promote the comfort and convenience of foreigners in Nikko. I may add that, singular as I should deem this experience in other countries, it did not at all surprise me in Japan, where I have never failed to meet with the utmost courtesy and helpfulness at the hands of the police. By way of corollary, as illustrating the other side of the question, namely, the difficulties that the police have often to contend with in dealing with foreigners, allow me to describe an incident that I myself observed during the festival on the 17th instant. The procession, emerging from the gate of the principal temple, wended its way slowly and solemnly down the broad avenue upon which the entrance to the Prince Imperial's residence gives. On the bank overlooking this avenue, a kind of canopy had been erected, and beneath it were chairs and tables for the convenience of the Imperial party. The space on the avenue immediately in front of the canopy was naturally kept clear by the police, so that the Prince might have an uninterrupted view of the procession. All the rest of the westerly side of the avenue, as far as to the edge of a rivulet running down the centre, was given up to the use of spectators, but the space between the rivulet and the high stone fence on the other side was reserved for the procession: no Japanese attempted to encroach upon this space, or seemed to think of encroaching upon it, and no careful observer could fail to perceive that it was purposely reserved. Nevertheless, just as the centre of the procession was passing past the Imperial pavilion, a foreign gentleman accompanied by two ladies, walked down between the procession and the far side of the avenue, the three thus becoming immediately the most conspicuous objects in the pageant. It is true that the gentleman doffed his hat as he passed the Prince Imperial, but the whole performance was an intrusive solecism that might with justice have been resented by the crowd, or peremptorily rebuked by the constables on duty, when we should probably have heard another marmur about anti-foreign sentiment or police incivility. It did not appear to me that the actors in this case were influenced by the slightest intention of rudeness: the affair was probably an instance of misunderstanding, pure and simple, that would not have occurred had the offenders been in a better position to comprehend the arrangements—that is to say, had they been able to communicate with the people around them. But I have often seen such things happen in Japan, and I doubt whether we can reasonably expect all Japanese to attribute them solely to want of knowledge."

THE POPULAR VERDICT.

A correspondent writes from Tokyo:—"With the sole exception of the Liberals and their organs, there never has been a more popular Cabinet than the one now called into existence. Even the irreconcilable press, like the *Nippon*, *Kokumin*, *Yorodsu*, and others, have something good to say in behalf of the new Ministers of State, or prophesy that their work will prove of greater national advantage than that of any foregoing Cabinet. Interesting is it to note, too, that the students of the metropolis and larger scholastic centres are loud in their expressions of satisfaction. Count Matsukata is very evidently the most popular of Minister Presidents; for even those that speak slightly of his diplomatic talents give him full credit for down-right honesty of purpose and an unparalleled adroitness in the management of the national

finances. Noticeable, in particular, is the gratification expressed in commercial circles. There has been, for some months past, an ill-defined feeling of anxiety in the money-market, which was in no wise attributable to the many disasters by land and sea under which the country has had, this year, to groan. Rice is going up in value by leaps and bounds, 9 *sho* and 7 *go* being retailed per *yen* in June, while the maximum obtainable for the same sum now is less than 7 *sho*: in other words, the difference is very nearly 20 per cent. Shares have been selling at what holders consider absurdly low rates, the "bears" helping to keep quotations as far down as possible; and withal there has been an over-great number of adventurous schemes brought prominently before the public, particularly in the matter of railways and joint-stock corporations. Hence the tightness of the money-market, and hence, too, the feeling that things were going from bad to worse: especially in consideration of the large deficit in the Formosan Budget and the popular dislike to and disbelief in the Tobacco Monopoly. But with Count Matsukata at the head of the nation's finance, every one looks forward with certainty to a beneficial change: if not to seven fat years, at least to steady amelioration in the money-market and a juster management of the nation's economics. That this feeling is deep-seated is further proved by the immediate rise in the price of "gilt-edged" shares, and the appreciation even of others that have been for some time in disfavor. So both Counts Matsukata and Okuma are looked upon as "stalwarts," who will do all they can to relieve the momentary strain and place things on a sounder and more wholesome basis. Vice-Admiral Kabayama, of course, is a popular hero, the story of how he brought the *Saikyo Maru* through that memorable sea-fight on the Yalu being still fresh in the memory of the people. "If," says a Tokyo journal, "he exhibits the same degree of cool courage and ardent patriotism in the management of the Home Department as he did when steering the *Saikyo* full for the oncoming torpedo of the *Ping-yuen*, we shall have both skilful and straight-forward management of our country's domestic affairs." "It is, on the whole, novel and pleasing to find that a Cabinet acceptable to the popular majority should, after so much discussion and dissension, have been brought together; and one can only hope that the confidence of the nation, in this instance, is not altogether misplaced." We ourselves regard the above as far too rosy a showing, but since it represents one phase of opinion, we lay it before our readers.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

The Department of Education is contemplating an increase in the number of students sent abroad for the further prosecution of their studies. Hitherto the funds set aside for this purpose by the Department of Education enabled the latter to support only twenty students. It therefore follows that the number despatched in one year never exceeded ten. Now supposing that four years is the average time allowed, five students return per year, sometimes there are more, and, of course, sometimes less. The recent sudden increase in the demand for experts and scientists has demonstrated that the number of foreign-trained professors and others, are quite insufficient, and during last session the Department of Education succeeded in obtaining the permission of the Diet to send twenty additional students abroad during the current fiscal year. The Department does not consider this increase sufficient, and contemplates obtaining more funds next session to support sixty students abroad, gradually adding to the number, until by 1905 one hundred and sixty men will be training in foreign countries.

A special committee appointed by the Department of War to investigate matters relating to improvements in military equipment and commissariat, has concluded its researches in regard to the maximum limit of weight that can be carried by the infantry. The Committee has

decided that 21 kilogrammes 367 grammes is the maximum burden for a foot soldier, this decision being based on the average strength of soldiers in the first and second years of service.

Dr. Kochibe, an expert in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, delivered an interesting lecture on the productive capacity of Japanese collieries at the regular monthly meeting of the Japan Economic Society, a few days ago. The Doctor's opinion on this important question almost coincides with the views that Dr. Wada, ex-Chief of the Mining Bureau, published a short time ago. Dr. Kochibe showed that, unlike the coal-measures of England, America, and even China, the coal-bearing strata in Japan are very thin. At most the seams are only 20 ft. thick, while seams measuring 40 to 50 ft. deep are not rare in other countries. According to a geological survey concluded two years ago by the Geological Investigation Office, the collieries thus far working in Japan cover an area of 100 million *tsubo* approximately, and the coal in them does not exceed 500 million tons. Now the quantity of coal extracted in 1894 aggregated 4,280,000 tons, and it is conceivable that this will increase to six million tons per year at no distant date. But supposing the quantity mined yearly remains at five million tons, the coal measures of Japan will be exhausted within a century. Their life must necessarily be very short, and particular attention should be exercised to prevent waste and extravagance. It is true that these calculations are based on geological and mineralogical surveys, and are therefore largely hypothetical, but the Noshomusho, in accordance with a resolution passed by the Diet in its last session, intends to carry out, during next year, a more precise survey of all the coal beds of Japan.

MR. SONODA KOKICHI'S SPEECHES.

Probably the great majority of our readers are familiar with the name of Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, the popular and able President of the Yokohama Specie Bank. But not so many know that he served as an official for eighteen years before he became President of the second greatest bank in Japan. His most important official post was that of Consul-General in London, which position he held for seven years, and unquestionably he would soon have passed to the highest ranks of officialdom had he not been persuaded, in 1890, to accept the office of President of the Yokohama Specie Bank. The directors made a wise choice when they selected him, for under his able direction the Bank has prospered uniformly, and his reputation as a financier is now of the highest. At present he is travelling in the West, partly in connection with the management of the Chinese indemnity fund, the care of which has been entrusted to his bank, and partly to extend the Bank's business relations. A suggestion as to his doings abroad comes to us in the form of a luxurious little pamphlet, containing a few of the speeches delivered by him in English, and a full statement of the Specie Bank's constitution, articles of association, accounts, and so forth. To a remarkable knowledge of the English language and fluency in employing it, Mr. Sonoda adds a charming address, and it is always a pleasure to listen to the neat and appropriate little speeches that he seems to have at easy command whenever occasion requires an oratorical effort. The volume before us contains only a very few of his most recent speeches, and when separated from the circumstances under which they were delivered, they would not, perhaps, greatly interest our readers. We shall confine ourselves, therefore, to one quotation, namely the prefatory letter written by Mr. Sonoda and re-produced in facsimile:—

I trust that those who happen to read this little pamphlet will kindly remember that there is a bank in Yokohama which is struggling hard to do good to Japan's trade with foreign countries for universal benefit, and whose president is travelling all over the world to seek friendly co-operation from those who have any sympathy or any business connections with that distant empire, the Land of the Rising Sun.

SONODA KOKICHI.
President of the Yokohama Specie Bank.
San Francisco, June, 1896.

SILVER AWAITING REHABILITATION.

IT is very generally asserted that if free coinage of silver were established in the United States at the ratio of 16 to 1, gold would speedily be driven out of circulation and the Great Republic would become not bimetallic but monometallic, silver alone doing duty as a medium of exchange. Few people, however, seem to take the trouble of thinking out the processes by which this displacement of the yellow metal by the white would be effected, and some—as in the case of a recent correspondent of this journal—maintain that no such displacement would occur, their thoughtless contention being that Oriental nations, who themselves use silver for currency purposes, would gain nothing by sending it to America and carrying away gold in its stead. These phases of the question are easily disposed of. There would, of course, be little, if any, direct exchange of one metal against the other. People would not carry silver to the States, and with each ounce, costing originally 53 gold cents, purchase 126 gold cents for shipment abroad as bullion. Such transactions, however much they might be desired by holders of silver, would be impossible, for the simple reason that no one would be found willing to sell gold for silver at that rate. Many a European or American now resident in the Orient discovers a permanent obstacle to his return home in the fact that all his savings are invested in silver securities, and that to convert them into gold at the ruling ratio would produce a lamentable shrinkage in the outcome of long years of industry and hardship. Most delightful would it be for these victims of cruel chance, might they look forward to a time in the near future when, by merely carrying their silver to America, they could convert it into twice as much gold as it is now worth; but unhappily, even though the heroic programme of the free silverites became law, no such magnificent exit from the harrowing difficulty of the Eastern exile can be anticipated. Every owner of gold in the States would cling more tenaciously than ever to his store. It is estimated that the gold now held in bank reserves and in the Treasury aggregates some six hundred million dollars, and that a similar sum exists out of sight, that is to say, unregistered. Thus the grand total is from twelve to thirteen hundred millions of dollars. Evidently, from the moment of a free-silver-coinage system's going into operation, gold payments would be suspended, and the greater part of the above total would be employed as a reserve for placing upon a gold basis all the larger enterprises of commerce, manufacture, and insurance, the credit and prosperity of which would be fatally impaired unless such a step were taken. The case of insurance affords, perhaps, the most striking illustration.

Millions of people have for years been paying into American offices premia calculated in terms of gold to assure amounts similarly calculated. To convert into silver, at the ratio of 16 to 1, these gold amounts now standing at 30 to 1, and to assume that all the premia have hitherto been paid at the same ratio, would be the most gigantic fraud recorded in the history of the world. It would signify not merely wholesale robbery, but also a total loss of foreign credit by all American offices. Evidently, measures to prevent any disaster of that kind would be imperative, and the only effective step would be a special deposit of gold by way of reserve, or a transfer of investments to gold-using countries. Offices incapable of making such a deposit, or of realizing and transferring their investments, would cease to command public confidence. In short, America would need every ounce of gold she possesses; not a dollar of it would be sold for silver at the rate of 16 to 1. From that point of view, it is plainly incorrect to predict a sudden efflux of gold in the sequel of legislation now projected by the silver Democrats. An efflux there must undoubtedly be, inasmuch as, despite the restoration of silver to the rank of legal tender within the States, a large volume of payments abroad would have to be made in gold, and there would be no compensatory inflow, since payments to America would naturally be made in the cheaper metal, silver. But it would not be a sudden efflux, neither would it be accomplished by the commonly supposed process, namely, the import of silver into America and the export of a corresponding amount of gold. What has to be anticipated is that an immense demand would be rapidly developed for all American products and manufactures marketable in foreign countries. A commodity now procurable for not less than 30 ounces of silver within the States, and saleable abroad for an ounce of gold—omitting all question of charges and so forth—could forthwith be purchased in America for 16 ounces of silver, and would still find a market abroad at the old figure in gold. Here, then, would be the great field of operations. Instead of any futile attempt to exchange European or Asiatic silver against American gold, every ounce of available silver would be carried from the Old World to the New, there to be converted into dollars possessing a purchasing power that had suddenly augmented from one-thirtieth to one-sixteenth of their weight in gold. Of course prices would ultimately adjust themselves to this altered ratio: on the American side there would be a great inflation, on the European and Asiatic, a great depression, in the market quotations for all such commodities. But pending that adjustment, the tradal disturbance would be stupendous and wholly unprecedented. Its very magni-

tude is so difficult to contemplate that people regard it as a mere chimera and refuse to be alarmed by a scarcely conceivable contingency. With regard to the stores of silver bullion available for this colossal gamble, Mr. EDWARD ATKINSON recently published a most interesting analysis. Without following him into details, we may recapitulate his conclusions. First, Germany holds several millions of ounces of silver, remaining on her hands since 1873, when she called in all her silver coins—except a certain class of thalers—and re-issued only a fraction of them as subsidiary currency. Secondly, the States forming the Latin Union possess considerable quantities of silver coins which they are unable to keep in circulation, and which they are pledged to redeem at the ratio of 15½ to 1 should the Union be dissolved. Thirdly, China has great stores of "sycee," that is to say, clumsy "shoes" of silver, which are easily purchasable at a little over their bullion value. Fourthly, the ever-increasing output of the world's silver mines, in the face of the ever-depreciating value of the white metal in terms of gold, enables statisticians to calculate that silver bullion can now be profitably produced at a cost of less than 50 cents. in gold per ounce, and unquestionably the production would be greatly stimulated were the gold value of an ounce of silver suddenly doubled. From all these sources Mr. ATKINSON calculates that something like a deluge of silver would pour into the United States if the BRYAN platform became an accomplished fact. We sometimes wonder whether the very dimensions of the financial *coup* they are invited to make may not invest it with attractions in the eyes of Americans, who love big things so dearly.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the pages of the *Nihon Shūkyō*, a writer signing himself 東根, Tōkon submits to the consideration of readers a number of general observations bearing on the existing state of literature, many of which show considerable insight. A reputation for scholarship in Japan, says Mr. Tōkon, does not involve any great labour. Japanese scholarship is still in an elementary stage, in which ability to receive the thoughts of others rather than to originate is all that is required. The facilities for studying special subjects are still most imperfect. The plan usually followed is to consult such libraries as are accessible and to hunt through the book-shops for books bearing on the subject of investigation, and, when this proves inadequate, to try and find out by reference to foreign journals what are the best foreign works on the branch of learning pursued and then to wait until these books have been sent from some far off country. But the present rate of exchange has greatly affected scholarship, in that, though the money at the disposal of students is not more than it was ten years ago, the number of foreign works which it will procure is very much less. The prices have nearly doubled themselves. Mr. Spencer's "Sociology" used to sell at 4 yen per copy, it now costs 7 yen. Seeley's "Psychology" used to be obtainable at 2 yen 50 sen; it now fetches 4 yen 50 sen. But the Japanese scholar has another difficulty to

encounter. Added to the limited nature of the means at his disposal is the want of knowledge of the actual merits of the books he sees advertised in foreign journals. So that it not infrequently happens that he spends his money on works that are of little value to him. A few years ago I sent to Leipsic for five or six volumes whose titles attracted my attention. On their arrival I was quite disappointed with their contents. One of them I found to consist of only 20 pages, being nothing more than the report of one lecture. On relating this story to Dr. Katō Hiroyuki the other day, he told me that I was not the only sufferer in this way, since the late Mr. Nakamura Keiū, being interested in Mental Philosophy and seeing a book advertised "Will," ordered it, but found it to be a treatise on the making of Wills. When we consider that such a work as Fisher's "Modern Philosophy," in 6 vols. costs 50 yen, we see that modern scholarship implies means. One hundred yen will not go far in the purchase of books of reference. The Japanese who are sufficiently advanced to understand two or three European languages and to possess an elementary knowledge of Greek and Latin are usually graduates of the University, and by the time they have finished their college course they are not far off 30 years of age. As a rule they do not possess independent means, and hence are obliged to become government officials or school teachers, and to spend more than half their time in earning their living up to the age of retirement. Since they do not usually attain a greater age than 60, the time that they have for the close study of any special branch of knowledge is very limited, and it is hardly to be wondered at that the works they publish are of an inferior type.

The facts stated above, says Mr. Tōkon, show that the establishment of a large public library in Tōkyō is absolutely essential to the development of learning, and is a measure which the nation can afford to postpone no longer. It is reported that the Hibiyō Parade ground is to be utilised for this purpose, and that it is proposed to amalgamate the three existing great libraries, the Naikaku (Cabinet), the Tōkyō, and the Chiyoda libraries, and to purchase foreign works in sufficient number to form an establishment worthy of the nation. For many years it would be necessary to spend at least 100,000 yen in foreign works. It is said that this project will be carried out within five or six years. We see no reason why Japan should not turn out a race of students who will prove worthy imitators of the Germans in the point of minuteness of research. The habit of studying books for the sake of reproducing the knowledge acquired as if it were original, which is so often practised nowadays, is not to be commended. Investigation must be carried on in the first place for its own sake, without any thought about the utilisation of the information obtained. It is in the method of inquiry employed and in the patience with which fragments of the required knowledge is collected that the Germans excel, and it is these characteristics that we desire to see in the Japanese student. Much of the knowledge that we have hitherto acquired from foreign sources is by no means reliable. Instead of translating from original works, it not infrequently happens that the books published in Japan are translations of translations or worse still, are the translation of the opinions of prejudiced writers in reference to the lives or the views of the great men of some other country. To listen to what an Englishman says about an eminent Frenchman, or vice versa, is fatal to a right understanding of character. But we need something more than book knowledge for the development of our power as scholars. The mere bookworm is proverbially ignorant of the world, and draws all kinds of mistaken inferences from the facts that come beneath his notice. There is much to be said in favour of the methods of teaching pursued in the University, which may be summarised as follows. The subject is first defined in a general manner. Then the definitions of English, German, and French authorities are given in the words of the authors of these definitions. Criticism of these

definitions follows. Then the connection of the subject with other subjects is shown; after which a history of the numerous theories that have been maintained on the various questions at issue is given, and then commences an exposition of the subject itself. The lecturer has no time to dwell on all the opinions held by ancient authorities, and in many instances can do no more than refer the student to works which give these opinions in full. Now it is evident that this method of instruction aims rather at telling a student where information is to be found than placing him in immediate possession thereof. Hence in the case of men who after leaving the University are able to follow up their studies in home libraries, or in foreign lands, the system answers well, but in the case of those men who immediately after leaving the University go to the provinces in the capacity of normal or middle school teachers, it not infrequently happens that they exhibit all the crudities that mark the man whose education is incomplete, many of them lacking even the enlightenment of those of their fellow-citizens who have enjoyed no educational advantages. This, however, is not the fault of the system of teaching pursued in the University, but the result of failure to follow up the instruction received there by further study. There is no denying, concludes Mr. Tōkon, I think, that there is nothing in Japan to be compared with a University education. Neither the Keiōgijiku, the Dōshisha, nor the five Semmon Gakkō of Tōkyō are to be compared with the Imperial University. I myself regret that this should be so. I should like to see a rival of the University, as monopolies are bad whether in commerce or education. The projected Kyōto University may serve the purpose we desire, but from all accounts there is a great deficiency of men competent to occupy professorial chairs in the new institution.

The *Seikai-no-Nihon* devotes a portion of its space to the discussion of Fine Art. In the 3rd issue of this magazine a number of questions bearing on the present condition of Japanese art are mooted. The first subject dealt with is the difficulty of combining Japanese and foreign art. It is not easy to decide on the principles which should govern the professed harmony of the two systems, says the *Seikai-no-Nihon*. In practice the usual result of an attempt to follow in turn each of the methods is the production of a hybrid picture that resembles what we call a *nui* (a fabulous animal with the body of a tiger and the tail of a serpent, also called *kawosaru*). A successful combination of the two methods implies a thorough knowledge of both systems and ability to determine what elements in each are best designed for blending and to what extent the harmonizing can be carried without shocking the tastes of connoisseurs. In our opinion any attempt at elaborating a theory and acting on that theory must fail. If harmony is to be effected, it must come as the result of numerous experiments. In a word, it must have a natural and not an artificial origin.

Japanese painters need to make a greater use of colours. Foreign critics constantly complain that the human being of Japanese pictures resembles Greek goddesses rather than actual men and women. The outlines of their human figures need to be more clearly defined. In the opinion of some, to whatever extent foreign methods be adopted, the Japanese system of painting should be made the basis of instruction, as is done in the Bijutsu Gakkō. To mar the beauty of Japanese painting by mixing with it foreign elements, say these critics, would be most unwise. As long as the Japanese style is maintained efficiently, it will be sure to obtain an independent reputation. To adopt foreign methods *en bloc* would be a surrender of our right to occupy a distinct place in the world of art. Instead of being masters in our own sphere, we should become servants in the sphere of others. It is on this principle, that the Bijutsu Kyōkai takes its stand. Thus the Bijutsu Kyōkai is conservative and the Bijutsu Gakkō is progressive. The one is in favour of keeping the Japanese

system unaltered; the other is in favour of blending Eastern and Western systems to a certain extent, as long as the predominance of the former is secured. The Meiji Bijutsu-kai differs from the supporters of the Bijutsu Gakkō, being more pro-foreign than the latter body. The Meiji Bijutsu-kai is in favour of the adoption of foreign methods to the exclusion of Japanese, but thinks that Japanese artists should confine themselves to the representation of purely Japanese ideas. Just as France and England, say the advocates of this line of action, each has its favourite ideas and its peculiar method of pictorial representation of those ideas, so may Japan, while observing the principles that regulate foreign painting, find abundant scope for the expression of her individualism as a nation, and thus her pictures, though foreign in outward appearance, will be intensely Japanese in the thoughts which they suggest and to which they give definite utterance.

The most popular of modern works of art, concludes the *Seikai-no-Nihon* are undoubtedly what are known as *ukiyo-ye*. The manner in which these popular sketches embody impressions and represent nature's many fleeting moods bears a close resemblance to the effects produced by foreign painters. But in the colour given to the water and to the atmosphere Japanese painters leave much to be desired. One defect of Japanese painting is excessive minuteness. Such artists as Gekkō, Keishū, Yeisen, and Yoshitoshi, belonging to what is called the 正派 *Seiha*, in their younger days, perhaps from vanity, wishing to show what they could do, inserted into their pictures a large amount of work that was almost invisible. These painters seemed to think that there is some special merit about a picture that represents objects as diminutively as a photograph, whereas in reality this over-minuteness is one of the acknowledged weaknesses of imperfectly trained artists.

The organ we have just quoted has an article entitled "A Question for the Consideration of the Fine Arts Society," by Mr. Koyama Shōtarō. When speaking of fine art, says Mr. Koyama, Japanese are in the habit of taking it for granted that Japanese fine art has no rival in the world, and no one is ever heard to say a word against it. Among foreign artists there are not a few admirers of Japanese art, who have come to this country to make a special study of it. In America it is reported that a school for teaching Japanese painting is about to be established. But there are facts on the other side. At the Paris Exhibition, Japanese pictures were rejected on the ground that they could not be considered specimens of fine art. A few years ago a selection was made from some of the best pictures painted by distinguished artists belonging to the Bijutsu Kyōkai, and these works of art were sent to France, but attracted no attention whatever (*or not fu-ryōban two maneki*) and most probably were eventually sent back to Japan. At the Chicago Exhibition Japanese painting met with similar treatment. Specimens of the various foreign schools of art were exhibited and photographs were taken of these specimens, but Japanese pictures were refused a place among these exhibits; that is, they were not considered to belong to the category of works of fine art, and no photograph of this class of Japanese exhibits was taken; and yet the paintings shown were the works of first class artists and had been specially selected. These facts naturally lead one to inquire whether the notion that Japanese fine art is superior to everything else in the world of the same kind is anything more than the opinion of Japanese in reference to their own art. It is very plain that the outside world takes a very different view. May we not be acting in regard to painting very much as the Chinese did in the late war, when amid constant defeat by land and sea, for the sake of affording pleasure to their subjects, Chinese officials repeatedly proclaimed that the Chinese forces were everywhere victorious? At any rate the failure of Japanese painting to receive the acknowledgment from the outside world which its Japanese admirers claim for it, is a fact

which calls for explanation from such bodies as the Fine Arts Society.

Under the heading of "Observations," in the part of the *Sekai-no-Nihon* devoted to literary topics reference is made to the manner in which the leading newspapers constantly alter the character of the matter they publish. From the autumn of last year up to about February of this year, says this organ, what are called *Zuihitsu* (随筆) were most popular. This class of writing has now given place to what is designated *Chawa*, Tea-table Talk. The conversations recorded often occupy seven or eight columns of a newspaper. This practice, remarks the *Sekai-no-Nihon*, no doubt owes its origin to a special demand on the part of readers, but from a literary point of view this species of composition possesses little value. If it is worthy of any distinct name, it perhaps might be called *Natsu-no-bungaku*, Summer Literature. The "Dailies" vie with each other in affording entertainment for light-minded readers. Much of this class of literature is of a very low type. One characteristic of the tales that constantly appear is no doubt a result of the late war. We observe that narratives which describe scenes of bloodshed and the gratification of the fiercer passions of mankind are specially popular. Mr. Fukuzawa's *Hyakuwa*, in the *Fiji*, and the articles signed Setsurei, in the *Nihon*, stand by themselves as specimens of the better class of light literature.

In the journal just quoted, Mr. Onishi Shinku discusses the tendency of modern influences on education and literature. The difficulty of making a living, observes this writer, sadly interferes with healthy development. A young man no sooner starts in life, burning with the desire to carry out some literary programme, than he is confronted with the fact that the career he has mapped out for himself can only be pursued by a man of independent means. Hence he is compelled to give up his most cherished ideas and to become a servant of other men in the capacity of a clerk in an office or some such position. Education now-a-days is narrowed down so as to serve the one great purpose of life, money-making. The time was when a young man would rather bear the title of *shoset* (student) than possess 10,000 yen. Study was then loved for its own sake, and no one expected to reap any pecuniary advantage therefrom. But now education is constantly spoken of as learning how to make a livelihood. Under the plea of educating for the State, the subjects taught lack the range which is essential to true enlightenment. It would seem that we are following in the footsteps of America in our regard for money. In modern days to be successful rather than to be cultured is the great aim of young men. With the late Matthew Arnold, we desire to raise our voices against this mammon-worshipping spirit of the age in which we live.

Dr. Katō Hiroyuki having been asked by the *Nihon Shūkyō* to furnish an account of his early history, with his usual readiness to write on any subject that may be suggested to him, the ex-President of the University supplies that organ with a biographical record. From this we cull the following facts bearing on Japanese literature. I come from a race of warriors, says Dr. Katō. As a boy I was brought to Edo and set to study books on military affairs, with injunctions to pay special attention to gunnery. I became a pupil of Sakuma Shōzan, and soon discovered under him how little reliance was to be placed on the knowledge I had already acquired. With a view of obtaining access to Western books on military science, I studied Dutch. At this time I began to perceive how hard it would be for Orientals to reach the stage of progress attained by Occidentals. On turning my attention to Christianity, I was astonished at the untrustworthiness of its teach-

ing, and wondered how Europeans could bring themselves to take part in the propagation of such a belief. But since Christianity was the religion of the most enlightened people of the world, I concluded that there must be reasons for accepting it unknown to me. The perusal of various books on liberty led me to regard all classes of society as on a level and to decide in my own mind that democracy was the most rational form of government, though I kept this opinion to myself. Further reading convinced me that different forms of government suited different nations. It seemed to me the manner in which the various petty states of Germany united to form one great empire found a parallel in the union of our *daimyō* under the *Shōgun* and the subsequent further consolidation of the empire under the present constitutional government. When I published the *Kokutai Shinron*, "A New View of the State," I gave greater prominence to the doctrine of liberty than in later years I should have deemed it wise to do. Some little time after the appearance of this work, my studies led me to modify my views, and I contemplated publishing a work in order to qualify the views I had expressed, but a book is not prepared in a day, and hence it happened that, before I had time to state my later convictions, the work above referred to was so strongly objected to by certain persons and was represented as so ill-befitting the office I then held in the University, that, since it no longer represented my opinion, I consented to its suppression. In its stead I published a work called *Finken Shinsetsu*, "A New Theory of Man's Rights." At this time the doctrine of liberty was immensely popular among politicians, and hence the suppression of the *Kokutai Shinron*, and the tone of my new work, added to the fact that I had become an official, furnished material for slander, and I was accused of selling my independence, and the like. I am asked by the *Nihon Shūkyō* whether it is not a fact that since the publication of the *Finken Shinsetsu* I have always maintained that the survival of the fittest means the survival of the strongest, and that the great world struggle of the present time is no other than a contention for ascendancy among the great powers. To this I reply in the affirmative. Such has been and still is my view. I am asked to name the books that have influenced my views in recent years. This it is not easy for me to do. After studying Dutch, I became interested especially in Law and Politics, and soon found that a thorough study of these subjects involved a knowledge of German and English. I applied myself to these tongues, and after perusing the works of Darwin, Spencer, Buckle, Hegel, and others, I became intensely interested in social science, and of late years have made a special study of this subject. The latter part of Dr. Katō's reply to the *Nihon Shūkyō* has special reference to religion and hence is not suitable for insertion here.

Among important books in the course of publication, the *古事類苑*, *Koji-ruiyen*, calls for special notice. It has been in hand since 1879 and will not be completed for another five years. It aims at furnishing an exhaustive history of the government, civilisation, customs, and religion of Japan, dating from the earliest ages. It is divided into 36 sections, each section being subdivided according to subjects. The whole work will consist of no less than 1,000 volumes. Projected by the Department of Education in 1879 and compiled under its supervision for a while, in 1890 it was entrusted to the Kōten (皇典) Kōkyūjo (Japanese Classics Investigation Bureau). In April of last year at the request of the Home and the Education Departments it was again transferred, being placed in the hands of the Ise Daijingu Office. Messrs. Hosokawa Junjirō and Satō Seijisū are the chief editors and the various sections have been entrusted to special experts. It has been decided to issue without delay 27 volumes, giving a history of the Imperial ancestry, and subscriptions for this portion of the work are solicited by the compilers, whose office is at No. 10, Ichibei-gashi, Koishikawa, Tōkyō. It is stated in the

Kyōrin (歌林) that there is a large demand for the new history and that already no less than 1,500 applications have been received.

A recent number of the *Waseda Bungaku* thus refers to the development of literature in the early days of the Tokugawa Era. The literature of the first sixty years of the Tokugawa régime, known as the Kāneyi (1624-1643) Literature, from this era occupying the centre of the period, developed itself in the following order. (1) History. (2) Commentaries on ancient works. (3) Buddhist literature. (4) The translation or adaptation of Chinese works. (5) The translation of European works. Among the earliest books that were introduced from the West was *Æsop's Fables*, a translation of which was first published in 1659, in three volumes, illustrated. The author of the work is not known. It is said that prior to this date pictures illustrating *Æsop's fables* reached Japan in scroll form, and it has been suggested by some that the three volumes published were compiled by means of these. But an examination of the work under consideration shows that it was a translation from some European tongue and that the stories were not invented by the Japanese to suit the scroll pictures. We know of no direct influence exercised by these stories in the age in which they were published, but in later years they did great service in administering reproof in an indirect manner when any direct form of censure would have given offence. The greatest service done to literature in the age under review consisted of the collection of a large amount of historical material, the preparation of elaborate Commentaries on abstruse Chinese books and the publication in permanent form of numbers of old manuscripts that would otherwise have been lost to the world. Of the value to posterity of all this preparatory work there can be no question.

Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō has written a preface to a new work called *東西南北*, *Tōsai-namboku*, "The Four Quarters of the Earth." In this preface he gives his opinion of the *Shintai-shi*, or *New Style Verses*, to which reference has been made in former Summaries. We epitomise from the *Tōyō-tetsugaku*, Dr. Inouye's remarks on this class of poetry. There are two classes of modern literature, says this scholar, from which much may be expected in the future. One is stage plays, the other the new style of verses. My reasons for thinking highly of the latter I proceed to give. Hitherto two kinds of poetry only have been known to the Japanese, namely the *Waka* (Japanese *uta*) and the *Kanshi* (Chinese Verses). In the *Waka* the number of words or syllables to be used in each verse is limited, and as for the ideas expressed, they are of the poorest kind, seldom amounting to more than allusions to some transient impression. Though Japanese poems of this class are sometimes very long, the variety of incident that occurs in them compared to the number of words employed is very limited. To me they always appear like trees whose blossom is abundant but which bear no fruit. Chinese verses are in a more advanced stage of development than Japanese poetry and often have sufficient power to awaken gloomy thoughts in the mind. But these verses are for from fulfilling our ideal of what national poetry ought to be. The great cause of our dissatisfaction with them is that they are Chinese, and not Japanese. What are called *Kanshi* in Japan are a pure imitation of the polished verses that great Chinese writers have given to the world. The pure wine of this class of poetry is in the possession of the Chinese; the Japanese are sipping the dregs. Though it may be too early to decide on the degree of perfection that the new verses will reach, they have the merit of being original. They constitute a new department in literature. Though when they first appeared they met with opposition, their authors have not been daunted thereby. Wave after wave of this poetry has held its own against all comers, and it looks as though this new literature would form itself into a flood and carry everything before it. Yosa was consider-

* Lit. Following the pen, that is the writer gives himself up to his own sweet fancy, confining his observations to no special subject. Two other characters 漫録, *manroku* are often added to the above, and the title is then equivalent to our term "Miscellaneous Writings."

ed an expert in the composition of *Waka*, but seeing that the age in which we live demanded a new kind of poetry, he commenced to pen "New Style Verses" and wrote in all quite a number. These have been collected and are now to be given to the world in the volume to which the title of *Tosainamboku* has been prefixed.

Among items of news published in the *Shigaku Zasshi* (Historical Magazine) we find the following. Professor Leathes, of the Cambridge University, paid a visit to the Japanese Imperial University on July 30th, being shown around the colleges by Dr. Tamboi. After inspecting the library, the Cambridge professor of history was taken into the Historical Compilation Section and saw the great preparations that are being made for the work the University has undertaken to publish. The Professor is said to have spoken in the highest terms of the thoroughness of the methods of investigation and collection of material pursued, adding that even in Europe he had never seen this kind of work so well done. The compilation of the book referred to in this note was more fully noticed by us in a former Summary.

The same magazine states that the study of Japanese history is neglected in the Higher Middle Schools; the 10 hours a week devoted to history being occupied exclusively with foreign history. Thus it comes about that students enter the University with no more knowledge of Japanese history than they have obtained in elementary schools or in Ordinary Middle Schools. It is not to be supposed, says the *Shigaku Zasshi* that a thorough knowledge of history can be acquired by attendance at the lectures delivered in the University. The subject is necessarily crowded out to a large extent by other branches of learning. It is therefore most desirable that more attention should be paid to Japanese history in the Higher Middle Schools. Impressed with this conviction, the First Higher Middle School, we hear, has decided to set aside two hours per week for the study of this subject. We trust, says the *Shigaku Zasshi*, that other schools will do the same. The defective knowledge of Japanese history and geography, observes this magazine in another note, is being realised by school authorities, and since existing ignorance of these subjects is largely attributable to the lack of efficient teachers, it has been decided to make them a special study in the Higher Normal Schools. The course will extend over two years, and 60 students in each school will be allowed to take up these branches of learning. History, continues the *Shigaku Zasshi*, has hitherto been studied in a most slipshod manner. In many cases the subject has been rendered subservient to *ethics* or to general learning; and as for the critical spirit in history, in the majority of the cases it still remains to be cultivated. The greatest resentment is felt against scholars who sift the chaff from the wheat in historical material. There are many who prefer traditional falsehood to historical truth and who think that the use of the critical knife for the removal of the superfluous growth of ages from the historic tree is sacrilegious and unpatriotic. This feeling can only be removed by such measures as that determined on by the Higher Normal Schools. Education alone is adequate to remove deep-seated historical prejudices.

The same number of the *Shigaku Zasshi* from which we have been quoting draws attention to the revival of interest in ancient literature, as evinced by the new editions of old works that are undergoing publication. The *Shigaku Zasshi* refers especially to the *Asuma Kagami*, the *Tokugawa Yikki* (實記), the *古事類苑*, *Koji-ruiyen*, and the *源鑑類函*, *Yenkan-ruihan*. A collection of material on a variety of subjects,

* As an illustration of this remark we may mention that when, not long ago, Dr. Shigeno, the eminent historian, proved conclusively that Kojima Takanori never existed, he brought upon himself a storm of opposition and was denounced as the *Masatsugu* (抹殺) *hakase*, "the slaying doctor" and accused of destroying patriots.

arranged so as to be easy of reference; a most voluminous work. It is of the nature of the Japanese to act on impulse in the matter of publishing, concludes the *Shigaku Zasshi*, and it not too infrequently happens that extreme ardour gives place to profound indifference. We trust that the movement in favour of reproducing in a readable form the works of the ancients will not prove so transient as others that we have witnessed. In reference to translations, this organ expresses the opinion that the time has come for the organisation of a translating society, maintaining that better results would be obtained by entrusting work to an association than by relying on the efforts of individuals.

The *Teikoku-bungaku* publishes a long article by Mr. Uyeda Bin on the necessity of Japanese literary students paying more attention to the minute distinctions, shades of meaning, and recondite allusions of the books they read. The students of foreign literature are to be found in large numbers, says Mr. Uyeda, but readers who penetrate beneath the surface, who aim at obtaining an accurate knowledge of the books they peruse, who spare no labour in the attempt to explore the depths of an author's mind are very rare. In all studies the aim should be to reach the foundations of knowledge, to comprehend the wide bearing of truth. For men who have gone no further than the outskirts of a citadel of learning to talk as though they had explored its every nook and corner, is, alas! too common in Japan. Considerable interest in the study of the ancient classics has been shown in the University within the past few months. We trust, says Mr. Uyeda, that the investigations of students will lead them to see how many of the ideas and how much of the learning of the ancients may be traced to religion. This is specially the case with European writers, with their law and politics, art and philosophy all had a religious origin. This being so, the neglect to study the Bible shown by Japanese literary men is excusable. Mr. Uyeda concludes his long article by exhorting his fellow-countrymen to give up their attempts to furnish plausible explanations of everything and to spend more time in mastering the thoughts and feelings of the great men of ancient literature. There are people, says this writer, who urge Buddhists to study Christianity and Christians to study Buddhism, and who think there is much to be gained by the adherents of the two systems approaching each other. There are others who regard the discussion of psychological theories of immense importance, and who talk as though men's belief were dependent on some special doctrine relating to the nature of the soul. Men who know what real religion is are unmoved by the class of agitators to whom I have referred. The man of faith has a heaven and earth of his own, pure and undefiled by the presence of the vulgar. Let those who write so much about the influence of literature study books with a view of reaching the depths of religious thought.

In a note entitled "The departure of Professor Wood," the *Teikoku-bungaku* writes in laudatory terms of the literary work accomplished by Dr. Wood in the Imperial University. We cannot but feel deep regret, says this organ, that we are about to lose the services of a man of such high qualifications as Dr. Wood. Our knowledge of Western literature is still very imperfect. We realise that we are still children when compared to men so well versed as Dr. Wood. He not only has a vast amount of knowledge, but he has the art of imparting it. His teaching was thorough. It went to the very heart of things. Dr. Wood spent many years in Germany and passed through the Heidelberg University. His knowledge of the whole range of German and English literature was most extensive and he made a special study of English novelists. We trust that those who have had the privilege of hearing his lectures have imbibed some of the earnestness, minuteness, and clearness which characterised his teaching.

The *Shinri*, in an article entitled "The rage for Translations" discusses the character and

general merits of some of the translations which have already appeared. Numerous translations, says the *Shinri*, are praised in the pages of magazines, such, for instance, as the *Tsubaki-hime*, by Nagata Shūtō and a play called *Maria Stuart* (Mary Stuart) by an anonymous author, but to us Taubouchi's "Hamlet" is *facile princeps* among modern translations. Surprise has often been expressed that such works as "The Old Curiosity Shop" and Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter" have never been attempted, but in our opinion it is best to proceed cautiously in the matter of translation. Imperfect renderings of the works of great authors can only be regarded as an insult to the memory of these writers. The translations of detective stories by Ruikō have been very highly spoken of in some quarters, but Ruikō is in no sense a first-class translator. He has failed to reproduce many of the telling parts of the originals. Were Ruikō to attempt to render Shakespeare into Japanese, we venture to think that quite nine-tenths of the original would be left unexpressed. There is no denying that the standard of translation is much higher than it was 10 years ago. One has only to compare Mr. Taubouchi's "Hamlet" with his *Shisuru Kidan*, to see how much more skillful this scholar has become since he published his first noted work. Nevertheless, in our opinion, the progress made in the art of translating has not been sufficient to warrant the expectation that foreign masterpieces will be reproduced in Japanese in the near future. Although we admit that there are a number of good translators, when asked whether the best men available are equal to the task of tackling such works as Goethe's "Faust," Milton's "Paradise Lost" and Dante's "Divine Comedy," we are obliged to answer in the negative. To entrust such books to men like Nagata Shūtō, Hara Hōtsuan, and Konishi Masatarō would be unwise. It is even questionable whether our language is capable of expressing in an equally powerful manner many of the thoughts and sentiments which adorn the works of foreign authors. At any rate one thing is clear, that whatever may have been the progress made in respect of translation, there still remains a *terra incognita* unreachd by the most daring explorers.

A NOBLE ACT.

In the *Yiyu* we find an account of a very noble act said to have performed in Miye Prefecture on the occasion of the recent flooding of the Machiya River. The Nakano embankment being evidently about to give way, an accident that would have involved the inundation of a large tract of country, the people of the locality assembled, and applied themselves to the work of strengthening the bank. But owing to the difficulty of procuring earth and the rapidly increasing force of the current, their efforts seemed likely to prove abortive, when Mr. Amakasu Fumiye threw open his rice godowns, and bade the workers use the bags of grain stored there. Twelve hundred bags were taken out and rapidly piled up at the weak spot, the result being that the danger was successfully averted. It was a costly method of restraining a flood, but the damage thus prevented would probably have been a hundred times greater than the value of the twelve hundred bags.

FLOODS IN TOKYO.

The floods in Tokyo have practically receded. The water, which at one time reached the eaves of the houses in several parts of Mukojima, fell below the level of the floors by the morning of Sunday last, and such of the inhabitants as had been obliged to seek shelter on elevated spots, are now cleaning the mud and silt from their residences so as to make them fit for habitation once more. The flooded houses aggregated 3,191, and they held 8,111 persons. More than 11,000 yen and 110 bales of rice have been contributed by charitable folk for distribution among the poorer section of the sufferers.

KOREAN ITEMS.

From the description given in the columns of the *Soul Independent*, we gather that the old and the new in Korea were conspicuously displayed on the occasion of conveying the casket containing the remains of the late Queen of Korea to the mausoleum specially erected in the foreign quarter. "First," says our contemporary, "came a squad of soldiers dressed in foreign style and marching in some semblance of order. This might be called the *New Korea*, and we are glad it marched in front, for the moving illustration would otherwise have been incomplete; but behind them came a motley company dressed in all the gaudy hues and grotesque patterns that ever bedizened an oriental fête. All the old banners and standards and trumpery were resurrected and brought into requisition. The old Yangban strut, the inane bolting up on either side by servants, the same childish vanity in their old *lawdry gawgaws*. This is what was plainly visible. The New Korea in front dragged behind it the great mass of conservative, *jeune*, moss-back, old Korea. Is this not a perfect picture of affairs to-day? But notice that New Korea was to the front and there is good hope that it will go too fast for the mummy behind to keep pace with it, and the latter will gradually drop away and we shall some day see a renovated Korea, a Korea which has 'put away childish things.' The hearse was carried by several hundred men in mourning uniforms, and on the platform in front and behind of the hearse stood an army officer in European uniform, and two others in old Korean mourning costume. Each of the latter held a bell in their hands and rung them vigorously—the meaning of which was unknown to us. The casket was 7 feet 8 inches long and 3½ feet in width, beautifully painted with lacquer and several lines of inscriptions in gilded letters stating the titles of the Queen. The whole casket was wrapped in white satin and placed in state in the main buildings of the new Palace."

Mr. McLeavy Brown, Financial Adviser to the Korean Government, seems to be winning golden opinions. He is said to be most careful in his selection of officials, choosing always men that have given proofs of competence, and he is further credited with refusing to pay any one that does not properly discharge his duties. There appears to be some exaggeration in these statements, but the main fact of Mr. Brown's successful management is doubtless correct.

Here is one of the most exquisitely frank confessions we have ever encountered; it appears in the editorial columns of the *Soul Independent*—

If anyone has noticed in our columns any evidences of late of a tendency to lapse into abstraction and reverie he must set it down to the near approach of a certain trip to Chemulpo and the termination of temporary bachelorhood. It is this latter that has given a touch of melancholy, and has cast such a subdued light over the news columns and filled them with such cheerful topics as battle and murder and sudden death, and it may be that even our weather bureau has been tinged with a moroseness which has caused it to look into the future with a cynical eye.

Another dispute between Japanese and Chinese fishermen is reported. It is said to have occurred at the island of Chito. The Koreans endeavoured to drive away the Japanese, and the latter killed one of their assailants in the fight that ensued and then sailed away. The story comes from the Governor of Chito.

Encounters between Government troops and rebels are still reported from various parts of Korea.

The *Soul Independent* calls attention to the fact that the rice and other grain exported from Korea is packed in straw bags, the material of which is sent from Korea to Japan to be plaited into bags, and the bags are then sent back to Korea to be filled with grain, their ultimate cost being 8 *sen* each. Our contemporary naturally asks why on earth the Koreans themselves can not manufacture these bags without recourse to Japanese aid.

THE "CHUGWAI EIJI SHIMBUN."

For the sake of the readers to whom this title conveys no meaning, we may explain that it is the name of a bi-monthly magazine devoted to the study of practical English. It is not a new publication: the sixteenth number of the 3rd volume is now before us, from which it may be inferred that a considerable measure of success has attended the venture, and that the editor and proprietor, Mr. Y. Isobe, has not been deceived in his conception of the need of such a work. We confess that we scarcely hoped as much when the publication first made its appearance, for excellent as was its plan and competent its editor, a magazine depending entirely upon its circulation among the student class, and deriving no support from advertisements, must always be a precarious venture. Mr. Isobe, however, has steadily persevered. Choosing his material wisely, and always bringing industry and skill to his editorial task, he seems to have now established a secure place for his most serviceable magazine. What kind of fate, we wonder might be anticipated for a magazine published twice a month in England, solely with the object of aiding students to acquire German or French. Possibly the experiment might be worth trying, though no one has yet tried it. After all, the Japanese student is not lacking in grit and earnestness. What charms us especially about Mr. Isobe is that he is so perfectly natural. Describing a journey recently made by him to Kobe and Kyoto, he writes as though he were addressing no audience but his own memories. Take this paragraph, for example:—

I have to thank the Editor of the *Hiogo News* for his complimentary remarks upon my visit to his office, which appeared in the next day's issue of the paper. Though I am unworthy of such compliments, yet I will in future endeavour to act up to his commendations. Yet I cannot disguise from myself that I am as much elated at the kind remarks as a little school-boy might be when his teacher praises his class compositions. The same hearty thanks are due to the Editor of the *Japan Herald*, whose partiality to myself went so far as to reproduce the kind remarks of his Kobe contemporary in his valuable paper of the 10th instant, and added to them no less complimentary observations upon the present paper.

Is not that delightfully genuine! Such an absolute absence of self-consciousness or pedantry! We must quote one more paragraph also:—

On my way home, I alighted at Ejiri on the Tokaido Route and made an excursion to Kunoan, widely-known as a smaller Nikkō, passing Teshuji and Ryūgeji, two temples whence may be obtained a magnificent view of Mount Fuji, Iagonoura, Seikenji, and Mio-no-matsubara; and this deviation, though short, was the crowning pleasure of my present journey. Prior to my departure, Mr. W. B. Mason, of the First High School, had kindly promised to present me with a copy of his and Professor Chamberlain's valuable "Hand-Book of Japan"; but as he had not a copy in hand, he told me he would get it from Kelly & Company, Yokohama, where it is on sale, and send it to me by post. Unfortunately for me, as the book did not reach me while I was in Tokyo, I told my family to send it to my inn in Kyoto as soon as it arrived. Upon my return to Kyoto from Ama-no-hashidate, I found the precious gift had already arrived. When I read the passages descriptive of all these famous places which I had just visited, I was struck by the accuracy and thoroughness of the hand-book. To tell the truth, my excursion to Teshuji and Kunoan was made at the instance of Mr. Mason who had described for me the numerous charms of these places so alluringly that even after I had fully enjoyed the view of Ama-no-hashidate, so replete as it is with poetical associations, my curiosity was too strong for me to refrain from alighting at Ejiri, whence it is only three *ri* to Kunoan. In that excursion I was fortunate enough to be able to consult the book, and found it the most comprehensive and faithful guide-book for travellers in Japan ever published. In many respects we Japanese are taught by foreigners in things that concern ourselves. Is not the translation of the *Kojiki* by Professor Chamberlain the most remarkable instance? Is not Anderson's "Pictorial Arts of Japan" another example? Nay, even those charming mountains and picturesque lakes which, we pique ourselves, are our richest treasures and the sight of which always inspires us with a patriotic spirit, have found their most comprehensive descriptions in the writings of untiring foreign travellers. Professors Chamberlain and Mason's "Hand-Book of Japan" bears witness to the never-flagging energy of Europeans and the thorough treatment of a subject which is so characteristic of them.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

The Railway Bureau has inaugurated a new departure in regard to buying materials for construction purposes. Instead of sending direct to foreign countries, in most cases to England, it put its recent orders up to public bidding. Tenders for certain engines, iron work, etc., were sent in by the Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha, the Okura Firm, the Meidiya, and many foreign firms in Yokohama. They were opened on Friday last, when it was found that for five of the contracts, the tenders submitted by the Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha were lower than any of the others, with the exception of one case only. The four tenders of this well-known firm were therefore accepted as shown below:—

No. 6.—60lb. rails, 12,564 tons; bolts and nuts, 124 tons, &c., 14,570 tons in all.	
Mitsui	£81,187 9s. 7d.
Okura	£91,200 1s. 5d.
No. 7.—Girders and others, 3,206 tons.	
Mitsui	£36,543 11s. 3d.
Hirota	£36,583 1s. 10d.
No. 8.—Steam engines, 16, oil engines, 6.	
Mitsui	£5,220 9s. 6d.
Hirota	£5,680 2s. 0d.
No. 9.—Round and square iron, 2,236 tons.	
Mitsui	£2,091 16s. 9½d.
Hattori	£2,195 0 10½d.
No. 10.—Jack screws, 10 tons; Manila rope, 2,100 yards, &c.	
Hirota	£4,447 13s. 3d.
Ito	£4,090 0s. 0d.

This is the first time, says the *Shogyo*, from which we quote, that rails have been purchased at less than £6 per ton, a price far lower than that at which the Bureau used to give in England when dealing direct. Even when a private railway company put its orders up to public bidding, the price per ton was £6 5s. or so. The precedent now established should prove immensely beneficial in reducing the cost of railway construction in Japan.

The latest intelligence about the interrupted railway communications is as follows:—The Gifu-Hikone section was re-opened on the 21st inst., at the same time steam service between Bamba and Hikone commenced. Consequently, on the Tokyo-Kobe line, communication between Tokyo and Kanazaki is again possible. An express train that leaves Shimbashi at 12.30 p.m. runs through to Nagoya, beyond which the line is still interrupted. In the Tsuruga-Fukui line, the repairs of the Sabaye-Fukui section have been completed, and service was opened from the 22nd inst.

THE FLOODS IN GIFU AND NAGOYA.

The state of affairs described in Bishop Bickersteth's letter, which we publish elsewhere, is most pitiable. Rumours had reached us from other sources that the suffering in the Gifu and Nagoya districts, owing to the recent inundations, was wide-spread and acute, but we did not picture conditions so cruel as those described by Bishop Bickersteth. It is certainly an occasion calling for some charitable effort on the part of benevolent foreigners. Japan has never been visited by such a series of calamities as those commencing with the Seismic Wave of last June and culminating in the September storms and floods. A most generous response was made to appeals for help in connection with the Seismic Wave, and a repetition of such open-handed charity can scarcely be expected now. Still, as the nation is suffering from quite exceptional troubles, an exceptional exercise of benevolence may well be invited, and we have, consequently, no hesitation in commending the matter to our readers' attention. Definite means of employing, to the best effect, any funds subscribed, are indicated by Bishop Bickersteth, and we may add that if any persons find it more convenient to send subscriptions to this office, they will be duly acknowledged, and forwarded to Bishop Bickersteth.

THE SENDAI RAILWAY.

As several weeks—probably five—must elapse before trains can run through from Tokyo to Sendai, it is important that our readers should learn the actual state of the line at present, and the difficulties that beset a journey north. The injured portion of the line is between Furuta and Nagakubo, and since Furuta is the next station northward of Utsunomiya, the traveller encounters his troubles at an early stage of the journey. About a mile beyond Furuta the railway crosses the Kinu River—an affluent of the Tone-gawa—by three bridges, the Kinu at that place running in as many distinct streams. Under ordinary circumstances the two most southerly branches are petty affairs, but during the recent rains they swelled into roaring torrents, and developed such destructive force that the first bridge was entirely swept away, no vestige of it remaining except an iron girder that now lies among the boulders twenty yards below the abutments on which it formerly stood. The abutments themselves have completely disappeared, even their solid masonry being unable to withstand the disintegrating force of the water. It is easy to infer the overwhelming strength of a torrent that could transport an iron girder through such a distance and grind to powder the piers supporting it. The second bridge has suffered less; its roadway remains intact, but the shoreward backing of its abutments has been washed away, so that it now stands on two frail and ragged-looking piers. These two bridges, being comparatively small, can be reconstructed without much difficulty, but the third and principal bridge will entail great labour and expense. The Kinugawa shows, at this point, the characteristics so common to Japanese rivers: its waters travel noisily and in several runlets over a bed of boulders, some five hundred yards wide, whereas the principal stream does not itself measure more than a tenth of that width under every-day circumstances. Evidently the whole bed was covered with a boiling swirl of water during the floods, for scarcely one of the masonry piers escaped injury. They appear as though they had been attacked by some seismic shock, rather than by a rush of water, for distortion is the term more applicable to their condition than disintegration. It is difficult to suppose that these piers were soundly built originally: certainly the present condition of their masonry betrays a lack of homogeneity. Our readers will gather from what we have said that the whole space, more than a mile in width, through which the Kinugawa and its branches run, has to be traversed partly by boat and partly on foot. It is, of course, possible to ride in *jinrikisha* from Utsunomiya to Nagakubo, a distance of 15 miles, but such a detour would be out of proportion to the difficulties offered by the railway route. From Furuta to Nagakubo, however, many persons prefer to leave the railway altogether, and make their way along the high-road by *jinrikisha*. When ladies and children are in question, that many possibly be the better plan, as will be understood when we have described the details of the journey along the railway. It must be premised, however, in this context, that *jinrikisha* are very hard to procure at Furuta, and consequently no reliance can be placed on that means of conveyance by persons going north. From Furuta the train pushes on to a point within some 200 yards of the first stream to be negotiated, and at about the same distance beyond the last river passengers again find cars waiting to carry them to Nagakubo. Temporary platforms for boarding and leaving the train have been erected at both places, and every effort is exhausted by the railway officials to smoothe the difficulties of the route. But no attempt has been made by the Railway Company to organise a service of boats and baggage-carriers. They impose no charge for carrying passengers over the portions of the line that remain intact between Furuta and Nagakubo, but, on the other hand, by not issuing tickets they avoid all responsibility. Thus, on arrival at the bank of the river at either end, a pas-

senger has to take his luggage from the van and procure coolies to carry it. These coolies accompany their employer from the railway platform on the Furuta side to that on the Nagakubo side, or *vice versa*, keeping the baggage on their backs even while making the passage of the rivers—a necessary method, the flat-bottomed boats in use not having sufficient stability of flotation for the stowing of dead weights. Coolies can be procured for 20 *sen* each, or even less, by bargaining, but they are not numerous and do not compete, so that the traveller must not expect easy terms. For conveyance over the three rivers by boat, a fixed charge of 8 *sen* a head is made, and must be paid at a little office on the Furuta side, where tickets are given. The first river—going north from Furuta—is a swift, turbulent stream. Its passage, while the water was high, involved a little excitement and cost two lives, but the boatmen manage excellently and no grounds for alarm now exist. The two other rivers are comparatively gentle, but the passage of the long bridge on the Nagakubo side may prove difficult for persons with weak nerves, as the footway consists of only two narrow planks laid across the sleepers between the rails, and the height is some 15 or 20 feet above the surface of the water. What will probably be found eminently inconvenient is that no attempt is made to connect the service of trains on the two sides of the broken bridges, the results being long waits at various points, and the lengthening of the journey from Tokyo to Sendai by fully six hours, whereas the unavoidable delay does not exceed one hour. For example, leaving Tokyo by the 6.30 p.m. train, one reaches Furuta at about 10.25 in the forenoon, and, traversing the region of broken bridges in about an hour, finds oneself on the Nagakubo temporary platform before noon. But there is no train to carry one on immediately. It becomes necessary to wait until 3 p.m., and even then the train goes no farther than Fukushima, where one must be content either to spend the night, or to await the through train at 11.30 p.m., which reaches Sendai at half-past two the following morning. Why the Railway Company do not make arrangements to avoid the inconvenience of these long delays we are unable to explain. Possibly the break in the line occurred at a time when the rolling stock was inconveniently distributed on either side of the stoppage.

DESTRUCTION OF CROPS BY THE RECENT FLOODS.

According to an estimate in the *Miyako Shim-bun*, the injury done to the rice crop by the recent floods is as follows:—

	<i>Yoku.</i>
Miyagi Prefecture	550,000, or half of the crop.
Aichi and Shiga Prefectures	1,000,000, or half of the crop.
Kyoto City	250,000, or one-fourth of the crop.
Fukui, Toyama, Ishikawa & Niigata Prefectures. }	1,000,000, or from one-sixth (in Niigata) to one fourth of the crop.
Osaka and Hyogo Prefectures	200,000, or one-fifth of the crop.
The Kwan-to districts	5,000,000
Total	8,000,000

It is plain that these figures are mere approximations, but if they are correct within any reasonable limits, the monetary loss suffered in connection with the rice crop alone must have been from sixty to eighty thousand *yen*.

ROBBERY AT THE BRITISH LEGATION.

Takahashi Ichitaro (age 21), a *bello* in the employ of the British Legation, Tokyo, has been arrested on a charge of stealing an overcoat, a flannel suit, and other articles belonging to the wardrobe of Sir Ernest Satow, the British Minister.

SUBMARINE AND AERIAL COMBINATION.

One of the latest ideas in the scientific sphere is to combine balloons with submarine boats. Each vehicle of motion has a defect remediable by the other: the submarine boat can be moved in any direction, but can not discern the direction in which it ought to move; the balloon can always discern the desired direction but can not be sure of moving in it. Hence, if a submarine boat were connected with a balloon, the former could transmit to the latter electricity sufficient to operate a motor by which the balloon would receive a motion of translation; and the balloon could indicate the direction in which the boat should be steered. That is the scheme in a nut-shell. It is due to the ingenuity of Mr. G. L. Pesce, a Frenchman, and a paper describing the project was read by him before the French Society of Civil Engineers on July 11th. Evidently it would be possible to keep the balloon at a range virtually beyond the reach of projectiles, and the submarine boats would enjoy similar immunity. A portion of the inventor's essay, as translated in the *Literary Digest*, reads thus:—"To give to this association of balloon and submarine boat a greater effectiveness, it would be preferable to have a flotilla of submarine boats in charge of a single air-ship, one of the boats being specially organized and equipped for the service of the air-ship, whose connecting line it would carry. It would serve alike as a central communicating station toward which would converge all the connecting-cables of the submarine sentinels whose different telephonic lines would run to the balloon. The different submarine boats would become, for the commander, so many dirigible vessels, like dirigible torpedoes. This enormous and powerful aerial vessel, with a torpedo at the end of each of its tentacles, would group together and practically realize, we believe, the sum of the desiderata for the movable and fixed defence of ports and coasts, the cruisers remaining as an advance guard and the coast batteries as the last line of defence of the seashore. Instead of controlling, from the fixed level of a fort, sunken torpedoes located at fixed points, as is now done in the defence of coasts and ports, we could, by the simultaneous employment of balloons and submarine boats, control from a movable point in space, as high as we wish (500 to 600 yards would seem most preferable) a series of torpedoes, movable in all directions, whose position could be altered at will, at any instant, and which could be sent at any moment and in any direction against an enemy. We would be able, in this way, to hold the enemy's fleet at such a distance from the coast that the range of their guns would be insufficient to cause the least damage to our cities, which would thus rest in peace, thanks to the simultaneous action of the two different engines of future naval wars."

DIVINE JUDGMENT.

It would evidently please some folks greatly to be able to say that the calamities suffered by Japan this year from earthquakes, storms, and floods are visitations of Providence, designed to punish Japan for waging an unjust war against China. But inasmuch as these folks have always been scoffers against everything savouring of God, or faith, or piety in any form, they can not easily turn round now and invoke the deity they have so long blasphemed. They discover, however, a fresh chance of baiting the missionaries, who, being quiet, long-suffering persons, not prone to resent abuse, and never likely to retaliate upon their slanderers, are excellent game for cowardly bullies of all classes. Hence the missionaries are now taunted with not perceiving that by means of the natural calamities of this season Providence is rebuking those that waged the war and those that failed to denounce it. There is no truer evidence of thorough-paced moral snobism than a rooted objection to every one better than oneself. The missionaries might be unwilling to accept that explanation of much of the abuse they receive; but it is the right explanation, we strongly suspect.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SILK INDUSTRY.

Mr. Shimoyo is a well-known weaver in Ise-zaki, Joshiu, one of the silk-spinning centres in Japan, and the remarks that he made to a representative of the *Oriental Economist* in connection with improvements in weaving and sericulture generally are worthy of notice. He is convinced of the absolute necessity for improving the thrown silk industry in Japan, and thinks that the imperfection of this branch of the industry is really at the root of the inferiority of the product of Japanese looms as compared with the fabrics of the west. At present only the Nippon Weaving Company and two or three others are preparing silk yarns by employing foreign throwing machines. In other establishments a peculiar instrument that is neither foreign nor Japanese, but a hybrid of the two, is used. The mode of throwing silk with this machine consists in twisting together three threads composed of four singles filaments each, and coming from three different directions. A thread thus made is composed of 12 filaments. This work is done by one person, who turns the wheel with the right hand and holds three threads together in the left. Frequently one of the three threads is broken during the process, but the throwster does not usually take the trouble to stop the wheel and join the broken parts, the result being that a thread that should consist of twelve filaments has often only eight for a length of several feet or even yards. It is natural that fabrics woven from such yarn should be inferior in quality and not bear comparison with the product of Western looms. People deeply interested in the improvement of Japanese textile fabrics aver that the quality of raw material must be first improved; in other words, the methods of sericulturists must be radically amended. Mr. Shimoyo thinks that the order should be reversed, and holds that a desirable result can be more easily and more promptly effected if weavers improve their work. He dwells, in conclusion, on the prospect of China's becoming a formidable rival to Japan in the silk trade, and says that in China strict division of labour is likely to be established between those who produce cocoons and those, mostly foreigners, who reel them. When this division of labour is effected, Shanghai may become an outlet for silk warp alone.

FOREIGN COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The foreign commerce of the United States for the year ending June 30th, 1896, aggregated \$1,642,910,511—viz., imports, \$779,710,024, and exports, \$863,200,487—against \$1,525,362,564 for the previous year, being an increase of 117½ million dollars, in round numbers. It is interesting to note that, whereas 49.6 per cent. of the imports were free of duty in the year ending June 30th, 1895, the corresponding figure for the year ending June 30th, 1896, was only 47.4. None the less, the great bulk of the increase in imports was on the side of dutiable articles; namely, an increase of 41½ million dollars against only 6½ million dollars on the side of duty-free imports. It would appear, therefore, that, onerous as the tariff is, it does not seriously impede the growth of the import trade, or choke off foreign competition. On the other hand, American manufactures seem to be winning an improved place abroad, for nearly 45 million dollars out of the total increase (70 million dollars) in the value of exports stand to the credit of manufactured products. The export of Indian corn shows an increase of 23 million dollars whereas that of wheat fell off by 4 millions. As for the duties collected on imports, they aggregated \$160,534,351 on a dutiable total of \$409,938,088, showing an average rate of over 39 per cent. With what envy these last figures must be regarded by some Eastern financiers! Could China levy even 10 per cent. on her imports, to say nothing of 39 per cent., how easily she might discharge all her monetary obligations to Japan and Europe.

"FREE COINAGE AND ECONOMIC WAR."

From *Bradstreets* of August 15th, we take the following:—

The probable effect of the adoption of a free-coinage policy at the ratio of 16 to 1 by the United States was considered at a recent conference at Berlin, of which an account is given in cabled advices from the German capital. This conference was held at the residence of Prof. Sering, of the Berlin Academy of Agriculture, and to it were invited Baron Von Hammerstein-Loxten, Prussian Minister of Agriculture; Dr. Thiel, First Councillor of the Ministry of Agriculture; Hon. Edwin F. Uhl, United States Ambassador to Germany; Dr. Schumacher, who has made two official visits to the United States for the purpose of studying the agricultural conditions prevailing in America; Mr. Turke, representing an agricultural machinery manufacturing firm; David Lubin, of Sacramento, Cal., as the representative of the Patrons of Husbandry, and two or three other prominent agrarians. Baron Von Hammerstein-Loxten and Ambassador Uhl, having made prior engagements, were unable to attend the conference, but all of the others who were invited were present. Mr. Lubin submitted a series of questions for discussion bearing upon the respective causes, effects and remedies connected with the decline of prices in the agricultural products of the world. Among the number of remedies suggested by the questions submitted were the remonetization of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1 and the establishment of a free-trade system.

According to the report the submission of the questions was followed by a discussion, which lasted five hours. Prof. Sering delivered an address, in which he expressed his belief that the prices of agricultural products had reached their lowest figures, but he admitted that, while they would not fall any lower, it was possible that they might remain stationary for a long time to come. Alluding to Mr. Lubin's contention, which was that if their efforts to establish a free trade system should fail the farmers of the United States ought to be granted bounties upon their exported product by the government, Prof. Sering said that he was not surprised at Mr. Lubin's demand, but he warned him and others of his hearers that if such a system of bounties were established, it would immediately elicit strong retaliatory measures in Europe, and perhaps cause the creation of a protectionist union of the European countries against the United States. It was a mere delusion he continued, for the agriculturists of the United States to suppose that France and Germany could be starved into surrendering. The Argentine Republic and Russia, he said, could provide an ample supply of wheat, meats, etc., for an indefinite time.

Concurrence in Prof. Sering's opinions was expressed by Dr. Schumacher, who said that the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1 in the United States would necessarily induce a very serious economic conflict with Europe. Mr. Turke, whose commercial connections are chiefly with the Argentine Republic and Russia, expressed himself as convinced that both of those countries were only beginning their careers as the grain providers of the world. Russia, he said, was developing in the production of grain amazingly, and he predicted that within a few years the whole of Southern Siberia would become a serious competitor for supplying Europe and the rest of the world with cereals. Prof. Sering suggested the creation of an international alliance of the agrarians of the world, with central bureaux in London, Washington, Berlin or Paris, and that the alliance hold an annual meeting of delegates for the various agrarian institutions. The proposal was deferred for the action of a future conference. So far as can be gathered from the reports there was no serious dissent from the view expressed by Prof. Sering, who led in the discussion regarding the probability of an economic war as the result of the adoption of free coinage by the United States.

RAILWAY AFFAIRS.

The negotiations between the Nippon Railway and the Ryomo Railway Companies for the purchase of the latter line have been definitely arranged. The bargain was struck at 2,850,000 yen, the transaction having the approval of the shareholders of both companies. The purchasing company has not yet decided how it will procure the money necessary to complete the sale, but will submit proposals at the next general meeting of the Company. It is estimated that this addition to the Nippon Railway will not effect the Company's profits. It will declare the usual dividend of 10 per cent. for the year.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce has been investigating, in co-operation with prominent railway experts, the question of the standard gauge to be adopted in Japan. Out of more than ten of the Committee Mr. Watanabe Koki alone was against introducing the wide gauge system

in Japan; the rest are favourable to the broad gauge, and his opinion was overruled. A representation was submitted a few days ago to the Department of Communications in the name of the Chamber, requesting that the Government should determine this important question by appointing a special committee to thoroughly investigate it. The chamber, as representing the opinion of the majority in favour of a wide standard gauge, observes that even when the present railway lines are doubled and the rolling stock increased, the capacities of the railways will be inadequate to provide proper facilities for the steadily augmenting number of passengers and volume of goods needing transportation. Moreover, unless the change in the gauge is effected as quickly as possible, the opportunity may be lost for ever. The Chamber does not think it particularly difficult to change the width of the track on the Government lines, but to widen the Government lines alone would be useless if the others, such as the Nippon, the Ryomo, the Kwansai, and the Sanyo, are not similarly changed. This measure can only be carried out by issuing a law, and granting more or less State aid toward reconstruction expenses. These are all questions that the Government ought to investigate as promptly as possible.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Mr. Taguchi, M.P., editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, and other advocates of bimetalism intend, with the support of their fellow thinkers, to manifest in some way their approval of the exertions of the silverites in America. They will forward a letter to them based on the following points:—

1. The purpose of the silver party in America being to eliminate the various evils incidental to the present monometallic system, the enforcement of an international bimetallic system must prove of immense benefit in promoting the world's prosperity.
2. Japan will suffer, temporarily, an immense loss when gold depreciates and silver rises in value, but the creation of a silver currency on the continent of America and the elevation of the standard currency in Japan will eventually prove a permanent source of profit to this country.
3. The maintenance of the monometallic system conduces to Russia and England becoming more and more powerful. It has enabled England to promote colonies in Africa and Australia, while the opening of gold mines in Siberia has strengthened Russia's resolve to maintain the present system. The accumulation of gold reserves in these two countries is astonishing, and augments their power. It is indeed strange that Western countries should have organized a league for the purchase of gold bullion and thus have permitted Russia and England to add so immensely to their strength. The present attempt of the American silverites to counteract these evils and to elevate silver to its proper position, evokes the earnest sympathy of Japanese bimetalists, who view the subject from the standpoint of international prosperity.

The committee appointed by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce in 1893 to investigate the causes of the fall in silver have concluded their researches. Their report has been submitted in the name of Mr. Sonoda, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, who presided over the meetings. The report is said to be very bulky, containing eight chapters, several of them being subdivided under a number of sectional headings. The *Mainichi* gives an abbreviated summary of the conclusions arrived at. The fall of silver, it says, has considerably disturbed the economics of the world. In regard to Japan the appreciation of gold has given a considerable impetus to the export trade. Were this rise in gold not so general, Japan with her silver currency might have succeeded in enjoying even greater prosperity. Still the benefits accruing from the increase in the export trade must have more than compensated her for any loss she has suffered from the fall in the gold price of silver.

EMIGRATION.

The *Kokumin*, in an elaborate article under the above heading, extending over seven issues, says that the population of Japan shows a marked increase in the north-eastern portion of the country, but owing to the extent of the district and the original scantiness of the population, there is still room for a greater increase. Owing to the proximity of this district to Hokkaido, which is at best only partially opened, north-eastern people very rarely emigrate. It is from central Japan and Kiushiu that the majority of emigrants come, two-thirds of the Japanese labourers in Hawaii being people of Kumamoto and Hiroshima. This shows how densely the central and southern portions of Japan are populated. According to a trustworthy authority, the numbers of Japanese that emigrated during the periods 1885 to 1889 and 1890 to 1894, are as follow:—

	1885 to 1889.	1890 to 1894.
Hawaii	12,221	21,625
Korea	916	4,930
U.S.A.	787	3,789
Russia and Russian dominions	412	2,858
Australia	68	2,037
China	682	869
Canada	0	1,716
India	1	33
South Seas	0	89
West Indies	0	517
Total	15,017	38,463

These people went abroad through the medium of regular labour agents, and devoted themselves to fishing, farming, and so forth. Besides these, a large number must have crossed the seas, either as free labourers or as prostitutes. The latter class are almost invariably followed by Japanese men who sell articles to the women that they cannot obtain in the country of their temporary adoption. The increase in the number of foreign emigrants in the short space of a decade is a striking fact, especially when compared with the growth of population. Even during last year, when, owing to the war, a considerable number of men were directly or indirectly employed in military affairs, the following agents undertook the emigration of labourers:—Ogura Ko: 844—to Hawaii 780; to Canada 64. Kobe Emigrant Co.: 419—to Hawaii 99; to Australia 5; to U.S.A. 42; to Borneo 9; to Canada 264. Hiroshima Emigrant Co.: 1,336—to Hawaii 1,271; to U.S.A. 65.

Up to June of the current year, the number of labourers that went abroad were as follow:—Kissa Emigrant Co., 410 (Australia); Kobe Emigrant Co., 211 (Hawaii); Ogura Ko, 1,935 (Hawaii); and Hiroshima Emigrant Co., 1,777 (Hawaii). Labourers that emigrated to the South Seas, to Mexico, or Brazil, or are about to do so, are not counted in the above. The emigrants tabulated above are only those that went abroad either as free or contract labourers. Some of the emigration agents have incurred a bad reputation from their proceedings, but, on the whole, the nation must thank them for acting as media for emigrants. To the South Seas alone, the agents have sent 1,900 Japanese, as follow:—

Queensland, from 1892 to 1894.....	995
New Caledonia, January 25th, 1892 ...	600
Fiji, 1894	305
Total	1,900

What causes the emigration of Japanese labourers? The writer replies that it essentially arises from over population, and that the recent war has given an impetus to the movement. From 1867 to 1894, about 100,000 Japanese went abroad with the permission of the Government, but the number must really exceed these figures for many men and women left the land without official permission. It would not be an exaggeration, therefore, to put the figures at 150,000. Now though generally termed emigrants, many Japanese go abroad as contract labourers, or with the intention of pursuing business for a time. They are merely sojourners in alien lands, and they furnish a striking contrast to the Chinese. The Chinese, wherever they go, organize a distinct community of their own, and plant, so to say, a Chinese Colony having no intercourse with the rest of the population.

Between 1885 and 1895, no less than 32,712 contract labourers and 35,734 others that left Japan on their own accord, crossed to Hawaii. Their object was to seek temporary employment there, and not to settle. We append a table of occupations showing the trades followed by Japanese emigrants abroad:—

Country.	Labour.	Men.	Women.
U.S.A.	Farming, cooking, waiting, &c.	3,762	192
Canada	Fishing, mining, farming, waiting, &c.	1,563	37
Australia ...	Fishing, farming, waiting, &c.	1,942	20
Hawaii	Farming, manufactures, cooking, waiting, &c.	21,623	940
Siam	Farming	21	6
Guadaloupe ..	Farming	290	0
East Indies ..	Farming, fishing	43	10
Russia	Fishing, mining	1,458	178
England	Cooking, waiting, &c....	229	64
Korea	Fishing, public-works, transportation.	3,662	775
China	Cooking, waiting, &c....	362	145
Hongkong ..	Cooking, waiting, &c....	265	43
Singapore...	Transportation, cooking, &c.	69	30
India	Transportation, cooking, &c.	13	9
France.....	Cooking, waiting, &c....	7	13
South Seas..	Fishing, farming	20	4
Mexico	Farming	29	0
Other places ..	Transportation, fishing, waiting, &c.	339	5
Total		35,707	2,471

Russian Siberia and Korea contain a large number of Japanese, though their object in emigrating is not stated. Especially in 1894, when Japan's influence in the Peninsula was almost paramount, the number of travellers in Korea increased extraordinarily. For instance, while in 1893 Japanese permitted to proceed to Korea totalled 572, the number jumped to 2,059 in the following year. In 1893, only 708 Japanese went to Russian Siberia, but their number increased to 966 next year, and during last year more than 2,000 railway coolies were sent to Vladivostok through the medium of Hiroshima agents alone. But the emigration of Japanese to Korea is an entirely distinct affair, owing to the special relations existing between the two countries. The Japanese in Fusan, Ninsen, Gensan, and Soul present a striking contrast when compared with Japanese emigrants in other parts of the world. In Fusan, over 6,000 Japanese live; in Ninsen 3,500; in Gensan over 2,000; and in Soul over 2,300, in all about 14,000. Then there are over 200 peddlers in the interior of the Peninsula, while over 8,000 fishermen ply their business, in accordance with Treaty provisions, along the northern and eastern coasts of Korea. More than 14,000 Japanese are therefore in Korea, where many of them have settled permanently. The Japanese settlements in Korea present a hopeful aspect and demand the earnest care of the home authorities. The South seas and Southern Asia have lately attracted the attention of Japanese, resulting in the emigration of a goodly number. The following have left Japan for those places since 1892:—

Queensland	955
New Caledonia	600
Fiji	305
Australia	459
Victoria	153
Borneo	18
Siam	20
Total	2,510

Emigrants sent through the medium of agents from the beginning of this year are not included in the above total. Apart from race prejudice, which promises to grow in the South, especially in Australia, other causes are operating to dampen the ardour for the southern march of Japanese labourers. Adverse climatic conditions are preëminent. Of 305 Japanese that landed in Fiji in May, 1892, 106 were carried off in a few months by *beri-beri*, fever, and so forth. The Straits Settlements and Southern Asia as far as Bombay, are principally lurking places for Japanese prostitutes in large numbers.

THE SALVATION ARMY IN JAPAN.

From the 12th to the 14th instant inclusive, at the Head-quarters of the Salvation Army in Japan—near Shimbashi, on Ginza—the first anniversary of the Army's arrival and opening of work in this country was enthusiastically celebrated. The large hall was on each evening well-filled with attentive audiences, who listened with eagerness to Colonel E. Wright's brief narrative of the work done by the Army since Sept. 13th, 1894. It is from Colonel Wright's description that we take the following:—In the year 1890, General Booth first decided to send Salvation Army officers to Japan, and at that time Colonel Wright was a volunteer for the work. The project was, however, abandoned for a time principally owing to lack of funds. The War of 1894 aroused enthusiastic interest in Great Britain, and it was while Japan was at the height of her glory that the "invasion" of the Salvation Army began. In July, 1895, the pioneer officers left London, reaching Yokohama early in September. A small house for meetings was secured a few days later in Tokyo (Shin Sakai-cho), and this city has now become the Head-quarters. The first meeting in the metropolis was held on Sunday, Sept. 15th. There are five Corps actively at work: two in Tokyo (Ginza and Shintomi-cho); one in Yokohama; one in Hachioji; and one in Okayama. The Ginza and Okayama Corps seemed to have met with the greatest amount of success. There are now 25 officers, of whom 16 are Japanese. "The Army knows nothing of 'native' and 'foreign' distinctions. Every officer in Japan is a Japanese in heart and interest, whether the chance of birth gave him a start in this country or not. No better evidence of this can be given than the fact that the officers who came from England accept exactly the same conditions of life as those obtaining among their Japanese comrades. In the scale of allowances, dress, food, homes, opportunity for work, chances of promotion to positions of increased responsibility and usefulness, the conditions are exactly equal." We learn, moreover, that those having the rank of "Captain" draw a maximum salary of eight *yen* per mensem; and on this pittance four women officers, of English birth, are now living in Tokyo, Hachioji, and Okayama. There could be no greater evidence of sincerity, self-denial, and zeal. Statistics show, concerning the work in Tokyo and Yokohama that no less than 603 "conversions" have been recorded during the course of the year. The foreign-born officers have spent 1,121 hours in visiting and talking with those that seemed likely to accept, or had accepted, the faith. In these hours no less than 1,245 houses were visited. Of open-air meetings quite 523 have been held, with 1,098 indoors. Those that have signed the "Articles of War" and registered themselves as "soldiers" number, in Tokyo alone, 130. But most remarkable has been the spread and sale of the *Toki-no-Koe*; the Japanese edition of the "War Cry." This mission-sheet has been twice enlarged since starting, and 1,700 copies are at present printed every fortnight; every one being sold out, as a rule, within the week. No charge whatever is made upon the Army's funds to support this paper; by its sales alone it pays its way and even leaves a margin of profit. Nothing similar can, we fear, be said of any other religious publication in Japan. Of the *Toki-no-Koe*, 26,900 copies have been printed in the twelvemonth, and of these approximately 25,000 have been sold: a most gratifying showing. Another band of officers is expected to arrive shortly from London; but these are simply to assist in opening up new corps, the idea being to put the whole work, as quickly as possible, into the hands of the Japanese officers. And it is all the more remarkable when we remember that not one of the officers that came from Great Britain last year is as yet able to address a meeting in Japanese. Everything is done through the medium of interpreters, and of a truth the Army has discovered in Japan some most zealous, eloquent, and active assistants, well worthy of high official rank. There are now, we are told, three Japanese who rank as "Captains," and several others as "Lieutenants." One of the

secrets of the Army's pronounced success lies in its officers assimilating themselves so entirely with the people. Another is that the work goes on continuously, there is no break, there are no holidays. Each Corps meets once a day, while the officers spend most of the daylight hours in making visits.

In addition to the *Toki-no-Koe*, the Army has published and widely distributed 10,000 pamphlets containing translations of two addresses by General Booth. A Song-book, with about thirty songs, was printed early in the year, and there is now in the press a new edition with more than 100 songs and choruses. Two other books are in course of preparation. The songs have "caught on" immensely with the soldiers and even with those that do not belong to the Army. A good many people in Tokyo can now sing *Mina tusume!* to the tune of "Marching through Georgia." The officers no longer meet with opposition, and the meetings are invariably well attended. In Okazawa, for example, even the street outside is often filled with eager auditors. One of the recent feats of a body of Japanese officers was to march all the way to Hachioji and back to Tokyo, holding open-air meetings wherever they halted. In six days they had 28 converts.

THE TOKYO-UTSUNOMIYA RAILWAY.

On Saturday last it became possible to run trains right through from Tokyo to Utsunomiya, and the regular service was resumed on that day, so that the journey to Nikko has now ceased to present any difficulties. A vast tract of country between Koga and Kurihashi still remains under water, owing to the same cause that operated so disastrously five years ago, namely, the bursting of the westerly bank of the Tone-gawa, and the consequent backward set of the stream. It has already been explained in these columns that the surface of the river some two miles below Koga is higher than the general level of the Koga district through which the railway runs. Hence, when the Tone escapes from its channel at the down-stream point—which tendency it always exhibits in times of heavy flood—the water sets back and forms a lake between the embankment of the river and the filling of the railway. When that occurred in 1891, the railway filling was lower than it is now, and the roadway suffered considerably. But, this year, the water did little damage, and almost immediately after its retreat, trains were able to re-commence running.

PARCELS POST.

The vernacular press states that the parcels post service lately arranged between Japan and England will come into operation from the 1st of October, and that such business will be conducted at the following offices:—Tokyo, Kofu, Chiba, Urawa, Osaka, Wakayama, Nara, Kyoto, Otsu, Yokohama, Shizuoka, Kobe, Okayama, Tottori, Nagasaki, Tau, Kumamoto, Saga, Sapporo, Hakodate, Niigata, Nagoya, Gifu, Fukuoka, Oita, Moji, Sendai, Fukushima, Yamagata, Hiroshima, Akamagasaki, Matsuyama, Yamaguchi, Utsunomiya, Mayebashi, Mito, Nagano, Aomori, Morioka, Akita, Kanazawa, Fukui, Toyama, Tadotsu, Tokushima, Takamatsu, Matsuyama, Kochi, Kagoshima, Miyazaki, and Nawa (Okinawa). Parcels must not exceed 2 ft. in length, and in circumference, must not exceed 6 ft. in all. The charges are as follow, and parcels will be transmitted for the present by the Canadian mail steamers:—

Parcels that do not weigh more than 350 grammes.....	88 yen.
Parcels that weigh more than 350 grammes, but less than 840 grammes.....	1.68 yen.
Parcels that weigh more than 840 grammes, but less than 14,700 grammes.....	9.48 yen.

The Department of Communications has issued regulations relating to a postal service in the interior for parcels deliverable in exchange for their value. The service consists in delivering a parcel to the sender in exchange for its value and in transmitting this money to the sender. The latter is to pay 5 sen extra beyond the ordinary charges on parcels. The value of

such a parcel must not exceed 30 yen. This special service will come into force from Nov. 1st, but such business will only be transacted at post offices that deal with parcels post and postal order business.

NEW HARBOUR REGULATIONS.

The following regulations for Yokohama harbour have been issued by Governor Nakano, of Kanagawa, and are suspended on the notice-boards of the various Consulates:—

"It is hereby notified that rules referring to the fairway, course, and anchorage inside the breakwaters of the Yokohama Harbour for vessels entering or leaving the port have been enacted as follows:—

"Vessels shall pass only between the East and North Breakwater Heads. Craft of small size may, however, pass between the land ends of both Breakwaters and the shore.

"When coming inside the Breakwaters, vessels shall steer West for a distance of at least two cables from the Breakwater Heads, and when going out of the Breakwaters they shall steer East for at least two cables before coming to the Breakwater Heads.

"No vessels shall moor or anchor in such positions as to admit of any part of the craft so moored or anchored encroaching on the space enclosed between two parallel lines five cables long, measured west from the two heads either of the East Breakwater or of the North Breakwater, in whatever direction they may swing."

CHINESE NEWS.

The breach in the bank of the Peiho is evidently becoming a very serious matter from the point of view of Tientsin folks. At the date of latest advices—Sept. 12th—the water of the river had been for four weeks steadily pouring into the plains instead of following the course of the stream, and apart from the destruction wrought by such an inundation, the scouring of the river bed had entirely ceased, so that the contingency of Tientsin's being effectually silted up seemed imminent. The British and German Ministers were said to have brought vigorous pressure to bear on the Tsung-li Yamên with the object of having some effective works of repair undertaken, but no result was yet visible.

The result of the *plébiscite* taken in Shanghai to determine an eleven for the interport cricket matches is as follows, the names being given in the order of voting:—

W. H. Moule.	T. Wallace.
W. H. Jackson.	P. A. Cox.
F. A. de St. Croix.	A. E. Lanning.
J. Mann.	S. M. Wallace.
R. C. Farbridge.	W. J. Tyack.
N. E. Möller.	

Simultaneously with the recent inundations in Japan, the Yangtze rose to an exceptional height, and many houses were flooded at Ichang, some also being washed away.

We take the following from the *North-China Daily News*:—

Mr. C. J. Dudgeon is proceeding almost immediately to Peking to urge upon the Foreign Ministers the importance of appointing a Commission to sit in Shanghai to consider the whole question of the proposed revision of the Commercial Treaties with China. It is suggested that a Board composed of representatives of the mercantile community, and the Customs, and presided over by a Consul, should sit in Shanghai to collect evidence, and draw up a report embodying the result of their labour somewhat in the manner of Royal Commissions or Parliamentary Committees in England. Mr. Dudgeon, in undertaking his present mission, is acting in the best interests, and has the full support of the representatives of, all foreign trade with this country.

An Imperial Decree published in the *Peking Official Gazette*, contains the following account of the late Marquis Tso's celebrated operations against the Mahomedan rebels in Kansu and Turkestan, 30 odd years ago:—

The late Marquis Tso when volunteering for his self-imposed task of reconquering Kansu and

Chinese Turkestan got the Emperor Tung Chih to allow him to do as he pleased without any limit of time to complete his task. He then with an army, almost entirely composed of Hunanese, or brigades of the Siang Army corps, amounting to some 70,000 men, invaded Kansu and by a series of rapid movements and by superior numbers and armament fought his way inch by inch into the rebel country, manifesting no haste when confronted by strong walls. On the contrary, in order to be independent of grain supplies from the other provinces, whenever he besieged a city he made his soldiers plant grain in the soil made fertile by the blood of thousands of massacred Buddhists, and by the time the harvesting period arrived the besieged city was sure to be starved out and forced to surrender while his own army lived in plenty obtained by the sweat of their own brows! By these means, with time as no object, with reinforcements pouring in from time to time, armed with the best modern weapons obtainable from Europe—the Taipings and Nien-feis were by this time completely wiped away—the late Marquis Tso drove the remnants of the defeated Mahomedans to a place called Chinchip'u, west of Lanchow, where stood nearly 150 walled villages surrounded by a circumvallation of strong mud walls. Here the rebels had gathered their women, children, and effects, and still numbering 200,000 fighting men were prepared to hold the place to the last drop of blood. The prospects of so many stern fanatics fighting for hearth, home, and religion would have awed any other mandarin, but it did not deter Tso from his fixed method of fighting the rebels, for with a well-equipped army of nearly 150,000 men and a strong force of artillery, with his lines of communication and supplies kept well open by innumerable outposts dotting the whole line from Chinchip'u to the Grand Canal in Honan, Tso prepared to invest this stupendous fortress or succession of fortresses. While the front line invested the place in front, the other brigades gradually surrounded the walls leaving only the north-western portion open to allow the rebels to escape, and again detachments from each army corps were detailed to cultivate the soil (there was plenty, for its former owners were either slain or were now besieged inside Chinchip'u) and supply the whole army with reserves of grain sufficient for ten years! For ten years the rebels stubbornly held their last stronghold yielding village after village only when it had been completely demolished by the shot, shell, and rockets which fell unceasingly day and night. First only the strong and able-bodied went out to defend the walls, then as their numbers thinned down youths and women shared the vigils of the watch on the walls, and when the last day came and the last three villages of the great fortress alone remained to the 10,000 men, women, and children to oppose 200,000 well-armed foes maddened by hate and furious at the trouble given by this handful of rebels, even little children helped to rain stones from the walls upon the crowds swarming up to the ramparts of the villages. When night fell only 600 men and 150 women mounted on swift horses escaped the massacre. Not a single child escaped with the 750 desperate refugees under their famous leader Peh Pen-lu or the "White-eyed Tiger." The 750 refugees fled past the Great Wall followed by Tso's cavalry until they reached an asylum at last inside the wall of Urumtsi. The Chinese cavalry only pursued as far as the Great Wall for flying bands of rebels still held the country.

THE ORIGINAL OF "TRILBY."

Mr. Frederic Lyster, a well known theatrical manager, alleges the probability that the idea of "Trilby" was borrowed from the career of Mde. Anna Bishop, the famous singer who made her *début* in 1839; took the musical world by storm, and subsequently married the celebrated composer Sir Henry Bishop. "The book 'Trilby,'" writes Mr. Lyster, "seems to be founded on the career of Anna Bishop, for Svengali is simply an exaggerated presentation of Bochsa, her musical director, while the Madame of the story is a replica of Lizzie Phelan, *dame de compagnie*, the very shadow of the great artist for nearly 40 years. The relations between the singer and the harpist were purely professional, yet his will dominated her every action. He rehearsed her songs in the strictest privacy, and when illness prevented Bochsa's presence at general rehearsals, Madame Bishop would also remain away, leaving me to rehearse the band without her. On these occasions, some of the clever instrumentalists would remark,

'Bishop's brains are sick abed.' Although Bochs's influence over the prima donna was evidently paramount, I never saw him descend to the slightest familiarities. He was her *maestro*, her friend, her guide, and nothing more, while she was almost childlike in her meek submission and dependence upon him. Personally, she was a sweet, amiable woman, apparently without individual will-power, and without even the faintest sense of ambition. She sang and acted because she was told to do so, seemingly as if in a prolonged dream. Even when pitted by Bochs against Jenny Lind she appeared to take no interest in the rivalry, but obeyed and trusted in Bochs and the management for the rest."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

AMERICA AND ENGLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the discussion that has been going on in your columns lately on the question of the dislike for Englishmen on the part of citizens of the United States, you say that it appears to you that one of the reasons why this is true is the attitude the English Nation occupied towards the Confederate States, during the Civil War. One of your correspondents also takes the same ground. This, no doubt, is true, if for "citizens of the United States," you substitute the words "citizens of the Northern States." The feeling you speak of is not known in the South, certainly not in the "Old Dominion," whence I am proud to say I come.

It is not my object, however, to join in this discussion. I take issue with certain words which are found further on in the Editorial above referred to. You say there that it seems strange that the nation which had done so much to destroy slavery should during the American Civil War have so strongly sympathized with the side that was warring for its continuance. And you further say you can only explain this on the supposition that the English people suffered from a "temporary vertigo." If you will pardon me, Mr. Editor, I should say that the Editor of the *Japan Mail* and not the English people is subject to "vertigo." I hope it may prove a temporary one.

The Southern States were not fighting for the continuance of slavery, but for their Constitutional Rights, or what they conceived to be their Constitutional Rights, when they drew their swords in '61. Slavery was the *occasion*, but not the *cause* of the war. The quarrel had its origin in the slavery question, but the war was a "constitutional war," and would have been fought just the same, if the quarrel had risen in something else. The leaders on the South would not for a moment have fought for slaves or slavery. On the contrary, most of them considered the system wrong, and had been in the habit of giving freedom to such of their slaves as they considered capable of taking care of themselves.

And not only so, but even in the North there was no talk at the beginning of the War of emancipating the slaves. The North fought for the *Union*. The South fought for the Right of Secession.

I am fully aware that in these latter days most people, who have not looked into the matter or have not drawn it in with their mother's milk, take the same view of this matter, that you apparently do, Mr. Editor. I shall therefore endeavour briefly to convince all such people with the words of one of America's great statesmen—Abraham Lincoln. May he rest in peace!

In his inaugural address of 1861, President Lincoln used the following words:—

"I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with slavery in a State where it exists; I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so."

(One of the leaders in the abolition movement—Sumner—said on the floor of the Senate—February 24th, 1861:—"I take this occasion to declare most explicitly that I do not think that Congress has any right to interfere with slavery in a State.")

When the "Confiscation Act" was passed, President Lincoln sent a message to Congress of which the following is a portion:—

"It is startling to say that Congress can free a slave within a State, and yet, if it were said the ownership of the slave had first been transferred to the nation, and Congress had then liberated him, the difficulty would at once vanish . . . and the question for Congress in regard to them (the

slaves) is 'Shall they be made free or sold to new masters?'"

The policy of the U.S. Government, it is plain to see, though some time after actual hostilities had begun, was not yet defined.

On May 9th, 1862, General Hunter of the U.S. army in South Carolina issued an order declaring "the persons held as slaves in those States (Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina) to be forever free." On May 19th of the same year, President Lincoln issued a proclamation declaring the order to have been issued without due authority, and that the decision of such questions he reserved to himself as President, and that "I do not feel justified in leaving (them) to the decision of commanders in the field."

It was not until September 22nd, 1862, over a year after the war started, when the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, that the Northern States could pose before the world as making war for the purpose of freeing slavery. As a matter of fact, the Emancipation Proclamation was a *war measure*. The idea of many who urged it was that the South would thereby have a new enemy to fight and that too in its own bosom.

It was not a "vertigo" on the part of the English Nation that induced them to sympathize with the South, but a belief that the South was in the right in its interpretation of the Constitution of the United States. The South and Southerners are proud of this unbiassed expression of good-will, and dislike to have it ascribed to "vertigo," or to anything else but a desire for justice and fair-play for which the Englishman is proverbial.

Most truly yours,
September 15th, 1896.

"THE APOTHEOSIS OF RUSSIA."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with interest the article entitled "The Apotheosis of Russia," which appeared in your columns yesterday and to-day. Pardon me if I have been reminded of Coleridge's "The Devil's Thoughts," particularly the 8th stanza, which runs thus:—

Down the river there plied with wind and tide,
A pig with vast celerity;
And the Devil looked wise as he saw the while,
It cut its own throat. There, quoth he, with a smile,
Goes "England's commercial prosperity!"

Yours respectfully,

Yokohama, Sept. 17th, 1896.

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL, NARA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The letter by "Observer," in your issue of the 15th, deserves notice by me because of its reference to the "Episcopal School of Nara."

There is no reason for "Observer" to fear that our School at Nara will "undergo the scandalizing process" that has disrupted the Doshisha. The "Episcopal School at Nara" has adopted the curriculum of the Government Schools in order that its graduates may not be at a disadvantage in their examinations for entrance to the *Koto Gakko*. It can not "break loose from Christian moorings," and its "Japanese teachers and trustees" have no power "to kick out" the missionaries for the following reasons:—

1. The Directors of the School are appointed annually by the Bishop.
2. The Principal of the School is appointed by the Bishop, and may be dismissed by him.
3. No teacher of whom the Bishop disapproves may be employed in the school.
4. The School has no endowment and is dependent for its support on the Treasury of the Missionary Society.

This "little, very little *Chu Gakko*" of nearly two hundred pupils endeavours to give an education equal to that of the Government schools, and at the same time surround its pupils with Christian influences. When it fails to do this it will have no *raison d'être*.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN McKIM.

September 17th, 1896.

THE DOSHISHA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Since the publication of President Kosaki's letter, in which he defined the original purpose of the founding of the Doshisha as being, not the extension of Christianity, but the conferring upon young men of a liberal education including Christian morality, I have referred to an authentic account of Neesima's expressions on the subject. Although reluctant to prolong the controversy concerning the Doshisha, I think the pertinency of those expressions makes it suitable for them to be brought forward at the present time.

In the "Sketch of the Life of J. H. Neesima LL.D." by J. D. Davis, D.D., published in Yokohama in 1890, we find the following statement in regard to the Mission of the American Board in Kyoto:—"A short time before Mr. Neesima's return" (from America in 1874) "our Mission received a letter from Secretary Clark telling us that five thousand dollars were waiting to found a Collegiate and Theological Training school to train Christian workers for Japan." The great opposition to Christianity existing at that time made necessary much prudence, in order to obtain any footing at all for such a school; therefore it is said (page 52) that the Governor of Kyoto told Neesima, "we could teach Christianity in the school under the name of moral science." In Neesima's early appeals for aid for the Doshisha, addressed to the Japanese public, he naturally dwelt upon Christianity as supplying a better morality than Confucianism or Buddhism; but the great purpose to which he gave his life was abundantly shown to go much farther than merely intellectual and moral education.

In a circular address issued by him in the United States in 1885 (Sketch &c., pages 103, 105) he wrote thus:—"Why should we seriously object to raise up Christian statesmen, Christian lawyers, Christian editors, and Christian merchants, as well as Christian preachers and teachers, within the walls of our Christian institutions? It is our humble purpose to save Japan through Christianity. The souls and bodies of our Orientals ought to be thoroughly purged, and consecrated to Christ for establishing his glorious kingdom in the earth as in heaven. . . . We are thus compelled to attempt this broad sweep to reach and win thirty-seven millions of precious souls to Christ. Seeds of truth must be sown now: undue delay will give a grand chance to unbelieving hands to make thorough mischief and render that beautiful island empire hopelessly barren and fruitless."

In an appeal written by Neesima in 1888 and published in twenty of the leading papers of Japan, occurs this language (Sketch, &c., pp. 122-123): "The spirit of Christianity penetrates all things even to the bottom, so that, if we adopt only the material elements of civilization and leave out religion, it is like building up a human body of flesh only without blood."

Among his meditations, written in Neesima's journal while in Italy in 1884, he wrote as follows (Sketch, &c., pp. 154-155): "A policy for our Training School. . . . Let these three factors be our perpetual mottoes: 1. Christ as our foundation stone. 2. Well qualified instructors. 3. Well selected library and thoroughly equipped apparatus."

Near the close of his biographical Sketch, Dr. Davis says of Neesima (page 169): "Deeper than all other thoughts, more important than all other plans, was the thought and planning to bring the millions of Japan to Christ. This was fundamental to his whole plan for a Christian College and University."

In view of such a record, impartial observers cannot fail to recognize in the late action and declarations of the Trustees of the Doshisha, a radical departure from the conditions of its foundation. If the laws of Japan had made it possible for the property purchased with funds contributed by and through the American Board to have remained in its actual possession, the Board would be justified in withdrawing its use from an administration which so far falls short of the fulfilment of the original design of the institution. Let us hope that, as Japan is a land of reactions, a change may yet occur, going back to the spirit and principles of one who deserves to be remembered and honoured as second to none in patriotic devotion to the making of New Japan.

Very respectfully,
H. HARTSHORNE.
Hakodate, September 18th, 1896.

THE FLOODS IN THE GIFU AND NAGOYA DISTRICTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have just returned from visiting parts of the Gifu plain which have been devastated by the recent floods. The Rev. H. J. Hamilton, the only foreign resident in Gifu, kindly accompanied me. I had not time to visit the submerged district in the prefecture of Nagoya, but learnt yesterday from the Rev. J. Cooper Robinson, who had just returned from it, that its area is much smaller than that in the Gifu Ken.

Happily there is no such loss of life to record in these districts in the present calamity as after the earthquake of 1891. Yet, in itself, the death roll is a long one. According to returns given me two days ago by the relieving officer in Imau, a town to the west of Gifu, 44 persons had been drowned

in that immediate neighbourhood—though owing to the proximity of the embankment of the Nagaregawa no life was lost in the town itself—and 84 in the neighbouring town of Takasu. I was unable to obtain returns for the whole prefecture.

On the other hand the loss of property has been far greater than five years ago. The whole country for many miles is under water. The crops are wholly destroyed. Many houses are in ruins or have disappeared from their foundations. On the evening of Thursday, the 10th inst., the water reached the upper floors, and the wind, which was blowing with almost the force of a typhoon, raised great waves on the newly formed lake, which overthrew the weaker structures. In Imai, out of some 300 houses, 100 fell. Those which remain will not be habitable for some time.

The people are living in huts, made chiefly of straw, which they have erected on the embankments, and in such public buildings as escaped the general devastation. The embankments of the Nagaregawa seem for many miles with the population to which they have given refuge. The school at Imai has received over 800 of the poorest inhabitants. The good behaviour and cheerfulness of the people under such piteous circumstances seemed most praiseworthy.

The local authorities have been equal to the heavy demand made upon them, and there does not seem to be any immediate lack of food or of medical supplies. But all whom I consulted were of opinion that the distress through the coming autumn and winter will be very great. Those who have no means at their disposal, except such as they obtain by the day's toil, can indeed ill support the sudden and complete loss of home and possessions. No doubt the repairing of dykes and the re-erection of houses will, after a time, put much work into the hands of able-bodied labourers and artisans, but the old, the infirm, and the very young, have no such resource and must be largely dependent upon private benevolence. In a letter which you kindly published in November, 1891, I ventured to advocate the erection of a hostel for aged persons as one means of assisting some of the most wretched and needy sufferers by the earthquake of that year. Sufficient funds were subscribed for the purpose and the Institution has continued its useful work till the present time. The Rev. J. C. Robinson, who has throughout been in charge of the hostel, is prepared to receive other inmates as accommodation and funds may allow.

Any contributions which are entrusted to the Rev. H. J. Hamilton, Gifu, Mino; or to the Rev. J. C. Robinson, Nagoya, Owari; or to myself, will, with your permission, be acknowledged in the *Mail*, and assigned, as the subscribers may direct, either to supplying clothes and bedding to the poorest residents in the submerged districts, or to the accommodation and support of new inmates in the Nagoya Hostel.

I venture to express the hope that considerable sums may be subscribed for these objects. If this country is liable beyond others to suffer by great natural calamities, it will be felt that there is at least this much of compensation that they are special occasions of that charity which is not limited to but is characteristic of our Faith.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
EDW. BICKERSTETH.
Bishop.

19th September, 1896.

THE PARCEL POST.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

PARCEL POST REGULATIONS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

We hereby give our sanction to the present Ordinance relating to a contract entered into between the Department of Communications of the Empire of Japan and the General Post Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in connection with the transit of Parcels through the Post, and order the same to be promulgated.

His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.
Great Seal.

Sept. 17th, of the 29th year of *Meiji*.

Count KURODA KIYOTAKA,
Minister President of State.
SHIRANE SENICHI,
Minister of Communications.

The Department of Communications of the Empire of Japan and the General Post Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland hereby stipulate to establish a Parcel Post Service between the two countries, such parcels not to be subject to insurance or deliverable in exchange for their value.

The Regulations of this parcels post between Japan and the United Kingdom, and for the delivery of parcels for transmission beyond, are determined according to the following regulations.

ART. I.

Clause 1.—Parcels not insurable and not deliverable in exchange for their value may, under the heading of "parcels post matters," be transmitted between the two countries; the weight limit for parcels from the United Kingdom to Japan not to exceed 11 pounds, and from Japan to the United Kingdom 1 *kwamme* 320 *momme*.

Clause 2.—The Postal Authorities of the two Powers shall determine matters relating to the covers, size, &c., of parcels for transmission, and also decide what substances may not be posted in parcels.

ART. II.

Clause 1.—The Postal Authorities of the two Powers shall undertake, within the limit of their respective territories, to transmit or receive parcels to or from other countries with which parcels post regulations exist. For parcels of this description the Postal Authorities of the two Powers shall undertake to hold themselves responsible within the limits specified in Art. IX.

Clause 2.—For parcels coming from or destined for other countries and transmitted through and beyond Japan or the United Kingdom, the Postal Authorities of the two Powers shall consult and determine as to the mode of exchange between the various offices.

ART. III.

Charges on parcels sent by post must be paid in advance.

ART. IV.

The charges on parcels to be transmitted from the United Kingdom to the Empire of Japan, or *vice versa*, and the share to be allotted to the respective Post Offices, shall be determined as follows:—

A.—PARCELS TRANSMITTED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO JAPAN.

	Parcels not more than 3 pounds.	Parcels above 3 pounds, but not below 7 pounds.	Parcels above 7 pounds, but not below 10 pounds.
Rates in the interior of the United Kingdom	5d.	10d.	1s. 3d.
Rates from the United Kingdom to Japan	10d.	1s. 8d.	2s. 6d.
Rates in the interior of Japan	5d.	10d.	1s. 3d.
Distribution and Customs charge	2d.	2d.	2d.
Total	1s. 10d.	3s. 6d.	5s. 2d.

B.—PARCELS FROM JAPAN TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

	Parcels not more than 3 <i>kwamme</i> 320 <i>momme</i> .	Parcels above 3 <i>kwamme</i> 320 <i>momme</i> , but not below 8 <i>kwamme</i> 320 <i>momme</i> .	Parcels above 8 <i>kwamme</i> 320 <i>momme</i> , but not below 12 <i>kwamme</i> 320 <i>momme</i> .
Rates in the interior of Japan	5d.	10d.	1s. 3d.
Rates from Japan to the United Kingdom	10d.	1s. 8d.	2s. 6d.
Rates in the interior of the United Kingdom	5d.	10d.	1s. 3d.
Distribution and Customs charges	2d.	2d.	2d.
Total	1s. 10d.	3s. 6d.	5s. 2d.

ART. V.

The expenses of vessels used for the transmission of parcels shall be borne equally by the Postal Authorities of the two Powers.

ART. VI.

For parcels transmitted from the territory of one of the two contracting Powers to that of the other; no other postal duties except those specified in Arts. IV. and VII. are to be imposed.

ART. VII.

When, in consequence of a change of the place of abode of the sender, a parcel has to be re-transmitted from the territory of one of the contracting Powers to that of the other, or when, in consequence of impossibility of delivery, a parcel is sent back, the charges specified in Art. IV. shall be levied either from the sender or the sender. The customs charges already paid may be reclaimed.

ART. VIII.

Parcels containing letters or documents bearing the character of correspondence or other substance whose transmission is forbidden by the customs or laws or regulations of the countries concerned, shall not be sent by the parcels post.

ART. IX.

Clause 1.—Except in cases of natural calamities or unavoidable occurrences, when a parcel is lost or damaged, the sender—or, when the sender is absent, his representative—may lay claim for

damages corresponding to the actual amount of the loss or damage.

Provided that for a parcel not weighing over 7 pounds (840 *momme*) the damage must not exceed 12 shillings, and for a parcel weighing over 7 pounds (840 *momme*), 1 pound sterling. The sender of a lost parcel may apply for the refunding of postal charges.

Clause 2.—Obligations incidental to the paying of damages shall devolve on the Postal Authorities that control the office of despatch. Provided that the Authorities in question may lay claim for refunding of damages to the Postal Authorities in whose jurisdiction, or while in whose charge, the parcel in question was lost or damaged.

Clause 3.—Postal Authorities that have received a parcel without protest and cannot produce evidence to show that the parcel in question was duly delivered to the sender or duly sent on to the other Postal Authorities, shall be held responsible for it till evidence can be furnished.

Clause 4.—The Postal Authorities will pay the damages as promptly as possible, within a period not exceeding one year, computed from the date on which the claim for damages was duly submitted. The Postal Authorities held responsible for the damages must pay the amount to the office of transmission as promptly as possible.

Clause 5.—Claims for damages will be received within a period of one year, computed from the day on which the claim was duly lodged; on the expiration of that term the claimant shall lose his rights for recovery of damages.

Clause 6.—When, in course of transmission between the two contracting Powers, a parcel is lost or damaged, and when it can not be established in which jurisdiction such loss or damage occurred, the two Postal Authorities shall equally bear one half of the total damages.

Clause 7.—The Postal Authorities shall be relieved from responsibility when a parcel is duly received by the person entitled to receive it.

ART. X.

When, in case of emergency, the respective Postal Authorities deem the suspension of the parcels post service appropriate, it may be temporarily suspended, *in toto* or in part. Provided that in such event information of the matter must be speedily conveyed to the other Postal Authorities, by telegram when urgency is necessary.

ART. XI.

For matters not expressly provided for in the present stipulation, the postal provisions in force in the interior of the respective contracting powers shall be applied.

ART. XII.

The Postal Authorities of the two contracting powers shall determine at what Post Offices on localities foreign parcels post matters can be dealt with, as also the modes relating to the transmission of parcels and detailed processes necessary for carrying out the present stipulation.

ART. XIII.

Clause 1.—The date of the enforcement of the present stipulation shall be determined by a conference of the Postal Authorities of the two Contracting Powers.

Clause 2.—The present stipulation shall retain validity for the period of one year after one of the two contracting powers desires to abolish it, and has communicated that wish to the other power.

Clause 3.—The present stipulation is duly signed and sealed in accordance with accredited authority by the undermentioned Ministers.

The present stipulation is drawn up in duplicate and is done at Tokyo on May 21st of the 29th year of *Meiji*, and at London on June 23rd, 1896.

SHIRANE SENICHI,
Minister of Communications,
of the Empire of Japan.

NORFOLK,
Postmaster-General of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Ireland.

A return has been issued showing the number of desertions and failures to join sea-going vessels (registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894) in various parts of the world, compiled from articles of agreement which terminated in 1895. The estimated number of persons employed in sailing ships and steamers combined, excluding masters, cattlemen, and Lascars, was 138,500. Of this total, 18,028 deserted in the British Islands, and 14,502 abroad. An analysis of the ratings given in the tables contained in the return shows that able seamen and firemen are answerable for the great majority of the desertions and failures to join, although, as a body of men, they do not number quite half the persons employed upon foreign-going vessels.

EARTHQUAKE AND TIDAL WAVE IN JAPAN.

RELIEF FUND FOR SUFFERERS.

At a meeting held at the Mansion House on Tuesday, the 21st of July, the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor in the Chair, the Council of the Japan Society of London were constituted a Committee to receive Donations to a Fund to be raised for the relief of sufferers from this dreadful calamity.

The preliminary list of donations, announced in the room, is herewith appended. Further donations are urgently needed, and should be forwarded to the Hon. Secretaries of the Japan Society of London, 20 Hanover Square, W.

Cheques should be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Japan Society, and crossed "Barclay and Co.: Japanese Relief Fund."

CHARLES HOLME, Hon. Secretaries,
T. F. K. TANABE, Japan Society.

The sum of One Thousand Pounds, for the relief of urgent cases, has already been placed by telegraph at the disposal of the British Minister in Tokyo.

FIRST LIST OF DONATIONS.

	£	d.	s.
Mr. A. F. Hills (Chairman, Thames Shipbuilding Company)	1050	0	0
From some Traders with Japan met together on S.S. <i>Cornwall</i> , per Alderman Samuel	50	0	0
The Duke of Westminster, K.G.	25	0	0
The Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd., London	25	0	0
Messrs. Mitsui & Co.	25	0	0
Messrs. Okura & Co.	25	0	0
Lieutenant T. H. James (Manager, Japan Mail Steam-Ship Co., London) ..	25	0	0
The Duke of Newcastle	20	0	0
Mr. W. L. Bowes (Japanese Consul, Liverpool)	20	0	0
Mr. R. A. McLean	10	10	0
Mr. Thomas Hamilton	10	10	0
The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor	10	0	0
Sir J. J. Trevor-Lawrence, Bart.	10	0	0
Sir George Tyler, Bart.	10	0	0
Mr. Alma Tadema, R.A.	10	0	0
Professor W. Anderson, F.R.C.S.	10	0	0
Mr. A. L. Liberty, J.P.	10	0	0
Dr. F. Elgar	10	0	0
Sir Stuart Knill, Bart.	5	5	0
Sir Edwin Arnold, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.	5	5	0
Mr. A. R. Brown (Japanese Consul, Glasgow)	5	5	0
Mr. H. S. Wellcome	5	5	0
Mr. Alderman Samuel	5	5	0
Miss Kurokawa	5	5	0
Mr. G. Hayashi (Japanese Consul, London)	5	5	0
Messrs. Shaw, Adams & Co.	5	5	0
Lord de Saumarez	5	0	0
His Excellency Viscount Aoki (Berlin) ..	5	0	0
Colonel Sir Edward S. Hill, K.C.B., M.P.	5	0	0
Mr. Arthur Diósy	5	0	0
Mr. Charles Holme	5	0	0
Mr. Paul Bevan, M.A.	5	0	0
Mr. Marcus B. Huish, LL.B.	5	0	0
Mrs. E. Louise Liberty	5	0	0
Mrs. Fraser	5	0	0
Mr. Y. Tokugawa	5	0	0
Employés Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.	4	0	0
Mr. Y. Nakai	3	3	0
Mr. S. Watanabe	3	3	0
Mr. H. Ijima	3	3	0
Mr. S. N. Akaba	3	3	0
Major G. Shiba	3	0	0
Mrs. W. Anderson	2	2	0
Sir Walter Pulteney, Bart.	2	2	0
Mr. Ed. R. P. Moon, M.P.	2	2	0
Mr. Frank Dillon, R.I.	2	0	0
An American Lady who loves Japan ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Salway	1	1	0
Dr. Keser	1	1	0
Mr. J. Hone Dyas	1	1	0
Mr. K. Tsuchiko	1	1	0
Prof. Nagaoka	1	1	0
Mr. John Mogford	1	0	0
Mr. Y. Kamada	1	0	0
Dr. H. Usui, I.J.N.	1	0	0
Mr. E. Gilbertson	1	0	0
Mr. Y. Saito	1	0	0
Mrs. Leech	1	0	0
Mdme. J. Prevot (Paris)	0	10	6
Anonymous	0	5	0

Total £1,489 18 6

CRICKET.

CAPTAIN'S ELEVEN VERSUS SECRETARY'S ELEVEN.

A pleasant game was played on Saturday afternoon between teams captained by Mr. Walford (Captain of Cricket) and Mr. Crawford (Honorary Secretary). The former winning the toss sent in his side to bat, White and Campbell opening for them. Only three of the batsmen got into double figures, White (62), Murray (25), and Dr. Todd (11, not out), Watts' bowling proving very successful. At the close of the innings this bowler's analysis read: 48 balls, 8 runs, 4 maidens, 7 wickets. Then the Secretary's eleven went in, but the light did not allow of the game being finished and only six wickets were down when time was called. Edwards made the top score for the Secretary's side, 53 not out, though he was missed several times by the fielders, who were very slack. One of the bats, Showler, for the Captain's team, was put out in a curious fashion. He was the third man to play, taking Campbell's place, and had to face the bowling of Edwards. A ball sent down by Edwards glanced off Showler's pads and striking Dickinson, who was wicket-keeping, rebounded on to the wicket. The batsman had moved out of his ground at the time and was given out. Scores:—

MR. WALFORD'S TEAM.					
Mr. F. E. White, st. Dickinson, b. H. Goddard	...	...	...	...	62
Mr. H. E. Campbell, c. W. Goddard, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	6
Mr. W. Y. Showler, st. Dickinson, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	3
Mr. G. C. Murray, b. Watt	...	...	...	...	25
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Scott, b. Watt	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Watt	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. H. Stephens, st. Dickinson, b. Watt	...	...	...	...	5
Mr. H. Tennant, l.b.w. Watt	...	...	...	...	0
Dr. Todd, not out	...	...	...	...	11
Mr. R. Sakamoto, b. Watt	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. B. Mason, l.b.w. McGerrow	...	...	...	...	9
Mr. A. J. Lloyd, b. Watt	...	...	...	...	9
Extras	...	...	...	...	12
					146

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WI.
Mr. H. S. Goddard	100	30	5	1	—
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	85	38	4	1	—
Mr. F. H. Bugbird	55	30	4	—	—
Mr. W. Goddard	45	8	2	—	—
Mr. H. E. Harries	5	4	1	—	1
Mr. C. McGerrow	35	19	2	1	—
Mr. A. M. Watt	48	8	4	7	—

MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.

Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	2
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	27
Mr. H. E. Harries, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Walford, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	8
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, not out	...	...	...	...	53
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, b. Murray	...	...	...	...	21
Mr. H. Goddard, b. White	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. W. Goddard	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. A. J. Watt	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. C. McGerrow	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. G. Allcock	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. R. Scott	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. C. Moss	...	...	...	...	—
b. 5, l.b. 2, w. 1	...	...	...	...	8
					108

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. A. Kingdon
Mr. G. C. Murray
Mr. F. E. White

THE Y.C. AND A.C. VERSUS VISITORS.

A scratch team of the Yokohama Cricket Club met a team of visitors, assisted by the ground men, on Wednesday afternoon, and had little difficulty in winning. With the exception of Mr. Maitland (51, not out) from Hongkong, the visitors did little in the way of scoring, being all out for 77. The home team then went in, having to face very poor bowling. At five o'clock, when rain put an end to the game, 143 runs had been made for the loss of four wickets. Scores:—

VISITORS.					
Mr. Maitland, not out	...	...	...	...	51
Momban, b. Walford	...	...	...	...	8
Mr. Baker, b. Kingdon	...	...	...	...	0
Dr. Roper, b. Walford	...	...	...	...	4
Dr. Chichester, c. White, b. Walford	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. Bruce, b. Johnstone	...	...	...	...	6
Mr. Murray, c. Mair, b. Johnstone	...	...	...	...	0
Capt. Chelley, c. Kingdon, b. Johnstone	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. Finch, c. Thomson, b. Johnstone	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. Richards, b. Johnstone	...	...	...	...	4
Mr. Dias, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	0
Chesal, b. Edwards	...	...	...	...	0
b. 5, l.b. 3	...	...	...	...	8
					77

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. White, c. Baker, b. Momban	...	...	...	...	4
Mr. Johnstone, c. Richards, b. Momban	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. Walford, c. and b. Chichester	...	...	...	...	91
Mr. Kingdon, not out	...	...	...	...	32
Mr. Rose Thomson, c. Maitland, b. Momban	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. Edwards	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. Schurr	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. Tennant	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. Mair	...	...	...	...	—
Mr. Lloyd	...	...	...	...	—
Dr. Todd	...	...	...	...	—
b. 9, w. 5	...	...	...	...	7
					143

THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE AKITA PREFECTURE.

A VISIT TO THE SCENE.

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

I entered the Semboku District by the back door, from Akita on the west coast. The way by the front door, that toward the capital, of course, leaves the railroad at Kurosawajiri and after some twenty *ri*, enters this District at Yokote, the usual stopping place *en route* to Akita. Never a good road, this is now practically impassable for *jirikishas*. A pleasant ride of fourteen *ri* brought me to Omagari, the official centre of the District. The *jirikisha* business in Akita Prefecture is well managed. There are numerous companies, and it is generally possible to buy a set of coupon tickets from one point to another at a fixed rate per *ri*. The men change at frequent intervals and an average speed of nearly two *ri* per hour is kept up. But the *jirikisha* men on this occasion took advantage of the damage to the road to waive the ticket system and put the price up to nearly twice the usual rate. I started well equipped for rain, though the morning was clear and cool. Ten days of constant rain had made me wary. The weather, like some of the rest of us, does not reform its bad habits easily, and the fair promises "to do better this time," with which it had greeted us for several mornings, had been uniformly broken before noon. But when I set out the reformation proved permanent and complete. The fine morning became a perfect day. The road led up a beautiful river valley, down which flowed, full to the hills on each side, a river of yellowing rice fields. Here and there a green island of beans could be seen, but far as the eye could reach no "social smoke" and scarcely any human habitations. As we went on, the valley narrowed, and at times we left the river and crossed a little spur of the mountains. Here all signs of human life ceased, except that low bushes gave evidence that human hands had cut away the trees once covering all the hills.

After passing Wada, the fourth village, traces of recent seismic disturbance became plentiful. There were no houses to be wrecked, but the road was ploughed with great fissures, embankments were thrown down, and landslides were numerous. At Kaiwano, I saw the first wrecked houses, twenty-four of them, but after passing this village, the earth movements seemed to have been less violent, and this continued until we rounded the mountain spur, crossed a big bridge, and entered the town of Omagari. Here evidences of earthquake were plentiful enough. Fifteen per cent. of the houses had sustained some sort of injury. Props and braces were to be seen everywhere. Eight people had been killed and eleven wounded. The third storey of the hotel in which I lodged had been wrecked and the lower storeys were braced up with large timbers. From Omagari *jirikisha* fares were higher still, but I found a man who agreed to start with me early the next morning for a circuit of some eight *ri* through the villages where the disturbances have been greatest. As we left Omagari, solitary farm houses and little hamlets became more common. Of these scarcely one was left intact. Most of them were entirely overthrown; the few left standing leaned in every direction or only kept their equilibrium by means of poles and props. Many of the rice fields seemed as badly damaged as the houses. The grain, nearly ready for the sickle, was matted and twisted and buried in mud, and needed immediate attention to save it from total loss. But the hands which should have been caring for it, were busy clearing away the wreckage. Even old women and little children were working the debris over to save what they could. The people were living in sheds and tents made of matting and pieces of the wreckage. In many cases where the high thatched roof lay on the ground unbroken, an opening had been made in the side for a door and people were literally living in the roofs of their houses.

Rokugo before the earthquake must have been a rather well-to-do-looking country town. It had eleven hundred and twenty-five houses and a population of six thousand five hundred and fifty-eight. Eight hundred and thirty-two houses were totally destroyed or seriously injured. Twenty-four persons were killed, and eighty-one were wounded. Most of the inhabitants are farmers, which helps to account for the small loss of life. At five o'clock in the afternoon they were at work in distant rice fields. Except an old woman or some children left at home to keep the house, most of the destroyed houses were vacant at the time. The police station, a small, white building with the little round hood over the door which Japanese builders consider essential to "foreign" architecture, was still standing.

The officers gave me a copy of their report, which included the town itself and five outlying villages. The school building at the end of the town had been transformed into a hospital, and a corps of Red Cross surgeons and nurses were in charge. Two other hospitals have been established in the district and the wounded are all being well cared for. Among the thirty cases in the school house, several were serious and have probably resulted fatally before this. The wounded are principally old people and children. The surgeons told me it took them a week to reach the place, as, on account of the condition of the roads, they were obliged to go around by Aomori. Previous to their coming, the physicians of the vicinity worked night and day, but they were greatly troubled by scarcity of medicine caused by breakages during the earthquake.

From Rokugo, my *jinrikisha* man took me by winding paths through fields of beans, to the little village of Hataya, or rather to the site of it, for of its four hundred and twenty-one houses not a dozen remained. Two *ri* more brought me to Senya, where I saw the signs of the most violent disturbance. Here I met Mr. R. Sakamoto, M.P., whose beautiful residence had been completely ruined. He guided me over the premises and gave me a very interesting account of the disaster. He said the shocks reached their maximum at once, beginning with a violent upheaval which laid his house in ruins in three seconds. It seemed incredible that no one was killed. The interior of his godown looked as though an explosion had occurred just below it. The floor, of massive polished *keyaki*, was thrown up in the centre about two feet. A fissure about two feet wide ran directly under his house and across his yard. A large block of free stone which formed part of the foundation, looked as though it had been sliced with a knife into about twenty pieces. The two buildings that remained standing were left leaning in exactly opposite directions. Near this village, or a little to the east of it, must have been the centre of the entire disturbance. In the evening, I met a Mr. Oizumi, the principal of the Akita Agricultural School, who had been for several days in the mountain region between here and Iwate Ken. Beginning a little east of this village, he had found a fissure extending into the mountains about five *ri* and having a width of several hundred yards. In every direction from this point he told me the evidences of disturbance grew less, and he felt confident that near here was the exact centre. From Senya it is about two *ri* to the village of Takanashi. This was the worst piece of road I saw. Every bridge was broken, and for a long distance, a mile at least, the bed of the road had subsided and was covered with from a foot to eighteen inches of running water. The road bed had become a little stream.

At Takanashi is the residence of the wealthiest man in the Prefecture, Mr. J. Ikida, until recently a member of the Upper House. He is reputed to own five square *ri* of rice land. His house, with its offices and godowns and other out-buildings, look like a small village, and thirty or forty servants are constantly in attendance. The premises seemed to be about half destroyed. Mr. Ikida told me that the motion here was entirely horizontal, but so violent that he was thrown to the ground in attempting to walk. Leaving Mr. Ikida's place, another *ri* brought me back to Omagari, where I arrived about three o'clock. The officials of the District office at Omagari gave me the following as the latest statistics:—In the thirty-five towns and villages of the Sembaku District, 146 were killed and 494 wounded. 4,387 houses were wholly destroyed, 1,785, half destroyed, and 8,999 more or less injured. There are no figures on which to base an estimate of the amount of the loss. It is not so great as in the case of a fire, for even where houses were wholly wrecked, much of the lumber can be immediately used again, and nearly all of it will have some value. The calamity having occurred among the farmers, who raise their own provisions, there will be much less suffering than there would be in a city. The season, too, is the most favourable possible as the harvests are at hand. But among the many to be found everywhere who can just keep soul and body together and provide the daily necessities, any accident brings want, and there will be numerous cases of great and real distress that must be relieved.

In 1780, about the time the steam engine was invented, the consumption of coal in Great Britain was some 6,500,000 gross tons a year. It had risen to 27,000,000 tons in 1816; to 50,875,000 tons in 1850; 112,875,525 tons in 1870; to 181,614,288 tons in 1890; and to 188,777,525 gross tons (210,870,828 net tons) in 1894.

DROWNING IN THE HARBOUR.

An inquest was held at the British Consulate, Yokohama, on Saturday afternoon, before R. A. Mowat, Esq., acting as Coroner, into the circumstances attending the death of Hugo Hejdenberg, a Swede, who fell from the gangway of the steamer *Flintshire* on Friday night, and whose body was not recovered till twelve hours afterwards. The jury were, Messrs. W. W. Till, P. S. Bent, and C. T. Benney.

Captain John Dwyer, sworn, deposed—I am Master of the *Flintshire*. The body the jury have just viewed is that of Hugo Hejdenberg, age 24, an A.B., acting as quarter-master on the steamer. I saw him alive during the afternoon of Friday. I know he then asked for permission to go on shore, and leave was granted by one of the officers. Shortly after midnight I heard a disturbance on the wharf, then I heard a splash. I immediately jumped from my berth, went on deck, and sang out to the men on the wharf, asking what was the matter. I was told that a quarter-master was in the water. At the same time one of the seamen on the wharf jumped into the water. He asked for a rope, and I took the davit-fall and threw it right over the man. Then I went down on to the wharf myself. I called for lights, and within a minute a large lamp was brought, and lowered down to the water. The *Flintshire* was lying close to the wharf. The man in the water said that he could see and hear nothing. Then we pulled him out. There is a space of about three feet between the wharf side and the steamer. The body was recovered about 11 o'clock this morning. There were a number of strange sailors on the wharf when the accident happened; they were more or less intoxicated.

To Mr. Till—I did not see the man fall, but I heard that deceased fell from the gangway into the water.

To Mr. Bent—The men on the wharf were Scandinavians, I think.

Frank Ernest Reynolds, surgeon on the *Flintshire*, sworn, deposed—I saw the body of deceased soon after it came out of the water. I examined it and found *rigor mortis* well developed. There was a good deal of sanious fluid about the nostrils and flowing from the mouth. There were several bruises on the face, one about two inches long over the right eyebrow, another about one inch long near the lower jaw, and a slight abrasion on the nose. They were all trifling. I found no other marks of violence on the body. The bruises might be caused by striking the pier or ship as he fell into the water.

Eric Holmgren, a Swede, sworn, deposed—I am an A.B. of the *Flintshire* and went ashore with the deceased, who was a countryman of mine, at 7.30 p.m. on Friday. There was also with us John Carlson. We went round the town, calling in at several places for a drink. Deceased left us before we came out of the last place, and when we left we found him in the street. He was lying down on his face. This was about half-past eleven o'clock. Carlson and I carried him down to the wharf; sometimes we carried him and sometimes he walked. He was very far gone in intoxication. When we tried to get him up the gangway he fell into the water. We were not carrying him then. The gangway was a proper ladder leading from the pier to the ship; there were lines on both sides of the ladder. Carlson went up first, then I came next; deceased was behind me, and a stranger from another ship followed him. This man had gone ashore with us, having called on the ship with a companion just before we left the ship. We all returned together, five of us. The two strange sailors helped us along with deceased. I was nearly up the gangway when I heard a splash, and looked round: deceased was gone. I sprang from the gangway on to the pier, and from there into the water. I sang out for a rope and one was thrown to me. I could not see nor hear anything of the deceased and by-and-by I was hauled up.

To Mr. Till—Deceased's face was bruised through falling on the street: he grazed his nose a little.

John Carlson, sworn, deposed to being in company with deceased and the last witness all Friday night. They had several drinks together. Deceased was very drunk at the last, and after they picked him up they sometimes carried him and sometimes he walked. Witness went on board first and did not see deceased fall into the water, being then in the fore-castle.

To Mr. Bent—The other sailors belonged to the *Port Philip*.

Capt. Dwyer, recalled, said that the deck of the ship was about 18 or 20 feet above the level of the pier. The gangway was about 24 or 25 feet long, and was sloped at an angle down the side

of the ship. There are chains running down the sides, with 5 feet stanchions. The man was about 5ft. 8in. high, and he must have doubled up as he fell. The gangway is about three feet wide and the man must have fallen on to the pier and then into the water, though none of men seem to know how he fell. He might have fallen between the gangway and the ship.

Holmgren, recalled, said deceased had got half way up the gangway before he fell. He fell so suddenly that he did not know how he fell, or whether deceased struck the pier or not.

Captain Dwyer said that a chock was placed between the gangway and the ship to prevent the ladder from swinging.

To Mr. Benney—The fall would not shake the ladder; it is too heavy.

Holmgren said that the man could not get up the ladder alone, and he had hold of deceased arm up to a moment before the accident; then he released him in order to get a firmer grip of his arm. Just as he left go the man must have fallen.

Capt. Dwyer said that all the men were very much intoxicated.

Ernest Robert Henry Cockerton, sworn, deposed—I am the Fourth Engineer of the *Flintshire* and was returning to the ship about half-past twelve. I saw four or five men at the gangway making a little bother. As I got alongside I heard a splash, and a quarter-master told me that it was deceased. This man was just then going into the water. I saw nothing of the accident, only heard the splash. The men on the wharf were intoxicated, and one wanted to fight the Captain. He also had a narrow escape from falling into the water.

To Mr. Benney—The men were quarrelling among themselves.

The enquiry was then adjourned till Wednesday at 10 o'clock for the production of the two men of the *Port Philip*.

The inquiry into the death of Hugo Hejdenberg, late a quarter-master on the steamship *Flintshire*—whose body was taken from the harbour on Saturday morning—was resumed on Thursday morning in H.B.M. Court for Japan by R. A. Mowat, Esq., acting as Coroner, and Messrs. W. W. Till, P. S. Bent, and C. T. Benney, jurors.

Fritz Engstorn, a fireman on the *Port Philip*, said—I accompanied the deceased and others on shore on the night in question. We called at several places and had drinks. Between twelve and one o'clock we left the house to return to the ship. Hugo had left a few moments before. We found him lying on the ground, and finding that his legs would not carry him, we brought him down to the wharf together. When we reached the pier, two of us went in front of the deceased and two walked behind. In this way we reached the gangway. The deceased tried to walk up the ladder, we supporting him as he went. One man held his arm in front and Anderson held him from behind. Then something happened, the gangway moving to one side, and we lost hold of the deceased and he fell into the water: he fell between the ship and the wharf, striking the pier as he fell. I was too far behind, at the foot of the gangway, to help the deceased as he fell. He fell sideways into the water. I was not sober that night.

Gustave Anderson, sworn, deposed—I am a Swede, and a fireman on the *Port Philip*. The evidence just given is mainly correct, but I don't think that I was behind the deceased; I believe I was between him and the ship when we went up the ladder. I was helping to get him up, and when he fell he seemed to fall away from me sideways. We had stopped on the gangway to shift our hold on deceased when he fell. I was far from being sober. I cannot say whether the gangway shifted or not. I think I heard the ladder crack, but I do not distinctly remember now.

The Jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict that deceased came by his death by accidental drowning on the morning of the 19th September, in Yokohama harbour.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

Before Judge USHIOA, President, and Judges TANAKA and KATO, Associates.

MONDAY, September 21.

THE ASSAULT ON MR. W. BARRIE.

At 10 o'clock this morning the trial of Onishi Rikichi and ten others was called on, the prisoners being charged with assaulting Mr. William Barrie, Superintendent Engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, at his house on the Bluff, at 9 p.m. on the 6th August.

Public Procurator Fukuda lead for the prosecu-

tion, and Mr. Tanaka Tsutomu, of the local bar, defended. Mr. A. H. Lay, of the British Consulate, was present, sitting next to Chief Prosecutor Okumiya.

The prisoners were all dressed in *yukata* and presented a placid appearance. Only one was a *shisoku*, Tamura Kotaro, age 27, the others being *heimin*. Onishi Rikichi, age 19, was first examined and pleaded guilty; then Hirose, a sullen speaking man, followed. His examination lasted till 12.15 p.m., when the Court adjourned to resume at 1.30 o'clock.

Tokutomi Monnojo, a native of Kagoshima, the second fireman on the *Ryofun Maru*, was the third prisoner examined. He acknowledged carrying a stick with him to Mr. Barrie's house on the night in question.

The President—You carried a stick, you say?

Prisoner—Yes, but I always carry a stick when I go ashore. I had no intention of using the stick on Mr. Barrie when I went up the Bluff that night. I am a Kagoshima man, and so always carry a stick.

The President—Does a stick represent a Kagoshima man?—(Laughter.)

Prisoner made no reply.

Tamura Kotaro, the *shisoku* of Wakayama Ken, was the next examined, and acknowledged going to Mr. Barrie's house on the night in question, but he did not carry any stick with him. Seven others were examined, some of whom pleaded guilty and then the Court adjourned till Wednesday at 9 o'clock, when arguments will be delivered on both sides.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 23rd.

The charge of assault and battery and unlawful intrusion preferred against eleven firemen, late in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in connection with the assault on Mr. William Barrie, Supt.-Engineer of the Company, was resumed this morning. The accused are:—Onishi Rikichi, *heimin* of Kagawa-ken, born 1878; Neba Rikichi, *heimin* of Hiroshima-ken, born 1870; Hirose Tsukichiro, *heimin* of Miyen-ken, born 1871; Takeoka Kuranosuke, *heimin* of Hiroshima-ken, born 1873; Tamura Kotaro, *shisoku* of Wakayama-ken, born 1870; Tamawaki Kaname, *heimin* of Ehime-ken, born 1873; Fujita Jihei, *heimin* of Hyogo-ken, born 1875; Kashima Minokichi, *heimin* of Ibaragi-ken, born 1866; Tokutomi Monnojo, *heimin* of Kagoshima-ken, born 1871; Yoshida Rinsuke, *heimin* of Yamaguchi-ken, born 1875; and Kuroda Zenkichi, *heimin* of Tokushima-ken, born 1868.

Public-Prosecutor Fukuda again conducted the prosecution; Mr. Tanaka Tsurumu defending. Mr. A. H. Lay, of the British Consulate, and Mr. Okumiya, Chief Public Prosecutor, were again present. The court was crowded.

On the Court reassembling at 10.45 o'clock, the Presiding Judge asked Tokutomi Monnojo where he stood when Mr. Barrie appeared in the hall-way and pushed him, as he alleged?

Prisoner—I stood on the stone-step outside and Mr. Barrie came out on to the floor of the verandah. The Judge—Where were you, inside or outside the door?

Prisoner—Outside the door.

At this point another prisoner, Hirose, interrupted, and was sternly told to be quiet.

The Judge—Tokutomi, you then stood on the first or top step?

Prisoner—Yes.

In answer to other questions, Prisoner said—I carried a stick with me that night. I think I left it at Mr. Barrie's house; if I did not leave it there I took back to Idzumiya on the Kaigan-dori. At the end of this stick there was an empty percussion cap case.

Onishi Rikichi, in answer to the Judge, said—I saw Tokutomi at Mr. Barrie's house. I went in with him. I saw Tamawaki there; he went in, side by side, with me. I saw Mr. Barrie push Tokutomi on the head with his hand. Then Tamawaki hit Mr. Barrie.

Pressed by the Judge, the Prisoner said that Tamawaki hit Mr. Barrie on the head with a stick that was three inches in circumference.

The Judge—Where did this happen?

Prisoner—Just outside the door leading to the hall. When Mr. Barrie pushed Tokutomi, Tamawaki struck at the foreigner. Then Mr. Barrie retreated into the house and we followed him. I do not know how often we hit him, but several times as he went along the passage of the hall.

The Judge—He then got as far as the staircase; how far was that from the door?

Prisoner—About two *ken* (four yards).

The Judge—Did any lady then appear?

Prisoner—Yes.

The Judge to Tamura Kotaro—What was the nature of your stick?

Prisoner—It was a willow branch.

Onishi re-examined, said that he found the stick with which he struck Mr. Barrie in a receptacle near the staircase: in the umbrella-stand.

In answer to Assistant Judge Kato, Tokutomi said—The glass door at the entrance to the verandah was open. When we went to the house the *amah* came to the gate and she went and called Mr. Barrie. When Mr. Barrie came out we spoke to him and he replied, *Ikenai* (a denial of our request). Then he struck me between the eyes. I felt dizzy after the blow and went through the open glass door. Then we followed Mr. Barrie into the house and began hitting him with our fists. I am sure we began with our fists.

In answer to Assistant Judge Kato, Tamawaki said that the statement he had to make agreed with that just given by the prisoner Tokutomi, except in one thing. He did not hear Mr. Barrie say *Ikenai*; he heard him say *Nani, nani* (what is it).

Assistant Judge Kato—Then you now deny that you heard Mr. Barrie say *Ikenai*; and now declare that he said, *Nani, nani*—is that so?

Prisoner—Exactly so.

Public Prosecutor Fukuda said that as the examination of the prisoners had finished, he wished to call Mr. Barrie as witness for the prosecution.

Mr. Tanaka Tsurumu, Counsel for the defence demurred. He held that Yoshida Gensuke should be further examined, as he had positive evidence to show that Yoshida never went to Mr. Barrie's house, nor did he join the rest of the prisoners in their entry of the house.

The Presiding Judge then questioned Yoshida. In answer, the Prisoner described at great length a visit that he paid to the house of Yasuda Yasubei in Kaigan-dori, between 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock on the night of the 6th August: he gave details of their conversation, etc., and mentioned some four or five people who were present.

Hirose, in answer to the Judges, had nothing to say.

Tokutomi said he had something to urge. He went up to Mr. Barrie's house to put forward a simple request.

The Judge after a while stopped the prisoner, his remarks being deemed wholly irrelevant to the charge being heard.

Tamura, another prisoner, said that he only stood on the stone steps; he did not enter the house with Tokutomi or Hirose. He then began to detail the reasons for asking for more men in the stoke-holes of the N.Y.K. ships.

The Presiding Judge—You need not repeat that again. We heard it in the previous hearing.

Fujita, the next prisoner interrogated, said he wished to make some remarks about a man named Kuroda; he had a charge to make against him.

The Judge—This is beside the question. Has Tamawaki anything to say?

Tamawaki—Only that Hirose has been speaking untruths all the time.

Takeoka, in answer to the Bench, said—I agree with Tamawaki that all that Hirose says is false: all the others agree to that; Hirose is a liar.

Hirose, in answer to the Bench, acknowledged that some of his statements might contain errors; but then the men were all set against him.

Kashima, next interrogated, said—My replies are the same as those given by the others; but I deny all Hirose's statements.

The Presiding Judge then turned to Yoshida Gensuke and asked if he had anything to say.

Yoshida—Yes. Tamawaki says that Hirose speaks nothing but falsehoods. Well, I can mention one instance where I found him out. Once on the *Kinshu Maru*—

The Presiding Judge—That has nothing to do with this case. Your statements take up too much time and they are of no importance.

Kuroda Denkichi and Neba Rikichi, in answer to the Bench, accused Kuroda of deliberate falsehood. The latter added—I did not go into the house with Hirose and Tokutomi; I stood outside the gate.

The certificate of Dr. Edwin Wheeler detailing the nature of the wounds received by Mr. Barrie, etc., was next read.

Yoshida Gensuke then put in a certificate of good conduct given him by the N.Y.K., when he left the *Saikyo Maru*. At this point Public Prosecutor Fukuda said that it would be unnecessary to call any evidence in favour of Yoshida Gensuke, as Yasuda Yasubei, at whose house he said he paid a visit on the night of the 6th August was not to be found. He had stated, moreover, that the owner of the house was asleep at the time.

Mr. Ito Mineji was next sworn in as interpreter of English.

Mr. William Barrie was then called, and in answer to questions addressed from the Bench, said—I am a British subject, was born at Wolverton, Buckinghamshire, and am 48 years old. I am an engineer in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and am their Superintending Engineer. I

live at No. 266, Bluff. I have no connection whatever with the prisoners. On the night of the 6th August, my wife and myself had been out on the grass plot in front of No. 266 until about a quarter to nine o'clock. Just at that time we re-entered the house and going to the dining-room, my wife sat down to read. I again got up and walked about outside the house until a few minutes past nine and then returned to the house and took up a book to read. After sitting for a few minutes I heard a noise in the direction of the hall-way. Just then the *amah* came in to say that a number of Japanese wished to see me, saying at the same time *Abunai*—be careful. Proceeding into the hall-way I found, in the verandah and on the steps leading to the verandah, a number of men. Walking up to them I enquired why they had come. One of the men, who appeared to be their ringleader and spokesman, said that they had come to talk about the manning of the *Ryofun Maru*. I said I could not speak to them about that matter there, but would see them at the N.Y.K. office next day. They again made their request, saying, "Won't you have a word with us?" I said "No." Then, without further parley one of the men struck me over the left side of the head with what seemed a bar of iron. The blow felled me to the floor of the hall, and the blood from the bleeding temple blinded me. Whilst in this position I was struck on the back of the head, and hit about the body. Struggling along the hall-way I again fell near the staircase, half-way along the hall. At this point my wife came to my assistance. Being blinded by the flow of blood I could scarcely see my way about the place, but finally succeeded in getting out to the back entrance. I made my way to the back gate and there found five or six men with large stones in their *himono*. After a struggle with two of the men and finding exit impossible, I closed the gate. After closing the gate I made my way along by the servants' quarters and thence to the slope leading on to the side road. Half-way down the slope I fainted away through loss of blood. I lay there for about ten minutes, and when I came to myself I heard voices of men above, evidently in search of me. Lying there quietly for a few minutes, until the sound of voices died away, I slipped down the bank, made my way to a neighbour's house and there received attention. From that point I know nothing of what happened. My wounds were attended to by a doctor; and about half-past ten o'clock I returned to my house.

To the Presiding Judge—I met the men just at the entrance of the hall-way from the verandah: that is between the two doors. Both doors were open. I don't think I could identify the spokesman now: the hall was very dark, the lamp being barely alight. The men spoke to me in Japanese. I understand Japanese sufficiently to understand the drift of general conversation. The spokesman addressed me twice. I think there must have been from twelve to sixteen men in the hall and on the steps; some were in the verandah. The man who struck me on the forehead, it seemed to me, was the spokesman. I was struck as I stood, just at the entrance to the hall-way. The first blow, across my left temple, knocked me down. As I struggled along the hall-way, many of the men jumped on my back and struck me time and again. As I reached the stairway I managed to throw them off: at this point my wife came to my assistance. I was struck frequently between the door and the staircase; at the staircase I received the blow on the back of my head. It is impossible for me to say how I was struck on the back of the head, as it was done while I was struggling along. The wound on the head must have been made by a bar or stick struck across my shoulders, the blow being felt along my shoulder to my head. I was struck on my right arm and also about the shoulders. All these blows caused swellings. The wounds incapacitated me from business for 28 days. Dr. Wheeler attended me. A great noise was made in the hall after I was rescued by my wife, but it was impossible for me to hear what was said. I could not distinguish the nature of the instrument by which I was first struck, save that it was of iron. I saw that several of the men had stones with them, but I do not recognise any of the instruments in Court. The whole of the hatstand in the hall, with the umbrellas and sticks, was upset and scattered through the hall. None of these sticks were stained black. It is not true that I pushed one of the men and that that commenced the struggle. I did not strike one of the men on the head with my fist. I lost a good deal of blood through the wound caused by the first blow. In the dim light of the hall-way I saw an iron-bar raised, and I have sufficient experience of iron-bars to recognise them when I see them. I do not know why I was assailed by these people, unless it

was due to the reducing of the number of firemen on the *Ryofun Maru*. It came within my line of duty to carry out the Directors' wishes in regard to the manning of the ships. It is not true that the Company wished to increase the number of firemen and that I refused to do so.

Cross-examined—I went to my office-desk at the N.Y.K. on the 9th of August. I saw a Mr. Watanabe at my house on the 8th August. I did not go on board any of the Company's ships on the 8th or 9th August.

To one of the Prisoners—I had neither pistol, firearm, or heavy weapon in the house, and so could not flourish a pistol at the men.

To the Defending Barrister—I only went to my desk once on the 9th August to take out some letters.

To the Bench—The piece of iron shown me now is a caulking-tool. These tools are sometimes two feet long. The other iron now shown me is a centre-punch. The iron-bar with which I was struck was very much like the caulking-tool, only longer. On the 12th August Dr. Wheeler advised me to go to Yumoto for a complete change. I still suffer from the effects of the blow: the wound healed some time ago, but I suffer severe pain at the back of my head. The wound was thoroughly healed by the third or fourth of this month.

To the Assistant Judge—I am still using medicine.

To the Chief Judge—I have no questions to ask the prisoners. My statement is an exact account of what happened. I do not know why the men selected me for an assault, as I was simply carrying out the orders of the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

The Presiding Judge asked the prisoners if they had any objections to urge against the statements of the witness.

None of the Prisoners, save Tokutomi, who made an irrelevant remark, and Kuroda, who exclaimed—"Oh, it is too much," had anything to say.

The Court then adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

Shirai Tsun, an *amah* in the employ of Mr. Barrie, deposed to being 39 years of age. On the night of the 6th August she was at work as usual at No. 266, Bluff. She answered the door when the prisoners came, and announced their arrival to Mr. Barrie. Two or three men were at the gate and several at the door. I told them to wait at the verandah. Then I went and announced their arrival to Mr. Barrie. I could not see their faces sufficiently well to recognise any of them. Having spoken to Mr. Barrie I retired. After a time I heard a cry, but whose voice it was I could not tell. Some one asked me to open the door. I was very frightened and did not know what to do. Then I heard a voice saying "*Sokorade mago mago suruto korosuo, soko akero*" (if you wander about there you will be killed, open the door). Then there was a noise of broken glass. Perhaps the noise of the breaking glass was a little before this, but I do not distinctly remember.

Cross-examined—I opened the gate. Two or three men came along the pathway and waited at the entrance door. Two or three men stood on the stone-steps. I do not recognise their faces to-day. I did not know what their business was, and did not pay any attention to them: I did not narrowly scan their faces. I heard one man say "not here;" then four or five men passed me. I do not know what they carried with them. I do not know if they carried anything. After the shout of "*Too akero*" (open the door), the door under the staircase was opened. I heard some one say "*Kokodewa ikenai* (it won't do here). I do not know where Mr. Barrie was knocked down. I was struck with fear when I heard the voices. Mrs. Barrie was in the dining-room when the men came to the house.

Counsel for the defence asked witness when Mr. Barrie first left the house after the occurrence.

Witness—After the 6th August Mr. Barrie was confined to his bed. After the 12th I accompanied him and his family to Yumoto. We returned on the 4th on 5th of this month.

The Judge—Did he leave the house before the 12th?

Witness—He often went outside for a short while; then he would lie on the sofa or on a long chair.

The Presiding Judge to prisoners—Have you anything to say against this testimony?

Tamawaki—What the woman heard was not *Sokora ni mago mago suruto korosu*, but *Sokora ni mago mago suruto korobasu korobasu* (let her roll down).

Witness—It may have been *korobasu* and not *korosu*; I am not sure about it.

Prosecutor Fukuda said that he found one contradiction in the evidence offered that day. According to the prisoners, 34 stokers had been allowed to the steamer; but Mr. Barrie had stated

that he was carrying out the Company's orders in regard to the reducing of the number.

The defending Counsel submitted a character of good conduct on behalf of Kuroda, a former stoker on the *Miike Maru*.

Mr. Suda Rijun, Second Assistant Superintendent Engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, was next called, and on being cautioned said—The Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha had recently to reduce the number of firemen and stokers on the ships to 30 per steamer. This was in July. Owing to the great demand for stokers in the N.Y.K., due to the increase in the numbers of the Company's ships, they were often obliged to engage unqualified men for the stokers' work. The discharging or engaging of these men was in the power of the Captains alone. On the 30th of that month it was reported that some dissatisfaction prevailed among the stokers, and on the 2nd of August a request was sent to the foreman engineer, by the chief stokers for an increase in the complement of the ships' firing staff. A similar request was sent in by Mr. Yamazaki, a purser, who added that the firemen were determined to have their own way. Neither the Superintendent Engineer nor the Chief Engineers had anything to say in the matter. Some talk arose, when we found that the firemen were not inclined to obey, that if Japanese firemen would not work for us the Company would have to find stokers among Indians or Chinamen: surely the Company ought to have the right to choose its own servants. But this was only talk amongst ourselves. It must be borne in mind that we are a big Company, and our ships are liable to be requisitioned for the service of the State at any moment, so it would not do for us to be frightened by our stokers.

The Presiding Judge—Is Mr. Barrie the head of the Engineering department?

Witness—Yes.

The Judge—Is there anything specially remarkable in the *Ryofun Maru*'s boilers; are they different to any other ship's boilers?

Witness—There is more or less difference: the work in the stoke-hold of the *Ryofun Maru* is pretty hard.

Did the Company give any order to increase the number of firemen on her?

Witness—No.

The Judge—Did Mr. Barrie, from the commencement, recommend the decrease in the number of men?

Witness—I do not think so.

To the defending Counsel—Mr. Barrie came down to the office on the 9th August and said that he was ordered into the country for his health's sake. His head was aching badly and he went home immediately.

When asked by the Presiding Judge if Prisoners had anything to say against this testimony, Kuroda said that the N.Y.K. were very oppressive indeed.

The Judge—That has nothing to do with the question.

Tamawaki said the N.Y.K. were unreasonable in their demands.

The Judge stopped the prisoner.

Neba said that it was very uncomfortable working the donkey boiler of the *Ryofun Maru*. The whole steamer was bad.

The Judge—This is irrelevant.

The Prisoners having no questions to ask, the case closed so far as the giving of evidence went.

Public Prosecutor Fukuda, in summing for the prosecution, said that the evidence had been most distinct on all points and fully bore out the charge preferred. The prisoners upon finding the engine-room staff reduced from 37 to 30 became very discontented and grumbling set in among the malcontents. This finally led them to meet together in the Public Gardens where they resolved to go in a body to Mr. Barrie's house. Their intentions could not have been pacific even at this moment, for if they had merely desired to obtain a hearing for their grievances, or supposed grievances, the best course for them would have been to select a small delegation from among their number, and for this delegation to have gone up to Mr. Barrie's house. But it was not their wish to proceed quietly in the matter. At the gate of Mr. Barrie's house they met his servant and what followed had been told by the prisoners themselves. According to Tokutomi eleven of them intruded into the house, when Mr. Barrie appeared, and on his refusing to discuss their grievances, they set on him, some with sticks, some with their fists, some with pieces of iron. Such conduct was most reprehensible and deserving of severe punishment. Tamawaki, who struck the first blow over Mr. Barrie's temple, should be made an example of, to show that men are not allowed to do such things in this land; equally reprehensible was the conduct of

Hirose, who struck the defenceless man with a centre-punch, and Tamura, who used a caulking iron. Takeoka used his fist and Tokutomi a stick. These men were therefore charged with assault and battery and the others with unlawful intrusion. He hoped that the maximum penalties would be inflicted.

For the defence, Mr. Tanaka submitted that a quarrel had taken place and blows been struck, but Barrie had started it by pushing one of the men with his fist. As to unlawful intrusion, he urged that that was an impossible construction to place upon their action. They had gone to Mr. Barrie's house, saw the servant, and with her consent had entered the grounds, and then waited quietly for Mr. Barrie to appear. In regard to the cause that had sent them up to the house, he submitted that it was but reasonable that the men should feel indignant at the suggestion that they should be replaced by Chinamen. He thought that the men had greatly extenuating circumstances in their favour, and the Bench would do well to temper justice with leniency.

The Public Prosecutor then said that the offence with which Tamura Kotaro stood charged, wounding on the forehead with an iron-bar came under Art. 301 of the Criminal Code, as also did Tamawaki's, striking with an iron instrument. Hirose, who also had struck a blow, owing to his being below the full years of manhood, came within Art. 80 of the Code. Onishi and Tokutomi's offences were provided against in Art. 302. In regard to unlawful intrusion, the offence came within the purview of Art. 180.

Judgment will be given at 10 o'clock on Friday.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Sept. 17.

The Austrian press is alarmed at the agitation in Great Britain in favour of intervening in Turkey, and accuses Britain of fomenting the troubles. The papers further declare that England's isolated action will likely end in her expulsion from Egypt.

Sept. 18.

The balance of the last Chinese loan issued has only been half subscribed.

It is announced, on authority, that Great Britain meditates no isolated action against Turkey, but she will never again take the part of the Porte. She desires to continue co-operating with the Powers.

London, Sept. 22.

The Kurds have attacked and pillaged the Armenian quarter of Eguin in the villayet of Kharput, Asia Minor. Upwards of six hundred Armenians were killed.

The gunboats have returned from Dongola, where it was found that only women and old men were left. General Kitchener has offered to pardon Bishera, the Mahdist leader, and his followers if they surrender. The whole expedition has now advanced to Dongola.

London, September 24.

On the appearance of the Egyptian army at Dongola the Dervishes fled to the southward, several Emirs surrendering. The gunboats and cavalry are pursuing the enemy. The Egyptian flag has been hoisted in Dongola. The Egyptians captured six guns and a large quantity of munitions of war.

(“SPECIAL” TELEGRAM TO “JAPAN MAIL.”)

Hakodate, Sept. 18.

Her Majesty's ships *Aolus* and *Alacrity* arrived here yesterday and left again last night to join the Fleet.

H.I.J.M.S. *Musashi Kan* arrived here this morning.

Hakodate, Sept. 20.

The *Albatross* and the *Musashi Kan* left this port yesterday for Yokohama.

Hakodate, Sept. 21.

Her Majesty's ship *Aolus* left this port yesterday with the *Admiral Korniloff* to join the Fleet.

H.I.J.M. ships *Matsushima*, *Chiyoda*, *Fuso*, and *Saiyen* have arrived here from Aomori.

Hakodate, Sept. 23.

The *Bayard* arrived here yesterday.

Hakodate, September 25.

The *Bayard* left here yesterday for Yokohama, the *Chiyoda* for Vladivostok, and the *Saiyen* for Otaru. The *Kaiser* and *Irene* left this morning for Yokohama.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, Sept. 19.

Three additional Italian war-ships have started for Turkish waters.

A series of meetings on the Armenian question have been organized to be held in the large towns of England and opened last night at Birmingham and Nottingham, where strong speeches were made demanding that Great Britain should intervene.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.18½
" " " " New York ... 4.84½

London, Sept. 21.

The Egyptian forces have occupied Kerma unopposed. The Dervishes lost heavily whilst retreating in the direction of Dongola where the gunboats of the expedition had already arrived and had seized the treasury and granaries.

A letter from Lord Rosebery has been published in which he declares that he cannot agree to the proposal that Great Britain might depose the Sultan in view of Russia's resolve to oppose the independent action of any Power.

London, September 23.

The Czar and Czarina have arrived at Balmoral on a visit to the Queen. The railway by which their Majesties travelled was strictly guarded by police.

Both the French and Russian press disparage the success of the Nile expedition while reminding Great Britain that the Egyptian question has not been settled.

The *Times* states that Russia and Japan have agreed to a joint protectorate over Korea, and he Japanese are to evacuate that country.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Sept. 14.

The Fenian Tynan, the notorious "Number One," has been arrested in Boulogne on a warrant issued in 1882. The Fenians Bell, Wallace, and Haines have also been arrested, as all were acting together. The same gang had organised a laboratory at Antwerp, where a complete dynamite armoury was discovered. The object of their plot is uncertain, but it is rumoured that Nihilists had joined the Fenians and that attempts on the life of the Czar, or of the Queen, at Balmoral, were meditated. All those concerned in the plot have been arrested. Tynan travelled in the guise of a Queen's Messenger.

London, September 15.

The Armenian agitation is fomented by the letters of Mr. Gladstone, Lord Rosebery, and Mr. Asquith, and by the increasing comments from the Pulpit and Press. Mass meetings have been arranged in various localities.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the CHIEF EDITOR.

The Yokohama Chess Club re-opens on Thursday, 1st October.

The Tokyo Chess Club reopens on Friday, the 2nd of Oct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 247.

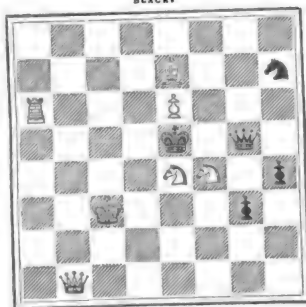
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to B 4	1—K takes Kt
2—Q to Q 4, mate	1—B to Q 3
2—Q to K 3, mate	1—B elsewhere
2—B to B 7, mate	1—P to Q 5
2—Q takes B, mate	1—P to B 6
2—Kt to Q 3, mate	1—P to R 3
2—Kt to Kt 6, mate	1—P to Kt 3
2—Q to K B 6, mate.	

Correct answers from W.H.S., F.G., Shogi, W.d.H., J.D., and Omega.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 248.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Q R 6	1—K takes R
2—Q takes P, mate	1—Kt takes R
2—Q takes Kt, mate	1—P takes R
2—Kt to B 3, mate	1—P to Kt 5
2—Kt takes P, mate	1—K to B 4
2—R to Q 4, mate	1—Kt to R 4
2—Q takes P mate	1—B moves
2—Q to K 6, mate.	

Correct answers from W.D.C., W.d.H., W.H.S., F.G., Shogi, J.D., and Omega.

PROBLEM NO. 250.
By A. G. FELLOWS.

White to play and mate in two moves.

LOCAL CLUBS.

Next week will see these at work again. The Yokohama Club has its annual meeting, on Thursday, 1st October, in the Club Rooms, and is followed by the Tokyo Chess Club, on Friday. Let us hope for a brilliant and active season for them both.

NUREMBERG.

We copy from the *St. James's Budget* two fine games as under:—

GAME NO. 570.

The following very fine game was won by Pillsbury against Lasker.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Pillsbury.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Q Kt to B 3	3—K Kt to B 3
4—P to K 5 (a)	4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to B 4	5—P to Q B 4
6—P takes P	6—Kt to B 3
7—P to Q R 3	7—Kt takes B P
8—P to Q Kt 4	8—Kt to Q 2
9—B to Q 3	9—P to Q R 4
10—P to Kt 5	10—Q Kt to Kt sq. (b)
11—Kt to B 3	11—Kt to B 4
12—B to K 3	12—Q Kt to Q 2
13—Castles	13—P to K Kt 3 (c)
14—Kt to K 2	14—B to K 2
15—Q to K sq.	15—Kt to Kt 3 (d)
16—K Kt to Q 4	16—B to Q 2
17—Q to B 2	17—Kt (Kt 3) to R 5
18—Q R to Kt sq.	18—P to R 4
19—P to Kt 6 (e)	19—Kt takes B
20—P takes Kt	20—B takes P (f)
21—P to B 5 (g)	21—Kt P takes P
22—Kt to B 4	22—P to R 5 (h)
23—R to R sq.	23—B to K 2
24—R takes Kt (i)	24—B takes R
25—Q Kt takes K P	25—P takes Kt (k)
26—Kt takes K P	26—B to Q 2 (l)
27—Kt takes Q	27—K takes Kt
28—B to B 5	28—R to Q B sq.
29—B takes B	29—K takes B
30—Q to K 3	30—R to B 3
31—Q to Kt 5 ch.	31—K to B 2
32—R to B sq.	32—R takes R ch.
33—Q takes R	33—R to Q B sq.
34—Q to K sq.	34—P to R 6
35—P takes P	35—R to Kt sq. ch.
36—K to B 2	36—P to R 5
37—Q to Kt 4	37—R to Kt 3
38—K to B 3	38—P to R 6
39—Q takes P	39—R takes P
40—Q to B 5	40—R to K 3
41—Q to B 7	41—K to K 2
42—K to B 4	42—P to Kt 3
43—P to R 4	43—R to Q B 3

44—Q to Kt 8
45—K takes P
46—Q to B 7 ch.
47—Q to Q 8
48—P to K 6 (m)
49—K to K 5
50—Q to Q 6 ch.

44—B to K sq.
45—R to R 3
46—K to B sq.
47—P to Kt 4
48—R to R 2
49—P to Kt 5
50—Resigns.

(a) Lasker has a special variation against 4—B to Kt 6, namely P takes P; this perhaps might have been the reason why Pillsbury adopted 4—P to K 5. If 4—B to Kt 6, P takes P. Black would not hesitate to open his king's knight's file, for instance, if B takes Kt, P takes B, or if Kt takes P, B to K 2 with a good defensive game.

(b) The two Black knights move about the game in a bewildering confusion, and waste time with aimless persistency. This fact almost inclines us to the belief that it is better for Black if, instead of 7—Kt takes B P, he would play B takes P, particularly as we do not believe a second player need fear the attack which arises through White playing 8—Q to Kt 4.

(c) Now that White has got his rook on the K B file, he particularly threatens to disintegrate Black's position presently by playing P to B 5. Black therefore played P to Kt 3 to prevent this, but, as the sequel will show, it did not prevent it, but it gave Pillsbury more to think about, and caused him to conceive the finest combination that has as yet been carried out on the board in this tournament. If Kt takes B 14, P takes Kt, P to K B 4, it would be difficult if not impossible to hold a position of the nature, as White has a powerful move in 15—Kt to Kt 5.

(d) Here we should have given the preference to Kt to B sq., for though there is little prospect for the knight on that square for the future, yet it helps to hold the fort until Black can make himself more secure by other developing moves. In a position like this it is not a question of finding a good move, but of submitting to the least evil.

(e) White obtains a remarkably effective development, every one of his pieces are placed ready in position to strike when the attack is ripe. P to Kt 6 is one of a series of clever moves which take advantage of the awkward position of Black's knight on the queen's side, if Kt takes P, White may at once win back the pawn if he so pleases by 20—Kt takes P, but judging from the character of White's play, we think he would be trying for even something better.

(f) The capture of a pawn in similar positions, so irresistible to some players, seldom turns out well that we are surprised that Lasker did yield to the temptation.

(g) That something of the kind might be possible even Black must to some extent have foreseen, as explained in our note to his move of P to Kt 3. Yet we defy any player, be he ever so clever, to tell what it is exactly that White is going to do, or to point out the future course of White's play with its subsidiary combination and sacrifice on the queen's side.

(h) The two Black pieces on the queen's side are very awkwardly situated, any player would therefore feel a natural inclination to withdraw them from that position by playing B to K 2. We cannot see what Black hoped to gain by P to R 5. He might have guessed that White had some scheme, as otherwise he would not have given up two pawns.

(i) In similar positions some players are fond of raising the academic question whether a certain line of play was intuition or calculation. In this case, if one is inclined to believe that the sacrifice of the two pawns was by intuition, one must come to the conclusion that the sacrifice of the rook was the result of calculation for the purpose of getting the Black bishop away from defending the K P. In some of Steinitz's best games similar combinations may be found, where a deeply planned advance on the king's side is dependent upon a subsidiary combination on the queen's side.

(j) Here Q to B sq. has to be considered, but after Kt to B 7 ch followed by Kt (B 4) takes Q P, we do not think White need have a care for the future.

(k) It may again be taken for granted that Black would not have given up his queen without the best of reasons. If instead of B to Q 2 he moves the queen away, Q takes B P, would soon prove fatal. Still it is most remarkable that White should have been so marvellously correct in his combination in every particular.

(l) White need only mark time. Yet the ex-citute with which he proceeds in the shortest possible number of moves is not devoid of interest.

GAME NO. 571.

An interesting game between Steinitz and Blackburne, played in the seventh round.

GIUOCO PIANO.

WHITE. Steinitz.	BLACK. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Kt B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—P takes P	6—P to Kt 5 ch.
7—Kt to B 3	7—P to Q 4 (a)
8—P takes P	8—K Kt takes P
9—Castles	9—Kt to Kt 3 (b)
10—R to K sq. ch.	10—B to K 2
11—B to Kt 3	11—Castles
12—P to Q 5	12—Kt to R 4 (c)
13—B to B 2	13—Kt (R 4) to B 5
14—Q to Q 3	14—P to K B 4
15—B to Kt 3	15—Kt to Q 3
16—B to K B 4	16—Kt to Q 2 (d)
17—Q to K 3	17—R to B 2 (e)
18—Kt to Q 4	18—Kt to B 3 (f)
19—Q R to Q sq. (g)	19—Kt to Kt 5
20—Q to B 3	20—P to K Kt 4 (h)
21—Kt to K 6	21—B takes Kt
22—P takes B	22—R to Kt 2
23—B takes Kt	23—P takes B
24—Q takes B P	24—P to K R 4
25—Kt to K 4	25—K to R sq. (i)
26—P to K R 3	26—Kt to R 3
27—Q to Q 5	27—Q to Kt 3
28—P to K R 4	28—R to K B sq. (k)
29—P takes P	29—Kt to Kt 5
30—Q to Q 4	30—Q to B 2
31—B to Q 5	31—Q to Q sq.
32—R to Q 3 (l)	32—B takes P
33—R to K R 3	33—P to R 5
34—Kt takes B	34—Q takes Kt
35—P to K Kt 3	35—K to R 2 (m)
36—R takes P ch.	36—Kt to R 3
37—P to K 7	37—R to K sq.
38—R to K 6	38—R (K sq.) takes P (n)
39—Q to K 4 ch.	39—Resigns.

(a) Up to the present this is considered Black's best reply. It is not safe to play B takes Kt followed by Kt takes K P.

(b) If Kt takes Kt instead, 10—P takes Kt, B takes P, 11—Q to Kt 3, and White obtains a winning attack; but we hardly think it can be good to thus cast away the knight on the queen's side and leave the king's side unprotected. If Kt takes Kt 10—P takes Kt, B to K 2, 11—P to Q 5, Kt to Kt sq., Black's position may be defended, though we cannot say we like it much. Then, again, B takes Kt is possible, for even if 10—P takes B, castles, with perhaps more of an equal game.

(c) It only drives the White bishop where he wants to go. We should have preferred Kt to Kt sq., for the knight could from that square be more quickly transferred to the king's side, where he is wanted, *vid Q 2*.

(d) Of course there is the necessity of getting this knight into play, but in doing so Black loses time, proving that the original manoeuvre which brought this knight to Kt 3 was not good.

(e) We should recognise this at once as one of Blackburne's moves, as the apparently defensive and innocent device was prompted by the idea of a counter-attack being possible in the near future by Black playing P to Kt 4 and R to Kt 2. But on B's the rook seems more or less subject to attack, though he could not very well have played R to K sq., with a view of playing Kt to B sq., as White would reply with B takes Kt, and Black be compelled, if he plays R to K sq., to retake the White bishop with the pawn.

(f) That dreadful Q P! How effectively White does utilize it! It is an open question whether Black would have done better by Kt to B sq.

(g) Of course this is preparatory to White's playing Kt to K 6, so that if Black takes the knight, White after retaking with the pawn would have his rook pointing to the Black queen, and increasing Black's difficulties. Black might have tried a move like P to K R 3, which, while making room for the king, would also admit of P to K Kt 4.

(h) Just as we anticipated. But it does not stop White, whose terrible grip when he once gets a fair chance, as he had given him in this game, it is almost impossible to evade. One can only realise this by following White's ideas and vainly searching for moves by which Black could have got out of his unfortunate cramped position.

(i) White threatened Kt takes Q P, the king had therefore to avoid the possibility of a discovered check.

(j) In these few moves Black tries very hard to get up a counter-attack but again his opponent's failure to do so to be wondered at. Mr. Steinitz very often gets into ridiculously bad positions through wrong opening strategy, but he never loses a game in which he has an advantage.

(k) White does not trouble to hold the pawn, but rather prefers and rightly too, as the result shows, to continue his own attack.

(l) Kt to Kt sq. is of course impossible, and Q to K 2, for the purpose of enabling Black to play Kt to Kt sq., would have resulted in the loss of a piece by White playing 36—R takes P ch, K to R 2 was therefore the only available move.

(m) It was obviously no use defending the knight by R to Kt 2, for B to K 4 would win instantly. Black therefore was prepared to give up his queen; but White saw even a better way than taking the knight and getting Black's queen for the two rooks, as will be seen.

The following two games have been played in the recent triangular tournament at Berlin. The competitors were Bardeleben, Mieses, and Walbrodt, three of the leading German masters:—

GAME No. 572. FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. P. Mieses.	BLACK. C. v. Bardeleben.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—B to K 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P takes P	4—P takes P
5—B to Q 3	5—B to Q 3
6—Kt to K 2	6—Kt to B 3
7—P to Q R 3	7—Kt to K Kt 3
8—Kt to B 3	8—B to K 3
9—Q to Q 2	9—Kt takes B
10—P takes Kt	10—P to B 4
11—Kt to B 4	11—B takes Kt
12—P takes B	12—Kt takes P
13—Q to K 3	13—P to B 4
14—Kt to Kt 5	14—Q to Kt 3
15—Castles Q R	15—Kt takes Kt
16—B takes Kt ch.	16—K to B 2
17—Q R to K sq.	17—Q to Q 3
18—P to K R 3	18—P to Q R 3
19—B to K 2	19—P to Q 5
20—Q to B 2	20—K R to K B sq.
21—P to K Kt 4	21—K to Kt sq.
22—P takes P	22—B takes B P
23—B to B 4 ch.	23—K to R sq.
24—R to K 5	24—P to Q Kt 4
25—B to Q 5	25—Q R to K sq.
26—K R to K sq.	26—R takes R
27—R takes R	27—B takes R P
28—Q to R 4	28—B to B 4
29—Q to Kt 5	29—P to R 3
30—Q to R 4	30—Q to K B 3
31—Q to B 2	31—B to Q 2
32—R to K 4	32—Q to Q 3
33—B to Kt 3	33—R to B 3
34—Q to Q 2	34—B to B 3
35—R to K 5	35—Q takes R
36—P takes Q	36—R to B 8 ch.
37—Q to Q sq.	37—R takes Q ch.
38—K takes Q	38—Black wins.

Mieses tries to avoid the stereotyped form of this opening with 3—B to K 3, a variation introduced by Alapin. White gets a good attack if Black captures the pawn; Bardeleben, therefore, selects the more solid course of developing his forces.

White's first weak move is 6—Kt to K 2; it should have been preceded by 6—Kt to Q B 3, threatening 7—Kt to Q Kt 5, which Black would have had to prevent, whereas now Black threatens 7..... Kt to Q Kt 5, and White has to lose a move with 7—P to Q R 3. An apparently insignificant transposition of a move makes all the difference in a game between players of equal strength; and Herr von Bardeleben's conduct of

the defending forces proves it—if such proof were required.

Mieses made another indifferent move with 10—P takes Kt instead of 10—Q takes Kt; and a more serious mistake with 11—Kt to B 4, involving the sacrifice of a pawn, which he thought of getting back—or its equivalent in position—with 13—Q to K 3; but here again his opponent was equal to the occasion, and not only retained the pawn plus, but repelled the attack with the decisive strokes of 18..... P to Q R 3; P to Q 5; and eventually K to Kt sq., and having then his king in a safe position he had only to play the ending correctly and the game was his, and proves an instructive specimen to the student.

GAME No. 573. FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. A. Walbrodt.	BLACK. C. v. Bardeleben.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P takes P	4—P takes P
5—Kt to B 3	5—B to Q 3
6—B to K 2	6—B to K 3
7—B to Kt 5	7—P to B 3
8—Q to Q 2	8—Q Kt to Q 2
9—P to Q R 3	9—Q to B 2
10—Q to Q 3	10—P to K R 3
11—B to K 3	11—Kt to Kt 3
12—P to R 3	12—Kt to B 5
13—B to Q B sq.	13—Q to R 4
14—Castles	14—Kt to B 2
15—P to Q Kt 3	15—Kt to Kt 3
16—Kt to K R 4	16—B to B 5
17—Kt to B 5	17—B takes Kt
18—Q takes B	18—B takes B
19—Q R takes B	19—Castles
20—B to Q 3	20—Q to Q 3
21—P to Q R 4	21—K R to K sq.
22—Kt to K 2	22—P to Kt 3
23—Q to B 3	23—Kt to K 5
24—Q R to Q sq.	24—K to Kt 2
25—Kt to Kt 3	25—Kt to B 3
26—K to R sq.	26—R to K 2
27—R to K Kt sq.	27—Q R to K sq.
28—Kt to B sq.	28—Kt to R 4
29—P to Kt 3	29—Q to B 3
30—Q takes Q	30—Kt takes Q
31—K to Kt 2	31—Kt to K 5
32—R to K sq.	32—Kt to Q 2
33—Kt to K 3	33—Q Kt to B 3
34—P to Q 4	34—Kt to Kt 4 ch.
35—K to Kt 2	35—K Kt to K 5
36—K to B 3	36—Kt to Kt 4 ch.
37—K to Kt 2	37—K Kt to K 5

Drawn Game.

There is not much scope for observation in this game. White deviated 6—B to K 2 instead of the usual 6—B to Q 3; but the former is not a bad place for the K B in close games. Bardeleben tried for a counter-attack on the queen's side, and with that object in view he developed 11..... Kt to Kt 3, intending at the same time Q to Q 2, and B to B 4 driving the adverse queen off the diagonal. The latter manoeuvre, however, could have been carried out better had he developed Kt to K B sq., and then Kt to K Kt 3. His attempted sortie proved premature; both the advanced queen and knight had to return whence they came, thus causing a loss of time which could have been utilised to better purpose. He had eventually to give up his two bishops, and after the compulsory 22..... P to K Kt 3, the eventual draw was already foreshadowed, although White had a shade the preferable position. Bardeleben, however, played the remainder more carefully and equalised matters. The game was otherwise a grand one, and a draw the legitimate issue.

CHESS IN SYDNEY.

GAME No. 574. FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. J. L. Jacobsen.	BLACK. Mr. C. Mackenzie.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to K 5 (a)	4—Kt to Q 2
5—P to K B 4	5—P to Q B 4
6—P takes P	6—Q Kt to B 3 (b)
7—Kt to K B 3	7—Kt takes B P (c)
8—B to K 3	8—P to Q Kt 3 (d)
9—B to Kt 5	9—B to Q 2
10—Castles	10—P to Q R 3 (e)
11—B takes Kt	11—B takes B
12—Kt to Q 4	12—B to Q 2
13—P to B 5 (f)	13—B to K 2
14—Q to Kt 4	14—P to Kt 3 (g)
15—P to B 6	15—B to B sq.
16—P to Q Kt 4 (h)	16—Kt to Q Kt 2 (i)
17—Kt takes Q P (j)	17—B to B sq. (k)
18—Kt to B 4	18—Q to Q 2
19—Q R to Q sq.	19—Kt to Q 3

20—P takes Kt	20—P to K 4
21—Kt (from B 4) to K 6	21—B takes P (l)
22—Kt to Kt 7	22—K to B sq.
23—Kt (from Q 4) to B 5	23—P takes Kt
24—Kt takes P	24—R to K Kt sq.
25—B to R 6 ch.	25—K to K sq.
26—Q takes R ch.	26—B to B sq.
27—Q takes B mate.	

(a) Recent authorities prefer this advance to first pinning the Kt by 4—H to Kt 5.

(b) Black does not immediately retake with Bishop, on account of possible trouble from Q to Kt 4.

(c) But now he might better develop by 7..... B takes P.

(d) Black has a somewhat cramped position, but 8..... P to K Kt 3, or 8..... P to K B 4, threatening Kt to K 5, would equalise matters. The eighth move loses time.

(e) Here he loses another move.

(f) And his pieces are soon forced into a state of inaction.

(g) Of course casting was not to be thought of, and, if P takes P, then Q takes Kt P with a winning attack.

(h) To drive the Kt from the command of K 5.

(i) He cannot well go to K 5, nor first attempt to dislodge the Queen, e.g. 16..... P to K R 4; 17—Q takes Kt P; 17—P takes Q; 18—P to B 7 ch.; K to K 2; 19—B to Kt 5 mate.

(j) Pretty and quite sound.

(k) Instructive and worthy of examination. The retreat of the Bishop is deplorable, but if P takes Kt, then P to K 6 wins speedily.

(l) If B P takes Kt, P to B 7 ch.; if K P takes Kt, 22—Kt to Kt 7 ch., K to Q sq., 23—Q takes P, &c.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 28th.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 10th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 30th.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'ay, Sept. 30th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 3rd.
From Europe, via Hongkong.....	per M. M. Co.	Wed'ay, Oct. 9th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 8th.

* *Empress of China* left Vancouver on September 15th. * *City of Peking* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 22nd. * *Peru* left Hongkong on September 22nd. The English mail is on board the steamer *Nanyo Maru*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Portland.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 29th.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 28th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 2nd.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 2nd.
For Europe, via Shanghai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 4th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 9th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 10th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 11th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 19th September,—Hongkong via ports, 11th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Caldonsen, French steamer, 2,500, L. Blanc, 20th September,—Marseilles 16th August, Hongkong 12th September, Shanghai 15th, and Kobe 19th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 20th September,—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—A. Fisher.
Kweilin, British steamer, 1,088, J. B. Harris, 20th September,—Shanghai, via Kobe 19th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Java, British steamer, 2,733, J. Chelley, 21st September,—London via ports, 25th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 21st September,—Hongkong via ports, 12th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Albatross, U.S. fish commission steamer, 638, J. F. Moser, 22nd September,—Hakodate 19th September.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 22nd September,—San Francisco 3rd September, via Honolulu 10th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Dimitri Donskoi (20), Russian cruiser, Captain Vitgeft, 22nd September,—Vladivostok.
Hutton Hall, British ship, 1,989, Rowlands, 22nd September,—New York 10th April, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Benvoirlich, British steamer, 3,086, John H. Clark, 22nd September,—London via ports, and Kobe 21st September, General.—Cornes & Co.
Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 22nd September,—Kobe 21st September.
Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagon, 23rd September,—New York 3rd May, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Kwang-li, Chinese steamer, 1,505, Wallace, 24th September,—Shanghai 19th September.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, Whistler, 24th September,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 22nd September, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 849, Jensen, 24th September,—Vladivostok, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Kesmun, British steamer, 1,985, Barden, 25th September,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 23rd September, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, C. Young, 25th September.—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Saito Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 25th September.—Shanghai via ports, 19th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Fortin, 26th September.—Hakodate 24th September.

DEPARTURES.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, J. Dwyer, 20th September.—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Natal, French steamer, 4,038, G. Bourdon, 20th September.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Ping Suoy, British steamer, 1,982, L. Davies, 20th September.—London via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Frogner, Norwegian steamer, 850, Goelisein, 21st September.—Mojji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, 21st September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Heathfield, British barque, 1,535, J. McKenzie, 21st September.—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,208, R. Swain, 22nd September.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Irene, German steamer, 2,145, Schneider, 22nd September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
J. F. Chapman, American ship, 2,038, Chas. S. Kendall, 23rd September.—New York via Kobe, General.—Otto Reimers & Co.
Oolong, British steamer, 2,308, R. Couradi, 23rd September.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Dardanus, British steamer, 2,507, Gregory, 23rd September.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Belgia, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 23rd September.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Kwellin, British steamer, 1,088, J. B. Harris, 23rd September.—Kobe, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 23rd September.—Singapore, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 24th September.—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, Whistler, 25th September.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 25th September.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer **Verona**, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss N. Bolitho, Miss A. Wauchope, Mr. G. Valesi, Captain Pritchard, Mr. E. Rutter, Mr. Pow Chong Chew, Mr. Chan Che Kai, Mrs. Wehrmann, Misses Wehrmann (2), Miss M. Jaffray, Mr. R. H. Woodfall, Mr. H. Marcus, Mr. Lea, Master S. Clark, Misses Clark (3), Messrs. Y. Tanaka, T. Nakano, F. Takagaki, A. Fair, R. C. Johnson, F. A. East, Mrs. A. Crawford, Mr. W. Macvicar, Mr. I. Izawa, Miss Bidwell, Messrs. F. Hill, Kawamura, Nagi, Osaki, Ito, R. Miyagawa, Yokohashi, Katsuki, Sakai, Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka, Messrs. Yamakami, Kurada, S. Hamada, and Sumokawa in cabin; 3 Japanese in steerage.
 Per British steamer **Tava**, from London via ports:—Mr. Naraway, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Levey, 2 children and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Richards, Mr. S. A. Diss, Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mr. F. J. Bardens, and Mr. J. F. Duff in cabin.
 Per British steamer **Belgia**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Mannich, Mr. J. C. Peter, Mr. M. Grote, Miss. Boyes, Mr. A. H. Rennie, Mr. F. W. Rapp, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Greene and child, Mr. G. Bayfield, Mr. A. Death, Mrs. J. Jones, baby and servant, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. E. W. Maitland, Mr. F. Davenport, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. Tschudnowsky, Miss M. Boyes, Miss C. Boyes, Mr. J. W. Rolles, Mr. D. Goh, Miss Greene, Master R. S. Green, Mr. R. Lenz, Mrs. Crichton and child, Mr. C. S. Sharp, and Mr. F. H. Olmstead in cabin. For San Francisco:—Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Scroggs, and Miss M. F. Wheeler in cabin.
 Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Commander M. R. S. Mackenzie, U.S.N., Mrs. R. E. Carney and infant, Rev. and Mrs. Harvey Bokaw, Miss Lulu Ribble, Mr. S. H. Salena, Mr. R. S. Hubbell,

Mrs. E. Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Terry, Rev. H. G. C. Hallock, Mr. H. S. Tiemann, Miss A. L. Howe, Mrs. F. Fuller, Mrs. C. V. Ruthven, Mr. Cant Yen, and Mr. M. Morioka in cabin.
 Per British steamer **Tacoma**, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Katsuki and Miss Edwards (to England), Mr. G. E. Boardman, Mr. Booth, Mrs. Booth, Mr. F. Faucett, Miss Summers, Mr. A. T. Woodward, Mr. W. H. Gill, and Miss Waters in cabin; 2 Japanese in steerage. In transit:—53 Chinese in steerage for Canada and United States.
 Per Japanese steamer **Miike Maru**, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. K. Okamoto in cabin; 14 Japanese and one European in steerage. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. C. H. C. Möller and 3 children in cabin. For Kobe and ports:—5 Japanese, 2 Europeans, and 12 Chinese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer **Saito Maru**, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. A. Cushing, Mr. M. Stempel, Dr. Kato, Mr. G. Miyake, Mr. Fujii, Mr. Arthur Wilm, Miss Tominaga, General C. Ikonderberg, General Von Paikan, Messrs. Kassianow, Flood, K. Yasukawa, Y. Nagata, G. Yokomaki, S. Tanimichi, Auiliatre, Professor W. K. Burton, Messrs. Z. Hamano, A. Levy, Takahashi, T. Matsuo, Hitching, S. Takahashi, Kendrick, H. B. Eden, Captain Ono, Messrs. G. Wa Boku, Kan Oh Ri, Bailord, S. Nojiri, and S. Osaki in cabin; Mrs. Chiura, Mr. Matsuda, Miss Y. Tominaga, Messrs. Asada, Martin, Ryan, Saphiere, Fukama, Mackenzie, Lawretti, M. Mihara, H. Nishida, Mrs. Nishida, Messrs. M. Fukuda, Higuchi, Inouye, Yebira, Onodera, Kan Tetsu Ho, Ju Shohitsu, M. Yueno, Minamishima, Osumi, Schinell, and Dr. Suzuki in second class, and 116 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer **Natal**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. J. Thompson, Mr. W. Daniels, Mr. E. Bethell, Mr. and Mrs. Graff, Mr. and Mrs. J. Magee and boy, Mr. and Mrs. S. Ellsworth and boy, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ziegfeld and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Horsey, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll and 4 children, Mrs. Connelly and 2 children, Miss E. Rubbit, Mr. F. Heinlein, Mr. E. Schussel, Mr. Ackerman, Captain J. Beusen, Lieut. and Mrs. Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. Sands, Messrs. Simpkins, H. Howard, H. Bretschneider, J. C. Corner, H. Pidgeon, Miss Elsie Adair, Mrs. J. Jar-dyne, Messrs. B. Vanderlip, J. Emmet, W. Kenake, T. Yoshida, F. Collins, Dr. and Mrs. Ringer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Mathews and child, Major and Mrs. Henham, Captain and Mrs. Bunjee and 3 infants, Mr. Deslandres, Mr. F. Mittau, Mr. J. Mittau, Lieut. Voisin, Mr. Muraour, Mr. Ray, Miss Ray, Miss E. Montgomery, Miss K. Schaeffer, Captain Venturme, Mr. Simon, Mr. Spieler, Mrs. Siwosky and 4 children, and Mr. Oitaviani in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer **Yokohama Maru**, for Kobe:—Mr. F. S. Blackwell, Mr. Y. Murata, Mr. E. T. Shorland, Mr. K. Matsuda, Miss Patton, Miss Evans, Master W. Hall, Master V. Hall, Mr. G. Saji, Mr. Y. Matsudaira, and Mr. T. Ozawa in cabin; Messrs. F. Kato, T. Morikawa, T. Koide, K. Hattori, K. Kagima, and S. Tagiro in second class. For Shimonooseki:—Mrs. Momoko Kurogi in cabin; Mrs. Shimamura, Mr. H. Miyake, and Mr. K. Katata in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. G. Kato and Mr. R. Deura in cabin; Mr. K. Yotsumoto in second class. For Shanghai:—Rev. and Mrs. Edward James, Miss Sarah Peters, Miss M. C. Robinson, Miss S. R. Martin, Miss J. Sanders, Miss Clara E. Merrill, Miss Ida Deavers, Miss Ida Kahn, Miss Mary Stone, Dr. G. L. Hendry and family, Misses Low (3), Miss Ella Leverette, Miss M. J. Gates, Miss Margaret Polk, Miss M. Allen, Miss E. M. Gary, Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Howitz, Mr. R. W. Lambuth, Mr. Tsong, Mr. T. Bunt, Mrs. Bunt, Mr. W. Platt, Mrs. Laing and child, and Mr. M. Yagawa in cabin; 209 passengers in steerage in all ports.

Per British steamer **Belgia**, for San Francisco:—Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Scroggs, Mrs. R. Marshall Allen, Prince Michel Hilko and servant, Prince Michel A. Hilko, Mr. G. Tschertkoff, and Mr. V. Bolchakoff in cabin.
 Per American steamer **City of Rio de Janeiro**, for Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Miss W. L. Merriman, Rev. and Mrs. G. F. Shepherd, Rev. H. G. C. Hollock, Miss A. L. Howe, Mrs. Nepean, Mrs. J. C. Leonard, Commander Scheine, Commander Egomishoff, Mr. Frank Burton, Lieut. Holland, and Dr. E. Bailey in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer **Natal**, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 285 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 44 bales.
 Per Japanese steamer **Yokohama Maru**, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$1,500.
 Per British steamer **Belgia**, for San Francisco:—

SHANGHAI	TEA.			
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	ODDERS	TRIAL CITIES
Shanghai	1,504	—	—	1,504
Hyogo	202	306	313	821
Yokohama	1,322	340	—	1,862
Hongkong	340	—	—	340
Amoy	40	3,732	605	4,377
Total	3,608	4,072	911	8,904

YOKOHAMA	TEA.			
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	ODDERS	TRIAL CITIES
Yokohama	—	281	—	281
Total	—	281	—	281

Per British steamer **Tacoma**, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—

SHANGHAI	TEA.			
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	ODDERS	TRIAL CITIES
Shanghai	359	4,147	1,015	5,905
Hyogo	254	947	375	1,576
Yokohama	1,125	2,610	2,232	5,967
Hongkong	—	—	—	132
Amoy	—	—	4,470	4,470
Total	1,738	7,704	8,072	18,000

HONGKONG	TEA.			
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	ODDERS	TRIAL CITIES
Hongkong	—	18	—	18
Yokohama	—	323	50	373
Total	—	341	50	391

Tea 12 cents Gold per lb. gross.
 Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
 Measurement \$11 Gold per ton.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market generally feeble and disorganized. Yarn and Grey Cloth—Specially dull with poor business. Fancies—Some trifling sales in Prints and Velvets. Woollens—Italians moving, rest inanimate.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings	PER PIECE.	
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	\$2.40	to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 39 inches	2.75	to 3.20
Grey Shirtings—9 yds. 45 inches	1.70	to 1.95
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	1.95	to 2.45
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	0.16	to 0.22
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	8.00	to 10.00
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	0.75	to 0.90
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	1.35	to 1.55
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	1.65	to 1.95
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Grey Shirtings—12 yds. 45 inches	2.90	to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.	
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.30	to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35	to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30	to 0.34
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25	to 0.27
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16-24	PER POUND.	
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO
Nos. 16-24, Singles	\$37.00	to 38.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	40.00	to 41.50
Nos. 16-24, Singles	44.00	to 46.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	43.00	to 44.50
Nos. 16-24, Singles	50.00	to 52.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	65.00	to 69.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	84.00	to 87.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	105.00	to 108.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	77.00	to 82.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	93.00	to 98.00
Nos. 16-24, Singles	120.00	to 127.00

METALS.

Position unsatisfactory. The floods have stopped business to a great extent and sales are few. Holders are further hampered by fresh news giving lower prices on the home side for Iron. Quotations here are nominally unchanged, but are weak with a dull market.

Flat Bars, 4 inch	PER POUND.	
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$3.40	to 3.45
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.45	to 3.50
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.40	to 3.50
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.40	to 3.50
Flat Bars, 4 inch	4.60	to 4.70
Flat Bars, 4 inch	9.20	to 9.60
Flat Bars, 4 inch	5.30	to 5.40
Flat Bars, 4 inch	5.00	to 5.30
Flat Bars, 4 inch	1.62	to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Buyers have had to come into the market upon seller's terms, and the market closes strong at quotations. Large sales have been made of late.

American	PER GALLON.	
	NEW YORK	CHICAGO
American	\$2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22
American	2.20	to 2.22

SUGAR.

Brown—Sales have exceeded arrivals and prices are the two better all round. The business done has been in China and Manila sorts. Takao quiet and nominal. White—Something done (but not much) both in Ordinary and Refined. Market steady.

	PER CENT.
Brown Takao	\$4.00 to 4.05
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.15
Brown Daiteng	3.55 to 3.60
Brown Canton	3.45 to 4.55
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7.10
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.
RAW SILK.

A fair start has at last been made for the New York trade and the Pacific steamers this week have had some cargo. Considerable buying also for Europe in fine Filatures at quotations. This little revival has encouraged the native silkmen, who consequently pursue their usual course of asking "more money." The move in stock here has, however, brought forward more silk from the producing districts, and buyers are not so keen at top figures.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$810 to 820
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers	790 to 800
Filatures—No. 1, 11/12, 12/13 den.	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 10/11 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 11/12 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	710 to 720
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 2, 11/12 deniers	Nom. 680
Re-reels—No. 2, 12/13 deniers	Nom. 650
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/16 deniers	640 to 650
Kakedas—Extra	730
Kakedas—No. 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 14	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 2	670
Kakedas—No. 3	—

WASTE SILK.

Still in the doldrums; and the market report reads:—"Absolutely nothing doing."

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shimshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Best	—
Noshi—Bushi, Good	—
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshi, Good	—
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	—
Kihiso—Filature, Best	—
Kihiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

The floods and consequent interruption in communications have reduced arrivals from the interior, and as buying has gone on regularly the present stock on this market is small. Holders in consequence, are firm in their demands; but with the repair of the railway lines it is probable that further supplies will soon come to hand.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$24 to \$25
Finest	22 to 23
Fine	20 to 21
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	12 to 13

EXCHANGE.

Exchange during the week has shown but slight fluctuations in rates, the latest move being a point upward.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/8
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/8
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2.62
— Private 4 months' sight	2.68
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 % p.
— Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	72 1/2
On India—Bank sight	177 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	181 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	52 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.13 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.17 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/8

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, September 21st.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report that there are buyers of H. & K. Wharfs at \$55.50 and of Hongkong Lands at \$75. Hongkong Lands are weaker with sellers at \$192 per cent. premium.

Grand Hotels have been placed at \$170 but there are now no sellers under \$180. Club Hotels are on offer at \$69. Breweries have been placed at \$250.

Yokohama, September 23rd.

We hear by wire that H. and K. Wharfs have risen to \$57 with buyers at that rate, whilst H. and S. Banks have declined to 191 per cent., at which rate shares are offering in Hongkong. At \$57 H. and K. Wharfs were sold to Hongkong. Later advices, also by wire, report that there are enquiries for H. & K. Wharfs at \$58, at which rate shares might be placed to the Colony.

Grand Hotels have been placed to-day locally at \$180. Club Hotels are offering at \$69.

Yokohama, September 25th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report the following changes in the share market:—Hongkong Banks are quoted at 191 per cent. premium, steady; Hongkong Lands \$76 Sellers; China Fires \$90 Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$58 Buyers, \$59 Sellers; Douglas's \$70 Sales; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.50 Sellers; Panjoni Mines \$10 Buyers; Raub Mines \$5.50 Buyers; Balmoral Mines \$2.50 Sellers; National Bank \$26.50 Sellers; Indo-China \$45 Sellers, Straits \$27.40 Sales; Unions \$250 Sales, and Traders \$82 Sellers.

H. & K. Wharfs have changed hands locally to-day at \$58.

Brett & Co.'s Shares have been sold to-day at \$8.50. Langfeldts and Debentures of kinds are enquired for at quotations.

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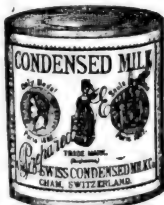
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 14.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 3RD, 1896.

月三年五十二癸 第百三十三號
Vol. XXVI.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAISCE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 3RD, 1896.

BIRTHS.

On the 2nd Oct., at No. 7-C, Bluff, the wife of W. W. CAMPBELL of a Son.

On the 2nd October, at No. 159, Bluff, the wife of CHARLES V. SALE of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

At the Union Church, Yokohama, on the 26th of September, by the Rev. H. Loomis, Dr. J. H. WELLS, of Pyeng Yang, Korea, to Miss S. L. RIBBLE of Rhoads, Va., U.S.A.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A RUSSIAN fleet is cruising off the mouth of the Bosphorus.

THE *Tateyama* (of the Kure naval station), the *Kanju* (Yokosuka naval station), the *Manju*

(Sasebo), and the *Binsho* (Kure), will be struck off the list of effective men-of-war.

H.E. PRINCE KONOYE has received the Grand Insignia of the Imperial Paulownia.

SOME 2,000 troops left Yokohama on Wednesday to relieve the garrisons in Formosa.

THE Merchants' Bank, of Matsuyama, has decided to increase its capital to yen 400,000.

PRINCE KONOYE, it is said, will succeed to the vacant chair of President of the House of Peers.

YOKOHAMA has sent six, and Kobe five, cricketers to represent Japan at the Shanghai cricket week.

An athletic sports meeting is projected by the Y.C. & A.C. for the first Saturday in November.

OWING to tightness in the Kyoto money market the rate of interest has risen there to *sen* 3.3 per diem.

COUNT ITAGAKI TAISUKE (who holds the rank of *Shō-sammi*) has received the first-class of the Rising Sun.

THE presentation of Colours to the new regiments will take place in the presence of the Emperor.

THE state of uneasiness continues in Constantinople and many Mussulmans are sending their families away.

ON the 28th ult., a big meeting was held to consider the better drainage of the districts adjoining Lake Biwa.

MR. F. W. WHITEFIELD is the new Secretary, and Mr. A. B. Walford, Treasurer, of the Yokohama Choral Society.

So much charcoal was lost in the recent floods, that prices have gone up 30 per cent. on the usual rates.

GOVERNOR YAMADA, of Oida Ken, will succeed Baron Sonoda, as Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

THE Hyogo Branch of the Kanagafuchi Yarn Company commenced work on the 25th ult. with 40,000 spindles.

FRANCE has warned the Sultan that unless the Armenian persecutions cease, his deposition will be accomplished.

THE Paris *Figaro* publishes a stirring appeal by Mr. Gladstone to the French people on behalf of the Armenians.

DURING a big fire at the rice godowns at Osaka, on Wednesday, a Police-inspector and several constables lost their lives.

A COMPLETE panic prevails amongst the Derivishes in the Soudan, who are disorganized and are retreating to Omduraman.

THE autumnal review of the First Division will take place in the neighbourhood of Tatebayashi on or about the 10th of October.

SEVEN people lost their lives in Yokohama on Friday last through the breaking down of a temporary bridge across the Creek.

THE Cabinet is now completed, Marquis Hachisuka taking the Department of Education and Mr. Kiyoura the Department of Justice.

LACK of wind on Saturday again spoiled the Yacht races. Some of the boats did not get back into the harbour till Sunday morning.

H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG arrived at Yokohama on Sunday afternoon by the *Empress of China*,

from Vancouver. He did not land, but was carried straight from the mail-ship to the *Kwang-li* that had been sent to take him to Tientsin.

THE resignation of Mr. Ishizaka Shoko, M.P. for the 18th division of Tokyo, was accepted on the 28th inst.

THE statement that Russia and Japan have agreed to a joint protectorate over Korea, and that the Japanese are to evacuate that country, is without foundation.

MESSRS. Inouye Kakugoro and Fukuzawa Monosuke, of the Hokkaido Coal Mining Co., left for a tour to Shanghai, Hongkong, and Singapore by the *Empress of China*.

PROF. BURTON has returned from Formosa after making preliminary surveys for proposed new drainage and waterworks. He will return to the Island shortly to conduct other surveys.

THE Yokohama Choral, Chess, and Literary Societies commence their new sessions with satisfactory balances in hand and promises of successful work during the next six months.

MR. ZUMOTO MOTOSADA, who lately resigned his appointment as private Secretary to Marquis Ito, has started on a tour through the United States to watch the presidential election. He will then cross the Atlantic and visit Europe.

At a great meeting at Liverpool, Mr. Gladstone, who recommended that the warmest support should be given to the Government on the Armenian question, with the largest discretion, spoke with a ringing voice for an hour and twenty minutes.

MR. MIYANISHI ICHIBEI, a tea merchant of Teramachi, Kyoto, has brought a suit against Baron Otani Koson, Lord Abbot of the Hongwan temple, claiming that the temple unlawfully confiscated certain ground, valued at yen 35,900,700, some 360 years ago. The Kyoto Local Court has fixed the hearing of the case at a short date.

MR. JUSTICE MOWAT has sentenced Edwin Ryder, late second officer of the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyō Maru*, to two years' hard labour for stealing a box of treasure from that vessel; and Edward Dawson, late third engineer to 15 months' hard labour, for receiving some of the money knowing it to have been stolen.

IN the Import trade, Textiles are lifeless, buyers seeming content to wait till they can make better terms. In the Metal market the same conditions prevail, and though nominally unchanged prices are drooping. The Kerosene trade is healthy and strong, and oil can only be obtained at a further advance in price. There has been good business done in Sugar, Takao having been moved in considerable quantities at a distinct advance, and Brown sorts generally have been taken at full rates and for more money. Whites are firm, Refined quiet but unchanged in value. The active demand referred to last week cleared 2,000 piculs of Silk off this market—then a frost set in, begotten of holders putting up prices \$30 to \$50, and nothing has been done since. A small movement has at length to be recorded in the Waste department, and buyers are mostly looking for low quality fibre. In the Tea trade the stock of leaf has been much reduced, partly due to a brisk demand for parcels of Common to Medium grade and to the fact that communications are not yet generally restored, and arrivals are consequently small. This has given holders of suitable parcels the opportunity of raising prices, which they speedily seized. Exchange has been very steady, no alteration in rates having been made during the past week.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The new Ministry has constituted a topic of strong comment this week, papers of pro-Government tone being conspicuously earnest. On the other hand, the *Tokyo Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi*, especially the former, are singularly reticent. Apparently they await an opportunity to attack with force. The *Nippon*, the *Kokumin*, and other journals, understood to be favourable to the Matsukata Cabinet, offer suggestion after suggestion for the consideration of the Ministry and its political supporters, the *Shimpo-to*.

The *Nippon* being something of a free lance, puts little restraint upon its comments. Persuaded that the new Cabinet is too feeble to retain a long lease of power, it denounces the idea of attempting to protract a lingering existence by means of a neutral attitude, and counsels a short life of decisive action. At the same time, judging from the organization of the Cabinet, our contemporary scarcely hopes for any display of Ministerial resolution. It detects the "camera influence" still at work, and the vice of favouritism still un eradicated. Hopeless of avoiding the reproach of being a Satsuma monopoly, the Cabinet nevertheless sought to maintain good relations with Choshu statesmen by keeping in office Marquis Saigo, who is reputed to be a kind of bridge between the two clans. Even that futile precaution did not seem sufficient. For the sake of conciliating Marquis Ito, Marquis Hachisuka was offered a portfolio; in deference to Count Inouye, Viscount Nomura was similarly honoured; for Marshal Yamagata's sake, Mr. Kiyoura was admitted, and Viscount Enomoto out of consideration for Count Kuroda. Seeing these things, the *Nippon* does not expect much from the new Cabinet. It did, however, hope at least steps would be taken to purge the Administration from accumulated abuses, even at the risk of shortening its existence. But even that expectation is apparently doomed to disappointment. The Ministry do not seem to have derived any benefit from the object lesson furnished by their predecessors. They have evidently failed to see that the downfall of the Ito Cabinet was primarily traceable to the admission of a foreign element, Viscount Takashima. Their ignominious collapse can be only a question of time. Still the *Nippon* has some curiosity to know whether they are really resolved to hold themselves responsible to the *Gen-kun* statesmen.

The same paper, and its alter ego the *Kokumin*, are anxious to have the attitude of the new Ministry distinctly proclaimed, so that their relations to the people and to the *Shimpo-to* may be placed beyond the reach of doubt. The confidence that the public originally reposed in the new Ministry, writes the *Kokumin*, is somewhat impaired by the unsatisfactory method of selecting the holders of some portfolios. Moreover, a suspicion has begun to be entertained by the people that the new Ministry are not really resolved on effecting radical reforms in the administration. Unless that suspicion be removed, the Cabinet can not look to retain popular confidence. The best plan would be to issue a manifesto as quickly as possible, whatever its contents may be. The *Kokumin* then gravely remarks that the public are eager to hear from the new Cabinet, first whether it is resolved to hold itself accountable to the Emperor and the people for its doings; secondly, whether its foreign policy will be steady; thirdly, whether it would undertake to expand the country's armaments in accordance with the dictates of national requirements; fourthly, whether it will really hold individual rights in respect; and fifthly, whether it will effect radical reforms in the Administration in the sense of retrenching superfluous expenses and removing incompetent officials.

The *Mainichi's* remarks on this subject are not more reassuring. It observes that the attitude of the *Shimpo-to*, taken as a whole, becomes more and more unfavourable towards

the new Cabinet, as though that party's support could not be counted on by the Ministry. Nor is the tone of the press less unfavourable, for even those that at first adopted a sympathetic attitude towards the Cabinet, now speak of it in greatly altered accents. The *Mainichi* is disposed to doubt whether the attitude of the people in general towards the Matsukata Cabinet is not one of disappointment.

The *Nippon* is eager to have the relation between the Government and the *Shimpo-to* clearly defined. At present, that relation seems to be one simply of mutual friendship and sympathetic understanding, no actual alliance existing between them. Such being the case, neither the Cabinet nor the Party have any real mutual responsibility. It follows that the actions of the two lack uniformity and occasionally are even antagonistic. That state of things must prove a source of trouble to both, for their rivals, the Liberals, will not make any nice discrimination as to the relation really existing between the Government and the Party, but will eagerly seize every opportunity furnished by the conduct of either to discredit both alike in the eyes of the people.

The *Chuo* is at a loss to account for the entry of Count Okuma into the Cabinet. His admission was not the result of his views having obtained the approval of the Ministry, or because he entertained any bold idea of having them carried, whether acceptable or not to his colleagues. He entered the Cabinet alone and unconditionally. Was it, asks the organ of the National Unionists, because he was tired, as well as convinced of the uselessness of vain talk in the capacity of an outsider, and because he had grown impatient to test his ability on the stage of real administration, that he consented to join the ministry regardless whether the principles and views he had always previously asserted were acceptable or not? If so, the *Chuo* can not but deplore such a manifest decay in the Count's spirit and energy. In another article, the same paper reminds the new Foreign Minister of a grave duty devolving upon him, namely, that of remodelling Japan's policy towards Korea, and reasserting her prestige in the Peninsula.

The *Kokumin* stands forth as the champion of petty Government clerks, while insisting that superfluous officials and superfluous expenses must be eliminated resolutely and promptly. As a reason why petty clerks should be treated with consideration, the *Kokumin* explains how the condition of a clerk drawing, say, 12 yen a month, actually stands. Even from that pittance, 10 per cent. is deducted as a contribution to the warships' construction fund; while an additional 1 per cent. is subtracted for the Survivors' Relief Fund. His actual income in thus reduced to 10.68 yen, a sum barely sufficient to keep body and soul together, seeing that the market prices of commodities have risen to an extraordinary extent. Our contemporary therefore advises the Government to lessen the number of clerks and to give larger salaries to those that are retained.

The *Yomiuri*, the *Mainichi*, and the *Kokumin* evidently echo the sentiment of the *Shimpo-to* when they argue that two Vice-Ministers should be appointed to each Department of State, one Executive and other Administrative, as is the habit in England. The present system is attended with several grave disadvantages. For example, when Vice-Ministers remain in office after the resignation of their chiefs, as on the present occasion, they are placed in the awkward position of having to condemn the very measures approved by the previous Administration; while should they resign simultaneously with their chiefs, Government affairs are in danger of suffering for want of experienced managers. The Matsukata Cabinet, observes the *Yomiuri*, stands on the superstructure left behind by its predecessor, for are not the Vice-Ministers the same as before and is not the personnel of the Bureaux essentially the same. The Matsukata Cabinet must organize its own officialdom, and

that can be effected only by appointing Vice-Ministers who shall undertake executive affairs and hold office independent of the Cabinet.

The want of a strict line of demarcation between executive and administrative officials, writes the *Mainichi*, has often resulted in a change of Vice-Ministers or Chiefs of Bureaux whenever the holder of a portfolio changed. The entry of Count Itagaki, for example, into the Ito Cabinet as Minister of Home Affairs, occasioned several changes in the subordinate officials of the Home Department, Mr. Misaki being appointed Chief of the Local Administration Bureau, and Messrs. Sakurai and Ishisaka, Local Governors. That was a bad precedent, and ought not to be followed by the present Ministry. If Vice-ministers or Chiefs of Bureaux be capable and strictly devoted to their duties as administrative officials, they need not be replaced by others. The *Mainichi* is confident that the new Cabinet will inaugurate the excellent custom of drawing a distinct line of demarcation between executive and administrative officials, and will set the example of not easily removing the incumbents of administrative posts.

The *Fiji* learns that the discussions on the Estimates for the next fiscal year, held at the Premier's residence at the end of last month, failed to bring the Ministers into cordial agreement, there being a difference of from 30 to 40 million yen between the amended Budget proposed by the new Premier and Finance Minister and the total sums demanded by the heads of Departments. The *Fiji* does not necessarily approve of increasing the revenue, still less of adding to the expenditures under the influence of temporary enthusiasm. One thing, however, must be pushed to the utmost limit of the national resources, namely, naval expansion. The nation should not shrink from any addition to its burdens on that account.

The *Kokumin* offers a bold suggestion to the new Cabinet. It declares that, whether the Diet prove amicable or hostile in the 10th session, it must be dissolved, for it does not really represent public opinion, as its actions in the last session show.

The same paper observes that it is to the *Shimpo-to* and not to the Liberals that the new Cabinet should devote attention in the coming session of the Diet, for the latter—supposing them to preserve consistency of action and not to oppose measures ardently approved by them in the 9th session—are precluded from making any serious attack on the proposals of the new Government, seeing that the rumour about a reduction of the scheme of armament expansion is unfounded, and that the Ministry may even be induced to remove the restraints now imposed on freedom of speech and public meeting. In short, the Liberals will have the mortification of reluctantly failing to find any objects of assault. On the other hand, there will devolve on the *Shimpo-to* the responsibility of opposing the Government should the latter's methods show no improvement on those of the last Cabinet. Hence the Government will have to pay close attention to the attitude of the *Shimpo-to*.

The *Mainichi* has a remarkable article about Formosa. On the strength of information furnished by a certain publicist who recently returned from an extensive tour through the island, the administration is declared to be quite demoralized and to call for prompt remodeling. The publicist in question told the *Mainichi* that the officials in Formosa are simply a pack of ravenous sharks, not only incompetent to discharge the functions assigned to them, but indifferent to their duties and extremely lazy and irregular in their work. One of the chief causes underlying that evil state of affairs is the instability of positions of superior officials in the island, and the resulting laxity of their superintending subordinates. So perfunctory are the officials that not a few of them appear in their offices at 9 in the morning and

leave them at noon. The conduct of the Japanese immigrants towards the natives is also open to severe censure. Inflated by the thought of their country's victories in the recent war, they behave in such an overbearing and arbitrary manner, that the natives regard them with more and more hatred, and are inclined to take refuge under the protection of kindly disposed foreigners, of whom there are not a few in the island. Many of the foreign residents, who are either missionaries or merchants that have lived many years in Formosa, anticipated with pleasure the change of rulers, believing that under the Japanese regimen, they should enjoy more freedom in the propagation of their faith and more security in the pursuit of their business. Imagine their disappointment therefore, when insurrection after insurrection broke out, and when they found themselves deprived of the blessing of security of life and property. The prestige of the Japanese Authorities is entirely gone in Formosa, and it is easily conceivable that should things continue in their present state, the better classes of Chinese will be entirely alienated from the Japanese, to be received into the open arms of foreigners as has been the case with the Koreans. Having published these remarkable paragraphs about Formosa, our Tokyo contemporary argues that the chief essentials for remedying the above flagrant evils, are to effect a thorough recasting of the civil and military services in Formosa; to make the tenure of the higher offices more secure; and to employ able natives as much as possible in subordinate posts, so that they may share the administrative responsibility. Lastly, foreigners of long residence in Formosa should be used either as advisers or interpreters.

The *Yiji* devotes an article to the necessity of improving the Japanese fishing industry. At present it yields only 40 million yen a year, of which 5 millions represent the value of exports. One of the chief reasons why the industry is comparatively so backward is because fishermen are content to ply their business in old-fashioned methods of greatly limited scope. Their boats are too small, the largest being capable of holding only 30 men, and the number of such boats is as yet very insignificant. The fact is that the fishermen, being generally without capital, can not afford to procure such large fishing smacks as are in vogue in the West, and they are thus precluded from taking full advantage of the harvest that the surrounding seas offer. Japanese capitalists must not confine their attention to enterprises conducted on land; the sea must also be considered. The *Yiji* is glad to learn that Mr. Sekizawa Meisel, an ex-Government official, whose devotion to the cause of fishing enterprise is well known, recently launched a fishing smack equipped in western style, on the coast of Awa. He is the pioneer of the new methods.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SPANISH WAR-SHIPS.

ACCORDING to an account published in a French journal just to hand, an important discussion was held on the 21st of July in the Spanish National Assembly in connection with the building of war-ships. That day an influential section of the Cortes put a question to the Government asking why, instead of giving orders to England for the building of two new vessels, one order was given to Italy. The Minister of the Navy replied that the Government had appointed a special committee who were charged with supervising the building of the two new ships. The Committee had carried out most thorough researches and found that the Ansaldo Company of Italy could construct a vessel of the *Garibaldi* type more cheaply and more effectively than the English yards. This opinion was endorsed by the English Admiralty. The English Admiralty, commenting on the design of the new vessel, had found that though of medium size, only of 7,000 tons displacement, equipped with 25-cent. guns, 30 15-cent. guns, etc., the ship could confidently attack an iron-clad of 14,000 tons displacement. The English admiralty had ordered several

cruisers of the *Garibaldi* type to be built in England. On the receipt of this report, the Spanish Government had decided to build one vessel of the *Garibaldi* type in Italy. The Minister's explanation satisfied the Assembly. —(Nichi Nichi Shimbun).

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for August, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1895. SILVER YEN.	1896. SILVER YEN.
Exports	16,249,954.390	7,928,959.080
Imports	18,820,847.080	17,375,241.150
Total exports and imports	25,304,200.230	9,440,289.070
Excess of imports	2,570,892.690	1,446,281.770
Exports	120,733.347	433,598.128
Imports	433,598.128	17,818.847
Miscellaneous	17,818.847	
Total	572,150.322	

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
British India	464,748.150	4,074,344.430	4,539,092.580
China	1,336,870.010	1,733,667.710	3,070,537.720
Hongkong	1,406,666.130	805,003.900	2,211,670.030
Korea	248,202.710	198,433.900	446,636.610
Russian Asia	288,585.200	198,433.900	487,019.100
Philippine Islands	12,797.730	221,803.350	234,601.080
Annam & other French India	1,043,800	204,201.370	1,248,001.370
Siam	218.450	27,844.350	28,062.800
Great Britain	566,255.090	5,148,040.230	5,714,295.320
Germany	200,058.030	1,803,643.610	2,003,701.640
France	897,004.130	853,431.400	1,750,435.530
Belgium	1,037.610	38,173.440	39,211.050
Italy	183,416.670	19,481.340	202,898.010
Switzerland	21,116.000	200,975.630	221,091.630
Sweden & Norway	135.000	78,700.170	78,835.170
Austria	5,778.390	6,008.000	11,786.390
Russia	8,321.040	8,849.870	17,170.910
Holland	5,234.600	4,354.780	9,589.380
Spain	794.150	5,044.060	5,838.210
Turkey	1,257.530	65.000	1,322.530
Denmark	1,139.000	466.000	1,605.000
Portugal	—	444.840	444.840
United States of America	2,844,251.240	1,463,094.670	4,307,345.910
Canada & other British America	269,857.540	409.140	270,266.680
Australia	101,448.330	27,101.430	128,549.760
Hawaii	31,258.580	338.040	31,596.620
Other Countries	85,358.480	90,338.150	175,696.630
Total	7,643,746.580	27,375,241.150	35,018,987.730

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
Yokohama	3,565,541.930	6,710,211.110	10,275,753.040
Kobe	3,099,127.350	8,515,030.210	11,614,157.560
Osaka	293,551.000	2,867,757.400	3,161,308.400
Nagasaki	468,074.670	1,088,177.380	1,556,252.050
Hakodate	137,215.580	21,099.000	158,314.580
Niigata	8,003.780	5,358.420	13,362.200
Shimonoseki	151,716.030	73,469.360	225,185.390
Moji	231,229.800	—	231,229.800
Hakata	400.360	—	400.360
Karatsu	4,450.000	—	4,450.000
Kuchinotsu	158,777.300	—	158,777.300
Idzumi	293,551.000	9,699.580	303,250.580
Shishimi	1,280.590	2,440.160	3,720.750
Sasura	1,541.410	683.500	2,224.910
Naha	3,133.790	30.000	3,163.790
Fushiki	60,131.440	8,155.970	68,287.410
Muroan	19,000.000	3,835.000	22,835.000
Otaru	—	—	—

Specie and Bullion { Exports

{ Imports

Total

Excess of imports

By Japanese Merchants { Exports

{ Imports

Imported by Government

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH DURING CURRENT YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	7,710,063.350	14,772,188.440	22,482,251.790
February	10,061,212.050	17,268,665.160	27,329,877.210
March	9,154,041.480	19,041,030.810	28,195,072.290
April	9,714,057.710	13,593,131.010	23,307,188.720
May	9,170,757.150	14,433,186.380	23,603,943.530
June	7,579,889.390	14,811,060.510	22,390,949.900
July	7,327,194.320	14,653,921.710	21,981,116.030
August	7,908,059.080	17,375,241.150	25,283,300.230
Total	69,209,076.790	128,195,071.070	197,404,147.860

TURBULENT FIREMEN.

THE *China Mail* of the 14th says:—The British steamer *Asamor* (Capt. Gibson) put into Hongkong rather unexpectedly on Saturday—not under stress of weather but under stress of firemen. The steamer was on a voyage from Moji to Bombay, and it appears that the Chinese firemen did not wish to make the voyage to India, being desirous of being discharged in Hongkong. When they learned that Captain Gibson did not propose to call at Hongkong, the firemen let down the steam, and carried their mutinous conduct further by invading the deck with shovels and other "lethal weapons." The officers and engineers had to use strong repressive measures to quell the mutiny, and seven ringleaders were put in irons. For some reason or other, the men were

released when Hongkong Harbour was made, and they promptly deserted, leaving half a month's pay behind. Capt. Gibson, probably undesirous of causing still further delay on a voyage which has been already unnecessarily prolonged, did not seek to prosecute the mutineers, and a new squad of firemen having been engaged the steamer leaves for the south late to-night.

THE SEISMIC WAVE OF JUNE.

MR. IGI, of the College of Science, is assured from data that he collected during a recent tour of investigation in the Sanriku district, that the seismic wave of June was due to a submarine volcanic explosion. He places the centre of the disturbance about 200 leagues east off the coast of Yoshihama, Kisen District, corresponding to 39° lat. N. 149° long. E. He thinks that the phenomenon was similar to the Krakatoa disaster, save that instead of the volcano being on land, as in the East Indian catastrophe, in this instance it was far beneath the surface of the sea. He says that the temperature of the sea in the neighbourhood of these districts has been raised three degrees above that prevailing in ordinary years. Mr. Igi would like to see the Government, or private persons, fit out a survey vessel to conduct deep sea investigations at the spot he mentions as the centre of the disturbance.

FAILURE OF A FRENCH IRON-CLAD.

A LONDON telegram of August 21st, that appears in the Australian papers, says—The new French ironclad *Lasare Carnot* proves to be a complete failure. Owing to miscalculations she is too deep in the water. The *Lasare Carnot* is a twin screw iron-clad with two masts and two funnels, and was built at Toulon. She was built to be a vessel of 12,000 tons displacement, being only second in the French navy to the *Bowet*, a vessel of 12,200 tons displacement. Her measurements are:—Length, 356ft.; beam, 72ft. 8in.; depth, 27ft. Her steel armour is 18in. thick, and her armament, as designed, was to consist of two 11½ in. guns, two 10½ in. guns, eight 5½ in. guns, and 12 smaller quick-firing guns. Her engines are 15,000-h.p., and her speed was to be 18 knots.

THE FIRE ON THE "YEIJO MARU."

THE fire on the N.Y.K. steamer *Yeijo Maru*, on Friday night, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, was much more serious than first accounts led us to suppose. The fire originated in the engineers' mess room shortly after ten o'clock. When the alarm was raised assistance quickly arrived. Mr. C. Wills, the chief engineer, got all the pumps and hose at work with the assistance of Mr. Hands, the chief officer of the *Sakata Maru*, who went aboard with an extra hand pump and rendered very valuable assistance. The water police also went off and in a short time some two hundred hands were at work, but it was not before half-past eleven that the fire was extinguished. The engineers' quarters and mess room were entirely burnt out, the engineers losing every vestige of property that belonged to them, including a goodly sum in money, the chief engineer's loss alone, we hear, being about \$250. Fortunately, the flames were confined to the engineers' quarters for had they reached to the forward hatch where about 200 cases of kerosene were stored, not much of the ship probably would now be left. The fire is believed to have been due to the bursting of a lamp.

THE "IMPERIEUSE."

A LONDON telegram, dated 25th August, states that H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, formerly flagship on this station and now the flagship on the Pacific station, struck a rock during a fog off the coast of North America. Her injuries are but slight.

WEDDING AT UNION CHURCH.

A QUIET wedding was celebrated at Union Church, Yokohama, at noon on Saturday, when the Revs. H. Loomis and J. C. Ballagh united in marriage the Rev. Dr. J. Hunter Wells, of Korea, and Miss Lulu Ribble, of Rhoads, Va., who has just arrived from the United States. The bride, who wore a travelling dress

of brown and drab materials, was given away by Mr. Johnson, of Los Angeles, the bridegroom having for best man the Rev. J. Frazier, Chaplain of the U.S.S. *Olympia*. The Misses Harrington were bridesmaids, and each bore lovely baskets of flowers. Among the guests present at the ceremony was Mrs. Bishop (Miss Bird). Mr. Whitefield presided at the organ, and contributed two Wedding Marches.

LORD ROSEBERRY ON BURNS.

On the occasion of the Burn's Centenary at Glasgow, Lord Rosebery delivered an address of remarkable eloquence and picturesqueness, one paragraph of which we reproduce for the sake of the beautiful thought it embodies:—

I should like to go a step further, and affirm that we have something to be grateful for even in the weakness of men like Burns. Mankind is helped in its progress almost as much by the study of imperfection as by the contemplation of perfection. Had we nothing before us in our futile and halting lives but saints and the ideal, we might well fall altogether. We grope blindly along the catacombs of the world, we climb the dark ladder of life, we feel our way to futurity, but we can scarcely see an inch around or before us. We stumble and falter and fall, our hands and knees are bruised and sore, and we look up for light and guidance. Could we see nothing but distant, unapproachable impeccability, we might well sink prostrate in the hopelessness of emulation and the weariness of despair. Is it not then, when all seems blank and lightless and lifeless, when strength and courage flag, and when perfection seems remote as a star, is it not then that imperfection helps us? When we see that the greatest and choicest images of God have had their weaknesses, like ours, their temptations, their hour of darkness, their bloody sweat, are we not encouraged by their lapses and catastrophes to find energy for one more effort, one more struggle? Where they failed we feel it a less dishonour to fail; their errors and sorrows make, as it were, an easier ascent from infinite imperfection to infinite perfection. Man, after all, is not ripened by virtue alone.

A KOBE SMOKER.

A SMOKER was given in the Gymnasium, Kobe, on Monday night by the Elsie Adair Company assisted by the Sisters Giggie, Mr. Newlay Deggs, Mr. Willie Lash, and other local favourites. A couple of violin solos were contributed by Mr. Sorhagen, while Messrs. H. and F. Grimbly played the accompaniments. There were about seventy persons present and an enjoyable evening was spent.

THE "CATTERTHUN'S" GOLD.

THE steamer engaged in salvage operations at the wreck of the steamer *Catterthun* returned to Sydney on the 21st ultimo, the divers being completely prostrate from their exertions. Altogether eight thousand sovereigns have been recovered. It has been decided to abandon any further effort to recover the balance of the treasure, amounting to £2,000.

NAVAL NEWS.

THE *Hongkong Telegraph* notes that Lieut. Shakespeare, once of H.M.S. *Plover*, is about to come out to the Far East as Lieut.-Commander of the torpedo destroyer *Hart*. Commander R. G. O. Tupper, at one time serving on the *Mercury*, commands the *Hunter*, and Lieut. W. S. Lambert the *Boaser*.

A BABY DROWNED.

POLICE-INSPECTOR IKARIYAMA reports that a baby boy, two years old, the grandchild of Kobayashi Heiroku, was found drowned about 9 o'clock on Friday morning, in a small pond situated within the compound of the German Consulate. The child was still warm when found, but restorative measures were of no avail. The pond is only eighteen inches deep.

THE ACCIDENT TO H.M.S. "SWIFT."

It appears that the *Swift* cracked the high-pressure shaft of her starboard engine on the way from Korniloff Bay to Nagasaki. She steamed for a considerable distance with her port engine only, and then the *Rainbow* took her in tow. The repairs will be effected at Nagasaki.

HONGKONG'S WATER SUPPLY.

HONGKONG need have no fear for its water supply during the coming winter. In the second week of September the reservoir at Tytam overflowed for the first time since October 1894. The

bye-wash has been raised 5 feet, giving a total storage of 345,000,000 gallons. Pokfulam, is also overflowing.

TO MARINERS

THE following notices to mariners have been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—

Yangtze River-Kiukiang District—N.E. Crossing Channel and Spencer Rock Light-boats.—Notice is hereby given that the Lights of the Light-boats marking the N.E. Crossing Channel and Spencer Rock have been changed from white to red.

Yangtze River-Kiukiang District—Two-Fathom Creek Beacon Light.—Notice is hereby given that the Two-fathom Creek Beacon Light has been shifted 270 yards N. 42° E. from its last position, in consequence of the subsidence of the land on which it stood.

THE YOSHIHAMA-BASHI DISASTER.

THE names and ages of the seven victims of the Yoshihama-bashi disaster are:—Mazawa Sennosuke, boy, age 7; Aoyama Toyu, girl, age 13; Negishi Maki, girl, age 8; Shimidzu Riki, woman, age 69; Nakajima Sei, girl, age 16; Yoshida Harukichi, boy, age 9; and Fukushima Take, girl, age 10.

NEWCHWANG.

MESSRS. BANDINEL AND CO., writing from Newchwang on the 8th September, 1896, says:—"The Viceroy has issued a proclamation largely increasing and extending the likin. The merchants have petitioned him to withdraw this. Meantime, business is practically suspended. The proclamation was temporarily withdrawn."

A DRUNKEN SPREE.

AN intoxicated German sailor stabbed a Japanese man in the Yoshiwara last night, but when the police arrived he acknowledged his fault, and upon paying compensation to the wounded man, was allowed to go on board his ship.

TREATIES.

THE Commercial Treaty between Japan and China, a draft of which reached the Foreign Office in the beginning of August, was lately laid before the Emperor, the draft having passed the Cabinet. The recent political changes necessarily diverted the Emperor's attention for a while, but the crisis being definitely settled, the Emperor sent the draft Treaty to the Privy Council. No objection having been taken to it by the Council, the draft was at once submitted to the Emperor by Count Kuroda, President of the Council. The Emperor sanctioned it the next day, the 25th ult. It is predicted that the ratifications will be exchanged this month.

A copy of the Revised Treaty between Japan and France, signed at Paris on Aug. 24, reached the Foreign Office on the 28th ult.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

Mr. Mortimer Menpes, writing from Kyoto, says:—"I am amazed at the letters people are writing about the railway officials. My own experience has been very different. On my journey here from Kobe, I was obliged, owing to the floods, to go round by Nara, and the trouble the officials took to see me through was monumental. One station-master wrote instructions for me to show to the guards on the way, so that my difficulty with the language should not prove an inconvenience. Fancy such kindness on the part of railway officials in England!"

TREATY REVISION.

Only four treaties now remain to be revised, and the negotiations have been commenced in every case. They are the treaties with Portugal, Switzerland, Austria-Hungary, and Spain. Mr. Sone is entrusted with the task of negotiating the Portuguese Treaty; Mr. Kurino, the Spanish; and Mr. Takahira, the Austro-Hungarian and the Swiss.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, having consented to accept the portfolio of Education, and having been gazetted to that post, the Cabinet is now complete, namely:—

Count Matsukata	Minister President and Minister of Finance.
Count Okuma	Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Count Kabayama	Minister of Home Affairs.
Marquis Saigō	Minister of the Navy.
Viscount Takashima	Minister of War and Minister of Colonization.
Marquis Hachisuka	Minister of Education.
Viscount Kiyoura Keigo	Minister of Justice.
Viscount Nomura	Minister of Communications.
Viscount Enomoto	Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Mr. Motono having been sent abroad in a diplomatic capacity, there remain only Mr. Mitsuhashi, a Councillor of the Foreign Office, and Mr. Yoshida to discharge the duties of Private Secretary. But as Count Okuma naturally desires to place in that confidential post somebody enjoying his full confidence, he will probably appoint Mr. Inugai Ki to be chief of the Political Bureau, *vice* Mr. Nakada, and will, at the same time, entrust to him the duties of Private Secretary. We are not in a position to say whether this forecast is correct, but it sounds probable enough. Mr. Inugai is a member of the Diet where he has greatly distinguished himself. As a parliamentary figure, moderation has certainly not been his most conspicuous trait. Indeed, were we asked to name the man who preëminently maintained an attitude of unwavering hostility to the Government in the Diet from the first to the ninth session, we should have no hesitation in indicating Mr. Inugai. Of his great ability, however, there can be no manner of question, and doubtless the responsibilities of office will produce in his case the sobering effects that they invariably exercise. On the other hand, it will be very difficult for him to do better than Mr. Nakada, who to excellent judgment and grasp of intellect adds a charming personality that never fails to win friends. Messrs. Motono and Nakada are destined, unless we judge very falsely, to rise ultimately to eminent positions in the service of their country.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* makes a comparison. It says that whereas Count Itagaki entered the Cabinet simply and solely as the leader of a great political party, and not because he possessed any special talent for the functions entrusted to him—those of Home Minister—Count Okuma, though also a prominent party leader, enters the Cabinet because he is universally accredited with eminent aptitude for the duties he has undertaken, those of Foreign Minister. So far as Count Okuma is concerned, we must all agree with the *Kokumin*. Unquestionably, Japan has few if any statesmen more competent to hold the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. But why should Count Itagaki be discredited for the sake of exalting Count Okuma? A perfectly upright, single-hearted man, incapable of partiality and respected even by his political enemies, a man who for 18 years has been moving hither and thither through the country, acquiring wide and intimate knowledge of local conditions—such a man is Count Itagaki, and such a man seems to us conspicuously qualified to preside at the Home Office.

The *Yomiuri* thinks that Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune will be appointed Chief of the Legislative Bureau, *in lieu* of Baron Suematsu, who has resigned. Mr. Komuchi has distinguished himself in the Lower House of the Diet, and his parliamentary experience should help him to discharge efficiently the duties of Government Delegate, which are among the most onerous devolving upon the chief of the Bureau.

There has not yet been time for the vernacular press to comment on the appointment of Marquis Hachisuka to the post of Minister of Education, but it is impossible to doubt that the news will be received with universal satisfaction, so far as the personality of the new Minister is concerned. The Marquis is one of the very few among Japan's great nobles—pre-Restoration nobles—that play an active rôle in public affairs. He possesses considerable wealth; not that his fief of Awa was preëminent among the

principal feudal domains in that respect, but that its treasury contained large accumulations at the time of the abolition of feudalism. He has long been recognised as man of high ability, and his public conduct has invariably been marked by strict adherence to the best canons of his order. Marquis Saionji, whom he succeeds, is of the same type, and certainly his administration of educational affairs was such that the nation must greatly regret his retirement. But we look to see Marquis Hachisuka give almost equal satisfaction. There is a very romantic side to the Japanese student's character, and undoubtedly he finds it essentially congenial and appropriate that the Educational Department should be presided over by the bluest blood, and permeated with the most unimpeachable *Samurai* traditions of old Japan. There had been very confident talk of Prince Konoye's receiving the portfolio of Education, but it appears that His Highness has other duties which he could not hope to discharge satisfactorily in conjunction with the work of the *Mombusho*.

CURRENT POLITICS.

The Matsukata Cabinet is resolved, it is said, to lay before the public the policy that it intends to adopt. Opinions were divided as to what process should be followed in taking the public into the Cabinet's confidence, some saying that the system in vogue in England should be adopted, that is, the Mayor of Tokyo should invite distinguished personages to a grand banquet and the Premier should deliver a speech on that occasion—as at a Lord Mayor's inaugural banquet in London; others that the Premier should lay the Government's policy before an assembly of Local Governors; and a third suggested that a manifesto should be published in the columns of the *Official Gazette*. The *Fiji* and other papers state that the second process is to be adopted, and that on the 11th of October a convocation of Local Prefects will be held in Tokyo, and the Premier will deliver a speech embodying the policy of his Cabinet. Steps will be taken to inform the public of this important speech. The Liberals will withhold their manifesto until they are assured of the position that the new Ministry will assume. The *Shimpo-to* are watching keenly the movements of the Government and are taking steps accordingly. A section of the Party met on the 29th ult. at the residence of Mr. Haseba Junko, M.P., an influential member of the Party, to discuss the attitude they should assume at this juncture. It was decided that, prior to the announcement of the Cabinet's platform, the Party should decide upon an attitude to be assumed, but that should the Cabinet's policy prove difficult of acceptance by them, the Party should oppose all its measures. On the 29th ult. the first regular Cabinet Council was held at the official residence of the Premier, the Budget for the next fiscal year being discussed. The *Yomiuri* states that there being no time to go over the matter anew, the Cabinet has determined to base the Budget on the measures elaborated by the ex-Finance Minister, reserving any radical changes till the occasion of formulating the Budget for the 31st fiscal year. The financial policy of the Matsukata Cabinet, observes the *Kokumin*, will be negative for next year, at least. In other words, it will take no action in regard to the extraordinary proposals of the preceding Cabinet. An "adjustment policy" may be a more appropriate appellation. The same paper says that, according to the financial forecasts of the Ito Cabinet, there will be a deficit of over 8,700,000 *yen* next year.

The news is given in the *Fiji* that Count Okuma has decided to change the Japanese Minister in Seoul. Mr. Hara, the present incumbent, will leave Seoul for home about the 5th inst. Nothing is yet definitely known about his successor, though the *Nichi Nichi* says that Mr. Oishi has been asked to undertake the duties. The new Foreign Minister is evidently determined on remodeling Japan's attitude toward Korea, as in-

deed he is bound to do, having, while outside the Government, freely criticized its Korean policy. Korea will be the first test of the Count's foreign policy. Hence the necessity of changing the Representative to that country.

THE SŌUL-FUSAN RAILWAY.

The explanation given by our Sōul correspondent of the difficulty that prevents the granting of a concession to Japan for the construction of a Sōul-Fusan Railway, has not yet been publicly stated, and is certainly very interesting. We fail to see how any importance attaches to the second argument mentioned by our correspondent, namely, that the compulsory purchase of large tracts of land at market prices would alienate the people's good will and materially reduce the revenue derivable by the State. If that be true in the case of the Sōul-Fusan Railway, it must be equally true, other things being alike, in the cases of the Sōul-Chemulpo and Sōul-Wiju lines, for which concessions have been granted to American and French syndicates without hesitation. But we can easily appreciate the first argument, namely, that owing to the great unpopularity of the Japanese in Korea, the Korean Government could not undertake the task of guarding a Japanese railway against violence at the hands of the inhabitants of the districts traversed, and that to entrust the work of protection to a Japanese force is an idea scarcely feasible, even supposing that the Japanese were willing to entertain it. We are not prepared to say how far credence may be attached to such an explanation of the reluctance shown by the Korean Government to grant the long desired concession to Japan. It is fresh in every body's mind that during the recent insurrection the Japanese line of telegraph from Sōul to Fusan was constantly cut by the insurgents who appeared to think that no readier method of inflicting loss and inconvenience on the Japanese presented itself. At the same time, we are unable to distinguish how much these outrages were purely anti-Japanese, and how much they were inspired by general hostility to the new order of things, for which Japan was mainly responsible. Moreover, if the line of telegraph was frequently injured in those days, it appears to escape molestation at present. Is it not fair to infer that the same would be the case with a railway? At first, some attempts to injure it might be made, but that they would soon be abandoned when the convenience and usefulness of the line came to be appreciated, seems a reasonable forecast. Of course the Japanese must blame themselves largely for their unpopularity in Korea, but, on the other hand, they can scarcely expect to have their unpopularity advanced as an official plea for differentiating against them. They stand on at least as good a footing as any other Power so far as concerns their title to treaty privileges and most-favoured-nation treatment in the peninsula, and we do not doubt that their wisest course is to insist on asserting that title. No Western Power would agree to have the unpopularity of its subjects in an Oriental country alleged as a reason for withholding from them concessions and privileges to which they have otherwise a right, and which are freely granted to the subjects of other States. Japan's position in Korea certainly calls for an exercise of skilful and strong statesmanship. The mischief that it suffered at Viscount Miura's hands is not easily reparable.

THE BICYCLE CABINET.

The new Cabinet has been dubbed the "Bicycle Cabinet" (*Fitensha Naikaku*). It is a witty designation. Hitherto every Cabinet has contained Satsuma and Choshu men in tolerably equal proportions; or, as folks were wont to say, the Administration has run upon two parallel wheels, Sasshu and Choshu. But now, with the exception of Count Okuma, the Cabinet contains no statesman of note that does not belong to Satsuma. It has become a bicycle Cabinet, the big wheel in front representing Satsuma and the little wheel behind, Count Okuma.

TESTIMONY FROM FORMOSA.

An interview with an Englishman who has just returned from a visit to Formosa gives the following information:—I travelled from Taipei in the north of the island, to a point some forty miles beyond Tainan in the centre, thus visiting several of the places included in the area of the recent insurrection. So far as these places are concerned, there is no truth whatever in the statement that the peaceful inhabitants, unable to trust the Japanese, have declined to return to their homes and resume their occupations. They have returned, and are living as serenely and securely as they ever did. As to places farther afield, I am unable to speak from eye testimony, but there is no reason, on the face of things, to suppose that what is absolutely false with regard to the villages I saw, should be true with regard to other villages that were the scenes of precisely similar incidents. I heard nothing whatever, and saw no traces, of atrocities such as have been described in the columns of certain local foreign journals of Hongkong and Shanghai. The foreigners in the north of the island seemed to pay very little attention to such stories. Possibly their indifference is to be ascribed to the fact that they have had intimate experience of Japanese methods, and are therefore in a position to estimate the likelihood of the stories circulating in the south. The troubles at the close of last year and the beginning of the present were on a considerably larger scale than those that recently originated with the Hoolin rebels, and as the scene of the former fell within the immediate ken of the foreign residents, their experiences garnered at that time doubtless help them to discount the reports now reaching them. Everybody remembers that during the northern insurrection terrible tales were sent abroad about atrocities committed by the Japanese troops, and I think some people remember also what a stupendous sensation one of the Yokohama journals attempted to manufacture out of the canards, bracketing them historically with the abominations of Nero, the horrors of the Huns, and so forth. Well, all those stories proved to be pure myths, and I strongly suspect that the same fate impends for the rumours now ventilated. The good folks in Southern Formosa will soon find out that they have not only been wasting their sympathies, but also committing a great injustice. I exclude, of course, the cases of innocent Chinese who lost their lives or property. There must have been many such: there could hardly have failed to be many under the circumstances. Naturally those that find themselves undeservedly denuded of their belongings, and the relatives or friends of those that suffered unmerited death, are loud, unreasoning denouncers of the Japanese. Even where the rebels were the assassins or destroyers, the victims are entitled to rail against the incompetence of their proper protectors. Besides, the fact can not be concealed that the foreign residents of Formosa do not feel at all kindly towards the Japanese. Folks in Yokohama and Kobe are bitter enough, in all conscience, but folks in Formosa, so far as my experience goes, could give them points. The explanation is not far to seek. In no part of the Chinese empire were foreigners so autocratic as in Formosa, before the island's cession to Japan. They were absolute masters of the situation. Of course, in their capacity of merchants, they had to meet Chinese competition. Whether that was a very serious opponent may, perhaps, be doubted; but it sufficed, at all events, to deprive them of any nominal monopoly. Nevertheless, they were under little or no restraint, and as for law, they were a law unto themselves. I am not speaking disparagingly. Far from it. In my humble judgment they seem to be an exceptionally fine set of fellows, full of enterprise, pluck, and resource, and obedient to most hospitable instincts. Possibly some of them abused the licence they enjoyed: that would have been only human. But, on the whole, they walked straight enough, and what they did promoted the interests of Formosa not less than their own. Still, the liberty they possessed was very pleasant, and they find it

correspondingly irksome to pass under rulers who take little on trust and are determined to exercise efficient control in every direction. Men that have held property for a long while unquestioned, strongly resent the notion of having their titles suddenly scrutinized, and traders that have managed their business for years without check or hindrance, are apt to be betrayed into bad language and strong resentment when outsiders come to subject them to rules and regulations. The foreigners in Formosa are chafing horribly, and I frankly confess that I heard more virile and less reasonable talk there in a week that I should have expected to hear in a month in Yokohama, which is saying a very great deal. The leading Japanese officials, civil and military, appear thoroughly well disposed. They are only too anxious to manage things in a smooth, conciliatory manner. As for Mr. Mizuno, the Civil Governor, nothing could be kinder or more liberal than his mood. But how can you play successfully to an audience that is determined to be dissatisfied? If the foreign residents welcomed the advent of the Japanese originally, it was because no thoughtful estimate had been formed of what must ensue when control, not always discriminating, was substituted for liberty, invariably unrestricted. The Japanese coolie, too, is, an ugly object lesson: he has a terribly swollen head. His leap from cringing insignificance at home to stalwart importance abroad, has affected him far more injuriously than the substitution of restraint for independence has affected the foreigner. To watch a coolie swaggering down the street in a Formosa town, and the Chinamen getting nimbly out of his path, is a thing not to be forgotten. I have never seen a Japanese coolie strike a Chinaman, but I have seen him thrust the latter aside pretty roughly. The common soldiers, too, are often truculent and overbearing. These faults, however, are rapidly disappearing. Evidently they have been brought to the notice of the high officials, and measures to correct than have been taken. Remember, too, that the Chinese are shrewd fellows. They can discover which way the wind blows without holding up many straws, and it has not taken them long to find out that every evil-sounding story they can vamp up against the Japanese will find sympathetic listeners among the foreign residents. I myself have come back with the conviction that all these tales about atrocities and oppression are cut out of whole cloth. You have been told, I may add in conclusion, that coolies are seized, chained in gangs, and forced to labour. That is an absurd falsehood. I saw a photograph of some of those "gangs." They consisted of men that had eagerly offered themselves as workers to earn the liberal pay given by the Japanese. When employed by the military, a certain measure of discipline and organized labour is imposed, but compulsion, chaining, and all that, can only be designated by the expressive term "Tommy-rot." Indeed, one of the things strongly complained of by foreigners is that the Japanese have spoiled the market for labour by paying the Chinese too well. The most voluble villipender that I came across was a gentleman whose bread-winning had been connected with coolie contracts, until the new rates of pay "spoiled his pidgin."

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune, a distinguished member of the House of Representatives, has been appointed Chief of the Legislative Bureau and also Chief of the Pensions Bureau in the Cabinet, posts held by Baron Suyematsu in the former Ministry.

Judging from present indications, it does not appear probable that any changes will be made in the Vice-Ministers of the various Departments. The *Hochi Shimbun*, indeed, writes very confidently that no changes of *personnel* in the rank of Vice-Ministers or Heads of Bureaux are contemplated until after the next session of the Diet, if even then.

HARBOUR CONSTRUCTION IN JAPAN.

The *Shogyo* recently discussed the number of harbour construction schemes now afoot in various parts of Japan. It commences with that of Osaka, but as we have more than once described the schemes of the southern port, we need not recapitulate the details here. We shall take Atsuta first. The plan adopted for the reconstruction of this harbour, the outlet for Owari, is similar to the Osaka idea, that is to say, a dock will be built with all the latest improvements. The work is to be carried out between the promontory of Chita and the opposite coast of Kaito and Kaisei; and there will be a breakwater and submarine work to prevent the accumulation of river deposits. The break-water will be built out from the left bank of the river Shonai, and will project in a straight line for a length of 1,408 yards; then it will be deflected southward for a length of 3,404 yards, extending 4,812 yards altogether. For a length of 1,408 yards, from the mouth of the river Shonai, this break-water will be made of earth, but the rest will be built of stone. The break-water will serve to prevent an accumulation of silt from the Shonai within the harbour, and protect it against the south-east wind. The mouth of the Horikawa Canal, that extends from Atsuta to Nagoya, will be reclaimed for an extent of 60,000 *tsubo* (50 acres), and from the south-eastern extremity of the land thus reclaimed submarine work, to prevent the accumulation of river deposits, will be carried out. This submarine bed, after projecting in a south-easterly direction for some distance, will be deflected S.S.E., then south, and will extend altogether over 5,566 yards, to prevent the accumulation of deposits poured down from the Chita promontory. One extremity of the open space enclosed between the submarine bed and the breakwater will communicate with the Horikawa Canal while the other extremity will project far into the sea. Vessels of deep draught will be able to find safe anchorage in this long dock. The dock will cover 120,000 *tsubo* (100 acres), and even at low tide will be 25 ft. deep. The work, to be started in the next fiscal year, and be completed in 7 years. The total cost is estimated at 1,897,388 *yen*, of which 350,000 *yen* will be obtained by issuing a local loan, 150,000 *yen* will be borne by the district of Aichi Prefecture, and 100,000 *yen* by Nagoya. Again, 1,047,388 *yen* is to be obtained by the sale of reclaimed land, and the remaining quarter of a million it was hoped would be provided by a State subsidy. It has transpired, however, that the Treasury can not satisfy this desire of the Aichi folks. A good port was a desideratum for Nagoya, and it is therefore expected that the construction of the harbour of Atsuta will add considerably to the prosperity of that large town and its surrounding districts, especially when the construction of the central overland railway now in course of survey is completed. This railway will terminate at Nagoya.

The *Shogyo* then discusses the Hakata scheme. At present this harbour is shallow and entirely unfit for anchorage. But in the Bay of Hakata and facing the city is an indentation called Nishitogasaki which the Hydrographical Authorities declare can be converted into a safe mooring-place if sufficient dredging is undertaken. This opinion has encouraged the people of Fukuoka, and as a preliminary towards making that place into a harbour, the Local Assembly has voted a sum of 2,500 *yen* as funds to be spent this year in carrying out preliminary surveys. The Hakata Harbour Construction Railway Company was organized at the same time with a view to laying a railway between the harbour and the nearest junction on the main line. The two schemes have been submitted to the Home Office, and Dr. Furuchi, Chief Expert of the Public Works Bureau, has gone to Hakata to survey the place. Nishitogasaki is situated at the south of the promontory that projects for more than two miles into the Bay, and the promontory would be an excellent breakwater to Nishitogasaki. An island

covered with forest and lying a short distance off from the promontory also protects the place from north-westerly winds. In short, Nishitogasaki is excellently situated, and dredging alone is required to convert it into a good harbour.

NEW MILITARY BARRACKS.

Certain speculators have been greatly disappointed and have incurred heavy loss, writes the *Fiji*, in connection with land required as sites for the new military barracks. The Authorities wisely determined to select a number of sites, and to single out the one that answered best from sanitary and practical points of view. The speculators, nothing daunted, boldly proceeded to purchase all the land that they thought might be selected, and then held out for unreasonable prices. The Authorities then determined to take advantage of the competition among residents of the respective localities who desired new barracks erected in their own localities. They consulted the district, or city, councils of the various places where new barracks were needed, and asked these bodies for an estimate of the value of land in their localities, at the same time intimating that should the values be considered unreasonably high, they would seek another and more suitable situation. This plan succeeded admirably, and the Military Authorities have managed in almost all cases to obtain their land very cheap. In Kanazawa, for instance, the City Council appraised the value of a particular plot covering 300,000 *tsubo* at 70 *sen* per *tsubo*. The Authorities replied that they would not give more than 50 *sen*. The Council then declared that the balance, 60,000 *yen*, would be presented to the Government, and the land, that is, 2,50 acres approximately, was bought for 150,000 *yen*. The self-sacrificing spirit which the citizens of Kanazawa and other places displayed deserves special commendation. The retrenchments that the Diet effected in the Budget for the current fiscal year and also the necessity for taking up other public works have obliged the Authorities to defer concluding the purchase of the land for a year, but they have succeeded in purchasing seven plots, and concluded contracts to purchase 15 more, while 29 other sites are now being negotiated. Of many plots of ground presented by the nation to the Department of War for the purpose of building new barracks, the following deserve special notice:—Aomori, over 66,000 *tsubo*; Niigata, over 50,000 *tsubo*; Akita, over 43,000 *tsubo*; Yamagata, over 66,000 *tsubo*; Shizuoka, 43,000 *tsubo*; Tadasuno, Fukui Prefecture, 33,000 *tsubo*; Fushimi, 33,000 *tsubo*; Himeji, 45,000 *tsubo*; Tottori, 38,000 *tsubo*; Kochi, 40,000 *tsubo*; 36,000 *tsubo*; Ogura, 30,000 *tsubo*; Yamaguchi, 13,000 *tsubo*. It is said that presents of land to Government measuring under 10,000 *tsubo* number between 20 and 30.

THE NEW CABINET & THE CLANS.

Looking over the new Cabinet and comparing it with the one that it succeeds, we find the Clans distributed as follow:—

MATSUKATA CABINET.			
Premier	Count Matsukata	...Satauma.	
Foreign Office	Count Okuma	...Hiken.	
Home Office	Count Kobayama	...Satauma.	
Treasury	Count Matsukata	...Satauma.	
War and Colonization	Viscount Takashina	...Satauma.	
Navy	Marquis Saigo	...Satauma.	
Justice	Mr. Kiyoura	...Higo.	
Education	Marquis Itchiku	...Feudal chief of Awa.	
Agri. and Commerce	Viscount Enomoto	...Shogunate.	
Communications	Viscount Nomura	...Choshu.	
ITO CABINET.			
Premier	Marquis Ito	...Choshu.	
Foreign Office	Marquis Saionji	...Kuge.	
Home Office	Count Itagaki	...Tosa.	
Treasury	Viscount Watanabe	...Choshu.	
War	Marquis Oyama	...Satauma.	
Navy	Marquis Saigo	...Satauma.	
Justice	Viscount Yoshikawa	...Awa.	
Education	Marquis Saionji	...Kuge.	
Agri. and Commerce	Viscount Enomoto	...Shogunate.	
Communications	Mr. Shirane	...Choshu.	
Colonization	Viscount Takashina	...Satauma.	

In the new Cabinet the Choshu element is the weakest, as in the former it was the predominant influence; while Satauma is now all powerful.

COUNT OKUMA'S POLICY.

IT is significant that the newspaper most hostile to the new Cabinet at present should be the *Chuo*, for that journal is the organ of the National Unionists, and upon the National Unionists' attitude in the next session of the Diet depends the Government's chance of obtaining a majority. The *Chuo's* chief target of attack is Count OKUMA. It endeavours to show that the Count formulated a number of important conditions by way of essential preliminaries to entering the Cabinet, and that, although he failed to obtain his colleagues' consent to any of them, he nevertheless accepted a portfolio. The principal of the conditions in question were—as has already been noted in these columns—that the Cabinet should hold itself responsible to the Diet, and that complete freedom of the press and of public meeting should be inaugurated. Now there is no manner of doubt that Count OKUMA is politically pledged to both of those doctrines, and that they represent the goal towards which, in common with many other Japanese statesmen, he has always marched. But that he believes the time to be ripe for their practical enforcement, we greatly doubt. Most assuredly neither he nor any other party leader could form a Cabinet at present without the aid of men who are emphatically persuaded that the consummation of constitutionalism would still be premature in Japan; men, in short, who have hitherto carefully stood aloof from all political entanglements, and maintained the doctrine of ministerial responsibility to the Emperor alone. The new Cabinet includes statesmen of that stamp, and Count OKUMA is perfectly well aware of the fact. Surely it is an extravagant exercise of credulity to suppose that, with such knowledge, he would have attempted to make his acceptance of a portfolio conditional upon the Cabinet's endorsement of doctrines still lying beyond the domain of practical statesmanship, and still viewed with misgivings by the most prominent of his new colleagues. Count OKUMA is neither a visionary nor a tyro. It is not at all unlikely that he reminded the Cabinet of his views when invited to enter, and that he frankly stated his resolve to promote those views by every legitimate means; but it is most unlikely—so unlikely as to be quite incredible, in our opinion—that he sought to force the Administration to open confession of a creed still incapable of public observance. Looking a little ahead, it appears to us that Count OKUMA and his fellow-thinkers may safely trust events to evolve a position much more crucial than any avowal of political faith could be at present. For the Government can scarcely hope to avoid defeat in the next session of the Diet, and the natural sequel will be dissolution and appeal to the country.

Then, if—as looks very probable—the Liberals obtain a success at the polls, another hostile vote will follow in the Diet, and even though the Ministry does not resign *en bloc* after its second discomfiture, its *personnel* will certainly undergo conspicuous change. In other words, the principle of party Cabinets will receive either partial or complete recognition. We can not doubt that Count OKUMA foresees that contingency, and if he formulated any statement of his political views when he entered the Cabinet, it must have been with the object of indicating the course to be expected from him in a given crisis. Thus the chief interest of the *Chuo's* diatribes is derived, not from any discredit that they are likely to bring upon Count OKUMA, but rather from the indication they furnish of the National Unionists' mood. Parenthetically, we may recall the fact that when Count OKUMA last entered the Cabinet, nine years ago, he was exposed from the very outset to implacable hostility at the hands of certain journalists. Apparently the same fate awaits him now. Is it not strange that, while what the nation hopes from him above all things is a strong and dextrous foreign policy, Japan's chief need at present, his attitude in domestic politics should be the handle seized by his enemies for assaulting him? Perhaps Count OKUMA is well pleased that such should be the case. To be saved at the outset from intrusive scrutiny of his real functions, he may not object to be the butt of criticism that time must effectually traverse.

THE NEW JAPANESE CIVIL CODE.

OUR readers are doubtless aware that a considerable portion of the new Japanese Civil Code, after having undergone thorough revision at the hands of a Committee of experts appointed by the Government in accordance with a resolution of the Diet in its first session (1891), was submitted to the Diet in its fifth session (1895-6), and duly passed, after which it received Imperial sanction, and is now the law of the land awaiting enforcement at an early date. The portion thus revised, passed by the Legislature and promulgated, is divided into three books, consisting of 724 articles. The first book (174 articles) contains general provisions; the second (223 articles) treats of real rights, and the third (327 articles) deals with obligations, especially those relating to contracts and wrongs. There is as yet no English translation of the Code. The Government, we understand, contemplates the preparation of an English version, but a considerable time must probably elapse before the intention becomes an accomplished fact. Meanwhile, Mr. GUBBINS, Japanese Secretary of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in Tokyo, is engaged upon a popular render-

ing which, while giving the exact significance of every article, will be free from the technicalities that make laws so perplexing to ordinary folks. Mr. GUBBINS will lay the public under a great obligation by his work, and his well-known industry inspires confidence that we shall not have long to wait for the result. An accurate translation in German by Dr. L. LÖNHOLM, Professor of German Law in the Imperial University, was published some months ago, and the same competent writer has now compiled and published a brochure explaining briefly the various provisions of the Code, especially in relation to its bearing upon the status of foreigners under the Revised Treaties. This little book, consisting of only 31 pages, is of the highest possible interest to foreigners, as will be evident from a brief summary of some of the facts that it sets forth.

One of the principal and most reasonable complaints preferred by foreigners against the system supposed to be contemplated by the Revised Treaties is that commercial and manufacturing enterprise outside the present Settlements will be fatally checked by the restrictions imposed on the tenure of land. It has been believed that thirty years would be the limit of time for which the occupation of land could be secured, and, of course, with only a thirty years' lease, no one could think of putting up solid and expensive buildings such as are best adapted for the purposes of warehouses or factories. But though actual ownership of land will not be acquirable by foreigners under the Treaties and the Civil Code, there will be nothing to prevent their occupation of land for a lengthy period. The right to occupy land in the capacity of "superficiary" can be acquired for a practically unlimited length of time, and will carry with it the right of ownership in all buildings of any kind, trees or bamboos that the land has on it, whether such buildings, trees, or bamboos exist on the land at the time of its acquisition, or are placed there subsequently by the occupant. It is thus apparent that if, when the Revised Treaties go into force, a foreigner desires to procure a site for building or planting, it will be competent for him to do so, not merely for a period of thirty or fifty years, but for a hundred years or even more. In order to secure long occupation, however, the time must be fixed by the parties to the contract. If it be not fixed, certain noteworthy provisions become operative. In the first place, the occupant will then be entitled to surrender his tenure whenever he pleases, with only this limitation that, if he is paying rent, he must either give one year's notice to the owner of his intention to vacate the land, or must pay a year's rent calculated from the next time when rent falls due. In the second place, supposing that the occupant does not surrender his right, and that the owner

wishes to recover the land, then the latter may apply to a Court of Law to have the duration of the right limited, and the Court will have competence to limit it to any period not less than twenty and not more than fifty years. Finally, when the right expires, the occupant may take away the buildings, trees, or bamboos, provided that he has previously given the owner an opportunity to purchase them at a fair price, or can show some just cause for refusing to give such an opportunity.

It is unnecessary to dwell upon the importance of all this. In view of such provisions, the objection that land can not be secured for a sufficient length of time to make its tenure really useful to merchants, manufacturers, or persons projecting the erection of residences and the laying out of gardens, ceases to have any validity whatever.

To complete this part of the subject, we may note that if, through the operation of some natural calamity, as floods or earthquakes, the superfluous is prevented from getting any return for three successive years, or from getting a return equal to the amount of his rent during five years, he becomes entitled to surrender the land to the owner. On the other hand, if the superfluous fails to pay his rent for two years, the owner may resume possession.

The right of mortgage being secured to foreigners by the Japanese-German Treaty, the provisions relating to it deserve notice. Immovable property—as land, houses, or trees—can alone be mortgaged. Movables or immovables may be “pledged,” but as pledges on immovables are not mentioned in any of the Treaties, they will not fall within the rights enjoyable by foreigners. “That fact, however, says Dr. LÖNHOLM, “is of no consequence, as the right of mortgage is quite sufficient for all the enterprises of foreign business men.” “A mortgage on land covers all the accessories of the land, except buildings, which must be specially mentioned, if they are to be included. Successive mortgages on the same property take rank among themselves according to the time of their registration. Interest in arrears on the mortgage debt is only secured by the mortgage for two years. A purchaser of mortgaged property may, if he chooses, under certain circumstances pay off the mortgage and clear his property immediately, even though the mortgage debt is not due.”

For agricultural purposes foreigners will not be able to acquire land in any way. As to the matter of hiring movables or immovables, neither a foreigner nor a Japanese can do so for more than 20 years, the lease being renewable, however, for a similar period. In the case of immovables, hiring is not valid against a third party unless the fact be duly registered.

There are many other interesting provisions, but the above transcend all the

rest in importance. If Dr. LÖNHOLM'S rendering of the Code be correct—and there is no reason to doubt it—all grounds of complaint about the tenure of land are illusory, for although the right of ownership, is withheld, the privilege of occupation will be enjoyable in such a manner as to satisfy every requirement of business men. In short, while the objections raised by many Japanese to the ownership of land by aliens, or to its acquisition for purposes of agriculture, have been duly recognised by the negotiators of the Revised Treaties, it has, at the same time, been found possible to extend to foreigners all privileges necessary for purposes of commerce, manufacture or residence. Dr. LÖNHOLM has placed the foreign residents under a great obligation by his labours in interpreting the Commercial and Civil Codes, and the Japanese also should feel grateful to him for helping to dispel misconceptions that were largely responsible for the objections entertained by foreigners to the Revised Treaties. We conclude by quoting two paragraphs from this interesting brochure:—

There is not much original Japanese law to be found in the new code. In two respects it is better than the first draft founded upon the Code Napoléon. It shows a greater simplicity, and its separate provisions are much easier to be understood than those of the former draft, which, although a work of great diligence, was rather artificial and therefore not quite fit for a newly opened country like Japan. The second point is that the new code is written in pure, clear, and original language, while the Japanese text of the former draft, being a too literal translation of Boissonade's elegant French phrases, was almost unintelligible to any one except those who made the translation.

By their new code the Japanese have wholly accepted the European system of civil law. They have succeeded in creating a law quite sufficient for all practical purposes, and I cannot see any reason why they should not equally be able to apply this law in a manner satisfactory to foreigners. There is no ground to fear the time when extraterritoriality will have ceased. Englishmen, Germans, and other Europeans are living in Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Mexico, Greece, Portugal, under governments and laws which do not admit of any comparison with those of Japan, and nevertheless they do a flourishing business there. The sway which the great Powers of Europe wield is so enormous that they can protect their subjects everywhere in the whole world without having recourse to extraterritoriality and other means contrary to international justice. I myself am of the opinion that under the new treaties foreign influence and foreign commerce will develop to a degree never dreamt of before. And furthermore I believe that, while at present a good deal of ill-will exists between Japanese and foreigners, with the disappearance of extraterritoriality a mutual good understanding will come about, founded upon common laws and common interests.

THE BARRIE CASE.

IT is to be regretted that the Judge of the Yokohama Local Court did not find himself in a position to inflict a severer punishment on the men that took the lead in assaulting Mr. BARRIE on August the 6th. Mr. BARRIE is the Superintendent Engineer of the Japan Mail S. S. Company. The Japanese stokers of the *Ryofun Maru*, one of that Company's steamers, dissatisfied because their number had been reduced from 37 to 30, and because, when they remonstrated against the reduction, they had been threatened with dismissal in favour of Chinese, assembled in the Public Garden of Yokohama, and decided to proceed to the residence of Mr. BARRIE and remonstrate with him, by force if necessary, their mistaken impression being that he was

primarily responsible for their grievances. Gaining admission to Mr. BARRIE'S premises, they were met by him in the verandah, and as he naturally declined to enter into any discussion with them, their spokesman, a man named TAMAWAKI, struck him over the head with an iron bar, felling him to the ground, and before he could struggle to his feet, he received a second heavy blow on the back of the head from one TAMURA, who also wielded an iron bar. Three others of the party assaulted him at the same time, but not with serious violence, and he finally escaped through the interference of Mrs. BARRIE. Such are the facts in brief. They indicate that a number of men combined with deliberate intent to obtain redress for an alleged grievance by recourse to extreme violence. Unfortunately, the law provides no means of measuring the criminality of a man's intentions except by their results. Mr. BARRIE was not fatally injured by the blows that he received, and his assailants consequently escaped the guilt of assaulting with murderous intent. But when men come to striking at another's head with iron bars, it must be chiefly a question of accident whether the issue is assassination or mere temporary disablement. The Judge sentenced the two principal offenders to three months' imprisonment with hard labour, and inflicted minor penalties on the rest. It can not be denied, of course, that three months' imprisonment with hard labour is a heavy punishment, in its way, but we are emphatically of opinion that the sentence should have been doubled. The procedure of these stokers from first to last did not possess one element of palliation. Their flagrant disregard of all the dictates of discipline was not less heinous than the cruel ferocity they displayed when eleven of them, armed with iron bars and sticks, fell upon a solitary man, beat him to the ground, and hammered him as he lay helpless. There was no question of a sudden access of passion precipitating unpremeditated violence. Some of the stokers pretended, indeed, that Mr. BARRIE struck the first blow. But even if that were true—and it appears wholly incredible—the significant facts would remain that the stokers went to Mr. BARRIE'S house carrying dangerous weapons; that they had deliberately determined to use their weapons failing other means of redress; and that they did use them with most cruel effect. Three months' imprisonment with hard labour does not seem an adequate punishment for chief actors in such an affair. With the contention of some critics, that violation of domicile should have figured prominently among the charges against the stokers, we find difficulty in agreeing. The men gained admission without exceeding ordinarily employed methods, and it was proved that Mr. BARRIE, being informed by his servant of

their presence, went, of his own accord, to the verandah to speak with them. On the other hand, after Mr. BARRIE retreated into the hall, the stokers were certainly guilty of intrusion when they pursued him, and of that fact the Judge took cognisance, for he sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for 18 days five of the party who, though they were not proved to have struck Mr. BARRIE, followed him to the back of the hall whither he had struggled in his attempt to escape. Three others, who did not effect an entry but remained at the back gate and prevented Mr. BARRIE'S exit, received only 7 days' minor confinement. There is, however, another aspect of the affair that deserves serious notice. If, as is unquestionably to be apprehended, the Yokohama Court's sentence does not seem deterrent, all persons placed in positions like that occupied by Mr. BARRIE will adopt measures for their own effective protection. A revolver in Mr. BARRIE'S hands would have materially altered the issue, and foreigners liable to such incursions are not likely to be found without revolvers hereafter. If the Judge of the Yokohama Court had looked a little beyond the narrow limits of the case actually before him, he would have appreciated, not only the dangers of leniency from the point of view just noted, but also the fact that he was required to deal, not with an isolated act of lawlessness, but with an incident forming one of a series of recent revolts against duly constituted authority that threaten to seriously injure Japan's material interests as well as her moral reputation. The prosperous development of this country's maritime enterprise is impossible unless the strong arm of the law assists to insure ship-owners against violent defiance of discipline by their *employés*. There have been too many instances of that sort of thing lately, and we do not think that the judgment of the Yokohama Court will help much to check the trouble.

FORMOSA.

WE invite our readers' attention to the letters from Mr. J. W. DAVIDSON, printed elsewhere in our columns. Probably all thoughtful persons, after analysing the varied and often very contradictory accounts published with reference to the recent insurrection in Formosa, have come to the conclusion that, while many innocent Chinese suffered at the hands of the Japanese, such a result was scarcely avoidable, and assuredly does not warrant the sensational denunciations formulated by writers whose information is derived almost exclusively from Chinese sources. Mr. DAVIDSON was not present during the actual fighting, and it may be presumed that many of his facts have been furnished by Japanese. But most certainly his statements are not to be discredited on that account. Experience has proved

conclusively that very little reliance can be placed on rumours circulated by the Chinese when their object is to enlist compassion or secure credit for themselves, and to bring disgrace and obloquy upon the Japanese. They do not even display the commonest skill in manufacturing reports, but are content to concoct stories monstrously incredible and so intrinsically absurd that one marvels how a moment's belief can be extended to them by reasoning individuals. Take, for example, one of the stories recounted by a correspondent signing himself "South Formosa," whose letter was published in the *North China Daily News* of the 16th instant and, of course, reproduced in Yokohama, as is every article or letter that reflects injuriously upon the Japanese. He gravely asks us to believe that after the Japanese soldiers had been supplied with tea and food and courteously treated by the inhabitants of two villages, they proceeded to tie together the queues of their hospitable entertainers, in bunches of five, then and slaughtered the unhappy people indiscriminately. Are there any men in the world sufficiently savage to perpetrate such brutality? Yet the correspondent signing himself "South Formosa" believes that the Japanese did this thing. Apparently to be able to give the names of the villages constitutes valid evidence in his eyes, for not one other tittle of testimony does he adduce. He must know perfectly well, as everybody knows, that the tale he tells emanates from Chinese sources. No foreigner was present. None the less he writes:—"If any one doubts my statements I invite the most searching inquiry to be made. The report of intelligent foreigners who can speak the Formosa or Amoy dialect, I will accept, but the report of official Japanese (if it goes against my statements) I will not accept." The *naïveté* of this gentleman is as quaint as his credulity. He is prepared to place implicit credit in the assertions of any foreigner who, like himself, has sufficient knowledge of the local dialect to approach the Chinese and collect their rumours, but he is resolutely determined not to believe any contrary statement emanating from a Japanese source. In other words, he will accept Chinese hearsay so long as it condemns the Japanese, but he will not hear a word from the Japanese in their own defence! That is the kind of person whose second-hand, unsifted, and indiscriminate gossip is given a prominent place in the columns of the local press, and accepted as testimony sufficient to convict Japanese soldiers and officers of crimes inconceivably treacherous and horrible. To return to Mr. DAVIDSON, however. If he was not himself an eye-witness of the fighting during the rebellion, he has at any rate visited the villages and hamlets that were the scene of the fighting, and he assures us, on

the evidence of his own sight, that in every case except one, the people returned to their habitations immediately after the rebels had been driven out by the Japanese, and are now pursuing their avocations, as of old, in peace and security. The exception is Hoonlin, the focus of the rebellion. Mr. DAVIDSON inclines to think that most of the inhabitants of that place were more or less implicated in the rebellion, and that they consequently hesitate to return, apprehending punishment. The letter containing these statements is dated September 1st. Curiously enough, the writer signing himself "South Formosa" also dates his letter September 1st. But his account is diametrically opposed to that of Mr. DAVIDSON. This is what he says:—

Here is another fact which forms a commentary on the Japanese incendiarism. At the present time the authorities have sent a letter to each village in the district (and to Chih-an-sim-a) calling on the people to return and repair their homes. If a man occupied a house of one room, and if he now return, the authorities will give him \$1, two rooms \$2 and so on, one dollar for each room. If these people were really robbers why are the authorities now offering them money rewards? The reply of the people was a noble one and characteristic of a big proportion of the Formosa people. It was this. "We want not your money. Promise that you will not treat us like dogs, pigs, and cows, and we will return." Up to the present date very few have returned. Having been deceived so often they cannot trust the Japanese. Some few did venture back to their ruined homes, but it was only to be forced into service as military coolies.

Now which of the two accounts is to be credited? Mr. DAVIDSON speaks of what he actually saw; "South Formosa" evidently speaks solely on the strength of what he has heard. Besides, the latter's letter contains one piece of internal evidence that forcibly suggests a trumped up tale. "Having been deceived so often," he says, "the Formosans cannot trust the Japanese." But, as a matter of fact, the districts in which the recent insurrection broke out had never previously been the scene of any trouble between the Japanese and the inhabitants. That part of Formosa was occupied originally without any opposition, and it is therefore a manifest phantasy to pretend that the people had been repeatedly deceived by the Japanese previously to the outbreak: no opportunities had offered for anything of the kind. Is it not amusing, too, to be solemnly told that these villagers, who will not return to their homes because, having been so often deceived by the Japanese, they are unable to trust them, nevertheless prefer a Japanese promise to money, and declare themselves willing to come back if they get a promise of good treatment? If these tales were penned for the diversion of three-year-old children, they would be denounced as calculated to impair the reasoning faculties of the youthful mind. The Chinese account of the burning of Tsan-e-tun, as given to Mr. DAVIDSON, furnishes another illustration of the wild absurdities concocted by rumour in Formosa. On the faith of most rudimentary information elicited by a gendarme from a boy herding cattle, Japanese officers

are accused of deliberately setting their troops to burn a village and slaughter its inhabitants! The Japanese explanation of the destruction of the place has at any rate the merit of being credible. They obtained conclusive evidence that their people had been murdered in the village, and that it was the head-quarters of a rebel chief, and their attempt to enter it being forcibly resisted, they attacked it and burned it down. As to the general accusation that the Japanese have been treating the Chinese most brutally, and that their unfeeling oppression was the cause of the insurrection, how are we to reconcile it with the record of the attack upon Lokang, as related by Mr. DAVIDSON? That the Chinese in Lokang volunteered to assist the Japanese garrison to beat back the rebels, and did actually perform loyal and useful service, is a fact strikingly inconsistent with the pretence that the people had been driven to desperation by the cruelty of their new rulers and were only awaiting an opportunity to be revenged. It is to be noted, finally, that although the accusers of the Japanese speak glibly of the destruction of scores of villages, they are careful to avoid explaining that these so-called "villages" often consisted of a few mud hovels, scarcely worthy to be called a hamlet. The plain probability is that such places would never have been molested by the Japanese had they not been actually in occupation by insurgents, and that they suffered in most cases at the hands of the rebels themselves. Not one of the anti-Japanese accounts contains any reference to incendiaryism and assassination by the insurgents: the whole responsibility is laid upon the shoulders of the Japanese. Even without the experience of previous campaigns in which Chinese troops were concerned, we know enough of what happened recently in Formosa to be sure that burning and slaughter were common practices of the rebels. The Japanese are certainly responsible in so far as they failed to protect the lives and property of their Formosan subjects, but to lay all the conflagrations and slaughters at their door is palpably a gross injustice. On the whole, while not able to determine whether the Japanese troops committed any excesses, careful examination of the evidence thus far adduced convinces us that, whether wittingly or unwittingly, an attempt has been made to hold the Japanese up to execration such as their acts do not by any means justify.

DIVINE INTERPOSITION.

THE last English issue of the *Yoroso Choho* has an article commencing thus:—"A paragraph in a recent issue of the *Japan Mail*, wherein, by-the-by, sentiments wholly at variance with that journal's ordinary language are set forth, would seem to imply that there

are those who see in this year's long list of disasters and national calamities a sort of divine retribution or judgment for things which we have done or left undone." Our Tokyo contemporary is labouring under a singular delusion. The short paragraph referred to simply laughed at the absurd notion that the natural calamities suffered by Japan this year should be regarded by any sane person as an evidence of divine displeasure on account of the war with China, and pointed out that the unique object of writers attributing such phantasies to the missionaries, was to bait men who, being incomparably their superiors in everything that constitutes a title to respect, are regarded by them with the bitter animosity eminently characteristic of moral snobism in the presence of anything better than itself. If the *Yoroso Choho* will point out, in that expression of our views, any sentiment "wholly at variance with the *Japan Mail's* ordinary language," we shall be obliged. The fact seems to be that our contemporary has confounded our utterances with those of some other journals, and has thus been guilty of carelessness totally inexcusable on the part of a public critic.

The original question—namely, how the missionaries' alleged doctrine of divine intervention in human affairs could be reconciled with the calamities suffered by Japan this year, except on the supposition that the latter country is now undergoing heavenly punishment for the sin of warring against China—is too ridiculous to be seriously discussed. Not even the journalist propounding it can have expected to be taken seriously. He simply wanted to have a fling at the missionaries, whom he cordially detests, first because they are men who condemn the villainous practice of fomenting racial prejudice in order to batten upon its morbid displays; and secondly, because the chief purpose of their lives is to promote charity, not to propagate slander; to correct the sordid and grovelling instincts of humanity, not to set the contemptible example of referring every incident of daily life to the meanest and most despicable motives. We do not imagine that any Christian missionary in this country believes in Jupiter and his thunderbolts, or thinks that Providence employs rain, storm, and tempest as agencies to manifest divine interest in human affairs. If there be any such missionaries, we have never met them, nor can we conceive them so illogical, whatever the depth of their superstition, as to suppose that Heaven, having allowed China to suffer all the misfortunes directly incidental to the war—crushing defeat, wholesale loss of life and treasure and large diminution of territory—should now, after a year's interval, attempt to demonstrate the injustice of her sufferings by sending seismic waves to kill poor fishermen, and heavy rains to wash out indigent peasants,

in the realm of her conqueror. But, in truth, such absurdities were never really in question. The plain purpose of the original writer was nothing better than to raise another bark against the missionaries from the rabble that yap at their heels.

This anti-missionary prejudice is one of the most unsightly displays in the East. That a man should deny orthodox Christianity; that he should denounce every faith in the supernatural; that he should combat the dogmas preached from missionary pulpits, is quite within his right. He is entitled to his own opinions just as fully as the propagandists of any creed are entitled to theirs. But that he should endeavour to gain currency for his views by attributing contemptible motives to their opponents, by sneering at their attainments, questioning their sincerity, and holding them up to public scorn, is a miserable exhibition. When so many men and women in the foreign settlements vilipend the missionaries and speak of them as a species of hypocritical parasite, they forget, if indeed they ever knew, that among these much abused folk are highly educated ladies and gentlemen living lives of unceasing labour and self-denial, lives as noble as are to be found in any page of history, and setting unobtrusive examples of heroism that should make their traducers tingle with shame.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

It has often been said that, when writing on religious topics, the Japanese are frequently guilty of treating the subject with a flippancy that shocks the Western mind and wounds the susceptibilities of devout souls. There is no doubt much truth in this accusation. But nevertheless it is a fact that not a few of the literary magnates of modern Japan have devoted the most serious attention to religion and have read all that representative Western thinkers have written on the subject. What these men say is evidently based on deep conviction. They show no signs of being actuated by secondary motives or of discoursing on sacred subjects as a mere literary pastime. The views of three such writers are given in the pages of the *Nihon Shūkyō*. The men selected are Professor Toyama, Dr. Mōtō, and Dr. Katō. It is considered that the opinions expressed by these three essayists represent, with slight variations, the views of a very large section of the educated class in modern Japan. Hence we may be excused for giving a somewhat longer summary of the articles published by these writers and referred to in the *Nihon Shūkyō* than they would be entitled to did they merely express the opinions of their authors.

Dr. Katō Hiroyuki's religious views have so often been discussed in these columns and are so familiar to most of the readers of this summary that it is unnecessary to state them at any length. In Dr. Katō's opinion the peace of mind derived from religious belief resembles that of the patient who has imbibed a narcotic. Narcotics are doubtless necessary in serious cases, says Dr. Katō, but to represent mankind as attacked by a disease that calls for the ceaseless administration of soul-numbing drugs is contrary to facts and fatal to progress. The peace of mind of the religious devotee is a state that is only possible to men and women that have not advanced beyond a certain stage of knowledge. I have never contended, continues Dr. Katō, that religion can be altogether dispensed with. There are doubtless people who need it. What I do

maintain is that to the man who is thoroughly acquainted with the nature of things, with the principles which control the world, religion is superfluous. That large classes of people have been permanently benefited by religious teaching is undeniable. And among religions whose doctrines have conferred benefits on the world, Christianity is the chief. No creed has better taught the doctrine of universal brotherhood nor supplied stronger incentives to virtue. On many great social questions Christianity is far ahead of Buddhism. Buddhism has always despised woman, has taught that she is defiled and the source of defilement. For the mental development of individuals Buddhism has its uses, but as an agency for the elevation of the masses to a higher level it has failed. As a philosophy it excels, but as a religion it is of no use. Many of its priests regale themselves with high class mental food on heights far removed from the haunts of ordinary men. These priests live to themselves. Of what use are they to struggling humanity. In Japan in the middle ages there were Buddhist evangelists of great earnestness, and the saying that *truth lives or dies according to the quality of the men who preach it* was well illustrated at that time. But Buddhism can no longer boast of such men. Although Christianity seems to have little influence in this country at the present time, there is no saying that mixed residence may not work a change. Among the foreign missionaries there are men of great earnestness, who feel that they are preaching truth. If their zeal is imparted to Japanese converts, we may yet see a great awakening in the land.

Dr. Motora's articles on religious topics, if collected, would make a tidy volume. He has evidently given a great deal of attention to the subject, and, unlike so many Western writers who hold advanced views on religious belief, he deems it his duty to give the world the benefit of his investigations. Here are some of the titles of his articles: "A view of Man's Nature," in the *Taiyō*; "The Way," in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*; "Striking Traits of the Mind of Confucius," in the *Taiyō*; "Education and Religion," in the *Kyōiku Hōchi*. In a book on "Mental Philosophy," published by Dr. Motora, religion receives considerable attention. Dr. Motora's views are thus summarised by the *Nihon Shūkyō*:

(1.) RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE.—In an article published in December, 1894, Dr. Motora stated that originally he was a Christian, but that his studies led him to see that Christ had no such perfection as is attributed to him, that he was an ordinary human being.

(2.) THE SPIRIT WORLD (*Reikai*).—In an article to which we have alluded Mr. Motora says, "Although religious believers are anxious to derive comfort from the supposed fact of the existence of a world of spirits that are unattached to matter, I have never been able to conceive of any such existence. All we know and all we need to know is that we are descended from a long line of ancestors, and that we shall be succeeded by generations of men and women like ourselves, and thus that the continuity of the human race, on which progress so largely depends, is never broken."

(3.) THE EXISTENCE OF GODS AND BUDDHIST DIVINITIES.—In order to lessen the troubles of life and to promote greater happiness in the world, men have imagined that gods and divinities actually exist and that there is such a thing as the law of Heaven. That such ideas should prevail in the early ages of the world when natural laws were not properly understood was unavoidable. In those days men were passive recipients of the teaching of priests and ministers of religion. It was assumed then that the whole world was subject to one comprehensive principle and that all things worked together to attain a definite object, whereas, to whatever quarter one turns, the battle of nature's forces, the collision of one power with another, is seen to be incessant, and there is no sign of any such subservience of forces to one purpose as religions teachers allege to exist.

(4.) THE COMFORT TO BE DERIVED FROM SCIENCE.—While dissatisfied with existing

creeds, Dr. Motora is not of opinion that even educated men can do without religion. The old foundation of belief has gone, but he is for replacing it with one composed of material furnished by modern science. The doctrine of a future life, says Dr. Motora, was invented with a view of satisfying men's desire for happiness and to provide a compensation for the cruelty of many of nature's laws. But this doctrine has met with severe treatment at the hands of science. Judged by the light of science the notion that the soul is immortal becomes untenable. There is an immortality of the soul to which no scientific objection can be made. There are those who say that a living being never dies, as the life received is given to other beings and thus the soul lives on to all eternity. But this is the perpetuity of species and not of the individual, and though there are not wanting minds which find a certain amount of satisfaction from this consideration, to the majority of mankind it affords little comfort. This is not the future life that they crave for. The perpetuation of those elements which, combined, constitute what we call life, is a very different thing from the continued existence of a living being. Yet, on the other hand, there is something grand about the idea that the individual is sacrificed to the species, and that it is the duty of members of society, not to live and die for themselves, but for the permanent good of society; and this notion that the welfare of society as a whole is of far greater importance than the welfare of any individual member thereof, constitutes what we may call the religion of the thought that his individual desires and longings must be rendered subservient to those of society. We are in favour of having this notion instilled into the minds of the young to a greater extent than it has hitherto been done. To derive comfort from the working of the law to which we have referred is the only religious comfort possible to a certain class of minds. In the case of people who can obtain no solace from the fact that throughout the whole of nature the individual is sacrificed to the species, there is no other course open but to fall back on existing religions and obtain what satisfaction is to be had. One thing is certain, that men need some kind of a religion. If, with the scientist, they are unable to rejoice over the progress of the human race in spite of or by means of the sacrifice of individuals, with believers of the established religions they must live in the expectation of rewards from the gods. Otherwise they will fall victims to the baser lusts with which they find themselves endowed and lose the dignity which distinguishes the animal man from other kinds of animals. As religion is very much a matter of education, it seems to be of great importance to place the scientific views which I have now given before the rising generation and let young men and women grow up permeated with the notion that their duty in life is to make all their individual interests subservient to those of society.

We next come to Professor Toyama's religious views. These, as is but natural in the case of active minds, have in the course of years undergone numerous changes and modifications. In an essay extending over 47 pages published in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* (No. 114) Professor Toyama states his most recent convictions on the great questions which have engaged the thoughts of inquiring minds all the world over. The article published in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* entitled "My belief respecting the object of Human Existence," is founded on a lecture delivered by Professor Toyama to the Philosophical Society in April last. It is almost impossible to do justice to an essay of such length and importance as that of Professor Toyama in a Summary of this kind. We can do no more than state the Professor's conclusions. The steps by which he reaches them must be left for reproduction in some other form at some other time. At the close of the essay, Professor Toyama sums up under 21 heads the articles of his belief. Even these we can only give in an abbreviated form, which we now proceed to do. (1) I am a believer in evolution. (2) I believe that like other organic existences, human beings and whatever beings are in a higher stage of progress, are sub-

ject to the law of Evolution. (3) In the case of other organisms evolution is unconscious, but in the case of human beings the progress made and the changes undergone are closely connected with consciousness. (4) Evolution follows the law of the survival of the fittest. (5) Man's consciousness renders him acquainted with success and failure, victory, and defeat and the circumstances connected therewith. (6) His knowledge of these circumstances makes him desire to control them and leads to action designed to subject them to his direction. (7) The law that self-effacement leads to self-assertion, that the individual *ego* must be absorbed and lost in the *ego* of society, plays an important part in evolution. (8) In the general struggle for existence those beings which lose their individuality in the race to which they belong, prove to be the strongest. (9) This is especially the case with human beings. (10) But it applies in *different degrees* according to the stages of progress through which nations pass. (11) Where there is no self-sacrifice for the sake of the State, dissolution and disintegration take place. (12) It is of the nature of animals to cling to life, and human beings are no exception to the rule. They desire to live for ever. (13) There is an everlasting life that is attainable and an everlasting life that is unattainable. As individuals, the existence of beings lasts but a short time, but as members of the race to which they belong they live for ages. (14) Where intelligence is only imperfectly developed, there is no knowledge of the eternal life that is attainable (that of the race), and men are ready to believe that they as individuals are destined to live for ever. (15) Persons who have these proclivities are taught that there is a heaven and a hell, and various other articles of religious belief, and by this means the spirit of self-sacrifice is instilled into them after a fashion. But they lack breadth of mind. Their *ego* is still that of their individual selves, and not the *ego* of society as a whole. (16) Religions based on future rewards and punishments may satisfy imperfectly developed minds, but the highly developed consciousness can never allow, as a motive for action, the existence of any external authority such as religious devotees claim for their objects of worship. Persons who subject themselves to such control and who profess to order their lives so as to make them accord with this external authority have not yet reached a state of perfect virtue. They must be regarded as men and women whose moral natures are not yet fully developed. The sanction which the actions of the fully developed individual receives is *exclusively* internal, the sanction of his own mind. (17) All persons whose intelligence is properly developed find the fullest internal sanction for their actions, and they well know that it is utterly vain to hope that when this life is over there will be any continuance of an individual existence similar to that we have known here. But there is a future existence which every enlightened man knows will be his. He will exist in the children that he begets, if he has any, if not, the efforts he has made to help forward the progress of the world, the influence of his life upon his fellow men, will bear its fruits in distant ages and thus he may be said to live for ever. (18) Persons whose one idea is to benefit themselves in the world may be expected at any time to sacrifice the interests of society to their individual interests. No person whose rational peculiarities are developed can endure such persons. Steps should be taken to expel them from the society of their fellow-men. (19) It is immensely important that in every community people should be taught how to cultivate a spirit of self-effacement and self-renunciation, and be shown that this is the only way to preserve their individuality. (20) It is of great moment that all men should be reminded of their dependence on society from the day of birth to the day of death, that as isolated individuals they have no real existence either here or hereafter; that they should be told that the idea which originated in the dark ages that individual souls are to exist for ever as separate units, is a selfish idea, and that the teaching of such a doctrine is detrimental to the interests of society, and something of which men in this

enlightened age ought to be ashamed. They should be informed, too, that those who bow to some external standard of conduct are not moral beings, as it is of the nature of true virtue that its standard should be subjective, should embody the convictions of the person who practices it. These and similar truths should be impressed on the mind of every member of society.*

Commenting on the views given above, the *Nihon Shūkyō* observes that the majority of noted Japanese scholars hold these opinions. Mr. Takahashi Gorō and one or two others profess the Christian faith. No one who does not acknowledge Christ as God can be considered a real Christian, says this organ. This excludes a number of writers who are in the habit of arguing in favour of Christianity as a system of morality, such as Mr. Tokutomi Ichirō, the editor of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, and Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo. The *Nihon Shūkyō* doubts whether the creeds of such writers as those whose opinions we have just been giving are worthy of the name of religions. It would be more appropriate to describe them as systems of social ethics. Of the sufficiency of moral education such as is recommended by modern Japanese scholars, this organ is not at all certain. It sees no necessity for any such new system of religion as is projected by Dr. Motora. Existing religions can supply all the moral stimulus and teaching that is necessary.

Under the heading of "Religious Conferences," the *Waseda Bungaku* informs us that, after considerable preliminary correspondence, it has been decided to hold a general Conference of representatives of religious bodies in Shiba, Tōkyō, at the house of Viscount Matsudaira, on the 26th of this month (September). Among the gentlemen entrusted with the calling and management of this meeting are Shimaji Mokurai, Nanjō Bunyū, and Murakami Senjō, representing the Buddhists; Ishikawa Masayoshi, Matsumura Kaisei, and Yokoi Tokiwo, representing Christians, and Maruyama Sakura and others, representing Shintoists. The meeting will be attended by most of the leaders of thought in the religious world. It is said by some that conservative Buddhists and orthodox Christians are very much opposed to each other, and that this opposition will manifest itself at the meeting. Others regard the movement as likely to lead to an amalgamation of certain sects, but this is not the view of the projectors of the movement. The results of the conference which they expect to see realised are a better understanding among religious teachers and greater friendliness of feeling for each other, and the general intellectual benefits to be derived from interchange of thought. The *Hansei* (反省) *Zasshi* (a Buddhist organ) exhorts those intending to speak at the meeting to suppress their own special views, confine their remarks to subjects of general interest, and to forbear from attacking other sects. This course, says the *Waseda Bungaku*, if followed strictly, might lead to relicence respecting a man's deepest convictions and thus prove detrimental to those who are in search of religious truth, in addition to rendering the meeting barren of lasting results. We, says this organ, are in favour of a lucid exposition of both the Buddhist and Christian creeds being given, without any attempt to force an agreement that does not exist in actual fact.

On the subject of the union of Japanese Buddhists and Christians, the *Sekai no Nihon* says that there are writers who are of opinion that the world is about to witness an entirely new religious movement, namely the amalgamation of two hitherto antagonistic faiths. The Christian organs are entirely opposed to any such mea-

sure. The *Fukui Shimpō* is astounded that any such proposal should have been made. The Methodist Organ, the *Gokyō*, shows its antipathy to the movement in a most outspoken manner, and the Kumiai churches, which in their theology and their conduct show great liberality toward other bodies, treat the proposed amalgamation with the greatest indifference. Hence the much talked of *rapprochement* between the two great religions of the world exists only in the imaginations of a few sanguine agitators.

A writer in the *Awoyama Hyōron*, discussing marriage rites, says that there is much that is worthy of preservation in the Japanese method of conducting nuptial ceremonies. The tendency in modern days, specially among Christians, observes this writer, is to curtail these ceremonies to the utmost extent. There are Christians who say they can be married for 2 yen 50 sen, and others who talk of getting the thing done for a yen less. All this involves the cutting down of floral decorations and economy in the use of lights, so that it sometimes happens that visitors assemble in a gloomy building and the sacred writings are read by means of a dim light, and the cakes are handed around as they arrived from the confectioners. The desire being to dispense with ceremony, some of the guests appear with naked feet, without *hakama*, and even without *obi*, and half naked *jinrikisha* coolies are to be seen standing about inside the church; and this ceremony, whose roughness defies description, is to bind two people together for life. All this is most shocking to our ideas of fitness, concludes the *Awoyama Hyōron*, and we are anxious to see it reformed.

The *Rikugō Zasshi*, under the title of "Three different opinions on Religion," remarks that in this money-making age, when almost everybody seems to be suffering from the business fever, it is important to bear in mind that such a thing as religion exists. Leaving minor points, the views of those who have a claim to be heard on the subject of religion are of three kinds. (1) There are those who hold that religion has a thoroughly rational basis. Scholars who maintain this opinion divide off into several sections: some consisting of theologians who have abandoned the old landmarks and who are bent on constructing a new system of theology, others being philosophers of various schools who think that religion is based on philosophy. (2) There are those who maintain that religion is pure superstition, and who say that since the unenlightened masses in all ages have had a hankering after revelations from another world, it has been necessary for those who are responsible for the government of nations to rely on religious teaching in order to further their ends. Such controversialists are of opinion that the stage of religion, or superstition, has to be passed through on the road to full enlightenment, and that the incident that mistaken notions should prevail during certain periods of a nation's history is unavoidable. They therefore do not deem it necessary to attack religion. It represents a state of thought that is transitional. It is an evil that will cure itself. (3) There are writers on religion who steer a middle course between the two classes mentioned above. Religion, say these scholars, is neither rational nor superstitious. It can never be proved by philosophy or by science. It is impossible to establish anything like a philosophical basis for the doctrine of the existence of God, for instance. Religion is neither to be accepted nor rejected on rational grounds. It is only to be regarded as a feeling, as the response to certain cravings of the human heart. There is a great want of clearness about this view, though it is held by a large number of writers. The standards under which various Japanese writers on religion range themselves, concludes the *Rikugō*, seem to us not to be sufficiently well marked, and our object in penning these lines is to urge the necessity of clearer definitions of the position they occupy by controversialists of all schools.

Among items of news published in the *Nihon Shūkyō*, one paragraph refers to the bearing of

the proposed revision of Criminal Law on religious reverence. According to the present law, any rude or irreverent act committed in a temple, before a shrine, or at a tomb, renders the person committing it liable to a fine of not less than 2 yen and not more than 20, while the interruption of preaching or worship rendered the person guilty of such an act liable to a fine of not less than 4 yen and not more than 40. It is reported that the revised law will be altered so as to punish the first offence with 6 months' imprisonment and a fine of 50 yen, and the latter with imprisonment up to a year and a fine up to 100 yen, according to the nature of the offence.

The organ just quoted publishes a letter from Mr. Kuzumi, which contains the following criticisms of Dr. Kato's views on prostitution. My objections to Dr. Kato's defence of prostitution are five in number, says Mr. Kuzumi, which may be stated as follows:—(1) The fact of their regarding prostitution as an immoral practice distinguishes human beings from other classes of animals. It is a step towards a higher plane of existence. (2) The condemnation of prostitution as immoral is a result of the development of the natural affections of human beings of both sexes for each other. (3) It is repulsive to find that relationships which should be regarded as of great importance should be treated as nothing better than a means of affording temporary amusement and enjoyment. (4) The feeling of dislike for prostitution is based on the sense of shame which every woman feels when she sells her body for immoral use. (5) Public opinion on this subject is the result of a moral development that sets a high price on chastity and to change men's notions on this point would be a step backward.

The *宇宙神教 Uchiūshinkō* (Universalist) has a short note on the influence of the liberal section of the Christian Church. Christian teachers of latitudinarian tendencies, says this organ, are not much before the world at present for the simple reason that their doctrines have been received and rendered a portion of the creed of many of the leaders of thought in the conservative ranks. So rapid has been the spread of liberal views, that the distinction between liberals and conservatives in the Christian Church has been well nigh effaced. Among Christians of influence, to find men who believe in original sin, the doctrine of the Trinity, the atonement, and everlasting punishment, is rare. These hitherto strongly fortified castles of conservative Christianity have succumbed before the fire of the criticism brought to bear on them. If men of advanced opinions in the Church are less conspicuous than they used to be, it is because the opposition which they once encountered no longer exists. Their present oblivion is one of the greatest proofs of the success of their cause. As a result of years of study and criticism the grain of Christianity has been separated from the chaff. The shell has been removed and the kernel only remains. If asked of what this kernel consists, I enumerate the elements that compose it as follows:—(1) Jesus of Nazareth was a man whose character and virtue has never been equalled in the world. (2) The doctrine on which he founded his ethical system was that the human race is one great family with God as its father, and hence he taught that the duty of man consists of love of God and love of fellow-men. (3) Christ's life was pure and undefiled and he devoted the whole of it to teaching his fellow-men. (4) So astonishing were many of his doings that they were called miracles by his contemporaries. (5) After great labours carried on during several months (*sugetsu*) he was crucified. (6) He taught those who loved and followed him a method of overcoming death. These are the simple elements of Christianity, which no amount of criticism can destroy. These simple truths constitute the skeleton, as it were, to which flesh, raiment, and ornaments have been added. The ornaments, the raiment, and even the flesh may be dispensed with as long as the original framework is kept intact. To impress this fact on the world has

* In many cases, in order to make Professor Toyama's statements intelligible to readers, we have been obliged to amplify them somewhat. Without reading the whole of the essay, it is not easy to understand the allusions at its close. The principle for which the Professor contends is thus concisely expressed in Japanese 没自の自我性 *Botsuji-teki-Shuga-Sei*. The state in which the highest individualism is promoted by self effacement. Altruism proves to be the highest egoism.

been the work which the Christian *Jiyū-ha* has set itself to perform.

X The *Shūkyō* (No. 59) publishes some recent statistics showing the number of Buddhist priests, temples, &c., that there are in Japan. Japanese Buddhists consist of 12 sects and 40 sub-sects, with temples exceeding 73,000, and about 100,000 priests. If these numbers be compared with the number of square miles of which Japan consists, it will be found that there are over 3 temples and 4 priests for every square mile. And if the population of Japan, 40,000,000, be considered, it is found that there is a temple for every 540 persons and a priest for every 400. It is somewhat difficult, says Mr. Saji Jitsuzen, the author of these statistics, to estimate the number of *tsubo* these temples cover, but even at the lowest estimate, they cannot be less than 10,950,000, and reckoning that 25 *sen* per year is required to keep these buildings in repair, the sum thus expended amounts to 2,737,500 *yen*. Adding to these items the expense of maintaining the priests and their families and the cost of festivals, evangelistic work, and the like, a sum of 22,500,000 *yen* is reached.

This vast sum of money is derived from 5 sources:—(1) from endowments and a large amount of immovable property; (2) from subscriptions and donations made by devotees, and from presents given at funerals and other ceremonies; (3) from the money received by priests for their services at private houses, from divination, the sale of *Ofuda* (written charms), and from the profits accruing from the private property which the priests possess. In addition to gifts of money, it is customary to present to temples at certain times of the year such articles as *toshidama*, *higan*, *bon*, *sekihan*, *dango*, and *manjū*. Moreover, in recent years priests have devised means of making money of which their ancestors would not have approved. In some cases they sell medicines, keep silkworms, or play the part of small usurers to their parishioners. With the exception of Hyūga, Satsuma, and Osumi, Buddhism may be said to be prospering all over Japan. It is no great task, then, for the richer temples to support the poor ones, and many cases are recorded of the bequeathing of ecclesiastical property to parishes needing regular pecuniary aid. The total sum required annually for the maintenance of the Buddhist faith when divided up among the population does not exceed 57 *sen* per person, or about 2 *yen* 50 *sen* for each household.

The only Roman Catholic organ we have been able to procure is a small magazine called the *Koye* (voice), issued in Kyōto once a fortnight. It has been in existence over five years. A recent number of the *Koye* contains a strongly worded attack on Buddhism. The author, Mr. Okada Kanji, after singing the praises of his own religion, proceeds to describe Buddhist teaching as benighted and designed to lead people astray. Buddhist exposition, says this writer, while made to appear profound is in reality most shallow. As a philosophy, Buddhism has merits, but as a religion there is no satisfaction to be found in it. Shaka was ignorant of the origin of all things, and hence he deceived himself and deceived others.

In another paragraph of the same magazine reference is made to a Foreign Missionary Society that was organised in Paris more than 200 years ago. Eastern countries were divided up into 27 districts, which were situated as follows:—4 in Japan, 1 in Korea, 8 in China, 7 in Annam, 4 in Burmah, Siam, and Malacca, and 3 in India. According to the latest annual report of this Society, the total number of converts in the 27 districts has now reached 1,097,922. The report from Japan states that during last year the total number of baptisms were 3,623, consisting of 2,241 adults and 1,382 children. Protestants who joined the Roman Catholic Church numbered 33. Among infant baptisms no less than 1,068 are described as having taken place when the infant was at the point of death

(*shi ni nosomishi mono*). The total number of Roman Catholics in Japan is stated to be 50,302.

In the Appendix of the *Kokumin no Tomo*, Mr. Uchimura Kanzō, a Christian, has been giving to the world a series of criticisms of things in general, and he is very severe on certain youthful preachers of Christianity whom he describes as poorly educated, full of conceit, and fond of using grandiose language. In order to give to their countenances an appearance of gravity their years do not warrant and to make it seem as though they had injured their eyesight by hard study, they appear at the preaching desk with spectacles and use terms the real significance of which is entirely beyond them. Among other things they talk about "Japanese Ethics" and "Japanese religion," as though ethics and religion, if worth anything, were not equally applicable in every country. The impressions such preachers leave on the mind of the discerning is that they use religion as a means of bringing themselves into notice, for in many cases these glib-tongued representatives of the Christian Church are the last to recommend by their lives and demeanour the religion they appear so anxious to propagate.

SALVATION ARMY ANNIVERSARY.

A series of meetings to celebrate the first anniversary of Salvation Army work in Japan have just been brought to a close in Tokyo. According to Col. Wright's report it appears that during the year five stations, or corps, have been opened, two in Tokyo, one in Yokohama, one in Hachioji, and one as far West as Okayama. Meetings have been held every evening and three times each Sunday. The attendance on the whole has been very good, and six hundred and nine persons have come forward in public as enquirers. One hundred and fifty have definitely identified themselves with the Army, and many of them take active part in the "War." Over three hundred *yen* has been subscribed in the meetings, principally in copper coins. In addition to this, seventeen hundred *yen* were raised in the country from other sources. There are now seventeen Japanese officers in full work, four of them holding the rank of Captain. A "Training Garrison" situated at Shintomicho, Kyobashi-ku, has done good service in familiarising candidates for officership with Salvation Army tactics. Perhaps the most pronounced success seems to have been achieved with the *Tokino Koye*, a paper published fortnightly and sold at one *sen* per copy. In nine months it has risen to a circulation of 1,750 copies per issue. It claims for itself two things, first it has double the circulation of any other Christian paper in Japan and second, it pays its own way and leaves a profit—not a *sen* of foreign money is needed to keep it alive. Let it be observed this paper is sold not given away, sold on the streets, in the parks, and at temple feasts, and sold by Japanese officers and soldiers. Other Army literature in pamphlet form has been translated and disposed of freely. A new Song Book, containing over 100 songs and choruses, is just leaving the press. Colonel Wright regards the first year as satisfactory. Turning to the new year upon which they are entering, the programme includes the establishment of at least one Prison Gate Home in Tokyo, and a Sailors' Home in Yokohama. It is to be regretted that the state of Mrs. Wright's health necessitates Colonel Wright's return to England at an early date, nevertheless a worthy successor will be found and the work will go on.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA IN KOREA.

With regard to Reuter's telegram that *The Times* contains a statement to the effect that Japan and Russia have concluded an agreement by which the former binds herself to evacuate the peninsula, we are officially authorized to say that the allegation is entirely baseless. It is a pity that Reuter did not indicate the source from which *The Times* obtained such a piece of illusory information.

KOREAN NEWS.

We gather the following from Korean correspondence received by Tokyo papers, covering events up to the 18th inst.:—

The most important item of news mentioned refers to a concession that Russia is alleged to have succeeded in obtaining from Korea for cutting and planting trees in Mu-san, Hamgyong-do, Uis-neung-do, Kan-won-do, and along the banks of the Yalu. The ostensible recipient of the concession is Mr. Brino (?), a Russian merchant, to whom a charter was granted on the 9th instant, in the immediate sequel of a Cabinet meeting. The *Nichi Nichi*'s correspondent sends the details of the concession. It commences with a provision that, in order to encourage the cultivation and planting of foreign trees in Korea, the Government of the latter grants, to Mr. Brino, a Russian merchant of Vladivostock, the right of forming a mercantile corporation, to be called "the Korean Trading Company," under a charter extending over period of two decades. The felling of trees in Government forests and the planting of saplings is limited to Mu-san, Utsu-neung-do, and the right bank of the upper course of the Tu-man-gang, but so soon as forestry affairs shall have been placed on a proper footing in these localities, the company is to be entitled to make a survey of the woods growing on the Korean frontier of the Yalu, to select, in any part whatever of that district, places suitable for the planting of trees, and to extend its plantations freely, in conformity with the provisions applicable to woods on the banks of the Tu-man-yang. It is provided, however, that the privilege, in so far as it relates to the Korean frontier of the Yalu, will become null and void should no practical action be taken under the charter within 5 years computed from the signing of it. The felling of trees is to be limited to one place each year, and the forests conceded to the lessee are to be subdivided into twenty sections, in which tree cutting must not be carried on earlier than May 15th or later than Sept. 15th. The Korean Government is to be entitled to send officials or students to work-shops established by the Company, with the view of obtaining for them instruction and experience in dendrology and cognate matters, and the same Government pledges itself to assist the Company should the latter desire to obtain a supply of native labourers. Moreover, Koreans are to be engaged as far as possible for work in the forests, provided that they may be replaced by Russians or Chinese should expediency dictate such a change. The import of machines and the export of timber are to be free from the imposition of Customs duties, but the Korean Government is to receive 25 per cent. of the profit accruing from the business. Otherwise the Company is exempted from all pecuniary obligation. The Company is to establish its Central Office in Vladivostock, with branch offices in Sōul and Ninsen, and a general meeting of shareholders is to be held once a year. The King of Korea reserves power to commission one of his officials to superintend all matters having any concern for the Korean Government in the business of the Company, and also to despatch officials, from time to time, to examine the quantity of trees felled and of timber in the work-shops, and the books of the Company. The yearly royalty to the Korean Government is to be paid in Sōul through the medium of the Russo-Chinese Bank, and to insure punctual payment, the lessee is to deposit 15,000 roubles in silver in the Bank, which deposit must be always maintained at that figure. The concession is to become ineffective in case the business is not started within one year, computed from the day of signing; but in the event of War, or any other contingency beyond the control of the Company, the term may be prolonged after conference between the lessee and delegates of the Government. The lessee is entitled to transfer the privileges set forth in the concession to any competent Russian individual or Company.

Since the annexation of Ussuri, writes the correspondent of the *Nippon*, Russia has been intent, as everybody knows, on extending

her frontier southward, and on adding to her dominions the northern portion of Ham-gyong-do, that is to say, the districts watered by the Tu-man-gang. At Ham-heung, which is distant some 80 miles from Gensan on the north, and where, according to the Overland Commercial Treaty between the two States, a market is located; and also in Pok-chhông and Ham-gyong-do, Russians own land in direct contravention of the provisions of the Treaty, and are engaged quite extensively in the business of farming and pasturing cattle. The districts now conceded for forestry purposes to the Russian merchant, who is carrying on business at Vladivostok under the patronage of the Russian Government, are the only thickly wooded portions of the whole Peninsula. Elsewhere, the hills and plains are almost entirely denuded of timber, owing to the reckless cutting of trees that has long been going on. Mu-san, which signifies "luxuriant hill," and the banks of the Yalu are reputed to possess an almost inexhaustible supply of timber, and to offer, at the same time, great facilities for river transportation. Uisu-mung-do is a small island off the coast of Kang-won-do. It has a certain historical connection with Japan, for it was there that the celebrated merchant of Kaga, Zeniya Gohai, established a station and carried on an extensive commerce, in contravention of the law enacted by the Tokugawa Regency. Bamboo and oak grow abundantly on the island, the latter of magnificent dimensions. The same correspondent writes that it is not on account of the timber industry that Russia wished to secure access to the island, but because she intends to convert it into an anchorage and coaling station for her Pacific Squadron.

Another correspondent writes that Russia has also succeeded in securing a lease of Chak-yak-do "Peony Island" (so-called from the abundance of peonies growing there), which is situated at the mouth of the Han-gang. It is a small island, not measuring much above one mile in circumference. Rumour says that Russia had previously obtained a lease of the western coast of Wôl-mi-do, but it was found too small, the other portion having already been leased by Japan years ago, and, moreover, the coast is destitute of any supply of water. After long search, a spring has been discovered in "Peony Island": hence Russia's decision to lease that place. Her marines are now guarding the island, and the work of clearing it and constructing a road has been going on since the 10th inst. Coal storehouses are also in course of erection at Wôl-mi. The opening of Muk-pho, Cholla-do, and Chin-nam-pho, situated on the bank of the Ta-dong, for foreign commerce was decided upon some time ago, but the troubles that overtook the Korean Government from one cause or another, prevented the carrying of the decision into practice. We are now told that the Sôul Authorities have at last made up their mind to open Chin-nam-pho, and that the fact will be announced in a short time. The reason why the Government hastens the opening of this particular harbour is attributed to its desire to prevent smuggling and the consequent diminution of Customs duties. Being situated not far from Phÿng-yang and other important towns in the same locality, shipping business at Chin-nam-pho is very active, and native or foreign merchants smuggle large quantities of goods, thereby considerably affecting the Customs receipts at Ninsan. Mr. Osborne, an employé of the Ninsan Customs, started for Chin-nam-pho on the 13th instant, taking with him the materials needed for establishing a branch of the Customs there. The actual opening of the harbour for purposes of commerce may be expected within 40 days. As to Muk-pho, its opening is said to be problematical, Russia being believed to entertain some secret design with regard to the place.

The eyes of foreign residents in Sôul are now centered on M. Bokochilof (?), President of the Russo-Chinese Bank, who, after having visited China, arrived in Korea about the beginning of the month. His arrival is said to have been the signal for a sudden change in the attitude of Mr. Brown, Financial Adviser of the Korean Treasury, towards the Korean Bank project. It has

to be remembered that Mr. Brown was originally hostile to the scheme, and that the projectors were obliged to sever connection with him, and start the bank as a private concern. They had to encounter many obstacles in consequence, but they steadily persevered with their programme, so that of the estimated capital of 200,000 yen, as much as 80,000 yen has already been raised. A few days after the arrival of the Russian banker, Mr. Brown called on An Kei-su, Chairman of the Committee of the Korean Bank projectors, and recommended that the Bank should conclude a contract with the Government as had been originally proposed; that it should seek permission to farm the taxes of the Treasury, and that it ought to engage competent foreigners as advisers. The Chairman rejected all these suggestions on various pretexts, but Mr. Brown was not to be gainsaid—we are quoting from the Sôul correspondence of the *Yomiuri*—and even went so far as to ask the King to aid him. His Majesty thereupon summoned the projectors of the Bank and reminded them that it would be better to follow the advice of the Treasury Adviser in all matters relating to the institution. One of them remonstrated respectfully, and said that if the adviser's suggestions were to be adopted, it would amount to transferring the power of collecting the taxes to the hands of foreigners. The King could not press the point further, but the opinion of even the most influential American in Sôul being in favour of Mr. Brown's suggestions, the projectors are said to be considerably perturbed as to the course they should pursue.

The Sôul-Fusan Railway negotiation remains at a stand-still, and the attitude of the Korean Cabinet towards the project is now believed to be entirely unfavourable. They are discussing, not whether they shall grant the concession, but what method they shall adopt to reject the application. If they convey their refusal indefinitely, in courteous, diplomatic language, they incur the risk of being constantly importuned on the subject; while, if they refuse in any positive manner, they may give offence to the Japanese. Hence the difficulty in bringing the question to a definite issue. The best way for Japan is to assume a more decided attitude and to employ all her influence with the Korean Cabinet, if she wishes to expedite the negotiations. Baron Ozaki, who remained several months in Sôul in connection with the matter, has returned home.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent wires from Sôul, under date of the 26th inst., that an extra of the *Official Gazette* was issued the preceding evening, announcing the abolition of the term *Naikaku* (Cabinet), and the restoration of the old term, *Giseifu*. The Royal Edict that makes the announcement was to the following effect:—"Sometime ago, rebellious subjects usurped the legislative power of the Kingdom, effected alterations in the policy of the State, and arbitrarily changed the term *Giseifu* to *Naikaku*. They put restraints on whatever was straight and just, and encouraged crookedness and wickedness. The result was that the laws of the kingdom became corrupted, disturbances occurred throughout the realm, and both rulers and ruled were inspired with deep indignation and distress. Inasmuch as this matter bears a vital relation to the well-being of the country, the term *Naikaku* shall be abolished, and the old term *Giseifu* shall be restored." At the same time, Kim Ping Su, who refused to accept the Premiership when the post was offered to him after the assassination of the late Premier, and who was subsequently nominated a Court Councillor, has been gazetted President of the *Giseifu*, and four statesmen, whose previous official standing is not very clear, have been appointed high officers of the new Cabinet. Min Yong-su also has been nominated President of the Privy Council, and his relative, Min Yong-hwan, is among the principal officials of the *Giseifu*.

FURTHER PORTFOLIOS.

Viscount Nomura has been gazetted Minister of State for Communications, and Mr. Kioura Seigo, Minister of State for Justice.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The Empress-Dowager of China left Peking on August 30th to take up her residence at the Ewo Park, on the beautifying of which such large sums have recently been spent.

The Mahomedan rebellion in Shensi is now said to have been completely quelled. But the province still suffers severely, for of the soldiers that were engaged against the rebels, thousands have been disbanded, and are wandering about, committing all sorts of excesses against the peaceful inhabitants.

Orders have been given by the Chinese Authorities for prolonging the line of telegraph from Lanchow to Lhasa.

The Empress-Dowager being now, once again, all powerful in Peking, it is held in some quarters that Li Hung-chang will have all his honours restored to him when he gets home. But it will be difficult, if not impossible, to divert from Pekinese hands the power formerly wielded by Li at Tientsin. In the great Viceroy's days, Tientsin was virtually the diplomatic and military capital of the empire. With his fall, the statesmen in Peking succeeded to the puissant and profitable functions discharged by him, and they will not readily divest themselves of such privileges. Li will have to gravitate to Peking, and it will be hard for him there to climb to the old empyrean from the clouds of his recent failures.

Tientsin, following the example of Hongkong and Shanghai, has imported a force of Sikhs to act as police. It is just thirty years since the idea of employing Sikhs for that purpose occurred to Sir Richard McDonnell, then Governor of Hongkong. Experience had shown that the greater part of the Chinese police were in the pay of the gambling dens, and those places consequently served as safe asylums for the robbers and pirates with whom the colony and its adjacent waters abounded. The importation of Sikhs saved the situation, and since that time their reputation as plucky, patient, and incorruptible constables has been growing steadily in the Far East.

After considerable negotiation with the Government in Peking, the Japanese Representative succeeded in getting an order conveyed to the Viceroy of Nanking for the delivery of the bodies of the two youths arrested in Shanghai as spies in the summer of 1894, and subsequently executed in Nanking. The lads were apprehended in the French Concession, and then handed over to the United States Consul-General, who, acting under instructions from Washington, gave them up to the Chinese. It was confidently alleged that, after their transfer to Nanking, they were horribly tortured, but the story is now strenuously denied on authority that seems credible. Before taking delivery of the coffins, they were opened in the presence of the Chinese magistrate and the Japanese Consular agent, and it was seen that the corpses had been properly buried.

The promoters of cotton-spinning industry in Shanghai are evidently quite sensible of the danger that threatens their enterprise should the Chinese Authorities adopt an exclusive attitude. They have sent a delegate to Peking under instructions to induce the Diplomatic Corps to come to some understanding with the Chinese, so that the products of the cotton mills shall not be taxed more highly than imported goods, either directly or by taxing the raw material before it reaches the mills. It is to be hoped that this affair will be successfully arranged, but the Shanghai cotton-spinners appear to have been strangely slow in their action. Their mills are now approaching completion—four mills—and very large sums have been invested, yet no steps have been taken to secure the whole enterprise against proving a fiasco. Possibly some hope was entertained that the question would be definitely settled by the negotiators of the new Treaty between Japan and China, but a little reflection should have shown that nothing of the kind was probable. Indeed, even before the negotiations had commenced, it was pointed out by the *Japan Mail* the foreign projectors would be unwise to

rely on any aid from Japan after her liberal procedure in the case of the Shimonoseki Treaty have been so unjustly ignored and misrepresented.

The celebrated foreshore question at Chefoo has been settled in an unexpected manner. The Tsung-li Yamén has fully admitted Messrs. Fergusson and Co's title to the land in dispute, and has instructed Sir Robert Hart to effect some arrangement by way of compensating the British firm, the land, as our readers are aware, having been sold by the local authorities to a Russian. This result was brought about by Messrs. Fergusson and Company's being able to produce a French lease in which the sea is distinctly stated to be the boundary of the lot on the east. Since that lease was signed, the sea has been pushed back a considerable distance by accretions, and the question was, were these accretions the property of Messrs. Fergusson and Co., or were they the property of the Chinese Government. The land in dispute measures 14 *mow*, or $2\frac{1}{3}$ acres, and Sir Robert Hart has offered compensation at the rate of Tls 1,000 per *mow*, together with 15 per cent. by way of solatium for disturbance. But Messrs. Fergusson and Co. assess the land at Tls 4,000 per *mow*, or Tls 26,000 per acre, a liberal value, it must be confessed. The matter of price is to be arbitrated by Mr. Consul Jamieson and M. L. Rocher, Commissioner of Customs.

Viceroy Chang, of the Hukwang provinces, has distinguished himself by declining to receive the costly presents sent to him by his subordinates in Hunan and Hupeh, or to sanction a *flte* projected in the vice-regal yamén on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday. He would accept nothing save scrolls of gilded paper carrying carefully penned panegyrics, and of these nearly 2,000 reached the great man.

It is calculated that the Buddhists and Taoists of the three prefectures of Sungkiang, Soochow, and Chinkiang, in the province of Kiangsu, spend nearly a million and a half dollars yearly on the purchase of silver joss-paper, for burning. If that be true, what must the total expenditure throughout the Chinese empire amount to? A German merchant in Shanghai is said to have gone into partnership with a Chinese for the purpose of manufacturing tin-foil with foreign machinery to supply this big demand.

A Chinese newspaper, called the *Shantung Times*, has been started in Shantung. It is printed at the press of the American Presbyterian Mission in T'eng-chou-fu.

The *Shanghai Daily Press* has the following:—

A little girl, aged twelve years, fell off the Kiangse-road bridge into that evil smelling stream about two o'clock on the 23rd Sept. Though there were hundreds of persons about, and the creek was, as usual, crowded with sampans and cargo boats, not one person would put out a saving hand and the poor little thing was drowned before the very eyes of the callous Chinese, many of whom could, at no risk to themselves, have saved her.

The possibility that the Chinese tariff may be revised in the sense of increased duties, after Li Hung-chang's return to Peking, is beginning to excite much attention in foreign commercial circles in China. *Le Messager de Chine* writes with conspicuous vehemence on the subject, and upbraids the merchants for not taking timely steps to avert such a misfortune. It anticipates that Mr. Dudgeon's mission to Peking will end in a fiasco, "as in Japan, where the agitation carried on for so many years in connection with extra-territoriality, which our Governments ought never to have abandoned, served only to expedite its deace. The time has not yet come for the Europeans to pass under Japanese jurisdiction, and already the profound and inveterate hatred of the Asiatic for the white, betrays itself by arrogance without limit or by incessant provocations which will not fail to involve a conflict on the day when some one loses patience." That is a curious hallucination on the part of our French contemporary. We who live in Japan see nothing in the way of limitless arrogance and incessant provocations, engendered by the profound and inveterate hatred of the Japanese for the white. The whole horror exists solely in the imagination of *Le Messager de Chine*.

With reference to the question of increasing the Chinese Customs duties, Mr. E. H. Parker has written the following interesting letter to *The Times*:—

It is being generally stated that one of the chief objects of H.E. Li Hung-chang's visit to England is to endeavour to obtain the consent of the British Government to a general increase of the import tariff, in order that China may be better able to meet her numerous obligations. The loans she has contracted total £38,610,000, all on the security of the foreign Customs revenue, and rendering China liable for an annual sum of £1,723,605 interest. The foreign Customs revenue for 1895 amounted to Customs Tls. 21,385,380, or roughly nearly double the sterling sum for which China is liable in interest on loans.

Her main expenses at the present moment are (famines, rebellions, Yellow River, and other accidents apart)—Tls. 7,000,000 for the Manchu organisation at Peking, Tls. 1,000,000 at the outside for the Court, Tls. 5,000,000 for the frontier armies as distinct from the internal forces—the frontier armies of Kashgaria, Dzungaria, Kansu, Taisihar, Manchuria, Tientsin, Yunnan, and Kwangsi; to which add Tls. 2,000,000 for permanent Yellow River repairs. This modest sum of Tls. 15,000,000, or say £2,500,000, is about the amount now produced by general *likin*—i.e., by the inland barrier taxation which so harasses foreign trade. Of course double, or even treble, the sum is actually collected, but the excess serves in part to make the fortunes of the official body in the provinces.

The land-tax ought to produce about Tls. 30,000,000 a year, but what with exemptions, dearths, floods, &c., it may be safely said that Tls. 20,000,000 is the maximum ever officially reported. It has been frequently stated by Peking censors that five, or even ten, times the nominal tax is wrung from the people, and I have over and over again ascertained this to be a fact in my travels through many provinces; but this excess, again, serves to support a bureaucracy for whom the central Government does nothing, and an army of police, "satellites," &c., for whom the bureaucracy does nothing.

As to the salt revenues, which rank above *likin*, and are almost on a par with the land-tax, salt is the backbone of innumerable industries, and it is quite out of the question to interfere with it at present; as with *likin* and the land-tax, a fraction of the receipts, but in this case even a less proportion, say Tls. 10,000,000, is officially reported, and is available to the central Government; untold millions go to the bureaucracy, the armies of official harpies and the innumerable syndicates, junkmen, and others who fatten on the salt industry in one way or another. If, therefore, we leave to China her salt and her land tax, to manage as she may list, until such time as she may be ripe for further financial improvement, we run no risk of causing popular discontent; we abandon to the bureaucracy their chief "squeezes," and we in no way disturb the existing administrative harmony.

But, I submit, there is a way, and a simple way, in which we can double or treble the revenues of the central Government; compensate the bureaucracy for any imaginary damage done to their interests by the course I am about to advocate; enormously increase the volume of foreign trade; confer a great boon upon European merchants; and work an inestimable benefit upon the Chinese people at large.

If we were to consent to raise the average import duties to double what they now are (or a quarter more, or a third more), and stipulate in return for the absolute abolition of *likin* throughout the whole Empire we should be doing what the instance of foreign opium has shown to be perfectly feasible. In 1887 we consented to an enormous *likin* being collected on opium at the same time that the insignificant import duty was levied. This *likin* amounted in 1891 to the respectable sum of Tls. 6,200,000, or a million sterling. There could not be a better proof of the ease with which the central Government can, if it chooses, put a total stop to *likin* barriers, than the fact that ever since 1887 all *likin* trouble with opium disappeared as if by magic. In one or two cases a misguided Viceroy—for instance, Li Han-chang, brother of Li Hung-chang—has tried a 'pretence hand upon opium, but such attempts have always been instantly suppressed by express telegraph from Peking.

At first sight our merchants may look askance at a wholesale increase in import duties, and special measures would certainly be necessary to protect our cotton goods from local manufactures. It would also be necessary to have some hold upon the increased revenue, so that the instantaneous compensation might be offered in cases where any attempt should be made to impose taxes in the interior. Against all this, however, must be set the enormous impetus which would be given to foreign

trade by the utter disappearance of all trading obstacles through the length and breadth of the land; the enhanced activity in land; the consequent increase of wealth and confidence; disappearance of irritating diplomatic questions, and so on.

Out of the largely-increased revenue thus raised, it would be necessary to set aside, say, Tls. 15,000,000 to compensate the provincial governments liberally for the losses incurred by them. Thus they would become the friends instead of the enemies of the foreign customs, and the first solid and important step would be taken towards the regeneration of China.

It is reported that the Chinese Government purposes selling the Han-yang Iron Works to private merchants, and some speak of Taotai Shêng as the probable purchaser. Five million taels have been sunk in the enterprise, and the plan is that the buyers should agree to pay a royalty of one tael per ton of iron produced. Another report alleges that Shêng will put up a sum of a million taels as purchase money.

Tientsin was visited by a very severe storm on Monday, Sept. 14th. The foreign settlement suffered much damage, the partially constructed wall of the Club Concordia being demolished, iron railings and brick piers wrecked, corrugated iron roofs lifted off and swept away, and mat-sheds sent flying in all directions. Twenty Chinese were drowned by the upsetting of a boat, and two were killed by lightning.

A NEW METHOD OF COINING.

"When I was in London a few years ago," says Mr. Edward Atkinson, "I heard a rumour that measures were being taken to make dies exactly corresponding to the stamp of our standard United States dollars, which were to be sent to China to be used in converting United States trade dollars and Mexican dollars into standard dollars. It was said that this could be done only at the expense of coining, the silver being already assayed and alloyed and each dollar weighing 82 grains more than our standard dollar. It was said that these coins could be sent from China through Mexico, British Columbia and the Sandwich Islands in sufficiently large quantities to make it a very profitable business. I was unable to trace this rumour to its source and have never seen any evidence that it had been carried into effect. But how could that evidence be obtained? We know that there are only about 66,000,000 standard dollars of our own coinage in circulation. How do we know that there are not many more of exactly the same weight and quality, carrying the same identical stamp, which may have been made for us in China and Japan, or in Mexico, where the profit would now be nearly 50 per cent.? How long will it be before such a plan is worked on very extensive scale, even if it has not yet been worked?"

THE COST OF RAILS.

Our contemporary, the *Shogyo Shimpô*, from which we quoted on the 24th instant, appears to have been very ill-informed as to the prices at which the Railway Bureau has of late years been purchasing rails, when it stated in connection with a contract recently placed with the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha at £5.53 per ton, that:—"This is the first time that rails have been purchased at less than £6 per ton; a price far lower than that at which the Bureau used to give in England when dealing direct. Even when a private Railway Company put its orders up to public bidding, the price per ton was £6.50 or so." We are informed that of late years the Railway Bureau, as well as private railway companies, have purchased many thousand tons of steel rails from the best English makers, which have been laid down in Japan at less than £5 per ton.

A Reuter telegram from St. Petersburg says:—"The Russian Squadron to be despatched to the Pacific in the autumn under the command of Admiral Alexejeff will consist of an ironclad, six gunboats, and seven torpedo vessels."

ARRIVAL OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

About noon on Sunday the news got abroad in Yokohama that the *Empress of China*, that had left Vancouver a day late, had been signalled from Kanonsaki and would be at the anchorage before two o'clock. On this steamer was travelling His Excellency Li Hung-chang, Grand Secretary, and late Viceroy of Chihli and Superintendent of Trade for Northern China—a man whose name has been a familiar word on the lips of the last three generations the world over as the foremost man of China, and whose tour round the world has been watched with more than ordinary interest from the time of his departure from Peking, through the gorgeous ceremonial of the Czar's coronation, and the regal entertainments given him in Germany, France, Holland, and Great Britain, till he crossed the Atlantic to that "strange new world, that yet was never young," where the President of the United States extended him the greetings of a nation destined to fill as large a space in the history of our planet as any of the old-world Empires that have bulked largely on the bead-roll of fame. Sunday opened bright and fair, and as the morning wore away the general expression of the man in the street was in accord with the transient stroller over the Bluffs, that it was a most glorious, golden September day. A slight autumnal haze hung over the Bay, tinting the Boshu hills with a delicate, dreamy pink that changed by slow gradations into a far-away indistinct blue; lordly Fuji stood out clear to the westward with a tiny cap of fleecy snow, forerunner of its winter mantle; while the rising ground of Ikegami, across the harbour, shimmered in the rays of a fervent sun. It was one of those lovely days that usher in so gently the St. Martin's summer in Japan. By half-past one the stately *Empress of China*, Captain Archibald, was seen rounding the Tomioka Spit, and her further progress was watched with absorbing interest. She slackened speed just before reaching the harbour limits and then slowly proceeded to her buoy. Meanwhile, the C.P.R. agency launch, the *Spindrift*, with a large crowd of residents, had gone out to meet her. As soon as possible the gangway was lowered and the eager crowd boarded the big liner. Foremost among the company was Surgeon-Major Sato, in full uniform, the skillful physician who attended Earl Li at Shimonoseki at the time of the dastardly attack there upon the distinguished Chinaman. Surgeon-Major Sato was at once ushered into the presence of Li Hung-chang, whom he found enjoying the best of health after all his arduous journeyings. A long and intimate conversation ensued between the two lasting for more than half-an-hour, during which Li Hung-chang frequently gave expression to the deep and unfeigned pleasure it gave him to meet Dr. Sato again. Li occupied rooms on the upper deck and the curious crowd observed that the great Chinese appeared in the enjoyment of perfect health and spirits—his age indeed is "like a luscious winter, frosty but kindly." He wears the weight of his years and the crushing responsibilities of his position with a philosophic calm that all must envy.

From passengers on board the *Empress of China* we learn that with the exception of one day, the voyage was very pleasant, and that the Chun-tang gave no trouble to anybody, being only too willing to subordinate his habits to the general discipline of the ship. That Li thoroughly appreciated the kindness, attention, and seamanship of Captain Archibald and his officers, is borne out by a remark he made to Captain Wallace of the *Kwang-li*, the vessel that conveys the Grand Secretary to Tientsin. Said Li Hung-chang, "I am pleased with all I saw on the *Empress of China*; I am delighted with my passage, and with the attention showed me by Capt. Archibald and his officers. From what I could see and learn, all the officers are navigators." This is praise indeed.

As soon as the *Empress of China* came up to her buoy, the *Kwang-li* shifted from her berth and ranged alongside. The manoeuvre was no easy task, and Capt. Wallace is to be con-

gratuated on the clever display of seamanship. To the ordinary landsman the feat was the more impressive when the relative size of the two steamers is taken into consideration, the extreme neatness that characterised the operation is beyond praise. When all the ex-Viceroy's baggage had been transferred to the *Kwang-li*, a gangway was rigged up between the two steamers and the Chun-tang, seated in a handsome Chinese chair, was carried by English sailors and Chinese bearers from the *Empress* packet to the Chinese steamer. This took place about four o'clock. He was received by Capt. Wallace, and officers, Mr. Peihick, Li Ching-mai, Dr. Liu, and others, who have come over from Tientsin to accompany him home. Li was dressed in a plum-coloured jacket with an under-robe of some yellowish material, with blue trousers. He wore the Chinese insignia of his rank. Among the many residents of Yokohama who visited the *Empress of China* during the afternoon was the British Consul, Mr. J. C. Hall; and the representatives of the Japanese Traders' Guild, who offered a formal letter of welcome. Other visitors included Count Soyeshima, representing the Tobo Kyokai; Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Services to the Imperial Court; Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Surgeon-General Ishiguro; Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo and Otani Kahei, of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce; Messrs. Watanabe and Ikeda, of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce; Governor Nakano and Chief Police Inspector Yoshida, of Yokohama, with all of whom Earl Li held slight conversations. Owing to the unexpected arrival of the packet on Sunday afternoon, no Chinese officials from Tokyo were present to welcome Li Hung-chang, and though the mail-boat came up the bay flying his flag no salute could be fired in his honour. Throughout the day, however, a good many fire-crackers were discharged in China Town. At nine o'clock in the evening the *Kwang-li* left harbour en route to Tientsin.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN LANG OF THE "NARCISSUS."

We regret to have to record an accident that has resulted in the death of Captain Henry B. Lang, of Her Majesty's ship *Narcissus*, and three of the crew of that vessel, by the capsizing of a cutter in Grossevitcka Bay, on the 11th inst. We have received the sad news by telegraph, but no further particulars are given. Grossevitcka Bay (Fish River) is in the Gulf of Tartary, in lat. 47° 55' N. Captain Lang was born on Feb. 23, 1845, and entered the service on Dec. 11, 1859, attaining post rank on June 30, 1889, and commissioned the *Narcissus* at Portsmouth on Nov. 19, 1895. He was a midshipman of the *Bombay* (84), when that ship took fire and blew up off Monte Video in 1864, and 97 officers and men perished.

The particulars, which we gather from a private letter, of this lamentable accident are meagre, indeed there is but little to add to what is already known. It appears that there were several officers in the boat with Captain Lang, and that the accident happened while crossing the bar of Fish River, the cutter, after capsizing, rolling over and over. It is now stated that two seamen, not three, as given in our telegram, were drowned with Captain Lang, and that the body of one of the men was subsequently recovered, but the body of the Captain was not afterwards seen. It would appear that no other boat was in the immediate neighbourhood of the *Narcissus'* cutter at the time of the accident, and that those who were immersed drifted some distance before they could be picked up, several having secured oars when the cutter capsized. Commander McAlpine, of the *Swift*, is in temporary charge of the *Narcissus*.

Upon the arrival of H.M.S. *Rainbow* and *Swift*, says the Nagasaki *Shipping List*, they brought the sad intelligence of the capsizing of the galley of H.M.S. *Narcissus*, in Grossevitcka

Bay, and of the deaths by drowning of Captain Lang and two able seamen belonging to the vessel. It appears that upon Friday, the 11th instant, two parties of officers left the ship in boats for a day's fishing in the Fish River. They had crossed the bar at the entrance and were engaged in the sport, when it was noticed that the *Narcissus* had her recall signal flying, as the approach of heavy weather compelled her to heave anchor and put out to sea. Captain Lang immediately gave orders to return to the ship, but, on reaching the bar, his galley capsized in the heavy swell rolling in. The other boat had not left the shore. The accident was seen from the *Narcissus*, and a cutter, under the command of Mr. Gaunt, the Gunner Lieutenant, was at once despatched to the rescue. Captain Mercer, R.M.L.I., a midshipman, and three seamen were picked up, but Captain Lang and two other seamen had sunk by the time it arrived. The bodies of two of the men were afterwards washed ashore, but that of the Captain had not been found when the sad news was received by the *Rainbow*, on the 19th instant, at Korniloff Bay. The weather was so bad that the officers and crew in the other boat were obliged to remain ashore for three days before they dared attempt to put off to the ship.

PUBLIC WORKS IN FORMOSA.

The Japanese are virtually re-constructing the Kelung railway in Formosa. Not only was the original road a most defective piece of work, but its vagaries of direction might have inspired any engineer with horror. The reconstruction means straightening the line, a task that sometimes involves carrying it several miles out of its former course. Surveys for the extension of the line southward have been nearly completed, and it is expected that the work will soon be in full progress. Meanwhile, much has been done in the way of converting into good roads paths that in their previous state could scarcely contribute anything to facility of communication. The necessity of providing a pure water supply as quickly as possible has also been fully appreciated. With that object the services of Professor Burton, late of the Imperial University, were enlisted, and he recently completed a plan for a system of water works at Taipeh. An abundance of excellent water can be obtained by artesian borings at a depth of 90 feet below the surface, and under those circumstances the estimated cost of the works does not exceed three hundred thousand dollars. Keelung and Taiwan are also to be similarly provided, and we understand that Professor Burton will shortly proceed to the southern part of the island to make surveys and prepare plans for water-works in the chief cities there. Having before their eyes the striking object lesson of Hongkong, where by means of a plentiful water supply and judicious planting the island has been converted from a hot-bed of disease into a salubrious and pleasant resort, the Japanese seem resolved that Formosa shall profit by that experience.

THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO" ON YOUNG MEN.

Recent numbers of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* contain articles dealing with the rising generation. An article headed "The tendency of young men's education" says that the present system of learning is causing young men to become more and more materialistic, and that their watch-words now are "livelihood," "money," and "profit." A great and considerable difference is observable between the young men of to-day and those of yesterday in the way in which they endeavour to assimilate particular studies. Many of the latter who took up politics or political economy did so with the view of becoming statesmen or publicists. Such ambitious aspirations are now very rare. Politics do not seem to attract young men as they used to do, and now studies are pursued for bread-winning purposes. The same cause underlies the gradual diminution in the

numbers of law students. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* does not necessarily condemn this state of things: in fact in some ways it rejoices at the change, but it grieves to find that the rising generation do not possess the large ambition and high aspirations of their predecessors. Young men above the average in intellectual qualities now aim to become experts or clerks in banks, business firms, etc. The triumph that this country achieved over China does not seem to arouse their martial ardour, only candidates for admittance to military and naval colleges show any martial inclinations, but these men, both in intellect and knowledge, are decidedly second-rate.

Another article deals with the transition stage through which education is passing. The writer considers that the system of education now disappearing was more liberal than the present and enabled its recipients to become gentlemen and citizens. Persons trained under the old régime were admirably suited to mingle in society and act as guides and leaders in any important national movement. On the other hand, the present system of education tends to making specialists only, and general wide-reaching culture is not observable among the rising youth of Japan. In a third article the essayist charges the young men of the present day with loss of moral stamina. In another essay the same journal discusses the importance of young men's organizing political parties. It thinks such a step of great importance, because the senior statesmen and their followers all lack qualities essential for constitutional statesmanship and cannot develop into leaders of true political parties. The best among them are, at most, statesmen of an irregular type. The dearth of coming men is truly regrettable, especially when it is remembered that the present is an important stage in the history of Japan. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* suggests two remedies, viz.:—The development of a spirit of citizenship in the nation, and the appearance of political parties organized by young men. The political ideas of citizens must be developed, and the new political parties must be organized by persons who have some fixed occupation.

AMERICAN RAILS FOR JAPAN.

The result of the first public tender for steel rails to be used in Japan, has been a success for the great American firm of Carnegie and Company of Pittsburg, whose name was so much before the public two years ago in connection with the Homestead riots. Hitherto it has been the habit of the Japanese Government to entrust to its agents the business of supplying rails, and we entertain no doubt that the commissions were always executed as economically as possible. But a departure has now been made, for the first time, from the regular method of procedure, and the issue is that English manufacturers have been cut out by an American. In the present depressed state of American industries, it appears to be possible for a United States firm to sell steel rails at a lower rate than they can be purchased for in England. The quantity of rails required on this occasion was thirteen thousand tons, in round numbers, and Messrs. Carnegie and Company's tender is said to have been some eight thousand pounds sterling lower than any other. That means ten per cent., approximately; a very appreciable difference. It is the custom in Japan to fix a maximum figure beyond which the Authorities are not prepared to purchase, and when the tenders in question were opened, three proved to be within that figure, Messrs. Carnegie and Company's being the lowest.

The rebels in Korea concealed in the vicinity of Heijo (or Ping-yang) have made an unexpected attack on Pingyang. About two hundred soldiers from Chinai-tai were sent to the relief.

Mr. Miyoshi, President of the Supreme Court, who recently sent in his resignation, was called to the Premier's residence on Wednesday and requested to resume office. He, however, declines to do so.—*Tokyo Shinbun*.

THE DEGENERATION OF BRITISH MANNERS.

Lord Meath's very pessimistic article on the degeneration of British manners has evoked much comment, generally of a dissenting nature. No one can deny, however, that there is much truth in what his lordship says, nor is the truth less striking because it has often been uttered before in almost the same words. Consider this paragraph, for example:—

Some Britons, as soon as they have planted their feet on foreign soil, live as though this planet and the dwellers on it had been specially created by Providence to cater for the enjoyment of the inhabitants of the British Isles. . . . How often, with hot indignation, has one seen British men and women behave abroad as he knows they never would dare to do at home. . . . It is not uncommon to see Englishmen in the halls and corridors of foreign hotels wearing their hats, when every foreigner is bareheaded. . . . How many are there, for instance, who, when seating themselves at, or on leaving, a *table d'hôte* abroad, remember that in most foreign countries it is considered exceedingly rude not to bow to the guests on either side; or will bear in mind that the hat should never be worn indoors, and should always be raised when meeting a male as well as a female acquaintance, when addressing any stranger, or when going in or out of a shop or public restaurant: that in Germany, when paying a visit, no well-bred man or woman ever sits on a sofa without being specially invited by the hostess to do so, that in the same country the unmarried girl invariably grants precedence to the married woman, and that in the case of both sexes youth, when walking with age or rank, should place it on the inner side of the pavement?

What would be the feelings of British noblemen and gentlemen of position if a Hindu official of no birth or manners, sent to govern an English country, were to treat them in the way in which some British officials are in the habit of dealing with natives of distinction?

A true gentleman is naturally courteous—he could hardly be the reverse if he tried; but in these days when so many lay claim to the title who possess few of the qualifications, it may be well to point out that a courteous manner possesses a distinctly commercial value. However boorish we may be ourselves we appreciate civility and courtesy in others.

If British boys and girls were taught to subordinate self, to respect their neighbours, and in non-essentials not to run counter to their prejudices, we should probably in a few years find that although for political reasons Great Britain might still maintain that "splendid isolation" of which we have lately heard so much, her people were no longer disliked but by their politeness and urbanity had won the respect and friendship of foreigners and had thereby increased the influence of their country, and taken the most effective steps to diminish the chances of international misunderstandings.

It would be difficult to gainsay the above, or to question the wisdom of the recommendation that manners should be taught to young people with as much care as any other branch of learning. But, in truth, perfect manners are the outcome of fine sympathy. *The Speaker* seems to get to the kernel of the thing when it says:—"Natural politeness is a growth which is not always careful of convention. It is an affair of individual delicacy, and sometimes possesses an originality amounting to genius. It is remarkable chiefly for its swift perception of the feelings of others, and for its skill in asserting a personal view without exciting susceptibilities to leap into unseasonable argument. It conciliates unreason, defers to the harmless prejudices that simmer through the world, and suffers fools, if not gladly, with no over-fatigue. So rare a temper is above forms, and treads the social atmosphere as if walking on clouds." A "gentleman" has been defined by some as one that never by any chance ruffles the susceptibilities of those around him; by others, as a man that never attracts attention to his own personality. Either definition seems good enough in its way. Courtesy, in fact, is the art, or rather the instinct, of adaptation. Everyone agrees, of course, that to make oneself conspicuous in society is an evidence of bad manners. To laugh loudly is as bad as to dress loudly; to make a noise in eating is worse than to dance sensationally long without resting; in short, to challenge observation in any way is a sign of vulgarity. No Englishman will deny that code at home, or willingly fail to conform to it. Yet, undoubtedly, as Lord Meath says, the Briton abroad often seems to take a pride in not adapting himself to the customs of the people among

whom he moves, and in challenging observation by his singularity. Are Britons worse in that respect, however, than they used to be? We do not believe it. On the contrary, we believe that they are immensely better.

THE "SHANGHAI TIMES."

The *Shanghai Times* seems to us to have made an excellent beginning. Its articles are bright and thoughtful, and its tone essentially moderate. As yet the dimensions of the journal are small, but the amount of reading, and very readable, matter is disproportionately large. We fancy that our new contemporary has mapped out for itself a path steering absolutely clear of controversy, but we doubt the possibility of its realization. Certainly the best answer to many of the journalistic attacks penned in the settlements of China and Japan is to ignore them altogether. One can not touch pitch without suffering more or less defilement, and where personalities, the attribution of low motives, and cognate devices are the stock-in-trade of controversialists, they had better be left severely alone. Unfortunately, however, silence is too often misconstrued by the public as an evidence, if not of assent, at any rate of inability to answer, and thus one has frequently to choose between suffering falsehoods to circulate without protest, or correcting them at the expense of enduring a shower-bath of mud. The *Shanghai Times* will not have lived long before it finds itself impaled upon the horns of that dilemma, for unless it is to be a failure journalistically, it will soon become an object of envy and detraction. However, to prophesy evil is not our purpose, but rather to welcome our contemporary very heartily, and wish it all possible success.

THE REBELLION IN MANILA.

The *China Mail*, on the strength of a private letter, confirms the statement that the rebellion is more serious than the Manila authorities are willing to admit; but, its correspondent adds, the rebellion will most certainly be crushed so soon as sufficient reinforcements come to the aid of the Spanish troops. The Province of Cavite is completely in the hands of the rebels, together with the arsenal and ship-slip. The Spanish troops have made futile attempts to oust the rebels. The effect of these repulses has been direful, and the foreigners prophesy that it will inevitably lead to the temporary strengthening of the insurgent forces and the spread of the disaffection to other parts of the Island and into other Provinces. Cavite is only seven miles distant from Manila.

The Chinese have suffered very seriously by the loss of life and property, and all the rich Chinamen, with their wives and families, as well as the humbler classes of Celestials, are leaving the Philippines as fast as they can get steamers to carry them away. The *Sungkiang* brought over to Amoy as many as 500 Chinese passengers.

Another correspondent says that a monastery at Cavite was broken into by the natives. The inmates barely escaped with their lives. One of the refugees has arrived in Hongkong. There are three Spanish warships in Manila Harbour in addition to H.M.S. *Redpole*. The rebels in Cavite have obtained possession of 8,000 Mauser rifles, presumably with an ample supply of ammunition from the Arsenal, and they are now carrying on a guerilla warfare that harasses Spanish soldiers and worries them by keeping them constantly on the *qui vive*. Roxas, one of the members of a wealthy native family, was captured by the Spaniards, but he was able to escape from prison—the result evidently of the far-reaching system of bribery which the Spaniards have so assiduously cultivated in their Colonies.

As was feared, a portion of the native troops has gone over to the insurgents, a welcome addition that will help to give organisation to the otherwise headless, leaderless, and misguided natives and half-castes for whom a terrible retribution is in store. The Province of Tarlac is said to have gone against the Govern-

ment, and portions of other Provinces are beginning to show signs of throwing over their allegiance.

With martial law proclaimed, Manila has a deserted appearance after six p.m. No natives are allowed abroad inside the town after curfew.

A few days before the arrival of the *Sung-kiang* at Manila, four rebels were shot dead on the Praya, and on the 9th inst. twenty-four men and one woman were condemned to a similar fate, but it is not known whether the order was carried out.

Messrs. Warner, Barnes and Co. report in their trade circular of the 2nd September:—On the 30th August, there was a rising of discontented natives in the adjacent provinces who advanced to the suburbs of Manila, where they were met by the Government troops, and dispersed with a loss of some 200 men. We do not look for any serious troubles, but it is not impossible owing to the number of natives who have left their villages and joined the bandits in the mountains, that there may be raids from time to time on the cultivated districts and perhaps damage to the growing crops.

INUNDATIONS FUND.

We have to acknowledge the following sums in aid of the distress caused by the recent floods:—

Mr. H. Loomis	\$10.00
J. N. C.	10.00
O. Letourneur	10.00
Messrs. J. Witkowski & Co.	25.00
Dividend	—27
J. C. Hall, Esq.	\$5.00
Charles Gardner, Esq.	£1 1 0
Miss Elizabeth Matthews.	10 0
C.G.G.	9 0
	\$19.11

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RAILWAYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I wish most heartily and emphatically to express agreement with your correspondent who bears witness to the courtesy shown to foreign travellers by the railway officials but suggests the great desirability of having the booking-office opened for a longer time before the departure of each train. The last time I had occasion to come from Yokohama I was at the station with my luggage long before the train started, and yet had a disagreeable and hurried time in getting my luggage weighed and checked, simply because I could not get a ticket till a very few minutes before the train time. Here, in Kyoto, the booking-office is open much earlier than it was there, and yet even here the third-class passengers (who I suppose have some rights, even though they travel third class) would be accommodated much better if the office were opened earlier. In the United States, at all principal stations—so far as my experience goes—the ticket-office is open continuously, and those who do not wish to be crowded can get their tickets and checks as early as they please. Why should it not be so here? What would be thought of a post-office where stamps could be bought only during ten minutes before the departure of each mail?

Yours, etc., D. W. L.
Kyoto, Sept. 22nd, 1896.

SILVER AND GOLD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As the gold standard advocates will not be placated by the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, as advocated by the silver party in the United States, the claim being urged that to do so means anarchy, repudiation, dishonour, loss of national credit, robbery, confiscation—all that is disreputable in morals—for the reason that no government can legislate silver into honest money at a ratio other than 32 to 1—that being the nominal ratio of the present time (how long the goldites will allow it to remain so who can tell?)—within the next twelve months they may so manipulate matters that a ratio of 40 or 45 or even 50 to 1 will be the then nominal ratio, and consequently any movement to rehabilitate the white metal to the normal ratio of 16 to 1 would then be claimed by them to be dishonest, anarchist robbery, repudiation, so on. Let it be supposed that the argument prevails, and the free coinage of silver is still denied. The ounce of gold that will

now purchase 32 oz. of silver, or the products valued at 32 oz. of silver, is represented by stamped coins. How does the *Japan Mail* consider the following proposition, and will it be good enough to elucidate to its readers the possible effects to follow its adoption, if the United States should go for a change of base, and by legal enactment ordain that instead of a ratio of 16 to 1, the ratio of 16 to $\frac{1}{2}$ should be adopted, leaving the silver dollar as it now is, 412 $\frac{1}{2}$ grains fine silver, but making 12.89 grains of gold the equivalent of the silver dollar. The number of gold dollars would be doubled of course. There would remain to the holders of silver all the dollars they now have at their face value—and make the 12 or 13,000 millions of gold dollars, which the *Japan Mail* estimates the volume of gold in the United States to be, 2,500 or 2,600 millions. I am led to make the request as above formulated because of the profound presentiment of the sequel of adoption of free coinage of silver by the United States, under the head line, "Silver Awaiting Rehabilitation" by the *Japan Mail* of the 23rd inst. Would there be dishonour in that? Would that flood the country with gold? Would the purchasing power of the gold remain as now? Would gold-standard Europe take to the thing kindly? Would the holders of gold consent to having their money doubled after that fashion? Would the holders of silver consent to seeing the gold dollars of the world doubled in number that they might have a good square look at the situation as it is now behind the veil?

We have had reams upon reams of argument regarding the coinage of silver at the 16 to 1 ratio; it will be a recreation to wrestle with the possibilities of the free coinage of gold at the ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16.

Yours, &c.,

September 28th, 1896.

[The free coinage of gold at the ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16 is precisely what is happening in the United States at present.—Ed. J.M.]

THE FLOOD RELIEF FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg to enclose the following list of subscriptions received by me up to date, in answer to Bishop Bickersteth's appeal, for the sufferers from the recent floods in Gifu Ken. Some of these subscriptions have been designated wholly or in part to one or the other of the forms of relief mentioned by Bishop Bickersteth, but generally the donors have left it optional to use their subscriptions in whichever way may seem the better, as the individual cases for relief are investigated.

Thanking you and the Bishop for your appeals on behalf of the fund, and the subscribers for their generous response,

I remain, yours truly, H. J. HAMILTON.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Bickersteth	\$100	Friend	\$ 5
Rt. Rev. Bishop McKim	25	St. Andrew's House	15
Sir Ernest Satow	100	G. Lowther, Esq.	20
Rev. Isaac Dooman	5	E. M. Hobart	15
A. W. Thompson, Esq.	10	Hampton, Esq.	15
Josiah Conder, Esq.	10	H. Parlett, Esq.	15
Captain Binkley	20	Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.	50
Captain Munter	10	W. B. Walter, Esq.	20
Rev. J. M. Francis	15	D. Jackson, Esq.	25
Prof. Foxwell	10	O. Keil, Esq.	20
Messrs. Fraser, Farley & Co.	\$25	Messrs. Sale & Co.	100
Miss Rowe	5	Rev. W. T. Austen	5
St. Andrew's House (additional)	5	V. R. Bowden, Esq.	10
Messrs. Browne and Co.	25	Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.	25
Messrs. Cornes & Co.	50	S. S. & Co.	50
Messrs. Bowden Bros. and Co.	20	A. H. Lay, Esq.	10
		C. Guinness, Esq.	5
		Messrs. Butterfield and Swire	50
		Vincent & Bird	5
		Rev. G. W. Coultas	4

THE YOKOHAMA CHIHIO SAIBANSHO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your paper of Saturday, the 26th September, the following judgments by the Yokohama Chihio Saibansho were published.

J. P. Collaço, the Portuguese charged with the theft of some old and valuable postage stamps from a Japanese stamp-dealer in Motomachi, Yokohama, was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment. Eleven Japanese firemen of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for assault and battery and unlawful intrusion on Mr. W. Barrie, an Englishman, thereby wounding him on the head and other parts of the body with iron, wood, and other instruments, are sentenced to terms of three months, and less, with rigorous imprisonment.

The manner in which Japanese Law and a Japanese Law Court have dealt with the two cases is very different. A Portuguese steals a few

stamps of little official value, and he receives 6 months' rigorous imprisonment.

Several Japanese go around to the house of a foreigner at night expecting to commit an assault, and are sentenced to short terms of imprisonment.

If the two sentences are equally disinterested under articles of the Japanese Criminal Code, there appears to be a great reason for revising the said Code.

Yours, &c.,
September 28th, 1896.

NEM. CON.

YOKOHAMA CHORAL SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Yokohama Choral Society was held at Van Schaick Hall on Wednesday afternoon. Thirteen members were present, ten ladies and three gentlemen, and Mr. J. T. Griffin, President, was in the chair.

Mr. GRIFFIN, after remarking upon the smallness of the attendance, presented the following:—

COMMITTEE'S REPORT.—30TH SEPT., 1896.

The past season has been fairly successful, although only two Concerts were given as against three in former years. The first Concert which was projected for the month of December, 1895, was postponed, for various reasons, until 20th February, 1896; when a very good performance was given of Smart's Cantata—"The Bride of Dunveer." The second Concert was a "Mendelssohn Evening" on 1st April: on which occasion that composer's "Lauda Sion" was performed, with orchestral accompaniment. The customary third Concert was fixed for May; but the lateness of the season caused it to be abandoned.

The Society has again had the inestimable advantage of the friendly co-operation of the Yokohama Philharmonic Society; an alliance which greatly enhances the value of our performances. May the friendship long continue! Appended is the Treasurer's Account, showing a balance in hand of \$79.19. This compares favourably with our financial position of a year ago, when we had to report a debit of \$7.04.

No fresh music has been ordered or purchased this year; as it is the opinion of the Committee that our stock of unperformed works is ample for the ensuing season.

We have to chronicle with regret, the departure for their respective home-lands of our esteemed Treasurer and Secretary (Mr. Townley and Rev. E. S. Booth). We hope for their return in 1897; but in the meantime it will be necessary to elect other members to fill these offices.

1895.	RECEIPTS.		
Oct. 31.—Subscriptions, 66 members	\$120.00
Dec. 31.—Dividend, Oriental Bank	31
1896.			
April 30.—Nett proceeds of Concerts (3)	119.03
			\$240.34
1895.	EXPENDITURES.		
Sept. 30.—Balance due Treasurer	\$ 7.05
Dec. 31.—Advertising and Printing	13.75
1896.			
April 16.—Rent of Van Schaick Hall	75.00
May 16.—Fire Insurance premium	9.25
June 19.—Yokohama Philharmonic Society	65.00
Sept. 30.—Balance of Cash in hand	69.59
			\$240.24

Yokohama, September 30th, 1896.

JOHN GRIFFIN, President.

Upon the motion of Mrs. POOLE, seconded by Mr. WHITEFIELD, the report and accounts were adopted.

Miss THOMAS moved, and Miss WILKIN seconded, the re-election of the old committee.—Carried.

Miss POOLE moved and Miss GRIFFIN seconded that Miss Lloyd Thomas be added to the committee.—Carried.

Mr. GRIFFIN then proposed that Mr. F. W. Whitefield be elected Secretary, and Mr. A. B. Walford, Treasurer, of the Society.

Miss WEBB seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT then addressed a few remarks to the meeting upon the future better working of the Society. He first of all quoted a new rule that had been passed by the Committee after several debates upon the subject. The rule ran:—

"It was unanimously resolved to endow the Conductor with power to exclude from a performance those members of the Choral Society who were absent from rehearsal more than one night without good reason therefor." The Committee also instructed him to speak out freely upon the matter at the general meeting of members. But it seemed to him that the chief sinners were not present, and he should have to preach, like some clergymen, a sermon directed against those who were staying away.

The Choral Society found itself with a good many members who had not much voice and less application, but they had joined because it was, perhaps, fashionable to do so. These good folks only attended rehearsal when no other engagement prevented, such as a tea-party, a tennis game, or other engagement that might be fitted into another occasion. They certainly had given more or less support to the Society, but that was not enough. In fact, the nuisance grew so pronounced last year that several active members, who always attended, learnt their parts, and were ready at the rehearsals, threatened to resign if the inefficient

were not asked by the Committee to stay away. Now it was not pleasant to have to go up to a member and say, "Look here, your presence is not desired." Yet something had to be done, and finally it was decided to pass the rule just quoted, leaving it in the hands of the conductor to choose the chorus for the concerts. Several prominent members of the Society had been approached upon the matter and they thoroughly agreed with the proposition of the Committee. Looking at the list of their members, he found that they could get a good chorus of 40 voices, well balanced, and determined to do thorough work. It had also been determined to appoint superintendents of parts—three of them were already selected and the fourth was in view. These would superintend the practices of the sopranos, contraltos, tenors, and basses at private houses, so that at the Monday practices the parts would be found to have been put in hand and possibly learnt. All the large Philharmonic and Choral Societies elsewhere, and many small ones, too, pursued that system. It was a principle that must be applied here, and he thought that by working on these lines the Society would have a most successful season. The first practice of the season was fixed for Monday evening at 5.30 o'clock, when the remarks he had now made would be submitted, and members in their summonses would be asked to notify him if they disagreed with the new rule. He thought that the proposal would meet with general approval, although of course some members might drop out through it. The first piece for rehearsal would be Cowen's "Sleeping Beauty," a cantata quite as harmonious as the "Rose Maiden," but a trifle more ambitious.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held on Thursday evening at the Club Hotel. There were present, Mr. J. T. Griffin, President, in the chair, Messrs. M. Wollheim, O. Keil, E. C. Fox, E. Batavus, F. W. Thomas, L. Stornesbrink, S. Komor, H. Tennant, F. P. Solomon, H. Pollak, T. W. McIlraith, and J. Davieson, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

The PRESIDENT called the meeting to order and presented the following report:—

SECRETARY'S REPORT 1895-6.

The number of members on the roll is 44 as compared with 47 at the end of last season.

The Treasurer's account annexed hereto, shows a balance in hand of \$139.21 against \$139.05 at 30th September, 1895.

The rooms occupied during the past season at the Club Hotel, and the attention shown to the members by the Manager, have been satisfactory. On account of proposed alteration to the building, it is possible that your incoming Committee may be compelled to seek other quarters at an early date, but, in such case, the Manager has courteously promised to notify the Committee as soon as possible.

The Championship games, for the handsome cup presented by Mr. O. Keil, were won by Mr. J. T. Griffin.

Two prizes were offered—one by Mr. S. Komor and one by the Club—for a handicap tournament, but although a fair number of members put their names on the list, so many withdrew that your Committee deemed it advisable to cancel the match.

Your Committee earnestly hope that members will take a greater interest in the royal game and assemble in larger numbers than hitherto.

Again it was found impossible to arrange a club match with our Tokyo friends, but a private contest took place at Tokyo, the result being even, the Yokohama team being hospitably entertained at dinner by their opponents. Your Committee now resign and tender their best wishes for the future prosperity of the Club.

J. DAVIESON, Hon. Treas. and Sec.

RECEIPTS.		
To Balance in hand	...	\$139.05
12 Entrance Fees	...	\$ 33.00
44 Subscriptions	...	\$32.00
		\$304.05
EXPENDITURE.		
To Rent (Club Hotel)	...	\$ 87.50
Printing and Stationery	...	37.50
Subscription to "Chess Magazine"	...	6.00
Hastings Games	...	4.50
Insurance	...	3.54
Collector	...	2.50
6 Chess Tables	...	\$5.50
Tokyo Expenses	...	5.60
Sundries	...	2.10
Balance	...	\$39.21
		\$304.05

J. DAVIESON, Hon. Treas. and Sec.

Audited and found correct.

O. KEIL.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1896.

The PRESIDENT regretted that the Club had had no outside opponents to fight with during the past year. The absence of such opponents had an influence upon the Club. When it was known that such a fight was forthcoming the members rallied round the Club and fought well and generally

enabled the Club to win. When there were no outside opponents to meet, the members thought that it was not good enough to leave their homes after dinner.

Mr. KEIL proposed and Mr. STORNEBRINK seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

Mr. KOMOR proposed and Mr. KEIL seconded the re-election of the old officers and committee. These were, Mr. J. T. Griffin, President, Mr. J. Davieson, Secretary and Treasurer; with Messrs. Batavus, Mendelson, and Tennant.

The old members of the Committee expressed their willingness to serve again, and after some amusing repartee the proposition was carried.

Mr. GRIFFIN proposed and Mr. DAVIESON seconded that Mr. Komor be added to the Committee.—Carried.

Various proposals for keeping up the interest in the Club, the more frequent meeting of members on Club nights, etc., were discussed, and then the Chess boards were got out and the members sat down to the royal game. A match with Tokyo was announced as out of the region of possibility during the coming season, as Tokyo is weaker than ever in regard to players.

CRICKET.

SHANGHAI CONTINGENT VERSUS MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.

On Saturday afternoon the cricketers who will represent Yokohama at Shanghai in the Interport Cricket Week, assisted by some others, were pitted against a team picked up by the Secretary of the Y. C. & A. C. The weather was at times overcast, but improved as the afternoon proceeded. Walford, who captained the "Shanghai" men, won the toss, and sent in his side first. Within a few minutes of the commencement a sad accident happened, Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, who had arranged to play at Shanghai, retiring hurt. It appeared that Goddard sent down a full pitched ball; Johnson attempted to play it, but the ball glanced off his bat and struck him on the right eye. The force of the blow split the eyelid and cut the cheek. Johnson at once retired to obtain the nearest medical assistance. This morning he was doing as well as could be expected, but it is still a question whether he will be able to retain the use of his eye. The sympathies of everyone in and out of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club are extended to the injured man, for during the short time he has been a resident in Japan he has entered into the sports of the Club with right goodwill carrying off a good many events in the Athletic sports and doing good service in the cricket field. After Johnson had left the field play continued, Walford eventually declaring his innings closed at 184. Crawford's team followed, but time did not allow of the match being played out. Scores:—

MR. WALFORD'S TEAM.

Mr. J. Scharr, c. and b. Murray	...	...	0
Mr. Owen, b. Murray	...	...	0
Mr. F. E. White, st. Dickinson, b. Murray	...	...	49
Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, retired hurt	...	...	6
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Murray	...	...	15
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. and b. Murray	...	...	35
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Campbell	...	...	47
Mr. B. H. Pearson, c. Alcock, b. Murray	...	...	2
Rev. T. S. Tyng, not out	...	...	11
Mr. H. Showler, b. Campbell	...	...	8
Mr. G. Alcock	...	...	Did not bat.
Mr. H. Goddard	...	...	...
b. 15, l.b. 7, w. 1	...	...	37

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Murray	20	6
Mr. Edwards	20	5
Mr. Goddard	25	19
Mr. McGerrow	25	19
Mr. Campbell	30	12

MR. CRAWFORD'S TEAM.

Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Tyng, b. Kingdon	...	...	29
Mr. C. S. Murray, c. H. Goddard, b. Walford	...	...	65
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Owen, b. White	...	...	30
Mr. K. F. Crawford, not out	...	...	13
Mr. H. E. Harrier, l.b.w. Goddard	...	...	2
Mr. H. S. Campbell, b. Goddard	...	...	0
Dr. Todd, c. Tyng, b. Walford	...	...	0
Mr. J. Edmonson, not out	...	...	0
Mr. C. McGerrow	...	...	Did not bat.
Mr. G. C. Alcock	...	...	...
Mr. H. Tennant	...	...	...
Mr. W. Goddard	...	...	...
b. 7, l.b. 2, w. 2	...	...	30

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WL.
Mr. H. S. Goddard	60	20	3
Mr. Kingdon	45	41	3
Mr. Walford	50	34	1
Mr. White	25	29	...

The Shanghai Cricket week will not see such a strong eleven from Japan as was at first anticipated. Owing to unexpected misfortunes, many of the team first selected cannot now get away, Dickinson, Libeand, and Johnson being among the latest to find that they cannot go. Yokohama

will now be represented by Messrs. A. B. Walford, F. E. White, H. S. Goddard, A. Kingdon, and probably B. Hyde Pearson; Kobe sending Messrs. C. Lucas, A. L. Robinson, M. Smith, E. W. Tate, Townend, Drewel, and Wilkinson. The combined team travel by the *Empress of China* to Shanghai.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Soul, Sept. 3rd.

It is two hundred and ninety odd years since Chong Dong, the south-western ward of Soul, has seen such lively days as those that are now passing. It was at that time that the king, In Jong Tai Wang, returned to Soul from the north, whither he had fled before the victorious arms of the Japanese. Finding the palace in ashes, he selected Chong Dong, the present foreign quarter, as a place of temporary residence, and the Myung Yé Kung was fitted up as a palace. It was occupied by the king fourteen years while the palace was being rebuilt and re-fitted. And now, again, this same Myung Yé Kung is being repaired for royal occupancy, not under the same circumstances as before but with just enough of possible suggestion to make it a coincidence. All day long, and all night too for that matter, the ears of the foreigners over in that part of the city are filled with the loud but not unpleasant chanting of the workman as they toil in unison. It is safe to say that no building was ever put up in such good time as this, if we except the one constructed by the genius of Aladdin's lamp. The main building that is being now erected is the one in which the obsequies in honour of the dead queen are to be held. Her body is to lie there in state and early in this month a grand royal funeral will be celebrated. The fact that seven hundred pall-bearers have been appointed is enough to give an indication of the style in which the pageant is to be carried out.

In spite of the strong conservative tendency, the work of repairing the streets of Soul goes steadily on. This is one real, tangible and lasting benefit, an outcome of all the reform talk of the last two years. There are doubtless other good results, but if so they are "moral" results. A process of education is unquestionably going on, especially in the country where the people have learned that they have little to fear from the central government. But these broad, smooth, hard roads are a positive luxury and are a standing rebuke to men who say that the *kat-wa* has done nothing for Korea. The 2nd inst. was the King's birthday and all Soul was in gala attire. The event of the day was a monster demonstration by the members of all the protestant Christian churches in the capital. It was held at Mo Wha Kwan, outside the west gate of the city, in the ancient reception hall, supplemented by an immense awning, lent by the War Office for the occasion. It was a Christian demonstration of loyalty to His Majesty, and we have reason to believe that it was not only not objectionable but highly pleasing to him. The leading speakers of the day were Yi Chai Yun, Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Commerce and Public Works, who was, for some time, *Chargé d'Affaires* in the Korean Legation in Washington, and Dr. Philip Jaisoin, editor of *The Independent*. Special patriotic hymns were composed for the occasion, and the Koreans sang them with enthusiasm. Before the exercises commenced a painful accident occurred. The terrace, some five feet high, in front of the reception hall, is faced with heavy stone, and as the crowd gathered, part of this stone work gave way, crushing a young boy of thirteen years and seriously injuring another. Before the meeting broke up, a collection was made for the sake of the parents of the injured boys and a goodly sum was forthcoming.

On Tuesday last, Mr. Hara, the new and popular Japanese Minister, entertained a number of friends at a garden party, the main part of the entertainment being some clever tricks performed by a Japanese juggler's troupe. Those that were present report a most enjoyable time.

The ceremonies attending the bringing of the late Queen's remains to the newly built shrine in the foreign settlement were according to the old style, although there was some considerable sprinkling of the new element in the shape of foreign uniforms. As *The Independent* observed, the mixture showed the political status of the country to-day. There is no doubt that the conservative element, headed by Sin Ki Sun, is well organized and thoroughly in earnest. An amusing incident has just occurred in this connection. It has been believed here that this champion of the old régime, Sin Ki Sun, was hand and glove with the insurgents in the country, that they, in some sense, considered him their man. But if that ever was true, it is no longer so, for they have sent spe-

cially to denounce him and shake the dust off their feet at his door step.

The matter of the Soul-Fusan railroad is one of no little importance, but it is likely to be misunderstood in Japan. There is no doubt that the Korean people as a whole are feeling very strongly against the Japanese. However reasonable or unreasonable that may be, is no concern of mine or of any other foreigner here, but the simple fact remains—and a melancholy fact it is—that the Korean Government could not take upon itself the responsibility of keeping the natives of the provinces in order in case a Japanese road ran from Soul to Fusan. The Japanese might be willing to assume the responsibility, but that would mean a permanent force of soldiery here, which would irritate the people and call forth constant efforts at reprisal. The argument, also, that the Government cannot afford to exercise its right of eminent domain and sequester the immense tracts of cultivated land that would be necessary, paying the market price for it, alienating still further the goodwill of the country people and decreasing, at the same time, the amount of rice land from which it even now draws too scanty a revenue—this argument, I say, is by no means insignificant. It would be a great thing for Korea to have such a road, but no one can ignore the actual obstacles that lie in the way.

Meanwhile, the country still suffers from the bands of robbers that sport under the inappropriate name of the "righteous army," and the only way that seems at all feasible to put them down, is to form bands of militia throughout the country, who will be able to defend themselves. Mr. Hunt, who has in hand the interests of the Soul-Chemulpo road, has arrived, and we expect that the surveys will be made this Fall, so that, with the opening of Spring, ground may be broken at once and the work pushed to speedy completion.

LETTERS FROM FORMOSA.

(From the Hongkong Daily Press.)

Taipeifu, Formosa, Sept. 1st.

I have just returned from my country trip, having visited the districts touched by the late rebellion. The first stage made by railway brought me to Hsin-chu-ku (Teckcham) 43 miles distant. This city is the southern terminus of the old Chinese railway and a regular passenger service of two trains a day has been established. The place is a particularly filthy settlement of 2,500 Chinese, while the Japanese are located there to the number of a hundred civilians, officials and others, with 500 soldiers for the city and surrounding villages. Although the space enclosed by a wall is not large, a considerable portion of it is under cultivation, and a dirty stream for irrigation purposes runs through the city. The streets are crowded and the place seems to be in a very flourishing condition. A fairly comfortable Japanese hotel affords accommodation for all strangers.

From Teckcham I selected the route which would enable me to first visit the coast districts. Following south by chair I passed through numbers of villages all more or less similar, giving special attention to Hongsan, Anlung, Oan Taika, and Goche. For 80 miles all appeared quiet and prosperous, with the fields occupied by busy workers, while the villages were swarming with Chinese and the salesmen were crowding even the streets with their wares.

At Changwha (Shoka) the removal of the market makes the place appear less prosperous than of old. During the Chinese days this big inland city was the centre to which hundreds of country people daily gathered, to dispose of the country produce. It was not always a quiet crowd, and offering too great an opportunity for bad characters to enter the city unsuspected, the Japanese ordered that the market should be moved to the outside of the wall. Many of the city Chinese who received employment either directly or indirectly as a result of the existence of the market, removed to the outside of the gate where a new settlement was built. This principally accounts for the quietude of the big city as we find it to-day. The rebels attacked outside the wall, but being unable to get past the gates and receiving no encouragement from the townspeople, they deserted the city in disgust. Chinese report had it that the city was captured and a thousand Japanese killed. From Changwha it is but a short distance to Lokang (Rokka) the important sea-coast city. This place is splendidly built for a Chinese town, the main street containing the largest and best built business houses I have found in Formosa with the possible exception of Tainan-fu, and even there they are not excelled. As a result of the rebellion, 308 houses were reduced to ruins, the loss being principally confined to block after block of

the large brick and tile structures I have mentioned, while about a thousand Chinese were rendered homeless.

Returning to the days of the rebellion, we find a small force of Japanese guarding the city. They were informed of the approach of the rebels, who having been successful at Hoonlin and Hukto were marching through the country adding to this strength hourly, by forcing the country people under penalty of fire and sword to join their ranks. The Japanese force was not sufficient to defend the whole city, so they all gathered together in a old Chinese yamen just at the outskirts, throwing up hasty barricades and enclosing all by a bamboo stockade. The Chinese of the city were greatly disturbed, and an offer of raising volunteers was made, and accepted by the Japanese although there was no means of arming them. A force of one thousand was thus obtained, and they were rendered recognizable by a band placed about their chests. They rendered splendid assistance on the stockade, and aided the people in reaching safe retreats during the fighting. The Japanese officials are enthusiastic over the loyalty of the townspeople who thus gave such valuable aid when, with their 20,000 inhabitants, they could have torn the Japanese into pieces had they so desired. The rebels came and the attack commenced. Unable to drive the Japanese from their improvised fort and being subject to a deadly fire whenever they came into close range, an attempt was made to burn the Japanese out. Accordingly, the Chinese houses in close proximity were fired, but fortunately for the Japanese the wind was in the wrong direction and the conflagration thus started, spread down the principal business street for many blocks. The rebels were apparently enraged at the refusal of the Lokang people to join them, for this fire was allowed to spread and the torch was applied to other houses until for about a half mile only blackened ruins remained. The fighting continued for six hours, the rebels then retreating but leaving about a hundred dead in the streets. The Japanese loss was 5 killed and 16 wounded; Lokang natives killed, 6; wounded unknown. All the Japanese property and much of the Chinese were looted. One Chinese, a wealthy farmer, afforded special assistance by disguising himself as a coolie, and, acting as a spy, bringing the Japanese much valuable information as to the movements of the rebels. I understand it is the intention to reward this man in particular for his loyal aid.

The principal Chinese sufferers were of the wealthier class, but as there were still many who lost all their earthly possessions, the Chief of the civil office had applied to Taipeifu for aid and as a result had already obtained \$2,156 for distribution, with more expected to follow. Lokang was the only settlement on or near the coast touched by the rebels.

My next stage was on farther south to Hukto, a small village of mud huts. Upon the arrival of the rebels at this place, many of the villagers joined them, and after a plucky defence, during which the Captain commanding was shot and killed from a house, the Japanese were obliged to retreat. The Captain seems to have been an uncommonly brave fellow, for although fatally wounded he yet commanded for some time, and when finally forced to turn the command over to the lower officer, he implored those about his death-couch not to surrender, his last words being that his body should be buried in this same village where he fell and that under no circumstances should the Japanese retreat. The village, with the exception of two houses destroyed by the rebels while making the attack, remains entire.

Upon the Japanese recapturing the village the inhabitants returned at once, and, as I saw them, they appeared to be without exception the roughest most villainous-looking lot of Chinese I had ever seen. From Hukto my next objective point was inland to Hoonlin, a city located at the foot of the mountains, the most important place held by the rebels, and one that furnished many men for their ranks. In reaching the city my route lay south over the military road for a few miles, and then turned in towards the mountains, following a buffalo cart track through an apparently fertile but uncultivated plain of considerable extent. The city itself is pleasantly located in a grove of bamboo. It was a pitiful sight on arriving, to see the deserted streets with not even a Chinese dog visible, for out of a once prosperous population of 4,000, but 150 are now living in the town, while 679 out of the 1,206 houses which the city contained, have been burnt to the ground.

At the time of the arrival of the rebels at this city, about 250 armed Japanese held the place. The rebels came from two directions and made a fierce and determined attack simultaneously. So soon as an entry had been effected, many towns-

people joined the rebel's ranks. The Japanese had gathered together in a large Yamen, which had been partially cleared of surrounding huts and underbrush, although still not sufficiently to give them a clear space all round. In the vicinity of this Yamen, which was used for headquarters, were many other buildings occupied by Japanese. In the frenzy to destroy everything Japanese the rebels burnt every house in the whole district, regardless whether the occupant was a friend or an enemy, a Chinese or a Japanese. The Yamen, which was a commodious affair, was so completely destroyed that it must be nearly all rebuilt and many valuable documents were lost in the fire. In other parts of the city only those buildings were burnt that were known to be the homes of Chinese loyal to the Japanese. Melancholy was the fate of several Chinese servants who would not retreat with the Japanese but remained behind to care for their personal possessions. These unfortunates were beheaded, and on the return of the Japanese, one of the heads was still to be seen outside the wall. The treatment of such Japanese as fell into the hands of the rebels was characteristically Chinese. The head of one unfortunate was severed from the body and placed outside the gate, while the body itself was set up as a dummy by running a stick up through the abdomen out at the neck, and fastening on to the protruding end one of the hands which had been cut from the body. Horses heads were cut off and placed on human bodies while the human heads were placed on the carcasses of the horses. Bodies were found of persons that had had kerosene oil poured upon them and had then been set on fire. In the case of some corpses, the heart, liver, and kidneys had been removed, and other mutilations that cannot be mentioned here, in which the Chinese seem to take delight, had been effected. The city was easily recaptured by the Japanese, but regardless of the proclamations issued calling the good people to return, very few have come back, either because they have not confidence in the promises of the Japanese or because they were all so much mixed up with the rebellion that they fear punishment. In fact, when one looks over the number of other villages, some of which were the scenes of much greater Japanese loss, and notes how the townspeople returned at once and settled down with seemingly perfect confidence in their new masters, it would appear that perhaps the latter explanation is the true method of accounting for the long continued absence of the citizens of Hoonlin.

One point that struck me forcibly was the apparent carelessness of the Japanese military in occupying quarters so surrounded with straw huts, underbrush, and shingle that they actually invited attack, which could be made with more or less safety, and moreover, were placed at so much of a disadvantage that a total repulse of the enemy was rendered extremely difficult.

During the Chinese régime, it was considered necessary if possible to place the troops in such quarters as would in themselves afford protection against the enemy. If the Chinese, who were among their own people, considered this necessary, why not the Japanese who are among strangers? As I mentioned above, the Japanese troops at Hoonlin, after being warned of the approach of the rebels, commenced clearing their quarters, work that should have been begun upon their first arrival. The task was not completed, but even with things as they were, that Major Sato with his two hundred and fifty soldiers were unable to hold the place, and that a retreat was ordered, seems to me to have been very weak judgment on the Major's part. The largest fire-arms the rebels possessed were muskets, and their bullets could not penetrate the walls, while the Japanese standing behind loop holes were afforded an opportunity of opening a deadly fire whenever the rebels appeared in the clearing. To this unfortunate retreat may be attributed the whole after success of the rebels, for had Hoonlin been held, reinforcements would have soon arrived and the rebels would have been confined wholly to the mountains. Major Sato has been summoned to Taipeifu to account for these strange proceedings.

Upon the return of the Japanese troops, all villages were captured with more or less difficulty, and many settlements situated along the foot of the hills that had furnished the ranks of the rebels were burned by the Japanese; about thirty in all. But one must understand when villages are mentioned that a small hamlet of a dozen or twenty mud and straw huts which ordinarily represent no capital and but a few days labour of the builder, who is usually the occupant, is classed as a village and included in this number. Of those of more importance destroyed, chief is the village of Chip-chip, the inhabitants of which are nearly all rebels. The main part was burned by the Japanese, although the rebels had previously destroyed many houses. Tsan-e-lun, a

village of about 300 mud houses, was totally destroyed, as were also three small villages near Hoonlin. Of the other twenty-five villages but few were totally destroyed; groups of huts only were picked out here and there. There were innocent people killed and innocent people lost their property, but the Japanese officials lament that as much as we, and the generosity with which the individual Japanese in the island have subscribed to their relief and the large amount turned over from the government fund, and the gracious gift from the Emperor and Empress are evidence that Japan has a truly humane interest in her Formosa subjects. The following figures, except in one instance, where, after a hurried inspection, the estimated number has been given, may be taken as exact. They show the number of houses destroyed either by Japanese or by rebels:—

Taichun (Taiwanfu) District	1,182
Lokang (Rokko).....	308
Polisia (Horisha)	810
Hoonlin (Uurin).....	1,500
Kagee	1,274
Total	5,074

In arriving at this total, every straw shanty or mud hut is included. The houses of greatest value destroyed were those burned in Lokang and Hoonlin. There, however, especially in the former city, the natives felt the loss of their property less, having other means of subsistence, than those poor unfortunates throughout the country that had their whole store in the little home that shelters them.

It is therefore hoped that the relief fund will be so carefully distributed that this specially needy class may be reached. The Chinese that can afford to lose, will be the first to come forth to plead with tears in their eyes the most absolute poverty and misfortune, if it will bring them a few pennies, regardless of their neighbour next door who may be starving.

I made a special trip outside of my intended route to visit a Chinese in whose sincerity I have most perfect confidence, to hear from him the Chinese version of the burning of Tsau-e-tun, for the report was brought forth that the inhabitants of this village were perfectly friendly and that the Japanese had without any cause or reason killed the innocent people right and left and then burned the town to the ground.

The report I obtained, which was told my Chinese friend by other Chinese with whom I am unacquainted, is as follows:

While fighting was in progress at Pak-tan, a village some miles distant, a small number of Japanese troops arrived in Tsau-e-tun and endeavored to employ coolies to carry stores with them to Pak-tan. The coolies refused to aid, and the numerous old women of the town were loud in their warnings that to go to Pak-tan with the Japanese would only get them into trouble. The same women also jeered at the Japanese and made numerous semi-cheerful remarks to the effect that their last day had come, that the rebels would get them this time sure, and that their heads would all be cut off before night, etc., etc.

The Japanese remained there during the night, and the next morning, a gendarme tramping about in the outskirts, came across a boy herding cattle. He inquired of him if there were bad people here, at the same time pointing towards the village; the boy, who had apparently learned a little Japanese, answered "arimas," whereupon the gendarme re-entered the village, reported to the Commander who gave the order to the troops, and the Japanese one and all turned to and began killing the villagers right and left, burned down the town and departed. There is the tale pure and simple as it was told to me.

The Japanese account differs materially. I made numerous inquiries among military and civil officials high and low, and the answer was always the same. At the time of the rebellion, troops were not regularly stationed at Tsau-e-tun, but as it was on the road on which were many of the villages that rebelled, soldiers oftimes had occasion to pass through. During the attack, messengers were sent out on military matters, in one instance calling for reinforcements. Their route carried them through this village, but they never reached their destination. A rebel was subsequently captured, and on his person were found documents all sent from a rebel chief whose head-quarters were in this same village. This aroused a suspicion that the Japanese messengers had been done away with there. Later when troops were passing south, the head of one of the missing men was found hanging from a pole outside the village. Upon attempting to enter, the Japanese were stoutly opposed from the outskirts. A fight ensued, the villagers retreated and the place was burned.

Here are the two accounts; readers can choose for themselves. That Japanese or any other body of men in a similar position, who were being hunted and killed at every opportunity, should deliberately increase the extreme danger of their position by arousing the hostility of a whole village, by entering a perfectly peaceful community and killing right and left without provocation, seems to me very improbable.

There seems to have been considerable friction at Polisia between the civil and military officials. The village was considered quiet and peaceful and the large number of Peopluans who live in the vicinity were known to be on very friendly terms with the Japanese. However, a small party of soldiers was attacked outside at about the beginning of the rebellion, and returning reported the existence of the rebels. The Peopluans, those splendid fellows of the plains, came to the front with a thousand volunteers. Three hundred of the number were accepted by the Japanese, sixty being posted on duty at the city gates and the others placed to guard the wall. This with the two companies of Japanese regulars besides armed gendarmes and police must have seemed a sufficient guard to oppose the entrance of an ordinary force of rebels. But the captain in command apparently thought differently, for after hearing the report of the officer in charge of the small party that had been attacked, he ordered a retreat. To this the civil officials made objection, so the story goes, and gathering the policemen and other armed attachés of the department prepared to hold out alone, even though the military should retreat to the last man. However, eventually the order being repeated and the chief of gendarmes using his influence, the civil officials were induced to join and all departed from the city. When the news of this premature movement, reached head-quarters, the Captain was ordered to return at once and, if the city was in the hands of rebels, he was told that the proper thing for a Captain with soldiers at his back was to recapture it. It is needless to add that an error of this kind would not long remain unnoticed, and the result is that the Captain is now at head-quarters and there is a whisper of court-martial.

More lamentable than the injury the rebels are able to inflict upon the Japanese in these rebellions, is the suffering that is brought upon the peaceful Chinese. Often forced to join the rebels against their own will and to engage directly in conflicts with which they have no sympathy, their property may be destroyed, they themselves captured and even their lives taken, and all the while at heart they are as innocent of any desire to do harm to the Japanese as the most friendly person on the island. Again, if they refuse to join or at least give aid to the rebels, their property is looted, and if they cannot make good their escape, death may be their fate. This is all most unfortunate, for the poor people have every reason to expect protection from the Japanese, and when that is not given, they naturally lose confidence in the latter and would be inclined to join the rebels if they thought they were the stronger party; not with the idea of an intended act of hostility against the Japanese, but simply to protect themselves.

Whether dealing with the rebels rigorously is the best policy is a question I will not here discuss. Suffice it to say that so far the same district has not rebelled twice. Last year, the rebellion of the Hakkas about Tokcham, the rebellion of the Kapsutan plain, the rebellion of January first, in the north and near the capital, and the Hakka rebellion in the south, all occurred in districts that the Japanese had on their first arrival been able to occupy with practically no resistance. These districts later rose in rebellion, and the participants had their first taste of Japanese lead. It was sufficient, and after peace had been re-established there seemed to be no further desire to rebel.

The Japanese occupied the territory of the present rebels without resistance; consequently the natives were ignorant of the power of the new rulers. They have now opposed them and been defeated. As a result there will probably be no more rebelling in that part of the island although we may expect occasional rows and riots. The rebels are still confined to the mountains, and will probably for some time fight, knowing, as the poor wretches do, that there is not a pleasant welcome awaiting them down below. It may be impossible, but were the Japanese able to induce the border rebels to surrender and to transport them across to China, it would not only be an act of mercy but it would rid the country of a number of bad characters who are sure to make trouble as long as they are allowed to live along the mountain borders.

Taipeifu, Formosa, Sept. 15th.

While on my trip in-country last month, when about sixty miles distant, I was informed that the Higher Court would open in Changwha two days

later. I was determined, upon receiving this information, to reach there in time to attend the opening session. By rushing the coolies, starting early and travelling late, I was able to arrive in Changwha on the afternoon of the day before the sitting of the Court. While in the city and before the opening of the Court, I asked permission to visit the quarters where the Chinese prisoners were confined. Consent was willingly granted, and Mr. Hamasaki, the Prosecutor for the State, kindly accompanied me. On arriving, I found one of the large yaméns had been converted into a prison, several large buildings being occupied by both the prisoners and their guards. The central and largest building in Chinese style consisted of a large roof with a passage way open at both ends occupying half the space, while on each side the space was divided into two large rooms with the side facing the centre open to the passage way. These rooms were prepared as quarters for the prisoners. To prevent their escape bars of bamboo were erected along the side open to the passage way. Every prisoner was provided with a straw mat to sleep upon. Although roughly prepared the place made comfortable quarters, far cleaner, cooler, and with more fresh air than the prisoners would get at home. Sixty-two prisoners were here confined, with the exception of three or four sick who had been removed to special quarters provided for the sick. The men are exercised daily, and also obliged to undergo the discomfort of a daily bath. Blue clothes had been provided for them by the Japanese and were changed and washed when they became soiled. Those detailed for the care of the prisoners number twenty, with two public officers.

Mr. Hamasaki had previously stated that he took a great interest in the prisoners, which remark was rather substantiated, for as he came into sight of the poor wretches they all with one accord set up a howl, and as we entered the building, prisoners trying to attract his attention, fell down before him and with moans and groans and frantic gesture each pleaded for release. He had a kind word for all, which, if it was in Japanese, seemed to satisfy them, and they eventually settled back on their mats resigned to their fate. One wonders now that the court has sentenced several prisoners to long terms, what the authorities will do to provide prisons for them. The quarters they now occupy are all right, in fact better than the ordinary foreign prison would be for summer use, but during the cold and stormy months, they would not do at all. It would seem that the Government would be wise, now that winter is approaching, to commence work on a small prison to shelter their inmates for the coming year, and the building of the more extensive affairs can be postponed for a few years. I presume prisons, insane asylums, and other retreats for the unfortunate must come with the rest of the improvements.

The Civil Court opened at Changwha for the first case on August 23rd, and I felt myself fortunate in being present. Changwha, the big inland city, is about one hundred miles south of Taipeihu.

The Court was held in a large yamén which had been refitted for the purpose. The day and place had been extensively advertised, and all Chinese, regardless of class were invited to attend, the only conditions being that they must come in their best clothes and with the idea of being quiet and orderly. Court was advertised for nine in the morning, but long before that hour Chinese dressed in their best and with clean shaven heads were seen gathering in little groups near the yamén, all showing the greatest curiosity in the new sort of mystery, that was about to be solved before them. In fact, the general demeanour of the whole public, many of whom were collected about a big bulletin board bearing proclamation of invitation, was at least, at this stage of proceedings, indicative of a genial conviction that the whole affair was a sort of spectacle prepared and sent thither for their express entertainment. The occasional glimpse of a gorgeously robed official, and the elaborate decorations of the interior heightened the impression.

Upon the opening of the main doors the Chinese as they entered were conducted to benches which filled one large room, and all were given seats, and when the number was greater than the accommodation had been previously arranged for, numbers of Japanese were sent out skirmishing in the different offices to obtain seats that all arrivals might be provided for. It was kind and courteous treatment extended to all, whether rich farmer or coolie, and I could not then but think, how easily many difficulties could be overcome would other classes treat the deserving natives with as much consideration. All through the long and hot morning the audience sat quiet and respectful, without a whisper disturbing, making the presence of the gendarmes who glared at the guests as though they might have been prisoners out on a fresh air leave, quite unnecessary.

An attempt was made to arrange the room

the same in the court rooms of Japan, and every detail of the whole proceedings was given as careful attention as though the accused had been one of their own nobles. The idea was to impress the Chinese with the importance and the solemnity of that power which holds life in balance, and that there were other and better methods of determining guilt than that of the torture block. A platform covered with rich fabrics ran from side to side, while on this was placed a second and smaller platform entirely hidden by a large drapery of purple embroidered silk. Above it all, extending from side to side, was a beautiful rich embroidered blue silk canopy. Tables were likewise covered with rich embroideries. On the platform sat the President of the Court and five judges, two interpreters, and a secretary. The prisoner, a boy of 18 years, was the first case to be tried: He was brought in by the police and upon reaching the stand fell cringing to the floor imploring for mercy. He was kindly bid to stand and did so during the rest of the trial. The case, as stated by the Prosecutor, was that, upon the arrival of Japanese officers at a certain village which was rebelling, the young accused, cut off from other retreating natives, was caught attempting to escape, and upon entering the house from which he had so hurriedly absented himself, a long Chinese spear similar to those used by the rebels was found. (The instrument in question was then placed before the accused.) The examination which occupied the first day's session was devoted entirely to cross examination of the prisoner, who as the trial progressed gained confidence and answered freely in a manner which appeared to me to be frank and honest. I must say I was favourably impressed with the young lad and was greatly pleased at his acquittal and release. The case following also resulted in acquittal. That an idea of the usual judgments may be obtained I may say that up until September 9th but one received the death sentence, one imprisonment for eleven years, two for nine years, and the others were acquitted. It must be remembered that these are not cases previously unexamined, and when the number of accusations are noted and the few that eventually reach the court, it appears as though it was the intention to look upon their errors leniently, and give them every benefit of the doubt. Nearly 3,000 accusations were made as a whole, this number after investigation was cut down to 417, and of this, after preliminary examination, but 67 reached the higher court. Every attempt is made to obtain evidence, but it is a very difficult task and one requiring much time, and I presume most of the previous acquittals have been the result of insufficient evidence.

I cannot speak too highly of this court and the officials connected with it, and I hope that other correspondents, and foreigners generally, if they are in the vicinity of Changwha will find time to spend a portion of the day in visiting it.

The Chief of the Court, Mr. Jinsaburo Kato is a splendid man, I believe, and I have the greatest confidence in his ability, but specially must I speak of Yashimo Hamasaki, the Prosecutor for the State. I have many acquaintances among the Japanese, and many whose friendship I greatly value, but I have never met one who impressed me more as a man of sterling qualities than the gentlemen of whom I speak. I had a most interesting conversation with him, continuing for the greater part of one day. I should like to speak much of him but for fear of proving tedious to certain foreign friends who seem to be possessed of the idea that to be a true man and a Japanese at the same time is almost an impossibility. I will but add that I am confident as long as Mr. Hamasaki represents the State in the Formosa Supreme Courts, Chinese need have no fear of injustice, and Japanese will find that they cannot break the laws of their country with impunity.

I cannot better describe the system of establishing the Formosa courts than to present the regulations which I give in a condensed form.

Art. 1st.—The Law Courts are under the control of the Governor of Formosa and have the function of judging all suits, civil and criminal.

Art. 2nd.—The Law Courts consist of the District Courts, the Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court; and their jurisdiction are the same as administrative jurisdictions.

Art. 3rd.—The District Courts sit in those places where Prefectures, Sub Prefectures, and Insular offices are situated. Their function is to pass first judgment on both civil and criminal cases and to make preliminary examination of criminal cases.

The Governor may institute, in case of need, branch offices of the District Courts, sitting permanently or temporarily in any locality within their jurisdiction.

The Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court sit at the place where the Central Government of

Taiwan is established. The former gives judgment on cases that are appealed from District Courts; and the latter deals with the judgment as given by the Court of Appeal.

Art. 4th.—The judges are either *Choku-min* (a rank given only to officers who are entrusted with their positions by His Majesty the Emperor,) or *So-min* (a rank given only to officers who are appointed by the Cabinet with His Majesty's approval).

No man can be a judge in Formosa unless he has the rank and has been appointed according to the "Regulations for the Organization of Imperial Courts," with the exception of the judges of the District Courts who are for the time being exempt from the above restrictions.

Art. 5th.—In each Court the President is appointed from among the judges. He overlooks the judicial administration of his own Court and lower Courts.

Art. 6th.—The trial and judgment shall be given by one in the District Courts, by three in the Court of Appeal, and by five judges in the Supreme Court.

In case of the latter two the President of the Court, or in case of his absence the judge next in rank, shall be the chairman.

Art. 7th.—The Prosecutors are either *Choku-min* or *So-min*. They institute and carry on criminal suits and represent the State in all suits, in which the State is a party.

The Prosecutors in the high Courts overlook those of the lower Courts.

Chief Police Inspectors and Police Inspectors may act as Prosecutors in District Courts.

Art. 8th.—The Clerks are *Hannin* (a rank given to officers who are appointed by the superior under whose direct orders they are controlled. They make preparations for the trial of both civil and criminal cases, attending to the memoranda, adjusting documents, etc., etc.)

Allow me to return to the days of the rebellion sufficiently to present a proclamation issued by the rebels and scattered broadcast.

OFFICERS HEAD-QUARTERS.

Proclamation of the Formosa Volunteers.

Several Japanese posts have already fallen into our hands as the result of our great courage and the bravery of our Officers. After this success we must not retreat.

With Heaven's aid the cruel dwarfs will be swept away. This is the right way.

We are now about to attack Changwha and victory will crown our efforts.

Let this be known to all the people, that they may not be possessed with fear. All merchants should continue their trade as in the past. Those who have been filled with false fears and fled from their homes, must return and assist their neighbours that support may be bountiful. This is important.

Let all people be informed of these things.

Formosa Volunteer Head-quarters.

Shalengho.

We will reward all persons male or female who will bring to us Japanese heads, twelve dollars; silver, for each head.

These words from Head-quarters are truthfully spoken. 22nd Kwangsu, 5th month 30th day, at Shalengho.

The Chinese running junks have been having considerable fun with the Formosa Government. The foreign trade of the island is expected to pass through the four open ports of Tamsui, Kelung, Anping, and Takow, and of course as mainland Chinese are now foreigners they are subject to the same restrictions. Lokong (Rokko) and Cheungkong are two ports opened for the benefit of Japanese subjects, which of course includes the Formosan natives, and a lively junk trade exists with the mainland. Smuggling has been going on and the authorities found it difficult to catch the offending parties. After the opening of these two ports the shipping owned by Formosa natives increased with such great rapidity, that it was but a very short time before the whole trade seemed to be in the hands of the Formosans. But not for long, as investigation yielded the information desired. The mainland Chinese had found it not inharmorous with ideas of patriotism to become Formosa subjects as they neared the Island, and were not opposed to even flying a Japanese flag on their craft if necessary. The result was that tricksters who usually seem to know "where they are" partook with thanks of the privileges given to Formosans when in the inland, and of course likewise of the privileges that were to be secured in their own country. It led to the Governor-General's issuing a set of regulations which will put an end to this easy shift of nationality. Reviewing them I extract and give as follow, the more important points:—

Owners of junks shall register them at the local government office and apply for a license. Should junks be built or procured in any other place than in the place of registration, they shall be subject to a temporary registration and a temporary license will be issued. Within half a year commencing for the day on which the temporary license is issued they must apply to the local go-

vernment for the permanent license and be subject to the present registration.

When the details mentioned in the license have been altered, or the license lost, or injured, a new one will be issued by the local government. When the ownership of junks has been transferred, or junks have been injured, lost, sunk, or in anyway become useless, report shall be made of the same to the local government, and the license returned. If the owner does not reside in the place of registration an agent should be stationed there and his appointment reported to the government. Applicants for a license shall pay one yen. For re-writing a license, fifty sen. Junks plying along the coast of the island shall report their departures and arrivals to the customs or their branches, and in case neither exist to the gendarmes or police officers. There is the usual inspection to be made by Custom Officers, etc., as to passengers, crew, cargo, destinations, etc., after which a certificate is to be presented by the holder upon his arrival at other ports. Those who ply their junks while unprovided with a license, or who purchase, sell, lend or borrow a license, or who violate the articles of these regulations, shall incur a fine not exceeding twenty-five yen. These regulations shall come into force on and after the first of October, 1896.

There still exists a discrepancy between the purchasing value of the yen paper and the yen silver, paper money being at a discount of about one per cent. The amount to be exchanged monthly, has been fixed by the Government at 197,000 yen, to be distributed as follows:—Taipei 65,000 yen. Kelung 15,000 yen. Taichun 24,000 yen. Kanglee 12,000 yen. Tainan 48,000 yen. Fungshan 18,000 yen. Pescadores 6,000 yen.

There seems to have been a good deal written by one or two Correspondents, especially by one contributor to a Shanghai journal, regarding the inactivity of the Japanese in introducing improvements. Just exactly what these correspondents expect, when it is taken into consideration that it is not yet a year that the Japanese have been in actual possession of the island, is difficult to conceive. Perhaps it would have given their statements more force, if they had dwelt on the early days of some other colonies that a precedent might be established. The 900,000 yen that is being spent in improving the old Chinese railway line brings forth only sneers, and the several hundred miles of splendid road that has been built by the Engineers throughout the country, the narrow gauge line, and the improvements at Taichun are not mentioned. Verily, Japan has a difficult task if she pleases all her critics in Formosa.

Mr. Ishiguro, Harbour Engineer; Mr. Ishibashi, Light House Engineer, Prof. W. K. Burton, Sanitary Engineer, and their assistants have returned to Japan after many weeks of hard labour at professional duties. Prof. Burton prepared the plans for water-works and sewerage at Taipei, Hobe, Kelung, Tai-chung, and cities in the north, and will return in a few months to continue his investigations, after which the work of construction will be pushed rapidly forward.

Mr. Paul Schubert, of the firm of A. Butler & Co., collected nearly \$400 in subscriptions for the *Illis* fund. The foreign residents of the north of the island will long remember the plucky action of the little gunboat during the troubles with the Chinese soldiers at Tamsui last year.

As showing the anxiety of the Government to do all they can to bring themselves into closer contact with the past condition of this island and the wants of the natives, I may mention that they have appointed Dr. Wykeham Myers to a post of importance, and there is no doubt the authorities will avail themselves to the full of that gentleman's long experience in Formosa. Not the least of Dr. Myers' duties will continue to be in the medical line, and it is to be hoped that he may be able to continue those investigations and observations on the somewhat unique but none the less important type of malarial disease which at present proves to be the source of so much anxiety and suffering. Dr. Myers' headquarters are at present fixed at Takow, but of course he will be available for service wherever required.

I am glad to hear that the Japanese authorities have at last decided that the various missionary chapels which have been occupied from time to time as the exigency arose, are to be permanently vacated. It must be admitted that they have taken full advantage of the mission hospitality and kindness, and it is certainly full time to grant that which church routine requirements undoubtedly call for, and that if there be any claims for damages done to the buildings during the occupation they may be made good at once.—J. W. DAVIDSON.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge—MONDAY,
September, 28th.

THE THEFT OF THE "SAIKYO MARU'S" TREASURE.

This morning at 10 o'clock, Edward Dawson, late third engineer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Saikyo Maru*, was charged with receiving yen 1,000 in 20 cent silver pieces, part of a sum of yen 2,000 packed in a box and shipped on board the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyo Maru* at Kobe on Aug. 12th last, well knowing the money to have been stolen.

In answer to the Clerk of Arraigns, the prisoner said that he took the money ashore, but he was not guilty of taking the money knowing it to have been stolen.

His Honour—That is a plea of not guilty.

The following jury were then empanelled:—Messrs. E. B. Jones, W. Tucker, H. W. Fraser, W. R. Bennett and W. H. Hardy.

Mr. R. N. St. John was fined \$50 for not being in attendance in accordance with summons.

Edwin Ryder, late second officer of the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyo Maru*, was then formally charged with the theft of the money and with receiving \$1,000 of the treasure.

He pleaded guilty to the charge preferred.

His Honour then dismissed the remaining jurymen, thanking them for their attendance; and the trial of Dawson commenced.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, conducted the prosecution. Mr. Okumiyama, Chief Public Prosecutor; Inspector Waki, of the Yokohama Settlement Police; and Mr. Tamio Hayashi, Manager of the Yokohama Branch of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, were present in Court.

Mr. Litchfield, in opening the case for the prosecution, said that the prisoner was charged with the theft and unlawful receiving of certain silver coins part of a box of silver treasure the property of, and belonging to, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Briefly the circumstances were these:—On the evening of the 12th August some silver treasure, packed in boxes, was shipped on the *Saikyo Maru* for conveyance from Kobe to Yokohama. There were 50 cases shipped, and between the time of their shipment at Kobe and the time of the arrival of the ship at Yokohama one case of the treasure was removed from the mail-room, in which it was stowed, and the contents thereof were taken away. A search was made for the box, and eventually a part of the money was found in the possession of the accused, Edward Dawson, who at that time was one of the engineers on board the *Saikyo Maru*. Part of the money was found in Dawson's possession at Shanghai, but the greater part was found in a box or trunk of Dawson's in Yokohama, where he had deposited it at the house of Mr. Pass, living at No. 184, Bluff, where Pass kept a boarding-house. The question for the jury to decide was whether or not the accused received the money knowing it to have been stolen; whether or not he knew, or had good grounds for believing, that the property was stolen or had been improperly received. The question of intention was gathered from the conduct of the parties accused. To guide the jury in their decision he would submit that where a man hides property that he knows does not belong to him and takes the precaution of stitching this money into a belt—as he would call evidence to prove—he confidently asked them to assume that that man at the time he took those precautions, had a guilty knowledge of how that money was acquired and that he knew it was property that had been stolen.

Maki Komatani, the former Purser of the N.Y.K. steamer *Saikyo Maru*, cautioned, deposed to being on the ship on 12th August when the treasure—\$2,000—was shipped at Kobe. It was shipped in 50 boxes in accordance with a Japanese shipping order. The boxes were marked in Japanese with the amount of money each contained, and a description of the coins—20 cent pieces of the 20th year of Meiji. These boxes were locked up in the mail-room of the steamer. When the vessel arrived at Yokohama only 49 cases could be found, and a thorough search was instituted, but in vain.

Miyahashida Rinzo, the freight clerk of the *Saikyo Maru* on the date in question, deposed to receiving the treasure, locking it up in the mail-room of the *Saikyo Maru*, and giving the key to the Chief Mate, Mr. Rehberg. During the voyage up to Yokohama no one entered the mail-room. At Yokohama Toyoshima, the Tally-clerk, unlocked the door of the room.

Mr. Tamio Hayashi, cautioned, deposed—I am manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, at Yokohama. The missing treasure consisted of \$2,000 in twenty cent pieces, all of this year's make.

To Mr. Jones—There is a treasure room on the *Saikyo Maru*, and I do not know why the treasure was put into the mail-room instead.

Mr. George Washington Connor, deposed—I am the Captain of the *Saikyo Maru*. On the voyage of the 12th to 13th August, the accused was Third Engineer of the vessel, a position he retained on the subsequent voyage of the steamer to Shanghai. In consequence of cable instructions, received at Shanghai, I took means to prevent Dawson leaving the ship at Shanghai, and then he was taken to the Hongkew Police Station until we left the port. On the morning of the 20th August, I went into Dawson's room and found some money in the man's luggage. I found a large box, locked; a Gladstone bag, and a small trunk: all were packed. I had the box opened by the carpenter and found \$120 in new twenty cent pieces, some in rolls just as if they had come from the mint. The rolls of coin were packed in Japanese paper, with certain written characters upon each package. The rolls were in an old blue cloth. This cloth was at the bottom of the box underneath nails and all kinds of things. The bag of money now produced is the same that I found in the box. I recognise the purse now produced as the one I found at Shanghai that contained a quantity of new twenty cent pieces. On the evening of the day we sailed from Shanghai I spoke to Dawson and told him what I had found in his room. I asked him to confess the whole truth to me.

In answer to His Honour, the witness said that he was only the third engineer's superior officer.

Mr. Litchfield thought that the evidence of the confession was admissible. There had been no inducement held out to the man that would take the statement out of the meaning of a voluntary confession.

His Honour said that if prisoner was defended he presumed that his Counsel would object to the confession being entered as evidence; but he was inclined to admit the statement as evidence, Captain Connor not being the accused's master, and the alleged crime not being committed against him.

Witness then repeated the confession that Dawson had made him, and which was given in the course of the Police Court proceedings three weeks ago. Dawson said that Ryder opened the box, which was in the Second Officer's cabin, with a hatchet. Dawson also said that he took a portion of the money ashore in a flannel belt. Dawson further said that most of the money that Ryder had given him was at Pass's boarding-house, at Yokohama, with the exception of \$120 or so on the *Saikyo*. He said that Ryder's portion would be found at Wright's Hotel. I then asked if any Japanese were concerned, and he said, "No; so far as I know, no Japanese are concerned."

To the Prisoner—I thought, I understood you to say that you took the money on the night you arrived in Yokohama. I supposed that you would leave the ship at Shanghai at the last moment, so as to prevent us from searching for you. All your boxes were packed. I was told that you intended leaving, by the Chief Engineer.

Prisoner—Those boxes were packed before reaching Kobe. The money was all loose in the bottom of my tool box—the iron chest.

The present purser of the *Saikyo Maru*, deposed to searching Dawson's boxes at Shanghai, in company with Capt. Connor, and finding the new silver coins in the iron-box.

Sydney Chas. Pass deposed to Dawson leaving a trunk at his house, No. 184, Bluff. Accused lived at his house in April, May, and June, and left in July on the *Saikyo Maru*. When he left the house to join the *Saikyo Maru* prisoner left this large camphor-wood chest behind. The chest was locked and corded. On about the 17th August, the day previous to the *Saikyo* sailing for Kobe, prisoner came to the house.

George Kircher, Usher of the Court, deposed to proceeding on board the *Saikyo Maru*, in accordance with the terms of a search warrant, to arrest Dawson. In company with the prisoner he went to No. 184, Bluff, and found a big trunk there. The trunk was locked and Dawson gave him the key to unlock it. Continuing—I found a canvas bag containing two flannel belts, in which money was sewn. Most of the coins were loose; others were packed in *roleaux*. The coins were all new. This bag was brought to the Court. The blue cloth bag was taken out of an iron-box on board the *Saikyo Maru* in the presence of Dawson. The canvas bag in which the rolls of money were found was marked "G. E. Dawson."

Mr. Litchfield then read and put in the prisoner's statement made before the Magistrate.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.

Prisoner said he had no witnesses to call. Then he added—The statement that I made before the magistrate is all that I could say. There is nothing more for me to say, save that when I squared myself up I tried to get rid of the stuff. I wanted Ryder to take my keys and get the money away from Pass's. I was looking over the side of the ship at Kobe when the silver came off and remark-

ed that the man who owned that amount need not worry or need to work. But it was only in jest. At night I was drunk and I knew nothing about the box being stolen until I saw it in Ryder's room. I tried to get him afterwards to take the stuff away but he would not.

His Honour—The charge, as I mentioned before, is that you received the money knowing it to have been stolen.

Prisoner—Of course I knew that it was stolen then; that I could not help knowing, but I never stole the box or took it out of the mail-room.

His Honour—That we understand.

Mr. Litchfield had no remarks to address to the Jury.

His Honour said that he had nothing to say to the Jury. They had to find whether or not the prisoner received the money knowing it to have been stolen.

The Jury, after a short retirement, found the prisoner guilty.

His Honour said he reserved passing sentence in both cases until 10 o'clock on Thursday. He had heard Dawson's statement and he would order that a copy of it be furnished to Ryder, so that the latter might have an opportunity to answer any part of it that implicated him.

The Court then rose.

THURSDAY, October 1st, 1896.

SENTENCES IN THE "SAIKYO MARU" TREASURE CASE.

At ten o'clock this morning, Edwin Ryder, late second officer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Saikyo Maru*, and Edward Dawson, late third engineer of the same vessel, were brought up to receive sentence—one having pleaded guilty of stealing a box of treasure containing \$2,000 from the mail-room of the steamer, the other having been found guilty of receiving part of this money, knowing it to have been stolen.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor; Mr. Tamio Hayashi, Manager of the Yokohama branch of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; and Inspector Maki, Superintendent of the Settlement Police, were present.

Ryder was first placed in the dock, and in answer to the formal question of the Clerk of Arraigns (Mr. C. D. Moss)—Have you anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon you?—said he wished to make a remark.

His Honour said he was willing to hear prisoner. Ryder—Is it probable that I should steal a box of \$2,000, take it up on deck into my cabin, and there give half of it to another man; bring the rest on shore and then give some more away to another man? That is all I have to say.

His Honour—I understood that you pleaded guilty on Monday?

Ryder—Yes.

His Honour—Dawson at his trial said, in a statement made before the magistrate, that he was brought to your room where the treasure then was; that he was given drinks by you, that he was generally the worse for drink; and was more or less drunk the whole of the time; I shall be glad to hear if that was so?

Ryder—Yes, he was under the influence of drink.

His Honour—Ryder, I have read the depositions of your examination before the magistrate, and I can but consider your case to be an extremely bad one. I see nothing in it that redeems it at all. Not only did you steal the box of silver, but you also tempted another man to commit a crime. You were placed in a position of trust by your employers and you wilfully broke the confidence that they had placed in you. The confidence that they considered they were honestly justified in placing in you ought to have kept you from committing this crime. I think that the discovery of your conduct has caused a great shock to the men of your class. Employers of men in your class, in this part of the world, might also reasonably have feared after this, that the confidence they reposed in men of similar station, might also be unjustified. In this way, I fear you have, by your conduct, inflicted on the honour of men of your position a serious wound. The honour of a class is made up of the honour of the individuals composing that class; this is why I think your have inflicted a serious wound on the honour of the men of your station. I am glad to hear your statement that Dawson was in a state of drunkenness on the night of the theft, and I shall take it into consideration when dealing with his case. I sentence you to undergo the penalty of two years' imprisonment with hard labour, to date from the day of your conviction, three days ago.

Dawson was then placed in the dock.

His Honour—Dawson, you have been found guilty by the jury of receiving money knowing it to have been stolen. The circumstances of your

case are very bad, though not so bad as Ryder's. He appears to have suggested the crime to you by giving you drink while you were drunk, for he states that you were drunk at the time. But I cannot attach much or any importance to that. The theft was committed on the Wednesday night; next morning you went to work. You could not have been intoxicated on the following morning and all during that day. I shall sentence you to 15 months' hard labour, to date from the time of your conviction.

Mr. Litchfield asked for an order of restitution of the bags of silver found in the possession of the convicted men.

His Honour—All that money is to be restored.

THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIVOR, Esq., Consul-General and Judge.—WEDNESDAY, Sept. 30th.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGE TO NITRATE OF SODA.

In this case the China and Japan Trading Company, sued to recover \$106.32 and costs, from Captain A. Weston, for damage done to some 20 bags of nitrate of soda; while in the charge of defendant as landing agent.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. G. H. Scidmore representing the defendant.

Counsel intimated that neither desired to have Associates drawn to sit with His Honour in the case.

His Honour said that the amount involved was very small and according to the rules governing that Court, Associates were not necessary. He was prepared to hear the case at once.

Mr. Lowder then read the following petition filed in the case:—

1.—The plaintiffs are merchants carrying on business at Yokohama and elsewhere.

2.—The defendant is a citizen of the United States, carrying on business in Yokohama, as a landing and shipping agent.

3.—The plaintiffs recently imported into the port of Yokohama by the steamship *Glemorganshire*, a quantity of merchandise, among which there were 200 bags of nitrate of soda.

4.—The plaintiffs caused the said merchandise to be delivered to the defendant, and the defendant received the same from alongside the said steamer, and undertook, for reward to be paid to him by the plaintiffs, that he would safely and securely carry the same from the ship to the shore, and that as to the said merchandise other than nitrate of soda, he would safely and securely land and deposit the same in the Customs sheds, and that as to the said nitrate of soda, he would safely and securely land and deposit the same upon the Customs Wharf and that he would take adequate means safely and securely to protect the same whilst so deposited against damage by rain.

5.—The defendant, by his agents and servants duly landed the said nitrate of soda upon the Customs' Wharf, but did not take adequate means safely and securely to protect the same, whilst there deposited, against damage by rain, but negligently and carelessly deposited and bestowed the same that, by reason of such negligence and carelessness, a large portion of the nitrate of soda was damaged by rain and rendered of no use to the plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs claim the following relief:—

1.—*Res* \$106.32 for damage.

2.—The costs of this action and such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

To this petition, Mr. Lowder said, the following answer had been filed:—

1.—The defendant admits the allegations contained in the first, second, and third paragraphs of the plaintiffs' petition.

2.—The defendant admits all the allegations contained in the fourth paragraph of the plaintiffs' petition, except the allegation that the defendant undertook to take adequate means safely and securely to protect the nitrate of soda therein mentioned, whilst deposited upon the Customs' Wharf against damage by rain, which allegation the defendant denies.

3.—In answer to the fifth paragraph of the plaintiffs' petition, the defendant admits that he duly landed the said nitrate of soda upon the Customs Wharf, but the defendant denies that he did not take adequate means safely and securely to protect the same, whilst there deposited, against damage by rain, and he denies that he so negligently and carelessly deposited and bestowed the same, that, by reason of such alleged negligence and carelessness, a large portion of the said nitrate of soda was damaged by rain and rendered of no use to the plaintiffs.

4.—And, for further answer, the defendant says that a large portion of said nitrate of soda—to wit twenty bags—was delivered to the defendant from on board the steamship *Glemorganshire* in a broken and damaged condition, of which broken and damaged condition the plaintiffs were in duty bound to take notice.

5.—The plaintiffs neglected to take due and proper notice of such broken and damaged condition.

6.—The defendant used all due and proper care in

the landing, deposit, bestowal, and protection of said nitrate of soda.

7.—The plaintiffs neglected to remove, said nitrate of soda from the Customs Wharf within a proper time, but permitted it there to remain exposed to possible damage for an unreasonable length of time, after being landed by the defendant.

Wherefore the defendant prays that the plaintiffs' petition be dismissed, and that the plaintiffs be ordered to pay all of the costs of proceedings herein.

Mr. Lowder then opened the case for the plaintiffs. He said that the answer admitted that 20 bags of the nitrate of soda had been landed by the defendant from the *Glemorganshire* in a broken and damaged condition. Now he would bring evidence to prove that some 200 bags of the nitrate of soda were landed and that out of the 200 some 40 were damaged. Now whether it would be the plea or not of the defendant that out of the 40 damaged bags, 20 were landed in a broken and damaged condition, he would say at the outset that their contention was that the damage that we complain of is not that kind of damage at all, but damage that was caused by the negligence of the defendant after the goods were landed. The damage was caused, so he had been instructed, by rain, and the action of rain upon nitrate of soda was to cause the latter to dissolve. If the goods were landed in a broken and damaged condition, then it would have been the duty of the defendant, as landing agent, to have informed the plaintiffs of the fact and then they would have had their remedy against the ship. But this was not the cause of the action. It might seem that the sum sued for was a trivial amount, but he assured his honour that the principle involved was very important, and that it did not matter whether the amount was \$500 or \$50. The answer to the petition alleged that the damage was due to the negligence of the plaintiffs in not removing the goods within a reasonable amount of time. Now the goods were landed at 3.30 p.m. on Friday, the 26th of June. They remained on the Customs Wharf during the day following, and on Sunday, the 28th. During the night of the 28th a storm came on and damaged the goods. Now nitrate of soda is dangerous material, and the Customs' rules do not permit it being stowed inside the Customs' warehouse; it therefore has to be stowed outside. It was the duty of the plaintiffs to take as quick delivery of the goods as possible, and all the Customs requirements were fulfilled by the Saturday afternoon—that was expeditious work. It only remained for two of the packages to be taken into the Customs examination office in order that the officials should examine the goods and pass them. The defendant was required to stack the bags in sets of five so as to enable the passing officer to set the proper marks upon them. But this the defendant did not do. Saturday was a showery day, and it was deemed unsafe to examine the nitrate of soda then. The plaintiffs had endeavoured to find the Customs Officer whose duty it would have been to have examined the goods, but they have been informed that the man is not now in the service, having left the Customs, and his whereabouts were not known: this was to be regretted, for Counsel had intended calling him to prove that plaintiffs allowed no unusual delay in taking delivery of the goods. These points could all be decided on evidence of fact, but he, the learned Counsel, could also prove that in point of law even if a delay did take place, it was not sufficient to exonerate the defendant from the consequences of his neglect of duty. Whatever delay there may have been on the part of the plaintiffs, that delay, in point of law, did not exonerate the defendant from the consequences of any negligence on his part. The defendant had contracted to properly secure and properly stow the cargo at the Customs Wharf. As a warehouseman, it was his duty to exercise the same reasonable care for the security and stowing of the goods as if those goods belonged to him. Plaintiffs were in the habit of importing such goods as these into Yokohama, and it was their custom to entrust the landing of these goods to defendant. The defendant's custom was to assume responsibility for them when landed, and he invariably used skids, that he placed under these goods, to raise them from off the ground, to prevent wet from reaching them, while over all he placed tarpaulins to save them from the rain. If he, the learned Counsel, could show that the defendant in this case did not use skids, then he showed that defendant had neglected the duties for which he had contracted. That in this particular instance not a single skid was used would be proved by the evidence of a Mr. Metz, in the plaintiffs' employ, who upon discovering the fact reported the matter to a Mr. Hatch, in defendants' employ. Mr. Metz asked why no skids had been placed under the nitrate of soda bags, and Mr. Hatch had admitted that it was his fault, and thus admitted the neglect. Mr. Metz then went and

saw Mr. Weston, and Mr. Weston admitted his liability by acknowledging that his men ought to have put skids under the bags. He also said that he was willing to pay the damage. An agent of the plaintiff, an agent of Mr. Weston, and an agent of the plaintiffs' customer—who had contracted to buy the nitrate of soda—were present when the goods were weighed and it was found that the loss in weight was 19 piculs. There was no dispute as to the amount of loss. A debit note was accordingly presented to the defendant by plaintiffs. Defendant then refused to pay the damage, saying that he had no idea that it was so great. He said he thought that it might have been only \$6 or \$7, such an amount he was willing to pay, but an amount of over \$100 he refused to pay. So far, he learned counsel, had pointed out what were the defendants' duties under contract. Apart from that, as a matter of law, the Court would be asked to assume that defendant in this case was a carrier for hire, and that his responsibility did not cease when he had transported the goods from ship to shore. His duty did not end when the transport of the goods ended but further extended to his taking adequate means to stow the goods safely and securely. Whether that duty arose from being a carrier for hire or a warehouseman of the goods for the time being was not material in the decision of the present case because negligence was charged. If defendant was sued as a carrier only he would be insurer at all hazards unless he could show that plaintiffs had been contributory to the damages. He submitted, as a matter of law, that the damages were due to defendant's negligence and thus he was liable.

His Honour—The sum of it is, that you submit that he is an insurer against the result of his own negligence?

Mr. Lowder—That he may be held liable whether as carrier or bailee.

Mr. Lowder said that for convenience sake, and in order to show the Counsel for the other side, the line he intended taking, he would now mention the cases he intended to cite. They were *Walter against Jackson* (1842)—in which it was shown that the duty of a ferryman did not end with ferrying a carriage across a ferry, but in securing that carriage from the danger of sliding back into the stream; this had reference to the present case: the judges there holding that there could be no dispute that defendants' duty did not end in transit, they had not only to carry the goods, but to land them and put them in a secure place. The *Great Northern Railway Company against Swaffield*, in which the secure storage of a horse was in dispute, and was decided in favour of the owner, it being held that the Company were bound to take reasonable care of the animal though transit was at an end. *Mitchell against the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company* (1874) in which the proper storage of flax was in dispute. And the great case of *Cobbs versus Barnard*, decided in 1703, that was so familiar to his Honour that he need not quote the judgment. Counsel acknowledged that all these cases were decided in English Courts under the Common Law and he was sorry he had not reports of cases in the Courts of the United States, but all the cases were cited by "Browne on Carriage," the well-known American authority, who in a foot note to his leading case said:—"The American law with regard to this subject, although there have been conflicting decisions, seems to be the same as that of England." Mr. Lowder concluded by observing that the old English Common Law was still administered by the U.S. Consular-General Court in Japan.

The Court then adjourned. Upon resuming after tiffin,

Ah Hong, a Chinese compradore, was the first witness called. He said that he was the servant of Paul Schramm, of No. 202.

Witness did not know the nature of an oath, but he said he would speak the truth.

Mr. Scidmore thought that it was necessary that the witness should be put on oath, otherwise the statement he made could not be binding on his conscience.

Mr. Lowder thought it was not necessary to put the witness on oath; he had said that he would speak the truth.

Mr. Scidmore asked the witness if he knew what conscience was?

Witness said he did not know the English language sufficiently well to give a definition of conscience.

Mr. Scidmore thought that the statement of such a witness could not be heard by the Court.

His Honour then explained to Counsel the rule of the Court in regard to Japanese witnesses, and then

Mr. Lowder asked to withdraw the witness until he could obtain the services of an Interpreter.

This request was acceded to.

Yoshida Yoshitaka, duly sworn, deposed—I am in the employ of the plaintiffs, and have been in their service since the end of July last. Prior to this I had been in the employ of Mr. Weston, the defendant in this case. I was his servant for about eight years. During that time I was his hatoba-man. I left solely on account of salary; there was no quarrel or dispute between us other than a question of wages. I am acquainted with the appearance of nitrate of soda, and during the time of my service with Mr. Weston, I landed several shipments of nitrate of soda. When it was landed, owing to its being dangerous, it had to be placed in the further part of the Customs compound. It was not placed under cover; this was by order of the Customs authorities. We used to place the bags of nitrate of soda upon planks, or skids, to prevent water reaching it, and a tarpaulin was thrown over the bags. We called these planks, skids, and they as well as the tarpaulin belonged to Mr. Weston, the landing agent. It was by his orders that we used the tarpaulin and skids; we used them to prevent the bags from getting damp or wet. I do not remember whether I ever landed nitrate of soda for the plaintiffs during the eight years I was with defendant. It was our custom always to use these skids and tarpaulins when nitrate of soda was landed. Since I have been in the plaintiffs' employ Mr. Weston has been engaged by them to land nitrate of soda on one occasion. It was landed from a "Shire" line vessel, the *Monmouthshire*, I think. This ship arrived on June 22nd. On that occasion 200 bags were landed. I do not remember their marks or numbers, nor the exact date of their landing; but they were landed on a Friday (June 26). I believe I saw them at 3.40 o'clock that afternoon. The Customs House closes at 4 o'clock. These bags of nitrate of soda were not placed on planks or skids. There was a covering over them, placed there by Weston's servants, I believe; but this I do not definitely know. The nitrate of soda was eventually removed from the Customs Wharf on July 2nd; this was when the examination stamps were placed on the bags. Some delay occurred in consequence of the bags getting wet, perhaps through rain. The wet parts were all at the bottom of the bags. I do not know how many bags were wetted. A heavy storm took place on the Sunday night, and on the Monday morning I found the bags were wet. I found that the bags were wet for a depth of about five inches. I do not know for certain what effect the water has on the nitrate of soda, but I think it dissolves it. I reported the fact to Mr. Metz, and he said I was not to remove the bags until everything was settled; consequently a delay occurred before they were taken delivery of. I did not see any of the bags landed in a broken or damaged condition; the wetted bags were the first damage that I saw. Mr. Weston's man did not inform me that any bags had been damaged.

Cross-examined by Mr. Scidmore—I was in Mr. Weston's employ for eight years. When I left Mr. Weston he did not tell me that I was no longer of any use to him. When the present lot of nitrate of soda was landed it was placed at the end of the Customs compound near the export shed, close to the water. I do not remember whether the Customs compound was crowded or not at that time. The skids were the property of Mr. Weston, and were stored together, when there was room, in Mr. Weston's godown, at other times they were stored outside somewhere. Mr. Weston has only one godown, and his office is located there. I entered the employ of the China and Japan Trading Company on June 18th, I believe.

Mr. Scidmore—Are you positive about it, or is this only your impression?

Witness—I am positive it was the 18th of June. I do not keep a diary of my daily doings.

Mr. Scidmore—You stated that this nitrate of soda was landed at the third hour, forty minutes; how do you know that it was exactly at that time?

Witness—I was in the Customs compound at the time on business, and when this was done, I went out and saw the nitrate of soda. I then found that there was not time to pass the goods so I remember the time perfectly well. While in Weston's employ my business was not fixed to any thing in particular, but I had to see to things generally.

To His Honour—I do not remember when the Customs' permit was issued. On Saturday the goods were examined, but there was no time to pass them. Then Sunday intervened, and on Monday I saw they were damaged. The goods were examined on the Saturday by the proper Customs official. I do not know when the Customs permit was finally issued. It is my duty to attend to all cargo landed in the Customs compound; attendance upon this nitrate of soda was also one

of my particular duties. It is my duty to attend to the passing of all cargo through the Customs.

Re-examined by the Mr. Lowder—I think I am not mistaken in thinking that I entered the service of the plaintiffs on the 18th June; that is my recollection.

Mr. Kwang Ho Chung was then sworn in as Chinese interpreter, and

Al Hong, the Chinese witness was again called. In answer to Mr. Lowder, he said, through the interpreter, that he did not know what an oath was, but he promised to speak the truth; such a promise was binding on his conscience.

Mr. Scidmore had no objection to the witness giving his statement under such a condition.

Al Hong then deposed—I am in the employ of Mr. Paul Schramm, of No. 202. He is in the habit of importing nitrate of soda, and employs Helm Bros. to land it for him. When it is landed the nitrate of soda is placed near the exporting shed, not under cover. Helm always take precautions to keep the nitrate of soda from getting wet. First poles are laid down, the nitrate of soda is placed on them, and then oil-cloth is placed over the whole. I do not recollect whether on the 27th July Helm Bros. landed some nitrate of soda from the *Verona*, but I could easily see by reference to my note-book. I know Mr. Weston, the defendant in this case. He carries on the same kind of business as Helm.

Mr. Scidmore had no questions to ask.

W. H. Walker, sworn, deposed—I am a hatoba-clerk in the employ of the plaintiffs. I remember that a quantity of nitrate of soda, 200 bags, arrived on the 22nd June by the steamship *Glamorganshire*. At that time this was the only vessel that had nitrate of soda for our firm. I do not think that the *Monmouthshire* was then in port; I should have known if she was. I saw the nitrate of soda at the hatoba on a Monday morning, about half-past nine o'clock. The lower part was all wet by rain, which had fallen on Sunday night. There was nothing under the bags to prevent them from getting wet from the ground. I do not know how many were wet, but at least 40. I was with Mr. Metz when he spoke to Mr. Weston with reference to the damage. Mr. Metz notified Mr. Weston that the nitrate of soda that had been landed from the *Glamorganshire* was wet, and that he would hold Mr. Weston responsible. Mr. Weston said he would pay the claim. I was not present when the nitrate of soda was subsequently weighed. I know the rules of the Customs for passing goods. I am employed by the China and Japan Trading Company for formally passing goods through the Customs House. We first file an application, the next step is to get the goods examined. After this we have to pay the duty; then we obtain a permit to have the goods stamped by a Custom-house officer. This procedure takes at least three days.

Mr. Scidmore did not cross-examine the witness. In answer to the Bench, witness said that formerly goods were passed much quicker than now; but just at present all the best men have gone to Formosa and the present Custom officials take a long time to get through their work.

W. B. Mason, in the employ of the plaintiffs, sworn, deposed—I remember the *Glamorganshire* bringing some nitrate of soda for the firm in June. I saw the material weighed after it had been damaged by water. It was weighed by the Creek-side. There were present a Japanese, representing Mr. Weston, and a Japanese representing our customer. We found that there was a shortage of a little over seventeen piculs, valued at a little over 100 dollars.

Cross-examined—I know that it was worth \$100 by the invoice. The weighing took place on the 10th July. The bags were in a wet condition. The bags were double, I think, but I did not examine them closely.

To the Bench—I do not know when the goods were taken from the Customs; I do not know whether they were exposed to rain between the 2nd July and the 18th July.

The Court then adjourned till Friday at 10 o'clock.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

Before Judge USHIODA, President, and Judges TANAKA and KATO, Associates.
FRIDAY, Sept. 25th.

THE ASSAULT ON MR. W. BARRIE.

Judgment was delivered this morning in the case of assault and battery and unlawful intrusion preferred against eleven firemen, late in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in connection with the assault on Mr. William Barrie, Supt.-Engineer of the Company, on August 6th. The ac-

cused were—Onishi Rikichi, *heimin* of Kanagawa-ken; Neba Rikichiro, *heimin* of Hiroshima-ken; Takeoka Kuranosuke, *heimin* of Hiroshima-ken; Tamura Kotaro, *shizoku* of Wakayama-ken; Tamawaki Kaname, *heimin* of Ehime-ken; Fujita Jihei, *heimin* of Hyogo-ken; Kashima Minoru, *heimin* of Ibaraki-ken; Tokutomi Monnojo, *heimin* of Kagoshima-ken; Yoshida Rinsuke, *heimin* of Yamaguchi-ken; and Kuroda Zenkichi, *heimin* of Tokushima-ken.

The sentences were:—Under Arts. 301 and 302 of the Criminal Code, Hirose Tsurukichi, for assaulting Mr. Barrie on the left temple; Tamura Kotaro, for wounding on the head; and Tamawaki Kaname, for wounding on the back of the head with a centre-punch, three months' rigorous imprisonment; under Art. 172, Tokutomi Monnojo and Takeoka Kuranosuke, for assault without causing wounds; and Onishi Rikichi, being under age, 20 days' imprisonment with hard labour. Under Articles 89 and 90, Tokutomi, Takeoka and Onishi also receive an additional five days' imprisonment. The other prisoners each received 18 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

BRITISH CONSULAR REPORT FOR YOKOHAMA.

Sir E. Satow forwarded on June 16th Mr. J. C. Hall's report on the trade and navigation of Yokohama 1895. Mr. Hall writes:—

The total trade of the port in 1895 was greater than in the previous year by close upon £2,000,000. The exact figures of the comparison are:—

Exports ... 1895	£9,185,760	... 1894	£7,681,858
Imports ... 1895	£5,896,042	... 1894	£4,410,501

Total ... 1895 £15,081,802 ... 1895 £13,092,359 making an increase of £1,989,443, or something over 15 per cent.

Considering that the perturbing influence of the war with China, slight as it was, continued to operate through the earlier half of the year, these figures are an unmistakable indication of the vigour and recuperative power of Japan's foreign trade. The increase is not confined to this port. The total trade of Japan in 1895 was greater than that of the preceding year by just 15 per cent., and of the total trade of the Empire in 1895 the share of this port was exactly one-half. And the parallelism holds further, for, of the increase of 15 per cent. in both cases, two-thirds were due to exports, and one-third to imports. It should be remembered, moreover, that an addition of about 15 per cent. ought to be added to the import values, as has been repeatedly explained in preceding reports.

Comparing the rate of increase of the four countries which are the leading participants in Japan's trade, and taking imports and exports together, the statistics for Yokohama show that Germany is making the most rapid advance, and Great Britain the slowest, the value of German trade in 1895 being an increase of over 53 per cent. on the preceding year; American trade, nearly 18 per cent.; French, 12½ per cent.; and that of Great Britain less than 8 per cent.

As regards the proportions in which the gross trade of the port is shared between the same countries, America heads the list with 34 per cent.; France next with 17 per cent.; and then Germany with 7 per cent. Of the total exports of the port America takes more than half; of the imports Great Britain supplies nearly half.

BRITISH TRADE.—Of last year's total British trade, amounting to £4,675,000, two-thirds were with the United Kingdom itself, one-sixth with Hongkong, and the remaining one-sixth was distributed between India, Canada, and Australia. Though the total value of the trade with Australia was only £100,000, this was more than double that of the previous year, and more than four-fifths of it was imports, nearly all wool. The trade with Canada, though nearly £130,000 in amount, shows a considerable falling-off, and consisted only of exports, mostly tea.

IMPORTS.

WOOLLENS.—In imports two classes of manufactured articles show a marked increase, woollen fabrics and metallic goods, due in both cases, I think, to the war. £140,000 worth of blankets were imported in 1895, as against £33,000 worth in 1894. Of cloths £255,000 were taken, as against £53,000 in the preceding year. Flannels, from £25,000 in 1894, rose to £65,000 in 1895; serges, from £4,000 to £11,000. Bunnings, which do not appear at all in 1894, reached £7,000 in 1895. Of these various woollen stuffs by far the largest part was for army use. Such fabrics as mousseline-de-laine and Italian cloths showing a falling-off, amounting in the latter case to over 50 per cent.

Woolen yarn rose from 573,000lbs., worth £54,000, in 1894 to 976,000lbs., worth £82,000 in 1895. An item small in amount, but big with promise of future expansion, is wool, of which close on 3,000,000lbs., valued at £106,000, were imported last year, or nearly double the quantity, and more than double the value of the import in 1894. Nearly four-fifths of this wool came from Australia, the remainder coming in about equal parts from China and India.

Cloths of mixed material—cotton warps and low-class woollen or shoddy wefts—show a falling-off of 60 per cent.; and as experience shows to the consumer how flimsy and unprofitable they prove as regards wear they are certain to dwindle out of consumption altogether.

METALS.—With the exception of wire nails, which show a falling-off amounting to £20,000, over 20 per cent., metals exhibit a marked improvement in nearly all branches, amounting to over 34 per cent. in quantity and value. Bar and rod iron reached 24,000 tons, as against 14,000 tons in 1894; rails 15,000 tons, as against 9,000 tons; plate and sheet iron 7,500 tons, as against 6,200 tons; pipes and tubes amounted in value to £17,000, being double the import value of 1894. Steel advanced from 2,400 tons in 1894 to 2,800 tons. Steel ware from £6,000 in value to £15,000; whilst tin-plates, notwithstanding the increased use of them for canning petroleum imported in bulk, remained stationary at £25,000 in both years. Pig-iron advanced from 14,000 tons in 1894 to 15,500 tons last year, and most of it came from the Tees. Most of the bar and plate iron, however, is now of Continental make, the import from England being apparently on the decline. Mild steel, both bar and plates, is gradually coming into favour, and, as the process of producing it has of late been cheapened in various ways, the trade in it is likely to grow. Steel rails, too, are coming into wider use, both for heavy railways up to 61½ lbs. per yard, and for local works in lots of from two miles or more down to 8½ lbs. per yard. The heavy rails are generally specified as from English works, with an exception in favour of Krupp's, and sometimes one or other of the best Belgian makers.

The demand for lead was not so much enhanced by the war as was anticipated, the Government having previously laid in a good supply. Still the import advanced from 1,800 tons in 1894 to nearly 2,700 tons, valued at £31,000 in 1895. About 55 per cent. of this import was from Great Britain, and nearly 30 per cent. from Australia.

ARMS, ETC.—After woollens and metals, the largest increased import was in arms and munitions of war, which advanced from £22,000 worth in 1894 to £168,000 in 1895. Canvas, candles, clothing, dynamite, alcohol, and cigarettes owe their improved import largely to the army demand.

GLASS.—A large increase is noticeable in the import of glass, for which there is a growing demand. Nearly all the window glass comes from Belgium. Plate glass, both plain and silvered, has also been imported to a considerable extent; but little of this is entered as from Great Britain, and even of that a proportion is Continental glass which has been silvered in England.

OF MISCELLANEOUS Eastern produce the most noticeable increase is in raw cotton, which advanced from 8,730 tons, value £268,000 in 1894, to 11,920 tons, value £353,000 in 1895, an increase of over 30 per cent. About two-thirds of this cotton comes from China and one-third from India.

The import of SUGAR shows a considerable expansion in quantity, accompanied by a falling-off in value; 92,580 tons were entered, most of it from Hongkong, of which two-fifths were white refined sugar, whilst three-fifths were browns; total value \$6,880,742. This was a decrease of over 3 per cent. on the value of the previous year, though the quantity imported was an increase of 18 per cent. The proportion of white refined to brown sugar was greater than usual last year; but that was due to the novel circumstance that in the total of the former category were included 3,274 tons of best sugar which came all the way from Germany; the abnormally low prices ruling in that country allowing of its being brought, presumably at a profit, even to this distant market. The feature in the trade in browns has been the increase in the direct importations from Manila, in addition to the large quantity of Manila sugars that pass through Hongkong on their way to this port.

COTTON: YARNS.—Of imports that show a decrease the most prominent is cotton manufactures. In 1895 the import of yarns was only 4,244 tons, value £462,000, as against 4,627 tons, value £476,000 in the previous year, a falling off of over 8 per cent. in quantity and over 15 per cent. in value. Considering the recent rapid development of the Japanese spinning industry it might almost seem strange that the falling-off was so slight; but the

effect of native competition is more perceptible in the kind of goods imported than in the gross amount. It is to the coarser counts that the Japanese mills have first devoted their efforts, driving out the Bombay yarns from the market. It is two-fold 32's and 42's and gassed and fine plain yarns which are still in demand, none of these being yet spun except in a tentative way, in this country. It is reported, however, that two mills are now in course of erection for the spinning of gassed yarns: one at Tokyo, the other at Osaka. Their success seems at least doubtful, for these yarns are made entirely from Egyptian cotton; and with Lancashire's advantages of proximity to the source of supply of the raw material and experience in that special line, it ought to be difficult for the Japanese product to compete.

Grey shirtings exhibit great tenacity in their hold of the market, £172,000 worth having been imported in 1895, representing over 23,000,000 yards, an advance in quantity of over 10 per cent. on the preceding year. The most noticeable feature in this branch of the trade is the rising demand for long length goods, measuring from 46 to 48 yards per piece, the ordinary length being only 38½ yards per piece. Ordinary to common T-cloths, which formerly figured prominently in the grey goods trade, have been entirely ousted by the Japanese made article.

KEROSENE.—During the past year consumption of kerosene shows an increase of nearly 6 per cent. over 1894. Total deliveries were American, 1,219,248 cases; Russian, 1,123,959 cases; total 2,343,207 cases. The percentage of Russian has somewhat increased, being 48 per cent. of the total, as against 45 per cent. in 1894, the American showing a corresponding decrease. The trade during the year was highly profitable, prices having risen from \$1.80 to \$2.75 per case of 10 gallons. The latter quotation was the highest point touched and was not long maintained; the average of prices for the year being \$2.20 per case. The falling-off in the American import was due to a decrease in production. Supplies of Russian were maintained till November, when the railway track between Baku and Batoum was destroyed by floods. A small lot of Langkat oil was imported, but owing to defective packages did not meet with a ready sale.

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Amongst expanding exports the leading place is, as a matter of course, taken by silk; 56,503 bales of raw silk, weighing close upon 8,000,000 lbs., valued at over £5,000,000 were sent abroad last year, being the largest export reached since the opening of the port to foreign trade, and, as compared with the previous year, an advance of 6½ per cent. in quantity and 15 per cent. in value. The average price paid to the Japanese producer per picul (133½ lbs.) in 1895 was 825 yen, as against 718 yen in 1894.

The steady expansion in this the main staple of Japan's export trade during the last 22 years must not be passed over without remark. In 1874, the year following the West's outlawry of silver, the total export was under 12,000 bales, value 5,000,000 silver dollars. In 1884 it had risen to over 22,000 bales, value over \$11,000,000; in 1894 it was over 53,000 bales, value over \$39,000,000. It is mainly the enhanced prices in dollars due to the exchange fall in silver that so stimulated production. There is now hardly a province in the empire in which the silkworm is not reared. In 1873 England took nearly half the total export; in 1883 less than one-eighth; in 1893 less than one-twentieth. At present four-sevenths of the total export goes to the United States, France taking most of the remainder.

The large increase in the production of silk in Japan has not brought with it much improvement in the quality, rather the reverse. A deterioration, especially as regards colour, is most marked in the old producing districts, whence the largest supplies are drawn. The province of Shinshu is famous for silk of the brightest white colour, and the demand for this, both in America and Europe, is so great that the cocoons produced in the province itself are quite inadequate to supply the futilities there. Hence the temptation to adulterate is irresistible. Cocoons from all parts of the country are bought up to meet the deficiency of the local articles; and the colour has suffered in consequence. On the other hand, however, the newer silk-producing districts of Kinshu and Southern Japan have made great strides, and flature silk of high merit is now coming into the Yokohama market in yearly-increasing quantities. In view of the great importance of raw silk as the staple export, it is henceforth to be brought under direct Government supervision. A silk conditioning house is now being erected, at which the flature silk intended for the foreign market will be inspected under regulations to be framed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce. The need of such an institu-

tion was much more felt in the early days of the trade, when the short-sighted cupidity of the native producer necessitated stringent precautions against fraud. Now, however, such precautions begin to seem excessive, if not oppressive, in proportion, as Japanese sellers are coming to realise that in the long run adulteration does not pay.

It is not, however, only the production of the raw article that has felt the fostering influence of the recent monetary legislation of the West. Japan is now beginning to manufacture silk goods for export. At first it was in the unpretentious line of pocket-handkerchiefs that this new development was manifested; but now it is the fine choice fabric for the dresses of the rich, known as "habutae," which is rising into notice. The vigorous character of this new departure in manufacturing energy will be seen from the following table of the export of silk manufactures during the past seven years:—

Value of Silk Manufactures Exported from Yokohama for the years 1889-95:—

1889	£426,743	1890	£462,577
1891	741,457	1892	1,175,232
1893	1,062,001	1894	1,338,854
1895	£1,720,758		

The advance in 1895 over the previous year was thus over 27 per cent. Seven years ago pocket-handkerchiefs formed seven-eighths of the total export; last year they formed less than one third, whilst "habutae" was more than one-half. This expansive movement is likely to continue under present monetary conditions. At my rate, it is now time to recognise the fact that as a manufactured article, silk fabrics have for the past five years taken the second place amongst the staple exports of this port, and I have accordingly given it that position in the table of exports annexed to this report.

TEA.—Until it was overtaken and displaced by silk manufactures, tea used to hold the second place amongst the export staples; it is now only the third, and its rate of increase is not rapid. The export for each of the last two years nearly reached 30,000,000 lbs., but owing to the higher prices ruling last year, the value was £567,000 as against £520,000 the preceding year. The cost of preparing and packing tea has advanced considerably during the past year owing to the rise in the price of labour, wood, charcoal, &c. It is estimated that this increased cost of production amounted to at least 25 per cent. Five-sixths of the total export of Japan tea is taken by America, one-sixth by Canada. None of it enters the European market.

OTHER EXPORTS.—Of the remaining exports the most flourishing is the line of Japanese artistic products, curios, porcelain, lacquered ware, paper ware, wooden ware, and cloisonné; which amounted last year in value to more than £250,000, being an advance of over 30 per cent. on the preceding year. Tobacco, drugs, and cereals show a marked decrease.

SHIPPING.

The most striking feature in shipping movements in 1895 were the rise in British tonnage and the drop in Japanese, due to the fact that the Japanese ships were withdrawn from commerce to act as transports and tenders for the troops and ships of war, and the employment of British vessels to supply the place in the coasting trade of the native craft so withdrawn. This movement lasted well into the autumn, but towards the close of the year these chartered boats were dispensed with. During the year 16 steamers were sold to Japanese purchasers for £230,000, as against 22 steamers for £697,000 sold in the preceding year. Most of those sold in 1894 were first-class steamers, whilst of those sold last year only a few were serviceable vessels of recent construction, the others being of an obsolete type which could not have been sold to such advantage elsewhere. They were mostly bought in order to be chartered to the Government.

BRITISH SHIPPING.—Omitting as negligible quantities the few sailing ships and a few steamers that entered in ballast, the effective carrying trade of the port consisted of 198 steamers that entered from foreign countries with cargoes, and 370 steamers with cargoes that entered coastwise, the tonnage of the former being 389,444 tons; of the latter, 638,906 tons; total, 1,028,350 tons. Of this total of 508 vessels sailing under 11 different national flags, Japan's included, 368 vessels, 773,051 tons were British, being 72 per cent. of the vessels, and 73 per cent. of the total tonnage. This is a record percentage, due mainly to the exceptional cause already specified, and, for a reason to be mentioned presently, it is not likely to be long maintained. As further signalling the high-water mark of British shipping in the carrying trade of this country I may here mention that it has more than doubled itself in 5 years. In 1891 out of 1,285 merchant steamers,

1,603,600 tons, that entered the open ports of Japan from foreign countries, 467 vessels, 786,347 tons were British, being barely 37 per cent. of the vessels and 49 per cent. of the tonnage; in 1895, out of 1,863 vessels, 2,749,839 tons, no less than 907 vessels, 1,741,894 tons, were British, being 48 per cent. of the vessels and 63 per cent. of the tonnage.

This large carrying trade is shared between the two classes of steamers known as liners and ocean tramps. About two-fifths of the trade is carried on by steamers of regular lines, the rest by occasional steamers or tramps. There are no less than 20 British lines of steamships plying to this port. The British sailing ship has all but disappeared; only 8, averaging less than 1,000 tons each, entered during the year. Eighteen Canadian sealing schooners, averaging 75 tons each, entered and cleared at the beginning of the hunting season.

FRIGHTS to London remained steady throughout the year at 40s. per ton, being the rate established by the "Conference" lines. To the Continent much lower rates were accepted, as low as £1 2s. 6d. per ton of 40 cubic feet being obtainable to Hamburg. Consequently a certain amount of cargo which formerly went to London as a distributing centre, has found its way to the Continent, thereby placing London shippers at a considerable disadvantage. Rates to ports across the Pacific were the lowest on record, 1 cent per lb. for tea, and \$12 per ton on measurement cargo.

JAPANESE COMPETITION.—Foreign shipowners interested in the carrying trade of Japan will soon have to encounter strenuous opposition from the Japanese themselves. A law for the encouragement of navigation was passed in the last session of the Diet, under the provisions of which liberal subsidies are to be granted to native-owned steamers of suitable size voyaging to foreign countries. This law was an indirect consequence of the war with China. During the hostilities the Nippon Yusen Kaisha (Japan Mail Steamship Company) was obliged, by the provisions of its charter, to place its steamers at the orders of the Government, and the best ship of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha (Merchant Shipping Company) and other Japanese lines were likewise chartered by the War Department. To replace these vessels in the established courses of trade foreign steamers had to be either chartered or purchased, and in many cases the latter was deemed the more profitable alternative. Hence it came about that at the close of the war the Japanese had more ships than they knew what to do with. In the middle of 1894, before the outbreak of the war with China, Japan's mercantile shipping was under 182,000 tons. At the end of last year, in the course of eighteen months, it had risen to over 300,000 tons. The main object of the Navigation Bounty Law was to help to work off this redundant shipping by opening and subsidising new lines to foreign countries, England, America, and Australia. But the law has been the means of calling new shipping companies into existence, and though the old established favourite of the Government, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, will still receive the largest share of the bounty amounting to 2,000,000 yen per annum, the newly-formed Oriental Company (Toyo Kaisha) is to receive half that amount, and another new creation, the Great Eastern Company (Daito Kaisha) is to have 400,000 yen per annum.

GENERAL.

EXCHANGE.—When the year opened rates of exchange had reached the lowest point theretofore known, viz., 1s. 11½d. to 1st. 11½d. per dollar for bank demand. During January and February rates ruled lower still, more than once touching 1s. 11½d., and only once for a brief space reaching 1s. 11½d., equal a dollar. In the middle of March the armistice and the expectation that China would pay Japan a large indemnity and would have to buy silver in London for shipment to the East gave the London market an upward direction, exchange rose, and on April 1 was 2s. 1½d.—an advance of nearly 10 per cent. in a fortnight. In four days' time it was down again to 2s. 1½d., and from this to the end of the year the fluctuations were both frequent and considerable. In the middle of May the rate had risen to 2s. 2d., at the end of June was down to 2s. 1½d., through September was mostly 2s. 2½d., and in the middle of October rose to 2s. 2½d. From this it slowly declined till, in the middle of December, the market altogether collapsed, and 2s. 1d. was only a nominal rate, at the close of the year it had recovered a little and was firm at 2s. 1½d.

The difference between the lowest and the highest point during the year is thus 16½ per cent. That is a condition of things which doubtless affords fine opportunities to financial speculators and gamblers in agio, but it is not not favourable to those who, whether as capitalists or as workmen, are engaged in the settled pursuits of industrial production. The Japanese are keenly

alive to the advantages which this monetary instability gives them in the career of manufacturing competition with the West on which they have now embarked. A commission was appointed last year by the Government to inquire into the question of the best monetary standard, and though a few of the official members evinced a leaning towards the adoption of a gold standard, the majority, composed of practical business men, were unwilling to recommend any change being made in the present system under existing circumstances.

POPULATION.—The Japanese population of the town of Yokohama on Dec. 31, 1895, numbered 170,252 persons, and that of the town of Kanagawa 16,948, or 187,200 in all, an increase of 3,770 on the previous year's figures. The foreign population of Yokohama, exclusive of Chinese, amounted on the same date to 1,745 persons, of whom 806 were British, an increase during the year of 132 in the general foreign population, and 9 in the British taken by itself. The addition of the Chinese population, which numbered 1,808 on Dec. 31, 1895, as against 1,173 on Dec. 31, 1894, brings up the total for the whole foreign population of Yokohama to 3,553 persons. An increase of 7 is to be noted in the number of British firms.

TREATY OF SHIMONOSEKI.—The event of the year which is likely to have most influence on the future of trade was the insertion of what are known as the commercial clauses in the treaty of peace concluded with China at Shimonoseki on April 17. By Clause VI. of that treaty four new ports in China were opened; the right of steam navigation on the Woosung river and canal, as well as on the Upper Yangtze, was secured, and last, but not least, it was stipulated that the Japanese established at the open ports and towns of China shall have the right to engage in industries and manufacture therein. These privileges, by virtue of the most favoured nation clause in the several treaties, are won for all the other foreign Powers as well as for Japan. The British and other foreign merchants in China were not slow to avail themselves of the newly-acquired right of manufacturing. Within four months from the publication of the treaty, four companies for working cotton mills were started in Shanghai, and two for the same purpose by Japanese capitalists of Osaka. Another curious result of this clause in the treaty of Shimonoseki was the sudden silencing of the Eastern Bimetallic League. The members thereof are giving up the uphill struggle they had so strenuously engaged in, and are not now so anxious to get the difference removed. The extent of this new cotton manufacturing industry in China will not be very great at first, but it will grow, and Manchester, severely as it has suffered hitherto, will have a harder fight than ever to make its factories pay.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Sept. 28.

A Russian fleet is cruising off the mouth of the Bosphorus.

The state of uneasiness continues in Constantinople and many Mussulmans are sending their families away.

A complete panic prevails amongst the Derivishes, who are disorganized and are retreating to Omduraman.

London, October 1.

A further important discovery of gold is reported from Newfoundland.

The latest mail from Tamatave brings the news that the rebels surround the capital, Antananarivo.

The rebel Mashonas on the Mazoe River have been routed by the British.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, Sep. 29.

Her Majesty's ship *Pique* left this port to-day for Yokohama, and the *Æolus* has arrived here.

Nagasaki, Sept. 25.

Her Majesty's ships *Rainbow* and *Swift* have arrived here from Korniloff Bay, the latter vessel having to be towed part of the way on account of a crack in her shaft. The repairs will be effected here.

Hakodate, Sept. 26.

Her Majesty's ship *Pique* arrived here this afternoon.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, September 25.

The Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, addressing a great public meeting at Liverpool, recommended the warmest support being given to the Government, with the largest discretion in dealing with the Armenian question. The first step, he said, was to break off relations with Turkey. Assuming, though he did not contemplate, that war resulted with united, or mainly united Europe, yet Great Britain should be prepared to act on her own responsibility in order to enforce the broken conventions, if this was the only alternative.

The Liberal papers approve Mr. Gladstone's speech, whilst the Conservative papers deprecate taking isolated action. *The Times* says there are at least two Powers that will not tolerate the coercion of Turkey.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.18½
do do New York 4.84½

London, Sept. 29.

The St. Petersburg Bourse, the *Gazette*, and the *Novosti* are in favour of the political *entente* with Great Britain.

Many more Sheiks, including some relatives of the Mahdi, are submitting to General Kitchener, who has gone southward to inspect the vicinity of Debbah and Meravi.

The Matabele rebellion has been suppressed. During the rising the total British loss was 232 killed, of whom 138 were murdered, and 92 wounded.

London, September 30.

H.I.M. the Czar conferred with Lord Salisbury on Sunday last, the meeting lasting for over an hour.

A telegram from Fort Salisbury reports serious fighting in the vicinity of the Mazoe river, Mashonaland, for the last three days, one engagement lasting for ten hours. The British troops are hemmed in by a large body of well-armed rebels.

The French press announce that M. Cambon, French Ambassador to the Porte, in an interview with the Sultan warned His Majesty that if the troubles in Turkey were renewed it would mean, if not the end of the Ottoman Empire, at least the end of the present dynasty. M. Cambon further added that the European *entente* was perfect.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17

Exchange on London at New York ... 4.14½
(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Sept. 24.

The Paris *Figaro* publishes a stirring appeal by Mr. Gladstone to the French people on behalf of the Armenians.

At the great meeting at Liverpool, Mr. Gladstone, who recommended that the warmest support should be given to the Government on the Armenian question, with the largest discretion, spoke with a ringing voice for an hour and twenty minutes.

(FROM EL COMERCIO.)

Madrid, Sept. 14.

At the Council of Ministers held to-day, an unlimited credit was passed on the Treasury of the mother country for expenses in the Philippines.

Madrid, Sept. 15.

The steamer *Antonio Lopez*, with 1,500 marine infantry on board, has left for Manila.

Madrid, Sept. 17.

Three more battalions have been organized for the Philippines to be despatched on receipt of orders for the superior authorities.

Col. Francisco Rosalesy Badino is under orders for the Philippines.

Sapporo, Sept. 26.

An explosion occurred in the Yubari coalmine on the 21st inst. Eight lives were lost.

Hiroshima, Sept. 26.

An earthquake was felt last night.

Matsuyae, Sept. 26.
A rather pronounced earthquake was felt at 8.30 o'clock last night.

Sōul, Sept. 25.
A Royal decree has been issued stating that the old form of Cabinet has been abolished, and that the Senate will take its place.

Nagasaki, Sept. 25.
The Commander of the corvette *Maya* has arrived.

Bakan, Sept. 26.
The *Kyoto Maru*, *Gaisen Maru*, and *Fusan Maru* left Ujina to-day for Yokohama, to transport troops to Formosa.

Kuwana, Sept. 27.
Count Kabayama, Minister of State for the Home Department, has arrived here to inspect the flooded districts. The Governor of Gifu accompanied him.

Kyoto, Sept. 28.
H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, arrived here the day before yesterday, and left for Tokyo yesterday. Count Kabayama, Minister of Home Affairs, after inspecting the Nabeya Embankment this morning left for Shiga Ken.

Yokkaichi, September 29.
The railway line between Aichi and Kusatsu on the Kansai Railway will be restored on the 30th September.

Sōul, Sept. 29.
Mr. Hara, Minister to Korea, is expected to return to Tokyo on the 5th of next month by the *Toyoshima Maru*.

Fukui, Sept. 29.
The expenditures required in Fukui Prefecture on account of the recent flood are said to be over 1,000,000 yen.

Tokushima, Sept. 29.
Mr. Murakami, Governor of this Prefecture, who is appointed to Taichu Prefecture, leaves Formosa, here to-night.

Osaka, Sept. 30.
At three o'clock, to-day, four warehouses belonging to the Osaka Warehouse Company, at Nakanoshima, were burnt to the ground, and one half of the rice stowed there, 2,900 *koku*, was lost. Each warehouse covered 24 *tsubo* of ground. It seems doubtful whether the fire was accidental or caused by an incendiary. The watchman in charge of the houses was called up to the Police Station and is now under examination. The rice lost is said to have been already sold to a purchaser.

Later.
Mr. Motoyama, Police-Inspector, of the Osaka Police-Board, and three servants lost their lives in the fire at the Osaka Warehouse Co. One policeman, one fireman, and several others were wounded.

Nagoya, Sept. 30.
The Home Minister, Count Kabayama, who has been inspecting the inundated districts, will return to the capital after spending one night at Hamamatsu.

Gifu, Oct. 1.
Mr. Kabayama, Governor of this Prefecture, will leave for Tokyo to-morrow.

A consultation in regard to measures occasioned by the recent floods will be held to-day, and each district is to be represented.

Hiroshima, Oct. 1.
The Head-quarters Staff will remove to-morrow to the new building.

Shidzuoka, Oct. 1.
The Silk-Association of this Prefecture opened their exhibition to-day, and three hundred and thirty exhibits of silk cocoons, one hundred and fourteen exhibits of silk-worm eggs, and twenty-one exhibits of silk were exposed. On the 3rd inst. the ceremony of awarding the prizes will take place; the next day experts of the Yokohama Kiito Kensayo and Mr. Takayama, from Gumma Prefecture, will be present at a general meeting of the Association.

Sōul, Oct. 1.
Mr. Hara, Minister to Korea, will return to Japan on the 5th inst. by the Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*.

Hamamatsu, Oct. 1.
The Home Minister, Count Kabayama, and suite, left for Tokyo this morning.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

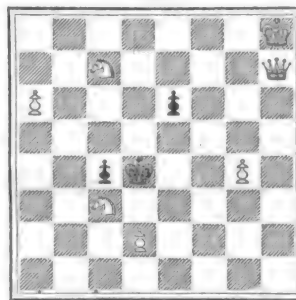
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 249.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1—Q to Q B 3 | 1—P to Kt 8 (Q) |
| 2—Q to B 5 ch. | 2—K to B 3 |
| 3—R to K B 4, mate | |
| | 1—B to B 5 |
| 2—Q to K B 3 | 2—Kt takes R |
| 3—Kt to K 6, mate | if 2—B to Q 4 ch. |
| | 1—B to Q 6 |
| 3—R takes B, mate | 2—K takes R |
| | 1—K to B 3 |
| 2—Q to B 6 | 2—K to K 2 |
| 3—Kt to B 5, mate | |
| | if 2—K to Kt 4 |
| 2—R to K B 4 (ch.) | |
| 3—Q to B 7, mate | |
| | if 2—K to Kt 4 |
| 3—Q to K B 6, mate. | |

Correct answers from W.H.S., Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.D.H., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 251.

By EUSTACE KING.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in three moves.

THE PRINCIPAL OPENINGS AT NUREMBERG.

The Ruy Lopez stands at the head. This attack was used 44 times with the following results:—White won 13; Black won 16; Draws 15. The Queen's Gambit Declined comes next. Out of the 22 games with this opening, White won 11, lost 5, and 5 were draws. The Giuoco Piano was tried 13 times, White winning 3, losing 5, and drawing 5. The French Defence shows 3 wins for White, 3 for Black, and 6 draws. These four openings were played in 91 games, or more than half the whole number.

GAME No. 575.

RUY LOPEZ.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|------------------|------------------|
| Tarrach. | Steinitz. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to Kt 5 | 3—P to B 3 (a) |
| 4—Castles | 4—K Kt to K 2 |
| 5—P to Q 4 | 5—Kt to Kt 3 |
| 6—P to Q R 3 (b) | 6—B to K 2 |
| 7—B to Q B 4 | 7—P to Q 3 |
| 8—P to R 3 | 8—B to Q 2 |
| 9—Kt to B 3 | 9—Q to B sq. (c) |
| 10—K to R 2 | 10—Kt to Q sq. |
| 11—Kt to Q 5 | 11—B to B sq. |
| 12—B to K 3 | 12—Kt to K 3 |
| 13—Kt to Kt sq. | 13—P to B 3 |
| 14—Kt to Q B 3 | 14—B to K 2 |
| 15—K Kt to K 2 | 15—Q to B 2 |
| 16—P to Q 5 | 16—Kt to Q sq. |
| 17—Kt to Kt 3 | 17—Kt to B 2 |
| 18—Kt to B 5 | 18—B to K B sq. |
| 19—Q to R 5 | 19—P to B 4 |
| 20—B to Q Kt 5 | 20—B takes B |
| 21—Kt takes B | 21—Q to Kt 3 |
| 22—Q to K 2 | 22—Kt to B 5 |
| 23—Q to B 4 | 23—P to Q R 3 |
| 24—Kt to B 3 | 24—Q to Q sq. |
| 25—P to Kt 3 | 25—P to Kt 3 |
| 26—Kt to K R 4 | 26—Kt to R 4 |
| 27—P to Q Kt 4 | 27—P to Q Kt 4 |

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 28—Q to K 2 | 28—B to K 2 |
| 29—Kt to Kt 2 | 29—Kt to Kt 2 |
| 30—Q R to Kt sq. | 30—Castles |
| 31—P to Q R 4 | 31—B P takes P |
| 32—R takes P | 32—Q to B 2 |
| 33—B to Q 2 | 33—P takes P |
| 34—K R to Q Kt sq. | 34—B to Q sq. |
| 35—R takes P | 35—P to Q R 4 |
| 36—Q to Kt 5 | 36—P to B 4 |
| 37—R to B 4 | 37—Q to K 2 |
| 38—B to K 3 | 38—Q to K sq. |
| 39—Q to Kt 7 | 39—B to B 3 |
| 40—B to R 7 | 40—Kt to Kt 4 |
| 41—Kt to Kt 5 | 41—Kt to B 2 |
| 42—Kt to B 7 | 42—R takes B |
| 43—Q takes R | 43—Q to Q 2 |
| 44—Q takes P | 44—Kt to Kt 4 |
| 45—Q to R 4 | 45—Q to K B 2 |
| 46—Kt to Kt 7 | 46—P takes P |
| 47—Q to R 7 | 47—B to K 2 |
| 48—R to B 3 | 48—Kt to B 6 ch. |
| 49—R takes Kt | 49—P takes R |
| 50—Kt to K 3 | 50—Q to B 3 |
| 51—Kt to K 6 | 51—Kt takes Kt |
| 52—R takes B | 52—Resigns (d) |

(a) This bizarre defence leads in this game to its legitimate result—loss. Mr. Steinitz would do well to reserve such a defence for novices.
(b) In order to preserve the K B, should Black endeavour to exchange his Q Kt for it.
(c) With the remote object of castling on King's side, as well as attacking the White K R P.
(d) White threatens 53—Kt to Kt 4, and Black would lose his Queen or be mated.

GAME No. 576.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Lasker. | Marco. |
| 1—P to Q 4 | 1—P to Q 4 |
| 2—P to Q B 4 | 2—P to K 3 |
| 3—Q Kt to B 3 | 3—K Kt to B 3 |
| 4—Kt to B 3 | 4—B to K 2 |
| 5—P to K 3 | 5—Castles |
| 6—B to Q 3 | 6—P to Q Kt 3 |
| 7—P takes P | 7—P takes P |
| 8—Castles | 8—B to Kt 2 |
| 9—P to Q Kt 3 | 9—Kt to K 5 (a) |
| 10—Kt to K 2 | 10—B to Q 3 |
| 11—B to Kt 2 | 11—Kt to Q 2 |
| 12—R to B sq. | 12—Q to B 3 |
| 13—Q to B 2 | 13—Q to R 3 |
| 14—Kt to Kt 3 | 14—Kt takes Kt (b) |
| 15—R P takes Kt | 15—Kt to B 3 |
| 16—R to K sq. | 16—Q R to K sq. (c) |
| 17—Kt to Q 2 | 17—Kt to Kt 5 |
| 18—Kt to B sq. (d) | 18—P to K B 4 |
| 19—R to K 2 (e) | 19—P to Kt 3 |
| 20—B to B 3 (f) | 20—Kt to B 3 |
| 21—P to B 3 | 21—Kt to R 4 |
| 22—B to K sq. | 22—Q to Kt 4 |
| 23—B to Kt 5 (g) | 23—P to B 3 (h) |
| 24—B takes P | 24—R to B sq. |
| 25—B takes B (i) | 25—R takes Q |
| 26—B takes P ch. | 26—K to R sq. |
| 27—R (K 2) takes R | 27—P to B 5 (k) |
| 28—P to K 4 | 28—P takes P |
| 29—P to K 5 | 29—B to R 6 |
| 30—R to Q sq. | 30—P to R 4 (l) |
| 31—B to B 4 | 31—B to Kt 5 (m) |
| 32—P to R 4 | 32—B takes B |
| 33—R takes B | 33—Kt to B 5 |
| 34—P to K 6 | 34—R to K sq. |
| 35—R to K 5 | 35—Q to Q sq. |
| 36—R to Q 2 | 36—Q to B 2 |
| 37—Kt takes P | 37—R takes P (n) |
| 38—B takes R | 38—Resigns. |

(a) Black has obtained a good development. The defence of this game ought always to be conducted on these lines. Black has lost nothing by not advancing his P to Q 4, as that move very often enables White, by playing P takes P at an opportune moment, to open up the same; and as may be seen from the position, unless Black does play P to Q 4 there seems little hope for White's Q B to get into play. As regards the move of Kt to R 5, Black would not have lost anything by delaying it a move or so until he has played Q Kt to Q 5, so as to be able to support that knight by playing Q Kt to K B 4 after playing P to K B 4, which gives Black a very strong position.

(b) Up to this point Black has made an excellent disposition of his forces. Here, however, he commits an error of judgment. His knight is very strongly posted, and he ought not to have exchanged. There is no objection to Black's playing P to B 4.

(c) If Kt to Kt 5, White plays B to B 5.
(d) White has cleverly transferred the knight to a place of greater defensive utility.

(e) Black's last move was rather of a deep and complicated nature. If 23—B takes P, Black would probably have replied with Kt takes B P, and in any case, whether queen or king took this knight, White's bishop on B 5 would be pinned, and Black would have no difficulty in gaining his piece back with additional advantage.

(f) Another splendid defensive move, the intention being to transfer this bishop to the King's side, or to play B to Q 2, threatening P to K 4, &c.
(g) A counter-attack of a very peculiar nature. White could of course have defended his pawn by playing simply P to K B 4, but that move would provide a specially convenient square for the Black knight, either on K 5 or Kt 5 later on, besides weakening the White K P. White therefore goes in for a deep counter-attack, the effect of which he must have foreseen.
(h) If R to K 5, White plays B to B 6.
(i) White had a bad game he therefore does not shrink from this heroic line of play which at once relieves his game and provides him with some compensation for his queen, though the two pieces in ordinary circumstances would be barely sufficient.
(j) This looks a tempting move, but it did not turn out well, as it allowed White's K P to pass. He could not play Kt takes P on account of P to R 4. It was perhaps best not to take the pawn at all, and content himself with keeping what he has got by retiring his Q to Q sq., and to remain on the defensive for a time.

until all danger from these centre pawns had passed. Kt to B 3 might also have been played.
(1) Black should have had a more effective move at his disposal R to Q sq. was much superior.
(2) This is worst of all, as Black wants this bishop to help him to stop the advancing pawns.
(3) An oversight. Black must have overlooked that after 58—B takes R, Q to B 8 ch, 59—Kt to B sq. covers the rook; but in any case he would hardly have succeeded for long in stopping White's pawns.

AMERICAN CHESS NOTES.

(From the San Francisco Chronicle, August 29th, 1896.)

Jackson W. Showalter arrived in New York on Thursday from Nuremberg and appeared to be in the best of health. He was inclined to talk about the great tournament in which he fared so badly, and mentioned many interesting details of the great struggle.

"Maroczy, winner of the second prize," Showalter states, "is not only a handsome man and a splendid player, but proved, also, to be a capital fellow, and was much interested in America, so much so, indeed, that he might be easily induced to make us a visit ere long and exhibit his chess skill. It is not unlikely that he would play a match in this country if one could be arranged. Maroczy is of real Magyar blood and occupies an important post as engineer of water works at Budapest. He is but 26 years of age."

Showalter is loud in his praises of Pillsbury. He states that Pillsbury's score after his start, where he was too ill to play, and consequently lost three games out of his first five, was wonderful, and that a less plucky man would have broken down utterly. Pillsbury, however, said nothing, but went to bed every night at 9 o'clock and gave his whole mind to winning. He certainly deserves all his success and more for the struggle that he made. His winning from Tarrasch, Tschigorin, Lasker and Steinitz is considered a most wonderful feat in Europe.

In speaking of his own play, Showalter says: "My own score was so bad that in connection with the games themselves every chess player must admit there was something wrong. That something, so far as I can understand it myself, was simply due to the hour for commencing play. The clocks were started at 9 o'clock every morning, and that involved my getting up at about 6 o'clock an hour at which I had much rather retire than rise. The force of a long continued habit would not permit me to sleep before 1 a.m., and as a consequence I was irresistibly drowsy during the early hours of play each day and was generally beaten at an early stage. Some of the games I prolonged in a desperate effort to draw them. Most of the games in which I had a winning advantage, notably in the game with Lasker, I threw away. I simply could not play good chess at 9 o'clock in the morning, and I should have to faithfully practice for a full twelvemonth before I could be in a condition to play at that hour. Except that I was unable to do myself justice, I enjoyed my visit immensely, and I hope it will be possible to organize a great international tournament in 1897."

"SHORT SHARP SHOCKS."

GAME No. 577.

WHITE. Mr. Shelley.	BLACK. Mr. Godhard.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to KB 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to Q 5 (a)
4—Kt takes P? (b)	4—Q to Kt 4
5—B takes P ch. (c)	5—K to K 2
6—P to KB 4	6—Q takes Kt P
7—R to B sq.	7—Q takes P ch.
8—K to B 2	8—Q takes P ch.
9—K to Kt sq.	9—Q takes Kt
10—Kt to B 3 (d)	10—Kt to KB 3
11—B to B 4	11—K to Q sq.
12—P to Q 3	12—B to B 4
13—K to R sq.	13—P to Q Kt 4 (e)
14—B to B 4	14—B to Kt 2 ch.
15—B to Q 5	15—B takes B
16—Kt takes B	16—Q takes Kt ch.

and White resigned.

(a) A trap move which the beginner should study.
(b) Kt takes Kt is of course far better.
(c) If 5—Kt takes P, Q takes Kt P; 6—R to B sq., Q takes K P ch., and wins.
(d) 10—R to K sq. loses, Q takes R, ch. being Black's reply.
(e) Played well. Black now focuses his B's on the enemy with killing effect.

GAME No. 578.

KING'S GAMBIT EVASDED.

WHITE. Mr. A. Charlick.	BLACK. Mr. Hocking.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to KB 4	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to KB 3	3—B to Q 3
4—B to Q B 4	4—P to R 3
5—Castles	5—B to Q B 4 ch.
6—K to R sq.	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q B 3	7—B to Kt 5
8—Q to Kt 3	8—B to K R 4

9—P takes P
10—Kt takes Kt
11—B takes P ch.
12—Q to K 6 mate.—*Adelaide Observer.*

GAME No. 579.

KING'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Mr. Burt.	BLACK. Mr. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to KB 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to KB 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—B to Kt 2
5—P to B 3	5—P to Kt 5
6—Q to Kt 3	6—P takes Kt
7—B takes P ch.	7—K to B sq.
8—B takes Kt	8—R takes B
9—Castles?	

Mr. Blackburne now announced a mate in nine moves. Thus:—

1.....	1—B to Q 5 ch.
2—R to B 2 (best)	2—R takes P ch.
3—K to B sq.	3—R takes R ch.
4—K to K sq.	4—R to B 8 ch.
5—K takes R	5—Q to Kt 4
6—Q to Kt 4 ch.	6—P to Q 3
7—Q takes P ch.	7—P takes Q
8—P takes B	8—Q to Kt 7 ch.
9—K to Q sq.	9—Q mates.— <i>Ibid.</i>

GAME No. 580.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. Napier.	BLACK. Mr. Ruth.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q B 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—Kt to B 3	3—P to K Kt 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—Kt takes P	5—B to Kt 2
6—B to K 3	6—P to K 4
7—K Kt to Kt 5	7—B to K B sq.
8—Q Kt to Q 5	8—K B to Kt 5 ch.
9—P to Q B 3	9—K B to R 4
10—P to Q Kt 4	10—K Kt to K 2

and White mates in two!!—*Ibid.*

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual meeting was held at the Club rooms, on Thursday. The Club appears to be flourishing financially, although the 44 members on the roll seem to have been pretty lazy during the last season. Doubtless the absence of opponents has caused a lack of interest, but this should not be. The President said that the members apparently thought it only necessary to come out for training just before a contest was coming off. He pointed out that this was not sufficient: a standing army ought to be kept continually at exercise so as to be ready to enter the field at a moment's notice.

Mr. Komor proposed "that in case the Tokyo Chess Club found themselves unable to meet us in match-play this winter, we should arrange matches among ourselves, the members taking sides against each other."

This was greeted with enthusiasm, and Mr. Komor added to the Committee. Such a scheme ought to work well. There is no reason why we should not see matches within the Club between "the President's team" and "the Secretary's team," and so forth, just as we have in the local Cricket Club.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 10th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, Oct. 7th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Oct. 12th.
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 8th.
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Wednesday, Oct. 7th.
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 10th.
From Canada	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 12th.

* City of Peking left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 28th. 1 Oceanian (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 29th. 1 Doric left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 30th. 1 Empress of Japan left Hongkong on September 30th. 1 Capricorn left Hongkong on September 30th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shang-hai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 4th.
For Canada, etc.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 9th.
For Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 10th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 10th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 11th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 11th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 11th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 12th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 26th September.—Tacoma, Wash., 6th September, and Victoria, B.C., 7th, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carllil & Co.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Ramon Miray, 26th September.—Manila, via Kobe 24th September, General.—Browne & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Mumesono, 26th September.—Kobe 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 27th September.—Vancouver, B.C., 15th September, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Erato, German steamer, 2,377, F. Ostermann, 27th September.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 27th September.—Otaru via ports, 23rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glaucus, British steamer, 3,086, Bauvire, 27th September.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 26th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kashing, British steamer, 1,157, Hopkins, 27th September.—Shanghai, via Kobe 25th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kaiser (15), German flagship, Captain Faeslike, 27th September.—Hakodate 25th September.

Irene (22), German cruiser, Captain von Dresky, 27th September.—Hakodate 25th September.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 27th September.—Hongkong via ports, 13th September, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, J. Watson, 28th September.—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,541, J. F. Allen, 29th September.—Ujina 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaisen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, R. Yano, 29th September.—Ujina 25th September, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dorothea Rickmers, German steamer, 2,460, Pope, 29th September.—Hamburg via ports, Kobe 28th September, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,010, R. Tippet, 29th September.—London via ports, Kobe 28th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ninsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, 29th September.—Sakata and Niigata, 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 29th September.—Otaru via ports, 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, K. Yabe, 29th September.—Kobe 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, U.S. flagship, Captain J. G. Read, 30th September.—Yokosuka 30th September.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 30th September.—Hongkong via ports, 22nd September, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 30th September.—Hamanaki 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, Shimadzu, 30th September.—Yokkaichi 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 1st October.—London via ports, and Kobe 29th September, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, E. G. Olsen, 1st October.—Kobe 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 1st October.—Yokkaichi 30th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,504, Unruh, 2nd October.—Batavia via ports, and Kobe 30th September, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, J. W. Ekstrand, 2nd October.—Shanghai via ports, 26th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 2nd October.—Hongkong via ports, 25th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Mumesono, 2nd October.—Kobe 1st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakamura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, S. Kawamuro, 2nd October.—Otaru via ports, 28th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Peter Rickmers, German ship, 2,815, J. H. Westermeyer, 26th September.—New York via Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 26th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Curnow, 26th September.—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, E. G. Olsen, 26th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, G. Shi-

madzu, 26th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telena, British steamer, 5,100, Scott, 26th September.—Kobe, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Zaragoza, Mexican corvette, Admiral A. O. Monasterio, 26th September.—Nagasaki.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Cuboto, 27th September.—Mororan, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwang-li, Chinese steamer, 1,505, Wallace, 27th September.—Tientsin, passengers.—Chinese.

Mitsui Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, C. Young, 27th September.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, J. Truebridge, 27th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 27th September.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 28th September.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, W. Giese, 28th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 28th September.—Portland, Oregon, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Munemoto, 28th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, J. Watson, 29th September.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Barstow, 29th September.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 29th September.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dimitri Donkoi (20), Russian cruiser, Captain Vitgift, 29th September.—Nagasaki.

Oak Branch, British steamer, 2,264, K. Shiel, 29th September.—Mojj, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ghases, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 30th September.—Kobe, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Fava, British steamer, 2,733, F. J. Chelwell, 30th September.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,541, J. F. Allen, 30th September.—Taiwan, Troops.—Navy Department.

Gaisen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, R. Vano, 30th September.—Taiwan, Troops.—Navy Department.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, Barden, 30th September.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,795, McIvor, 30th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benvoirlich, British steamer, 3,086, John H. Clark, 30th September.—Kobe, General.—Corney & Co.

Kashing, British steamer, 1,157, Hopkins, 30th September.—Mojj, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Andelana, British ship, 2,395, John Gillis, 1st October.—San Francisco, Ballast.—Captain.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, K. Yabe, 2nd October.—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salvadora, Spanish steamer, 978, Ramon Miray, 2nd October.—Manila, General.—Browne & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, E. G. Olsen, 2nd October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 952, G. Shimadzu, 2nd October.—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 2nd October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 2nd October.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Erato, German steamer, 2,377, F. Ostermann, 3rd October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Lieut. and Mrs. R. A. Brown, Mrs. Schiller, Miss Schiller, Mrs. A. Fried, and Mr. C. Carrothers in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. Abegg, Miss K. M. Allan, Miss Allen, Mr. F. A. Bell, Mr. H. Bell, Mrs. J. B. Berries, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Mr. H. Burman, Rev. and Mrs. Burke and three children, Lieut. A. F. Brugman, Miss E. H. Brugman,

Miss Calkoen, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Cummings, Mr. Chas. H. Cummings, Mrs. Chas. H. Cummings, Mrs. Cushing, two children and maid, Mr. and Mrs. P. de Bathe, Mr. H. G. de Bathe, Miss de Bathe, Mr. and Mrs. de Somon, Mrs. Fanning and maid, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Faithfull, Mrs. Fearon and child, Dr. and Mrs. Fest and three children, Mr. Geo. Flood, Miss J. J. Fullerton, Miss May Foster, Mr. A. Frugier, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Gardiner, Miss Gardiner, Miss Gaynor, Mr. G. T. Gerlinger, Miss Gillman, Miss Goodsell, Mrs. M. B. Gorham, Miss Gorham, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gribble, Mr. Goto, Mrs. W. H. Harris, Miss Harris, Miss Harris, Miss Hartford, Mrs. Hartwell and two children, Miss Hartwell, Major Hutchinson, Rev. J. Huber, Mr. Hwang Kai-wei, Dr. Irwin, Miss Ireson, Mr. K. Kikuchi, His Excellency Li Hung-chang, Lord Li Chang Fong, Mr. Li Chung Son, Mr. Lien Fung, Mr. Lih Pang Ho, Mr. Lin Y. You, Mr. Lo Yuen Luh, Mr. and Mrs. Layton, children and maid, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. May and two children, Mr. Harry McCalmont, M.P., and servant, Mr. H. McColl, Mr. H. Neville, Mr. Ninei, Baron Oberkampff, Miss Oberkampff and maid, Mr. Okochi, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Otte and children, Mr. W. S. Potter, Rev. R. A. Parker, Mrs. Purdy, Miss M. A. Pyke, Mr. Geo. Pyot, Mr. Jas. Pyot, Mr. J. Stafford Ransome, Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Miss Robb, Miss E. H. Rodman, Rev. L. H. Roots, Rev. and Mrs. Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. R. Simpson, Mrs. Skottow, Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Smith, Mr. Stevens, Mr. R. H. Strangman, Rev. and Mrs. W. P. Turner, Miss Trimble, Mr. G. Unwin, Miss Wells, and Miss Whong in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 264 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Major and Mrs. C. A. Bartlett, Lieut. and Mrs. Boudilowsky, Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Mr. E. A. Ram, Mr. M. M. Kuhn, Mr. S. Komor, Dr. Moore Graham, Mr. F. C. Barto, Mr. Jose Vidal, and Mr. J. N. Copman in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Cochran, Mr. and Mrs. Von Bulow, 3 children and European nurse, Mr. N. Vikoffsky, Mrs. Laurence, Mr. I. Steuart, Mr. James Dalziel, and Mr. H. Borden in cabin.

Per British steamer *Glenshiel*, from London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Edlin, Messrs. Josse and Wills in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Truscott, child and amah, Mrs. H. Hazen, Mrs. Ishikawa, Miss Herriman, Miss Scovill, Captain T. Ota, Colonel Watanabe, Mrs. J. E. Avery, Messrs. C. Yamaji, W. Dunmore, R. Kondo, E. Kunhardt, M. Hotta, T. Futami, H. B. Brindley, H. B. Collins, W. A. Moller, J. R. Mikkers, and E. Miller in cabin; Mr., Mrs. and Miss T. Shimoyama, Mr. Ashidate, Mrs. and Miss Imai, Messrs. Gray, T. Kono, Ohashi, Latane, Bernard, Fukushima, I. Tanaka, R. Kono, S. Hagiwara, M. Kosaka, and G. W. Bidwell in second class; 47 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Waddell and four children, Messrs. A. M. Gale, C. N. Barker, J. A. Wilder, C. Schwenke, B. Bowie, W. Biscup, E. Krug, C. Henser, E. A. Smith, and A. Riege in cabin; two Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Webb, Mrs. F. C. Farmer, infant and amah, Mr. G. A. Diss, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. Sakio Choh, Mr. Taisuke Takata, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baue, child and infant, Miss Barker, Mrs. W. Church and servant, Mrs. J. W. Caine, Mrs. Kenderdine and amah, Mr. T. Webb, Mr. Cecil, Mr. H. S. Brindley, and Miss Varnum in cabin; 2 Chinese and 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss V. Deady Keane, Miss M. C. Morrison, Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Hodges, Rev. J. E. Pease, Messrs. J. R. Oliver and A. H. Wheeler, Mr. Oberst Ketschmar, Mrs. John Gibson, Mrs. C. E. Colehan and child, Mr. Chun Chung Yun, Mr. J. M. Collum, Mr. Barnes Dallas and Miss Dallas, Dr. W. E. Macklin, Mr. and Mrs. John Magee, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Ellsworth, Mr. F. S. Blackwell, Mr. E. T. Shorland, Mrs. D. E. Brown, Mrs. Post and maid, Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Coultas and son, Mrs. A. K. Craddock, child and infant, Mr. Geo. Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. A. Grey, Mrs. Grant and infant, Surgeon-Major Doyle, Mr. H. Maister, Dr. Pschor, Mrs. Platt, Miss Atherley, Lieutenant C. U. Percival, Captain J. M. Benson, Miss Baker, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Hancock, Mr. Tseng Chuck Hein, Mrs. J. H. S. Lockhart, child and infant, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mrs. Kirch and infant, Mr. J. S. Fearon, Miss Melbourne, Mr. C. S. Joslyn, Rev. and Mrs. Van Horn, Mr. H. J. Davison, Mrs. Dudgeon, child and infant, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Joliffe, Mr. Chas. Rogers, Mrs. M. Beaumont, Mrs. and Miss Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. Justice Blair, Mrs. Gilmour, Misses Gilmour (2), two

children and nurse, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. W. J. Palmer, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. K. Inouye, Mr. M. Fukuzawa, Dr. and Mrs. Begg, Miss Kate Lay, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. R. Toovey, Mr. J. E. Pease, Mrs. Maiklin and four children, Lady Hannen and son, Miss Hannen, Mr. F. E. White, Mr. A. Kingdon, Mr. A. B. Walford, Mr. H. S. Goddard, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Pearson, Mr. Jas. Flood, Captain Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Mrs. F. E. Meigs, child and infant, Mrs. L. Mason, Rev. and Mrs. N. P. Turner, Mr. Soon Ho Chan, Rev. H. Loomis, Miss Davis, Sir N. J. Hannen, Bishop McKim, Mrs. Cole, Mr. Gardiner, and Mr. E. B. Skottowe in cabin; Mr. E. C. L. Wallace and Mr. K. Yoda in second class, and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Aufliatte, Dr. J. Harris, Mr. K. Oguri, Mr. F. H. Olmsted, Mr. Geo. Buysfield, Miss A. Dowd, Mr. L. D. Abraham, and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. MacLwaine and child in cabin; Mr. C. F. Luther, Mr. B. Juji, and Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe in second class. For Kelung:—Mr. A. Tokure in cabin. For Fusan:—Mr. N. Tanaka in cabin. For Chemulpo:—Mr. M. P. S. Mackenzie and Mr. and Mrs. K. Ishii in cabin; Mr. S. Tano in second class. For Shimonoeki:—Mr. N. Yokota in second class. For Nagasaki:—Miss Naka Glover, Mr. Arthur Wilm, Mr. S. Takano, and Mr. A. Uyeno in cabin; Mrs. Yahagi and Mrs. Tominaga in second class. For Shanghai:—Dr. and Mrs. Hodge and child, Mr. L. S. Tiemann, Captain William Smith, and Mrs. Yuwa Chinda and 2 children in cabin; 95 passengers in steerage in all ports.

Per British steamer *Fava*, for London via ports:—Messrs. W. F. Narriaway, R. W. Cral, Carter, W. J. Morse, J. R. Michael, J. North, and W. H. Gill in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Count Anenokoji, Mr. and Mrs. F. von Bulow, three children and governess, Mr. and Mrs. Cochran, Mr. and Mrs. R. Fenton, Miss Fenton, Messrs. K. Horiguchi, A. Kasianoff, H. B. Kendrick, F. von Perkan, G. Kastrioto Seanderbek, M. Stempel, and N. Vikoffsky in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 193 bales; Waste Silk, 35 bales.

Per British steamer *Mount Lebanon*, for Portland, Oregon:—

	TRA.		NEW YORK		PACIFIC		TOTAL
	CANADA AND WEST.	EAST.	COAST.	PAKAGE.	COAST.	PAKAGE.	
Amoy.....	—	—	3,361	—	—	—	3,361
Yokohama ..	—	—	253	—	806	—	1,059
Total	—	—	3,614	—	806	—	4,420

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$3,800.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	TRA.		NEW YORK		PACIFIC		TOTAL
	FRANCISCO.	CHICAGO.	ODDEN.	TEAL.	CITTES.	TOCAL.	
Yokohama. 261	—	—	—	—	—	—	261
Hongkong. 572	—	—	—	—	—	—	572
Total ... 833	—	—	—	—	—	—	833

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Dull and inanimate all round. Buyers generally appear to have filled their immediate requirements, and are now content to wait for a favourable market, before going on with purchases.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 43 inches	2.75 to 3.20
1. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.05 to 2.45
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattens black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER YARD.
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 12 1/2 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLEN.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	0.30 to 0.33 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Common	0.15 to 0.22
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloth—Pilots, 51 & 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloth—Presidents, 51 & 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloth—Union, 51 & 56 inches	0.10 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$17.00 to 38.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 52, Doubles	50.00 to 51.00
Nos. 2 60, Plain	68.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

No change in the situation, but if anything the dullness is intensified. Prices nominally the same as last week, but drooping.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.40 to 3.45
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	3.45 to 3.50
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.40 to 3.50
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.60 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheet	9.20 to 9.60
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.40
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.62 to 1.65

IRONSTEEL.

Market good and strong. Holders now asking a further advance in price.

American	\$2.20
Russian	2.20 to 2.22
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

A fair business. Takao Brown has sold well at a marked advance, while other descriptions have moved satisfactorily at slightly better rates than those quoted last week. White—Sale of Taiwanfo at \$7.40. Refined, quiet and unchanged.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$4.15 to 4.30
Brown Manila	5.10 to 5.20
Brown Daiteng	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton	3.50 to 4.60
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7.50
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The active demand continued until about 2,000 piculs were settled. At that point dealers stopped the trade by putting up their selling prices from \$30 to \$50 per picul. Hence we withdraw quotations until a regular market is again established.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nominal.
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	
Kakedas—Extra	
Kakedas—No. 1	
Kakedas—No. 2	
Kakedas—No. 3	

WASTE SILK.

A slight movement at last, buyers enquiring for low qualities. The market ought soon to assume a regular course, with reliable quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	—
Noshi—Filature, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—

TEA.

Considerable buying, principally in Common to Medium grades. Supplies come to hand slowly, the communications being still imperfect and freight trains stalled in many places. Consequently the

stock here is more or less depleted, and prices have risen accordingly.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$25 to \$26
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	21 to 22
Good Medium	19 to 20
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	15 to 16
Common	13 to 14

EXCHANGE.

There has been no alteration in rates of exchange during the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2
— — Bills on demand	2/1 1/2
— — 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.65
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.69
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 % p.
— — Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight	72 1/2
On India—Bank sight	178
— — Private 30 days' sight	182
On America—Bank Bills on demand ..	51
— — Private 4 months' sight	53
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.18
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/2

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 1st.

Hongkong wires us the following quotations:—
H. & S. Banks 100 per cent. Sales; Hongkong Lands \$75 Buyers; China Fines \$96 Buyers; H. & W. Docks 203 per cent. Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$58.50 Buyers; Douglasses \$67 Sales; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.25 Sales; Pao-jous \$10 Sellers; Raubs \$5.50 Buyers; Balmorals \$2 Sellers; National Banks \$26.50 Nominal; Indo-Chinas \$47 Sellers; Straits \$27.50 Sellers; Unions \$250 ex dividend Sales; and China Traders \$81 Buyers. Geo. Fenwick has been sold to Hongkong today at \$29.50.

Langfeldts have changed hands at \$135. Iron Works are enquired for at \$110.

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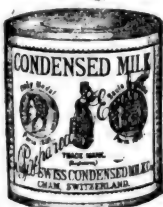
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No. 15.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 10TH, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 10TH, 1896.

BIRTHS.

On the 3rd inst., at 34, Yamamoto-dori, Ichome, Kobe, the wife of GEO. J. MELHUISH, of a son.
On Oct. 1st, at Hakodate, the wife of Rev. D. M. LANG, of a son.

DEATHS.

On Oct. 1st, at Hakodate, ADELAIDE NORTON, wife of Rev. D. M. Lang, aged 28 years.
On October 5th, at his residence, No. 273-B, Settlement, J. A. JARR, age 45.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE autumn regatta took place this afternoon.

A BAND of insurgents in Macedonia have annihilated a Turkish detachment of fifty men.

THE retrenchments in the Budget proposed by the new Cabinet total about thirty million yen.

THE maples on Higashi-yama, Kyoto, are said to have already begun to assume their autumn tints.

THERE have been three births and one death among the foreign population of Yokohama this week.

THE Scotsmen of Yokohama intend giving a ball on the 30th of November, St. Andrew's Day.

THE Yokohama Choral Society's first concert programme this season will include Cowen's "Sleeping Beauty."

LIEUT.-GENERAL OKU, Commander of the 5th Army Division, has been offered the Governor-General ship of Formosa.

F.I.H. PRINCE TSUNENO, and Teruhisao and Princess Tomiko left Tokyo for Hayama, Sagami, on Tuesday morning.

THE French press in welcoming the visit of the Czar as a guarantee of peace, hinted that Alsace-Lorraine was not forgotten.

A BOAT belonging to H.M.S. *Satellite* has capsized on the Alaskan coast. The first lieutenant and six men were drowned.

ONLY one of the four yacht races was finished on Saturday, the big boat *Mary* getting in on the last minute of her time allowance.

THE death is announced by drowning in Siberian waters, of Assistant-Paymaster Troughton, Secretary to Rear-Admiral Oxley, on this station.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, the pioneer vessel on the new Australian service, left Yokohama on Saturday. She had only 400 tons of cargo on board when she left Kobe.

JAPAN made a poor showing at cricket on Monday in the Interport match at Shanghai, being all out for 90. Shanghai made 176 for six wickets; then rain stopped the play.

THE autumn military manoeuvres are now taking place in different parts of the country. It is expected that the Emperor will inspect the troops who are encamped in Saitama Prefecture.

THE 3rd of November being Tenchosetsu (the Emperor's Birthday), Count Okuma, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, will give an entertainment to foreign and Japanese high officials.

REUTER learns that there will be no advance beyond Dongola this year, finances rendering it impossible. British and Egyptian Officers will administer the whole province of Dongola and organise the police.

GENERALS Nodzu, Yamaji, and Sakuma will all have seats in the new General Staff Office that is to be organized in November. Viscount Katsura will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Tokyo Bay Defence.

MAJOR-GENERAL NISHI, commander-in-Chief at Wei-hai-wei, and Major-General Kodama will be promoted Lieut.-Generals. The former will be made Commandant of an Army division after his return from Wei-hai-wei.

THE treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and China, having been sent to

Baron Hayashi, Minister to China, will be ratified about the 20th inst.

THE Seventh Anniversary of the attack on Count Okuma will be celebrated on the 18th instant at Waseda. This year the ceremonies will be more ornate than usual owing to the Count's re-entry into the Cabinet.

A HAVAS message, dated Paris 23rd September, states that there have been more engagements between the rebels in the Philippines and Spanish forces, resulting in the rebels being twice defeated, leaving 17 killed on the field.

SAID Khalid, who escaped to the German Consulate after the bombardment of the Sultan's Palace, has been conveyed on board a German warship at Zanzibar. The British Consul has protested against the action of the German officials.

THE English press, discussing the Czar's visit to England, emphasizes the fact that whatever may be the political effects, his Majesty has learned that the pro-Armenian movement in Great Britain is genuine and is wholly foreign to any political object.

THE Mitsui family have made the following contributions to relieve sufferers by the recent floods:—Yen 3,000 to Kyoto; yen 1,000 to Tokyo; yen 2,000 to Gifu and Miye Prefectures respectively; yen 1,000 to Aichi, Shiga, Nara, Osaka and Hyogo Prefectures respectively; and yen 1,000 to Akita Prefecture.

HIS MAJESTY the Czar has arrived in Paris where upwards of a million visitors are assembled. The weather was favourable and everything passed without a hitch, extraordinary enthusiasm being shown. His Majesty expressed gratification with his reception. President Faure, in toasting the Czar, referred to the union of the powerful Empire and the Republic as having a good effect for the general peace of Europe and as a union that will continue to extend good influence. In his reply, the Czar said that he was deeply touched by the welcome accorded him in Paris, and the tie between France and Russia will continue to have good influence.

THE Import trade has improved in general, though Textiles mostly remain dull, buyers seeming to be affected by the stringency of the money market. There is nothing doing in Yarns and Shirtings, and not much in Fancy Cottons, though super Blue Cambrics and Turkey Reds have had a fair turn. Woollens do not revive, and with the exception of a few Blankets, nothing has been moved in this department. There is at length a good general demand in the Metal market, and nearly all descriptions have been well taken at a considerable advance in prices. There is a large business in Kerosene, at a further advance. In the Sugar trade there have been heavy transactions in all descriptions of Brown, though rates have advanced considerably; in Whites there is a moderate business at full rates. The value of the principal Export has again seen a strong upward movement, and Silk has been extensively purchased at rates that must be called high. This business has been in full-sized Filatures and Reels for the States, prices for fine-size being nominal. At length a movement has been made in the Waste department, and holders having met buyers as to terms, a considerable quantity has passed the scales. The Tea trade is fairly active at full figures, and the stock is now much reduced. Exchange has been steady, the fluctuations having been very slight, but the general tendency of silver has been downward.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Monday next is waited for with eagerness by the public at large, for on that day the Premier will address an assembly of Local Governors as to the policy that the new Cabinet is resolved to pursue. The *Shimpo-to* were busy this week attempting to arrive at a previous understanding on the subject with the Premier. The *Fiji Shimpo* says that the representatives of the Party called on the Premier and laid before him the views that the Cabinet must adopt if it wishes to secure the support of the Party, and that the Premier refrained from making any definite observations.

In commercial circles signs of a panic are apparent. Thirteen wholesale cotton-cloth dealers of Tokyo are in difficulties, having negotiated bank-bills beyond their means. The same trouble has overtaken Mr. Sawa Kichiemon, the largest wholesale merchant in Kiryu. The amount of the aggregate debts is variously estimated, as is also the probable outcome of the complication. It is generally admitted that a reaction from the temporary enthusiasm into which the public were betrayed after the war has begun to set in, though none venture to predict its extent. In Osaka, the insolvency of the Union Savings Bank (capital 40,000 yen), and the suspension of payments by the Nakanoshima Bank (capital 100,000 yen), have caused considerable disturbance in the markets of that busy city.

The intelligence from Manila receives due attention at the hands of the vernacular papers. They assert that the Japanese Government should despatch one or more warships to the scene of the trouble, and must take steps to insure the safety of the lives and property of some seventeen Japanese subjects residing in Manila. The *Fumiuri* discusses the matter in a very strong tone. It alleges that the despatch of the Japanese Consul in Hongkong to the scene of disturbance is insufficient. Recourse must be had to the help of men-of-war. One of the tests for gauging the difference between the foreign policy of the present Government and that of the last, is furnished by the promptitude shown by the ministry in dealing with an important foreign question before the public begin to clamour for its settlement. Hence the *Fumiuri* regrets that more alacrity has not been displayed in the case of Manila.

The *Chuo* invites the attention of the new Foreign Minister to the same question. The Spanish Authorities, it argues, are not only endangering the lives and property of the Japanese residents, but are also endeavouring unjustly to create an unfavourable impression in Manila against Japan. Witness the arrest of a Japanese subject in the island and the search of the residences of two others, as also the apprehension of one old blind citizen of Manila merely because his son had been sent to Japan for purposes of study. And of two Manila doctors because they had visited Japan. The Japanese Government must demand satisfactory explanations from the Spanish Authorities, especially in connection with the treatment of the Japanese residents. The *Chuo* concludes by asking why men-of-war are not at once despatched.

The *Osaka Asahi* goes a step farther than even the *Kokumin*. It recommends that the present House of Representative be boldly dissolved at once, without waiting for its convocation. Our Osaka contemporary professes to have been so frequently disappointed by the specious promises of the Japanese Government, specially when presided over by Marquis Ito, that it does not repose much confidence in the so-called platform of the new Cabinet, which is to be made public a few days hence. If the Cabinet really desires to satisfy public expectations as to its competency, some bold stroke must be taken. The dissolution of the existing Parliament would be the best and fittest measure for the purpose. The new Cabinet has to strike out a path different from that pursued by

the last. Evidently, therefore, its measures can not secure the support of the present House, which gave its cordial approval to all the plans formulated by the Ito Cabinet. Further, if, as is generally believed, the Matsukata Cabinet intends to be the pioneer of responsible cabinets, still more cogent reasons present themselves for dissolving a House elected when political conditions were entirely different, for simultaneously with the introduction of a radical change in the administrative system, the people should effect a corresponding change in the composition of the Legislature. With that object, a new House should be elected before the opening of the tenth session.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* gives the *Shimpo-to* politicians a Roland for their Oliver. It bids them ponder well what is meant by such expressions as "invertebrateness," "unconditional surrender," "illegitimate connection," and so forth; expressions that they applied to the alliance between the Liberals and Marquis Ito's Cabinet. It believes that such expressions are really more applicable to the case of the *Shimpo-to* than to that of the Liberals, who, impelled by the unavoidable circumstances of the time, and appreciating the gravity of the situation resulting from the War, effected an entente with the Ito Cabinet without fixing any conditions of the alliance, but on the broad promise of moving hand in hand-in-hand with mutual sincerity and friendship, and conforming their acts to the dictate of the great principles of the Constitution. Are there any grave circumstances that necessitate the "unconditional surrender" of the *Shimpo-to* to the new Cabinet? None whatever. The *Shimpo-to* contended, in the last session of the Diet, that the expansion of the Army must be limited to one-half of the original programme, and they regarded with disfavour the second-period programme of naval expansion. Has the new Cabinet satisfied them on those points? By no means. The Budget for the coming year has been framed, according to public report, practically on the basis of the previous Cabinet's financial measures. In short, the *Shimpo-to* are in danger of really meriting the odious epithets that they unjustly applied to the Liberals, unless they take some decisive step as to their relations with the Matsukata Cabinet.

With admirable earnestness the *Fiji* has devoted itself this week entirely to upholding the cause of Naval expansion. It has published three or four articles on the subject, viewed from different stand-points. It argues that Japan is essentially a military country, in striking contrast to the pre-eminence given to learning in China and Korea, and that, therefore, just as the *Samurai* felt uneasy when they did not wear swords, or did not have them close at hand, so the Japanese people feel uneasy when they are without efficient armaments. The motive of the present expansion of national armaments being referable to that cause, the world need not be alarmed at it. In another article the *Fiji* insists that the strengthening of the national armaments is not for purposes of war, but simply to give efficiency to the State's diplomacy. In a third article it returns to the position that the question of Naval expansion must be taken in advance of that of the Army, and that Japan must go to the utmost limit of her resources in respect of the former.

The *Nippon* doubts whether the public do not carry their zeal for national defence too far. So intolerant has public opinion grown in this matter that anybody daring to question the wisdom of military expansion incurs the risk of being denounced as a traitor. People seem to have forgotten that without losing even one soldier Russia has realized in the East such schemes as the Russo-Chinese Bank and the Russo-Korean Railway. Carried away by military ardour, the public seem to have forgotten to bestow due attention on questions of domestic organization and reform. Have they duly considered, for example, the problems of encouraging navigation and ship-building, and improving railway communication? The *Nippon* wonders that persons so enthusiastic about military programmes should be so careless of many im-

portant measures having an intimate relation to the efficiency of the Navy and the Army.

The *Mainichi* also desires to warn the public against ill-considered expansion of the Army and the Navy, for however formidable the appearance these may present, they can be nothing more than a splendid display if the country lacks means to employ them effectively. Our contemporary points to the last War and explains how far the triumph obtained was ascribable to the surplus in the possession of the Treasury.

The *Kokumin* poses as the champion of the rising generation. Many names, it says, appear in the pages of the vernacular papers as fresh candidates for ministerial seats and as officials competent to supersede the worn-out statesman now monopolizing power. Yet, no great confidence can be reposed in the reputed competency of these so-called fresh candidates. They are not men of a new generation. Born either in the *Kaei* (1848-53) or *Ansei* (1854-59) era, and educated in the old manner of teaching English, current at that time, their brain-fibre is generally of poor quality; they are unsystematic, illogical, and lacking in constructive ability. Destined as they are to succeed the senior statesmen, all that can be said of them is that they will serve to fill the gaps created by the withdrawal of their seniors from the field of active politics. They are merely media for transferring the power of which they will be temporary repositories to men of the younger generation, who are more competent in all respects. The new candidates, when really installed in important offices of State, will soon exhaust the patience of the public, just as the elder statesmen have already done. Therefore steps must be taken from this time forth to furnish men that will satisfy the nation. The best plan will be to amend the Law of Election of the House of Representatives, in the sense of lowering the age-limit of men eligible for election to 20 years, and the property qualification to the payment of taxes amounting to 5 yen, and finally to increase the number of members to 500 or 600.

The resignation of Mr. Miyoshi, Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, has been discussed by the *Nichi Nichi*. The cause of his resignation is understood to be incompatibility between his views and those of the majority of the Judges that were appointed to investigate Judge Besho's case. While some papers construe the affair in a sense not favourable to the ex-Chief Justice, the *Nichi Nichi* is inclined to take a more magnanimous view. It contends that the gravity of the question at issue justified Mr. Miyoshi in dissenting from the opinion of the majority which he could not conscientiously approve. It was a delicate question, appealing to his sense of right. That he obeyed the dictates of conscience although obedience involved resignation of the highest post in the Judiciary, redounds to his credit and integrity. This observation gathers additional strength when it is remembered that the post of chief justice, while carrying with it the relative rank of a Minister of State or Privy Councillor, has a far stronger basis of tenure, being a life appointment.

The *Shogyo* rejoices at the recent sudden briskness of the silk market, after months of extraordinary depression. On July 27th, the quotation stood as low as 660 yen per bale of the Kaimeisha chop, but it has now risen to 860 yen. This unusual appreciation is attributed by the *Shogyo* to the decline in the gold price of silver, as also to the scarcity abroad. The following table shows the quantity of silk exported from Yokohama during the last two years up to September 4th, and that exported during the corresponding period of this year:—

	To America, bales.	To Europe, bales.	Total, bales.
1894	7,759	7,331	15,090
1895	11,739	10,414	22,153
1896	2,205	2,358	4,563

The quantity exported this year amounts to only one-fifth of that exported last year.

The *Fumiuri* writes strongly on the vexed question of the Sout-Fusan Railway. "We have

once argued observes," that paper, "that Japan must choose one of two alternatives in connection with this flagrant injustice on the part of Korea; namely, either to have recourse to force, or to sever relations with that country. But the time does not warrant the former alternative, and therefore Japan must content herself by declaring the Treaty between Japan and Korea null and void, and by placing her relations with the little Kingdom on the footing of non-Treaty Powers. Some may object to so drastic a measure and may argue that Japan's withdrawal from the sphere of Korean politics would be to abandon the field altogether to Russia. The *Yomiuri* cannot share that apprehension, seeing that even while Japan preserves treaty relations with Korea, Russia has pushed her influence in the Peninsula to the utmost limit of decency. If Russia wants to go a step further, she can only annex the peninsula, a proceeding that even she must hesitate to adopt in the face of the understanding of 1886 with England. Another probable objection is that to sever treaty relations would seriously impair the commercial intercourse of the two countries. The *Yomiuri* does not apprehend anything of the kind, for the Japanese residents in Korea would be placed under the protection of some Foreign Representative. But even if the trade with Korea were reduced to nothing, no great harm would result, for it does not amount to more than about 2 million yen. Japan can well afford to sacrifice such a petty source of income for the sake of maintaining her dignity.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DEATH OF MR. J. A. JARK.

We regret to announce the death, early on Monday morning, of Mr. J. A. Jark, who succumbed to an attack of diabetes, at the comparatively early age of 45. The deceased first came to Japan about ten years ago, and then returned home. After a while he came out again to represent in Japan the big French firm of Orosdi, Bock, of Paris, and has been living at 273-B Settlement since the beginning of the year. The deceased gentleman was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and passed up into the higher degrees of the Ancient Scottish Rite.

The remains of the late Mr. J. A. Jark were cremated on Wednesday at the Yokohama Crematorium. Previous to this ceremony, a Lodge of Sorrow was convened by Lodge "Star in the East," 640 S.C. at the Masonic Temple, the W. M., Mr. H. W. Lea, taking the principal part. The coffin was covered with beautiful wreaths sent by Messrs. E. Binder, E. Berger, C. Bretschneider, R. Bleifuss, O. Bergmann, F. Bielfeld, the Club Germania, Mr. J. G. Doering, Establishment Orosdi-Bock, Messrs. R. Fachtmann, J. Feicke, H. V. Gielen, E. C. Fox, A. Holm, M. Kaufmann, O. Keil, H. Koch, E. Leopold, "Star in the East" Lodge, "Dai Nippon Chapter" of Rose Croix, Messrs. E. Orth, J. Okada, A. Oehmichen, J. P. Paulsen, G. Petersen, Th. Ruehen, O. Schinne, P. Schramm, J. Schedel, J. Tornoe, J. Westphalen, Ueno, Nagai, S. Sarahiya, Murai, H. Kanemoto, Kaneko, B. Kagiage, and the Nippon Gami Kaisha. Among those present at the Masonic Temple or at the Crematorium, were Messrs. H. W. Lea, C. D. Moss, R. N. St. John, F. Retz; and P. Chirou, P. Launay, Marquis de Nembrini, Bruehl, O. Meyer, J. Helm, A. Baud, G. Stadelmann, A. Dumelin, J. Diak, S. Tschuchiy, Dr. Eldridge, Dr. Howe, W. Braune, Chas. F. Rhine, and nearly the whole of the Swiss and German community.

NAVAL ENTERTAINMENT.

"SEMPER IDEM" writes:—On Thursday evening, 24th September, at Korniloff Bay, H.M.S. *Undaunted* gave a very pleasant farewell entertainment to the Squadron, at which the Commander-in-Chief and his staff, together with a large number of Officers and men from all the ships at anchor there, were present. The programme, which was divided into three parts, was chiefly sustained by the Officers, whose

hearty efforts were thoroughly appreciated by all. The first part consisted of J. M. Morton's brilliant little Farce "An unwarrantable Intrusion," cleverly acted by Dr. McNabb and Staff-Engineer Rayner. The former played with the cool assurance that only long practice and natural talent can produce, and was ably backed up by *Snoodle*, who, however, displayed rather eccentric than low comedy in his reception of the intruder. The second part was equally successful, the Quartette being energetically encored, whilst Hill's Hornpipe met with well merited applause. The Programme concluded with the sensational drama "Rosebud of Stinging-nettle Farm" developed into a burlesque. The excellent acting and topical songs called forth round after round of genuine appreciation and hearty laughter. Mr. Rayner, as *Farmer Turmutfield*, was in his element, and his quaint rendering of entirely new words to a good old song occasioned repeated recalls. Mr. Kitching, as *Sir Narcissus Slapdash* (the villain of the piece), both looked and acted his part, the careful attention paid to "make-up" greatly increasing the effect of an exceptionally good performance. *Hugly* was so realistic as the tramp and ticket-of-leave man, that the fell purpose for which "he had kept himself respectable" was plainly discernible in the glare of his "beetle-browed eyes." Dr. McNabb's acting is too well-known in the squadron to require further remark than that in the last piece he was quite up to his usual form. Mr. Anderson, as *Giles Furrow*, did uncommonly well in an always trying position, the stage lover, but his success perhaps was not surprising, after a glance at the blushing *Rose*, represented by Mr. Talbot-Ponsonby, the tact and good taste of whose acting was only equalled by the piquancy of his get-up. The whole entertainment, including the stage, was thoroughly ship-shape, and the guests were most hospitably entertained throughout the evening.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.
A Farce in 1 Act, by John Maddison Morton, entitled "An unwarrantable Intrusion."
CHARACTERS.
Mr. Nathaniel Snoodle Staff-Engineer A. Rayner
The Intruder Surgeon D. I. P. McNabb
PART II.
Quartette:—Messrs. C. Oxford, E.R.A.; T. Bowdler, Ldg. Stoker; Assist.-Engineer C. F. L. Donkig; and Surgeon D. I. P. McNabb.
Hornpipe J. Hill, Able Seaman.
PART III.
Sensational Drama
"The Rosebud of Stinging-Nettle Farm."
CHARACTERS.
Farmer Turmutfield Staff-Engineer A. Rayner.
Sir Nathaniel Slapdash Assist.-Eng. H. W. Kitching.
Hugly (A Tramp) Surgeon, D. I. P. McNabb.
Giles Furrow Midshipman L. G. Anderson.
Rose Turmutfield Midshipman F. W. Talbot-Ponsonby.
Chorus of Yokels and Maidens By the Company.
Musical arrangements under the conductorship of Mr. Harrison, Bandmaster.
"God save the Queen."

SUDDEN DEATHS IN YOKOHAMA.

Two shockingly sudden deaths occurred in Yokohama on Sunday. James Harrison, about 48 years of age, who was paid off, as a hunter, from the *Golden Fleece* a few days ago, went into a public-house on Honmura Road, in an intoxicated condition on Saturday night. When the house closed, he was allowed to sleep in the bar-room. Next morning, about 5 o'clock, he was found to be suffering terrible pain, and Mr. J. Kernan was called in. Kernan ordered the barman to give the poor fellow a glass of brandy and peppermint, but before this could be administered the man expired. Dr. Munro, who appeared just after life was extinct, found that death was due to alcoholic poisoning.—The other case is extremely pitiful. James Nelson, a Swedish sailor on board the U.S.S. *Olympia*, came ashore on Saturday and put up at the Central Hotel. He retired to rest about half past eight in a perfectly sober condition. About 11 o'clock a guest at the hotel noticed a pronounced smell of gas, and traced it to the bedroom occupied by Nelson. The room was entered and the man was found in bed, groaning, and in great agony. It was discovered that the gas jet was turned fully on, and the fumes were filling the room. The unfortunate fellow must have unconsciously turned the cock on again while under the impression that he was turning it off. Dr. Eldridge, Dr. Rokkaku, and Dr. Stoughton did all they could for the man, remaining with

him all night; but their exertions proved of no avail. At nine o'clock on Sunday he was removed to the U.S. Naval Hospital, where he expired at one o'clock. The deceased was known on board ship as a quiet, respectable man, of a saving disposition, and inclined to hold aloof from most of the ship's company. He was generally liked. His remains were interred with naval honours on Monday.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON.

THE following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-third ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's Offices on the 8th October:—The directors have now to submit to the shareholders a report of the business of the society for the year 1895, and for the six months ending the 30th June, 1896. 1895.—The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to \$1,588,229.25. After providing for a bonus of 20 per cent. on contributions paid in April last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$613,500.65, as per annexed statement. From this sum the directors recommend the payment of a second bonus of 5 per cent. on contributions, a dividend of \$15 per share, equivalent to 30 per cent. on the paid up capital of \$50 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of \$150,000, raising the reserve to \$1,200,000. The balance remaining of \$247,950.00 they propose to carry forward and thus close the account for the year 1895. 1896.—The position of the society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—balance of working account to the 30th June, as per annexed statement, \$748,585.30; add estimate of premiums to 30th September, 420,000.00; \$1,168,585.30. Estimate of losses to pay, 484,000.00—\$684,585.30. Since the last general meeting, Mr. A. G. Wood and Mr. D. R. Sassoon have resigned their seats and Mr. A. Ross, Mr. H. Stollerfoht, and Mr. C. S. Sharp have joined the Board. In accordance with clause 86 of the Articles of Association, Mr. N. A. Siebs and Mr. R. L. Richardson retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

LAUNCH OF THE "FRIEDRICH DER GROSSE."

THE recent launch from the "Vulcan" ship-building yard of the first of the six great twin-screw steamers ordered last year by the North German Lloyd, marks a noteworthy event in the history of the Company. Two of these vessels are intended, as is well-known, for the express service between Bremen and New York, and the remaining four for the regular passenger and freight traffic of the line. Of these four, the steamers *Friedrich der Grosse* and *Königin Luise* are being built at the "Vulcan" Company's works at Bredow-on-the-Oder, the steamer *Barbarossa* at the yard of Messrs. Blohm & Vossin Hamburg, and the steamer *Bremen* by Messrs. F. Schichau at Dantzig. The steamers of this class show, in the first place, a considerable increase in dimensions compared with the existing steamers of the fleet. With a length between perpendiculars of 525 feet, a breadth of 60 feet, and an inside depth of 34 feet, they will measure over 10,000 register tons and, upon a draft of 28 feet, will have a displacement of nearly 20,000 tons. Whilst the whole cargo capacity of the ship (including the space for third class passengers), equals about 11,000 cubic metres (say 9,500 tons), the cabin arrangements provide for the berthing of 100 first-class and 76 second-class passengers. If, however, the room available for steerage passengers is used wholly for that purpose, no less than 2,300 passengers can be accommodated in a single trip. The first-class dining-saloon of the *Friedrich der Grosse*, the details of which are executed in the Queen Anne style, has its walls painted in old-gold tint, with the ornamental parts picked out with light gilding. The ceiling itself is in ivory tone, with panels of old-gold ground, adorned with light and airy paintings. The large skylight which also serves for purposes of ventilation, is in the same style, and carried out in the same tints, and, being the centre of the whole, is of a slightly richer shade. Great mirrors, sculptures, and paintings enliven the place, which is closed above with an enormous dome of English glass.

work. The paintings include allegorical representations of War, Peace, Art, and Knowledge, surrounded with friezes and single lunettes with symbolical figures of children. The paintings in the dining-saloon represent favourite palaces of the Great King, with allegorical subjects and landscapes depicting Schleswig and the county of Glatz. In the centre of the cross-wall opposite the entrance is the King's portrait. The sofas and seats running round the wall, which will accommodate 100 persons, have sea-green leather covers, and the table-cloths are of the same colour. Window curtains and portières are of sea-green silk, with rich embroidery and lace. The pianos and buffets are in the same style and colour as the saloon, and command the whole room. The walls of the ante-room are adorned with paintings, trophies, and allegories. The large and unusually lofty first-class smoking-room is decorated with bright oak in the German Renaissance style; the panels of the walls being adorned with grotesque scenes from the life of Frederick the Great. Convenient seats with red-brown leather covers run round the walls forming divisions and lounges, with handy tables and chairs. The window curtains are of red-brown Chinese silk. The skylight window is formed of English glass. The skylight itself contains views of old Berlin, Potsdam, Breslau, and Glatz. The engines of these four twin-screw steamers consist of two quadruple-expansion engines with four cylinders. The engines of the first three steamers should indicate about 7,000 horse-power, which would give about fourteen knots average speed, whilst the fourth, namely, the *Bremen*, built by the firm of Schichau in Dantzig, has two engines of about 8,000 indicated horse-power, which should produce an average speed of about fifteen knots. The boiler room of the first three steamers contains five cylindrical double boilers, and two single-ended boilers, the latter available in the ports for subsidiary purposes.

ENGLISH TEXT-BOOKS IN JAPANESE SCHOOLS.

Among the many text-books selected for the English course during the present fall term in the larger metropolitan schools, we notice in particular Blackie's "Self-Culture"; "Human Intercourse"; "Thackeray's "Henry Esmond"; "Readiana"; "Life of Henry M. Stanley"; "The Opium War"; Tennyson's "Enoch Arden," and excerpts from "In Memoriam"; the perennial "Baron Trenck"—a book which ought to catch the fancy of adventure-loving Young Japan; Hawthorne's "Twice-told Tales" and "Mosses from an Old Manse"; Dickens' "David Copperfield"; Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield," and several others which have now become classic. An excellent translation into Japanese of "Self-Culture" is, we hear, to be shortly brought out, as one has already been of "Modern Society." Among Readers by far the most popular is Sanders' "Union Fourth Reader." Students of English have thus quite a broad field to choose from, and study under such pleasing auspices ought to be considerably lighter and more attractive than in the dark ages when Peter Parley's marvellously unhistorical history ruled supreme. An effort is being made, we understand, to make the teaching of English in the Chugakko of a more practical nature than heretofore, greater stress being laid on conversation and letter-writing.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society, was held at Keil's Building on Tuesday evening, Mr. M. T. B. Macpherson, the retiring President, being in the chair. There was but a small attendance present. The Chairman, in introducing the report and accounts for the past year, observed that the balance at the credit of the Society was \$460.40, an increase of \$110.26 over that at the same time last year. To account of the Society's claim of \$276.32 on the New O.B.C. in Liquidation, a further sum of \$17.26 had been received, reducing the claim to \$134.73. The number of members now on the list was 97, of whom 45 were on the absent list. Nine new members joined during the year, at which the Committee ex-

pressed its satisfaction. Under the auspices of the Society a Ball was given on the 29th November last to celebrate the Anniversary of their Patron Saint—which was the largest ever given in Yokohama by Scotsmen. The report and accounts were passed. The office-bearers were then elected for the ensuing year. They were:—President, W. Ross; Vice-President, J. A. Fraser; Committee, J. T. Boag, J. Dodds, J. Stewart, E. Coutts, and T. F. Cruickshank; Hon. Treasurer, J. MacArthur; Hon. Secretary, H. W. Fraser. On the motion of Mr. T. W. McLraith, seconded by Mr. Cruickshank, it was decided to celebrate the 30th of November this year in the usual way with a public ball.

SHIPPING NEWS.

THE P. & O. steamer *Shanghai* arrived at Hongkong from Shanghai on the 16th ult., flying the quarantine flag and put into the quarantine anchorage. A fireman had died of cholera on the voyage down and was buried at sea. She was released after having been disinfected.—The Norwegian steamer *Vulcan*, which arrived at Kobe on Tuesday from Hongkong, struck a Japanese junk named the *Suminoye Maru* off Wada Point, about half-past seven on the evening of the same day. The stern of the junk was damaged and caused a leakage. She was assisted by the steam launch of the quarantine station, which towed her into Hyogo. Her cargo consisted of 30 tubs of sugar and 208 bags of rice. The damaged done to the cargo is estimated it about 100 yen.

U.S. CONSULAR FEES.

OVER the signature of the United States Consul-General, for Kanagawa, the following was issued on October 5th, 1896:—

Until further notice the following tariff is established for the collection of fees at this office. Invoices should be made out in Silver Yen, which, for the purpose of this notice, are estimated as equivalent to fifty-two and eight-tenths (\$52.8) cents, U.S. Currency.

	Yen.
For Invoice Certificate.....	4.73
For Extra Copy of Invoice.....	3.79
Marriage Certificate.....	1.89
Landing Certificate.....	4.73
For Bill of Health.....	4.73
For Supplemental Bill of Health.....	.95
For Personal Effects Certificate.....	.95
For Emigration Manifest.....	.47

To avoid delay in transacting business at this office, persons paying fees are requested to present the exact change.

PERSIAN AFFAIRS.

THE *Times of India's* Bushire correspondent says it is reported that the entire harem of the late Shah have been dismissed, and the palaces are said to be almost empty of female occupants. The ladies have been enjoined to avoid contracting marriages with any civil or military officials, but they are free in their choice amongst the hordes of Mullahs, or Priests, and merchants. It is alleged that Muzzafar-ud-Din, the new Shah, is most anxious to introduce reforms in Persia, and that something like the Turkish *Tansimat* will be imitated. His Majesty's solicitude for the welfare of his people is generally considered to be genuine. Caravan traffic is going on undisturbed as before, and so there is perfect tranquility all over the country.

"UNCOMFORTABLE SHIPS."

STATEMENTS, says the *Nagasaki Shipping List*, have recently been made to the effect that the *Centurion* has been an "uncomfortable ship." Why this should be we know not, but some other vessels on this station are reported to be in about the same state. The *Daphne*, for instance, is given a bad name by her present crew, and several of the latter are trying to get exchanged into other vessels. Whether the men have any just cause for complaint or not we cannot say, but such are the facts.

TOKYO CHESS CLUB.

THE annual meeting was held on the 2nd inst. at 4.30 p.m., Mr. Peyton Jaudon in the chair. The Secretary (Mr. W. B. Mason) presented the Secretary and Treasurer's report, which showed 15 active members and a balance in

hand of \$7.74. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Hon. Edwin Dun; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. B. Mason; Committee, Mr. W. D. Cox, Mr. Peyton Jaudon, Rev. W. J. White. This was all the business, and after some chat as to future work in the Club, the meeting adjourned.

A SHOCKING AFFAIR.

A GHASTLY discovery was made on the Bluff on Friday. It appears that a Japanese contractor named Kobayashi Yoshizo, who built the two new houses on the lot once known as 25, Bluff, lost something like \$1,500 over the job. Being unable to meet his liabilities he became melancholy, and on the night of the 9th September left his home. It was eventually thought that the man had left the country, as diligent search resulted in no trace of him being discovered. Yesterday a party of well-sinkers engaged in cleaning out the new well on the top part of No. 25, noticed a peculiar odour coming up from the water. In a little while they came across the greatly decomposed body of a man. This has since been identified as that of the lost contractor, Kobayashi. He must evidently have thrown himself into the well early in September.

VALUE OF THE YEN.

OVER the signature of Admiral F. V. McNair, the following Squadron Circular, dated U.S. Flagship *Olympia*, October 3rd, 1896, has been issued:—

By authority of the Honourable the Acting Secretary of the Navy, the following values are announced for the quarter ending December 31st, 1896:—

Imperial Japanese Yen, Silver	\$0.528
Mexican Dollar	0.532

THE "DIANA."

THE American schooner *Diana*, Capt. Peterson, arrived in port on Tuesday with a catch of only 17 otter skins. She attribute her small catch to the bad weather encountered during the voyage. The Captain spoke the *Pointer* (formerly *Artic*) Captain Snow, late in June, with 7 otter skins and 300 seal skins.

H.M.S. "THRASHER'S" SPEED.

H.M.S. *Thrasher*, one of ten torpedo-boat destroyers being built by Messrs. Laird, Birkenhead, for the Admiralty, in her trial run attained a mean speed of 30.38 knots, making 30.84 knots on the last pair of runs, or close upon thirty-six miles an hour.

THE MANILA DISTURBANCES.

H.M.S. *Pigmy* left Hongkong for Manila on the afternoon of Sept. 26 to relieve the *Redpole*. The *China Mail* believes the British Consul at Manila has made representations for the presence of a larger ship, and it is just possible the *Pique* may be sent to the Philippines.

PROMOTION FOR MR. DE LUCY-FOSSARIEU.

MR. P. DE LUCY-FOSSARIEU, whose appointment at Kobe has hitherto been that of Vice-Consul, has recently been promoted and he is now Consul in full charge of French interests in Hyogo and Osaka.

SUICIDE OF AN ENGLISH LADY.

MRS. AUSTIN, wife of Mr. A. E. Austin, of Messrs. John Little & Company, Ltd., shot herself with a revolver in her own house, at Singapore, on the afternoon of Sept. 22nd. She was only 27 years of age, but had been in a melancholic condition for about a year.

A LOST JUDGE.

DR. CARRINGTON, the Chief Justice of Hongkong, got lost on the hillside above Robinson Road, the other evening, and caused some consternation in the Colony for a while. He found his way home shortly before midnight.

THE SALVATION ARMY IN JAPAN.

WE are informed that Brigadier W. M. Powell has been appointed by General Booth to the command of the Salvation Army in Japan, vice Colonel Wright, who recently left Japan on furlough.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

The Supreme Court is at present greatly perturbed in consequence of the disagreement between Mr. Miyoshi, Chief of the Court, and a number of judges in connection with the disciplinary punishment of Judge Bessho. This Judge, it may be remembered, refused to be removed from Kai to the island of Sado, when a vacancy occurred in the island Court. Judge Bessho persisted in his refusal, and the Minister of Justice of that day issued an order for a Disciplinary Court to try the case within the Supreme Court. Judgment was given on the 7th ult., the majority deciding in favour of the Judge, in the face of the expressed opinion of the Minister of Justice and the Chief of the Court. The issue involved serious consequences, for if the Judge was acquitted, it amounted to disapproval of the step taken by the Minister. The debate was sharp and hot, the opposing parties, in their warmth, even indulging in personalities. According to the usage that the Supreme Court enjoins on subordinate courts, the finding in any case has to be submitted to the Highest Court within a week. Judgment in the Disciplinary Court was rendered on the 7th, so that the time of notifying the Supreme Court has long past. On the 17th ult. the Chief Judge tendered his resignation, on the ground of his incompetence for the post. He gave a long statement of the reasons inducing him to come to that resolution. He declared, we are quoting from the *Asahi*, that the judgment in Judge Bessho's case went beyond the competence of the Judiciary and encroached on the domain of the Executive, and that, in his opinion, it was entirely illegal. That the Judges over whom he presided should be betrayed into such proceeding, he attributed to his own incompetence. Therefore, he wished to be relieved from the high office entrusted to him. The news that the Chief Judge had tendered his resignation on this ground provoked such of the Judges as had decided in favour of Judge Bessho to express warm indignation. They argued that if the Chief Judge refused to acquiesce in the finding of the majority, why had he not entrusted the case to the decision of one judge. A judge in his position must be perfectly aware that when a finding is given by a majority of judges, the minority must be governed by the majority. This opinion is strongly maintained by the extremists in the Court, and the trouble may develop serious consequences. It appears from an article published in the *Tokyo Asahi* that arguments in the case are really not yet concluded, but that Mr. Miyoshi has resolved to resign, as he sees it impossible to induce the other judges to come to his conclusion in the matter. This withdrawal of the presiding Judge and the subsequent vacancy caused in the original number of Judges appointed to sit in the case, make it impossible to pronounce final sentence. It is believed that when the application of Mr. Miyoshi to resign is definitely settled, the discussion of the case will be continued.

The resolution of Viscount Katsura, Governor-General of Formosa, to resign his present position is inflexible, and he will be removed ere long to be Commander-in-Chief of the Tokyo Bay Defence Board, the post now held by Marshal Count Nozu. The Marshal will be removed to the First Head-quarters to be established in November.

Marquis Saionji and Viscounts Watanabe and Yoshikawa, ex-Ministers of Education, Finance, and Justice respectively, were to be appointed Privy Councillors as soon as they were relieved of office, but the limit now set to the salaries of Privy Councillors does not admit of their appointment. Next year the allowances will be extended to five or six extra councillors.

Prince Konoye Atsumaro has been gazetted President of the House of Peers, *vice* Marquis Hachisuka, who recently accepted the portfolio of Education. The President of the Upper House in Japan is both selected and nominated by the Emperor, whereas, in the case of the President of the Lower House, the Sovereign's choice is limited to one of three names submitted by the House itself after election by the members. The office carries with it an annual

allowance of four thousand *yen*. It is a seven years' appointment in the Upper House, unless the nominee happens to be an elected member, in which case he holds office for the term of his membership only. That point requires a word of explanation. The Upper House consists of two classes: members that sit by hereditary right (that is to say, Princes and Marquises), or by nomination by the Emperor for life, and members that sit by election (that is to say, Counts, Viscounts, Barons, and representatives of highest tax-payers). The elected members sit for seven years; the rest, for life. If a President be appointed from among the Princes, Marquises, or Imperial Nominees, he holds office for seven years certain from the day of his appointment. But if he be appointed from among the elected members, his term of office is measured by his term of membership: it may be seven years; it may be much less, according to the interval that has elapsed between the date of his appointment and the date of his election to membership. Prince Konoye, of course, is entitled to hold the post for seven years.

Prince Konoye is a man of great activity. When the Diet was not in session, he has hitherto devoted himself with much zeal to superintending the affairs and promoting the interests of the Nobles' School (*Gakushu-in*), of which institution he is President. Indeed, it is understood that one of his chief reasons for refusing to accept a portfolio in the new Cabinet was unwillingness to abandon his duties in connection with the School. Presumably, as President of the House of Peers, he will be able to continue the discharge of those duties. In the House, the Prince usually identified himself with the Opposition. A good speaker and a resolute reformer of the type disposed to be discontented with things as they are, he has often attracted public attention in a manner not altogether consonant with Japan's traditional conceptions of a great noble's methods. But it is to such men that the Japanese nobility must look to recover by intellectual eminence the place that it forfeited with the fall of feudalism. Prince Konoye ranks next after the Princes of the Blood in Japan. His house was formerly the first among the *Go-sekke*, or Five Ministerial Houses; that is to say, the families hereditarily entitled to furnish Regents (*Kwambaku*) and prime ministers (*Dajo Daijin*). The other four Houses are now represented by Prince Kujo, Prince Nijo, Prince Ichijo, and Prince Takatsukasa. It may interest our readers to know that the term "Imperial Guards" (*Konoye Shidan*) is written with the same ideographs as those forming the Prince's family name. Indeed, the name itself implies the great honour intended in its selection, for it signifies "close guardian," or "protector of the Throne."

There appears to be some perplexity among foreigners about Mr. Kioura Keigo, the new Minister of Justice. Certain local newspapers give him the title of Viscount, and others recognise him only in his capacity of a member of the House of Peers. Mr. Kioura has no patent of nobility. He sits in the Upper House as an Imperial nominee, which honour was conferred on him in 1891, that is to say, at the time of the Diet's first convocation. Born in 1850, a retainer of the Higo clan, he commenced his public career in 1873 as a local official of Saitama, and four years later he became a public procurator. Subsequently, he was appointed a member of the Committee for revising the Penal Code, and he served, during the next four years, as a Secretary in the Departments of Justice and Home Affairs, and in the Cabinet. In 1881, he was appointed a member of the *Sangi-in* (Privy Council), and in 1884, he became a Chief Secretary, from which office he was promoted, in 1886, to be chief of the Criminal Bureau in the Department for Home Affairs. Six years later (August, 1892), he became Vice-Minister of Justice, from which post he has now passed to be Minister of the same Department. Mr. Kioura is a well-known figure in the House of Peers, where his speeches upon legal questions and matters of domestic administration are always listened to with attention.

BARON OZAKI & THE FUSAN-SŌUL RAILWAY.

Baron Ozaki, who proceeded some months ago to Sŏul, in company with Mr. Omiwa, to urge forward the proposed railway between Fusan and Sŏul, has returned to Tokyo, and been interviewed by representatives of several metropolitan papers. The Baron's story corroborates the statements made by several correspondents of Tokyo papers now living in Korea, and impresses upon every Japanese the fact that their country and its nationals are deeply hated by Koreans. Needless to say the fountain head of this anti-Japanese feeling is the King himself, who labours—we are quoting the Tokyo press—under the misconception that should he leave his asylum at the Russian Legation, his person would not be safe against the attacks of Japanese marauders. He is possessed of the absurd notion that his choice lies between disgrace and safety, and so, while admitting that his stay at a foreign legation is derogatory to his dignity, he can not bring himself to leave that asylum, so deeply-rooted is his dread of the Japanese. Anything relating to Japan is, therefore, entirely distasteful to his mind, and a Korean who speaks well of Japan incurs the strong displeasure of the King, and is even branded as a traitor. Even Count Inouye is regarded as a liar by the King, on the ground that while promising to send a competent diplomatist to Korea to take his place, he recommended such a person as Viscount Miura. When a statesman of Count Inouye's position proves so faithless, argues the King, the character of the rest may be easily inferred. His Majesty still believes the Japanese were ringleaders in the assassination of the Queen, and denounce the judgment of the Hiroshima tribunal as lacking every principle of impartiality and justice. The Japanese had better re-examine this affair, he says, before they trouble themselves with building a railway between Sŏul and Fusan. Li, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is placed in a very painful dilemma, being denounced by the King and his Cabinet colleagues whenever he refers to the Sŏul-Fusan railway scheme, and yet continually having to receive urgent messages regarding the affair from the Japanese Minister. It is suspected that Li is keeping back the official notes forwarded by the Japanese Representative on the subject. Baron Ozaki is of opinion that this problem is no longer a question of commercial speculation but a matter of vital interest to the national prestige. Unless the attitude of the Government toward the question be firm, and unless negotiations are renewed on that basis, any further dallying will simply discredit Japan entirely in the eyes of Koreans and foreigners. The Baron has returned to Tokyo to ascertain the position of the Government and to learn the opinions of his fellow-projectors. Baron Ozaki has also much to say upon the manner in which Russia is noiselessly but shrewdly securing one practical benefit after another in Korea.

NEW PORTS FOR FOREIGN COMMERCE.

An Imperial Ordinance, issued on the 3rd instant, announces that, in accordance with a law passed by the Diet last session, the under-mentioned ports will be opened, from the 1st of November, to Japanese-owned vessels for the purposes of the foreign export and import trade:—

Hakata, in Chikuzen.	Tsuyama, in Echizen.
Karatsu, in Hizen.	Sakai, in Hoki.
Kuchinotsu, in Hizen.	Hamada, in Iwami.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Baron Nambu Kameo is gazetted President of the Court of Cassation, Mr. Yokota Kuniomi, Vice-Minister of Justice, and Judge Takagi Toyozo, Chief of the Bureau of Civil Law in the Department of Justice.

THE CABINET AND THE BUDGET.

The Budget for the next fiscal year is likely to prove the first obstacle for the Cabinet to surmount. The first Cabinet Council of the Matsukata Ministry, says the *Yiji*, was held on the 29th ult., the Budget for the next fiscal year being the only topic of discussion. The Council sat from about 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., but did not come to any definite issue, some members strongly advocating retrenchment and other maintaining the contrary opinion. Under the circumstances, the meeting was indefinitely adjourned.

The *Chuo* and the *Nippon* print long accounts of the affair, the former publishing the details of the items in the Budget that have led to division of opinion among the Ministers. The Premier advocates a policy of retrenchment of a decided character. In the section of Revenue, besides striking out clauses relating to the floating of the Public Undertakings Loan, appropriations of the Indemnity, and so forth, he has also struck out all items in every Department of State relating to new undertaking. In the Second-period naval expansion programme, for which 80,000,000 yen was demanded, the appropriation is to be reduced to 30,000,000 yen, a reduction of 50,000,000 yen upon Viscount Watanabe's idea. Such a radical retrenchment will never be accepted by the Naval Authorities who have elaborated a scheme of development in accordance with their ideas of the future of Japan. Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, was closeted for many hours with the principal officers of the Department after the meeting of the 29th ult., and it is thought that he will protest resolutely against the retrenchment proposed by the Premier. He may even sever his connection with the present Ministry should the Premier persist in affecting such a reduction. The attitude of the other Ministers in regard to this policy of retrenchment is not harmonious. Viscount Takashima, perhaps as the result of a previous understanding with the Premier, alone keeps silence, contrary to public expectation. Count Okuma, too, has not made any definite stand. Next to the Minister of the Navy, the Minister of Communications is placed in a very difficult situation. Not only have all the items for new undertakings and continuing expenditures in his Department been struck out, but the retrenchments have been extended even to the postal service. Viscount Nomura is said to be stoutly opposed to these radical measures of the Premier. The probability therefore is that the Budget will lead to several Ministers' severing their connection with the Matsukata Cabinet. Should the Premier be induced to withhold his amendments and acquiesce in the views of his colleagues, he will find himself in a very difficult situation. He would, in fact, have to resign. The *Chuo* further states that, at a meeting on the 30th ultimo, none of the amendments to the Budget formulated by the estimates of the respective Departments of State secured the cordial approval of the Cabinet, and the meeting was adjourned on the understanding that the Treasury would reinvestigate the subject and submit the result to the next Cabinet meeting.

The *Nippon*, writing on the same subject, differs a little from the above and indicates greater hope. It states that no particular objection has been raised by the Ministers of State to the amended Budget formulated by Count Matsukata, so that the amendments so loudly spoken of promise to be effected with comparative ease. The *Nippon* learns that the so-called reforms, once so much discussed, have been laid aside for the present on the plausible pretext of the near approach of the meeting of the Diet. The notion that the period for carrying out the expansion of the national defence must be prolonged, will not be maintained and only one or two continuing undertakings, not yet put in hand, will be suspended this year. The retrenchment of administrative expenditures being a grave question will not be attended to until after the close of the coming session of the Diet. One retrenchment worth mention is that incidental to the rise

in the market price of commodities. That is a subject that attracts public attention. Suppose that market prices rise 10 per cent. next year, the result will be an addition of over 18 million yen to the total expenditures of the State. At any rate, an appreciation of 5 per cent. is unavoidable. An increase of over three millions in the Local Administration Expenses of the Home Office, for instance, is based on the assumed appreciation of market prices, and is intended to ameliorate the condition of petty Government clerks. If similar claims are advanced by other Departments, the total increase will amount to several millions. The Finance Minister has struck out these items. Therefore, even with the same amount of money at its disposal, the new Government will be obliged to effect great economy. Another noteworthy point is retrenchment in the new undertakings fund. It ought not to be hastily concluded that the Matsukata Cabinet is going to strike out all the new undertakings. On the contrary, any new undertaking that is absolutely urgent will be taken up with increased vigour, the various public works in Formosa in particular. The fall of the Ito Cabinet was attributable to the plethora of new undertakings; Marquis Ito acceding to every project of the Liberals. With a change of Ministry and the disappearance of these practices, the Treasury will be able to carry out part of the original financial programme bequeathed by the previous Cabinet. Such is the *Nippon's* account.

THE BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

The estimates presented by the respective Departments of State while the Ito Cabinet was in power, showed a deficit of 25 million yen, the Revenue and Expenditure standing at 220 and 245 million yen, respectively, and it was the Cabinet's intention to effect equilibrium by retrenchments aggregating 25 millions. Now, continues the *Nichi Nichi*, from which we take these facts, the reductions of expenditure contemplated by the new Ministry being 30 million yen, their economies exceed those of their predecessor by only 5 millions, so that their financial schemes are obviously of a moderate character. Considering the estimates of the various Departments separately, we find that the ordinary expenditures of the Department of Finance will stand as in the current fiscal year; while the extraordinary expenditures will include an item of about a quarter of a million yen, by way of aid to the establishment of the Industrial and Agricola-Industrial Banks, and will also include sums required for organizing the Tobacco Monopoly and collecting the increased tax on *saké* brewing. In the Department of War, an amount of 870,000 yen is to be retrenched under the heading of new undertakings in Formosa, that is to say, about 15 per cent. of the total appropriation; that outlay, as well as about one half of the Working Fund of the Arsenal—or 400,000 yen—being postponed for a year. The sum by which the new Premier desired to reduce the Naval expenditures was a little over 8 millions, but such a reduction was not easy to accomplish, the Navy having already effected every possible economy in preparing the Budget for next year. After much investigation, a compromise was arrived at in the sense of cutting down a portion of the expenditures that did not seem to demand immediate attention. It may be mentioned here that the amount required for carrying out the second-period expansion programme is more than 90 million yen. The Budget of the Department of Home Affairs has not undergone any particular alteration, only two items, relating to the emoluments of an additional clerk and of another engineering expert in each locality have been struck out. Grants-in-aid of Nagasaki harbour re-construction fund were suffered to stand. The application of the Department of Colonization to have special offices built for it has been refused, and, consequently, the ordinary expenditure of that Department will not differ much from the figure for the present fiscal year. The expenditures for Formosa, however, show a con-

siderable addition, their total being more than double of that for the current fiscal year. At first the Governor-General's Office asked for an additional appropriation of 22 million yen, for the purpose of erecting various Government offices, perfecting the local administrative mechanism, and increasing the Police force. But as the Government subsequently decided to entrust the business of railway construction to private capitalists, a sum of 5 million yen, included in the Budget on that account, was struck out, bringing down the total of additional expenditure to 17 million yen in round numbers. Subsequently, after a Cabinet Council, a further retrenchment of 3,800,000 yen was effected, so that, the additional expenditures for Formosa next year aggregate only 13 million yen, approximately. None the less it results that Japan is to spend on her new dominion a sum more than double of that appropriated during the current fiscal year, but since that heavy outlay is required for the purpose of increasing the number of local administrative offices from 3 to 7, and inaugurating measures to perfect the administrative machinery, it must be considered as ordinary expenditure and defrayed without hesitation. Of the new sources of income to the Treasury, the receipts from the Business Tax may fall short of the estimates by a million yen or thereabouts; but, by way of compensation for this, additional yields of as much as 1½ million yen and 2 million yen are expected from the Registration and the *saké* brewing taxes, respectively. Hence the deficiency under the heading of the Business Tax is amply covered.

The information that the *Mainichi* gives on the subject of next year's Budget is widely different from the above. That journal alleges that the Cabinet has decided to effect retrenchments aggregating no less than 60 million yen in the estimated expenditures, and that the retrenchments will be accomplished by striking out or reducing such appropriations on account of new undertakings as are not of the character of continuing works. The same journal adds that the Government will not float a special loan, as reported in some quarters, to obtain funds for the development of Formosa.

Of the two journals quoted above, the *Nichi Nichi* is incomparably the more trustworthy. Such a retrenchment as that indicated by the *Mainichi* would bring the national expenditure to about 85 million yen, a sum considerably smaller than that required before the war.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

The fact that the national finances present exceptional difficulties to Japanese statesmen at present, is persistently advanced by vernacular newspapers. The *Mainichi Shimbun* enters into the subject in a recent issue. Asserting, at the outset, that a deficiency of some twenty million yen has become apparent in the revenues of the current year as compared with the expenditures, our contemporary at the same time admits that the incomings from Government railways, telegraphs, posts, and so forth show a steady increase, and that private enterprises of commerce and manufacture are also developing satisfactorily. On the other hand, owing to the series of inundations from which the country has suffered, an extraordinary outlay of about ten million yen will be called for, and the Treasury is not in a position to meet even that call, much less to deal with a deficiency of twenty millions in the revenue. Owing, again, to the marked rise in the price of rice and other necessities of life, the expenditures on account of the Army have considerably exceeded the sum appropriated by the Diet last session, and a supplementary budget will have to be presented in that section. As for the domestic loans sanctioned by the last Diet, loans on account of industries, railways, Hokkaido, and so forth, aggregating over two hundred million yen, the *Mainichi* thinks that the time is now quite unsuited for floating them, and that, even though the attempt were made, few subscriptions would be forthcoming. The Ministry, however, can not, on its own responsibility, refrain from carrying out measures duly sanc-

tioned by the Diet, and the problem consequently assumes a very perplexing aspect. No course seems to offer except large reductions of administrative expenditure, and with that object in view the Government intends—we still quote from the *Mainichi*—to appoint a committee whose duty will be to undertake a thorough investigation of the financial situation, and submit an accurate report thereon.

In translating the above, we ought to note that the *Mainichi Shimbun*, being an organ of the former *Katshin-to*, is naturally disposed to magnify the financial difficulties bequeathed by the last Cabinet to their successors. To bring discredit on the Ito Ministry by painting the affairs of the Treasury in the darkest possible light, and to gain credit for the Matsukata Ministry by treating in the same manner the troubles they have to deal with, is precisely the rôle that we might expect the *Mainichi* to play. We do not, of course, desire to suggest that there is any wilful deception. But until official figures are available, it will be well not to attach full credit to any partisan statement. In our opinion, there is a want of reflection displayed by critics that take a gloomy view of Japanese finance. The present year has been altogether exceptional, and can not for a moment be regarded as a standard. What we have to fall back upon is the solid fact that the nation's annual payments into the Treasury average only some six shillings per head, and that, even though the sum were doubled, complaints of over-taxation would not be justified. If Japan wants to take her place in the ranks of important States, she must be prepared to put her hand into her pocket.

ECONOMIC NEWS.

At last a reaction, though happily still feeble, has overtaken the economic world of Japan. The Union Savings Bank of Osaka, is bankrupt. Mr. Daimon Shimbel, a wholesale yarn merchant of Osaka, who was President of this small bank, speculated in time bargains on yarns, and incurred serious losses. He had induced several other banks to accept his promissory notes to a considerable amount just before he failed. His largest creditor, the Kashima Bank, seized his property, and the upshot was a run on the Head and Branch Offices of the Bank. On the third instant, the shareholders held an extraordinary meeting, and resolved to go into liquidation. The Bank has announced that it will repay its depositors within the space of two months computed from the 3rd inst. It is said that the deposits total only about 45,000 yen, the Bank having been started but a short time. The Directors of the Bank are legally bound to redeem all the debts incurred by it, but it is highly problematical whether this provision will be fulfilled to the letter. Most of the depositors are mechanics and labourers, and the rush they made at the end of last month was very pitiful to see; one man who had been tempted by the offer of higher interest had drawn the sum of 6,000 from another Bank, to deposit with the Union Savings Bank just before ruin overtook the concern.

Another ominous sign of the times is reported in the Tokyo papers, concerning the wholesale cotton cloth merchants of the city. They have been issuing notes of hand considerably above their means. All went well while the money market was tranquil, but when the Bank of Japan raised the rates of interest a month ago, trouble at once loomed in sight. Other banks followed the big Bank's lead, so as to be on their guard against any emergency. The cloth merchants began at once to feel the pinch, for no one would consent to receive their notes. It was evident that if they were required to redeem their cheques at once they would be reduced to ruin. Some twelve of the merchants met on the 2nd inst. and decided to appeal to their creditors for special consideration. Mr. Uratajihei, member of the Tokyo Bar, is to conduct the negotiations on their behalf. The merchants desire to have their cheques run for a space of three months, and then to redeem them in two years by monthly instalments. If these merchants cannot obtain

some temporary measure of relief, they will be reduced to ruin, besides inflicting heavy loss on many banks and creditors. The *Porosu Choho* says that the total of unredeemed cheques issued by these merchants and thus far brought to public notice amounts to over two millions. The *Choho* gives the list of the principal creditors with the amounts due to them. They include, the Commercial Bank, 400,000 yen; Aikoku Bank, 100,000 yen; Narita Bank, 100,000 yen; 1st National Bank, 300,000 yen; Tokyo Bank, 150,000 yen; Yasuda Bank, 50,000 yen; 100th National Bank, 1,200,000 yen.

INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC TOPICS.

The damage done to railways by the inundations total, on the State lines alone, 200,000 yen. If to this be added the loss in railway receipts, the whole exceeds 500,000 yen. It is estimated that the total loss to State and private railways will not fall short of 1,000,000 yen.

The Yokohama City Council has decided to float a city loan of 365,000 yen, bearing 6 per cent. interest, as a fund for reclaiming 55,000 *tsubo* (137 acres) of land at Takashimacho. The loan is to be redeemed within 24 years dating from 1898, when the work will commence. It will be finished in five years. The matter will be come before the City Assembly, for final decision in a few days.

The following is a return of 133 national banks for the first half of the year as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding year. The figures show considerable increases in profits:—

	1st half 1896. Yen.	1st half 1895. Yen.
Capital	48,856,100.000	48,816,100.000
Profit	1,004,975.000	4,408,388.249
Reserves	21,362,514.286	1,632.966
Special Reserves..	17,200,258.000	592,224.000
Dividend.....	274,603.872	105,874.424
	3,008,577.000	2,839,604.000
	23,533.000	
Rate of dividend..	per cent. 12.48	per cent. 11.80

The figures marked by the asterisk (*) show dividends on additional shares.

The volume of currency on the 1st of September, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, is as follows:—

	Sept. 1st, 1896. Yen.	Sept. 1st, 1895. Yen.
Convertible		
Notes	163,598,892	159,207,554
Government		
Notes	9,888,278	9,182,428
Banks notes..	19,777,706	19,778,005
Coins	73,915,160	72,732,095
Total	267,180,036	261,700,082

The volume of currency during the nine months from January last, is as follows:—

	Yen.	Increase or decrease Yen.
January	270,819,679	—
February	260,960,698	— 9,858,981
March	256,762,577	— 4,198,121
April	248,668,089	— 8,094,488
May	243,463,454	— 5,204,635
June	251,094,074	+ 7,630,620
July	259,554,387	+ 8,460,313
August	261,700,082	+ 2,145,695
September	267,180,036	+ 5,479,954

ALLEGED TORTURE IN JAPAN.

It did not appear conceivable that serious attention should be paid by foreign critics to the statement made in the Yokohama Local Court by Tamura Kotaro, one of the stokers recently tried for assaulting Mr. Barrie, Superintendent Engineer of the Japan Mail S.S. Company. In his preliminary examination before the police magistrate, Tamura admitted that he had struck Mr. Barrie, but when brought up for public trial, he denied his former statement, and alleged that it had been extorted from him by torture. If he had stopped there, some attention might

have been attracted by his story. But he went on to explain the nature of the torture: his fingers, he said, were pressed with a pencil and his cheeks were pinched! Did any one ever hear of such childishness? A stalwart man subjected to the torment of having his finger-tips pressed with a pencil and his cheeks pinched, asks people to believe that the pain overcame him and that he should not choose but incriminate himself! Ridiculous as the tale was, however, it received solemn attention from some foreign local journalists, and the Japanese Authorities were conjured to institute vigorous inquiries! Quainter still, perhaps, was what followed. A Japanese, who was present at the trial, addressed a letter to one of the Yokohama English journals, over the signature of "A Native," pointing out the absurdity and incredibility of Tamura's story. He mentioned, among other things, that "the statements of the accused in the Police station were not made in answer to questions to be answered 'yes' or 'no,' when torture might conceivably be employed," but that "every defendant had been asked to state all he knew, and so each told his story implicating others as well as himself." Possibly the argument of this Japanese might have been set forth more lucidly, but could any one mistake his meaning? Clearly what he intended to convey was that the method of verbal examination pursued by a Japanese police magistrate offers no conceivable opportunity for torture, and that, consequently, to talk of torture's being applied is merely a display of ignorance. Yet his letter elicited the following comment from a Kobe journal:—

May we be permitted to ask "A Native" what he means by saying that "torture might conceivably be employed" in obtaining a reply "to questions to be answered 'yes' or 'no'?" This is a point which deserves our Yokohama contemporary's consideration. There is something decidedly suspicious in such an admission on the part of a Japanese capable of defending his country's name and fame in the columns of a foreign journal.

Considered calmly, that is assuredly one of the funniest specimens of sententious asininity we have ever come across: Following such a method of logic, we arrive at this, that if a man denies an act of shooting on the ground, among other reasons, of not having had a gun in his possession, he virtually admits that he would have shot had he possessed a gun. Eliza, Elizabeth, Bessy, and Bess hunting for mare's nests would be quite shrewd little folks by the side of these critics.

A NEW CITY IN FORMOSA.

We learn that the Japanese Authorities have planned out a complete new city of Taiwan (Tai-chu) in Formosa. At present it consists only of a space enclosed by mud walls, fast crumbling and dissolving away, with a few *yamlets* and such like public buildings inside, and a small portion of a particularly filthy Chinese town, which intrudes through one of the walls from the outside. No information has yet been published as to the manner in which the work is to be carried out, but the site is a gentle slope, lending itself excellently to drainage purposes, and a plentiful supply of pure water is within easy reach. It will be interesting to observe how the Japanese deal with the problem of the Chinese city. There is no greater abomination on the face of the earth than the place where Chinese congregate, for drainage, sewage, scavenging, water supply, and all such things are totally neglected. It looks strange, at first sight, that a people so gifted, physically and morally, should quietly submit to such conditions as those existing even in great cities like Peking, Tientsin, and Nanking, but, after all, the reason is not far to seek. The Japanese, however, will surely not endure such a state of affairs in the new dominion, but what methods they will adopt to alter it is a question that perplexes us.

A transport ship, which leaves Portsmouth about October for Gibraltar, afterwards executes a round of troop service, conveying the 1st Battalion West York-shire Regiment (14th) from Gibraltar to Hongkong, the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade from Hongkong, to Singapore, and the 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers (5th) from Singapore to England.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

ALTHOUGH an idea prevails very generally that difficulties have arisen in connection with the Budget for the next fiscal year (1897-8), as well as in balancing the revenue and expenditure for the current year, and although it is alleged in many quarters that the resignation of Viscount WATANABE, Minister of Finance, was owing to his inability to strike out any scheme of re-adjustment acceptable to the Cabinet, yet none of the vernacular journals seems to have a clear idea of the precise troubles that have presented themselves. It is evident, at any rate, that Count MATSUKATA has shown extraordinary diligence since his assumption of the portfolio of Finance, for already, after a very few days' tenure of office, he has been able to submit to the Cabinet a scheme according to which the estimates of the various Departments of State are to be re-compiled. Since the 29th of last month, conferences of the Cabinet Ministers have been daily held at Count MATSUKATA'S residence, and it is now alleged that His Excellency's programme has been adopted, with slight variations, and that the Departments will forthwith proceed to re-cast their several Budgets in accordance with the new lines, the necessary information and directions having been compiled and sent to them in written form on the 3rd instant. These preliminaries having been agreed to by the Cabinet as a body, there is no further reason to attach credit to rumours circulated by the vernacular press, in the sense that several of the Ministers have declared their inability to endorse the retrenchments proposed by the Finance Department, and that differences of opinion sufficiently acute to threaten disruption of the Cabinet have arisen. A consensus of opinion seems to have been now reached, and so far, at any rate, as the Cabinet is concerned, the amended Budget will encounter no serious opposition.

It is alleged that the reductions of expenditure indicated by Count MATSUKATA aggregate thirty million yen, and that they will be effected, in great part, by prolonging the period for completing certain national enterprises, and postponing the time for commencing others. How far these changes will affect the expansion of the national armaments, we are not in a position to say. It is an open secret that the late Minister of State for War declined to serve with the new Cabinet chiefly because he found himself unable to accept the idea of extending from seven to ten years the period fixed by the Diet last session for completing the programme of Army expansion. We do not, for our own part, perceive that any serious objection would attach to such a change. Doubtless it would be a very fine thing for Japan to possess an army of half a million men in 1903, but a

moment's reflection will show that, according to her present programme of marine-transport development, she can not hope to be able to utilize such numerous forces abroad seven years hence, and assuredly there is little reason to imagine that she will have need of them at home. In fact, the scheme of military expansion submitted to the Diet last session seems to have been slightly of a sentimental character. Its framers, not guided solely by the practical needs of the nation, allowed themselves, perhaps, to be influenced by a feeling that whatever attention was bestowed on the Navy ought to be extended in an equal degree to the Army. From that point of view we are inclined to think that an extension of three or even four years in the case of the Army's period of expansion would not materially signify. The Navy, however, is a very different question, and we should be much surprised to learn that the plan for developing it is to be subjected to any procrastination. But all these things can not yet be discussed with assurance. There is room for large retrenchments in other directions, though we greatly doubt whether the Diet will be disposed to sanction them. It is now becoming plain that the divergence between the policies of the two Cabinets will be conspicuous chiefly in their respective estimates of the country's capacities for development; the views of Marquis ITO and his fellow-thinkers being larger and bolder than those of Count MATSUKATA and his colleagues. Unavoidable circumstances may, of course, be mainly, if not altogether, responsible for the difference, but the public will not readily take that fact into account.

To what precise causes the deficiency in the funds at the Treasury's disposal is to be attributed, we have still to learn. The *Fiji Shimpō* says that the principal difficulty is in connection with the Business Tax, the Brewing Tax, and the Registration Tax. From these three sources Viscount WATANABE estimated returns of 7½ million yen, four million three hundred thousand, and five millions respectively, making a total of nearly seventeen millions. But it now appears that, although the Registration Tax may realize the Treasury's expectation, there will be a deficiency of from three to four million yen in the proceeds of the other two taxes. That, however, is a comparatively small matter, leaving a great deal still to be explained in connection with reductions of expenditure aggregating thirty millions. Evidently the vernacular newspapers are much in the dark about the whole matter, and although we have here summarized their statements for the information of our readers, it will be well to await fuller and more authentic particulars.

The barracks for the Artillery of the Guards and the Artillery of the 1st Army Division will be built at Ebura-gori.

THE CODES.

SINCE a correspondent who addresses us over the signature "M.N." says that the replies to questions propounded in his letter will be "both interesting and valuable to many," we willingly devote space to the subject, but, at the same time, we trust that he will pardon us for pointing out that he might easily have obtained the information he seeks had he employed the means upon which we ourselves rely for answering his queries, namely, reference to Dr. LÖNHOLM'S pamphlet. He asks, in the first place, whether the terms "hypothek" and "hypothekenrechte," which, he says, are "the exact words in the German Treaty," have precisely the same meaning as "mortgage," the English term used by us. The German-Japanese Revised Treaty not being yet in the hands of the public, we are not in a position to refer to its precise language. But, under any circumstances, if the term "hypothek" be used in the Treaty, it can not, as our correspondent seems to suppose, be defined in accordance with German law: we must go to the Japanese Civil Code, and to the Japanese Civil Code only, for the import of the term. There we find that the word employed is "*teito-ken*" (抵当権), which signifies the right of a creditor to obtain satisfaction from an immovable in the order of his claim. As to our correspondent's second question, namely, whether the holder of a mortgage is not entitled to take possession—or, in other words, to become the owner—of the thing mortgaged, even if the thing be land, in the event of failure to obtain satisfaction by the other means provided, the answer is that the holder of a "*teito-ken*" has not, under any circumstances, a right to take possession of the mortgaged property. His sole right is application to a law court for either a compulsory sale by auction, or a compulsory administration of the immovable. In the latter case, the Court appoints an administrator, and the debtor is not allowed to interfere with the management of the administrator. The income collected during the period of administration is distributed among the mortgagees according to the rank of their claims. With regard to the exercise of the above rights, no difference is made between Japanese subjects and the subjects or citizens of foreign Treaty Powers. The "pledge" of an immovable—*fudosan-shichi* (不動産質)—is a very different thing. There the creditor at once obtains possession of the property pledged, and has the right to use it by way of interest on his claim. If our correspondent desires fuller information on this point, we recommend him to peruse Dr. LÖNHOLM'S brochure itself. Indeed, the reception given to that work has been a very great surprise to us. Of two local newspapers that have noticed it, one confined itself to a brief epitome of the book's references to the phraseology, and general

character of the New Code; the other, at the close of an article devoted to disparaging the Japanese Judiciary, reproduced, with the most perfunctory of comments, a paragraph setting forth the rights of land tenure that foreigners will acquire when the Revised Treaties go into operation. Now, it has been a perpetual complaint on the part of the foreign residents that, in the absence of trustworthy translations, access to a clear knowledge of the laws of Japan is virtually impossible. No newspapers have been louder in urging that complaint, and in utilizing it as a weapon against the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction, than the two mentioned above. It has also been vehemently complained that, since the limitations prescribed by the Civil Code and by the Revised Treaties, as was supposed, deprive land tenure of all useful potentialities for foreign merchants and manufacturers, therefore the chief solatium for the loss of Consular Jurisdiction, becomes a worthless pretence. No newspapers have been more insistent in ventilating that complaint and in emphasizing its justice than the two mentioned. Well, here we have a German Professor of Law in the Imperial University, an expert of indubitable competence, who is, moreover, equipped with an intimate knowledge of the Japanese language—here we have such an authority coming forward, and giving us in succinct form, in the English language, a clear and accurate synopsis of the new Civil Code, with special reference to its bearing on the privileges that foreigners will enjoy under the Revised Treaties; a synopsis demonstrating, further, that the great and important complaint about the tenure of land is based on a complete misapprehension, and that foreigners will be able, as superficiaries, to enjoy the right of holding land for any period whatever. One would suppose that the fact of the long desired knowledge being thus rendered easily accessible, as well as the fact that the much criticised restrictions on the tenure of land are shown to have no existence in reality, ought to be proclaimed with something of the animation that marked the iteration and re-iteration of the original complaints by local journals opposed to the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. Nothing of the kind has taken place, however. One editor does not even give himself the trouble to read the pamphlet—for on no other hypothesis can we account for his total silence about its preëminently interesting and important portions—; another seems to think that his principal duty is to combat Dr. LÖNHOLM's brief and incidental expression of favourable opinion about the competence of the Japanese Judiciary to apply the new Code. Such methods are doubtless consistent with the customary procedure of the journals in question, but we venture to think that a different course would better conduce to the general interests.

"TOO LATE."

SOMEbody recently addressed to one of our Kobe contemporaries a letter suggesting the advisability of forming a foreigners' defence league. Upon that text the *Kobe Herald* pens an almost plaintive article, the gist of which is that the suggestion comes too late. The *Japan Mail*, we gather, is thought to have been left too long in possession of the field. It has poisoned public opinion, and the mischief is now irrevocably wrought. The foreign residents by their apathy, have sown the "wind and are henceforth about to reap the whirlwind." Is it not strange to hear Englishmen talk in that fashion? What is this whirlwind that is to play such havoc in our peaceful existences? Assume that there are two thousand British subjects residing in Japan, temporarily or permanently. How many of them will ever see the inside of a criminal court? What on earth does criminal law or criminal procedure matter to the vast majority of us? Police tribunals, jails, and forced labour have no place in the life of a respectable individual, except in so far as they contribute to the preservation of the good order essential to his comfort and to the undisturbed prosecution of his daily avocations. Truly, to judge from the wailing predictions of evil pronounced by the opponents of Treaty Revision, one would imagine that the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction meant the inauguration of a general reign of police outrage and judicial despotism such as no self-respecting citizen could endure. Dwelling around us are millions of Japanese, happy in their home lives, totally undisturbed by police interference, and enjoying just as much inviolability of domicile and security of property as any European enjoys in his own country. Are we to be less fortunate than they when the Revised Treaties go into force? Are we, simultaneously with the loss of Consular Jurisdiction, to pass from beneath the shadow of the flag that has everywhere and in all time been omnipotent for the protection of the humblest British subject? If the vernacular journals, only too quick to discover cause of complaint against officialdom, contained frequent charges of police tyranny or magisterial injustice, there might be grounds for misgiving. But we ask any of our readers to recall how many instances of the kind stand on record during the past twenty years. Outside the realm of politics—a realm into which foreign residents are not likely at any time to make incursions—we do not remember a solitary authenticated example of undue police interference with the liberty of the subject, or of flagrant maladministration of the law by a criminal tribunal. What is there to apprehend in that part of the prospect? Nothing, so far as we can see. On the civil side, it is true that the foreigner will

be liable to be sued in a Japanese Court, and it is possible that the greater facilities of procedure thus afforded may encourage unnecessary appeals to the law. That is a risk. We make no attempt to minimize it. But it seems to us that Japanese Civil tribunals, being, in a manner, on their trial, will show a tendency not only to extend the fullest measure of justice to the foreigner, but also to strongly discourage anything like frivolous litigation against him. In the back-ground, too, stand the foreign Ministers and Consuls, constituting a final and potent court of appeal. On the whole, then, the perils of the situation are infinitesimal, and to talk of the foreign communities "reaping whirlwinds" and "working out their own undoing," savours distinctly of hysteria. It will not be supposed, of course, that in pointing out the absence of any appreciable connection between criminal procedure and the lives of ordinary respectable folks, we under-rate the importance of good penal laws and their efficient administration. Were we not persuaded that Japanese criminal Codes and Japanese criminal Courts have long ceased to offer just ground for complaint, we should certainly oppose the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. But when there is question of the foreign residents' submission to those codes and courts, it is well to remember that the matter concerns only an insignificant fraction of the community, and that to represent the event as something possessing sinister import for all Western nationals in Japan, is to substitute emotion for judgment. If that kind of sensational misrepresentation be continued, the only result must be that when the now inevitable abolition of Consular Jurisdiction becomes an accomplished fact, there will have been engendered on the foreign side such a sentiment of prejudice and apprehension as to render the smooth working of the new system entirely hopeless.

AN INTERVIEW IN THE "DAILY NEWS."

AMONG the interviews published by Mr. BLATHWAYT in the London *Daily News* after his visit to Japan, one was with the editor of this newspaper on the subject of Japanese journalism. The interview proper is given with remarkable accuracy, considering that the notes taken by Mr. BLATHWAYT were very brief. In the last paragraph, however, which does not form part of the interview itself, but is nevertheless so worded as to convey the impression that its gist was obtained from us, the following statements occur:—

The feeling between the Japanese and the English in Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, a feeling which is not in the least shared by the diplomatic corps, the official English residents, or the missionaries, is very bitter, and is quite likely one day to be productive of serious consequences, and even now it is a source of anxiety to the political authorities, both English and Japanese. In the eyes of these foolish and headstrong English merchants, who, I regret to say, are vigorously

supported by the editors of the seven or eight English newspapers, all of which are violently anti-Japanese, nothing that their hosts—for, as Captain Brinkley well puts it, they are after all but guests in the land of their adoption—nothing that the Japanese can do is right, and yet it is palpably unreasonable on the part of the English that they should expect and demand that the Japanese shall make laws only of which they, forsooth, approve. The Japanese undoubtedly are very irritating, but this intense bitterness of feeling for which they are little, if at all, to blame is to be traced mainly to the possible abrogation of the treaty laws, by which Englishmen exist under special jurisdiction. In three years' time these laws will be done away with, and they will be under Japanese jurisdiction entirely. Now, as Captain Brinkley points out, to display bitterness is not only absolutely unfair to the Japanese, who are almost certain to act towards the English with absolute impartiality, but it is extremely impolitic, to say the least, and as I have indicated, this attitude, commercial and journalistic entirely in its origin, will very possibly lead to complications of the most serious nature.

This paragraph is distinctly misleading, in so far as it is supposed to represent the views conveyed by us to Mr. BLATHWAYT at the interview in question. The subject, indeed, is so delicate and difficult of immediate comprehension by a stranger, that we can not feel any surprise at Mr. BLATHWAYT'S failure to reach its precise significance by means of a cursory conversation only. That, however, is no reason why we should accept a false position, and we therefore crave our readers' indulgence while we explain that we really did say. In the first place, we repeated the observation, often expressed in these columns, that critics conspicuously prone to attribute anti-foreign prejudice to the Japanese, are also preëminently blind to the fact that a strong anti-Japanese sentiment prevails among a considerable section of the foreign residents. It would be quite idle to deny the existence of such a sentiment. Every European or American tourist discovers it after he has been a few hours in Yokohama or Kobe, and inquires with surprise what it signifies. Time and again the discovery has been recounted to us, or in our hearing, and an explanation has been sought. The answer has never seemed difficult. Three causes are apparent. First, an Englishman—for obvious reasons we confine our comments to Englishmen—when he goes to the Orient, either as a settler or on temporary business, carries with him an inherited conviction that to be masterful is, in a sense, his duty. The people of the country are semi-civilized "natives" in his eyes. He feels that he must assert his superiority over them, or sacrifice the distinction that his nationality confers. Now that sort of thing works excellently in countries where matters have to be carried with a high hand; where, in short, British domination is to be established. We do not say a word against the spirit. On the contrary, we admire it in many respects. It is the spirit that has made the British empire, and its disappearance will preface the decay of that empire. But Japan is a place distinctly ill adapted for its display. The Japanese themselves are engaged, earnestly engaged, in the business of showing that they are as good as any Europeans or Americans. They are bent upon proving their title to be treated as equals by

all Western nations. That a great deal of moral friction should be evolved by the clashing of these two pretensions, must remain inevitable until Englishmen recognise that their wisest plan, in the interests of themselves and of their country alike, is to abandon a mood quite unsuited to Japan and its conditions. The second cause operating to produce an anti-Japanese feeling is the instinct of combativeness evoked by the circumstances in which an Englishman finds himself here. He is one of a little band of a thousand or fifteen hundred among a multitude of forty millions. He conceives that the odds are hugely against him, and he "braces up" all the more stiffly in consequence. Probably many people will deny the operation of such a consciousness. We deem it undeniable. It shows itself in many ways, conspicuously in the disposition to attach a generic interpretation to every incident; to lose sight of the individual and discover always the national. Of course the result is to preserve and emphasize racial distinctions, an invidious and unlovely tendency. Then, in the third place, we have the question of submission to Japanese jurisdiction. To what Englishman could that prospect be welcome? Just in proportion as a man respects the laws of his own country and looks up to its judges, will he be reluctant to exchange them for the laws and judges of another country. The natural and proper struggle made by the British residents to retain their own jurisdiction as long as possible must have received the sympathy of thoughtful Japanese. But unfortunately almost every attempt to perpetuate exemption from Japanese jurisdiction took the form of trying to prove the Japanese quite unworthy of high trust. We know to what wretched displays of injustice, falsehood, slander, and prejudice some English champions of the extraterritorial system have been betrayed by their blind desire to establish that proposition, and it is easy to see how a wish so importunate must ultimately have grown into antipathy on the part of those into whose ears the sins, shortcomings, and general moral obliquity of the Japanese were constantly dunned. Such are the reasons as they present themselves to us. But that they are universally operative among the foreign residents—that is to say, operative in an objectionable sense—we do not for a moment believe, and have, indeed, never asserted. Further, the expression "foolish and headstrong English merchants" is entirely Mr. BLATHWAYT'S own composition. The applicability of any such epithet was never even hinted at by us. But we did speak strongly of the tone adopted by several local foreign journals; the tone of unvarying hostility to the Japanese and unconcealed dislike of them; and we did say that, whatever excuse might have existed for such a tone in the days when the Treaty Revision battle was

at its height, no excuse whatever can be discovered now, the Treaty question being finally disposed of, and the plain duty of every publicist being to soften and dispel, not to deepen and perpetuate, prejudices which may entail very serious consequences when foreigners pass under Japanese jurisdiction. Mr. BLATHWAYT would have done better not to touch at all upon this intricate and many-sided problem, rather than to obscure it by an incomplete and incorrect statement.

"X" ON SILVER AND GOLD.

WE confess ourselves unable to follow the line of reasoning adopted by our correspondent "X." He declares that to recoin gold in such a manner as to make 12.89 grains of it the currency equivalent of 412.5 grains of silver, would "double the nominal value of all the gold in the world." We presume that by "value" "X" intends to convey the meaning "silver value." The weights indicated by him signify a ratio of 1 to 32, which is, approximately, the market ratio between gold and silver at present. Now the facts of the case, as we understand them, are these:—Owing to the immense appreciation that has taken place in the silver price of gold since the coinage systems of Europe and America were fixed, a wide discrepancy is to-day apparent between the nominal gold value at which silver subsidiary coins circulate and the actual gold value of the silver that they contain. Nominally every ounce of silver contained in these coins is equivalent to one-sixteenth of an ounce of gold—we use approximate figures for the convenience of our correspondent's argument—but in reality each ounce of silver contained in them, were it offered as bullion in the market, would exchange for only one-thirty-second of an ounce of gold. Hence, it is apparent that the silver subsidiary coins of Europe and America circulate at a nominal gold value equal to twice the real gold price of the silver they contain. There is no possibility of denying those facts, we presume. The extremist advocate of silver has no conceivable ground of complaint against the consideration shown towards the white metal by the mints of Europe and America for purposes of subsidiary coinage. But, in truth, the question of subsidiary coins is not at all material in the eyes of men that advocate the free coinage of silver. The white metal needed for subsidiary coinage is purchased by governments at its actual gold cost in the open market, and the nominal augmentation of currency value that it acquires after coinage represents no profit whatever for holders of silver in general. Were it within the competence of anybody and everybody to carry silver to the mint and have it coined into florins, shillings, half-crowns, dimes, and so forth, these coins remaining always exchange-

able for gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, then indeed subsidiary coins would acquire a very vivid interest in the eyes of silver-miners. But, of course, nothing of the kind is possible under existing financial systems. Mr. BRYAN and his followers, however, desire to make it possible. They would confer on any and every man the right to take silver in unlimited quantity to the mint, and have it converted into any current coin at the ratio that subsidiary silver coins now bear to gold coins. One result of that would be, as we showed in a previous article and as many financiers of recognised ability have showed, that gold would cease to circulate in the United States, that the country would become in practice silver monometallic, and that great quantities of the white metal would be transported thither to purchase commodities marketable in gold-using lands. The mechanical processes pursued at the mints would differ in no respect from those now in vogue. Gold pieces would remain exactly as they are to-day in respect of weight and fineness; silver pieces would remain exactly as they are to-day in respect of weight and fineness. The only difference would be that silver pieces, instead of being limited to a merely subsidiary rôle, would become legal tender to an unlimited extent, retaining in their extended use the nominal gold value that they now possess in their restricted subsidiary function. We have here stated the case so as to include the subsidiary coinage, because the difficulty of following "X's" arguments seems to arise chiefly from his confounding subsidiary silver coins and silver coins in general. "To establish by law," he writes, "that 32 oz. of silver shall be minted to represent, or become the equivalent of, 1 oz. of coined gold, would destroy the minting value of silver bullion just one half, and take from all silver coins now in circulation one half of their nominal value." That statement seems to be greatly deficient in accuracy. "X." appears to forget that all the silver coins of silver-using countries, as China, Japan, India, Russia, Mexico, and so forth, circulate today at a gold value of one-thirty-second part (approximately) of their weight. Hence, the minting value of silver for the purposes of these coins would not be changed at all were the ratio of 32 to 1 fixed by law. As to the minting value of subsidiary silver coins, their fate can not be settled in the cursory fashion adopted by "X." The governments that issued them originally are responsible for their value. In the case of such of them as might be invested with the status of large legal tender, it would evidently be necessary to double (approximately) the weight of fine silver that they now contain; but the loss thus incurred must obviously devolve upon their issuers, not upon the private individuals in whose hands they might happen to be found at the moment of the ratio's legal enactment. In the

case, again, of subsidiary silver coins invested with very limited legal-tender status, no change of weight would seem essential, for, being virtually mere tokens, a discrepancy between their bullion value and their nominal value in terms of gold need not cause any special inconvenience. At any rate, it is plain that the sweeping conclusions of our correspondent are very misleading. And precisely the same considerations, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to his reasoning in the matter of the ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16. "To coin $\frac{1}{2}$ of an oz. of gold," he says, "into coins—call them what you may, sovereigns, dollars, napoleons, ducats or thalers—that will pass concurrent with silver coins at the ratio of 32 to 1, would not disturb the present nominal value of the silver coins of the world, but would double the nominal value of all coined gold and gold bullion. The sovereign would be re-coined into two sovereigns and the twenty dollar pieces into two twenty dollar pieces." Yes, the sovereign would be re-coined into two sovereigns, and the twenty-dollar piece into two twenty-dollar pieces—though what could be the object or what the benefit of such a minting vagary we can not perceive—but the divided sovereigns and twenty-dollar pieces would buy only one half the quantity of silver that the bullion contained in the whole coins now exchanges for, and would possess only a moiety of the latter's general purchasing power. Holders of gold would not profit one cent. by any change whatever in the dimensions of current gold coins so long as the ratio of gold to silver remained unaltered. Here, again, our correspondent seems to confuse the nominal value of gold in terms of subsidiary silver coins and its real value in terms of silver bullion. It is true that if the British Government resolved, by reducing the size of the sovereign, to bring about equality between the bullion value of the coin in terms of grains of silver, and the number of grains of silver contained in eight half-crowns or twenty shillings, twice as many so-called sovereigns—approximately—as there are at present in England would result from the operation. But the purchasing power of eight half crowns or twenty shillings would immediately be reduced by one-half, so that the owner of the divided sovereigns would be no richer than he is now. Neither holders of gold nor holders of silver would be affected in any way. Truly, we must apologise to our readers for devoting space to such rudimentary propositions, but "X." refuses to be content without an answer, and appears to construe our silence in the sense of a desire to avoid the question. We are entirely at one with him in advocating the re-monetization of silver, but it is impossible for us to approve the heroic measure contemplated by the American silver-men, or to regard without extreme uneasiness the commercial and financial confusion into which their scheme would plunge the whole world.

THE FORMOSA COURT-MARTIAL.

Lieut.-Colonel Masuda and Captain Furuichi have been suspended, and Major Sato and Capt. Ishizuka have been Court-martialled in Formosa, the cause of the trouble being connected with the late insurrection at Yun-lin. The public, observes the *Kokumin*, must not be betrayed into passing any hasty judgment upon the conduct of those officers. It would be wrong to stigmatize them, as some persons seem disposed to do, as guilty of cowardice. The Lieut.-Colonel received, while he was at Kagi, the news that the defence of Yun-lin was broken; that things were in the most critical condition. He hastened to the garrison, taking with him only one company of men. He succeeded in beating back the insurgents at Yun-lin and at the same time took steps to clear the vicinity of lurking Hakkas. In the meanwhile, other serious tidings reached him that the insurgents had appeared before Kagi and had surrounded it, and he was thus obliged to lead back his troops at the double to rescue that important post. Now the steps that the Colonel took to clear the vicinity of Yun-lin of Hakkas were strong and decisive; in fact he burned down houses and even killed law-abiding people. This proceeding furnished a good pretext to the Hakkas to say that, rather than be passively murdered by the Japanese, they should, as they were to die anyhow, rise against the invaders and oppose them to the death. It was this indiscreet bloodshed that provoked some of the natives to desperation, and has now led to the Colonel's suspension. The Colonel, however, is not without justification for the steps he took. He must have found it impossible to discriminate between rebels and law-abiding people, as the former frequently hid themselves in the dwellings of the latter, while the existence of such shelter exposed the troops to extreme danger, as the Hakkas entered other people's houses and used them as shelters to fire at the Japanese troops. Captain Furuichi commanded the garrison of Yun-lin when it was besieged by the insurgents, and had only one company under him. That handful of men had to encounter a body of insurgents numerically several times stronger than themselves. When a message was carried to Major Sato, who commanded Yun-lin and its vicinity, and relief was urgently requested, the Major told the Captain that he should evacuate the place and withdraw to a safer position, an injunction which he obeyed. In this respect, therefore, no blame could be laid upon Captain Furuichi. The reason why Lieut.-Colonel Masuda was suspended was more indefinite. He was said to have failed in exercising due vigilance and to have suffered the insurrection to assume formidable proportions. This officer, however, must have found it extremely difficult to keep watch over a large district with only one company of men at his disposal, especially when his want of knowledge of the native language is remembered, added to which was ignorance of the topography of the country. The conduct of Major Sato and Captain Ishizuka was doubtless open to grave censure.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

Mr. Mortimer Menpes, writing from Kyoto, says:—"I am amazed at the letters people are writing about the railway officials. My own experience has been very different. On my journey here from Kobe, I was obliged, owing to the floods, to go round by Nara, and the trouble the officials took to see me through was monumental. One station-master wrote instructions for me to show to the guards on the way, so that my difficulty with the language should not prove an inconvenience. Fancy such kindness on the part of railway officials in England!"

Mr. Miyamura and other promoters have applied to the Authorities for a license for the Shinano Railway (30 miles) that is to run from Iiyama-machi, Shinshu, to Inariyama-machi. The capital is fixed at yen 1,200,000.

POWERS IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

The correspondent of the *Mainichi* writes an interesting letter from Söul on the influence that the respective treaty Powers enjoy in Korea in matters not directly connected with politics, such as education, religion, and so forth. First as to education. There are nine Government common schools in Söul, the list of pupils aggregating 534. Public common schools are to be established in 38 localities, but these are not yet open. The common schools in Söul were opened last year, the curriculum at first being modelled on the primary school system of Japan. Subsequently to the appointment of the present Minister of Education, morals and Chinese classics were almost exclusively taught, and other subjects, as history, geography, and so forth, were more or less disregarded. The course extends for six years, three years in the lower course and the remaining three in the upper. Pupils are mostly sons of the middle class. Not only is no fee charged, but books are furnished by the school. The *Song Kuyu Kwan* is an institution where the old classics are taught and where pupils, about 30 in number, are inculcated into the doctrines of the saints. The school is carried on at an annual cost of 2,000 yen, which, it is said, is secretly obtained from the fund set apart for normal and common schools in Söul. It is decidedly an institution that is out of date. The normal school in Söul was established not long ago to train common school teachers. The course is six months, and the first batch of graduates was turned out last June. The teacher is Mr. Takami Kame, a Japanese, in the employ of the Korean Government. The fixed number of pupils is forty, and it is believed that the school will not admit any new pupils. The English Language School was opened about nine years ago and is a most flourishing institution, the number of pupils reaching one hundred. There are two English teachers and a few Korean assistants. The French Language School, also under Government control, was started in January last, and has 34 pupils, under the direction of M. Martel and Korean assistants. The Russian Language School was opened in May last, and the 40 boys that attend it are taught by Mr. Nicolai Vilikoff (?)—who receives a monthly salary of 200 taels—and Korean Assistants. The Japanese Language School was opened in the summer of 1892, and has 45 boys, who receive lessons from Messrs. Nagashima Ganjirō and Yoshida Tadasu, with Korean assistants. Last year and the year before, the scholars numbered 150. The course extends to three years, and a general education is given. A branch school of the last-named is established in Ninsan, but it has only about 30 boys. Fusan has a private school organized on the same lines as the Government institution in Söul. But by far the most flourishing private school is the *Mai-chai-hak-tang*, established by two American missionaries in Söul, the Revs. Messrs. Appenzeller and Bunker, who have several assistants. This school has no less than 177 boys, divided into 106 for the English-language course, 60 for the Chinese, and 6 for divinity. The school is supported by the American Methodist Church Mission Board, and the tuition is free. It is said, however, that the Korean Government bestows upon it a subsidy at the rate of 1 Korean yen per month per pupil. The institution was opened in 1888, and promises to continue with increased prosperity. There is in Söul a private school established by a Japanese, Mr. Kojima Kesatarō, but it has only 30 boys and is a somewhat insignificant establishment. Coming to religion the same correspondent says that there are four American missionaries of the Methodist Church, Messrs. Bunker, Appenzeller, Bostick, and Hulbert, the last being the editor of the *Korean Repository*. There is also one other American missionary belonging to the Baptist Church, Mr. Mitchell, an Englishman, is the sole representative of the English Episcopal Church in Söul. The above churches have five American missionaries with them as itinerant preachers in

the interior. The Roman Catholic Church enjoys the largest influence in Korea, counting no less than 60,000 believers, while it employs several hundred missionaries, foreign and native. The Greek Church does not undertake the business of evangelization. The Hongwanji has its temples at Söul and at the three open ports, but the priests of those temples do not preach to the Koreans. The American missionaries now occupy a very peculiar position in the Peninsula, and are more influential in politics than in religion. It seems as if they hold the Korean Court under their control. With regard to business, the Russians and Americans enjoy the lion's share, leaving the fisheries to the Japanese.

THE SÖUL-FUSAN RAILWAY AFFAIR.

The Söul-Fusan railway construction problem, writes the *Yomiuri*, now constitutes one of the tests by which to gauge the foreign policy of the new Ministry. Public attention is now rivetted on the subject, and people are anxious to see what attitude the Government is going to assume with regard to it. A section of the projectors of the railway hold very strong opinions on the matter. They argue that, the construction of the railway having been already determined upon by a provisional agreement concluded between the two countries in 1894, only the conditions bearing upon its construction remains to be settled. Even that is needless, as the conditions relating to the construction of the Söul-Ninsan Railway by the Americans and the Söul-Wiju line by the French have already been agreed upon, and Japan is entitled, by virtue of the most favoured nation clause, to make use of those conditions in the laying of the Söul-Fusan Railway. Therefore, should Korea endeavour, by one pretext or other, to evade the provisional agreement of 1894, Japan should disregard all objections, send out experts and coolies to Fusan, and start the work from that point towards Taiku. Such a proceeding being merely the adoption of the existing agreement, could not be described as arbitrary. Some jurists declare that Japan, as compensation for the breach of the convention of 1894, should occupy an island on the coast of Korea, but such a troublesome step need not be taken, as Japan is entitled, by the agreement concluded between the two countries, to construct the railway, and, in virtue of the most favoured nation clause, to adopt the conditions already granted to other Powers.

The same paper states that as Mr. Hara, now on his way home from Söul, is understood to desire appointment to another post, Mr. Oishi, ex-Japanese Minister in Korea, will be appointed to succeed him. Evidently the Korean Government is considerably perturbed in connection with this railway construction problem. The *Yomiuri* publishes two telegrams wired from its Söul correspondent, under date of the 4th inst., one saying that the sudden departure of the Japanese Minister has caused the Korean Government to entertain apprehensions, so that it has taken trouble to make the Japanese residents understand that another Cabinet council will be held to discuss the railway question. The second message says that Mr. Hara has refused to accept a resolution from the Korean Foreign Office on the railway construction affair, the resolution being to the effect that the question should be deferred till the suppression of the local insurrection.

ART EXHIBITIONS.

The Japan Society of Oil Painters, of which the President is Prince Nijo, opened its annual exhibition of paintings on the 25th of September in Hall No. 5, Ueno Park, Tokyo. The exhibition will remain open until the 31st instant.

The Japan Fine Art Society, which is under the presidency of Count Sano, will open its autumn exhibition of works of ancient and modern art on the 10th instant, in its galleries, Ueno Park, Tokyo. As the number of exhibits is unusually large this year, the galleries will be open for a private view by special invitation on the 9th instant, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

JAPANESE PEDLERS IN THE INTERIOR OF KOREA.

Japanese pedlers in the interior of Korea, writes the Söul correspondent of the *Shogyo*, are now in a very wretched plight, in consequence of the defective Korean policy of Japan and the doings of those pedlers themselves. When the pedlers travelled in the interior for the purpose of trade they used to call upon the Headmen of towns or districts and compel them to act as their agents and to even demand lodging and refreshment at their houses. They would then frequently entangle themselves in quarrels with the native merchants, and from their ignorance of the manners and customs of the people and a want of knowledge of the vernacular, would give such a shock to the feelings of the Koreans as to ultimately bring upon them the contempt of the people. Some pedlers did not scruple to pose as medical practitioners and in that way extorted money from unsophisticated folk. No small number of vagrants prowled about the country, and, pluming themselves on the victory Japan had won over China, would bully the natives. Such conduct created a very bad impression of the Japanese as a nation in the minds of the simple folks in the interior, the result being that the credit of Japan, and especially of Japanese pedlers, is entirely gone. The unpopularity of the Japanese, traceable to the sale of shoddy goods, is even more striking. *Holan*, a preparation made by Messrs. Morita, of Tokyo, is the most popular drug known in Korea, and its fame is widely spread throughout the Peninsula. In Ninsan alone there are three Japanese establishments where spurious *holan* is made. The innocent natives were at first easily imposed upon and bought the counterfeit article at the same price paid for the genuine. This knavery was soon discovered, and so utterly worthless has the spurious drug proved to be, that its price declined with alarming rapidity, till one tin fetched no more than one *sen*. The result is that the credit of the once popular *holan* has vanished, and no one now speaks of it except in terms of derision. As if to complete the discomfiture of Japanese drugs and drug-sellers in Korea, foreign missionaries are now administering genuine medicines *gratis* to the natives, and the striking contrast between foreign and Japanese drugs both in price and efficacy has entirely deprived the latter of what popularity they formerly enjoyed. The position of Japanese cigarettes is no better, the trouble arising from the same cause. This is the more regrettable, seeing how much the Koreans are addicted to smoking, and how, owing to the failure of the tobacco crop this year in the Peninsula, there must be a large quantity imported. Matches, made in Osaka, are in the same category, and the Koreans are obliged to use matches made in China.

FORMOSA WANTS.

A correspondent writes:—"Reading what has recently appeared in your columns about Formosa, and arguing from my own observations there, I think the situation, so far as the Japanese are concerned, may be summed up in this—there is need of more police, especially to look after the roughest classes of the Japanese themselves, and every effort should be made to lessen the demonstration of militarism." These suggestions seem altogether in point. They have been made frequently by leading vernacular journals in Tokyo, but not in the outpoken fashion adopted by our correspondent. On the contrary, the impression conveyed by the writing in Japanese newspapers has been that the Chinese inhabitants of Formosa stand in want of more efficient control, and it has never been suggested, so far as we know, that private soldiers and Japanese coolies behave in a manner calculated to bring the administration of the island into general disfavour. There is reason to believe, however, that this fact has now been appreciated by the Authorities, and that the truculent swagger of the coolie, and the miniature god-almightiness of the soldier will cease to be prominent traits of Japanese manners.

SHIPPING NEWS.

Of the four new lines of navigation—Bombay, Australia, Vladivostok, and Korsakoff—for which special subsidies are to be given by the Government, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has offered to undertake the first two, while the others have been given to Mr. Oya Hichibei. The following is a brief account of the undertakings:—

Yokohama-Adelaide: one service a month from each of these ports, to be opened from the 3rd inst. The ports to be called at either on the outward or on homeward voyage are:—Kobe, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane (?), Sydney, Melbourne. Subsidies: 175,109 yen in the current fiscal year; 350,218 yen per annum from the next to the 33rd fiscal year.

Yokohama-Bombay: one service a month from each of these ports, to be opened from the 10th inst. Ports to be called at either on the outward or on the homeward voyage are: Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo. Subsidies: 99,142 yen in the current fiscal year; 198,285 yen per annum from the next to the 33rd fiscal year.

Niigata-Vladivostok: one service a month from each of these ports, to be opened from the 1st inst. Ports to be called at: Niigata, Hakodate, Vladivostok. Subsidies: 5,865 yen in the current fiscal year; 11,730 yen per annum from the next to the 33rd fiscal year.

Hakodate-Korsakoff: one service a month from each of these ports, to be opened from the 10th inst. Ports to be called at: Hakodate, Otaru, Korsakoff. Subsidies: 3,161 yen in the current fiscal year; 6,320 yen per annum from the next to the 33rd fiscal year.

The Kwansei Steamship Company that was started last year in Osaka with a capital of 1,000,000 yen, is likely to acquire an unenviable reputation as the pioneer of companies organized without any definite prospect of success, and therefore destined to burst like bubble when the present temporary prosperity passes away. The Company had to encounter various adverse circumstances even at its birth. Just at that time, a number of steamship companies already existing in Osaka organized themselves into a league, and then announced that any one desirous of joining must pay for admission at the rate of 2 yen per ton of the steamers owned. The Union announced, at the same time, that a new comer would not be entitled to share the profits accruing from the business of the Union until after the expiration of one year. As this amounted to a challenge of competition, the new Steamship Company was obliged to take up the gauntlet, and for some time competition ensued between it and the Union, resulting in the discomfiture of the former. The jealousy of the Union went ever further; the new Company was sued on the ground that it had violated the provisions of the Commercial Code in connection with registration. The Company had been imprudent enough to start business with no ships of its own, and was therefore under the necessity of chartering them. Various other mishaps that befel the Company deterred shareholders from paying their calls. The condition of affairs therefore went from bad to worse, and Admiral Isobe, the President, and two or three Directors, resigned. From the beginning of the business to the present, the Company has incurred a loss of 30,000 yen, or about 1½ yen per share. The remaining Directors have determined to call an extraordinary meeting of shareholders on the 5th prox., to discuss what steps should be taken at this juncture. The debit and credit account shows that, had the Company carried on business with ships of its own, it might have made fair profits.

Ship-owners are now placed in a very trying situation, writes the *Shogyo*, owing to the extraordinary fall in freights since last spring. Freight from Bombay to London, that had stood as high as 15 shillings per ton, is now reduced to 2s. 6d.; freight from London and Singapore has fallen from 25s. to 7s. 6d.; freight Hongkong to Japan, from 2 to 1 yen. The cause of this remarkable fall must be sought in the excess of supply over demand, due to the sudden additions to the mercantile fleet of Japan since the War, and to the lack of cargo for return voyages of European steamers coming to China and Japan.

PROFESSOR DR. LÖNHOLM.

The Biblical type of scepticism is a Thomas that will not believe even the evidence of an angel unless it be confirmed by his own eyesight. We are reminded of that record by the treatment that has been extended to Dr. Lönholm. In his recently published pamphlet on the Civil Code of Japan, he ventured to express the opinion that the new laws were good, that he "saw no reason why Japanese Judges should not be able to apply them in a manner satisfactory to foreigners." The reception accorded by a local English journal to this declaration is that "University Professors move only in a calm academic atmosphere;" that they "know nothing of the vexations and victimizations which persons in trade unfortunately are made to suffer;" and that Dr. Lönholm would "have done better to confine himself to an exposition of the law as settled, rather than to have ventured upon an expression of views liable to question." Dr. Lönholm has for several years been a Professor of Law in the Imperial University; in his own country he holds the office of Judge; he is an accomplished Japanese scholar, and his position has brought him into close contact with hundreds of the men that are now serving, or will hereafter serve, as administrators of Japanese law. It would scarcely be possible to find an expert better qualified to speak of the competence of Japanese Judges and the character of Japanese laws, and certainly nothing could have been more modest than his manner of speech. Yet he is insolently discredited as ignorant of the practical side of his subject, and is haughtily recommended to confine himself to an exposition of the law as settled, instead of venturing upon the expression of views liable to question. Moreover, these criticisms are penned by a journalist incapable of deciphering a line of the Japanese laws that Professor Lönholm reads with facility; knowing only by slenderest hearsay one or two of the Japanese judges and barristers, scores upon scores of whom Dr. Lönholm has instructed or associated with; and himself possessing nothing whatever of the legal training that it has been the business of Dr. Lönholm's life to acquire. Such purblind intolerance of adverse opinion is supremely stupid. These are the kind of exhibitions that have brought the opponents of Treaty Revision into perpetual ridicule, and effectually discredited their cause.

RUSSIAN OFFICERS IN JAPAN.

The *Osaka Asahi* is responsible for the following story said to have emanated from Colonel Tsuchiya, Chief of the Second Section of the Central Staff Board, who lately returned from a trip to Vladivostok. Russia, he says, has sent over ten staff officers disguised as traders to Japan. These disguised officers, either by undertaking trips through the interior on ordinary passports, or by having the vernacular papers translated for them at the Legation, are said to have gathered information relating to the general aspects of Japan and the scope of the expansion of the national armaments. Such conduct is despicable under the circumstances. When an official of a treaty Power visits Japan publicly with a view to taking observations of the country and people, the Government receives him with due respect and affords him every convenience. It is exceedingly regrettable that Russia does not take these straightforward methods, and chooses to send officers in a secret manner. Japan, in matters of this kind, acts differently. Officers despatched to a treaty Power, such as attachés, travel as ordinary tourists, but as soon as they arrive at their destination they resume their uniforms, and acquaint the respective Authorities with the nature of their business. That was the system that the Colonel himself adopted on his last trip to Vladivostok. Therefore the Generals, officers, and their subordinates received him with cordial hospitality, giving banquets to the Colonel and his party. As the period allowed him was only 30 days, he could only proceed some 70 miles into the interior north-east from Vladivostok. He there-

fore had no time in which to return the friendly attention of the Russian officers. To us (*Japan Mail*) the above story seems incredible. The Russian Legation in Tokyo can furnish all the required information. No occasion exists to send disguised officers.

THE RUSSIAN OFFICER CANARD.

We reproduced in our last issue, from the columns of the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*, an incredible story about Russian officers said to have been sent to Japan in disguise, for the purpose of spying, and to be receiving assistance in their project from the Russian Legation in Tokyo. The extravagance of the tale could scarcely fail to strike any thoughtful person, but as the *Asahi* openly alleged the authority of Colonel Tsuchiya, a well known Japanese officer, who returned recently from Vladivostok, it seemed advisable to institute some inquiries. The result has been to confirm the absolute baselessness of the rumour. All the Russian officers that have hitherto visited Japan have come either officially, in which case their advent was perfectly open, or as simple tourists without any official mission whatever. The passports issued to these officers invariably contained a statement of their military rank, as furnished by the Russian Legation. It is scarcely conceivable that Colonel Tsuchiya, who speaks of the hospitable reception given to him at Vladivostok, can have made himself the propagator of such absurd canards, but he would certainly be acting wisely did he publicly dissociate himself from the *Osaka* journal's most offensive falsehoods.

DEPARTURE OF THE "YAMASHIRO MARU."

On Saturday, at noon, the N.Y.K. steamer, *Yamashiro Maru*, Capt. Jones, left Yokohama as the pioneer vessel of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's new Australian line. Prior to the departure of the steamer, a cold collation was served in the handsome saloon, and an opportunity was afforded of presenting an address to Mr. Kondo Rempai, President of the Company, by the Tokyo and Yokohama Traders' Association. This was introduced by Mr. Ikeda, of Tokyo, and Mr. Otani Kahei, of Yokohama, in most felicitous speeches. Mr. Kondo made a lengthy reply, in which he referred to the new lines to Europe, Bombay, Seattle, and Sydney that have recently been started by the Yusen Kaisha. He trusted that their efforts would meet with success. They would do their best to merit success, and should these efforts be appreciated by shippers and travellers, then the flag of the Yusen Kaisha might eventually be seen in other parts of the globe. Three ringing *Bansais* were then given for the Emperor, for Mr. Kondo, and for the success of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Australian line, on the motion of Mr. Otani Kahei.

The *Yamashiro Maru* is a handsome vessel, built by Sir Wm. Armstrong and Company about twelve years ago. She is constructed for the purpose of serving as an armed transport in time of war. She was in a spick-and-span condition on Saturday, and with an abundance of flags floating—the Union Jack flew at the fore—presented a fine sight as she steamed through the harbour entrance attended by the noisy salutes of many steam launches and the discharge of some effective day-fireworks. The *Yamashiro Maru* has been specially fitted up for stowage passengers, and it is expected that this will be a lucrative part of her work in the years to come. Among her passengers on Saturday were Mr. Barrie, Superintendent Engineer of the Company, for Kobe; and Baron Harden Hickey, for Sydney.

The Russian military force in Eastern Siberia continues to be increased, and all formations are on a strong war footing. There must now be some 40,000 men under arms in that district. A new reserve battalion has just been created for Chita and the Trans-Baikal of the same strength as the battalion at Stretensk and a regiment of five battalions for Vladivostok.

KOREAN NEWS.

The change of Ministry in Japan has caused a panic in Korean political circles. On the 23rd ult., a message reached Sōul from the Korean Minister in Tokyo to the effect that Count Kabayama had been gazetted Home Minister and Count Okuma Foreign Minister. Evidences of considerable perturbation on the part of the Korean Government were, at once, apparent. They held a special council and came to the conclusion that, as the new Japanese Cabinet comprised warlike Satsuma men and a strong-minded diplomat like Count Okuma, energetic assertion of Japan's rights, and strong pushing of the Sōul-Fusan Railway question must be expected. The problem of damages for destruction of Japanese life and property during the recent rebellion would also come up for speedy solution, and if Korea showed any recalcitrance, strong measures must be anticipated. These apprehensions were entertained not by the Korean Cabinet only, but also by all publicists. It was even rumoured that Japan had already despatched 5,000 troops, and that they were landing in Korea by detachments. In short, Sōul presented for a short while a scene of unusual consternation as if a war had actually broken out. A certain Korean politician, reputed to be comparatively well informed as to the general situation of affairs, and to hold impartial views, is said to have delivered the opinion that though an actual rupture would not take place so easily as some alarmists desired the public to believe, still, since the refusal of a charter for the construction of the Fusan-Sōul railway was a manifest breach of promise on the part of Korea, grave consequences must overtake the country should it persist in rejecting the demands of Japan. It seems, therefore, that even the Korean Government are really cognizant of the justice of Japan's claims, and appreciate that the refusal is really a violation of an agreement concluded between the two States. The panic-stricken Ministers were at a loss what course to adopt, and were resolved to recall the Korean Minister, so as to obtain from him authentic intelligence about the new Japanese Government. In the meanwhile, letters and telegrams reached Sōul from the Korean Representative in Tokyo, who declared to his Government that he could no longer preserve intimate relations in Japan, or indeed, accomplish anything at all. Further, he had many things to report about Japan, and he therefore wished for leave to return home. This request was welcome to the Cabinet, and a letter of recall was at once forwarded.

As a sign of the altered attitude of Korea toward Japan, the *Yomiuri's* correspondent, from whose letter the above facts are taken, mentions that the Korean Foreign Office sent an official to the Japanese Legation on the 24th ult., apologising for the conduct of the Government of Haicheng towards the Japanese merchants residing in that town, averring that the Governor and his accomplice, the Headman of the District, had been severely reprimanded for their misconduct, and ordered to revoke an arbitrary notification issued by them. The trouble related to an unjust seizure of vegetables belonging to Japanese merchants.

The relation between Russia and Korea shows indications of a change, the former being now apparently inclined to assume the position of an outsider. It is rumoured that this may be the result of some alteration in the Korean policy of Russia, in consequence of the death of Prince Lobanoff. Nor is Korea as cordially disposed towards Russia as she used to be. The Cabinet show signs of disliking the great Northern Power, and its representative Mr. Waeber. The extraordinary privileges obtained by a Russian merchant from Korea in the matter of felling and planting trees in the northern districts of the Peninsula, is one of the chief causes that have induced the adoption of such an attitude towards Russia. The Koreans are far more sensitive to questions of individual or national interest than to those affecting the great principles of justice or national prestige, so that the King's seeking shelter in the Russian Legation does not evoke any such outburst of patriotic sentiment as would

be the case in other countries. Since the Russian Representative has secured for his countryman the concession about Korean forests, however, the Koreans profess that they have detected the ambitious motives of Russia, and whenever a number of Cabinet Ministers meet, they do not cease to speak censoriously about her power and her Representative.

No letter from Sōul to a vernacular paper is without reference to applications from one or more Cabinet Ministers for permission to resign. Correspondence received by the *Hochi Shimbun* quotes quite a number of such applications. It is customary in Korea to nominate important officers of State without any previous understanding with the nominees. The recent appointments of Kim Pyōng-si to a seat in the Cabinet, and of Min Yong-chun as President of the Privy Council, were made in accordance with that old practice. When the two Korean statesmen arrived in Sōul on the 25th ult., to be present on the anniversary of the death of Queen, couriers from the Court visited their temporary residences to inform them that they had been nominated to office. Both submitted documents asking that they be relieved from such compulsory service, Min even retiring to his country villa. The three Ministers of Home, Foreign, and Financial Departments have also asked the King repeatedly for permission to resign, and the resolution of the Foreign Minister is reported to be specially strong. The fact is, Li is now placed in a very unenviable situation in connection with the Sōul-Fusan Railway affair. When he tries to shun Scylla, the King, he is sure to fall into Charybdis, the Japanese Government. It may be noted in this context that the Educational Minister has incurred the displeasure of foreign residents by having written, or caused to be written, an essay calumniating Christianity. He has just been replaced by another statesman.

Another correspondent gives a detailed statement of the Haicheng trouble. It seems that the notification referred to forbade the sale of medical roots to foreign merchants. It was with the view to strictly enforce this arbitrary measure that parcels owned by Japanese were seized, irrespective of their contents. The Court despatched officials and tried to monopolize the products in question, to the great loss of farmers and merchants, for a bundle worth 26 *kwamme* of Korean coins under ordinary circumstances, did not fetch more than 13 *kwamme* after the issue of the notification, and even then only two-thirds of the price was paid in cash. The revocation of the notification greatly relieved both natives and aliens.

FORMOSAN AFFAIRS.

Prof. Burton, Adviser, and Mr. Hamano, expert, of the Governor-General Office, returned to Japan on the 25th September, after having investigated the questions of water supply, sewerage, and other hygienic affairs in Formosa. They visited Taipei, Keelung, and Tamsui. Both were surprised at the extreme filthiness of those places, as also the lack of wholesome drinking water. It is, in their opinion, no wonder that the island should be so unhealthy to immigrants. A supply of good drinking water is a question of urgent necessity. The trouble is how to get this supply, as no suitable headwaters are to be found in the vicinity of the Formosan towns. The only possible plan will be to construct a huge water reservoir in a retired portion of each township, and to collect rain water; the rainfall is very heavy in Formosa. Mr. Hamano told a representative of the *Kokumin*—from which we quote these statements—that an hour's fall in summer would measure 6 inches. However, the construction of reservoirs must be deferred to some other time and means must be devised to furnish good water as quickly as possible to the inhabitants. At Taipei it was discovered that a boring of 100 ft. would reach a subterranean water basin, and several artesian wells are found within the premises of the castle grounds of Taipei, the water from the wells being tolerably palatable. The excess of demand over supply soon exhausts the

water in the daytime, while at night it overflows and is wasted. To prevent this waste, an iron water tank must be constructed around each well. The well and tank would cost between 2,000 and 3,000 *yen*. Sixty or seventy such wells would furnish a sufficient water supply to the inhabitants of Taipei. Professor Burton and Mr. Hamano consider Taichu as the town best situated in respect of water supply and also from a hygienic point of view, and are of opinion that when communication with the interior is improved, it will certainly grow into an important centre of commerce in Formosa.

The *Kyōiku Jiron* (an Educational weekly journal) prints an interesting account of the progress of education in the new dominion, the facts being supplied by Mr. Izawa Shuichi, Chief of the Education Bureau of Formosa, now in Tokyo. A first batch of forty-five teachers went to Formosa some time ago. These took up at once the study of the vernacular, and were subsequently distributed to 14 schools in the island. These schools were to open from Sept. 1st. The pupils admitted at the schools are all natives and two or three boys are to be brought from each principal town. On graduation, one portion will be appointed clerks in city or village offices, and the other will have to devote themselves to the duty of teaching Japanese to the natives. Mr. Izawa has great hope for the success of these schools, his opinion being based on what he saw or heard about the enthusiasm of the natives in the cause of education. At Giran, for instance, where insurrections repeatedly broke out, so that teachers who volunteered to undertake educational duties went thither ready to die at their posts, the school presents a flourishing appearance, the natives in the vicinity looking up to their masters as oracles and asking their advice in everything. The pupils are earnestly absorbed in their lessons. Indeed, progress is so rapid that Mr. Izawa is much surprised. At Byoritsu similar enthusiasm prevails. So enthusiastic are the natives to acquire a knowledge of Japanese that the Educational Board was obliged to dispense with the age-limit. According to the by-law for those schools, students ought to be restricted to persons under 30 years of age. But the natives in the vicinity would not hear of any such restriction and wished to have it dispensed with. The Headman of the town said that in order to set an example to the natives he desired to be admitted. His wish was complied with, and he is now applying himself with admirable diligence to the study of Japanese. Mr. Izawa tells another interesting story relating to Koshun. When the school was opened at that town, influential aboriginal chiefs were invited to be present. A few days after, the patriarch of the aborigines came to the town and told the Chief of the District Office that the aborigines desired to have a school of their own. He petitioned, therefore, as representative of the 36 tribes living in the vicinity, for two Japanese teachers to be sent, and that towards the expense of building a school-house a sum of 30 *yen* should be granted. The request was at once acceded to, and Mr. Izawa heard, before he left Formosa, that one of the two Japanese teachers had already proceeded to the place and that the school-house was being built. That the aborigines should be disposed toward acquiring knowledge, reflects credit on Mr. Sagara, Chief of the District Office. When he was appointed to the place, he proceeded unarmed over the savage frontier and travelled through the district, thereby removing any suspicion the aborigines may have had toward their new rulers. He spoke freely with all the influential personages and strongly impressed upon them the necessity of becoming peaceful and industrious subjects of the Emperor. Mr. Izawa says that 75 more teachers are to be sent to Formosa shortly.

The work of doubling the Kobu Railway line has been postponed indefinitely.

The number of dysentery cases in Tokyo-fu are reported as follow:—1 in Koishikawa-ku; 1 in Ebara-gori; 1 in Kita-toshimagori; 1 in Nishi-tama-gori; 1 in Kita-tama-gori.

CHINESE ITEMS.

From the provinces of Anhui and Hukuang reports have been forwarded to Peking, describing the great hardships suffered by the people on account of inundations. In both cases a water-spout is mentioned as the prime cause of the trouble. The Emperor simply ordered the Governor of Anhui and the Viceroy Chang to devise means for alleviating the distress and for carrying off the surplus water. His Majesty is not particularly helpful, it must be confessed.

At a trial in the Shanghai Police Court, Mr. Bancroft Joly, the Police Magistrate, interpreted the law on assault to mean that if one even called a man a name, or addressed an abusive word to him, or pointed a finger at him, it constituted an assault. At that rate litigious folks would find plenty of opportunities for bringing actions.

Another case of violent assault against a foreigner is reported from China. It occurred at Pootung, near Shanghai, and the victim does not seem to have given any provocation whatever. He was assailed by a party of roughs and severely handled, but managed to effect his escape, losing only his dog, which was cruelly killed. Several outrages of a similar nature are said to have been committed in the same district.

As an illustration of the popular administration of justice in China, the case of a man that stole a farmer's wife at a place some 300 miles inland from Hankow, is instructive. The thief sold the woman for 100 ozs. of silver which appears to be about the tariff in mountainous districts of China. He was caught by the husband of the woman, and two other men, who carried him to a particular tree near a Buddhist monastery and strung him up by his wrists tied behind his back so that his body was bent forward and his toes barely touched the ground. In that position he was hammered with a large stone at the base of his spine and on his ankles. This was by way of preliminary to carrying him to the magistrate's yamén, where he was doubtless sentenced to decapitation.

It may interest the Japanese to know that the cotton-spinning mills erected in Shanghai are intended to manufacture yarns of sizes and counts such as have not been shipped from England or Europe for twenty years. The demand for these particular yarns has hitherto been supplied by India, Japan, and Chinese domestic labour. The field in China is said to be enormous and in addition to the four mills now in course of erection, two hundred spindles more are contemplated.

The population of China has always been a moot question. Formerly 400 millions was the number confidently stated, but during recent years doubts have been entertained whether 230 millions would not be nearer the mark. From investigations lately conducted, it appears that in 1741 an Imperial Edict was issued to the Governors of all the provinces throughout the Empire requiring them to collect and forward records of the population from year to year. The order was not continuously obeyed, but its immediate results, as stated in a memorial from the Board of Revenue in 1886, show that the population in 1741 amounted to 303½ millions in 13 provinces. If to these the remaining provinces be added, a total closely approximating 400 millions is obtained. Thus it may henceforth be assumed that the latter figure is well within the truth.

There is perhaps a hope that the anti-foot-binding movement in China may at last bear practical fruit. Whatever agitation might be fomented by foreigners could scarcely have much effect unless it were taken up by influential Chinese, and that is what has happened in Suifu, in the province of Szechuan. A literary graduate, together with five other prominent citizens of the place, placarded the walls of the city with a manifesto while the district examinations were recently in progress, and the place was consequently full of students. The manifesto, after quoting Confucian precepts in the sense that it is criminal for men to injure their own bodies, and after referring to an edict issued by the first Emperor of the present dynasty by which foot-binding was declared illegal, goes

on to speak of the terrible agony inflicted on girls by this barbarous custom which, the writers justly say, is a hundred times a worse punishment than that meted out to robbers. Such a manifesto emanating from such a source is not unlikely to produce a good effect.

The Hunan local authorities are reported to be taking active steps to commence mining operations. They have established a mining bureau in the capital of the province and have ordered a quantity of foreign machinery.

In the course of a newspaper controversy that recently took place in Shanghai, a writer signing himself "Britisher" makes the singular statement that although Japanese merchants keenly realize the advantages of Shanghai as a site for cotton manufacture, their Government prefers to keep them at home for the present, awaiting the issue of Russia's movements and of the commercial treaty negotiations. "Britisher" evidently has not the beginning of an idea as to the relations existing between merchants and officials in Japan. The former would certainly take the latter's advice if it seemed to tally with their own interests, but otherwise they would be no more influenced by it than they will be by "Britisher's" misconceptions.

The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce has addressed to the *Doyen* of the *Corps Diplomatique* in Peking a most able, and at the same time liberal, despatch in which China's need of obtaining a larger Customs revenue is fully recognised. The Chamber frankly expresses its consent that the scale of import duties should be increased, but urges by cogent reasoning that duties upon exports should be either abolished altogether, or largely reduced.

Another blow has been struck at the erroneous pretence that not the Shimonoseki Treaty, but the representations of the foreign Ministers in Peking, secured for foreigners the privilege of carrying on manufacturing industries in China. This time the testimony comes from the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamén. In a report addressed by them to the Throne on the 11th of August last they say:—"After the conclusion of the Shimonoseki Treaty, foreign industrialists of every nationality became able to manufacture raw products in China." Surely if any certain knowledge exists anywhere about the influence to which the Chinese Government yielded in this matter, such knowledge ought to be in the possession of the Tsung-li Yamén.

Information has now been published showing the ideas entertained by the Chinese Authorities as to the tax that ought to be imposed upon goods manufactured in China. In a report addressed to the Throne by the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamén, they urge that, while leaving to Viceroy and Governors of provinces the business of determining the transit dues and other local imposts on raw products on their way from the place of production to the factories, such products after manufacture in China, whether by Chinese or by foreigners, should be taxed to the extent of 10 per cent. in all; that is to say, 5 per cent. by way of export duty, and 5 per cent. to cover duties on transit from the manufactory to their destination. It may sound strange to speak of "export duty" in the case of goods manufactured in China for sale to the Chinese, but the idea of the Tsung-li Yamén Ministers is to include in a single category silk filatures for export abroad as well as cotton yarns for sale at home. In short, they regard the factory as the place of production from which manufactures must be "exported" to reach a market whether domestic or foreign. Now it appears that the imposts—in the form of *likin* and *loti-shui*—already levied upon raw silk at the place of production and *en route* for the filatures or for a place of export, aggregate 9 per cent. *ad valorem*. Thus by the time the silk had emerged from the filatures and been placed on board ship for export, it would have paid taxes aggregating 19 per cent. *ad valorem*. In the case of raw cotton, no information is as yet obtainable about the *likin* or *loti-shui* levied at the place of production and on transit to a factory. But, of course, if the Viceroy and Governors are left to fix those charges at will, they can easily choke the manufacturing in-

dustry, should they be so disposed. At any rate, if the yarns, in order to emerge from the mill, have to pay a tax of 10 per cent., the prospects of the mill-owners will be greatly impaired. The Shanghai Chamber of Commerce has protested strongly against these proposals of the Tsung-li Yamén. The position taken by the Chamber is that raw cotton should be exempted from all taxation at the place of production or *en route* for the mill, and that to clear it for sale in the interior, the manufacturer should be required to pay only the amount levied on imported yarn; that is to say, a fixed sum including import duty and transit dues to any market in China. Certainly all this discussion is somewhat belated in view of the fact that the building of four cotton mills is already nearly completed in Shanghai.

Three weeks of incessant rain at the end of August and beginning of September caused great injury to the rice harvest in the neighbourhood of Chungking. The rice, a fine crop, had been cut, but the continued damp caused it to sprout before it could be threshed and stored.

Anti-foreign feeling at Chêngtu is reported to be so bad that the Roman Catholic Fathers, who have lived there for years, no longer venture to walk in the city, knowing that to do so would expose them to insults and perhaps attack.

THE INUNDATIONS.

The vigour with which the new Home Minister applied himself to the task of inspecting the inundated districts, evokes commendatory remarks from the vernacular press. His Excellency visited the suburbs of Tokyo as soon as he was gazetted to office, and after a day or two proceeded to Mino to ascertain by personal evidence the extent of the disasters that the repeated floods have caused in those unfortunate districts. After passing through the inundated region, Count Kabayama visited Gifu and there interviewed a number of the Local Assemblymen and others. The Minister addressed a few remarks to the Assembly, advising the community not to be daunted by the repeated disasters that had overtaken the district, but to exert themselves indefatigably in the task of providing means to ward off future calamities of the kind. He promised, at the same time, that the Government would extend all possible help within its power. The Mino plain, continued the Home Minister, situated at the lower courses of the Kiso, the Yebi, and the Nagara, was formed not so much by nature as by the exertions of men. It was therefore incumbent upon men to defend their handiwork from the calamity of floods. Water was their foe, the embankments their fortresses, and it was extremely important for each district, into which the plain is subdivided, to have an expert, or experts, well versed in the science of river control. Provision must be made in ordinary times against disasters. The repeated calamities that have devastated Mino are greatly due to the reckless felling of woods and the contraction of the space afforded for the drainage of storm-water. The management of forestry during the pre-Restoration days was far more satisfactory than at present. The name of Kumazawa Banzan stands conspicuous in this context, the work which he undertook to control rivers and preserve forests being a model to this day. The relaxation of the forestry control subsequent to the abolition of feudalism was at the root of the present troubles. However, though thirty years neglect of dendrological affairs had occasioned the present evils, steps must be vigorously taken to restore order in all matters relating to the preservation of forests.

The Meiji Government, observes the *Fiji*, has achieved excellent results in preserving life, as witness the radical reforms effected in law, the organization of Courts, the system of police affairs, and the control of public hygiene. The Government, however, has forgotten to show similar vigilance in preserving land, especially in connection with forests and the control of rivers. The *Fiji* metaphorically speaks of the repeated floods in recent years in the light of complaints made by the forests and rivers, in which they

seek to ventilate their grievances. The *Fiji* urges the Government to provide measures, with the approval of the Diet, to take permanent steps, after carrying out thorough investigations, in the matter. The *Nippon*, commenting on the speech of Admiral Count Kabayama, says that such straightforward remarks as these are rarely heard from the mouth of a Cabinet Minister. He frankly admits that the floods are greatly due to official mismanagement of forestry affairs.

ALLEGED POLITICAL OFFENCE.

On the 25th ult. Mr. Endo Hidekage, ex-M.P., and leader of the political association called the *Peishin-sha*, with four confidential followers, and Mr. Inomata Kinjiro, were arrested on a charge of committing an alleged political offence. Mr. Inomata joined the Japanese Army during the late War and travelled through the Liaotung Peninsula. After the termination of the War, he turned his steps towards Korea, and attempted to prevail upon the Tonghaks to join him in an expedition to the South Seas, but his plan failed. Then he proceeded to Vladivostok and took a trip through the Amoor districts, spending more than a year in those parts. What benefit he derived from these travels is not clear, but it seems that his trips did not profit him much in the right direction, for we find him this summer calling on influential personages in Kyushiu, Shikoku, and the Kei-Han districts, avowing that he was convinced of the necessity for socialistic organizations in Japan. Most of those he called upon considered Mr. Inomata's ideas premature, and declined to give any assistance to his schemes. He next proceeded towards Hokuriku and called on Mr. Endo, of Kanazawa. Mr. Endo, it will be remembered, is a notorious *soshi* demagogue, and must have found Mr. Inomata's projects highly congenial. The latter was kindly received by that gentleman, and the pair, with four followers of Mr. Endo, met at a certain restaurant in the city on the evening of the 25th ult. At about half-past 11, as these six persons were about to leave the house, a police inspector, accompanied by several constables, came in, and, producing a warrant, escorted the politicians to the Kanazawa Police Office. Their preliminary examination having concluded on the 28th, they were at once conveyed under escort to the High Court in Tokyo. The alleged object of these would-be socialists is said to be to persuade rich people to contribute towards a fund to be expended in various enterprises for the benefit of the destitute and unemployed, and thus, while enhancing the prosperity of the country and increasing its strength, to give work to those classes. This article is taken from the *Yomuri*, which next day had to withdraw it, as being without foundation in fact, but how much is true and how much false we can not tell.

THEATRICALS IN TOKYO.

The Tokyo Amateur Dramatic Society have announced their intention of giving a performance on the 6th and 7th of November in the Hall of the Shoreikai, which has been kindly lent for the purpose. The proceeds are to be devoted to the relief of the sufferers by the recent inundations. The Shoreikai is the place where the last performance was held, namely, the buildings of the former Engineering College at Tora-no-mon, within ten minutes' drive of Shimbashi station.

ANOTHER NAVAL OFFICER DROWNED.

We regret to have to place upon record the death by drowning of another British naval officer. The telegram containing the announcement is very brief, and no particulars are given. The unfortunate victim in this case is Mr. Henry J. Troughton, Assistant Paymaster, who was recently appointed Secretary to Admiral Oxley, from the training ship *Britannia*. The accident took place in a small lake near Seivich Bay.

THE WAR BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN

"The China-Japan War;" by "Vladimir."

"Heroic Japan;" by F. Warrington Eastlake and Yamada Yoshiaki.

The story of the War between China and Japan has now been told as fully as the general public cares to hear it. From a purely military standpoint, a great deal more is to be desired, but the business of collecting the accounts of the various operations by land and sea, and rendering them into a narrative for popular perusal, may be said to have been accomplished. "Vladimir" took the lead as a historian, the various fragmentary and superficial brochures published prior to the appearance of his book being unworthy of serious notice. It is not quite clear why the author of "The China-Japan War"—a dreadful title, we may remark *en passant*: fancy speaking of the "Germany-France War!"—adopted a pseudonym, for his Japanese identity was at once betrayed by his diction, and he certainly would not have impaired the popularity of his work by signing it with his own name. Be that as it may, however, he produced a timely and well compiled record of the war, not, indeed, entering into any of the deeper problems upon which battles by land and sea at this period of the world's history necessarily throw interesting light, but confining himself to a general narrative adapted to non-technical readers. His work has now been followed by a much larger volume, "Heroic Japan" the compilation of Messrs. F. W. Eastlake and Y. Yamada, whose labour in collecting and collating materials seems to have been of a most exhaustive character. Broadly speaking, the difference between the two books is that the authors of "Heroic Japan" have supplemented their accounts of the fights on sea and shore by details of individual valour and signal service, whereas "Vladimir" limits himself, in the main, to the movements of bodies of troops or squadrons of ships. Undoubtedly, Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada have done well in compiling their minute record, for although the strategical capacity of commanding officers and the tactical proficiency of troops can be understood by examining the plan of a campaign and the conduct of the forces in carrying it out, nothing can convey a clear idea of the fighting quality of the men except personal annals; and, after all, it is at least as important for the Western public to know the Japanese soldier's mettle and capacity for endurance as to learn how far the Japanese military authorities have succeeded in assimilating the systems of the Occident. Quite a multitude of incidents have been collected by Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada, illustrating the moral fibre of the men that fought in Korea, Manchuria, Shantung, and on the Yellow Sea. Many anecdotes of that nature were published by Tokyo vernacular journals during the War, and it would seem, at first sight, that by merely getting these together and translating them, the greater part of a volume such as "Heroic Japan" might have been written. So, too, Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada appear to have thought originally, but inquiry convinced them that such a perfunctory method would not meet the requirements of the case. They refer to this point in their preface:—"Upon questioning the Naval and Military Authorities in the early part of 1895, it was found that a large portion of the narratives taken from Japanese newspapers and magazines was either incorrect or else quite unfounded; and, what was still more to the purpose, a vast quantity of fine material had never been published, some of the most touching or heroic stories being quite unknown even in Japan. And so it comes that most of the brave deeds published in the present volume are now made public for the first time. Immediately on learning the real situation, the test of rigid and impartial criticism was applied to what had already been laboriously compiled, with the result that one half had to be expunged and the other entirely rewritten. The authors have often groaned in spirit on learning that what they considered their best 'bits' were untrue, or not borne out

by the facts. And we must give the utmost credit to the Army and Naval Departments for their excellent conduct in this context. Time and again have they had the authors ruthlessly strike out stories that had found ready credence the Empire over, and been quoted and requoted in the columns of the foreign press at home and abroad. Nothing has been published but actual fact; fact abundantly proved and amply supported by many witnesses." With regard to some of the narratives that have survived this critical ordeal, we are bound to say that they seem too slight for permanent preservation. But perhaps that is partly because the *éclat* derived by warlike deeds from their actual environment can never be rendered into words, however carefully chosen and skillfully marshalled. Whatever may be our doubts, however, as to the historical worthiness of some of the actions embodied in this book, there can be no question about the general impression conveyed, namely, that the Japanese soldier is a man of splendid courage, devoted loyalty, and the most ardent patriotism, and that between him and his officers there exists a bond of sympathy and affection not surpassed under any military system. It must certainly be counted remarkable that such should be the case, for the rank and file of the Japanese army at present are not taken from the so-called "fighting class" of the country; that is to say, from the *Samurai* class. In England and France, during the eras of feudalism, fighting men were drawn without differentiation from every section of the populace. Hence, when the same indiscriminate method was pursued in organizing the British standing army or inaugurating conscription in France, it was naturally anticipated that martial material not inferior to that of former times would be available. But in Japan, during long centuries, there never had been any reputed warriors outside the ranks of the *Samurai*, and when, at the commencement of the *Meiji* era, the experiment was tried of substituting general conscription for traditional selection, so that common rustics and mechanics were required to play the part hitherto monopolized by the military class only, the issue naturally attracted much curiosity. Were the Japanese a military race, or was the soldier-making capacity a faculty hereditarily bequeathed to the *Samurai* alone? That was a question to be answered; a question interesting to the whole world, for if to her intelligent and rapid assimilation of Occidental strategy and tactics Japan could add really soldier-like material, her national importance must be at once recognised. The Satsuma rebellion in 1877 supplied the first test, but the issue was not conclusive, for though the Government's forces, consisting chiefly of *Heimin*, succeeded ultimately in crushing the insurgents who represented the elite of the *Samurai* class, certain exploits of the latter seemed to suggest a signal superiority of martial quality. It is doubtful, too, whether the problem would have been solved to public satisfaction even by the war with the Middle Kingdom had the records been compiled on the lines usually followed in the West; for so miserably weak was the resistance made by China that her defeat did not throw into any high relief the capacities of her conquerors. Yet, despite the general *debacle*, there were plenty of special occasions for the display of personal valour and devotion to duty, and by compiling a trustworthy account of these, Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada have given us at length an intimate insight into the qualities of the Japanese soldier. No one, having perused this volume, can remain under any doubt that the Japanese private is really a fine fellow, and that, so far as *morale* goes, he is fit to be pitted against any troops in the world. Another fact that strikes one very forcibly in reading the various anecdotes of brave deeds, is that commissioned officers are rarely accorded a central place: with very few exceptions, the heroes of the incidents are private soldiers or non-commissioned officers. It is not to be inferred, of course, that the commissioned officers deserved a smaller mead of praise than the men under their command; they are known to have shown unflinching courage and to have discharged their duties of leadership skillfully. Yet they are passed over, and the bulk of the credit

falls to the rank and file. Were such a method of distributing praise—a method exactly the reverse of Western habits—ascrivable to the authors' choice, we should be disposed to question its justice. But it assumes a different complexion when we know that all these incidents have been obtained from regimental records or newspaper columns. In short, the idea of Japanese military and civil annals alike seems to have been that whatever the officers did must be regarded as a simple discharge of duty, whereas the soldiers, whose original service is compulsory, and for whom the substantial rewards of bravery and devotion are few, deserve the fullest recognition for every distinguished deed. We can conceive no better method of educating a martial spirit among the rank and file of an army, though, of course, such a system, if carried too far, might tend to impair the subordination of individuality so necessary in developing the full strength of a disciplined mass. Passing from general inferences to the anecdotes themselves, we are constrained to say that the authors might have advantageously exercised more discrimination. Some of the acts for which they claim public applause do not rise perceptibly above the level of commonplace military doings. We can appreciate the difficulty of making selections that might seem invidious, but, after all, some standard must be maintained in the interests of justice as well as of art. Occasionally, too, one longs for sobriety of diction. A simple setting becomes noble deeds much better than a florid frame-work of fine phrases, offensive to one's sense of proportion, and derogatory to the deeds themselves by suggesting the necessity of ornate verbiage. We shall not reproduce any of the records, since the book itself will probably find its way into the hands of our readers. But special note may be taken of the fact that the fame awarded to Shirakami Genjiro, the trumpeter, is declared by Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada to be based entirely on a misapprehension. Sir Edwin Arnold composed a very stirring poem on the theme of the man's supposed exploits, and "Vladimir" represents him as having received a mortal wound, yet "continuing to blow his bugle until he breathed his last and fell dead." We could never, for our own part, detect the heroic element in that performance. Rather the contrary, indeed, since if it came to be recognised as a laudable act for a wounded trumpeter to go on blowing a call as long as his breath lasted, decidedly inconvenient confusion might result. However, the point is that the trumpeter who distinguished himself in the battle of Sōnghwan was not Shirakami Genjiro, but Kiguchi Kohei. In fact, Shirakami Genjiro was not a trumpeter at all: he was a second-class private, and how he came to be made a hero of for blowing a trumpet, and even to have his portrait inserted in "Vladimir's" "China-Japan War," remains an inscrutable mystery. Kiguchi, having kept by the side of his commanding officer, Captain Matsuzaki, as was his first duty, received from the latter the order to blow the "charge." It was nearly dark at the time, and the two men happened to be within a dozen paces of the enemy's van, so that the sound of the trumpet naturally attracted a volley, and both Kiguchi and Captain Matsuzaki were shot dead. It was a picturesque incident, the trumpet braying out defiance in the very faces of the foe, amid darkness illumined only by the flashing of rifles and cannon. But what element of heroism did the act display? Is there a disciplined trumpeter in any army that would not have done as much? Yet the authors of "Heroic Japan" tell us that the trumpeter "died a death worthy of being immortalized in song and story," and that "his deed was worthy of the chant of a poet's muse." The delirium of description could scarcely be carried further. Some of the really thrilling and wonderful performances of Japanese spies and scouts merit an illuminated page of history, but trumpeter Kiguchi's story does not fit the fine adjectives applied to it. One of the most celebrated and useful exploits during the war was that of Lieutenant Mimura and Private Harada at the Gemmu gate of Phōng-yang. Harada is popularly regarded as the hero of this affair, but

the credit belongs quite as much to Lieut. Mimura. For the details our readers can consult the book. Unfortunately, however, an element of perplexity mars the story. "Vladimir" tells us that when the Japanese assault had been repulsed and the troops were in the act of retreating, Lieut. Mimura, calling for volunteers, rushed back and with Harada's aid succeeded in scaling the wall and opening the gate. But Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada say that Lieut. Mimura was ordered to lead a forlorn hope against the gate, which would be credible enough had the Lieutenant's party carried a charge of gun-cotton or blasting powder. But the narrative gives us to suppose that they were simply told to make a breach at one of the angles, and their method of obeying the order was to scale the wall. No military man can read such a record without query. However, comparatively little importance attaches to the proximate cause that led Mimura, Harada, and eleven other soldiers to run through a hail of bullets, climb a high wall crowned by the enemy in force, and open a massive gate for the ingress of their comrades. The fact that they achieved such a feat is sufficient to obscure all the preliminaries.

It will not be supposed, of course, that the authors of "Heroic Japan" have confined themselves to describing the naval and military operations, and the gallant deeds connected with them. Their bulky volume contains also a mass of other information essential to the completion of the story. Their account of the relations between Japan and Korea covers less ground than the account given by "Vladimir," but whereas the latter fails to trace several of the causes that led to the war, the former succeeds in conveying an intelligible idea of the hopeless *impasse* that had been created by China's unpractical, suspicious, and obstinate attitude. Strange to say, both books omit to mention a most important fact, namely, that previously to the battle of Phung-do and the sinking of the *Kowshing*, the Japanese Government had warned China that the despatch of any more troops by her to Korea must, under the circumstances of the moment, be regarded as an act of war. "Heroic Japan" is excellently printed and tastefully bound, though in these respects the palm must be given to "The China and Japan War." The Shueisha has not yet reached the technical level of Messrs. Clowes & Sons. On the other hand, the superiority of the portraits contained in "Heroic Japan" is enormous. They are about as good as they could be, whereas the portraits in "Vladimir's" volume are simply execrable. We do not think that any one desirous of learning the quality of Japanese troops should fail to provide himself with "Heroic Japan."

BARON VON ZEDWITZ.

It does not appear to have been generally recognised in the East that Baron von Zedwitz, who lost his life by a yatching accident on August 17th, during the Royal Albert Yacht Club's Regatta at Southsea, was the same Baron von Zedwitz that served for several years in Tokyo as Secretary and *Chargé d'Affaires* of the German Legation. Such is the sad fact, however, and by all that had the pleasure of knowing him in Japan, a clever diplomat, a sympathetic personality, and a brilliant musician, his untimely and shocking death will be profoundly regretted. A full account of the accident is given by *The Times*:

It seems that the big yachts had just rounded the West Middle buoy. The wind was a little abate the beam coming for the home mark, and they had the tide now fair with them. *Satanita* and *Britannia* luffed out, but *Meteor* ran fair in the thread of *Britannia's* stern, and the *Kicker*, when she luffed across *Britannia's* stern, and eventually drew up and overlapped. *Satanita* was to windward of both, and the trio made a splendid race until about a quarter of a mile from the committee-boat, when *Britannia* drew on ahead and *Meteor* dropped *Satanita* a few lengths astern. *Ailsa* was hailed and informed of her disqualification; and *Britannia* next passed the committee-boat with a clear length lead of *Meteor*. The 52-footers were finishing their first turn about the same time as the big cutters, and the *Magara*, *Isolde*, and *Saint* were crowded to windward of *Britannia*. *Meteor* was luffed to thread between them and get on *Britannia's* weather beam, and she was going along with a tearing way on. *Saint*

and *Isolde* had luffed and fouled slightly, when *Meteor* found the latter fine on the weather bow and *Britannia* fine on the lee bow. *Meteor* had gone too far to get across *Britannia's* stern, and had the helm of the latter been pulled up it would only have had the effect of bringing the vessels near, while owing to the little craft, *Britannia* had not been luffed after passing the committee-boat. A collision was inevitable, and *Meteor's* bowsprit end went through the lee side of the *Isolde's* mainsail, canting her towards *Britannia's* weather quarter just in the run, and broke off. Simultaneously the rounded-up bow of the *Meteor* ran up over the stern of the *Isolde* and raised the head of the latter high in the air. The first impact had deadened the *Meteor's* way, and *Britannia* had gone on clear, but *Isolde* was still under *Meteor's* lee bow, and the big ship, running on, took the mast of *Isolde* with her main boom and broke it off flush to the deck. Some of the crew had jumped overboard and others were in the water but the mast when it fell came down with the mainsail, on *Isolde's* owner and virtually crushed the life out of him there and then, the most serious injury being apparently in the head. In a few minutes the vessels, which had just before been plowing along in pride were massed round the floating wreck of the *Isolde*.

At the inquest on the 19th, evidence was given by the captains of the *Isolde*, *Britannia*, and *Meteor*, and other witnesses. The captain of the *Britannia*, thought *Meteor*, ought to have gone to lee-ward of *Britannia*. The captain of the *Meteor* denied that his yacht infringed the rules, and said there would have been plenty of room to pass had not *Saint* fouled *Isolde* and sluiced her round out of her course. William Miles, captain of the *Isolde*, said that "If the *Saint* had not touched the boom the *Meteor* would have been under my lee, and from the time I was sluiced round to the moment of the compact was about 30 seconds. We were only off on our course for a moment or so. I should say the *Saint*, having touched us, had to do with the cause of the accident." The jury eventually returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

THE PARCELS POST.

NOTIFICATION No. 20 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

PARCELS POST SERVICE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

Art. I.—Parcels-post matters exchangeable between Japan and England shall be dealt with only at specified offices.

Art. II.—Parcels-post duties must be paid in advance in postage stamps; this provision need not necessarily be observed when a parcel is returned to the sender or retransmitted to the sender.

Art. III.—Besides substances specified in Art. VIII. of the Parcels Post Contract between Japan and England and Art. IV. of the detailed rules relating to the enforcement of that contract, the following must not be transmitted as parcels-post matter:

1. Liquids, substances liable to decompose or hatch, plants, sharp instruments, glassware or other substances likely to injure other postal matter.

Provided that when properly wrapped so as not to injure other postal matter and when the transmitting office has been duly informed, the above provision need not necessarily be observed.

2. Documents, pictures, photographs, or other substances liable to impair public morality.

3. Other substances for which a prohibitory notice has been specially issued.

Art. IV.—The term "English parcel" must be written in red ink on the surface of a parcel, and a receipt shall be received at a parcels-post office where such parcels are dealt with in exchange for a parcel. At the same time the sender shall ask from the office of application for a form of Customs note, and shall forward it to the Office together with the parcel after filling in specified particulars and signing his name and affixing his stamp.

Art. V.—In case the Post Office deems that prohibited substances are enclosed in a parcel or suspects that substances contained therein differ in nature from those mentioned in the customs' note, it may order the opening of such a parcel. When this order is refused, the office will not receive the parcel for transmission; this provision to apply when on disclosure the substances contained within differ from those mentioned in the note.

Art. VI.—In case the Office of application deems the superscription of a parcel or the wrapping to be defective, it may refuse to receive it for transmission.

Art. VII.—On arrival a parcel shall be delivered, together with a delivery note, the sender to receive the parcel after signing his name and affixing his stamp on the note.

When a family or an employé of the sender is to receive the parcel on his behalf, a notice to that effect shall be entered on the note and such proxy shall sign his name and affix his stamp. This shall also apply when the master of a house in whose care the sender lives receives the parcel on behalf of the sender.

When a Government or public office, temple, shrine, school, hospital, firm, or company, and so forth, is to receive a parcel, a competent person

shall sign his name and affix his stamp on the delivery note. In all such cases a parcel is regarded to have been delivered to the proper sendee.

Art. VIII.—A parcel subject to the imposition of import duties shall not be delivered at once to the sendee, but on the arrival of such a parcel the matter shall be conveyed to the sendee, to whom, at the same time, a delivery note and a form for application for the import of the given parcel shall be forwarded. The sendee is to sign and stamp those documents within 30 days and shall receive the parcel in exchange for the import duties and the documents at the Post Office.

Art. IX.—When a parcel is subject to the imposition of import duties or when its postal duties are due, the sendee cannot receive the parcel unless on payment of both duties.

Art. X.—A parcel that is neither deliverable nor retransmissible shall be dealt with in accordance with Chapter XI. of the Postal Service Regulations. (The Chapter in question relates to dead letters.)

Art. XI.—When a parcel that is damaged is delivered, the Post Office shall append to it a note acknowledging the existence of damage. Provided that facts mentioned in that note are subject to alteration upon subsequent investigation.

Art. XII.—Those desiring to claim damages for a parcel lost or injured shall send in a written application to that effect to the Post Office that received the parcel in question for transmission or had delivered it.

Art. XIII.—The Department of Communications shall determine whether or not the claim for damages and the amount of such damages shall be acknowledged.

DETAILED RULES RELATING TO PARCELS POST, SERVICE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

ART. I.

Clause 1.—Parcels-post matters not insurable and not deliverable in exchange for value to be exchanged between Japan and Great Britain, shall be transmitted via Canada or the Suez Canal and Gibraltar.

Clause 2.—The transmission of Parcels-post matters between Japan and Great Britain shall be undertaken by the Department of Communications of Japan and the General Post Office of Great Britain. The Postal Authorities that undertake the same shall be entitled to a share of the transmission cost in accordance with the provisions set forth in Art. IV. of the contract.

Clause 3.—When deemed essential, the Postal Authorities of the contracting Powers shall, on consultation with other Postal Authorities concerned, communicate the following matters to each other according to the forms given in the appendix:—

1. Names of countries at which parcels are exchangeable after passing through a given country.
2. Postal routes to be taken subsequent to the entry of a parcel into a given country or from a place at which such post comes under the charge of that country.
3. Total cost which a transmission Post Office is to pay to the respective countries concerned.

Clause 4.—The Postal Authorities of the contracting Powers shall, in accordance with the above communication, determine the routes along which the parcels post is to be transmitted, and, in conformity with the provisions for parcels to be received from or transmitted beyond, shall fix the charges to be imposed upon the senders.

ART II.

In determining the parcels-post rates, 48 *sen* in Japanese currency shall correspond to one shilling of the United Kingdom.

ART III.

Clause 1.—A parcels-post matter to be transmitted from the United Kingdom to the Empire of Japan shall measure less than 2 ft. in length, while the circumference shall not exceed 6 feet. Parcels-post matter transmitted from Japan to the United Kingdom shall measure less than 2 *shaku* (feet) in length, while the circumference shall not exceed 6 *shaku*.

Clause 2.—The measure of a parcel to be transmitted to a third country from one of the contracting countries *via* another, shall be determined according to the measures in force in the country of destination. The dimensions, however, must not exceed the limits specified in the preceding clause.

ART IV.

Clause 1.—Besides substances set forth in Art. VIII. of the Contract, a parcel containing a living animal, an explosive, or inflammable substance, or any other thing likely to prove dangerous in the course of transmission, shall not be received.

Clause 2.—Each of the Postal authorities of the contracting Powers shall prepare a list of sub-

stances whose transmission by the parcels-post service shall be forbidden, and shall communicate the list to the other.

Clause 3.—In case a forbidden substance is inclosed, or in case the value of a parcel is fraudulently stated, such parcel shall be detained and shall be dealt with in accordance with the Customs House Regulations or other laws or regulations in force in a given country.

Clause 4.—Parcels for different destinations, or containing different substances, must not be put up into one parcel. When such a parcel is detected, separate duties shall be charged on the other parcels found within.

ART. V.

Clause 1.—No parcel the address of whose sendee is not clearly and legibly written shall be transmitted. The address must not be written in pencil.

Clause 2.—A parcel must be wrapped sufficiently to protect the inclosure, having regard to the distance it has to travel, and the covering must be so prepared that damage can not be inflicted without leaving a trace of it on the wrapper.

Clause 3.—A parcel must be sealed either by sealing wax or lead or other suitable means, and the special stamp or mark of the sendee must be affixed.

ART. VI.

Clause 1.—Every parcel must be accompanied by a form given in the appendix on a Customs' note answering that purpose, the latter to be affixed upon the parcel or fastened to the parcels list.

Clause 2.—The transmitting office must put in the number of the parcel list at the bottom of the Customs' note and the number of a parcel on the list.

ART. VIII.

Clause 1.—Exchange Offices in the United Kingdom shall be located either at London or Liverpool and the exchange offices in Japan shall be located at Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki.

ART. XII.

Clause 1.—For a parcel which, in accordance with the request of the sender or the sendee, is to be retransmitted from one country to another, the usual rate shall be reimposed. When this charge is not paid in advance to the retransmitting Postal Authorities, either by the sender or the sendee, a proper note must be entered in the column of the parcel list headed, "retransmission parcel charge due," and the charge shall be imposed on the occasion of delivery.

Clause 2.—When the charge to be imposed in consequence of retransmission is paid in advance or the occasion of such retransmission, such parcel shall be dealt with as a parcel sent directly from the retransmitting country to its destination, and no charge shall be imposed on the sendee on the occasion of delivery.

ART. XIII.

Clause 1.—For a parcel the delivery of which is impracticable, the steps to be taken with regard to it shall be gathered from the sender, correspondence concerning which is to be directly exchanged between the Postal Authorities of the two contracting Powers.

Clause 2.—A substance likely to deteriorate or decompose may, on behalf of the owner, be sold at once without previous notice or without any legal process, and an account relating to such sale must be rendered.

Clause 3.—When, at the expiration of six months from the transmission of an interrogatory letter, no answer as to the steps to be taken with such parcel as that in question is received, such parcel shall be returned to the transmitting office.

Clause 4.—A parcel to be returned to the transmitting office shall be entered in the parcel list and the word "undeliverable" shall be put in the remark space of that list. A parcel in such a case shall be dealt with as a retransmission parcel and appropriate postal duties shall be charged.

Clause 5.—In case a parcel, addressed to a person who has removed to a country between which and Great Britain or Japan a contract as to the exchange of parcels post does not exist, has been received, such parcel shall be dealt with as belonging to the category of "undeliverable" parcels, when the office to which it is addressed finds it impracticable to convey it to the sendee.

When Charles Dudley Warner was editor of the *Hartford Press* during the war, arousing the patriotism of the State with his appeals, one of comps. came in and planting himself before the editor, said: "Well, Mr. Warner, I've decided to enlist in the army." With mingled sensations of pride and responsibility, Mr. Warner replied encouragingly that he was glad to see the man felt the call of duty. "Oh, it isn't that," said the truthful compositor; "but I'd rather be shot than try to read any more of your blanked copy."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE CODES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to your interesting notice of the 2nd instant of Doctor Lönholm's pamphlet on the new Japanese Civil Law and the stipulations in the German Treaty regarding tenure of land by foreigners, permit me to advance the following questions, the reply to which will, I believe, be both interesting and valuable to many.

1.—The exact words used in the German Treaty are, if I mistake not, "Hypothek" and "Hypothekenrechte," whereas in your notice you mention "Mortgage." Are "Hypothek" and "Mortgage" of exactly the same meaning?

2.—I have been informed that the holder of a "Mortgage" is entitled to take possession of the mortgaged object (let us assume land), if certain conditions of the mortgage are not carried out by the debtor; as a matter of fact, foreigners will also in future not be able to possess land; what then becomes of this protection or right to the creditor derived from a mortgage to take possession of the mortgaged object (say land) under certain circumstances?

Yours very truly,

M. N.

Yokohama, October 3rd, 1896.

THE RAILWAYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to add one word in favour of a longer time for the sale of tickets at railroad stations. It often happens that in passing through Tokyo or Yokohama on the way South, one has an hour or so to spare in waiting for a train in one of those places. If now the ticket office were open all the time one could immediately purchase his ticket for his destination, check his baggage leisurely and have the remainder of the time until his train starts to spend as he pleased. But at present he must hang around waiting for the first chance to get his ticket, and even then run the risk of losing his train because he cannot get his baggage checked in time. All is confusion and worry where, by simply keeping the ticket offices continuously open, all would be order and quiet.

Yours truly,

W. H. N.

Maebashi, October 4th 1896.

THE JAPANESE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Much seems to be said in various ways of the Japanese folks. I notice, I am sorry to say, some letters and remarks rather cutting and bitter against the Japanese. Now I love to give honour to whom it is due, and after 14 years' close commercial dealing with the Japanese, I cannot say I have had one unhappy transaction with them, not one unkind word. Their house door has always been open to me and anything that the house contained was apparently at my service, if it pleased me. This is not my first visit here, and I trust will not be the last amongst a good, kind people, and, I fancy, a people not known properly to those that disparage them. Treat the Japanese kindly and courteously and as we ought, and I venture to say that kindness will be returned in multiplied kindness and goodness. I could interest your readers with facts, but I content myself with asking whether, for the acts of a few vulgar persons, we ought to blame a generous and rising nation?

Yours &c.,

M. E.

Kyoto, October 4th, 1896.

SILVER AND GOLD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—The *Japan Mail*, in the foot note to the published letter of "X." in its issue of the 29th inst. tells its readers that, "The free coinage of gold at the ratio of $\frac{1}{16}$ to 16 is precisely what is happening in the United States at present." Is this so? "X." asked the *Japan Mail* to be good enough to elucidate to its readers the possible effects to follow if it should be enacted that 12.89 grains of gold, when minted, should be the equivalent of 412 $\frac{1}{2}$ gains of silver when minted into dollars. Specifically asking, "Would there be dishonour in that?" "Would that flood the country with gold?" The foot note is the response! Now for the facts. Silver dollars are not coined at all—so there can be no established ratio between gold coins and silver dollars. All silver coins now issued from the United States Mints are the 50 cent.,

or half-dollar, the 25 cent. or quarter dollar, and the 10 cent. or dime. The standard weight of the 50 cent. coin is 192.9 grains; the 25 cent. coin 96.45 grains, and the dime 38.58 grains. Which is not at a ratio of 32 to 1 nor get $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16, but at a ratio of 14.066 to 1, and they are all legal tender equal with gold to the limit and sum of ten dollars. As the mintage of these coins aggregates dollars 214,783,250, and as they circulate freely and are practically the only money used by the common people, it would appear that it is not the ratio that is so much considered as the necessity for the coins irrespective of their intrinsic value as measured by gold. Although the *Japan Mail* avers that the United States mints are now coining gold at the ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16, the gold coinage is now proceeded with under the same conditions as ever. The coinage of all silver coins now permitted mintage is regulated by the laws governing coinage of silver passed in the years 1794 and 1796. The gold and silver coins minted prior to 1873 and the coins now minted, both gold and silver, pass concurrently as legal tender coins under the provisions embodied in the coinage laws of 1794 and 1796. Free coinage is denied to silver; in all else matters as they have been. The *Japan Mail* does not appear to see any difference between a legal ratio of 32 to 1 and a legal ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16.

"X." conceives that free coinage of gold at a ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16, i.e. $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of gold to equal 16 silver dollars in legal tender quality, does not signify the coinage of silver and gold at a ratio of 1 to 32, not by any means. Although 1 oz. of gold will buy 32 oz. of silver, to establish by law that 32 oz. of silver shall be minted to represent or become the equivalent of 1 oz. of coined gold would destroy the minting value of silver bullion just one half, and take from all silver coins now in circulation one half of their nominal value. To coin $\frac{1}{2}$ an oz. of gold into coins, call them what you may, Sovereigns, Dollars, Napoleons, Ducats, or Thalers, that will pass concurrently with silver coins at the ratio of $\frac{1}{2}$ grains of silver for 12.89 grains of gold, would not disturb the present nominal value of the silver coins of the world, but it would double the nominal value of all coined gold and gold bullion.

The sovereign would be received into two sovereigns and the twenty dollar piece into two twenty dollar pieces, or, to put it in a nut shell, 32 to 1 would mean the silver of the world for coinage purposes reduced in value one half, while $\frac{1}{2}$ to 16 would leave 412 $\frac{1}{2}$ grains of silver to represent one dollar as it now does but would necessitate the recoinage in gold, making 12.89 of gold equal to 412 $\frac{1}{2}$ grains of silver, thereby doubling the nominal value of all the gold in the world. The slight difference of all the silver of the world shrinking in value one half and all the gold of the world doubling itself may not present itself to the *Japan Mail*, but will the *Japan Mail* tell its readers which is the least dishonest for the goldites to destroy, as they have done, one half of the money wealth of the holders of silver or to double the holding of gold by a resort to minting $\frac{1}{2}$ an oz. of gold as equivalent for 16 oz. of silver when minted?

Respectfully, X.
Sept. 30th, 1896.

THE INTERPORT CRICKET MATCHES.

The following telegrams, received from Nagasaki by Mr. K. F. Crawford, Secretary of the Y.C. & A.C., have been published:—"Match began on Monday morning in magnificent weather. Japan won the toss, and were all out soon after tiffin for 90 runs. The scores are as follows:—

JAPAN.	
Mr. F. E. White, c. Mann, b. Jackson	30
Mr. H. Lucas, b. Jackson	30
Mr. E. W. Tate, run out	5
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, b. Jackson	5
Mr. A. Townsend, b. Mann	5
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Mann	5
Mr. T. Smith, c. de St. Croix, b. Firth	24
Mr. A. Kingston, b. Firth	24
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Firth	5
Mr. A. L. Robinson, not out	5
Mr. B. H. Pearson, b. Firth	0
extras	7
	90
SHANGHAI.	
Mr. A. E. Lanning, b. White	21
Mr. C. M. Firth, b. Goddard	21
Mr. W. H. Jackson, c. Robinson, b. White	9
Mr. J. Mann, b. w. b. Goddard	21
Mr. F. A. de St. Croix, not out	21
Mr. W. J. Tyack, b. Tate	0
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, not out	25
extras	5
	106

When the last report received left Shanghai the home team had made 176 runs for six wickets. Play was stopped by heavy rain at noon on Tuesday."

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Some thirty members were present at the annual meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society held at Van Schaick Hall on Friday. Mr. J. T. Griffin presided. After calling the meeting to order, he remarked that the year had been a most excellent one in regard to the work done, but the accounts did not turn out so well as he had expected. It appeared that the Treasurer, who was at home on holiday, had not collected all the members' subscriptions. They had their full two hundred members, but some \$30 odd in subscriptions appeared uncollected.

Mr. CRANE thought that it would be safe to pass the accounts as presented. Mr. Lias could be questioned on his return.—(Hear hear.)

Mr. WHITEFIELD seconded.—Carried unanimously.

REPORT.

It affords the Committee pleasure to report that the session 1895-96 was, on the whole, a successful one. Several excellent lectures were given by visitors and a number of the members also took part in the meetings. It will be a matter for the members to consider at the General Meeting whether the rule limiting the number of members to 200 works well.

The following is a list of the meetings held, with the subjects for the various evenings:—

1895.	
No. 159...Oct.	4...General Meeting, Election of Officers.
No. 160...Nov.	2... "England before the English," Mr. A. J. Wilkin.
No. 161...Nov.	15... "James Russell Lowell," Mr. A. E. Brown.
No. 162...Nov.	29... "Economy as a Fine Art," Anonymous.
No. 163...Dec.	23... "Picket Duty," Captain Crawford.
1896.	
No. 164...Jan.	3... "Christmas at the Antipodes," Mr. A. F. Cahusac, and "Christmas in the Olden Time," Mr. W. R. Page.
No. 165...Jan.	27... "A Hurdle of Blunders," Mr. W. D. Cox, Tokyo.
No. 166...Jan.	31... "A Journey in Korea," Rev. J. S. Gale. Recitations, Mr. H. J. Sharp.
No. 167...Feb.	14... "Sun Spots. Do they affect us?" Rev. E. S. Booth.
No. 168...Feb.	28... "Impressions of Australia," Mr. A. F. Cahusac.
No. 169...March 13.	3... "Conscience," Professor Nakashima.
No. 170...March 27.	3... "Socrates," Miss Hall.
No. 171...April 10.	10... "In Libby Prison and Out of it," Home Again," Rev. Clay MacCauley.
No. 172...April 24.	24... "With the Peary Arctic Expedition," Mr. W. J. Davidson.
No. 173...May 8.	8... "The Korean Pony," Rev. J. S. Gale, of Korea.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.—ELEVENTH SESSION (1895-96.)

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from last year	\$304.89
Subscriptions:	
80 Ladies	\$ 160
79 Gentlemen	216
5 Families	50
Interest on Current Account to 31st December, 1895 (Chartered Bank)	3.06
	\$733.95
EXPENDITURE.	
Office Hire	\$ 1.00
Refreshments	170.67
Postages	20.26
Printing and Stationery	108.85
Entertainments	20.50
Rent	112.00
Advertising	8.00
Decorations	5.00
Balance in hand	178.73
	\$733.95

E. & O. E.

F. J. LIAS per E. J. LIBAUD, Hon. Treasurer.
Yokohama, 30th September, 1896.

Mr. A. H. LAY proposed and Mr. CRANE seconded that Mr. Griffin be re-elected President of the Society.

Mr. GRIFFIN said that he had been President of the Society for some time and he would be glad of a rest for a while. He thought that Mr. Wilkin would make a good president.

Mr. WILKIN smilingly declined the honour, and Mr. Griffin was re-elected to his old position.

The PRESIDENT announced that Mrs. Theodore Morris, the Vice-President, found it incumbent to resign office. He was sorry to hear this for during all the years the Society had been working it had never had a better Vice-President, if indeed so good.

To a suggestion that a three months' term of office be substituted for full the period; or until Mrs. Van Patten returns from Nagasaki, Mrs. Morris returned a negative.

Dr. CLEVELAND then nominated Mrs. Otis A. Poole for Vice-President; Mr. Crane seconded.—Carried.

Mr. A. D. LAY proposed that Mr. F. Cahusac be elected Secretary, and after some pressing this gentleman consented to accept office, and he was elected. Mr. Wilkin was elected Treasurer on the motion of the President seconded by Mr. Crane.

The Literary Committee was next elected and will now consist of Mrs. Cahusac, Mrs. Loomis, and Mr. K. Wilson. The Music Committee elected were:—Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. Crane, and Mr. Whitefield.

Before proceeding to the election of the refreshment committee, a discussion arose as to the

advisability of expunging the rule whereby the membership of the Society is limited to 200. Many of the speakers said that a good deal of irritation and disgust had been occasioned last year in consequence of this rule, and the President explained at length the reasons that caused the adoption of it last year—the limit of the accommodation provided in Van Schaick Hall. Mr. Wilkin testified to the rule being the cause of much embarrassment last year, and the frequent cause of trouble. The Rev. L. Dearing was in favour of rescinding it. Considering the size of the community it did not seem likely that the membership of the Society could increase to an extraordinary degree. The rule of 200 stood in the way of the best interests of the Society, and the expunging of such a rule would be the best step they could take. Mr. LAY endorsed these remarks. Mr. Clarence Griffin suggested limiting the guests to 150.

Mr. CRANE was in favour of rescinding the rule. During the past season there were very few meetings that were largely attended; the majority had seen but a sparse attendance of members and friends. He therefore proposed that the rule be expunged.

Mr. WHITEFIELD seconded.—Carried.

The PRESIDENT said he had one other matter to mention before the election of a Refreshment Committee was proceeded with. Several leading members of the Society had expressed an opinion that there should be no refreshments at all. Personally he held no opinion on the subject, but he could not help noticing last session that a good many of the juvenile members seemed to attend for the refreshments alone. Many ladies had been sufferers through the behaviour of some of these youngsters.

Prima facie, the connection of refreshments with literary work was not apparent. But the refreshment committee had come into being in the early stages of the society's career. Originally, before it was known as the Yokohama Literary Society, the Yokohama Reading Circle met at the houses of a few friends. Some 14 or 15 meetings were held in the course of the session, one member after another lending their houses, sometimes a member received the Circle twice in the course of the session. At these meetings the hosts beside offering the use of their houses, offered further hospitalities in the form of refreshments, and so when the Society migrated to its present quarters, it was resolved to retain the system of an interval for refreshments—thus was the Siamese-twin relationship of refreshments and literature originated.

Mr. F. STANILAND said that last session the refreshment interval had given rise to a rowdyism that was discredit to the Society. Indeed, one gentleman told him that it was nothing more or less than an occasion for gluttony on the part of a few people. He should like, for one, to see this rowdy element eliminated.

The Rev. L. DEARING said that the social part of the Literary Society's evenings were, in his opinion, the most interesting of the whole entertainment. These intervals produced a charming degree of sociability and he would not like to see them abolished. He would, however, like to see some limit set to the age of members.

Mr. WILKIN agreed that a good deal of annoyance had been caused last session during these intervals by the behaviour of some of the young members. He thought the interval should be limited to 15 minutes. Then again, there was the annoyance caused by a certain set of lads encoring, and vociferously applauding every item on the programme. Their conduct deprived applause of all its value. Encores were always questionable at best, but the persistent way in which they were persisted in last session brought nothing but ridicule on the practise.

Mr. LAY moved that the interval be limited to 15 minutes and that there be no refreshments.

Mrs. MORRIS seconded.

An animated discussion arose on this proposal. The Rev. L. Dearing was all for refreshments. Mr. Crane thought that the bone of contention, if the phrase were permissible, was the sweetmeats. The Rev. J. G. Cleveland thought the whole matter should be left in the hands of the President, or the Chairman, for the time being. Mr. Wilkin suggested that the refreshments be simpler and that the length of the interval should not be more than 15 minutes. Eventually it was agreed to let matters remain as they are, refreshments being provided as usual, and the President to determine upon the duration of the interval.

The following were elected on the Refreshment Committee:—Rev. L. Dearing, Miss Wilkin, Miss Thompson, and Miss Sale.

Mr. LAY then proposed that the rule providing for the issue of family tickets be abolished. He thought the privilege had led to abuses.

Mr. CAHUSAC seconded for the purpose of putting the matter to the vote.

The PRESIDENT took exception to the remarks made by the proposer. The annoyance caused last year principally arose with some lads who usually sat on the front row. They were ordinary members of the Society and brought their school chums along with them to help in the applause and other noises. The members of families who came in on the family ticket were in nearly all cases adults. It would be wrong in his opinion to meddle with the rule.

The Rev. J. G. CLEVELAND and the Rev. L. DEARING were opposed to the rule being expunged. The proposition on being put to the meeting found only the proposer and seconder voting for, and the rest of the members present against, it.

Mr. WHITEFIELD inquired if there was any check at the door in regard to visitors.

The CHAIRMAN said that since the discussion last year as to unauthorised visitors attending, the trouble had ceased. They might perhaps have to be careful as to the admittance of boys in future, otherwise there was no trouble to fear.

The Rev. L. DEARING proposed a new rule—"That no person be eligible for membership under the age of 15."

Mr. CRANE seconded.

Mr. LAY thought that it would be better if the limit was 17 years for boys and 15 for girls.

The Rev. L. Dearing's original rule was carried. The meeting then resolved itself into a social circle, music concluding the proceedings.

THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIVOR, Esq., Consul-General and Judge,--MONDAY, October 5th.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGE TO BAGS OF NITRATE OF SODA.

In this case the China and Japan Trading Company, sues to recover \$106.32 and costs, from Captain A. Weston, for damage done to some 20 bags of nitrate of soda, while in the charge of defendant as landing agent.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. G. H. Scidmore representing the defendant.

The Court reassembled at 10 o'clock this morning. W. B. Mason, recalled, said--I have refreshed my memory since the last examination, and have ascertained that the loss in weight of the nitrate of soda was piculs 17.7705.

Cross-examined--I ascertained these particulars from the invoice; that is to say the amount that finally came to the hands of the China and Japan Trading Company was short by about 17 piculs.

A. C. Allcock, sworn, deposed--I am in the service of the plaintiffs. On the 28th July I was on the hatoba. I saw some nitrate of soda there. There was some skids underneath the bags, but no tarpaulin, as it was a very fine day. This nitrate of soda had been landed by Helm Bros., and I believe came from the *Verona*.

Komeya Kanetaro, in the employ of Uyeno-ya Tokubei, deposed--I have been in the firm's employ for over fourteen years. We deal largely in drugs. It is my business to take delivery of the drugs purchased by the firm. We deal principally with No. 202 (Paul Schramm); No. 70 (Carl Rohde), No. 20 (Ahrens & Co.), and the plaintiffs, the China and Japan Trading Company. About the 26th June I went to the hatoba to see about taking delivery of some nitrate of soda--to inspect it. It was imported by the plaintiffs on the *Glamorganshire*. My firm was the purchaser of these goods. They amounted in all to 200 bags. We took delivery of 160 bags--those that were not wet, and were on the upper part of the pile. I think that it was on July 2nd that we took delivery of these 160 bags. As to the other 40 bags we were told by the China and Japan Trading Company that we were to leave them, as they were going to speak to the landing agent in regard to a claim on them. I took delivery of the 160 bags at the hatoba. I was present on a subsequent occasion when the 40 bags were weighed. This took place at the hatoba at Minato-cho. There were skids under these bags, and tarpaulin on top. I do not know what shortage resulted. The original contract price for the sound nitrate of soda has slipped my memory. We sold these goods at the rate of 6 yen per picul. I think this nitrate of soda was packed in double bags. In the month of August I took delivery of some nitrate of the soda from Paul Schramm, at the hatoba. I do not know who landed this lot, but the bags were placed on skids.

Cross-examined--I do not know much about chemistry, but I know enough to tell when goods are landed in bad condition or not. Nitrate of soda looks something like sugar, and generally appears damp. It is packed in hemp bags. Nitrate of soda is generally packed in double bags, because if there are holes in the first bag, the inside bag,

the contents would run out; single bags are apt to leak. If nitrate of soda is packed in single bags, there is apt to be too much loss on the voyage: that is my experience. The 160 bags that I took delivery of were not weighed at the hatoba: they were not weighed at all. Owing to the Customs rules, that these dangerous goods should not be weighed there, the 40 damp bags were not weighed at the hatoba, but at Minato-cho.

To the Bench--I refused, on behalf of my firm, to take delivery of the 40 bags at the original weight. I refused to take delivery of them at the Customs hatoba. I refused the delivery of these bags because they were wet and I could see that they had shrunk. I had no other reason than that for refusing to take delivery. There were many small holes in the bags, but no large ones through which the nitrate of soda could leak. All these bags were at the lower end of the pile. I did not refuse any of the bags at the top of the pile: only those in the lower or bottom tier.

To Mr. Scidmore, through the Court--I refused all the bags that were touching the ground.

To Mr. Lowder, through the Court--All the 160 bags that I took delivery of were in sound, good condition.

Mr. Scidmore would have liked to have known how large were the holes in the bags, mentioned by witness.

Mr. Lowder objected, witness having given a fair answer to that question in his cross-examination.

The objection was sustained.

H. J. Metz, sworn, deposed--I am in the employ of the plaintiffs. I saw the nitrate of soda after it was landed from the *Glamorganshire*. The whole of it was in double bags. It was landed on the hatoba in good condition. If there had been ship-damage, defendant should have notified me. He did not so notify me of damage to these goods. When nitrate of soda is landed at the hatoba it is placed on skids, and then covered with tarpaulin--the skids are placed on the ground, the nitrate is then piled on top, and tarpaulins, if the weather is not very fine, are placed over all; this constitutes proper landing. I have frequently seen nitrate of soda thus deposited on the hatoba.

The case of the *Verona*, landed by Helm Bros., is one instance recently. This was since the damage done to plaintiff's goods in this case. It seems that landing agents, both Weston and Helm, are taking more care of these goods now. I recollect the arrival of the *Altmore*. Some nitrate of soda was landed from her. It was placed on skids and covered with tarpaulin; this was since the case now before the Court. The nitrate of soda in this case was landed on Friday, the 26th June, between the hours of three and four in the afternoon. It was landed in the neighbourhood of the export shed. The bags were not placed on skids, but a tarpaulin was put over them. I saw these bags on the Monday following the Friday. The bottom tier were then lying in four or five inches of water; about forty bags altogether. These forty bags presented a thoroughly soaked appearance. When I looked at them they only bore marks of damage by rain-water. A person of the name of Hatch is in the employ of the defendant. I spoke to him on the Monday in reference to the condition of these bags. He admitted that it arose from his neglect in landing the goods; and added that should Capt. Weston know that he had landed these bags in such a neglectful condition, he would lose his position. I told Hatch that the bags should have had skids underneath, when landed. I told him that they should never have been placed where they were landed because the ground near the export shed was so low and sloped. This was on the Monday. I then went and saw Mr. Weston at his office. I told him what I had seen. I said that I should hold him liable. He admitted his liability, on the ground of neglect of landing, by not placing skids underneath, and by placing the nitrate of soda in the place where it was deposited. The Customs authorities will not allow nitrate of soda to be weighed on the hatoba. In consequence of that I asked Capt. Weston's permission to remove the damaged bags from the Customs to the Creekside, the Japanese hatoba. He agreed to this. The sound portion of the goods were taken delivery of on the 2nd of July; the damaged portion was removed immediately afterwards. I think some days after, on second thought. I was present for a few moments when these bags were being weighed, to see that it was properly done. Capt. Weston was represented there by a Japanese in his employ. A bill was subsequently sent in to Captain Weston, by the plaintiffs. [Bill put in as evidence.] The claim of 6 yen per picul is arrived at through our selling price being 6 yen per picul to our customer. The amount of loss was 17 piculs, and in our claim we therefore charged the loss at 6 yen per picul. The reason the nitrate of soda, landed

on the Friday, was not taken delivery of on Saturday, was due to cloudy weather. The weather was cloudy with an occasional shower, and the nitrate of soda would have become damaged by the rain. We took one of the bags to the examining shed, and after the examination, it was the landing agent's duty to place the bags in tiers of five, so that they could be stamped quickly. The Customs officer would not stamp the bags unless so arranged. I considered it dangerous to stack the bags on the Saturday. I have since tried my best to find the Customs' officer whose duty it would have been to stamp those bags. I went at Counsel's request. I ascertained that he had left the employ of the Customs and could not be found. My hatoba clerk, Walker, was present with me when Capt. Weston offered to pay the claim. Mr. Weston's idea was that the claim would be in the neighbourhood of six or seven yen, and when he found that it was more than one hundred yen, he absolutely refused to pay our claim. That reason was given to me by Captain Weston: at least that was what I understood from what he said. I stepped into Capt. Weston's and he informed me that he would not pay the claim, because he thought it was a matter of six or seven dollars. That was about the middle of July. The conversation took place in his office.

Cross-examined by Mr. Scidmore--I have been in the plaintiff's employ since the beginning of May. This is not my first experience as a seaport landing clerk. I have had a little experience in the States, at Philadelphia. I had to deal with cargo that came by railroad for delivery in the city. I never handled nitrate soda there. All that I know about the proper way of landing nitrate of soda is what I learned here at Yokohama, and the exercise of a little common-sense. My duties at the hatoba are to examine all goods, survey the damage, and place the responsibility for the fault whether on ship or landing agent. I have not been furnished with any documents by my employers to assist me in surveying goods and determining any damage. I am entirely familiar with the manner of handling cargo from the time it leaves the ship's tackles until landed on the hatoba. I never asked Capt. Weston for any paper relative to the landing of the cargo in question. I am perfectly familiar with all the details of landing cargo. At the time cargo is taken from the ship there is a paper, given by its officer; this paper is called a boat-note. It contains a statement of the condition of the cargo at the time it is taken from the ship's tackles. Boat-notes are never correct, but at times it is the rule to base claims against the ship on statements made in these notes. These boat-notes are used in making claims against the ship, the landing-agent referring to these notes for that purpose. This is the general rule.

The Court at this point adjourned for luncheon. The cross-examination of the H. J. Metz was continued. In answer to Mr. Scidmore he said--Application was made on the 22nd July--the date of arrival of the ship--for entry of the nitrate of soda at the Customs. Plaintiffs had a clean bill of lading for the goods. We have three men on the hatoba, under my supervision, to look out for any damage to cargo. The cargo is examined as soon as landed by three of our men on the hatoba. They examined for ship damage and every other kind of damage. When the nitrate of soda was landed this examination was made, but we did not find any ship damage. When ship damage is discovered it is usual to make prompt claim on the agents of the ship. We did not make any claim on the agents of the *Glamorganshire*. Nitrate of soda, in contact with water, dissolves or melts away. These 40 damaged bags remained on the hatoba between the 26th June to the 7th July; between the 7th July and the 18th of that month they were lying on the Japanese hatoba. I took no steps to further protect the nitrate of soda, after I saw Capt. Weston. I left it lying there. I have received, on occasions, notice of damage to cargo from other landing agents. Once, in the case of iron landed from one of the "Rickmers" boats, such notice was given. I noticed the damage before the agent, Helm, drew my attention to it. I cannot at the moment recall another instance. I cannot say what the average weight of these forty bags would be at the time that they were weighed. I do not know their invoice weight.

Mr. Lowder said he would introduce the invoice of the nitrate of soda.

His Honour said that it would be as well to introduce the invoice.

Re-examined--I do not mean to imply, in the answers made to questions in the cross-examination, that no damage has been done to cargo delivered to my firm, in landing, in any cases beyond the two referred to. The removal of the 40 bags from the Customs to the Japanese hatoba was a matter of arrangement between me and the defendant. Prior to the hearing of this case, the

defendant has never, to my knowledge, claimed that it was not his duty to report to his principals, the plaintiffs, any damage that cargo may have received before coming into his hands.

To the Bench—I told Weston that the nitrate of soda had been negligently landed and he acknowledged it. He said: "If there is any damage, I suppose I shall have to pay for it." He did not say that he would pay in order to keep the peace and prevent trouble. In saying what he did I think he admitted his liability.

His Honour—I am not asking for your opinion. I want to know what Weston said.

Witness—He said: "If there is any damage I suppose I will have to pay for it!" That is all he said. The skids were placed under the nitrate of soda, in the case of the *Altmore*, voluntarily. I have testified as to the customs of the place. I knew what the hatoba customs were soon after I came here. I came here in May and learnt the customs as soon as I began to work here.

Mr. Lowder recalled the Japanese witness, who testified in the morning to 14 years' experience of the drug trade, and questioned him as to the custom of the landing agents in regard to landing and protecting nitrate of soda at the Yokohama hatoba.

Witness said—During my experience in Yokohama skids have always been placed under bags of nitrate of soda to prevent them from getting damp or wet. My experience goes back for six or seven years in regard to nitrate of soda alone. I have taken delivery of this class of goods from No. 89, China and Japan Trading Company; and No. 202, Mr. Paul Schramm. I think my employer is the principal buyer of nitrate of soda in Yokohama, and we bought nearly all of the nitrate of soda that the China and Japan Trading Company imported. Prior to this case, no nitrate of soda purchased by us from that firm has been damaged by rain on the hatoba.

To the Bench—My employer has never imported nitrate of soda direct. I am given to understand that the skids were always placed under bags of nitrate of soda by the landing agents, when landed on the hatoba. I heard this from the firms with which I deal—either No. 89 or No. 202. This information was given me before this case was instituted. I have heard it also from persons engaged on the hatoba.

H. J. Metz, recalled, produced an invoice for 200 bags of nitrate of soda—the goods in question.

Mr. Lowder said that was the case for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Scidmore—May it please the Court: I agree with the learned Counsel for the plaintiffs that the damages claimed in this case are small in comparison with the principle involved. The mercantile community here is watching this case with intense interest, and to the defendant its decision is of vast importance to his business, a business involving the handling of many millions of dollars' worth of cargo. The goods, or material involved in this case, is nitrate of soda, that also goes by the names of cubic nitre, or nitre, or Chili saltpetre. For a definition of its character I am indebted to two books, books that are quoted by the leading authorities in these cases such as "Stevens on Storage" and "The Handling of Dangerous Goods." From them we can gather the nature and character of nitre. We learn that it is—

Mr. Lowder—While not desirous of interfering with the Counsel on the other side in his opening, I must resist his bringing these books into the case, as evidence in this way. I can not resist, I know, if he brings experts in to prove the statements, but I object to his submitting them in his present manner.

His Honour—The Court does not yet perceive Counsel's object.

Mr. Scidmore—I shall introduce them later on for the purpose of guiding the Court in the matter of defining the nature and character of these goods. I expect to prove this later on.

His Honour—For the benefit of the counsel for the plaintiff, I may say that the Court can but suppose that the proper course will be pursued in the matter. It must be remembered that we have not arrived at the arguments yet, Counsel for the defendant is only opening the case for his side.

Mr. Lowder thought that this matter hardly affected the issue.

Mr. Scidmore said that the matter might seem unimportant, but he desired to introduce it as it served the purpose of his case.

His Honour thought that it was hardly an issue.

Mr. Lowder—It is not a matter of much importance I admit; and if your Honour is inclined to allow it, I have no objection.

Mr. Scidmore—I wished to prove to his Honour the character of the goods, and therefore the kind of care required in handling them. Nitrate of soda is a dangerous compound and when

brought into contact with organic matter is likely to develop dangerous explosions. It is therefore a substance that must be excluded from storage with other goods. Therefore the Customs authorities have decreed its exclusion from the covered shed. It is a powerful oxidizing agent; it is soluble in water, and it is said will dissolve in twice its own weight of water. It is used in the manufacture of sulphuric acid, and also in nitric acid; it is used as manure, as a top dressing, and when the soda is taken away from it, it forms the saltpetre used in the manufacture of gunpowder. I propose to prove that the position of the defendant in this matter of landing the bags of nitrate of soda, was that of an intermediary agent employed on behalf of the steamship company to facilitate the despatch of the steamer and to effect a greater celerity in the discharge of her cargo. He also, to a certain extent, acted on behalf of the plaintiffs as an agent in conveying cargo from the ship to the shore. In this capacity, all the leading authorities concur in stating, that it was his duty to use ordinary and reasonable care. For the definition of the term ordinary care I shall refer your Honour and Counsel on the other side to Dearing on Negligence; and for the express meaning of reasonable care to the notes on *Coggs versus Bernard*, reported in Smith's leading cases; while I place particular stress on the decision of Mr. Justice Parke in the case of *Beale versus The South Devon Railway Company* (R.C. 5, H. & M. 881.) I shall deal fully with these cases in my arguments in closing. We also expect to show that defendant's duty was finished the moment the goods were properly landed in the manner customary to the usages here: that he was neither insurer nor warehouseman. After the goods were taken from the ship they were landed and then and there delivered into the custody of the plaintiffs, who had no less than four presumably careful agents, their own employes, present to take charge of them; and it was the duty of those agents then and there to ascertain the condition and quantity of the goods, which, being of a perishable nature, should have been passed through the Customs and removed to a secure shelter without delay. This was the duty of the plaintiffs, but through their agents, they brought about the loss through their own neglect. We shall also show that the cause of the loss of weight in the goods was most uncertain. We shall also show that a large proportion of the goods were delivered into the plaintiffs hands from the ship in a broken and damaged condition, and that the failure of the plaintiffs to note this fact was gross negligence on their part. We shall also show that the goods remained exposed to the elements from the 26th June to the 7th July without adequate, or in fact any, measures being taken to protect or remove them to a place of safety. I will now proceed to call my witnesses.

Hamaguchi Anjiro, in the employ of Captain Weston, sworn, deposed—I have been in the defendant's employ for about three years. There have been several occasions, previous to the arrival of the *Glamorganshire*, on which nitrate of soda was landed by defendant. These goods being dangerous had to be landed outside the export shed at the Customs. There was only one place where they could be placed, and it was at this spot. During my three years' experience, the tarpaulin was placed over the nitrate of soda as soon as it was landed; we have no skids, Capt. Weston has no skids. I have seen Helm Bros. landing nitrate of soda, previous to this case. I do not remember whether I have ever seen Helm using skids or not. I remember seeing the nitrate of soda from the *Glamorganshire*; it was placed near the landing shed, close to the water. The ground at this place, I think, is not very well drained. The place where the nitrate of soda was landed was dry, because the landing took place in fine weather.

Mr. Scidmore then asked witness how far the goods were placed above the water.

Mr. Lowder objected to the question being put, as the answer to the petition did not set up that defence.

Mr. Scidmore said he put the question in consequence of the allegation of the defendant, that all due care and diligence was exercised in landing the goods and putting them in a proper place.

His Honour did not quite perceive what was the line of defence requiring such a question being put.

Mr. Scidmore—I put it with the purpose of showing that there was no neglect that could cause damage in general; also this defence is specifically set up in the answer to the petition.

Mr. Lowder thought that the defence was that there was no damage done to the goods after they were delivered to the plaintiffs.

His Honour—I take it that the line of defence is that the goods were not landed in a careless way.

Mr. Lowder—If that is so my objection falls to the ground.

The question was then allowed.

Mr. Scidmore, to witness—How far was it from the pile of bags to the upper edge of the wharf?

Witness—I think it was about two or three *ken*—(one *ken*, about 2 yards). In regard to the height of the wall, the tide makes some difference, but even at high tide the water would not reach the edge of the wall.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—At the time of the arrival of the *Glamorganshire* my duty was to hand over cargo to the consignees. I had nothing to do with the landing of cargo at that time. A person named Hatch was employed by Mr. Weston to attend to the landing of cargo. My duty was to examine and compare the bill of lading with books containing the marks and labels of the cargo. I had nothing to do with the manifest. This work was not done in the office, but at the hatoba; I received the books at the office and compared them with the bills of lading I received on the hatoba. I know a man, named Yoshida, who used to be in the employ of Mr. Weston. I think there is no reason to use skids, as Mr. Weston has no skids. My work only deals with handing over cargo to consignees. If skids were used I might have seen them when I delivered the goods; but there were no skids belonging to Mr. Weston. I do not know that plaintiffs imported nitrate of soda recently by any other vessel but the *Glamorganshire*. Helm may or may not use skids without my knowing it. Skids could not have been used by Mr. Weston during the past three years, for the reason that he does not own any. Pressed on the point by Counsel, witness said that up to the time of the arrival of the *Glamorganshire* Mr. Weston did not use skids to place under bags of nitrate of soda. I think the skids are things used to place cargo upon, but I really am not sure, though I was on a ship for some time and heard there, as I did at the hatoba, the word used frequently. Still I think cargo is placed on skids on board ship [dunnage]. That was what I meant when I said that Mr. Weston had no skids. I do not know whether Yoshida even borrowed skids from Helm. I do not know whether, at any time, any shipment of nitrate of soda landed by Weston, was ever raised above the ground. The place where the 200 bags of nitrate of soda was landed was not level. It was such that water, rain-water, if it rained heavily, would accumulate, more or less, under the bags, and not drain away from them. I do not remember seeing these 200 bags of nitrate of soda at the hatoba on the 29th June; I do not remember the date. I did not see the nitrate of soda after it had been wetted. I delivered the 200 bags of nitrate of soda on two occasions. I think that 160 bags were all right, because the consignees took delivery by consent.

Witness refused to answer further questions, and one in particular, as to the condition of the last forty bags.

The Court then adjourned till 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

TUESDAY, October 6th.

The Court reassembled at 10 o'clock this morning.

Paul Helm, sworn, deposed—I was a landing agent at Yokohama up till May last. I had been in the business for ten years before I sold out. I am not now interested in such business. I have landed nitrate of soda for Mr. Paul Schramm, and other consignees. There is not very much nitrate of soda coming here. The Customs regulations oblige us to land nitrate of soda outside; we are not permitted to place it in the Customs landing sheds, it being dangerous goods. We have also to be careful with nitrate of soda because it is liable to dissolve, and then run through and damage other cargo. Consequently, it is a cargo that should be quickly removed from the hatoba, particularly as it is stored outside the sheds. It frequently causes damage on ship-board by dissolving and thus damaging other cargo. Very often on the bills of lading the clause is set, "not responsible for broken condition," when nitrate of soda is loaded. It comes here in double bags, because it has a tendency to destroy its coverings, being rich in oxygen after lying a certain time. If the bags are in a broken condition of course the contents fall out. Nitrate of soda is somewhat crystalline in appearance. All the nitrate of soda that I have seen here has been in small crystals, it looks like the crystallised sugar that comes here. When nitrate of soda was landed here by me, the consignees used to supply the dunnage—as the charge for dunnage is not included in the landing agents' tariff. If no dunnage was furnished by the consignees, I landed the goods on the ground, on a spot a little elevated on the jetty, and covered up the cargo with a tarpaulin. I would always cover saltpetre in this way, as it is easily damaged. In case of the discovery of ship-damage to cargo at the time of

receiving it from the ship, I would inform the ship's agent of such damage, so as to enable him to take further steps in the matter, and in order to settle with the consignee, as I was engaged by the ship's agent to land the cargo.

Mr. Lowder objected to any further evidence being led on this point, on the ground that it was entirely irrelevant to the issues in the case.

Mr. Scidmore referred the Court to the defendant's answer, in which it would be seen that he occupied a peculiar position towards the ship and towards the plaintiffs, while an allegation was also made that the damage was caused by the plaintiff's own neglect.

Mr. Lowder—The latter I do not object to.

Mr. Scidmore—I am putting the questions to lead up to proving the statement I made in my opening, that defendant's position is most peculiar, that he acted not only for the ship but also for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Lowder—That is the ground of my objection. His Honour understood that the questions were put to draw out what were the duties of a landing agent. That was not an issue, however, because the answer admitted the allegation that defendant was an agent for the C. and J. T. Co.

The examination then continued.

Witness—I was also paid compensation by the consignees for landing their cargo. If the landing agent was instructed and engaged by the consignee to land their cargo, then it was his duty to inform them of any damage that had been done—any damage that he considered important; any damage whether ship's or landing. Only in the case of the consignee coming directly and specially to me and asking me to land his cargo, would I consider it necessary to notify him of damage, as otherwise I would regard myself as engaged by the ship.

Mr. Lowder objected to further questions on this point, on the same ground as before.

His Honour said that the line of evidence was not excluded by the pleadings.

Mr. Lowder submitted that such evidence was excluded and quoted the answer to the petition. This excluded all evidence as to the point whether defendant in this case was acting on behalf of the ship.

His Honour—The objection to over-ruled.

Witness continuing—At the same time I would charge consignees for services in landing the cargo because it is their duty to take delivery of the goods from the hatoba or alongside, according to the bill of lading.

Mr. Scidmore—Where does a landing agent's duty end?

Mr. Lowder—That is a matter of law, and I object to it.

His Honour—The objection is sustained.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder, witness said—I sold my business to my brother. Myself and Mr. Weston were the only two foreigners engaged in the business at one time. I used to have offices on the Customs premises; Mr. Weston's office is still there. We have no permission to open an office there, but the Customs let us a godown at a monthly rental for the purpose of stowing cargo. We are not granted special facilities, but we rent a godown like anyone else can, and we are not permitted to put up our names.

Mr. Lowder—As a matter of fact you had offices there, as Mr. Weston still has?

Witness continuing—I had no office there; I had a godown, but the authorities do not even allow us to put out our names. I certainly had a desk, writing-ink, and a chair there, and customers could come and see me; anybody could do the same. In April, 1896, we agreed—Mr. Weston and I—on a tariff of charges for landing goods. I do not know if the document now shown me is that tariff, unless I can compare it with my own tariff. It was my custom when landing nitrate of soda, to cover it with a tarpaulin, and when cargo of this description was left on the hatoba for more than three or four days, I made a charge for the tarpaulin. Otherwise I notified the consignees that they must supply their own tarpaulin, which they usually did. You may take it that the amount paid for landing charges would cover the wear and tear of tarpaulin for the time above named. I consider that three or four days is an unreasonable time to allow nitrate of soda to remain on the hatoba; the regulations of the Customs House set 24 hours as the time. That regulation is very seldom observed in practise. Sometimes it is acted upon, but often it is not, like other regulations that are made from time to time. Mr. Paul Schramm and Messrs. Raspe, I remember, particularly have supplied me with dunnage on which to place their cargo, especially in the case of nitrate of soda. When I had finished with it, they took the dunnage away, bringing it down to the hatoba every time they wished it to be used. Their hatoba man attended to this. It was not often that they had consign-

ments of salt-petre. I had no dunnage of my own. I did not consider it my duty to supply dunnage, because it was expensive, and consignees objected to pay the charges for its use. I do not remember any particular case where they objected to dunnage charges; but they have often objected to even the ordinary landing charges. I considered it to be my duty to cover nitrate of soda with tarpaulin directly it was landed, in order to protect it from the rain. As far as I know, the consignees always supplied dunnage, and therefore I did not consider it my duty to put dunnage under the goods. I consider it the duty of the consignees to supply the dunnage. I generally selected a spot, which was high, or raised, if I could find one, or if the consignee furnished dunnage, I put that under the cargo; if not I landed it where I could. I do not remember landing nitrate of soda for the plaintiffs. I have landed other kinds of cargo consigned to them, while acting as landing agent of the ship; I may possibly have landed nitrate of soda for them in this way. I cannot say that the plaintiffs have ever furnished dunnage for cargo supplied to them. We are paid by the ship for night work; so long as I have been in business I have never been paid by the ship for anything but night-work. I have felt that the ship should pay the landing agent something for the convenience arising from our assistance in landing cargo. So far as my experience goes, I have been paid the landing charges by the consignee.

Geo. S. Nelson, in the employ of the defendant, sworn, said—I entered Weston's employ on April 20th of this year. I remember the defendant landing some nitrate of soda from the *Glamorganshire* at the latter end of June. This nitrate of soda was lying at the Customs hatoba. It was landed on the point of land that is allotted for cargo that is to be landed in the open, near the further end of the export shed, outside of the small car-tracks. I saw the nitrate of soda piled up there. The outside of the pile nearest the water was right close to the stone wall which faces the water. The other side of the pile was about 15 feet away from the wall. From the top of the wall to the water line is a matter of four feet at high tide. I consider that this spot was a suitable place, as compared with other parts of the compound, for piling such cargo. I should consider it as good a place as any at that time for such a purpose. In case of heavy rain the water would run into the hatoba basin; it would drain off. I have no distinct recollection of the state of the weather at that time, more than that the consignees complained that this cargo had been damaged by rain. I saw the cargo after it had been damaged. After the rain the whole of the Customs compound was in a similar condition. I could not say whether this place was better than other places in the compound where such cargo could be landed.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—There was a person of the name of Hatch in the employ of Mr. Weston when this cargo was landed. He landed the cargo, and was general overseer during its landing. He is not now in the service of the defendant, to the best of my knowledge and belief. I do not know when he left the service, nor why he left. The lower tier of this cargo, when I saw it on the Monday, had a damp appearance. I mean that it was not wet, only a little damp. I saw it during the forenoon. I don't remember the day exactly; it was the day the complaint was made. I do not know who made the complaint. It was nearer tiffin time than anything, when I saw the bags. They were not then standing in water. The ground was wet—it was damp ground. I did not see any water accumulated under or near the bags.

Captain Austin Weston, the defendant, was then sworn. He said—I am a landing agent in Yokohama and have been in the business about 14 years. During that time I have had occasion to do with the landing of nitrate of soda. I remember the *Glamorganshire* bringing such cargo in the latter part of June last. It was landed under my supervision as landing agent. I was engaged as the landing agent of the ship.

Mr. Lowder—I object to that answer, as it contradicts the pleading.

His Honour—Do you ask for the answer to be stricken out?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—You did not object to the question? Mr. Lowder—No, because I did not know what his answer would be.

His Honour said that the suit not being a jury case but more of an equity action, he had been disposed to depart from the strict rule and admit a wide latitude of evidence for the purpose of obtaining all the facts he could. Mr. Lowder's objection was sound, technically, but in view of the nature of the case, it being an equity action and not a jury case, he thought he would allow the line of evidence to continue.

Witness continuing—I came to be employed in landing this cargo by the ship's agent. It falls naturally into my business, being employed by people to land cargoes as they arrive by these ships. My connection with this case is the same as that stated above. This ship arrived on the 22nd of June, and her cargo was landed between that date and the 29th. I took charge of the landing of the plaintiffs' cargo in the usual way. I had no knowledge of the China and Japan Trading Company.

Mr. Lowder—That is a contradiction of the plea, and I object.

The objection was allowed.

Witness—I landed 200 bags of nitrate of soda, consigned to the China and Japan Trading Company. The instructions came from the ship's agent.

Mr. Lowder pointed out that this was a contradiction of the defendant's written pleadings.

Mr. Scidmore said that it was no contradiction, for the instructions came from the China and Japan Trading Company through the ship's agents. There was no inconsistency in that.

His Honour thought that it was inconsistent with the pleadings.

Witness continuing—Some time afterwards I handed a bill to the C. & J. T. Co., for the landing of the cargo.

Mr. Scidmore—Now we are getting into a clearer atmosphere.

His Honour—I hope so.—(Laughter.)

Witness—I knew nothing of the C. & J. T. Co., in the matter of landing.

Mr. Lowder said that this was raising a defence that he was not prepared to meet. If it was allowed to go on, his learned friend would be enabled to argue that the claim should have been brought against the ship's agent.

Mr. Scidmore said that he did not intend to use such a argument.

After some further remarks, it was noted on the record that "Counsel for plaintiffs makes standing objection to all questions and answers tending to show that the defendant was sole agent for the ship and not for plaintiffs."

Witness continued—The nitrate of soda was examined on the 26th June during the afternoon. Application was made to clear the goods on the 22nd of June. The goods were deposited at the hatoba at the far end of the export shed, in an ordinary place. It was covered up with tarpaulin to protect it. I took no other precautions for its protection. It has always been my custom to cover such things with tarpaulin. I do not know the custom of the port in regard to consignees sending dunnage for the purpose of protecting cargoes. I have never looked to see how other landing-agents protected cargoes of nitrate of soda. It has never been my custom to use skids. This is the first complaint that has been made about their not being used. The nitrate of soda was taken from the ship's tackles in a partly broken and damaged condition.

Mr. Lowder objected as witness did not personally receive the goods.

The objection was sustained.

Witness continued—My practise with regard to damaged cargo received by me from the ship, depends upon its nature. If it is a small package that has been broached, opened, or damaged, I take it into my own godown on its being landed.

The Court then adjourned till 2 o'clock.

Mr. Scidmore applied for leave to introduce a Japanese witness, whom he had been unable to bring in the morning, before Captain Weston's further testimony was lead.

The application was granted.

Fushimi Yosaku deposed to being in the employ of the defendant.

Mr. Lowder thought that as the witness was a servant of defendant, the proper course should be followed.

His Honour said that he understood that Mr. Lowder had made no objection when the application of the other side was made. The objection came too late now.

Mr. Lowder said he had no objection to witness as a witness. It was only the manner of his introduction.

Witness then continued—I remember a cargo of nitrate of soda being landed from the *Glamorganshire* at the end of June last. I was engaged in the landing of cargo, but was not at work on the hatoba. I had to receive the nitrate of soda and see it taken to the shore. Two hundred bags were brought on shore. Some of the bags were broken, and more especially 24 of them, which were empty. I made a memorandum of it at that time.

Mr. Lowder—I object, on the ground that the memorandum was not communicated to the plaintiff.

His Honour—The objection is sustained.

Mr. Scidmore said that the subject was not important.

Witness—I handed the memorandum to Mr. Weston. The bags were of such a nature as those in which Chinese rice is imported into Yokohama; of a woven material. They were single bags, and thin, so that their contents could be seen.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—I have seen nitrate of soda landed from other ships besides the *Glamorganshire* about twice before, but I do not remember the dates or the names of the ships. Nitrate of soda has been imported before in the same kind of thin single bags as those in which the *Glamorganshire* consignment came. I do not know the weight of the bags landed from the *Glamorganshire*. Hatch was not with me in the boat when I received these goods. I saw that 24 bags were empty. When cargo is landed from a ship, it is accompanied by a boat-note giving the marks and numbers of the bags or cases, and is signed by the Chief Officer; it contains, besides, a notification of any damage done to the goods. The numbers of the empty bags were not taken down; they came out of the ship in bundles of five and were so written down. I do not know who received the empty bags; all I did was to receive the cargo from the ship. I do not know the weight of the bags; they are about the size of sugar bags. I don't know if I could lift a bag, as I did not try.

Mr. Lowder—Would you be surprised to hear that if 24 bags were empty they would weight over 50 piculs?

Witness—I should not be surprised at the weight of a piece. I did not see the nitrate of soda after it was landed.

Captain Weston's examination was then resumed. He said—I have never seen the invoice of the nitrate of soda—before this case. The document you now present seems to refer to the shipment of the nitrate of soda. Previous to this case I have landed many consignments of goods for the plaintiffs. The condition under which such landings were made were similar to those under which the landing from the *Glamorganshire* was conducted. No understanding was ever entered into between myself and the plaintiffs in regard to the landing of this cargo. The responsibility for landing the goods was assumed by me as landing agent. In respect to whose authority I acted upon, I reply it was upon that of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. Those were the agents of the ship. In rendering my bill to the plaintiffs for payment, my reason would be "for services rendered."

Mr. Scidmore—Why should you proceed to land the cargo on the order of Samuel Samuel?

Witness—Because I was acting under general orders, Messrs. Samuel Samuel being agents of the ship, who made a notification in the papers of the arrival of cargo.

Mr. Scidmore then read the consignees notice issued by the agents for the *Glamorganshire*, and put it in.

Mr. Lowder said that his standing objection referred to this notice.

His Honour—So far as it may be used for that purpose.

Witness—On previous occasions when landing goods for the plaintiffs I have acted in a similar manner as I did in this case. Those proceedings, I believe, were approved by the plaintiffs, so far as my knowledge extends. In the case of the landing of the nitrate of soda from the *Glamorganshire*, I acted on a presumption based on previous experience. The question as to my reporting damage of cargo to plaintiffs has never arisen previous to this case. I have, previous to this, landed lots of damaged cargo for the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs' practise has been for their hatoba men to report such damage to them. When the employés of plaintiffs employed on the hatoba find any packages that are damaged, they put them in my godown, if they are packages, such as cases and bags, for examination by the ship's agent, for the purpose of assessing any damage that has been done. I have been led to look to the hatoba people of the plaintiffs to watch for damage. So far as my observation goes, the plaintiffs have always a staff of men on the hatoba when their goods are landed. I am familiar with the methods of conducting business at the Customs House.

Mr. Lowder said that when such evidence was led by him, his witnesses had not been cross-examined on the point, and the evidence could not now be introduced.

His Honour said that the evidence could not be excluded.

Mr. Lowder said he was not familiar with such a practise.

Witness, continuing, said—The goods were landed on the 26th and could easily have been removed on the 27th. The application was sent in on the 22nd, and this would give the Customs Officers ample time to examine the goods as soon as landed, so as to complete the transaction the following day. Had there been any desire on their part to get these goods, or a part of them, through the

Customs quickly, they could have done so by depositing the duty, and had there been any shortage in packages there would have been a rebate. The duty on nitrate of soda is an *ad valorem* duty based entirely on the invoice. Shortage of contents would not count in that case. Importers frequently leave their goods on the hatoba for a great length of time. There are various reasons for this. The principal reason at present is the difficulty they have of coming to terms with their buyers. I know something of the weather between the 26th June and the 10th July. The 26th was a working day for the people at the ships. Saturday, the 27th, was also a working day for three ships; and Sunday was a working day. On Sunday night it rained. The cargo could have been removed from the Customs on the Sunday by the plaintiffs if it had been of sufficient consequence to them. It rained on the night of the 29th June. Between that date and the 10th of July, it rained several times.

Cross examined by Mr. Lowder—The boat-note showed me that there were 24 empty bags. That was after the whole of the nitrate of soda had been stowed on the hatoba. I do not remember the exact date when this came to my notice. It was before the *Glamorganshire* left the port, and while we were still working the ship in the harbour. She finished discharge on or about the 30th of June. My attention was first called to this cargo on the morning after the rain. The 24 empty bags were then somewhere about the pile. I did not see them before that time.

His Honour suggested that the witness had not made a statement as to the 24 empty bags himself, and therefore could not be cross-examined upon the point.

Mr. Lowder said that the defendant in his answer alleged that certain bags were landed in a broken and damaged condition.

His Honour said that it would be stretching that allegation too far to say that empty bags and "broken and damaged bags" were one and the same thing.

Mr. Lowder said that the evidence had been introduced that afternoon by the defendant.

Cross-examination continued—I did not see the 24 empty bags at any time referred to by Fushimi, nor did I see the 20 bags referred to in the answer to the petition as having been in a broken and damaged condition. I cannot say whether the bags in which the nitrate of soda was packed were single or double. When the bags were on the hatoba I could not see the contents through the bags as they were covered with tarpaulin. I afterwards saw the forty bags which were refused as damaged and allowed to remain. Part of the forty appeared to be damaged—part by rain and part by damage. They were not all wet; the centre of the pile, where the 160 had been lying, was as dry as this floor. The damage from rain occurred around the edges of the pile. When I saw the pile at the hatoba it was not completely covered by tarpaulin; the tarpaulin did not reach the ground. In some places it was a foot above the ground, some places two inches, and in other places the tarpaulin was lying on the ground. I do not think this was a careless way of adjusting the tarpaulin, which came over far enough to shelter from rain. It could not well be beaten in. Mr. Hatch had charge of the stowing, and he was responsible for it. He is not now in my employ; he left about three weeks ago. Mr. Yoshida was in my employ for many years. I heard him say he had used skids. He may have used skids. If so it was without my knowledge. I know that skids have been made by my employés since this claim was made upon me. If used before it was without my knowledge. This is the first claim that has ever been made for damage to saltpetre; in future cases in order to give satisfaction I shall endeavour to use skids for saltpetre.

Mr. Lowder—Now you have heard this evidence, do not you see that it is desirable not only in order to protect goods from rain but also from water coming from below? Don't you think it is reasonable that these goods should be protected? I am not saying by whom.

Witness—It has not been the custom to do it.

Mr. Lowder—Don't you see it would be only reasonable. Supposing I landed goods for myself, after all this evidence do not you see it would be reasonable for me to use skids as well as putting tarpaulins over the goods?

Witness—Where it is landed in a high and dry place I do not see that there is any particular reason.

Mr. Lowder—You have heard it in evidence that there were five inches of water there. Don't you think it would be a wise precaution?—In such a case, yes.

In this particular case?—No, I do not think it is called for, judging by the fact that it has always been the custom to lay it on the bare ground.

I am not talking about judging by what has

been the custom, but don't you think it would be a reasonable precaution hereafter to put skids under these goods?—Hereafter I am going to do it. With perishable cargo I think it would be reasonable to put skids under. The better the goods are protected the better it will be for all concerned.

In order the better to protect such goods in future it is your intention to make use of skids?—Yes.

Further cross-examined, Witness said:—The notice to consignees stated that all broken, chafed, and damaged cargo would be examined on 24th June; but this cargo had not been landed at that time. I claim that the 20 bags alleged in the answer to be ship damaged were among the 40 rejected. I do not know whether any were empty or not; I did not see them, my information came from the boat-note. I cannot say how much of the damage to the 20 bags out of the 40 bags rejected was to rain and how much to the broken and damaged condition before they reached me. I could not say at present how much I should set off for the 20 damaged bags against the claim made against me.

Re-examined—The bestowal and disposition of this nitrate of soda on the hatoba was made with ordinary and reasonable care.

Mr. Scidmore then summed up the case for the defence. He said—This not being a case before assessors or a jury, and your Honour having given such close attention to all its details, I shall omit a criticism or review of testimony and confine myself almost entirely to the authorities that the defendant relies upon in his defence. As I have already said, in a case of this character the defendant is called upon to exercise ordinary or reasonable care. My first authority on that point is contained in section 116 of "Deering on Negligence," in which he quotes a number of American cases, which unfortunately I have not here; but among the cases in which this care is referred to is that of *Whiting v. Chicago and Northern Railway Company*. The idea expressed in dealing with these cases is also expressed, though in somewhat different language, by Mr. Justice Pollock, in the case of *Beale v. the South Devon Railway Company*. This is embodied in a note to the leading case of *Coggs v. Bernard* and is given in Smith's Leading Cases, Vol. 1, American 9th Edition. The next case I will refer your Honour too is quoted in Vol. 4, of "Lawson's Rights, Remedies, and Practice." The note to Sec. 1,811 refers to the case *Campbell v. Morse*; and the case of the *Nashville Railroad Company v. David*; and I refer to these cases in support of my contention that the defendant was not bound to take unusual precautions for the care of the goods after landing. If the evidence of some of the witnesses is to be believed, there were four or five inches of water at this spot; that would have been sufficient to flood Yokohama almost to the eaves of some of the houses. If the bags were improperly packed that would, to a certain extent, relieve the defendant of a certain amount of responsibility. The evidence on this point is conflicting; man who tallied the cargo testified that the bags were of only one thickness, and I would point out that it was his duty to criticise each bag as it came out of the ship. On this point I would refer your Honour to sec. 1,812 of Lawson in the volume already quoted. It is contended by the defendant, and I think, is supported by testimony, that after the landing of these goods a certain responsibility devolved upon the plaintiffs; and in that connection I will refer your Honour to sec. 1,815 of Lawson, Vol. 4. In my opening address I stated that I should contend that from the moment of landing these goods on the hatoba the responsibility of the defendant with respect to the goods ceased, providing they were landed in the usual and customary manner. The first authority I shall quote on that point is referred to in "Carver's Carriage by Sea," an English work, paragraph 464; and next to that eminent authority, "Story on Bailments, sec. 448. I have a still later case, *Brant v. The New Jersey Steamboat Co.*, the facts in which occurred in 1889. The case is reported in the January number of *The American Lawyer* of 1895. Finally, the plaintiff cannot recover unless he proves that the injury was directly due to the negligence of the defendant. It is not enough to prove that it was possibly or even probably caused by him, or that his negligence was the remote cause or mere occasion of the damage. My authorities for that statement will be found in Abbott's "Trial Evidence." I think the evidence produced shows that the plaintiffs have not established the fact that the defendant was directly responsible for this damage. There is evidence that the goods were damaged before their arrival at the hatoba; and there is also evidence that the plaintiffs neglected to take proper care of the goods after their arrival there.

They neglected that diligence in their removal which you would expect from business men under the circumstances. They had no excuse whatever for the delay. They went to the Customs House to make the necessary application on the 22nd June and the goods might have been removed at any moment on deposit of the duty, subsequently obtaining the rebate. Further, after the removal of the goods from the Customs compound to the creek-side—they were not removed until July 10th, between which time and the date of their arrival they were exposed to the rain and wear and tear. In consideration of the character of the goods concerned, on which I think the testimony of Mr. Helm was quite explicit, it was incumbent on the plaintiffs to exercise more than ordinary diligence in the removal of the goods. These goods were peculiarly susceptible to damage by moisture and were placed in such a position by force of circumstances that their removal without delay was incumbent upon the plaintiffs. Of course as to the question of the extent of the damage, the testimony is very meagre. Only one witness has been called to show that the shortage was seventeen piculs and that the value was \$6 per picul. How much of the damage was due to the damage on shipboard and the rain storm on the 28th June, to the result of handling in the course of transportation from the ship to the hatoba, and from there to the place of examination, and how much was due to the rain between Sunday, 28th June, and the 10th of July, does not appear and it is impossible to estimate it.

The Court then adjourned until 10.30 o'clock on Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, October 7th.

When the Court reassembled this morning, Mr. J. F. Lowder, who appeared for the plaintiffs, rose to make his closing address. He said—May it please the Court, the issues in this case, I take it, are these. First:—Did the defendant so negligently and carelessly deposit and bestow the nitrate of soda on the Customs jetty? Second:—Was a large portion of the nitrate of soda damaged by rain, and rendered of no use to the plaintiffs by reason of such negligence and carelessness? And, if so, how much, and of what value? The burden of proving these two issues is on the plaintiffs. Third:—Was a large portion of the said nitrate of soda, to wit 20 bags, delivered to the defendant in a broken and damaged condition? Fourth:—If so, what, if any, of the loss complained of is to be attributed to such damage; and can the defendant off-set it? Fifth:—Did the plaintiffs neglect to remove the said nitrate of soda from the Customs wharf within a proper time, and permit it there to remain exposed to possible danger for an unreasonable time after being landed by the defendant? Sixth:—If the last question is answered in the affirmative, does the delay of the plaintiffs excuse the neglect, if any, of the defendant? Seventh:—Was the rain which damaged the goods of such severity that the defendant is excused for the damage sustained? The burden of proving the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th issues is on the defendant. For convenience sake, I will, with your Honour's permission, address myself first to the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th issues, as they can be disposed of in a shorter time and in less words than the first two that have to be proved by the plaintiffs. Now in regard to the 3rd issue—was a large portion of the said nitrate of soda, to wit 20 bags, delivered to the defendant in a broken and damaged condition? The only evidence we have in regard to this point is that of the witness Yoshimi alone, who is in the employ of the defendant. He is a young man of but small experience in the work, and was employed by the defendant to take the cargo from on board the ship. Now the defendant in his pleadings admits that 20 bags were landed in a broken and damaged condition, but this witness, who was introduced yesterday afternoon, went much beyond the pleadings and swore on his oath that 24 bags, not twenty, were not only broken, but in fact received empty. He, moreover, said that the whole of the bags received in good condition were so thin that their contents could be seen, showing that they were single and not double bags. But beyond his testimony we have not a vestige of evidence that any of the bags were landed in a broken and damaged condition. The statement, in fact, can be disposed of by looking at the invoice, where it will easily be seen that if 24 bags were landed empty then the loss in weight would have been over 50 piculs instead of only 17. That, I submit, disposes of the allegation that a large portion of the nitrate of soda was landed in a broken and damaged condition. But if your Honour is not with me on this, and you find that there was a quantity of the nitrate of soda landed in a broken and damaged condition, then we come to the 4th issue—what, if any, of the loss complained of is

to be attributed to such damage, and can the defendant off-set it? If there was a certain amount of damaged nitrate of soda landed, then it was clearly defendant's duty to offer some evidence as to the amount of damage and the loss sustained thereby. But there has been no evidence offered, and I submit that he has failed to prove the allegation set forth in his petition. If he had set up the defence that he was entitled to off-set this claim because the damage was ship's damage, then he ought to have brought a claim against the ship for the recovery of any loss sustained by this damage. Now we have it in evidence that he did not inform the plaintiffs of this damage; we have it also that he did not himself know of this damage, that he did not hear of it until some time after it had been landed. His employees might and ought to have known about this damage, and if they did then it is apparent from the evidence led in the case that they took good pains to conceal it from the plaintiffs. Now the plaintiffs, we have it in evidence, had four men on the hatoba whose duty it was to receive and inspect all the cargo consigned to plaintiffs. None of these saw anything whatever of the alleged broken and damaged condition of the bags as they were landed. For these reasons, I submit, that this claim must be thrown out; besides, the amount of this loss has not been proved. The 5th issue must now be dealt with.—Did the plaintiffs neglect to remove the said nitrate of soda from the Customs wharf within a proper time, and permit it there to remain exposed to possible danger for an unreasonable time after being landed by the defendant? This, I submit, is a question of evidence. Now we have in evidence that the nitrate of soda arrived here on the 22nd of June, and was landed on the 26th June. We have it that on the 26th June all the Customs House requirements, but two, were complied with. Those two requirements were the examination of the bags and the stamping of them by the official in order to pass them through and thus enable the plaintiffs to take delivery of them. On the morning of the 26th June, we have it, two bags were taken into the examination shed to be examined by the proper Customs House officer, and they were duly examined and passed. Therefore, on the morning of the 27th June it was possible for the plaintiffs to have taken delivery. Then we have it that on the Saturday morning the purchasers of the goods and the representatives of the plaintiffs were present, ready to take delivery of the goods. We have it, also, the reason why they were not taken delivery of that day. Saturday was a cloudy day; it was cloudy and showery, and Mr. Metz, who was employed by the plaintiffs, to superintend the delivery of their goods at the hatoba, was afraid of distributing the bags into the piles of five that the Customs regulations required, lest rain might come on and the goods be so damaged. That statement has been unquestioned. Against it there was an attempt to show that consignees frequently allow their goods to remain a long time on the hatoba, and the reason given for this was that they had difficulties of some description with their customers that they had first to settle. I submit that such a reason can not be applied to this case. Both the purchaser and the buyer were present on the Saturday, ready and willing to take delivery. Both of them were called in Court to give evidence, but no questions were put to them by the other side in cross-examination upon this particular point. No questions were put to Mr. Metz, when the opportunity was presented. I take it then, it is established that no unreasonable delay occurred in not taking delivery of the goods before we did, on that the damage was sustained during the subsequent removal. Mr. Helm, who was called by the other side, said that he was willing to give the use of his tarpaulin free for three or four days to cover goods that were deposited on the open hatoba, showing that it is customary at this port to allow goods to remain on the hatoba for that length of time before taking delivery. We have it also, that it takes three or four days to clear goods at the Customs. I shall therefore ask your Honour to find that from the evidence there was no unreasonable delay on the part of the plaintiffs in taking delivery of these goods: that it was quite reasonable for them not to remove the nitrate of soda on the Saturday. That they were ready to do so is proved by the presence on the wharf that day of all the parties concerned, the agents of the consignees and the agent of the buyer. About that there is no question. But if Your Honour should decide the issue in the affirmative and say that there was delay on the part of the plaintiffs to take delivery of the goods, then we come to the question, does such delay, assuming for the moment that there was delay, excuse neglect, if any, on the part of the defendant? This is a point of law, and to assist your Honour in deciding it, I will refer you to

the case of *Mitchell and Others v. the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co.*, and particularly the decision therein of Mr. Justice Blackburn. I cite it for the purpose of solving the question whether delay in the owner can excuse the defendant as carrier or warehouseman for any neglect of care on his part. This case was very similar to the present. The goods were flax or hemp, conveyed by the railway company to a station where there were no warehouses. At the time of their arrival the weather was fair, and the flax was stowed in the open, but no planks, or skids, were laid on the ground to raise the goods and thus prevent damp from reaching the flax. Some delay occurred in the delivery of the goods, and when they were finally removed it was found that the flax was completely spoiled. Action was brought to recover the damage, and it was held that the defendant company were bound to take reasonable care, and they had not done so, having neglected to use skids. On the authority of this case, which Counsel quoted extensively, he asked the Court to find that any delay on the part of the plaintiffs did not excuse neglect, if any, on the part of the defendant. My contention is, continued Mr. Lowder, that if the nitrate of soda had been safely and securely deposited in the first place, then defendant would have performed all he had undertaken; and he would be liable only for subsequent negligence. Now we come to the 7th issue—was the rain which damaged the goods of such severity that the defendant is excused for the damage sustained? For guidance on the point I refer your Honour to the *Great Western Railway Co. of Canada against Black*, wherein "bad weather" is discussed and defined. After quoting the case, Counsel contended that it showed that in the present suit, that defendant was under obligation, as a reasonable man, to exercise such precaution as he would take were the goods his own goods, to prevent them from being damaged. It was the defendant's duty to take all reasonable care that no damage should be sustained by the nitrate of soda, and the rain of the Sunday night was not sufficiently severe to excuse him from taking those precautions. This disposed of all the issues that lay upon the defendant. Turning to the 1st issue—Did the defendant so negligently and carelessly deposit and bestow the nitrate of soda on the Customs' jetty?—Mr. Lowder said—Now the key note of the defence on this point was addressed to your Honour yesterday by my learned friend, Mr. Scidmore, when he said that defendants' liability ceased on landing the nitrate of soda on the hatoba in the customary manner—if he did that his liability ceased. I say that even if it can be shown that the customary manner of this port is a neglectful manner, the defendant cannot get rid of his liability. Was it defendant's duty to use dunnage as well as tarpaulin to protect the plaintiffs' goods from rain? I shall answer: Would a reasonable man take such a precaution in respect of his own goods? If so, it is no excuse to say that the negligence complained of is customary. Customary negligence cannot off-set an obligation which the law implies. The evidence on the point of the use of dunnage in landing nitrate of soda is very contradictory. We have had the defendant asserting at one time that it was never his habit to make use of dunnage. Then we called a servant of the plaintiffs, Yoshida, who had formerly been in the service of the defendant for many years. He said that it had been his custom for many years to make use of dunnage when landing such cargo. We called other servant of a purchaser of nitrate of soda, and he deposed that it had always been customary for the consignees to furnish skids or planks. The defendant when on the stand, yesterday, flatly contradicted these statements. I asked him if it might not have been possible for his employé, Yoshida, to have used skids without his knowledge, and he admitted, quite rightly and properly, that it might have been possible for him to have used these skids, but it would be without his, the defendant's, knowledge. I think, then, that the statement is not to be disbelieved nor should the evidence of the other Japanese be disbelieved when they say that skids have always been used. One witness called by the defendant, Hamaguchi said that the defendant, Capt. Weston, had no skids, but when I cross-examined him he acknowledged that he did not understand what was meant by skids, therefore his statement that Capt. Weston had no skids carries no weight. Yoshida declared that the skids were kept in the defendant's godown at the Customs hatoba, when there was room; if there was no room they were kept outside somewhere, when not in use. Then Mr. Helm was placed upon the stand and his evidence was that the custom in Yokohama is for consignees to supply the dunnage themselves. He said that the reason landing agents did not supply the dunnage was that it was too expensive and the consignees objected to paying charges for it,

I think it quite pertinent, and will remark, that sometime or other there must have been some question of these dunnage charges between the landing agents and their customers, and the consignees came to the conclusion that the charge for dunnage was too heavy and they preferred to supply their own. But whether dunnage is furnished by the landing agent, on whether it is supplied by the owners of goods makes no difference whatever. The only point is whether dunnage ought to be used, and it makes no difference one way or another whether it is supplied either by the landing agents or the consignees. The evidence of the plaintiffs is that their cargo—of this description—was always placed on skids, and Helm said that he always supposed that the dunnage was supplied by the consignees. Weston's knowledge was to the contrary. He is a very busy man, having no doubt, on occasion, several ships at work at the same time, and he did not even see this cargo until some days after it was landed. His employees are, however, more careful than himself and they thought it their duty to supply skids. The evidence of Mr. Helm goes to prove that it was a reasonable thing for dunnage to be used.

His Honour—Did he not say that he had never had the question of dunnage raised; that charges for it had not been objected to, but that it was against landing charges that objection was sometimes raised?

Mr. Lowder—In his first answer he said that consignees did not care to pay for dunnage.

His Honour—Was not that drawn out by you in a subsequent question?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, your Honour is quite right, it came out in the cross-examination. The point I wish to make is whether it is reasonable to expect dunnage to be used.

His Honour—That I understand.

Mr. Lowder—I understand the defence to be that it is not the custom of this port to use dunnage. It has been brought forth in evidence that it was used by Helm; and I shall ask your Honour to draw the conclusion from the evidence of Yoshida and the purchaser of the nitrate of soda—and which was borne out to a certain extent by the admission of defendant himself—that it is customary here to use skids when landing nitrate of soda. Now if you find that skids are made use of when landing nitrate of soda, you have to arrive at the conclusion that the defendant did negligently and carelessly deposit and bestow the nitrate of soda on the Custom jetty. And I can't help thinking and remarking that had Yoshida not left the service of the defendant this case would never have occurred. After Yoshida left, the man who filled his place was sufficiently *au fait* with the manner of landing nitrate of soda, and the dunnage was placed under the bags. Apart from the question of evidence altogether, was it not negligent, was it not careless, on the part of a landing agent to deposit this cargo on the ground of the jetty without skids? The point we have now reached is the one I referred to in my opening: what is a landing? Your Honour will recollect that the question is answered in *Walker and Jackson*—a case arising out of a ferry accident—[case quoted]. Was it sufficient, continued Counsel, to place the nitrate of soda on the bare ground having undertaken to protect it from rain by placing a tarpaulin over it; was it not equally his duty to place skids underneath? In the case of the *flax*, quoted above, it was found to have been the duty of the defendants to place planks beneath it to raise it from the ground. The case of the *Great Northern Railway v. Swaffield*, was next cited to show that it was defendant's duty to place the goods in a place of security; and also that it was the bounden duty of defendant to take due care of the goods after he had landed them in a place of security. This, I would point out, was admitted by the fourth paragraph of defendant's answer to my petition. I will therefore ask your Honour to say whether he did so safely and securely land the goods. That he did not is shown by his not placing skids under the bags to protect them from the rain. Then I think it was argued by Mr. Scidmore that only reasonable care was required of defendant; that he cannot be held liable except for gross negligence, and he referred your Honour to *Coggs v. Bernard* and the notes thereon. Let me refer your Honour to the same case. It was an action decided nearly 200 years ago and is the leading authorities on bailments, and is remarkable for the finding delivered by Lord Chief Justice Holt. Defendant, it is contended, was not paid for protecting the nitrate of soda, but I say that he undertook to land and bestow and protect the goods for a reward to be paid him. Now I will read the note on *Coggs v. Bernard*:—It is laid down in that case that "If a man undertakes to carry goods safely and securely, he is responsible

for any damage they may sustain through his neglect, though he was not a common carrier, and was to have nothing for the carriage." Defendant's undertaking in this case was for a reasonable consideration. It is evident that defendant handled the goods as a person skilled in such undertakings; therefore what may be negligence on the part of others in such a case, in his case is gross negligence. Counsel quoted *Wilson v. Brett* to sustain his argument, and then contended that even if the defendant in this case was only a gratuitous bailee he has been guilty of gross negligence in not taking ordinary precautions to prevent the goods from being damaged by rain. It is pertinent to ask here why, if he considered it his duty to protect the goods by covering them with a tarpaulin, why was it not equally his duty to put skids under them? If it was his duty in the one instance, it was surely his duty in the other. To put my case in short, I ask you to find that the defendant has failed in the duty that he owed to the plaintiffs as their agent; that he is guilty of carelessness and negligence; and that he is liable for the damages that the plaintiffs have sustained. His Honour reserved judgment.

LADIES' LAWN TENNIS CLUB.

AUTUMN 1896 HANDICAP. Mixed Doubles.

Class.		
—11	Miss Rice and Mr. Wilson	—15.5
—9	Mrs. Gillett and Mr. Campbell ..	—15.3
—3	Miss Wheeler and Dr. Hutton ..	— $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
—2	Mrs. Walter and Mr. Eddison ..	— $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
+3	Miss L. Hall and Mr. Murray ..	+ $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
+3	Miss Poole and Mr. Wileman ..	+ $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
+6	Mrs. Carew and Mr. Pernet	+15
+9	Mrs. Mudie and Prince Lobanow ..	+15.3
+9	Miss Thomas and Mr. Fraser	+15.3
+9	Miss Eldridge and Mr. Hall	+15.3
+12	Miss K. Hall and Mr. Owen	+30
	Mrs. Mudie and Prince Lobanow	bye ...
	Miss Wheeler and Dr. Hutton	bye ...
	Mrs. Carew and Mons. Pernet	bye ...
	Miss Thomas and Mr. Fraser	bye ...
	Miss Eldridge and Mr. Hall	bye ...
	Miss L. Hall Mr. and Murray	bye ...
	Miss Poole and Mr. Wileman	bye ...
	Miss Rice and Mr. Wilson	bye ...
	Mrs. Walter and Mr. Eddison	bye ...
	Mrs. Gillett and Mr. Campbell	bye ...

Best of 3 sets win. Advantage sets only in the final.

Players meet at the difference of their respective odds. A game of 4 points must be played one or other in a tie.

LADIES' SINGLES.

Class.		
—12	Mrs. Gillett	—30
—8	Miss Rice	—15.2
—8	Miss Wheeler	—15.2
+4	Mrs. Carew	+ $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
+12	Miss Thomas	+30
	Mrs. Carew	bye ...
	Miss Wheeler	bye ...
	Miss Rice	bye ...
	Miss Thomas	bye ...
	Mrs. Gillett	bye ...

Best of 3 sets. Advantage sets only in the final. Usual conditions.

AUTUMN 1896 HANDICAP. Honorary Members' Singles.

Class.		
—12	Mr. Fleet	—30
—10	Mr. Page	—15.4
—10	Mr. Sutter	—15.4
—8	Mr. Bent	—15.2
—3	Mr. Wileman	— $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
0	Mr. James	Scratch.
0	Mr. Wilson	Scratch.
+3	Mr. Stedman	+ $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
+4	Mr. Campbell	+ $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15
+6	Mr. Eddison	+15

	1st ties.	and ties.	3rd ties.
Mr. Stedman	bye	.....	.....
Mr. Fleet	bye	.....	.....
Mr. Eddison	bye	.....	.....
Mr. Bent	bye	.....	.....
Mr. James .....	.....	.....	.....
Mr. Campbell .....	.....	.....	.....
Mr. Wileman .....	.....	.....	.....
Mr. Page	bye	.....	.....
Mr. Sutter	bye	.....	.....
Mr. Wilson	bye	.....	.....

Best of 5 sets to win. Players to meet at differences of their respective odds, but in no case must less than the full game of 4 points be played one or other in a tie. Advantage sets to be played throughout.

Handicappers { G. C. MURRAY.
W. SUTTER.

The ties are to be played off or before the following dates:—

1st ties Wednesday 14th	} Ladies' Singles.
2nd ties Wednesday 21st	
1st ties Wednesday 14th	} Gentleman's Singles and Mixed Doubles.
2nd ties Saturday 24th	
3rd ties Saturday 31st	

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

By JOHN PLUMMER M.J.S.

Sydney, August 29th.

The addition of the fine steamship *Australian* to the fleet of the Eastern and Australian Steamship Company has naturally occasioned some little comment on the apparent inconsistency of the Australian colonies adopting a policy of exclusion towards the Japanese, and at the same time endeavouring to extend their trade in the Japanese market. On the arrival of the vessel at Port Adelaide there was the customary banquet, and during the subsequent proceedings, Mr. Kingston, the South Australian Premier, made a speech, in the course of which he wished success and prosperity to the venture, in its connection with the development of the trade and resources of Northern Australia. Alluding to the presence and speeches of the Premier and his Ministerial colleagues on the occasion, an Adelaide paper says—"It is true that they were appropriately feted as parties to a South Australian contract with the E. & A. Company for the conveyance of the Northern Territory mails, but if steamships like the *Australian* had to depend upon that source of income alone profits with them would be as rare as consistency is with many politicians. The Eastern trade is by far the greatest consideration with the Company, and for the members of the Kingston Ministry to join in wishing prosperity to that traffic seems as strange as would be the spectacle of a grave-digger assisting in celebrating a triumph of cremation. It was Mr. Kingston who recently led the other Australian Premiers in contemptuously casting aside the Anglo-Japanese Treaty which might have represented a great advantage to Australian producers of raw material, and consequently to the E. & A. Company. If the virtual rejection of that agreement has any direct effect at all it will be in the way of greatly restricting trade with the East, and only political diplomats could expertly perform at one and the same time in the conflicting capacities of encouragers and discouragers of the one and the same thing. Then, so far as the trade with the Northern Territory is concerned, the possibilities of fast extending business for the E. & A. Company from that quarter have been for years and are still being greatly restricted by the policy of Mr. Kingston and his colleagues in connection with the coloured labour question. The present position of that matter surely tends to discount the hopeful auguries which the Treasurer drew from the prevalent speculative revival of interest in our Northern white elephant, and it is not alone in that respect. The resources of the Northern Territory have consistently been advocated for many years in the *Register*, and we should be among the first to express gratification if Mr. Holder's pleasant hopefulness should prove to be justified. We cannot forget, however, that already the Territory has made at least two futile efforts to thrive upon speculation, and has not succeeded. Regarding the future, colonists in our distant dependency may hope for the best, but they certainly should not be unduly elated now lest they afterwards be proportionately depressed. In any case there is reason to question whether the commerce of the southern part of the colony would benefit so greatly as is expected by an extension of trade in the Northern Territory. Certainly the probability is that Sydney, being much nearer to Port Darwin than Adelaide is, would reap the greater advantage.

age. It is probable also that the increase in facilities of communication between Australia and the East will tend to encourage direct shipments between the Territory and the old world. In this relation it must be remembered that Hongkong, Shanghai, and the principal Japanese ports are not enhancing their business by the mere process of supplying new demands. They are to some extent beginning to shift the centre of manufacture from the west to the east. It is not unlikely that some lines of goods which have hitherto been imported from England to the colonies may soon be brought hither from the Orient, and similarly it is probable that a quantity of wool and other raw material which has been sent hence to Great Britain and America may be conveyed through the Malay Archipelago to the East. These prospects appear from a broad standpoint to be gratifying indications, viewed in the light of the new enterprise of the E. & A. Company, and it is satisfactory to reflect that the rise of that substantial shipping corporation was coincident with the opening up and modernizing of trade to China and Japan. To wish success to such a Company is simply to be speak good fortune for many industries in the colonies. In considering, however, the relative positions of Eastern trading vessels owned in Great Britain and those belonging to Japanese proprietors rather unpleasant and complicating circumstances must be taken into account. Not only are the ships under the European flag weighted in other special ways, but they have now to compete against such craft as those belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the great "P. and O. Company of the East." These vessels are heavily subsidized by the Mikado's Government, and enjoy the further advantage of a public sentiment which recently manifested itself in Kobe and Yokohama in an influential expression of the opinion that raw material imported from other countries for Japanese manufacturers should be conveyed in Japanese boats only. Is there not a double significance to Australian politicians in such a suggestive hint as this? The addition of the *Australian* to the E. and A. company's fleet is generally regarded as necessitated by the intended extension of the operations of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to Australia. It is very doubtful whether the Australian eastern trade can support three lines of steamers, and there exists a widely spread impression that the Japanese Company is destined to acquire the lion's share of the traffic.

The movements of Li Hung-chang in Europe have been closely followed by the Australian papers, and naturally so for the foreign policy of China and the nature of the relation between China and Japan must always have a direct bearing on Australian interests. The importance of Li Hung-chang's mission has been unreservedly recognised from the first, although its dual character remains only partially revealed. The *Adelaide Advertiser* says:—"The full meaning of Li Hung-chang's visit to Europe probably lies a good way beneath the surface. The typical Celestial has a fashion of concealing his real purposes, and is astute enough to disarm suspicion by assuming an air of frank simplicity. China owed a debt of gratitude to Russia, and that was enough, to account for her participation by proxy in a ceremony of national importance. At the same time the necessity of standing well with other nations was perceived, and this has apparently been a guiding principle. All Germany was complimented when Li Hung-chang obtained an interview with Prince Bismarck, expressed his high appreciation of the services rendered by that veteran statesman, and dexterously intimated that the Chinese army of the future would be reorganised on the German model, and with the help of Prussian officers. Unfortunately for itself France does not possess an empire-builder to whom, or through whom, a similar honour could be shown, but to make things even large orders for French rifles were placed, and a corresponding sense of satisfaction was thereby produced. British susceptibilities were of course taken into account, and not by ordering warships, but in other ways a distinct desire was exhibited to create a favourable impression. One of the most dramatic incidents of the tour indeed was the pilgrimage made by the distinguished foreigner and his suite to the Gordon statue in Trafalgar-square, and the Gordon memorial in St. Paul's. Though in itself the placing of garlands was a trivial act, it was one of those things that obtain immediate notoriety and go straight to the nation's heart. 'Chinese Gordon' was a man of whom all Englishmen are proud and whose memory is universally revered. Thirty-three years ago he rescued China from the peril of disruption and saved the Imperial dynasty. His comrade-in-arms during the critical time has lived to be the first Chinaman of the age, and in the heart of London to pay homage to his name.

Tactful consideration having thus been displayed in Russia, Germany France, and England, one wonders what form it will take in America whither Li Hung-chang wends his way."

The Melbourne *Argus* doubts whether the great reforms which Li Hung-chang expresses his desire to see accomplished are really possible. After summarizing these, one of the principal being the abolition of the literary class, represented by the Board of Censors, the *Argus* says:—"If Li Hung-chang can carry out all or even some of them he will earn a place among the greatest of Asiatic statesmen. At the same time it must be confessed that the omens are not favourable, and that the history of China affords little hope that such far-reaching changes can be carried out without external compulsion." This seems, indeed, to be the general opinion in Australia. If Li Hung-chang were a younger man, the position would be different; but if he were to disappear from the scene, where is his successor to be found? The *Sydney Daily Telegraph* says:—"The first need of China at the present time is to secure larger revenues, as the basis for further borrowings, and the commercial treaties with European Powers, especially England, stand in the way. Under those treaties she is bound to low import duties; and although she has added to their yield by the imposition of the *likin* or internal transport tax, she has now appealed to the Powers to sanction her doubling the import duties as essential in the task imposed upon her adequately securing her protection and development. Lord Salisbury has expressed himself favourable to the claims of China in these particulars, but, at the same time, has pointed out the serious hindrance to internal trade which the imposition of the *likin* has involved. But the Chinese envoy has not shown any desire to meet the wishes of the Shanghai and Hongkong Chambers of Commerce in that particular, and it remains to be seen whether the Powers will, under these circumstances, be prepared to abate their treaty rights. Possibly they may do so, as it will be to their advantage to see China more powerful than she is at present. But to England and India, as the principal countries which contribute to her imports, there can be no doubt that the material increase of her customs duties is an important consideration. To Australia, this appeal is of comparatively small moment. We import from China, but do not export thereto. But an even more suggestive subject for consideration in regard to Li Hung-chang's visit is the evidence it affords that China is awakening to her serious shortcomings, and it remains to be seen whether she will have the energy to remedy those manifold defects. It was this energy and readiness to learn which gave to Japan her easy victory in the late war."

Alluding to the proposed commercial and financial policy of China, above commented upon, the *Sydney Morning Herald* remarks that it has created a very pretty situation, "one, perhaps, the peculiar points of which did not strike Lord Salisbury too clearly when he said that the Chinese demands merited favourable consideration. For, in the first place, a doubled tariff will mean a heavy protective bonus for the industries of China, and this in itself is a disquieting consideration for British manufacturing interests. Britain has spent much time and some blood and treasure for the purpose of opening markets for her trade in the Far East, but, as our commercial columns show, quoted from the annual report of the China Association (Shanghai branch), the conditions of trade are changing to such an extent that the next revision of tariff in China will certainly tend to the protection of native industries newly-born, and the exclusion of foreign competitive productions. Of course, until those native industries are built up the Chinese Government will have the benefit of the doubled import tariff, which suggests the second point which may have escaped Lord Salisbury's consideration. This concerns the use China is to make of the first-fruits of her reformed tariff, which we learn are to be spent on warships and railways. Is it altogether certain that Chinese development on these lines is opportune just now for Western civilisation? For British trade it certainly is not, for what Lord Elgin spoke of nearly 40 years ago as the 'most laboriously manufacturing population of any on earth' is now acquiring the methods of scientific manufacture, and this will sooner or later close the import market to Europeans. Great Britain can hardly coerce China on this ground, but the influence of Russia in Chinese councils of late is a growing menace to England's ascendancy in the Far East. There is already talk in well-informed circles of an Anglo-Japanese alliance to defeat such a combination, and it requires no very vivid imagination to find in the developments of coming years the fulfilment of a possible prediction which would date back the decay of Britannic influence

in that part of the world to the act which relaxed our hold on Chinese revenues, and permitted the results to be spent on developments and armaments destined to raise China to the rank of a first-rate Power."

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

The following letter appears in recent editorial correspondence of the *Hongkong Daily Press*:-

Sir,—The writing of some of your correspondents in Formosa concerning the doings of the Japanese in the island has astonished me not a little, but none so much as that of your Tainanfoo correspondent. The reason has been that the deeds stated to have been done by the Japanese are so different from what I should have expected of the people, after a long experience of their nature gained from living amongst them. Still, I had no means of ascertaining the truth or the want of truth of your correspondent's statements till lately. Since, however, I have been in Formosa, have travelled several hundred miles through the country, a great part of the distance through the districts in which the affirmed "atrocities" took place, and have taken every opportunity of discovering what has been the actual truth, from what I could see and from what I could learn from both Japanese and Chinese, I have no hesitation in affirming that your correspondent's statements as to the action of the Japanese are, with a few exceptions, either exaggerations or pure fabrications. There have been no "atrocities" except inasmuch as every form of war is atrocious. Active rebels have been shot down or caught and executed without much mercy. I believe this is the custom with the people of all countries in such lamentable cases. Though in the districts in which the rebels held sway for a time towns and villages have been burned, leaving the survivors homeless, I have heard of such things in cases of war in European countries and in America. That "women and children were put to the sword" is simply untrue, though it seems to be the case, as is inevitable in war of any kind, more especially in the suppression of a rebellion, that some who were innocent suffered with the guilty and that the property of many who were not in any sense rebels was destroyed. The Japanese Government is now offering to compensate all who have lost in this manner.

Provocation for the rebellion there was some undoubtedly, but it amounted to nothing more than the overbearing manner of soldiers and coolies and the petty tyranny of petty officials, concerning whom I am so far in accord with your correspondent that I wish the higher officials were made responsible.

Besides the writing of the correspondent above referred to and that of various others, I have read the letters of Mr. Davidson, who is mentioned in your issue of August 31st, and I must say that comparing the writings of all, and taking into consideration what I have seen and been able to ascertain at first hand, Mr. Davidson's writing comes far nearer the truth than that of other correspondents. It may be the case that Mr. Davidson is over prone to believe the statements made to him by Japanese officials, but it seems to me that he has shown a fine discrimination in sifting what is false from what is true.

But what is to be said of the other side? "There are European eye-witnesses" writes your Tainanfoo correspondent. (The italics are mine. The things witnessed, are supposed to be the "atrocities" that your correspondent describes.) One cannot help asking concerning these "Europeans":—where are they and who are they? There were two or three Europeans in the district of the rebellion many weeks ago, who may have seen a little of the fighting, but they long since left it. The plain fact is that the "atrocities" your correspondent reports come to him only from Chinese sources. Any people in the position in which the Chinese in Formosa now find themselves would be unlikely to tell the pure unvarnished truth, and the Chinese have never, so far as I know, had a particularly high reputation for the article in question. Rather, they have had the reverse.

The real fact seems to be that the foreign community of which your correspondent is one chafes—not unnaturally—at finding its privileges curtailed on account of the transference of Formosa from Chinese to Japanese rule, enjoys hearing news to the discredit of the latter people, and that there are easy means for getting such news manufactured to meet the demand, a Chinese being, as a rule, only too ready to furnish the kind of tales that he finds his listeners relish. Such expressions as "the Japanese . . ." are enough, without comment, to show the spirit in which your correspondent writes, and to throw discredit on anything

that he writes, in the mind of any fair-minded reader, of whatever nationality.

Your correspondent states that the Japanese have not contradicted reports of the "atrocities." If he means that they have not actually contradicted what he was written, I cannot say him nay, because I do not know that any Japanese correspondent has noticed his effusions. On the other hand, the Japanese newspapers print daily, or nearly so, matter from their own correspondents in Formosa which give a very different description of affairs from that of your Tainanfoo correspondent. I travelled for about a hundred miles with one of these correspondents and found him a particularly bright and intelligent man, who had had a very thorough education in England.

I am driven to suppose that your correspondent expects official contradiction of what appears in your columns from him concerning affairs in Formosa! but you I am sure are aware that it is not the custom of Japanese officials to deny irresponsible reports that appear in foreign papers. Imagine, indeed, in any country, an official denial being given to such stuff as comes from your Tainanfoo correspondent!

This whole affair of the rebellion and its suppression is sad enough at the best, and it really seems to me a pity that you should lend your columns to make it appear more than it is by publishing reports so horribly exaggerated and distorted as those of your Tainanfoo correspondent.—I remain, sir, yours, &c., W. K. BURTON.

Tai-hoku, Tai-wan, 5th September, 1896.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Many people, says the *Daily Press* of the 30th ult., are now of opinion that the rebellion in the Philippines is slowly dying, but, perhaps, dying to be born again at a more favourable opportunity. From the latest advices we learn that the Spaniards are watchful and the insurgents quiescent. The prompt and severe punishment meted out to the leaders in the rebellion seems to have dealt a death-blow to the courage and organisation of the natives, and it is thought that the whole movement will in a short time dissolve. Three thousand Spanish troops were expected to arrive in Manila last Monday, and it is almost certain that if the natives did not make a bold bid for supremacy before that date and also succeed in winning over the native soldiers they would, as they are meagrely armed and wretchedly organised, fall hopelessly in a pitched battle before the trained Spanish soldiers. In Manila, business is still at a standstill, most of the godowns being completely full of unwanted merchandise. The town is surrounded by a strong guard of sentinels, and in the old town of Manila the draw-bridges are hauled up throughout the night. The approaches to the suburbs are also carefully watched by soldiers, and residents, Britishers, Americans, and Spaniards, sleep with loaded revolvers under their pillows. The volunteers also act as sentries and every precaution possible is taken against a sudden attack. Some thousands of insurgents are encamped on the hills about eight to ten miles away from Manila, but they do not seem inclined to make an attack on the town.

Cavite still continues to be the stronghold of the insurgents, and it is said that twelve hundred of them are masters of the fort near the town and that they have enough provisions to last them for two years. Some days ago several guns, of rather an ancient and small pattern, were despatched from Manila on lighters to Cavite, together with a number of troops to assist in the bombardment of this fort, but as yet the Spaniards have not ventured into the interior to wage war with the rebels.

Most awful stories are circulated of the shocking atrocities committed on both sides. The woman who confessed the plot to the priest is now under the protection of the Government, while the priest who divulged the secret was amongst those caught in the convent at Inus, and he was flayed to death and then roasted. Arrests of rich natives continue to be made and no one knows what their fate will be. Pedro Roxas, or "Captain Lewis" as he was commonly called, is still in gaol. A curious story is told concerning his connection with the revolutionary movement. When the rebellion first broke out he offered to transport Spanish troops to Cavite in one of his boats, but the offer was refused. It is thought that the Spanish Government knew of the active part he was secretly taking to stir up the rebellion and, perhaps, not without good cause, concluded that he had an object in getting the troops away from the capital. "Captain Lewis" formerly let small boats out for hire and after a time he was able to have several cargo boats built for his own trading purposes. He is said to be now worth \$2,000,000.

There is no doubt that there is a good deal of truth in the rumour that the Philippines endeavoured to get the assistance of the Japanese as one of the active participants in the attempt, a well known doctor, has been arrested and thrown into prison. There is also a firm belief that certain people in Hongkong have been assisting in organising the rebellion, and it is a well known fact that about a month ago one of the leading and richest of the insurgents came here from Manila to confer with some friends in the colony about the details of the plot.

The Manila papers to hand continue to record numerous arrests and dismissals from office of convicted or suspected individuals. The names of thirty-eight schoolmasters of various parishes in the province of Cavite are given, whose whereabouts are unknown, and who, being suspected of having joined the rebels, are suspended from office. In Cavite the position appears to remain as last reported, the rebels being in possession of the province with the exception of the town and arsenal.

In the *Comercio* of the 22nd September we find references which seem to indicate that on the previous day the rebels had appeared a Malabon and been driven off by the Government forces, but the paper of the 21st, which would contain the account of the affair, has not come to hand. In a subsequent issue it is recorded that there had been another alarm in the same district, but on investigation it was found to have arisen from nothing more serious than a noisy quarrel between a buyer and a seller in the market. That such a trifling affair should give rise to uneasiness is indicative of the state of panic that prevails.

Some persons connected with the insurrectionary movement have made their submission to the government and claimed the clemency offered to those who voluntarily surrender.

From the province of Batangas it was reported that on the 21st September there had been a sedition rising in the parish of Tuy, in which it was estimated that a thousand persons took part. The seventy men of the Government forces stationed there defended themselves heroically and in the evening were reinforced with two hundred soldiers, and the next day further large reinforcements arrived, bringing the number up to twelve hundred, when the rebels were dispersed with great loss. It was stated that the force in the provincial capital was sufficient for all contingencies. The convent was fortified and twenty-three priests from the surrounding parishes had taken refuge there. A volunteer force had been formed.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, October 3.

The autumn political campaign has been opened with speeches by Mr. Asquith and Mr. Bryce, both urging the deposition of the Sultan, which there was reason to believe would prove a beneficial action to Great Britain and was possible without imperilling the peace of Europe.

London, October 6.

His Majesty the Czar arrived in Paris to-day where upwards of a million visitors had assembled. The weather was favourable and everything passed off without a hitch, extraordinary enthusiasm being shown. His Majesty expressed gratification with his reception. President Faure, in toasting the Czar, referred to the union of the powerful Empire and the Republic as having a good effect for the general peace of Europe and as a union that will continue to extend good influence. In his reply, the Czar said that he was deeply touched by the welcome accorded him in Paris, and the tie between France and Russia will continue to have good influence.

The French press in welcoming the visit of his Majesty as a guarantee of peace, hinted that Alsace-Lorraine was not forgotten.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, Oct. 4.

A strong and prolonged earthquake occurred at this port this morning at half-past three.

Hakodate, Oct. 5.

The following men-of-war have arrived here:—*Grafton*, *Undaunted*, *Pamiat Asova*, *Admiral Nakhimoff*, *Zabiaka*, and *Dimitri Donskoi*.

Hakodate, Oct. 9.

A fire broke out here last night, and 27 houses were burned down before the flames were ex-

tinguished. There were no casualties, and good assistance was rendered by parties promptly landed from Her Majesty's ships *Grafton*, *Undaunted*, and *Eolus*.

Hakodate, Oct. 10.

The *Pamiat Asova* and the *Zabiaka* left this port on the 8th, and the *Admiral Nakhimoff* and *Dimitri Donskoi* took their departure this morning.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, October 2.

France and Italy have concluded a settlement of their differences relating to Tunis. This agreement removes a grave cause of discord between the two countries.

A severe hurricane has swept along the Atlantic coast of America, causing immense damage, especially in the states of Georgia and Florida. Upwards of one hundred persons are reported to have been killed.

London, October 3.

Their Imperial Majesties the Czar and Czarina have left Balmoral for France. Great preparations have been made in Paris to give them a splendid reception.

Said Khalid, who escaped to the German Consulate after the bombardment of the Sultan's Palace, has been conveyed on board a German warship at Zanzibar. The British Consul has protested against the action of the German officials.

A band of insurgents in Macedonia have annihilated a Turkish detachment of fifty men.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.17
" " " New York ... 4.85½
(Tel. trans.)

London, October 6.

Their Majesties the Czar and Czarina have arrived at Cherbourg where they were welcomed by President Faure and Ministers of State.

The English press, discussing the Czar's visit to England, emphasizes the fact that whatever may be the political effects, his Majesty has learned that the pro-Armenian movement in Great Britain is genuine and is wholly foreign to any political object.

London, Oct. 7.

The Spanish troops have suffered three sharp reverses in Cuba.

It is announced that Lord Rosebery will resign the leadership of the Liberal Party.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.15½
" " " New York 4.85½
(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM "LE COURIER D'HAIPHONG.")

Paris, September 14.

The programme of the fêtes that will be given in honour of the Czar and Czarina is now published. Their Imperial Highnesses will arrive at Cherbourg on the 5th October, and will remain three days in Paris.

M. Faure will take part in army manoeuvres which are to take place near Angoulême. In a toast, M. Faure attributed to the concord which existed throughout France since the foundation of the Republic and to the creation of a powerful army, the visit of the Czar of Russia, a visit which would prove to the world the union of the two great Powers (Russia and France) in the desire to maintain peace.

Paris, September 17.

The President of the Republic held a brilliant review of the troops near Angoulême.

It is rumoured that the Czarevitch is seriously ill.

(FROM "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.")

Saigon, September 25.

A Havas message dated Paris 23rd September states that there have been more engagements between the rebels and Spanish forces resulting in the rebels being twice defeated, leaving 17 killed on the field.

(FROM THE "SEMAINE COLONIALE.")

Paris, Sept. 18.

At the close of a brilliant review which terminated the Angoulême manoeuvres, M. Faure

lavished high praise on the Commanders and the men; he proposed a toast to the army, which, he said, is the heart, the soul, and the bond of the nation.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 2.

The result of the Jockey Club Stakes is as follows:—

The Prince of Wales's Persimmon 1
Lord Rosebery's Sir Visto 2
Mr. J. H. Houldsworth's Laveno 3

A boat belonging to H.M.S. *Satellite* has capsized on the Alaskan coast. The first lieutenant and six men were drowned.

[The first lieutenant of the *Satellite* was Gerald A. Heyman.—Ed.]

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Bakan, Oct. 4.

Mr. Takeshita, Secretary of Tainan Prefecture (Formosa), has passed here on his way to Formosa.

Fukui, Oct. 5.

Marquis Matsudaira will start for Tokyo to-day.

Kumamoto, Oct. 4.

The Kiushu No-San-Cha-Chiku Shogyo Dai-kai was opened to-day in this city. Nine hundred and thirty-five persons were present.

Sōul, Oct. 4.

Mr. Hara, Minister to Korea, left for Japan to-day.

Hiroshima, Oct. 5.

The Japanese man-of-war *Tsukushi* will carry out target practice at Kabutojima, for four days from to-morrow.

Morioka, Oct. 5.

The *Jiyu-to Konwakai* was held yesterday. Messrs. Hayashi Ikuzo and Nakano Torajiro, from the Tokyo Head-Office, delivered speeches. One hundred and twenty persons were present.

Hiroshima, October 6.

Baron Ozawa left for Tokyo to-day.

Nemuro, October 6.

Seven fishermen who were reported missing the other day have returned safely.

Nagano, October 6.

The Government license was issued to the Nagano Electric Light Company to-day.

Okayama, October 6.

Three strong earthquakes were felt to-day at 4 a.m.

Hiroshima, October 6.

An earthquake was felt here at 4 a.m. to-day.

Marugame, October 6.

A strong earthquake was felt here to-day at 3:35 a.m.

Tokushima, Oct. 6.

A strong earthquake was felt to-day at 3:36 a.m.

Tottori, Oct. 6.

A slight earthquake was felt here to-day at 3:40 a.m.

Matsuyama, Oct. 6.

The military manoeuvres of the 5th Army Division being fixed for the 9th inst. in the Iyo and Sanuki Provinces, the first and third battalions of the 22nd Regiment start for the rendezvous to-day.

Hiroshima, October 8.

Mr. Oku, Commandant of the Fifth Army Division, is to leave here for Tokyo to-day.

Sapporo, October 8.

Major-General Nagayama, Commandant of the Seventh Army Division, leaves here for Tokyo to-day.

Matsuyama, October 8.

An emergency meeting of the Prefectural Assembly is to be held to-day to pass votes for necessary repairs.

Kumamoto, October 8.

Mr. Sasaki, a member of the House of Representatives, returned here yesterday evening.

Nagoya, October 8.

Two members of the Prefectural Assembly are to leave for Tokyo on the 11th instant to petition for grants-in-aid, wherewith to effect necessary repairs.

Hiroshima, October 8.

Twenty-four invalids from Formosa arrived here by the *Otaru Maru*.

Sapporo, October 8.

Snow fell in this neighbourhood to-day.

Hiroshima, Oct. 9.

The Second Brigade of the Formosa Troops leave on the 13th inst. for Formosa by the *Kyoto Maru*, *Fusan Maru* and *Gaisen Maru*; and the remainder of the Seventh Brigade on the 10th instant by the *Tairen Maru* and the *Hokoku Maru*.

Bakan, Oct. 9.

Mr. Hara, Minister to Korea, arrived here this morning by the *Toyoshima Maru*.

Osaka, Oct. 9.

Mr. Otani, Head-Councillor of War of the Fourth Army Division has arrived here. Mr. Haraguchi, President of the Toyama Gakko, is leaving here to take up his new appointment.

Sapporo, October 9.

Snow fell in this neighbourhood on the 8th instant.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 250.

WHITE.

1—Kt to K B 6

2—Q to K 4, mate

2—Q to Kt 5, mate

2—B to Q 6, mate

2—Q to Kt 8, mate.

BLACK.

1—K takes Kt

1—Q takes Kt

1—Kt takes Kt

1—Q to B 4

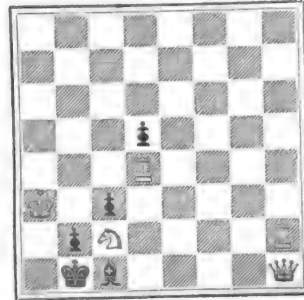
Correct answers from J.D., W.D.C., W.H.S., W.d.H., Shogi, and Omega.

W.d.H.—No. 250.—"Dormitator Homerus." No. 229 is null and void.

PROBLEM No. 252.

By S. LOYD.

BLACK.

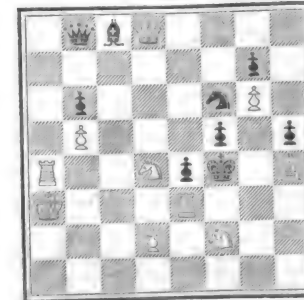


White to play and mate in two moves.

PROBLEM No. 253.

By A. ARNELL, Stockholm.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in two moves.

TOKIO CHESS CLUB.

The Annual Meeting was held on Friday, 2nd inst. Sad to relate, there is a reduction in the membership, and small prospect of good recruits.

The officers for the present season are as under: President—Hon. Edwin Dunn. Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. W. B. Mason. Committee—Messrs. Cox, Jaudon, and White.

NEW ZEALAND.

A cheery letter reaches us from Mr. O. Balk who is flourishing in the southern hemisphere. We reprint one of his games "to keep his memory green."

GAME No. 581.

(From the *Otago Witness*, of July 30th, 1896.)

Played in the Otago Chess Club Championship Tourney.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE.

McDonald.

1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4
5—P to Q B 3
6—P to Q 4
7—P takes P
8—B to Q 2 (a)
9—Q Kt takes B
10—Castles
11—Q to B 2
12—P to K R 3
13—P to Q R 3
14—B to Q 3 (b)
15—Kt takes P
16—Kt to Kt 3 (d)
17—K takes B
18—Q to K 2 (e)
19—Q to K 4
20—Kt takes Kt
21—R to K R sq.
22—K to B sq.
23—K takes R
24—K to K sq.
25—K to K 2

BLACK.

Balk.

1—P to K 4
2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4
4—B takes P
5—B to B 4
6—P takes P
7—B to Kt 5 ch.
8—B takes B
9—P to Q 3
10—Kt to R 3
11—Castles
12—K to R sq.
13—P to K B 4
14—P takes P
15—B takes K R P (c)
16—B takes Kt P (!)
17—R takes Kt
18—Kt takes Q P
19—K Kt to B 4
20—R takes Kt
21—Q to K Kt 4 ch.
22—R takes P ch.
23—R to K B sq. ch.
24—Kt to B 6 ch.
25—Q to Q 7 ch.

and White resigned as Black must win speedily.

NOTES.

(a) White should have played 7—Castles, but not having done so he should have proceeded 8—K to B sq.

(b) 14—P to K 5, and (if P takes P) 15—P to Q 5 with 16—Kt takes K P would have still left White some chance.

(c) The end-game is well played by Black.

(d) There seems to be nothing better.

(e) Obviously, to take the Rook would lose the Queen.

GAME No. 582.

KING'S GAMBIT EVASDED.

WHITE.

Winaver.

1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4
3—Q takes P
4—Q to K 3
5—Kt to Q B 3
6—B to Q 2
7—Castles
8—B to B 4 (a)
9—B takes B
10—Q to B 4
11—Kt to B 3
12—Kt to Kt 5
13—B to Q 3
14—P to K R 4
15—B to R 7 ch.
16—R takes Kt
17—B to K 4
18—B takes B
19—P takes P
20—P to Kt 6 and White wins.

BLACK.

Steinitz.

1—P to K 4
2—P takes P
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Kt to B 3
5—B to Kt 5
6—Castles
7—R to K sq.
8—B takes Kt
9—Kt takes P
10—Kt to K B 3 (b)
11—P to Q 3
12—B to K 3
13—P to K R 3
14—Kt to Q 4
15—K to R sq.
16—B takes R
17—P to K B 3
18—B P takes Kt
19—Kt to K 4

(a) 8—P to K B 3 is generally considered a stronger move.

(b) Kt to Kt 4 would have been better. Then 11—Kt to B 3, Kt to K 3; 12—Q to Kt 3, P to B 3; 13—Kt to R 4 and Black's game is preferable.

GUNSBURG SUMS UP RE NUREMBERG.

Lasker first, Steinitz sixth. The king is dead, long live the king! The final result of the Nuremberg Tournament was in accordance with public expectations. Lasker wears the crown of chess sovereignty for the time being. The old king will make one more effort to gain his lost kingdom, but alas! we all know how such contests end between old and young. We therefore do not look forward to the projected match between Lasker and Steinitz at Moscow to bring about a change. If Lasker is to be displaced, it will be by one of the young men who have shown in the tournament that they have advanced to the very front rank. We do not despair of Pillsbury recovering the grand form which he showed at Hastings, particularly as he succeeded in defeating the champion at Nuremberg in magnificent style. Janowski likewise defeated Lasker, and he too is one of the young men who have played exceedingly good chess in the late tournament. As far as chess talent is concerned, we think Janowski stands at the head; but for correct theoretical defence, good judgment of position, and sound views, the play

of Schlechter and Walbrodt stands out prominently. Maroczy, who achieved such a high position among the prize-winners, will mature into an exceedingly powerful player in the course of two or three years, provided he has opportunity for practice. These are the coming men who might become dangerous to the champion. Last, but not least, there is Dr. Tarrasch. We think that the doctor would play better against Lasker in a match than he did in the tournament. Considering what a powerful game Walbrodt plays, the result of the match between Tarrasch and Walbrodt, which was 7 to 0 in favour of Tarrasch, must certainly be looked upon as a wonderful performance, and leads us to the belief that Tarrasch under favourable circumstances might be a very dangerous opponent to Lasker. It will be interesting to compare the score of the two players. Lasker lost three games in the tournament; Tarrasch also lost three, but owing to a safer style of play Tarrasch drew three more games than Lasker. This result may serve as a useful illustration of the difference between tournament and match play. In this tournament Tarrasch has come out much below Lasker through having drawn three more games. But in a match where draws do not count he would have stood level with Lasker. Maroczy's score presents still more striking figures. He only lost one game out of the eighteen played. This was to Steinitz; but he drew nine. Schlechter lost two games only. Maroczy drew against Lasker. The presumption is that a player who can play eighteen games and only lose one is stronger than a player who loses three, particularly in a match where a player can adopt a safe style and produce any number of draws which do not count.

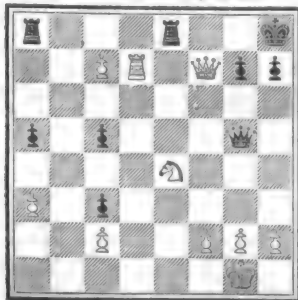
In thus speaking of the fine play of the young men of the tournament, we are only speaking in the sporting sense of some future contingency, which may be possible but not probable. In the meantime, we wish the champion prosperity and success in his future enterprises, particularly when he plays such good chess as he did at Nuremberg.

GAME No. 583.

FOUR KNIGHTS GAME.

WHITE. Maroczy.	BLACK. Pillsbury.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to B 4
5—Castles	5—Castles
6—Kt takes K P (a)	6—R to K sq.
7—Kt to K B 3	7—Kt takes P
8—P to Q 4	8—Kt takes Kt
9—P takes Kt	9—B to K 2
10—P to Q 5	10—Kt to Q Kt sq.
11—B to R B 4	11—P to Q R 3
12—B to R 4	12—B to B 3
13—P to Q 6	13—P to Q B 3
14—B to Q Kt 3	14—P to Q Kt 4
15—Q to Q 2	15—B to Kt 2
16—Kt to Kt 5	16—R to K B sq.
17—Kt to K 4	17—P to Q R 4
18—P to Q R 3	18—Kt to Q R 3
19—Q R to K sq.	19—P to Q B 4
20—B to Q 5	20—B takes B
21—Q takes B	21—P to Kt 5
22—R to K 3	22—B takes P
23—R takes B!	23—P takes R
24—B to Kt 5	24—Kt to B 2
25—Q to B 4 (b)	25—Q to K sq.
26—P takes Kt	26—Q to K 4 (c)
27—R to Q sq.	27—K R to K sq.
28—R takes P	28—K to R sq.
29—Q takes K B P	29—Q takes B (d)
30—P to B 4	30—Q to Kt 5
31—P to K R 2	31—Q takes R
32—Q takes Q and wins.	

(a) Perfectly sound. If Kt takes Kt, 7—P to Q 4 regaining the piece.
(b) White refuses to relieve Black by taking the piece at once.
(c) White threatens to sacrifice on the King's side.
(d) A fine position. White cannot play 30—Kt takes Q on account of R to K 8 mate. See diagram below:
Position after Black's 31th move.



GAME No. 584.

A BRILLIANT GAME.

The following game (with more elaborate notes than we have space for) appeared in Mr. W. H. K. Pollock's chess column in the *Baltimore Evening News* some years ago. The players' names are not given, and the game has more the appearance of a manufactured one than one actually occurring, but it is remarkably interesting.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—B to Kt 3
8—P takes P	8—P to Q 3 (a)
9—P to Q 5	9—Kt to K 4 (b)
10—Kt takes Kt	10—P takes Kt
11—B to R 3 (c)	11—B to Q 5 (d)
12—Kt to Q 2	12—B takes R
13—Q takes B	13—P to K B 3
14—P to B 4	14—P takes P
15—P to K 5	15—P to B 3 (e)
16—Kt to K 4	16—P takes Q P
17—Kt to Q 6 ch.	17—K to Q 2
18—B to Kt 5 ch.	18—K to K 3
19—P takes P	19—Kt takes P (f)
20—R to K sq. ch.	20—Kt to K 5
21—Q takes P	21—Q to Kt 3 ch.
22—K to R sq.	22—Q to R 4

And White mates in six moves as follows:—
23—R takes Kt ch. 23—P takes R
24—B to B 4 ch. 24—Q to Q 4
25—Q to K B 7 ch. 25—R to R 4
26—Q takes Q ch. 26—K to B 3
27—Kt takes K P ch. 27—K to Kt 2 or 3
28—Q to K Kt 5 mate.

(a) This is the normal position. White has now three continuations, viz., 9—Kt to B 3; 9—P to Q 5; and 9—B to Kt 5, all of which are good.
(b) This and Kt to K 3 are sometimes played, but Kt to R 4 is superior to either.
(c) An attacking move. White may also play 12—Kt to Q 2, or 12—B to Kt 3, followed by 13—K to R sq. and 13—P to B 4.
(d) Black rarely succeeds by this manoeuvre in defending the Evans Gambit. Time is all-important both in attack and defence. The present game is an excellent illustration.
(e) Weak play, allowing the White Kt to get planted at Q 6 with a result disastrous for Black.
(f) Any other move loses at once by 20—R to K sq. ch.

GAME No. 585.

A BRILLIANT SKIRMISH.

The following off-hand game, recently played at the Brisbane Chess Club, shows that our young men are capable of evolving pretty sparks, remarks the *Queenslander*:—

CENTRE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Mr. H. W. Apperly.	BLACK. Mr. A. C. Palmer (champ.).
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—Q takes P	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Q to K 3	4—P to Q Kt 3 (a)
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—B to B 4
6—Q to Kt 3 (b)	6—Q to B 3
7—Kt to Q 5	7—Q to Q 5 (c)
8—Kt takes P ch.	8—K to Q sq.
9—Kt takes R	9—Q takes K P ch.
10—B to K 3	10—Kt to Q 5 (d)
11—B to Q 3!	11—Kt takes P ch.
12—B takes Kt	12—Q takes B
13—R to B sq. (e)	13—B to Kt 5 ch.
14—K to B sq.	14—B to R 3 ch.
15—Kt to K 2	15—B takes Kt ch.
16—K to Kt sq.	16—Q to Kt 3 (f)
17—R to B 8 ch.!!	17—K to K 2
18—B to Kt 5 ch.	18—Q takes B (g)
19—Q takes Q ch.	19—Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) A subtle preparation, but Kt to B 3 is better to get that piece into action.
(b) Threatening Kt P plus Rook.
(c) An attacking reply, but unwise in face of the slashing rejoinder and loss of Q Rook.
(d) A good move making things look critical.
(e) Initiating a beautiful coup.
(f) The only available move.
(g) The only move to avert mate by Kt to B 7.

MR. M. WOLLHEIM.

His Excellency the Mexican Minister left yesterday by the *Empress of Japan* for a short visit to the other side. Genial, kind, and jovial Mr. Wollheim has made himself a general favourite with Chess-players in Japan; he was the "Bird" of the Yokohama Chess Club, and his absence will be a misfortune not easily remedied. A few of his more intimate Chess friends entertained Mr. Wollheim at dinner on Monday the 5th: when the wishes for a *bon voyage* and speedy return were heartily expressed. We join in wishing Mr. Wollheim a pleasant trip: and hope to see him with us again next year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE	
From America	per P. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 10th.
From America	per O. & O. Co. Monday, Oct. 13th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Oct. 17th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co. Monday, Oct. 19th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Oct. 20th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co. Thursday, Nov. 6th.

* City of Peking left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 28th. † Doris left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 30th. The English mail on board the steamer *Changsha*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES	
For America	per O. & O. Co. Saturday, Oct. 10th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Oct. 12th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co. Thursday, Oct. 17th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 18th.
For America	per P. M. Co. Sunday, Oct. 18th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co. Sunday, Oct. 18th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Oct. 20th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd Friday, Oct. 20th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co. Friday, Nov. 6th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 3rd October.—Broke her shaft at sea and had to return to port.—General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 3rd October.—Yokkaichi 2nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kaifu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 4th October.—Otaru via ports, 30th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 5th October.—Yokkaichi 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 5th October.—Yokkaichi 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, M. Nakao, 5th October.—Ujina 2nd October, Lighthouse supplies.—Lighthouse Department.
Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 6th October.—Kobe 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 6th October.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th October, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, S. Muramatsu, 6th October.—Hakodate 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Menelaus, British steamer, 2,770, W. Lowell, 6th October.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 5th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 6th October.—North Pacific, Otter Skins.—Captain.
Oceanian, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 7th October.—Marseilles 30th August, Hongkong 29th September, Shanghai 2nd October, and Kobe 6th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Williams, 7th October.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 6th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 8th October.—Yokkaichi 7th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 8th October.—Hongkong via ports, 30th September, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, Inman Sealby, 8th October.—Hongkong via ports, 2nd October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Barstow, 8th October.—Otaru via ports, 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese cruiser, Captain Furukawa, 8th October.—Yokosuka 8th October.
Pointer, American schooner, 40, Snow, 8th October.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—Captain.
Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, N. Trennt, 8th October.—Kobe 7th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 9th October.—Nagasaki 6th October, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 9th October.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 9th October.—Shanghai via ports, 3rd October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Mumesono, 9th October,—Kobe 8th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 9th October,—Yokkaichi 8th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Okinawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,041, Kataoka, 3rd October,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Navy Department.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, J. Jones, 3rd October,—Melbourne via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 3rd October,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,500, L. Blanc, 4th October,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 4th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Mumesono, 5th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, S. Kawamura, 5th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dorothea Rickmers, German steamer, 2,460, Pape, 5th October,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hermes, Norwegian steamer, 849, Jensen, 5th October,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carilli & Co.

Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 5th October,—Manila.

Alcidas, British ship, 2,492, Leonard Dart, 6th October,—San Francisco, Ballast.—Captain.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 6th October,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 6th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 6th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glavus, British steamer, 3,086, Bauvire, 7th October,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 7th October,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Port Phillip, British steamer, 1,732, Smith, 7th October,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carilli & Co.

Kaijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,828, Moses, 7th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 7th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pique (8), British cruiser, Captain H. C. Biggs, 7th October,—Taiwan.

Ihaki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 8th October,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 8th October,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 8th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, S. Muramatsu, 8th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 9th October,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Fred. Martens, Matsunaka, Miquel, Twidall, W. Sachs, Futaki, A. Veillon, Chauvin and family, Butchman, Choornull and servant, Mrs. T. Gonzalez, Messrs. Pow Cum Wa, Ku Mou Cheong, and Paruck in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. J. Strome, Judge and Mrs. Mowat, Messrs. F. Grunwald, H. Russell, H. Gesler, D. Thompson, Miss Humphreys, Capt. F. Young, Mr. J. Hagen, Mr. J. T. Smith, Rev. C. Box, Miss Grattan, Mr. J. Twentyman, Dr. A. Hogg, Messrs. R. Blackadder, C. Balfour, A. Kahn, L. Kahn, E. Kahn, W. Graham, H. Ainley, W. Drummond, and F. Henderson in cabin. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss L. Seeds,

Miss M. Russell, Mr. J. Maxwell, Captain and Mrs. Winsor, Mr. Winsor, Miss Winsor, Mr. C. Feindel, Mr. and Mrs. Beeton, Mrs. W. Dalrymple, Mr. A. Scott, and Mr. A. Wiltzer in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 360 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. U. Jeffries, Mrs. Hara Asa, Mr. R. H. Bruce, Mr. B. Piehl, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. Earle W. Blodgett, Mr. Fred. T. Gause, Mr. and Mrs. Winam, Mr. T. G. Hughes, and Mr. and Mrs. McLeod in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—General K. Sulu, Mr. and Mrs. Kuwata, Mr. Gipperich, Mr. Rouge, Mr. S. W. Ugenin, Dr. A. B. Morrill, Mr. E. Gericke, and Mr. Wm. Barrie in cabin; Mrs. M. Lucas, Messrs. Tominaga, Okazaki, T. Kitamura, and Ishibashi in second class, and 18 Japanese, one European, and 3 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. Shizu Yamanouchi, Mr. H. Motoda, Mr. T. Kuwabara, and Mr. W. Barrie in cabin; Mr. J. Ijima and Mr. Kukeu in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Mr. and Mrs. Kawai, Mr. H. Kawai, Mrs. Hide Kawai, and Miss Suye Kawai in second class. For Hongkong:—Baron Harden Hickey in cabin; Mr. Y. Shigaki in second class. For Townsville:—Mrs. Masuda, Mrs. Morikawa Fuji, and Mr. Kobayashi in second class; 32 passengers in steerage to all ports.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Mowat, Mr. and Mrs. De Ath, Mr. and Mrs. Tallien and infant, Mrs. Fischer, Mrs. D. Scott and 2 infants, Colonel and Mrs. Wright and 3 infants, Mrs. Hemington and infant, Miss Hemington, Mr. and Mrs. H. Rennie, Messrs. H. R. Williams, C. J. Strome, E. W. Blodgett, E. C. Hochapfel, S. Komor, J. F. Delf, St. Clair Smith, J. R. Merian, J. E. Avery, H. S. Wilkinson, H. Keswick, G. Silvestri, Prigent, J. Rion, De Cuers de Cogolin, Harry Pirie, William Dunsmore, H. Delkeskamp, S. D. Pereira, Felix Fabian, J. Latour, Le Page, Bernard, and R. Gray in cabin; 12 seamen and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Kobe:—Dr. Graham, Mr. J. Lamke, Mr. T. Mayeda, and Mrs. Davison in cabin; Messrs. T. Ishikawa, T. Nishimura, and I. Kajiwara in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Mrs. Fardel in cabin. For Jinsen:—Mrs. Isabella Bishop in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. A. W. Wilson and Mr. G. Daigo in cabin; Mrs. K. Usui and Mr. S. Yoshida in second class. For Shanghai:—Mrs. A. A. Crawford and Mr. and Mrs. Cushing, 2 children and nurse in cabin; Mr. J. A. Owens in second class, and 71 passengers in steerage for ports in all.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. S. E. Beeton, Mrs. Beeton, child and nurse, Miss A. H. Bradshaw, Mr. J. W. Broadbent, Mrs. H. L. Dalrymple, Mr. F. A. East, Mr. C. Feindel, Mr. H. B. Hitchings, Mr. F. F. Jacques, Mr. R. S. Miller, Mrs. Miller, child and nurse, Mr. Masao Miki, Mr. J. Maxwell, R. N. Miss May Russell, Miss L. M. Seeds, Mr. A. M. Scott, Mr. E. W. Schlusel, Mr. Wm. A. Wilson, Mr. A. H. Wiltzer, Captain A. Winsor, Mrs. A. Winsor, Mr. Winsor, Miss Winsor, Hon. Mauricio Wollheim, and Mr. M. Zumoto in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 514 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 12 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$100.00.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TRA.				TOTAL
	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	OTHER	
	CANADA, AND WEST.	AND EAST.	COAST.	CITIES.	AGES.
Hongkong	35	—	—	21	56
Calcutta	317	—	231	—	548
Foochow	1,897	—	87	—	1,984
Shanghai	1,183	4,625	1,215	—	7,023
Colombo	278	—	495	—	773
Kobe	1,493	318	—	—	1,811
Yokohama	3,097	—	736	—	3,833
Total	8,320	4,943	1,951	813	16,048

	SILK.		TOTAL
	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	
Shanghai	58	—	58
Yokohama	466	—	466
Total	524	—	524

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain I. Sealby, reports:—Left Hongkong the 30th September, via Amoy the 2nd October, Nagasaki the 5th, and Kobe the 7th at 0.26 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th October at 2.33 p.m. Had moderate weather throughout the passage.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 2nd October,—Hongkong via ports, 25th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 15th June,—Bona, Algeria, Phosphate.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,504, Unruh, 2nd October,—Batavia via ports, and Kobe 30th September, General.—M. Raspe & Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July,—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 5th August,—Kobe 4th August, General.—Dodwell, Carilli & Co.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,770, W. Lowell, 6th October,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 5th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 6th October,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th October, General.—Dodwell, Carilli & Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 3rd October,—Broke her shaft at sea and had to return to port.—General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 7th October,—Marseilles 30th August, Hongkong 29th September, Shanghai 2nd October, and Kobe 6th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Williams, 7th October,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 6th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

SAILING VESSELS.

Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagon, 23rd September,—New York 3rd May, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 6th October,—North Pacific, Outer Skins.—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 2nd September,—Guam 9th August, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Funcke, 17th September,—North Pacific, Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Hutton Hall, British ship, 1,989, Rowlands, 22nd September,—New York 18th April, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

J. B. Walker, American ship, 2,103, Wallace, 30th August,—New York 28th March, 80,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 20th September,—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—A. Fisher.

Pointer, American schooner, 40, Snow, 8th October,—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 9th October,—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 26th May,—Sydney, via South Sea Islands, 24th May.—Captain and Owner.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Fortin, 26th September,—Hakodate 24th September.

Irene (22), German cruiser, Captain von Dresky, 27th September,—Hakodate 25th September.

Kaiser (15), German flagship, Captain Faeselike, 27th September,—Hakodate 25th September.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese cruiser, Captain Furukawa, 8th October,—Yokosuka 8th October.

Olympia, U.S. flagship, Captain J. G. Read, 30th September,—Yokosuka 30th September.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Generally dull and unprofitable. It seems that buyers or dealers are feeling the financial pinch, which is reported from Tokyo. Yarn—Nothing doing; Shirts the same. Fancies—A sale of something "extra-super" in Blue Cambrics; and a few thousand pieces of Turkey Reds have been moved. Woollens—A blank, with the exception of a sale in Blankets at quotations.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$2.40	to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2, 38 yds, 45 inches	2.75	to 3.20
Grey Shirtings—10 1/2, 38 yds, 45 inches	1.70	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95	to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 21 yds, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 35 inches	0.16	to 0.32

Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4.0, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5.0, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Medium	
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32
Common	
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Lions, 51 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Blouses—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	0.40 to 0.70
per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$17.00 to 18.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 2 60, Plain	50.00 to 52.00
Nos. 2 80, Plain	65.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2 100, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

At last the welcome change has come and Importers feel better than they have done for months past. Prices all round have improved materially, and there is a good general demand for everything except Plates. If monetary stringency among the native dealers does not supervene the improvement should continue.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72

KEROSENE.

Plenty of business at last, with higher prices. Dealers in the interior are evidently laying in their stock for the winter.

American	\$2.25 to 2.27
Russian	2.27 to 2.28
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Quite a boom, and prices have advanced rapidly. Heavy sales all round, in every class. White—Moderate business at quotations.

Brown Takao	PER POUND.
Brown Manila	\$4.70 to 4.75
Brown Daiteng	5.50 to 5.60
Brown Canton	3.95 to 4.00
White Java and Penang	3.85 to 4.75
White Refined	7.10 to 7.15
	7.00 to 9.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Another strong upward movement. It seems that the New York folks have at last got confidence in their Presidential and financial future, and they are displaying that confidence by operating extensively in Silk at comparatively high prices. Meantime, Europe is quiet and will not follow the market up, consequently quotations for fine-sizes are nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom. \$900
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	885
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	860
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	Nom. 820
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	860
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 780
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	790
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	770
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710
Kakedas—Extra	790
Kakedas—No. 1	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 14	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 24	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

Good news here also. Holders have met buyers as to terms, and a fair business has resulted on the basis of our quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$105 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Good	90 to 100
Noshi—Oshu, Best	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Good	95 to 100

Noshi—Oshu, Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Bushi, Good	130 to 140
Noshi—Bushi, Good	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshi, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	60 to 62
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 82
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22

TEA.

The buying goes on and the market is fairly active at full rates. Stock reduced to about 2,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$25 to \$26
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	21 to 22
Good Medium	19 to 20
Medium	17 to 18
Good Common	15 to 16
Common	13 to 14

EXCHANGE.

There has been only the smallest fluctuation in rates of exchange during the week, but the tendency of silver has been generally downward.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/8
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/8
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2.63
— Private 4 months' sight	2.67
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 % P.
— Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	7 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	7 1/2
On India—Bank sight	177 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	180
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	52 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.13 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.17
Bar Silver (London)	30

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 16.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 17TH, 1896.

月三年五十二陰明 VOL. XXVI.
西曆十月十七日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 17TH, 1896.

BIRTH.

On the 15th October, at No. 255, Bluff, the wife of S. DEBRABANT of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

JAPAN will not despatch a war-ship to Manila.

MR. HARA, Minister to Korea, returned to Tokyo on Monday.

THE autumn regatta of the Yokohama Amateur

Rowing Club was held on Saturday in a heavy downpour of rain.

CHOLERA has claimed one or two victims in Yokohama this week.

HIS MAJESTY the Czar has left France on a visit to Darmstadt.

THE Premier's Speech has not given much satisfaction to the press at large.

LIEUT.-GENERAL BARON NOGI is the new Governor-General of Formosa.

MR. WAKAO IKUZO, aged 68, a capitalist of Yokohama, died on the 10th inst.

MR. HOSHI TORU, Minister to Washington, will, it is said, continue in the position.

THE recent bank failures have put a stop to a good deal of speculative stock-jobbing.

DYSENTERY is prevalent in Tokyo, more particularly in the suburbs recently flooded.

A PROPOSAL is under way to rebuild the Club Hotel at Yokohama, and to redeem the debentures.

THE four Prefectures of Formosa will in future go by the names of Giron, Shinchiku, Daito, and Shoka.

SIR WILLIAM VERNON-HARCOURT is generally designated Lord Rosebery's successor as leader of the Liberal Party.

THE English crew won the International Fours at the Yokohama Regatta, the first time for several years.

MR. GOSCHEN, First Lord of the Admiralty, has given orders for the building of four new cruisers of 11,000 tons.

THE Shanghai Cricket Club have beaten the Japan Team, in the second interport match at Shanghai, by six wickets.

THE Prime Minister, Count Matsukata, outlined the Government's policy in a speech delivered to the Local Prefects on Monday.

THE financial disasters that have overtaken several banks in the Osaka district will not eventuate so seriously as was at first expected.

OWING to the rain, none of the Yacht races were sailed on Saturday, and a proposal to sail them on Sunday was most decidedly opposed.

AMERICAN residents of Yokohama are said to be freely purchasing Japanese Public Loan Bonds. Nearly yen 300,000 are now held by them.

THE wife of Mr. Riko-hei, the Korean Minister to Japan, being in a low state of health, left Shimbashi Station on Friday, en route to her native land.

THE city of Guayaquil, the principal sea-port of Ecuador, has been almost wholly destroyed by an incendiary fire. The damage is estimated at two millions sterling.

GREAT BRITAIN, RUSSIA, and FRANCE have agreed to immediately despatch a vigorous note to the Porte demanding the adoption of reforms for securing the safety of the Armenians.

ON Monday morning, a fire broke out in the Iroha beef shop, No. 12, Shichome, Hongo, Tokyo. Five houses were destroyed. The cause of the outbreak is not yet ascertained.

THE charter of the First National Bank having expired on the 25th September, the Bank con-

tinued business on the 26th September in the name of the First National Joint-stock Bank. To celebrate the occasion, Mr. Shibusawa, the President, gave an entertainment to-day, 17th instant at his villa at Oji.

MR. CONSUL McIVOR has found for the defendant in the action recently heard in the U.S. Consular-General Court at Yokohama—China and Japan Trading Company *versus* Weston.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury was seized with a fit of apoplexy on Sunday whilst at divine service in Hawarden Church. He was carried to the Rectory where he expired in a few minutes.

A MOST serious storm occurred all over East and Central Japan on Monday, the rain-fall being unprecedented in severity. Some rivers overflowed, and a little damage was done to railway tracks.

THE British cruiser *Gibraltar* has been detached from the Mediterranean Squadron for service at Zanzibar, where, it is understood, the position is regarded as serious owing to the hostile attitude of Germany.

MESSRS. W. M. STRACHAN & Co. have erected a model cotton spinning mill at the rear of their offices in Yokohama. On Saturday the firm entertained a large company of Japanese merchants and buyers at lunch.

THE Secretary of State for the Colonies proposes to substitute modern guns for the defences of Singapore, costing the Colony thirty thousand pounds sterling (£30,000) and the Imperial Treasury forty-two thousand pounds (£42,000).

AT noon on Sunday a fire broke out at the Fukuokaro, Mukojima, and the famous Kototoi Dango the Chomeiji, and several tea-houses were destroyed. It is said that blame attaches to some students of the Daiichi Kotogakko.

A SEMI-OFFICIAL German note attributes the naval reinforcements to Zanzibar to the fear of Said Khalid's intrigues, and adds that if Khalid abuses the asylum Germany has extended to him he will be expelled from German territory.

LORD ROSEBERRY, addressing a meeting at Edinburgh, said he felt unable to sacrifice the interests of the country to his own personal ambition and he had therefore resigned his leadership of the Liberal Party. He would fight tooth and nail against the isolated intervention of Great Britain in Turkey, which he was convinced would involve an European war.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade. Textiles remaining in the same dull condition. In other departments, the good business last reported was but of short duration, the money market having affected the Metal trade and the Kerosene business to such an extent that there is but little or nothing doing in the former, and not a great deal in the latter. In Sugar, a fair business in China and Manila sorts continues, Formosa being neglected; but Whites are active at hardening prices. The tightness of money has also affected the Silk business, and there is much less doing, though prices are somewhat easier, holders being anxious to go on. There is little enquiry for Waste Silk, and less business. The Tea trade continues brisk, and prices go up as the stock decreases. Settlements have pulled up wonderfully during the last few weeks, the total now being only 27,000 piculs behind those of same date last year. Rates of exchange declined for a couple of days, but had recovered by yesterday, and close at the same figures as those of a week ago.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Everybody expected that the *Shimpo-to* would support the new Ministry, and no one is surprised that they have now decided to do so. The Standing Committees of the Party met on the 14th instant, to discuss the attitude that the Party should assume towards the Government. They came to the conclusion that the policy announced by the Prime Minister on Monday coincided in the main with the platform of the Party, and that they should therefore endeavour to make the Cabinet act up to its declarations. Should the Government fail to do so, the Party would have no choice but to oppose it. The above is the decision of the Standing Committees only. A definite resolution in the name of the whole Party is to be arrived at by convoking extraordinary and ordinary meetings on the 1st and 2nd proximo.

Count Kabayama's speech to the Local Governors, reproduced in yesterday's issue of this journal, has naturally caused some surprise. Anybody comparing the utterances ascribed to the Count on the occasion of the Cabinet's deliberations over the draft of the Premier's speech with those that he is alleged to have made the very next day before the Local Governors, must have been struck with the glaring discrepancy between the two. On the former occasion, he is represented as having endorsed Count Okuma's views and accepted the principle of party Cabinets; and on the later, he is made to adhere to his old idea that the Cabinet should hold itself responsible to the Sovereign alone. The perplexity engendered by this important contradiction is intensified by perusing the authorized version of the Home Minister's speech, issued by the Department a few days after the *Nichi Nichi* had given the alleged substance of the speech. For the authorized version contains not one word relating to the Minister's opinions about Cabinet responsibility. This has elicited a strong criticism from the *Nichi Nichi*, which maintains that the speech was listened to by not a few persons who all agree about its import. In fact, the *Nichi Nichi* pledges its honour that the words contained in its report did actually come from the Count's lips, so far, at any rate, as their meaning is concerned. If, adds the *Nichi Nichi*, declarations unquestionably made by the Minister are expunged totally from the authorized version of his speech, it is to be feared that his credit will be seriously impaired in the eyes of the Local Governors.

When epitomising, in a recent issue, the views expressed by the vernacular press about the Premier's speech, we omitted the opinions of the *Mainichi Shinbun*, since they were contained in a series of articles not concluded at the time we wrote. We may now note that the *Mainichi's* views do not materially differ from those of its confrères. Though compelled to reserve its approval, it inclines to believe that the new Ministry will not fail to act up to their declarations with regard to granting complete freedom of speech, pen, and public meeting; remodelling the empire's foreign policy, and adjusting the finances. The *Tokyo Asahi* also observes that the Ministry have given indications of not being averse to adopting the majority of the reforms desired by the people.

The nomination of Lieut.-General Baron Nogi to be Governor-General of Formosa affords a theme for discussion to several Tokyo papers. The Baron's record shows him to be an officer of much ability. His promotion has been very rapid. Though only a Major-General when he distinguished himself under Lieut.-General Viscount Yamaji at the assault of Port Arthur, he was gazetted Commandant of the Second Division while he was still in the Peninsula, and is now promoted to be Governor-General of Formosa. The *Fiji Shimpō* writing about him, says that he is understood to be a soldier of great decision and strict integrity, few being comparable with him in those respects. That he has resolved to undertake the arduous task of ad-

ministering Formosa shows that he entertains certain definite views on the subject. The thing most needed in Formosa is a bold and resolute programme, pursued in defiance of every obstacle. To push forward with too much intentness might involve some blunders, but would certainly be better than to lie idle and waste time doing nothing.

The *Tokyo Asahi* infers that the mere fact of the Viscount's having agreed to undertake the functions of such a difficult office instead of remaining at his present easy post, may be taken as an earnest of his success in Formosa. The experience that he garnered in Formosa when commanding the Second Division there must be of use to him as Governor-General, and many of his acts show that he is not less of a statesman than a soldier. For example, he caused his troops to construct excellent roads in the island, a proceeding that displayed no mean consideration for civil interests.

The appointment of a new Governor-General after the outlines of next year's Budget have been definitely fixed, says the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, seems a somewhat belated measure. It is plain, however, that the Baron has accepted the post in full agreement with the programme mapped out by the Minister of Colonization.

The *Kokumin* suggests the advisability of having a fixed regular channel of communications between the Government and its supporters, the *Shimpo-to*. It advises both sides to appoint statesmen of first-class calibre as deputies for purposes of conference, so that all questions arising between the Ministry and the *Shimpo-to* may be dealt with by the deputies.

The same journal declares that since the corruptibility of Japanese experts and their negligence are mainly chargeable with the failure of public works to avert the disasters of inundations, the Government should engage foreign experts and make up its mind to construct really well-designed and permanent works.

The *Nippon* wishes to warn the public once more against sentimental ideas about the expansion of the national armaments. According to estimates made by trustworthy authorities, the repeated calamities that have overtaken various localities during the year, have inflicted a loss of 100 million yen at least on the country. If that unexpected loss be added to the sums spent in prosecuting the War, the indemnity of 300 million yen may be considered as practically exhausted already. Whence then, are to be obtained the large sums needed for purposes of military expansion? Both the late Cabinet and the present have committed a serious blunder in this respect, for although they found that the expenditures were likely to exceed the revenue, they refrained from altering the programme of armament expansion, and set themselves to effect retrenchment in other directions. For instance, they reduced, or totally expunged, appropriations for the improvement of railways, harbours, navigation, and so forth, thus sacrificing the current needs of the nation on the altar of military armaments which can serve no useful end except in the event of war, a contingency not to be apprehended once in a decade. They do not seem to discern clearly that military preparations must go hand-in-hand with the improvement of administrative measures with questions of sanitation, education, and public morality, and with the development of the country's resources. Even though the Army be augmented to 13 divisions and the Fleet to a displacement of 200,000 tons, how can the ranks of the former or the ships of the latter be efficiently manned while the spirit of officials is corrupt and discipline totally lax. The *Nippon* concludes that as armaments can be really potential only when administrative capacity is on a level with them, therefore is expenditures in connection with the latter be retrenched, a similar step should be taken in the case of the former.

The *Yomiuri* publishes a sort of corollary to

the comments already made by it on the Premier's speech. Our contemporary thinks that the reason why the speech was couched in such general terms was because the Cabinet, through clear enough in its political views, was deterred by certain circumstances from speaking plainly. Assuming that explanation to be not far wide of the mark, then the people must form two resolutions at this juncture; namely to let the Cabinet put its policy into practice, and should it fail to do so satisfactorily, then to oppose it resolutely and uncompromisingly.

The *Nichi Nichi* offers a practical suggestion for the consideration of the Telephone Authorities. It publishes, in the first place, a table showing how many applicants have been vainly awaiting facilities to join telephone exchanges since 1890.

At the end of the fiscal year.	No. of applications.	No. of licenses.
1889-90.....	327	275
1890-91.....	476	372
1891-92.....	756	385
1892-93.....	1,316	657
1893-94.....	658	50
1894-95.....	611	13
1895-96 (1st half).....	853	32
	4,997	1,784

The number of persons desirous of obtaining telephone facilities is far larger than that given in the above table, for many regard it as a pure waste of time and labour to forward applications to the Telephone Authorities, knowing how little hope there is of obtaining what they want. This insufficiency of telephone accommodation is doubly regrettable, for while the public are precluded from enjoying the great benefits conferred by this particular kind of communication, the Authorities are similarly prevented from reaping the profit that would accrue were the business expanded. The root of the trouble is want of funds. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks, however, that the Authorities are not without resources to meet the occasion. For example, they may, as in foreign countries, temporarily employ deposits kept in the Saving Banks, or may cause the applicants themselves to defray the expenses required for constructing new telephones. In fact, the applicants would be very glad to pay the expense, since that would be far cheaper than to purchase the service already enjoyed by another. To construct a telephonic service does not cost more, on the average, than 160 yen, whereas to purchase the transfer of a service involves an outlay of from 400 to 500 yen in Tokyo, and as much as 800 yen in Osaka. Other points to which the *Nichi Nichi* invites the attention of the Authorities in connection with this matter are that a greater number of exchanges be established, with due care in the selection of sites; that measures be organized for distributing telephone messages to addressee by postmen; and lastly, that, in order to bring telephonic facilities within the reach of the middle and lower classes, the charges for using the telephones at an exchange be reduced. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that a charge of 5 sen per using a telephone at an exchange is proportionally higher than the rate imposed upon a regular subscriber.

The *Fiji* advises the Railway Authorities to have no hesitation about granting charters to railway companies, no matter how petty the scope of the contemplated enterprise. The total mileage of Japanese railways being as yet only 2,000 miles, this is no time to exercise nice discrimination about the nature of the projected roads or the scope of the projects. When railways have been constructed on such a scale as to satisfy the requirements of the country, then these small companies will coalesce of their own accord into big corporations.

The *Chuo* holds the Bank of Japan more or less responsible for the trouble that has overtaken a section of the mercantile and banking community. Immediately after the conclusion of the war, the Bank persistently declared in favour of a positive financial policy. It condemned as timid and over-conservative any one inclining to caution, and by thus adding fuel to

the already-kindled fire of enthusiasm, it contributed to the mania for starting new enterprises. All the smaller banks, which look up to the Nippon Ginko as a guide, imitated its open-handed action, and did not hesitate to extend whatever facilities they could afford to men of enterprise. This state of affairs did not last long, for after a short time, the Bank of Japan and its imitators began to assume a guarded attitude and to betray signs of reluctance to give accommodation. The change was at once felt in the market, and already in Osaka and Tokyo a number of banks and business men have collapsed. So long as this trouble is of limited extent, no special suffering may be felt by the public at large, but should the evil assume more serious dimensions, then the Bank of Japan must hold itself accountable, and its President and other important officials must resign. The Department of Finance, as superintending the business of the Bank, must also share the blame.

An article on the "Educational Policy of the Country," that appeared in the *Tokyo Asahi* under the signature of Mr. Sugiyama, ex-M.P., is worthy of notice, the writer being a prominent educationalist. The change in the holder of the portfolio of Education, he observes, need not cause any particular alarm. The fact is that matters relating to education, commerce, and agriculture being from their nature of direct interest to the people, and the latter's tendency being to arrange such matters in conformity with their own requirements, it is desirable that official interference should stand as little as possible in the way of that tendency. Consequently, the progress of education does not necessarily depend upon the ability of the Minister of Education, as may be inferred from the fact that no particular progress was noticeable even when the Department was under the direction of Ministers regarded as specially competent for the post. The business to be discharged by the Department is resolvable into two categories, namely, business connected with the control of higher institutions, and business connected with general educational affairs. Mr. Sugiyama is of opinion that if it be impossible to separate education and politics, then the office charged with educational responsibilities should be made subordinate to another Department of State, and fuller powers should be given to the higher institutions under the direct control of the Central Government. This change would be attended with more practical benefit.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SERIOUS AFFRAY AT NAGASAKI.

A GUNNER's mate, named Barnes, on the U.S.S. *Yorktown*, is under arrest at Nagasaki for committing an assault on Mrs. Conan, wife of the proprietor of the Central Hotel there. He had been ejected from the house by Mr. Conan and some visitors, but returned with another American and two British men-of-war-men. Barnes, armed with a billiard cue, struck Mrs. Conan on the head, inflicting a terrible gash across the forehead. Mr. Conan rushed out to her assistance and was struck by some of the ruffians. He accordingly went into his room, took out a revolver, and fired five shots among the men. Barnes got a bullet in the thigh, the other American, Lynch, lost the middle finger of his right hand, and one of the British sailors got shot also in the hand and had his forehead grazed by a bullet. Some visitors who were with Mr. Conan in the room came out and the police shortly afterwards put in an appearance. In the confusion, however, the man Lynch managed to effect an escape over a wall at the back, a tell-tale track of blood showing the course he took, while the two British sailors also went out. The man Barnes was taken to the police station but is now, in company with Lynch, under arrest on board his vessel.

NAVAL NEWS.

SAYS the *China Mail*:—The torpedo-boat destroyers *Handy* and *Hart*, which we have already

notified are commissioned for the China station, are due at Colombo in the last week of October. A cruiser is to go to Singapore on the 20th October to meet the destroyers, and convey them to Singapore. These vessels will act as tenders to the *Centurion*. H.M.S. *Firebrand* is to meet the flagship at Nagasaki. She will then proceed to Tientsin, to replace the *Peacock* which will depart for Nagasaki.—Fleet Paymaster Bremner, of the *Centurion*, has died at Hongkong.—H.M.S. *Rainbow* will leave Hongkong in about a week to convey Sir Charles Mitchell, G.C.M.G., and suite, High Commissioner of British North Borneo, from Singapore to Labuan. Three temporary cabins will be fitted up on board for the accommodation of the Commissioner and his party.

ARREST OF JAPANESE IN MANILA.

THE *Jiji* says that Mr. Tomioka Uchichiro, a Japanese merchant in Manila, has been arrested by the Spanish Authorities and thrown into prison. Commenting on the news, the same paper observes that as the Japanese residents in Manila must be considerably alarmed at the continuance of the disturbances, the Japanese Government should despatch some men-of-war there at once. Some publicists might object to the step, on the ground that it would strengthen the suspicion that the Spanish Authorities are believed to entertain regarding Japan and the islands. The *Jiji* dismisses the suggestion, arguing that, as it is incumbent on men-of-war in times of peace to secure the lives and property of Japanese abroad, so in times of trouble should they be promptly despatched to the scene of disturbance.

A TALE FROM SHANGHAI.

SHANGHAI is famous for its "bundlers." Here is the latest from the *Temperance Union*:—"Last Monday week a Russian soldier was hanged outside Nagasaki by order of a court-martial. He had been on board a transport and had threatened to shoot the captain. When the transport arrived at Nagasaki he was handed over to the man-of-war and tried. The war-vessel then got up steam, proceeded outside, hanged the culprit and returned to her anchorage." This story bears a strong family resemblance to one that circulated in the Far East about three years ago: in that case a sailor was alleged to have been hanged from the yard-arm of a Russian cruiser just outside Hongkong. But it turned out to be bunkum.

THE ASSAULT ON A FOREIGN CAPTAIN AT MOJI. Some particulars of the assault on the ship's captain at Moji, briefly reported in a telegram in these columns the other day, are furnished by the *Osaka Mainichi*. It is stated that a Shimonoseki man, named Fujii Hirokichi, went to the steamer *Shafesbury* with several girls in a boat. The Captain did not allow the girls on board, and threw coals into the boat to drive them away. Fujii was highly indignant at the action of the Captain, but went back without saying a word. About 5 p.m. on the 6th inst., the Captain was ashore, and while walking near the Kaneyama shrine, Fujii saw him, took up a piece of fire-wood lying near and struck the Captain on the head, inflicting a bad wound. Policemen and gendarmes were called and they arrested Fujii, who was handed over to the Procurators' office. The Captain was attended to by the President of the hospital and went back to his ship after the wound was dressed.—*Chronicle*.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

ADVICES from Manila, says the *China Mail* of October 5th, continue to improve, and the improvement has been emphasized by the arrival of the first installment of a thousand troops from Spain. Business was reviving as a consequence of the increased confidence. By this time other two thousand men will have arrived at Manila from Home; and when these troops begin work in earnest, it is feared much bloodshed must result. The rebels, judging from the unusually plucky manner in which they meet death on the Luneta, are exceedingly unlikely to surrender, and there must be great slaughter. Tales of

the death of rebels, who are shot in public, continue to each us, and one has been mentioned where a native in connection with the rope works coolly signed a document without a shake, and then stood up to receive the fatal bullet. It is generally believed a few of the ring-leaders will soon follow these poor natives to public execution. As they are well-known men in the capital, considerable interest is felt in the coming event. The rebellion may now be said to be on its last legs. So soon as the insurrectionists are driven from Cavite and Imus, the movement may be declared to be at an end.

AN "OLD RESIDENT" ON HIS TRIP HOME.

AN "Old Resident," now touring it in London, writes:—"Do you want to know how one visits the theatres from the suburbs? Here is an extract from a London journal that will enlighten you:—

The good citizen being bored to death of an evening, determines to take his wife to the theatre, hurries the good lady to catch the 6.15 up, gets to Victoria in a downpour, has to take a cab, quarrels with the driver, gorges himself on a bad 3s. 6d. dinner, has to take another cab, pays a guinea for the two worst stalls in the house at the end of the row whence he can only see the other side of the stage, is fleeced for his hat and coat, fleeced for his wife's bonnet, fleeced for a programme, fleeced for book of the words, fleeced for his whisky and soda, bored and irritated by a play in which an author who knows nothing of the world says so in language entirely unfit for publication, fights his way out of the theatre, finds the cabmen have gone on strike, has to walk to the station, misses his train, waits thirty-five minutes for another which only runs to the station before his, is crowded with thirteen blaspheming savages in one compartment, and gets home to find that his wife has forgotten to have supper left out.

SILK IMPORTS TO UNITED STATES.

THE following are the imports of Raw Silk at the ports of New York and San Francisco:—

	Aug.	Bl.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	168	36,728	134,029	
San Francisco.....	126	13,018	28,348	
	294	49,746	162,377	

The Imports of Waste, etc., in the same period were:—

New York	76	22,800	14,378
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The Imports of Japanese Piece-goods and Handkerchiefs from July 1st, to July 20th, 1896, were:—

Silk Piece Goods	3,322	pcs.
Handkerchiefs	96,164	doz.

DEATH OF AN ITALIAN MINISTER.

MR. E. GHISI, Italian Consul at Shanghai, has received the news of the death at Peking on Thursday night, Oct. 8th, from dysentery, of the Italian Minister, Commendatore Alessandro Bardi. Commander Bardi was only a little over fifty, Peking being his first post as Minister. He spent the summer at Chefoo, where he was a very popular addition to the society of that fashionable watering-place; he left it for Peking on the 25th ult., and it was not even known at Shanghai that he was ill.

MR. STEPHEN HART.

MR. STEPHEN HART, who has had a very varied experience in the Far East—journalist, globe-trotter, telegraph agent, commercial traveller, war-correspondent, and alleged artillerist to the Chinese forces at Port Arthur—is now in gaol at Shanghai awaiting further examination on a charge of arson preferred against him by the police. He could find no one to help him out with bail.

RETURNING RESIDENTS.

MRS. H. STEELE and two children, and Mrs. Alfred Carter Read and son, have booked their return passages by the P. & O. steamer *Shanghai*, leaving London on Nov. 29. Mr. and Mrs. R. Home Cook leave London by the *Himalaya* on Nov. 6.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT AT KOBE STATION.

AN employé at Kobe station on Saturday afternoon attempted to get on an engine, when he fell on the rails and was run over by the train and killed. His body was cut in two.

THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.

The "policy" of the new Ministry was announced on Monday by the Minister President of State. From 8 a.m. Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, the private secretaries, and other officials of the Cabinet attended at the official residence of the Premier, to make arrangements for the meeting of the day. From half-past 9 a.m. the Local Governors, with the sole exception of the Governor of Okinawa, began to arrive, and at 11.30 a.m. all the Ministers of State, as well as various high officials of the Department of Home Affairs, drove up. Count Kuroda, the President of the Privy Council, was prevented by illness from attending. At 40 minutes past 11 the Minister President addressed the assembly as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—In obedience to the gracious commands of His Majesty, I have undertaken the grave responsibility of directing the Administration. Various important undertakings, necessary in the sequel of the war, having been barely initiated, and everything being still at the stage of inception, the time is one of extraordinary difficulty. Under the circumstances, proper courses have to be chosen, with due consideration for domestic conditions and the trend of public opinion, on the one hand, and with careful attention to the affairs of the outside world, on the other. Assuming, as I do, the discharge of these onerous functions without any special ability on my own part, I am not without fear lest I prove myself unequal to the occasion. But I am at least determined to endeavour to perform my duties with all sincerity, and, by exerting myself to the utmost of my ability, to fulfill, on the one hand, the grave office of advising and assisting the Emperor, and, on the other, to secure the hearty support of the Imperial Diet, to the end that, by bringing about cordial unity between rulers and ruled, the weighty responsibility that my position involves towards the Sovereign in the administration of the affairs of His Majesty's realm, may be successfully discharged.

The country's relations with foreign Powers are as friendly as ever, and the Government, while striving to promote still further those relations of cordiality, will endeavour to take steps calculated to assert the rights of the Empire and to expand its commerce, to which end all diligence will be used to speedily revise such of the Treaties as have not yet undergone that process. At the same time, the utmost care will be exercised in completing the arrangements for the enforcement of the revised Treaties, so that the fruits justly accruing under the new system may be fully gathered.

Armaments essential to the defence of the country must be expanded as far as the national resources warrant without producing disorder in the finances of the State, while, with the object of promoting permanently the prosperity and power of the realm, steps must be taken to develop education, industry, and commerce, these being the sources and foundations of national greatness. Hence the Government intends to direct its policy along the routes of encouraging education and business enterprise, simultaneously with the expansion of the national armaments.

The rights of freedom of speech, of the pen, and of public meeting, which the people are entitled to enjoy in virtue of the Constitution, will be treated with profound respect by the Government, and efforts will be made to safeguard their enjoyment.

An important desideratum in conducting administrative affairs is to abolish profusion of documents, so as to promote simplicity and promptitude; and, by fostering a spirit of co-operation among functionaries, to maintain smooth relations among the respective Departments. No less important is it, if practical benefit is to result from the administration of affairs, that the greatest discretion be exercised in appointing and promoting officials; that merits and demerits be publicly recognized, and that the gates of officialdom be thrown open to men of ability without distinction of person. The Government will pay close attention to those points, and will endeavour to improve the conduct of administrative business.

The character and conduct of Government functionaries bear no small relation to the moral condition of the public at large, and the Government perceives a special necessity at the present time to maintain official discipline with all strictness.

The adjustment of the national finances is a matter that demands the Government's most careful attention. The Government will, therefore, formulate, in strict conformity with available resources, measures adapted to the requirements of the time, and will aim at preserving equilibrium between receipts and expenditures. On the other

hand, every effort will be made to ensure that the progress and expansion of affairs pertaining to national economy shall not lag behind the general development of the nation's resources.

The consummation of various post-bellum measures is still far distant; the balance of trade is steadily against the country, and calamity has followed calamity in such rapid sequence that the lives and property of the people have suffered to an extent unprecedented for several decades. At such a juncture, to strive after the attainment of national greatness is a task of exceptional difficulty, and it is evident that unless the work be undertaken by rulers and ruled in firm and cordial union, by Government and people in the heartiest co-operation, success can not be anticipated.

Gentlemen, I earnestly hope that you will always keep these points in view, and will energetically endeavour, in accordance with the policy I have now unfolded, to satisfactorily conduct local administrative affairs, so that the structure of national greatness may be firmly erected on extended foundations.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS AND THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.

The speech delivered by Count Matsukata on Monday, before the Local Governors, embodying the platform of the new Cabinet, has failed to evoke hearty approval from the pro-Government papers. It gratifies them to some extent, but disappoints them also, and truly we find difficulty in determining which sentiment predominates.

The *Nippon* is disappointed to find that the Speech contains comparatively few allusions to the great abuse of the day. Only a very vague announcement is given about Cabinet responsibility, in the form of a promise that endeavours will be made "to secure the approval of the Diet." That may, perhaps, be construed in the sense that should the new Ministry fail to obtain the Diet's approval, they will hold themselves responsible for the failure and resign their posts. Moreover, a scarcely more satisfactory solution is offered of the problem about freedom of speech and public meeting, though it must be admitted that the engagement to treat those rights with profound respect distinguishes the attitude of the new Cabinet from that of any of its predecessors, none of whom ever made any such profession. The statement about the maintenance of official discipline gives more satisfaction to the *Nippon*, but it regrets that on other important points, such as foreign policy, national armaments, administrative reform, financial adjustment, and so forth, the Speech does not convey any definite information.

The *Yomiuri* writes in a more contented strain. The speech, it says, though partly open to the charge of vagueness, is on the whole commendable. One statement decidedly difficult to interpret is that relating to securing the support of the Diet. Yet the *Yomiuri* professes to be persuaded that the intention is to give an indirect promise of recognising and acting upon the Cabinet's responsibility to the Diet. Unless the support of the Diet be secured, the Ministry can not hope to discharge their duties towards the Sovereign. The Matsukata Cabinet is neither black nor white: it presents the intermediate hue of gray. For a Cabinet of such ambiguous complexion the platform announced in the speech can not be considered a very able achievement. However, any announcement is utterly worthless unless it be acted up to in practice. So the *Yomiuri* places itself in the attitude of a watcher.

While admitting that the Speech fails to fully satisfy the eager expectations of the people, the *Kokumin* considers that the policy enunciated has the advantage of lucidity, courage, and outspokenness when compared with any previous Ministerial utterance. What particularly gratified the *Kokumin* are passages promising that proper courses will be chosen, with due consideration for domestic conditions and the trend of public opinion, and with careful attention to the affairs of the outside world, and that the Cabinet will seek to discharge its grave responsibilities to the Emperor by securing cordial co-operation between rulers and ruled. In short, the *Kokumin* takes an optimistic view, and is confident that the

conduct of the Ministry will not fail to satisfy public expectation.

The *Chuo* (National Unionist) criticises the Speech as merely a formal utterance, like the orations delivered at banquets, and as containing not so much as one reference to the various views held by the *Shimpo-to*. Regarding the speech in that light, the *Chuo* is curious to see what attitude the *Shimpo-to* will assume towards it.

Count Matsukata's Speech, observes the *Nichi Nichi Shimbu*, is simply an *exposé* of the routine ordinarily adopted by any Administration, and is entirely free from any trace of originality or exceptional frankness. It must have strongly disappointed those that had attached such importance to it, especially the *Shimpo-to*. In fact, the Premier has furnished a plain indication that he repudiates the notions of the *Shimpo-to*. His declaration that the Cabinet will endeavour to discharge the grave responsibilities that it owes to the Emperor is specially significant of the Ministry's real attitude. Judging from the Speech, the new Ministry's methods of dealing with important questions of national defence and finance will not differ conspicuously from those mapped out by their predecessors. When the Premier speaks of efforts being made to safeguard the enjoyment of personal rights and freedom, he evidently means that the exercise of those rights and of that freedom will be permitted within limits prescribed by the laws and the Constitution. In short, he indicated in his Speech an ordinary routine of Administration, and did not in any sense propound a new platform. That he and his colleagues intend to pursue the path already entered by the last Cabinet proves them to be statesmen of conscientious views.

The *Yiji* finds that the Speech has proved to be a merely formal utterance, containing nothing that definitely commits the Cabinet. Still some indications, faintly outlined, furnish a clue to the subjects that the Cabinet intends to treat as weighty; namely freedom of the press, and of public meeting; curtailment of documentary profusion; maintenance of official discipline, and administrative reform. With regard to the responsibility of the Cabinet the Speech apparently disappoints those that assert the principle of party Cabinets, but some critics infer that since the declared responsibility to the Sovereign cannot be fully discharged without securing the support of the Diet, the Matsukata Cabinet must be held to have opened the path to the inauguration of party Cabinets. What is certain is that the Speech is not sufficiently explicit to furnish materials for any definite analysis of the Ministry's policy.

THE CABINET AND THE "PLATFORM."

The *Mainichi* publishes some particulars that it alleges are based on information it has gathered in regard to the Cabinet Council held on Saturday last. The article is very lengthy. This Cabinet Council, says the *Mainichi*, lasted for seven hours—from 5 p.m. to midnight—and it is conceivable that much discussion must have arisen. With respect to the phrases in the draft of the Premier's Speech that deal with public opinion, Viscount Nomura, Minister of Communications, and Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of Justice, wished to have an explanation of the sentence, "to take into consideration the trend of public opinion." They observed that such an expression would amount in practice to a declaration that the Administration should be conducted in conformity with the spirit of the ruling party; in other words, to the adoption of party cabinets dominated by party politics. If they were not mistaken in these ideas, the Government ought to declare themselves openly in favour of *Seito Nashaku* (party cabinets). For their own part, they were doubtful whether the adoption of such a principle would be well-timed. Marquis Hachisuka, Minister of Education, and Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, also put some questions on this point. Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs, took part in the discussion,

and observed that so long as the Diet existed and constitutional Government was carried on by seeking the approval of the Diet for Government measures, it was impossible to conduct the Administration in total disregard of the views advanced by the majority in the Diet. In the 1st session of the Diet, the *Taiseikai* supported the Government; in the 2nd session, the National Unionists played this rôle. They were political bodies that moved with the Government towards the same goal. When the Government could not command a majority, Parliament was dissolved, and a new election followed. In the long run, however, a Cabinet that enjoyed the confidence of the majority of the people could live, while one that failed to command public support must fall. The Ito Cabinet furnished a strange precedent, for when it was beaten in the Diet, without taking steps indicative of its readiness to hold itself responsible for its actions, it advised the Emperor to issue a Rescript. Then, after announcing that the situation had undergone a sudden change, it appeared once more before the Diet. Such procedure was calculated to set at naught the principles of Constitutional Government, and should not be imitated by the present Ministry. The Cabinet must move with the majority in the Diet, and in the event of failing to obtain the endorsement of the majority, the Ministers should either resign on the ground that they had lost the confidence of His Majesty's subjects, and so were unable to discharge the trust reposed in them by the Emperor; or, if they held that public opinion was not faithfully represented in the House, they should dissolve the latter and appeal once more to the people. In short, the Government ought to make up their mind that only when they enjoyed the confidence of the people could they discharge the responsibilities of office; for by no other process was it possible to realize the benefits accruing from cordial union between rulers and ruled. As to the *Seito Naikaku*, that was merely a term used by publicists to describe the nature of a Cabinet, and no Cabinet would of itself pronounce itself a *Seito Naikaku*. Of course, when a Cabinet moved along a groove approved by public opinion, and was called, by outsiders, a *Seito Naikaku*, then no objection could be raised to the appellation. Count Kabayama then rose and in an impressive tone observed that his views did not materially differ from those just enunciated by the Foreign Minister. How were affairs to-day? continued the Home Minister. There were post-bellum measures of paramount importance to be dealt with. In the interior, national finance is in a state of emergency, while abroad the relations of foreign Powers are becoming more and more serious. It was on this account that the last Cabinet felt the necessity of having an able Foreign, and an able Finance, Minister; it was on this account that matters came to such a sudden crisis, a crisis that resulted in the formation of the present Cabinet. Consequently, discerning well the general tendency of the time, the new Ministry should endeavour to bring about cordial union between rulers and ruled, and should establish amicable co-operation among all classes. Till a few years ago, he himself did not clearly discern the progress that the people had made, and thought that until the nation advanced a little farther, no means were available for conducting the affairs of State other than those used by the Sat-Cho statesmen. He stood by that conviction when first brought face to face with the Diet. But affairs had undergone a great change since that time. He had been especially struck by the mighty force that resulted from the amicable unity of rulers and ruled during the late War. When he witnessed such an ardent ebullition of loyalty and patriotism, he became convinced that his former views were fallacious. He was now of opinion that the time had arrived for conducting the Administration in conformity with the desires of the people; and that unless this course were adopted, it would be impossible to discharge the duties that the Cabinet owed to the Emperor. The main thing required to-day was to go resolutely forward; to establish cordial union between rulers and ruled; and this with a firm faith in the principles of sincerity and candour.

Thus the question of public opinion was determined, and the question of individual rights and freedom was next discussed. The Ministers of Justice and of Communications observed that the provision relating to the suspension of newspapers might be continued in so far as concerned the guarding of military and diplomatic secrets. The Foreign Minister replied that suspension as enforced to-day was only enforced after a secret had been divulged; the provisions were therefore entirely inefficacious to provide against official secrets being disclosed. The only thing to be done was to exercise a conscientious control of the Government Departments, so that nothing of any great importance might leak out. Viscount Takashima, Minister of War and of Colonization, observed that the remarks of the Foreign Minister were also applicable to military secrets. There was no use in suspending a paper after it had actually divulged a military secret. Moreover, special provisions existed with regard to guarding military secrets, and he saw no necessity to preserve the suspension clauses of the Press Law. This opinion was endorsed by Count Kabayama, who observed that suspension was prone to abuse. During the recent War, for instance, when the patriotic indignation of the people was warmly aroused, any secret the disclosure of which was calculated to impair the interest of the Empire was guarded with jealous care by the people. When, however, the same people vented their indignation at the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula that was occasioned by a diplomatic blunder of the Cabinet of the day, the suspension clause was so far availed of by the Government that the people's mouth was unduly gagged. A Cabinet that aimed to conduct the administration within the limits marked out by the Constitution, must not to-day take any such thoughtless and arbitrary steps. Even if the Press Law were not amended but preserved in its original entirety, the evil would not be allowed to rear its head so long as he held the portfolio of the Department of Home Affairs. The abolition of the suspension clause, being supported by the three Ministers, the question of individual rights and freedom was carried without amendment. Nor was objection raised to the contention that hitherto, in appointing officials, those who excelled in professional knowledge were preferred to others, so that men of ability were liable to be left out, and that in this respect the system should be amended. Thus the discussion closed without any particular disagreement. How far these assertions of the *Mainichi Shimbun* are accurate, we (*Japan Mail*) do not undertake to say.

COUNT KABAYAMA'S SPEECH.

Admiral Count Kabayama addressed the Local Governors on Tuesday morning at his official residence, in the presence of several officials of the Department of Home Affairs. He alluded to the exceptional difficulties now encountered in administering the two principal affairs of State, diplomacy and finance; to the abortive attempt of the last Cabinet to call in Counts Okuma and Matsukata to assist in the conduct of those affairs; and to the sudden crisis that led to the downfall of the Ito Cabinet. The public, continued the new Home Minister, regarded the entry of Count Itagaki into the last Cabinet as prefatory to the inauguration of a system of party Cabinets. They also regard the entry of Count Okuma into the present Cabinet in the same light. Nothing could be more erroneous. The present Cabinet does not intend to disregard the wishes of the Imperial Diet; but at the same time it will not necessarily regulate its movements by, or bring them into conformity with, the attitude assumed by the Legislative Body. In other words, the Government will deem itself very fortunate if its policy commands the support of a majority in the House, but even should its policy fail to win the approval of the Diet, the Government will take all such steps as it considers expedient and important. Placed in the position of giving assistance to the Sovereign, the Cabinet must be ready to discharge to the utmost its responsibility towards

His Majesty. The Count was determined to perform all his duties with sincerity, and expected that the Local Governors would keep the same principle in view and exert themselves strenuously to further the welfare of the State. With respect to administrative affairs falling under the control of the Department of Home Affairs, the Count observed that the rights and privileges that the people should enjoy in virtue of the Constitution would be regarded with profound respect, and that these matters should be dealt with in a magnanimous spirit. [Here several Governors interposed, and asked the Home Minister whether they might interpret such magnanimous dealing in the sense of actually allowing the professed rights and privileges. The Minister replied that the point belonged to the domain of practice, and that he would issue special instructions on the matter.] The civil service should also be amended so as to open the gates to all men of ability.

Dinner was then served, and at its close, the new Home Minister alluded to the question of the urgent public works necessitated by the recent inundations. It was inevitable, he observed, as a result of these repeated calamities, that grants-in-aid should be made from the Central Treasury. He feared that this would impair the spirit of local self-government and possibly induce a spirit of reliance upon the Central Government. The Governors must take these points into consideration and should strive to strengthen the bases of local self-government. Lately a practice had become fashionable in devastated districts to despatch deputies to Tokyo to agitate for aid from the Central Government. Such procedure tended to aggravate the distress of the suffering districts, as the expenses incurred by these deputies had to be borne by the people of the locality. The Governors should therefore consult with the people in all cases of the kind, and endeavour to discharge their duties in a manner that would win the approval of the Government and the people.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

What might have been had this or that been differently contrived, is a reflection that bulks largely in the minds of all human beings overtaken by defeat or discomfiture. It is a voice standing high in the gamut that a great poetess has called "earth's lamentable sounds." We find it expressed very sadly in this paragraph from an article in the *Kobe Herald*:—

The situation would to-day have been different had a Lowder, or a Brooke, or a W. B. Walter, or an Evers, stepped out and said: "Enough to this insensate rivalry in a field which does not command the situation; squash the *Gazette*, or even the *Herald*, if you will, and engage a Brooke or a Tennant, or some one else if you prefer, so long as you reserve a competent hand and brain to stand aside to work like a demon one week and idle or seem to idle the next, in order to meet and answer, with the irrefutable logic of facts, the sentimental and oft-misleading poison ably and shrewdly dropped from time to time in the columns of the *Mail*. That mellifluous matter reaches centres of thought and eventual action abroad, and the foreign field is the only field for which our friends the Japanese care a straw." But the day has gone by.

Well now, reading this in all seriousness, does it not betray brevity of memory? It seems to us that, not many years have passed since one of the persons mentioned did "step out" and did make precisely the kind of proposition outlined above. True, he did not say "squash the *Herald*." On the contrary, his original action appeared to foreshadow a very different fate for that tough old journal. But, in the end, he induced a feather-brained, full-pursed section of the community to put up a liberal, a most liberal, sum of money for the purpose of rejuvenating the *Japan Gazette*, hastening the death by inanition of the senile *Herald*, and slaughtering the poisonous *Japan Mail* outright. If the programme hatched, was that the fault of the "stepper-out"? What more could he have done? Did he not contrive for his emotional followers a brief ride on a rickety hobby at a cost of some forty or fifty thousand dollars? Nothing was "squashed" but the hobby, and as it rose again from its cheap ruins, the guilt of blood lies not upon the

"stepper-out" nor yet upon his disciples. There was, indeed, a laughable fiasco; there was a humiliating exposure; and there was also a cruel act of injustice. But the proverbial "seventy-five days" have reduced the recollection of these ugly things to fragmentary outlines. We have lived and learned. Nothing remains but to note the inwardness of that September lesson. It appears to be still hidden from our Kobe contemporary. For none must any longer imagine that the true purpose of the god that stepped out of the machine on the 11th of September, 1890, was to save the situation in the sense of those now mourning the imminent demise of Consular jurisdiction. His real though, perhaps, unwitting object was to demonstrate the hopelessness of the situation. He rough-hewed his ends differently, indeed, but the providence that shapes interferred, and that attempt to obscure the truth and to impede the course of justice, helped ultimately to elucidate the one and to promote the other. *Et prevalebit!* A hackneyed aphorism, indeed, but never once contradicted by events since history began to be written. The fruitless struggle would surely have lasted longer but for that sharp experience, commencing amid sensational tumult in the Public Hall on the 11th of September, 1890, and ending among shattered contracts and startling disclosures in Her Britannic Majesty's Court on June 30th, 1891. The fact is that public opinion has an invariable, if sometimes inconvenient, knack of righting itself in the long run: its aberrations never last long.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The Foreign Department, it is said, has determined to establish next year a number of Legations and Consulates abroad, the former in Hawaii, Mexico, Brazil, and one other place, and the latter in Antwerp, Sydney, Chicago, and Newchwang. Consulates-General already exist in Hawaii and Mexico, and officials combining diplomatic functions are appointed there. This arrangement not working satisfactorily in consequence of the gradually developing relations with those two countries, the Foreign Office has decided to establish Legations and to appoint *Chargés d'Affaires*. The establishment of a Legation in Brazil is with the view of encouraging the emigration of Japanese thither and facilitating commercial transactions with that country. A treaty must, of course, be concluded in advance. Japan will be represented by a *Chargé d'Affaires* in Brazil.

The Japanese police are said to be in a pitiable condition, owing to the extraordinary rise in the market prices of commodities. Their emoluments are divided into three grades, namely, 10, 9, and 8 *yen* per mensem. Thus they receive a smaller income than mechanics and master-coolies. Under such circumstances, it is not surprising to learn that much inconvenience is experienced by the Authorities owing to the resignation of constables who feel compelled to seek more remunerative occupations. A serious deficiency has been caused in the force, and repeated calls for applicants have evoked no response. The Authorities have at last determined to raise the emoluments by one *yen*, but it remains to be seen whether so small a change will produce the desired effect.

JAPANESE BANKS.

According to investigations conducted by the Department of Finance, writes the *Tokyo Asahi*, the number of banks of all kinds in Japan at the end of September was 1,258, and their capitals aggregated 228,706,044 *yen*. Compared with the figures for the last day of August, there was an increase of 9 banks and 5,206,000 capital.

Zumoni Saito and others have a project on foot to organize the Tohoku Kairyo Kaisha with a capital of *yen* 3,000,000. Their object is to promote Japanese seeling.—*Nippon*.

FINANCIAL TOPICS.

The *Tokyo Economist* publishes an interesting note in connection with the Public Undertakings Fund. News recently given in some Tokyo papers, writes this journal, to the effect that the Government intends to float an Undertakings Loan among the public at large, is delusive. In point of fact, the Government never intended to float the loan in such a way. Of the total amount required—130 million *yen*—80 million *yen* is to be appropriated for the purpose of expanding the national armament, so that though the Loan bears the qualifying epithet, "Public Undertakings," it is essentially a National Defence Loan. When the Budget for the current year was first compiled, it was intended to take the 130 million *yen* from the Indemnity and not to raise a Loan. But it subsequently transpired that the whole of the first installment of the Indemnity was wanted for adjusting the War Expenses and for the purposes of the Budget for the 29th fiscal year. Therefore, if any sum was to be taken from the Indemnity, the second installment alone was available for the purpose—a step that was considered hardly good statesmanship, seeing that the second installment at that time existed only on paper. The original intention of the Cabinet being changed, it was decided to temporarily insert an item—National Defence Loan—in the section of Extraordinary Revenue. An objection subsequently appeared as to the name of the loan. Some persons said that the Powers were narrowly watching the action of Japan, suspecting that she might be entertaining ambitious projects in the Orient, and that, therefore, unless the reason for the sudden expansion of the National Defence was properly explained and shown to be really of a most peaceful character, unexpected obstacles might present themselves in the payment of the Indemnity. It was therefore determined to change the original designation to the name that the Loan now bears. At the same time, no one endorsed the measure of raising a loan bearing 5 per cent. interest, while the second installment of the Indemnity was lying idle. The excess of 43 million *yen* in favour of imports in Japan's foreign trade during the eight months ending August, must have brought into Japan at least 20 to 30 million *yen* out of the Indemnity, and the portion thus drawn must now be in the strong-boxes of the Treasury. Now the Law of Special Finance relating to the Indemnity provides that it may be availed of in purchasing Bonds, and this shows that the original idea of the Government regarding the Public Undertakings Loan was to employ the Indemnity and not to raise the money in the open market. If that project is to be adhered to by the present Government, the installment of this year's Undertakings Loan—8,370,000 *yen*—will be taken entirely from the Indemnity. But the Treasury, contrary to public expectation, does not hold more than 5,900,000 *yen*. What has become of the 20 to 30 million *yen* that the Government must have obtained by taking advantage of the striking disproportion between imports and exports? It is thought by the *Oriental Economist* that the Treasury must have lent it to the Bank of Japan with the view of enabling it to tranquillize the domestic money market. If this conjecture is well founded, the Government, when the necessity arises to raise the Undertakings Loan, will cause the Bank to issue convertible notes to the extent of the accommodation afforded to the Bank, and will purchase the Bonds that it will float. The Undertakings Loan will never be floated in the open market. The *Economist* says that this information is likely to be well founded.

Nothing can be more contradictory than the news furnished by the Tokyo papers in regard to the Budget now in course of compilation. One day we are told that the retrenchment that the Cabinet has decided to effect in the administrative expenses is only 30 million *yen*, while next day we find that sum doubled. The latest news that the *Fiji* gives is worthy of notice. It says that the demands made by the respective Departments while the last Cabinet was in power exceeded the revenue by more than 60

millions; that the new Premier and Financial Minister have succeeded in cutting them down by 40 millions; and that the remaining 20 millions will be raised either by floating a loan or by having recourse to further taxation. The claim of the Navy, for the second-period-expansion programme, has been allowed to stand, and the only noteworthy retrenchment in the Budget for the War Department is the striking out of the item relating to the establishment of independent garrisons in Formosa. According to these amendments, the garrisons of the island will be furnished by drafts from the Divisions at home, as at present. The Department of Colonization has increased its demands by seven millions or so. The retrenchment effected in the demands of the Department of Communications will be sensibly felt by the public at large. They amount to as much as four million *yen*. Not only will it be impossible to take up the work of establishing the telephone service between Tokyo and Osaka, but the establishment of the same service in such large cities as Nagoya, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and so forth, must be deferred for another year. The projected improvements in Government Railways must also suffer, to a certain extent. The telegraphic service between Tokyo and Osaka being so liable to interruption by storm or floods, the Authorities had intended to lay submarine cables between the two places, but this work must also be postponed. Again, it was the intention of the Postal Authorities to establish parcel service facilities at 1,400 places, and postal order offices in 400 places. This programme must be considerably reduced. The Home Office's budget was also reduced to the extent of 4,300,000 *yen*, the chief items struck out being additional allowances for clerks the erection of new Parliament buildings, and an Office for the Department of Colonization.

ECONOMIC TOPICS.

The amount in which the 13 embarrassed wholesale cloth-dealers of Tokyo are indebted to Banks and other creditors, appears to be much smaller than was originally stated by the *Yoroku Choho*. Their debt to the Banks, their chief creditors, is now estimated at half a million *yen*, but so much of their paper is endorsed by wealthy men that the unsecured portion may not exceed 200,000 *yen*. The position of the Sawa Firm in Kiryu is believed to be more serious. Mr. Sawa Kichiyemon, the proprietor of the firm, was not only the most influential merchant in Kiryu, but his name had also become widely known throughout the Kwanto districts, being connected with many enterprises. The Nippon Weaving Company in Kiryu may be said to have been established by him alone, and he had monetary transactions with more than 30 banks in Tokyo, Yokohama, and the Ryomo districts. Bills bearing the firm's signature are estimated to represent about 1,000,000 *yen*, but it is said that the assets will not exceed a tenth of that total. The direct cause of the firm's collapse was the depressed condition of the American and European markets, and losses consequently incurred in export business. In Kiryu and Ashikaga not a few other merchants also are on the verge of ruin, so that business in the two famous weaving centres of the Kwanto region is at a standstill. Mr. Sawa being connected by ties of matrimony or intimate friendship with such large mercers of Tokyo as Matsuzakaya Daimaru, and so forth, will probably be helped to tide over the crisis without his firm being reduced to ruin. It is rumoured that a similar trouble impends in the case of several wholesale silk and cotton-yarn merchants in Tokyo.

A reaction is apparent in the stock market also. "Potential shares," which at one time were quoted at an extraordinary figure, have undergone a marked fall. For instance, a "potential share" of the Tobu Railway Company quoted formerly at about 20 *yen*, will not now fetch over 8 *yen*, and a share of the Bu-so Central Railway Company that could easily find a purchaser a short time ago at 17 or 18

yen, has fallen to 7 yen, and even at that figure is not easily saleable. In fact the rise in the market price of commodities has greatly embarrassed the work of railway construction. The cost of building a road is at least two-thirds higher than it was a few years ago. A sleeper that used to be procurable for 25 *sen*, now commands about the double that figure. Under the circumstances, a newly projected railway company can not expect to make profits such as were obtained by similar enterprises in former times.

The *Oriental Economist*, according to its custom, gives the total capital invested in various enterprises, from January, 1895, to the end of last month. The following are the figures:—

	Jan., 1895 to Aug., 1896. Yen.	Sept., 1896. Yen.	Total. Yen.
Railways..	590,435,290	79,105,000	669,540,290
Banks	149,030,000	2,920,000	151,950,000
Others.....	278,304,500	20,128,000	298,432,500

Total... 1,017,769,790 102,153,000 1,119,922,790

According to researches conducted by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the total installments to be paid from July last to June next by shareholders of mercantile corporations coming under the control of that Department (excluding Railways and Banks) amount to 15,750,000 *yen*.

JAPANESE CONSOLS ON THE LONDON MARKET.

Our readers are aware that Mr. Yamamoto, Manager of the Bank of Japan, and Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, proceeded to England a few months ago with the object of making arrangements for having Japanese Public Loan Bonds included among the stocks that are regularly dealt in on the London Exchange. After the arrival of the two commissioners in London, sundry telegraphic inquiries were addressed to the Finance Department in Tokyo, for in money matters English scrutiny is apt to be very close. Full information was furnished on all the points queried, and it would seem that a satisfactory understanding was at length reached, for, on the 14th inst., a telegram was received by the Bank of Japan, saying that it had been agreed to allow transactions in Public Loan Bonds of 1892, 1893, and 1895. Nothing was added as to whether any transactions in these Bonds had actually taken place, and of course nothing can be known of the price they are likely to command. It is plain enough, however, that the choice made by London financiers was based on the periods at which the various kinds of Japanese Bonds become redeemable. What the British investor wants is a security that will "hold" his money for a good spell of years, and that is not liable to throw it back upon his hands at some moment when the difficulty of finding safe re-employment for it may happen to be particularly embarrassing. From that point of view, neither the War Loans Bonds nor the Bonds issued prior to 1892 are inviting, the former, as a special loan, being not unlikely to be redeemed at any time, and the period of the latter's redemption being inconveniently near. The *Yiji Shimpō*, from which we take these details, adds that the amounts of the Bonds in question are:—

	Yen.
1892	40,850,350
1893	17,987,090
1895	2,000,000

Total..... 60,837,440

No Bonds of this character (Consols) were issued in 1894, the war with China being then in progress. We need scarcely add, perhaps, that the news of the receipt of the above telegram by the Bank of Japan has set rumour's tongue wagging, and that stories are in circulation about immense transactions in the selected Bonds being on the verge of conclusion. There is not room for anything very big where only six millions sterling worth of Consols are in question, not will British capitalists be greatly affected by such an addition to their chances of investment.

THE "TOKYO ECONOMIST" ON INDUSTRIAL TOPICS.

The *Tokyo Economist* wants to know whether Mr. Mayeda Masana and the Liberals have been disillusionized on the subject of the Silk Conditioning House affair. The *Tokyo* periodical was from the first opposed to the measure, which was promoted so earnestly by Mr. Mayeda Masana and the Liberals. The subject was taken up by Mr. Taguchi, the editor of the journal, when the Bill was laid before the 8th session of the Diet. He contended that an institution of the kind should be established at weaving centres such as Lyons, in France, or Patterson, in America. It would be entirely a mistake to establish silk conditioning houses at such places as Kobe and Yokohama. Even where no charge is imposed, which, however, must be impossible, experts at the conditioning houses would have nothing to do. This advice of Mr. Taguchi was disregarded, and a conditioning house was opened in April last both at Yokohama and Kobe, at a cost of over 60,000 *yen* in each case. No charges are to be imposed. Do the results thus far obtained at either place justify the action taken by Mr. Mayeda and the Liberals? Here is the table giving the results of the work at the Yokohama and Kobe offices:—

YOKOHAMA.	
One week ended Aug. 13th.....	42 samples.
One week ended Aug. 22nd	25 samples.
One week ended Aug. 29th.....	30 samples.
One week ended Sept. 5th.....	23 samples.
One week ended Sept. 12th.....	44 samples.
KOBÉ.	
During July	9 samples.
During August	21 samples.

Are the supporters of this measure satisfied? Some Yokohama merchants have told the editor of the magazine that they apply merely for amusement, and because no charges are imposed for the inspection of their silk, and that they apply when they have leisure, but that no one would do so when business is brisk. The *Keisai* observes satirically that it regrets to see its prediction unfortunately realized.

Since the memorable intervention of Russia, France, and Germany, in the Liaotung affair writers the same journal, in an article headed "Schemes to promote commercial relations between Japan and Italy," the friendship existing between Japan and Italy has grown more and more cordial, and signs of forming a triple alliance between Japan, England, and Italy were thought to be visible at the time against the alliance of the other three. The Japanese Honorary Consul at Genoa reports that, taking advantage of this opportunity, schemes are afoot in Italy for promoting commercial relations between the two countries. He says that a number of prominent business men of Italy met together to discuss how to attain that purpose, and that, to facilitate the realization of the scheme, he has himself opened correspondence with certain merchants in Yokohama and Hyogo. He intends to compile Italian statistics giving some idea of the commerce, industry, and other matters concerning Japan. The *Tokyo Economist* next points, as another sign showing that Italians are now paying attention to Japan, to the wealthy Italian capitalist who lately came to this country and proposed to Marquis Ito, the Premier of the day, to undertake the opening up of the resources of Formosa, in the manner of the East India Company. The plan was, however, rejected by Japanese capitalists, to whom the matter was referred, they being of opinion that they themselves could raise the necessary capital if the establishment of such a company was advisable. Turning to the commercial relation hitherto subsisting between the two Powers, the *Keisai* finds it entirely unsatisfactory, the average exports during the last five years being two million *yen* or so, while the imports from Italy have averaged less than 200,000 *yen*. This is chiefly due to the fact that the people of the two countries are mutually ignorant of each other's conditions.

ECONOMIC TROUBLES.

The failure of Mr. Daimon Shimbei, of Osaka, has dragged into the mire of insolvency not merely the Union Savings Bank, of which he was President, but other banks also. The Shimanouchi Bank (capital 100,000 *yen*) has suspended payment, and has been sued by the Kawachi Spinning Mill for a sum of 4,000 *yen* deposited with it. The President of the Bank was at the same time a Manager of the Mill, and when, in consequence of the insolvency of Mr. Daimon, the Bank experienced a run (Mr. Daimon having been one of its Directors), the President begged Mr. Yano, another Director of the Mill, to draw out a sum of 4,000 *yen* deposited in two other banks, and to entrust it to the Shimanouchi Bank. Mr. Yano complied with the request of his colleague, and transferred the money. When news of this transaction reached the ears of Mr. Hyozu, President of the Mill, he became greatly alarmed, and after a hurried discussion with the Directors of the Mill, he applied to the Shimanouchi Bank to refund the sum deposited by the Mill, namely 20,000 *yen*. The Bank refunded 16,000 *yen*, but failing to pay the remaining 4,000 was sued by the Mill, and had no recourse but to close its doors. The case of the Kotohira Bank, Sanuki, is more serious. Its capital is 300,000 *yen*, of which 75,000 *yen* was paid up when it commenced operations in June of last year. It has branch offices in Tokyo and Osaka, and the latter was under the control of the unfortunate Mr. Daimon. His insolvency caused a run on the Osaka Branch, and it was obliged to put up its shutters. The Kansai Steamship Company had a deposit of 40,000 *yen* in the Bank, and apprehensive of a similar failure on the part of the Central Office, a Director of the Company, accompanied by a bailiff, proceeded to Kotohira on the 9th inst., and distrained the property of the Bank. On the same day, the Local Court declared Mr. Takehara, President of the Bank, insolvent, and sealed the movable property of the concern. It is said that the business of the Bank being in a very precarious state, there had already been talk among its principal shareholders about the advisability of dissolving it, but disaster overtook it before any preparations could be made. The shareholders were to hold an extraordinary meeting on the 13th inst. The insolvency of this Bank has thrown Kotohira and its vicinity into a condition of panic, and fears are entertained that a similar disaster may overtake other concerns with which Mr. Takehara is connected.

A panic on a small scale has occurred in Nagoya, as a result of speculation in the shares of its Stock Exchange. Such fluctuations lately occurred there that a share of only 50 *yen* face value was pushed up to 690 *yen* about the beginning of last month. A reaction followed, of course, and a few weeks later the quotation fell to 400 *yen*, whereupon the local banks, which had previously been ready to advance 200 to 300 *yen* upon the shares, declined to take them even at their face value. Similarly wild transactions in the shares of the Nagoya Electric Railway involved stock-jobbers and others in such disasters that many are now reported to be on the verge of ruin. What troubles them most at this juncture is the refusal of the Banks to advance any money on shares, or to assist stock-brokers even when the latter apply for loans on the security of immovable property.

With regard to Tokyo and its vicinity, the insolvency of Mr. Sawa Kichiyemon is likely to be satisfactorily arranged, owing to the magnanimous help that the principal mercers in Tokyo have consented to extend to their distressed fellow-dealer. The case of the wholesale cotton-cloth dealers and woollen-goods dealers is still under negotiation with their creditors. Meanwhile, the disturbance has greatly impeded transactions in cotton cloth in Tokyo, everybody refusing to give credit to merchants engaged in that trade. No business is done on the market, and quotations have fallen by 5 to 6 per cent.

SPECIAL OPEN PORTS.

Of the six ports lately announced by Imperial Ordinance as special ports for foreign commerce, Hakata had previously been opened for commercial transactions with Korea. At present there are two kinds of special open ports, one for commerce with certain special countries; the other entitled to carry on commercial transactions with all the Treaty Powers. The six ports of Bakan, Hakata, Izuhara (Tsushima), Sasuna (Tsushima), and Shikami were selected as special out-lets for commerce with Korea prior to the opening of the Imperial Diet, while subsequently the three ports of Miyazu, Fushiki, and Otaru were opened, with the approval of the Diet, for commerce with China, Korea, and Russia. The six ports of Hakata, Karatsu, Kuchinotsu, Tsuruga, Sakai (Hoki), and Hamada (Iwami), announced as special open ports by Imperial Ordinance, have been made so, in virtue of Law No. XVIII., promulgated in March last, for special commerce with the rest of the world. The only difference between open ports of this description and Treaty Ports, says the *Yiji*, consists in this, that, whereas the mercantile marine of any nationality is free to enter or leave the latter and to import or export any kind of commodities, ships owned by Japanese subjects alone are entitled to enter special open ports. Though differing widely in significance, the *Yiji* does not think that any particular difference exists between special open ports of older date and those announced only a few days ago, it being plain, for example, that the three ports of Tsuruga, Sakai and Hamada were opened with the view of promoting commercial transaction with Korea and Russian Siberia. Then there is a certain important distinction between ports for special export and ports for special import and export. Fushiki, Otaru, and Bakan are ports of the first description; Sakai, Hamada, and Tsuruga belong to the second type, while Hakata, Karatsu, and Kuchinotsu combine both qualifications. Now in ports for the special export of cereals, flour, coal, and sulphur, a foreign chartered vessel is free to enter or leave, while at ports for special export and import, as Sakai, Hamada and Tsuruga, no vessel owned by a foreigner is allowed to enter. Out of the six new special open ports, branch offices of the Nagasaki Custom Office are already established for Hakata, Karatsu, and Kuchinotsu, but such provision has not yet been made for the remaining three. Consequently, branches of the Kobe Customs will be established during the current month at Sakai and Hamada, while Tsuruga will be placed under the control of the Niigata Customs Office. Five or six officials are to be despatched to each branch customs house.

THE JAPANESE MINT.

The report of the Director of the Imperial Japanese Mint for the year ending March 31st, 1896, shows that, in the matter of coinage, the Mint did not do as much work as in the preceding year, but that a considerable access of business was caused by the manufacture of medals to commemorate the war with China. Of these medals 226,029 were struck; 5 being of gold, 70,385 of silver, and 155,639 of copper. The guns captured in the war were used as material, for the copper medals, and of course the composition of a suitable alloy and the process of colouring gave considerable trouble. As for the coins struck, they are shown in the following table:—

Denomination.	Pieces.	Value. Yen.
Gold—Five-yen	282,000	1,410,000
Silver—One-yen	16,500,000	16,500,000
Twenty-sen	5,003,010	1,000,602
Ten-sen	15,008,270	1,504,827
Total	36,511,280	19,001,429
Nickel—Five-sen	1,030,120	51,506
Grand Total	37,541,400	20,462,935

These figures, as compared with those for the previous year, show decreases of 270,000 yen in gold, 10,800,290 yen in silver, and 298,530 yen in nickel. It should be noted, how-

ever, that the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1895, was quite exceptional in the matter of coinage. The average annual value of the coins struck during the preceding 8 years was 12 million yen approximately, but in 1894-5 the figure suddenly rose to nearly 32 millions. Hence a coinage of 20½ millions in 1895-6, though less than the coinage of the previous year, was far above the normal figure. The expenditures for the year exceeded the estimates, owing to the coinage of an unexpected quantity of subsidiary coins and the striking of war medals, but a net profit of 426,868 yen was nevertheless realized. Altogether, the Mint has been a source of very considerable gain to the State, the net profits since its establishment in 1870 having aggregated 11,379,856 yen. The quantities of gold, silver, copper and nickel coins struck during the 25½ years of the Mint's existence (i.e. from December, 1870, to March 31st, 1896) are represented by the following values:—gold, 69,350,083 yen; silver, 187,909,059 yen; copper, 12,418,056 yen, and nickel, 5,090,103 yen; the grand total being, omitting fractions, 275,567,302 yen. It would be interesting to know how much of that amount now remains in Japan, but the calculation would involve many factors very difficult to determine.

Several years have now elapsed since the services of the remarkably competent foreign experts employed at the Mint were dispensed with, and it will be remembered that the step evoked considerable criticism at the time. A specially doubtful point was the competence of Japanese assayers, and it was predicted that without foreign aid the quality of the coins issuing from the Mint would not command public credit. It appears now that those fears had no valid foundation. The Japanese have worked the Mint long enough, without any alien assistance, to thoroughly establish their ability, and it is certainly not premature to compliment them on the fact.

MR. SUYENOBU ON GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

Mr. Suyenobu, in the course of a recent interview with a representative of the *Yiji Shimpō*, criticized the financial policy of the late Cabinet in a very outspoken manner. He said that it was utterly at variance with the rudimentary principles of political economy. For instance, he could not understand why, after withdrawing an immense sum of money from the people and converting it into funds for non-productive purposes, the Government should have neglected to refund this money as quickly as possible after the war. On the contrary, the Government had proceeded to further withdraw capital from the productive market by floating loans and adding to the burden of the people. Be the issue of a war what it may, it is important that steps be taken to hand back any sum that has been forced from the people during the war's continuance. What did the Japanese Government do? It simply laid idly aside in England—the wealthiest country in the world—the indemnity received from China. Nothing could be more irrational. The economy of Japan developed steadily from about 1887, and it is conceivable that had there been no war, the surplus in the treasury must have reached over 100 million yen to-day. A loan of even 100 million yen might, in that case, have been procurable at 4 per cent., and industries and manufactures would, without much outside encouragement, have made striking development. But the diminution, or rather the exhaustion, of the surplus cannot be helped. The fault lies in the post-bellum financial measures that the Government adopted. China is far wiser in this respect. She has succeeded in procuring abroad all the money required for the indemnity, and nothing has been done to withdraw capital from the people. This contrast is most striking. While the markets of China, the vanquished party, present no troubles, but are carrying on transactions as if nothing has happened, Japan, the victorious party, presents a very miserable appearance. The attempt to raise a loan of 10 million yen resulted in a fiasco, while Government bonds bearing interest of 5 per cent. are quoted below their face value. The fact is, the

Government has been too ready to repose confidence in its bankers, labouring under the fallacious idea that financial affairs are best known to these men. Bankers may have a better knowledge than the Government; but they also know how best to promote their own interests, and that at the expense of the Government or the public at large. They told the Government that the inflow of a large quantity of specie into Japan would inflate the volume of the currency and consequently derange the market. They did not like to have the land flooded with capital, for that would result in lowering the market rate of interest, and therefore would affect the banks. The treasury honestly believed in this advice and let the indemnity lie in England, while all the time the people were suffering from lack of ready money. The Government did not know that inflation meant only a temporary excess of inconvertible notes, and that, however abundant might be the amount of specie that a country holds in its vaults, such specie does not inflate the volume of the currency at all. The treasury was entirely deluded by its bankers. While bringing about a rise in the bank rate, the Government tried to encourage industries, giving subsidies to steamship companies or special allowances to technical schools. The Government acted on a wrong principle, for if it took steps to reduce the rate of interest, industry and manufactures would flourish without any encouragement. Exports would increase over imports, and all would go on splendidly. The Government is now alarmed at the rise in the market price of commodities and the excess of imports over exports. Another thing that Mr. Suyenobu can not understand is the Government's attempt to sell its bonds in Europe, by expressly sending delegates to England. Such a practice amounts to an attempt to parade in England the benefit supposed to accrue to the purchasers of these bonds. It will, however, rather detract from the value of the bonds. Even without such a parade, the bonds can be sold with ease, so soon as the world begins to know that Japan has plenty of specie reserves in her treasury. Mr. Suyenobu wonders in conclusion why, while the Government scrupulously endeavours to let the public know of the condition of its finance by publishing weekly returns of currency in circulation, should keep secret the facts relating to its public business department. He hopes that the new Finance Minister may not fall into a similar error as that into which his predecessor was led.

CHARITY CONCERT IN TOKYO.

A charity concert is to be given in the Central Tabernacle, Hongo, Tokyo, at half-past one on the afternoon of the 17th instant. The cost of admission varies from 20 sen to 1 yen, and a reduction of 50 per cent. is made in the case of students. The programme is as follows:—

Overture.	The Nippon Music Club.
"Yoshino-ochi" ("Escape")	Mr. Yamashita.
of Yoshitane to Yoshino, <i>Saizuma Bwa</i>	Mr. Gauntlett, Mr. Hart.
Pianoforte Duet	Members of the
Asuma-jishi	Chinese Music Club.
Nagahara Club.	
Vocal Duet	Mr. Coates, Mr. Alcorn (?)
Solo on the <i>Shakuhachi</i>	Mr. Araki Kodō.
Violin Solo	Mr. Gring (?)
Pianoforte Solo	Miss Moulton.
Kasumisan-kyoku—Japanese Vocal and Instrumental Music.	
Singers	Mr. Tokiwazu Wasatayu, Mr. Tokiwazu Sakitayu.
Musicians	Mr. Shikiwasa Shikisa, Mr. Shikiwasa Kowasa.
Concerted Piece	The Nippon Music Club.
Solo	Organ
Godan Kinuta	Japanese Music
	Koto players, Messrs.
	Yamase and Imari
	Semizu, Mr. Chifu.
Vocal Solo	Miss Moulton.
Solo	<i>Saizuma Bwa</i>
Concerted Piece	Mr. Yamashita.
	The Nippon Music Club.

We must explain that the above is translated from a Japanese programme, so that, in some cases, we have been unable to identify with certainty the originals of the transliterated names. The Japanese performers are all celebrated in their respective lines.

At noon on Tuesday, a conflagration broke out at Minami Sakuma-cho, Shiba. It was not till three o'clock that the flames were extinguished.

The Japanese man-of-war *Naniwa*, that came up to Yokohama the other day from Yokosuka, is to go to Tateyama for target practice.

TENURE OF LAND IN JAPAN.

WE are constrained to revert to this subject because its paramount importance for foreigners forbids us to pass unnoticed certain criticisms recently published with the object of proving that the new Civil Code of Japan and the Revised Treaties will not enable foreigners to obtain security of land-tenure outside the Settlements in the capacity of superficiaries. It is certainly strange that the office of endeavouring to construe the provisions of the Code in a sense highly disadvantageous to the foreign residents should be so readily undertaken by a journal professing to be edited in the interests of this community. The unanimous desire of all publicists should be to interpret the Code in a manner conducive to the benefit of foreign enterprise, and calculated to promote Japan's material development by offering inducements for the investment of foreign capital. But that broad and plainly reasonable view appears to have been prostituted to the petty and contemptible desire of perpetuating the prejudice against Treaty Revision by showing that all the hacknied objections to it are unalterable.

The Civil Code, according to the interpretation of a thoroughly competent German expert, who has himself translated it from the original Japanese, creates a right called "superficies," which right foreigners will enjoy after the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. A "superficiary" is a person who has acquired a title to occupy and use the land of another, for the purpose of erecting buildings or planting trees on it, such buildings and trees becoming the actual property of the superficiary. As to the time of occupation, it may either be indefinite or fixed. If indefinite, the occupant may surrender his title whenever he pleases, subject to certain provisions concerning rent; moreover, either the occupant or owner, should the conditions of tenure prove practically irksome to either, may apply to a law court to have the period of occupation limited, and the court, on receipt of such application, is competent to fix the period at not less than twenty years and not more than fifty. If, on the other hand, the owner and the superficiary agree at the outset to fix a period of occupation, they are perfectly free, so far as the Civil Code is concerned, to put that period at any number of years they please.

Such are the provisions of the Code. We shall now enumerate the criticisms that have been advanced to prove that the Code contains "next to nothing to satisfy the legitimate requirements of the foreigner," and that "the objections which were originally expressed, in great part have not been met in such ways as would have proved satisfactory."

The first criticism is that "leases for a

term not exceeding thirty years are understood to be the general custom of the country," and that "no person would be willing to erect substantial buildings on land having such a limited tenure." This appears to be founded on a misconception. There is no "custom of the country" in the matter of leases. Until the abolition of feudalism in 1871, no such things as leases, in the modern sense of the term, were legally recognised in Japan, and since that time nothing that can be regarded as a recognised custom has been established. When the question of tenure of land by foreigners outside the Settlements constituted a subject of common discussion, an idea gained prevalence that thirty years would be the maximum period fixed by the Civil Code, but there is nothing whatever either in the traditions or in the customs of the Japanese to indicate such a limit.

The second criticism is that those who assert the competence of a land-owner to grant to a superficiary the right of occupying land for any fixed period, have no basis for their contention except the fact that the Code refrains from imposing any restriction as to time. That, indeed, would be an amply sufficient basis, for when the law of the land authorizes a certain transaction unconditionally, the absence of any intention to impose conditions is constructively established. But there is more to be said in this case. If the framers of the Code had confined themselves to a vague statement that the right of occupying land might be conveyed by an owner to a superficiary, it is conceivable that a law court, interpreting such a provision, would, under certain circumstances, be disposed to set local custom or some unwritten principle of equity above the right of freedom of contract implicitly created by the Code. But the Code is not disfigured by any such vagueness. It distinctly formulates two kinds of contract: one for a fixed term, concerning the duration of which no limit is textually imposed; the other for an indefinite term, to which courts of law are competent to set a limit of from 20 to 50 years in the event of an application from either the owner or the superficiary. In the presence of such provisions no room for doubt exists. The law courts are not invested with competence to interfere except in cases where no period has been fixed by a contract, and even in such cases their interference is limited to a minimum of 20 years and a maximum of 50. We have thus two facts combining to establish a perfectly clear situation: first, the fact that no restriction is textually imposed on the contracting parties' right to choose and fix their own period; secondly, the fact that appeal to a court of law is contemplated only where that right has not been exercised.

The third criticism is that "the ancient custom of the country may possibly be

pleaded in explanation" of the Code, and that "we know by a recent case at Kobe that Japanese Courts exercise the power of altering conditions in leases." To this the reply is that, in the first place, there is no "ancient custom of the country," leases, in the sense under consideration, having been unknown in pre-Restoration days; and, in the second place, the Kobe case could never have come up for hearing under the new Code. The facts of that case were that a land-owner, finding himself obliged to pay an annual land-tax greater than the rent received from his tenant, under a lease of indefinite duration, applied to a law court to have the rent raised, and the court granted the application. But the new Civil Code does not invest the courts of law with any competence as regards rent. Their powers are strictly limited to fixing the duration of tenure where no definite period has already been agreed upon by the contracting parties, and where one or other of those parties applies for legal intervention. If, after the new Code goes into operation, a land-owner finds himself suffering from such a hardship as that experienced by the Kobe suitor, the utmost help he could obtain from a law court would be a judgment limiting the continuance of the hardship to twenty years. If a fixed term of tenure were inscribed in the lease, the court would possess no competence whatever: whether the land-owner or the superficiary were the sufferer, he must endure the situation until the termination of the fixed period. It may be noted in this context that the mere fact of a court's competence to extend for fifty years the term of an indefinite lease, despite the protests of the land-owner, completely disposes of the hallucination that an appeal by the latter to a thirty years' custom could ever be recognised by a court administering the new Code.

The fourth criticism is that, "apart from this question of leasing, the main objection, on the subject of land, urged by the opponents of Treaty Revision, was with regard to the ownership of land—a right which the Revised Treaties do not confer, so that the original complaint exists in as full force as before." Now, this same critic has already told us—as quoted above—that what foreigners chiefly apprehended was inability to obtain leases of land for periods sufficiently long to warrant the erection of substantial buildings. In truth the mere fact of ownership has little practical importance. If a foreigner can secure the right to occupy land for a hundred or two hundred years, the question whether he is registered as owner or as superficiary is almost indifferent to him. It was supposed that he would not be competent to secure the right for more than thirty years, and, on that supposition, considerable discontent was naturally expressed. But to pretend that, despite the unlimited extension granted by the new

Code, "the original complaint exists in full force as before," is a misstatement too gross to be attributed to mere stupidity.

The fifth and last criticism is that "to throw open the country without giving aliens the same right to acquire the ownership of land which Japanese possess in other countries, was and is felt to be both farcical and illiberal." We must assume this criticism to be the outcome of flagrant ignorance. In the great majority of the countries with which Japan has treaties, the ownership of land by aliens is interdicted, and even in England itself the privilege is of very modern enactment. At all events, long tenure of land is what foreigners want. Ownership in perpetuity is not at all necessary for purposes of business enterprise.

THE CABINET.

THE dubious tone adopted by the vernacular press with reference to the prospects of the MATSUKATA Cabinet is singular. We can not recall a similarly universal expression of journalistic perplexity on any occasion of a change of Ministry in the past. Perhaps the explanation is to be sought in the fact that the politicians to whose support the Cabinet might reasonably look are hampered by their own traditions. For when the Liberals formed an alliance with the ITO Cabinet, their opponents, the *Shimpo-to*, vehemently denounced the proceeding, called it an unconditional surrender of all the Constitutional principles for which the Liberals had fought for eighteen years, and declared that it amounted to deliberate suicide. If now, at this juncture, the *Shimpo-to* proclaim themselves supporters of a Cabinet consisting almost entirely of Satsuma men, men, moreover, whose names have been hitherto prominently associated with the system of Clan Ministries, they will expose themselves to a crushing "tu quoque" from the Liberals, and will stand before the nation as politicians who condemn in others the very course that they are themselves prepared to take should circumstances make it convenient. Hence the *Shimpo-to* must be very cautious in their demeanour. That their inclination is to stand by the MATSUKATA-OKUMA Cabinet can not be questioned, but since they are constrained to maintain the appearance of supporting principles not persons, they have to wait for some *exposé* of the Ministry's policy before publicly committing themselves. As for the Liberals, though some journals refer with apparent surprise to their silence, in other words, to their abstinence from issuing a manifesto, we really fail to see how they can reasonably be expected to do anything of the kind. If there were any question of appealing to the constituencies, different considerations would come into play. But a general election is not within sight, and, in the meanwhile, no one may pretend to doubt

that the Liberals are opposed to a Cabinet which owes its genesis to the fact that Count ITAGAKI refused to serve in company with Count OKUMA. In truth, that the Liberals are enemies of the new Cabinet just as surely as the *Shimpo-to* are its friends, needs no announcement from either body of politicians. The attitude of the National Unionists alone is doubtful, and even in their case the general impression is that, by an inevitable division of their forces, they will cease to hold the balance of power, and may therefore be neglected from the calculation. Hence, on the whole, we see no warrant for drawing sinister inferences from the apparent uncertainty of the press. There is no real uncertainty, but only a judicious reluctance to speak definitely.

One of the vernacular newspapers, however, betrays towards Count OKUMA a degree of hostility that distorts its criticisms out of all reasonable form. We allude to the *Chuo*, the supposed organ of the National Unionists. It has certainly shown considerable ingenuity in aggravating the difficulties of the Count's position, but when we find it driven to the extremely silly and thoughtless pretence that his inability to speak a foreign language disqualifies him for the post of Foreign Minister, we are forced to conclude that all rational arguments are wanting. The *Chuo* introduced that comment in a somewhat amusing fashion. It said that the condition of the Foreign Representatives at Chiussenji, as described by the *Japan Mail*, when, by the intervention of the weather clerk, they were cut off from all communication with the Foreign Office, was not more embarrassing than their present position when, owing to the Foreign Minister's inability to converse with them, they are equally isolated. A jesting allusion of that kind might have been pardonable. But the *Chuo* has harped upon the subject to a degree altogether silly and unreflecting. How many holders of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs during the Meiji era have possessed a sufficient knowledge of any European language to enable them to carry on an important discussion without the aid of an interpreter? Moreover, it appears somewhat late to discuss Count OKUMA's linguistic attainments after he has already proved himself one of the ablest and most successful Foreign Ministers Japan has ever had. We do not think that blind and peevish criticism like that of the *Chuo* serves any end except to discredit the critic.

Grand Lodge having on June 3rd passed an address to the Prince of Wales congratulating him on the completion of twenty-one years of his Grand Mastership, the following acknowledgment was read at the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of English Freemasons, held on 2nd Sept.:—"Sir Francis Knollys is desired by his Royal Highness the Grand Master to thank Grand Lodge for their address of congratulation and for the expression of their good wishes on the occasion of the twenty-first anniversary of his installation as Grand Master of Freemasons of England."

MARQUIS SAIONJI.

THERE seems to be a consensus of opinion among the Japanese as to the exceptionally high qualities displayed by Marquis SAIONJI during his administration at the Department of Education. He shares with the late Viscount INOUE the credit of having shown greater aptitude for the office than any of its preceding occupants. Yet, from the point of view of real progress, we fail to see how any comparison can be set up. Viscount INOUE was essentially a conservative. Believing thoroughly in education as a means of developing national competence, he nevertheless held that one of the chief objects of education in Japan should be to keep the people in touch with the classical lore of bygone centuries, and with the ancient philosophical systems to which he himself attributed the genesis of many excellent national qualities, but which, according to more progressive views, serve only as a medium for preserving the mummies of an effete civilization. It did not occur to him, apparently, that an attempt to hold fast by the old and to reach out after the new, simultaneously, must strain the energies of students to breaking point. It may seem singular that such an error should have been committed by a man exceptionally gifted, and distinguished by a receptive gentleness of intellect seldom found in combination with conservative tendencies. Yet the explanation is simple enough. Viscount INOUE was swayed partly by his own special attainments; partly by the trend of the time in which he lived. A Chinese scholar of eminent reputation, his mind was saturated with the classical erudition of the Middle Kingdom, and it is more than probable that the official uses served by his learning betrayed him into forming an exaggerated estimate of its value. To his lot it fell to draft many documents that will find permanent places in Japanese history, and from the admiration that the classical elegance of their diction evoked, he doubtless inferred that laws and proclamations could be rendered palatable to the people only by imparting to them a strong flavour of ideographic grace. Even more influential in swaying his judgment must have been the coincidence between such views and the spirit of the day. Just as he attained a prominent official position, the nation began to turn towards a temporary conservatism, of which were born the *Kokusui Hoson-to* (National Eclectic party), the strict-treaty-enforcement outcry and the strong-foreign-policy agitation. These things were not in truth signs of a public reaction. They were primarily an indication of impatience under the continued obstinacy of foreign Powers to recognise Japan's progressive efforts, and secondarily, an evidence of revulsion against the egotism underlying Western civilization—especially as displayed in the treatment extended to Japan—and of con-

sequent reversion to the altruistic ethics of former times. Viscount INOUE received the portfolio of Education just as these impulses were in full sway, and his sympathy with them soon showed itself in the changes he inaugurated. Under his control the study of foreign languages at the schools was in great part supplanted by the chaunting of ideographs or the memorizing of Confucian analects, and collections of philosophic tenets took the place of practical primers. Viscount INOUE was far too intelligent to lead his nationals into a really backward path, but that his systems, reflecting, as they did, the exaggerated spirit of the time, would have impaired the nation's progress had they remained in operation, we can not doubt. The achievement of Treaty Revision, the war with China, and the international recognition that Japan's successes secured, worked a speedy change in the people's spirit, and had Viscount INOUE lived to exercise continued power, his methods would certainly have become unpopular before long. On the other hand, Marquis SAIONJI brought to the discharge of his functions convictions as much opposed to the reactionary sentiment of ante-bellum days as his predecessor's policy had been in sympathy with it. Without displaying anything of the somewhat perilous radicalism that gave notoriety to his political *début* after his return from Europe, he restored the study of foreign languages, and quietly but resolutely discountenanced any undue tendency to set the Chinese classics above instruction adapted to the uses of modern life. The cause of female education, also, he openly championed, thus setting himself to stem a tide that might have overwhelmed even a man of his courage and position, for women's education, judged by the light not only of the extravagant position now accorded to her in Occidental Society, but also of the claims that she has been betrayed into asserting, does not commend itself in any large degree to Japanese minds. Marquis SAIONJI's reasons for declining to serve in the present Cabinet, have not been published. But into a retirement that can not be lasting, he has evidently carried a full measure of popular appreciation and applause.

BIRTH-RATE.

THE latest theory propounded by anthropologists is that a low birth-rate is a sign of high civilization. In France, where the upper classes have unquestionably attained the highest plane of civilization reached by any people within the range of authenticated history—though, if ZOLA'S pictures have any fidelity, the lower orders are very close to the brutes—there are only 225 children born annually to every ten thousand inhabitants. Further, it appears that in the six States constituting New England in America—the six

States shown by statistics to have the best educational record and to enjoy the most favourable conditions for developing the refined aspects of life and character—only 199 children are born among every ten thousands of the people. If this connexion between "hypo-natality" and civilization be correct, it follows inevitably that human progress begets the germ of its own destruction: civilization, in short, the nearer it approaches perfection, provides the more inexorably for the annihilation of its followers, and to the doctrine of the survival of the fittest must be added the corollary that fitness varies in the direct ratio of the brute instinct. The propounder of the idea that hypo-natality is an evidence of civilization writes an interesting article on the subject in the *Revue Scientifique*, of which we find an epitome in the *Literary Digest*. His prominent notion is this:—

As for us, we believe that the multiple influences that unite to produce this sad phenomenon of insufficient birth-rate may be summed up in a tendency of the woman toward *virilization*. By this word 'virilization' is meant the efforts that woman is making nowadays to make her life like that of men, in seeking to adopt men's occupations and pleasures, and to assume men's costume—in a word, to do all things in which she believes that she will find the emancipation that is preached to her, and some vague kind of happiness or other that she believes to be inseparable from the male sex. In these conditions maternity becomes a sign of weakness, a vexation from which freedom must at once be gained. It is the stigma of sex with which some women are nowadays, it may be said, humiliated, as it were; and that is above all the thing to be avoided, for it interferes with professional duties, as it does with the new pleasures. To enter the lists with man, who thus becomes the enemy in this new arena of the struggle of existence upon which certain moralists and numerous politicians have so inconsiderately caused women to enter, it is necessary in the first place to discard femininity, and we are beginning to perceive that a certain number of women have done this with a measure of success.

Repugnant to us as are the new woman and her nebulous fantasies, we find it impossible to lay to her charge the virilization and consequent sterilization that the writer in the *Revue Scientifique* sets forth. One fact alone seems sufficient to overthrow such a theory: it is that in France, where hypo-natality has been preëminently a source of national anxiety for decades back, the "new-woman" delirium has never assumed anything like the dimensions of an epidemic. The art instincts of the French woman have saved her from the solecism of engaging in an unseemly struggle with nature. She appreciates that the chief charms and potentialities of her sex are primarily derived from differentiation, and that the more thoroughly feminine she can be, the more commanding and enslaving is her position in the world. To efface her own rich and special endowments for the sake of attempting a poor imitation of masculine qualities, is a blunder too shocking to commend itself to the most womanly of all women, the French woman. "*Ne forçons pas nos talents, nous ne ferions rien avec grâce.*" How, then, can it be truly pretended that virilization is responsible for hypo-natality in France, since among the peoples of the earth none

are so likely to enjoy immunity from the contagion of that man-aping insanity as the artistic French? An explanation, the very opposite of that advanced by the writer in the *Revue Scientifique*, commends itself to our intelligence. It is that the birth-rate is low in France, not because women aim at being virile, but because they have developed to an exceptional degree the qualities that make for their social apotheosis as women. The deity that claims and receives such extravagant homage from the stern sex, under the canons of modern "civilization," stands at the very opposite pole of ethics from the matron whose happiness is in maternity and her home in the nursery. Need we set down here the thousand and one brightnesses that fade from the life of a woman whose existence has been invaded by the cares of a large family? Is it strange that she should strive to remain as long as possible in the paradise where the extravagance of nineteenth century civilization has set her to be worshipped by the sex that she was born to obey? The "set grey life" of child-bearing and child-rearing looks so dreadfully dull and sombre in comparison with the career offered in that other realm of sensational sovereignty that choice has no freedom. None the less, if that be the bourne of *fin-de-siècle* civilization, then by a different route of reasoning we arrive at the same goal to which virilization points, namely, that human progress engenders the elements of its disciples' extermination. Where is the fault? With the civilization, surely.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Waseda Bungaku* publishes an article entitled "Romance and Prostitutes," in which the writer draws attention to the undue prominence given to prostitutes in the modern novel. A list of over a dozen recent works is furnished, in all of which a prostitute is the heroine of the tale. The *Waseda Bungaku* thus proceeds to discuss the causes of this phenomenon. One of the effects of the prevalence of Confucianism in Japan is the restraint put on innocent friendly intercourse between the sexes. Interference with the gratification derived from conversation with the opposite sex is responsible for the eagerness with which young men seek the company of prostitutes. When natural feelings are suppressed, they find some irregular method of obtaining what they desire. The life which a prostitute is forced to lead prevents her from becoming a suitable companion to any one man. But the troubles through which she has passed often teach her how to sympathise and to soothe. Yet she always has the feeling that she has sacrificed her chastity for the sake of money, and that she can not possibly devote herself to the ordinary duties of woman. The fact remains, however, that her society is sought after, but the prominence she assumes in the modern novel is now greater than that given to her in real life. The novels of the *Genroku* era [1688-1703] seem to have furnished a model to our modern romance writers. Love tales in which the upper-class domestics of rich houses figure as the heroines are felt to be too commonplace. The life of a prostitute is often full of striking incidents, and her experiences furnish the contrasts and the variety of which the novel reader is so fond. Moreover, there is no

denying, as is pointed out by the *Mezomashi-gusa*, that the Japanese prostitute has never fallen to the depth of degradation reached by her Western sisters. She does not feel that she is banished for ever from the pale of decent society. In addition to numerous personal attractions, many of the *semi-monde* class and even public prostitutes are women with a certain amount of character. And yet we cannot but feel with the *Meiji-hyōron* that to make this class of woman the central figure of modern works of fiction is most undesirable. It is not by any means true that most of the facts of actual life will bear transcribing. To give to the abnormal things of life an eminence which they cannot claim, is open to grave objection. The idealizing of persons and situations which the world is agreed to regard as polluted, is the course followed by the modern panders to public taste. That which it is universally considered best to hide, the modern novelist drags forth to the light and presents in the most attractive colours. There are writers who maintain that the practice is defensible when considered from a purely æsthetic point of view; that there is much of the really beautiful in the lives of the prostitutes described by modern novelists. But, as the *Hakkō* asks, is it because there is no interest attached to other professions and no thrilling incidents connected with the lives of ordinary human beings, that the modern writer of fiction finds it necessary to draw his material so exclusively from questionable sources? We cannot but deeply regret, concludes the *Waseda Bungaku*, that the modern novel should treat of one kind of life only and be written in a style injurious to morals.

Mr. Kaneko Kentarō's views on Japanese Fine Art appear in the literary organ from which we have just quoted. Art, says Mr. Kaneko, usually reflects the spirit of the age in which it flourishes. The Egyptian pyramids, and Greek and Roman sculpture and painting all expressed the thoughts of leading minds in ancient times. Our lot is cast in a mechanical and industrial age. In Western countries there is a movement on foot to combine art and industry, and not a few people are sanguine that the attempt will be successful. Japanese Fine Art in ancient times owed its existence to Buddhism. During the Minamoto, Taira, and Hōjō eras Chinese philosophy was introduced into this country and paintings of those and subsequent times furnish many evidences of this fact. In the Tokugawa era, pictures representing war scenes or philosophical ideas gave place to the *Ukiyo-ye* or popular sketches of real life. During the Meiji era, it cannot be said that the progress of art has been commensurate with that of other things. There is as yet no new school of art worthy of mention. The only works distinctively Japanese and worthy to take their place in the world's picture gallery—works of the Tosa, Kanō and Maruyama schools—could never be imitated with success in modern times. Nor do the Sesshū and Utamarō pictures furnish suitable models for modern artists. It is imperative that we should strike out in a new line. We need to create some great stimulus to art, such as was furnished by the building of St. Peter's in Rome or the erection of the Nikkō Temples in Iyemitsu's time. Existing talent lacks occasions for its display, and it is the duty of all well-wishers of Japanese art to provide these. To furnish facilities for the application of art to modern uses is to prepare the way for the appearance of a Michael Angelo in Japan.

An address delivered by Mayejima Mitsun, who may be said to be the father of the Japanese Postal System, at the graduation ceremony of the Waseda Semmon Gakkō, is published in the *Waseda Bungaku*. The subject of Mr. Mayejima's address was the desirability of representing on canvas the subtle powers of electricity. The properties and influence of the force bearing this name, says Mr. Mayejima, are so marvellous and so diverse that one is surprised that no attempt has been made to give them shape in

form. Electricity pervades all space and affects all things. It reveals the opposite qualities, such as mildness and terror-striking violence. Of its merits it is impossible to speak too highly. There are those who maintain that it is beyond the artist's power to combine in one picture the various workings of such a subtle power. But when one thinks of the idealization effected by Michael Angelo, it seems no impossible task to design and to execute a picture that shall typify the leading qualities of the greatest of all modern forces.

The organ quoted above asks why it is that so few lengthy works are published in modern times. This subject has been discussed by various magazines within the past few months. The *Seinen-bungaku*, the *Teikoku-bungaku*, and the *Tai-yō* have all assigned various causes for the phenomenon. It seems to be the general opinion, says the *Waseda Bungaku*, that a widespread inferiority in modern, as compared with ancient, authors is one great cause of the limited nature of the works published. Some there are who affirm that the age in which we live is characterised by artificiality and flippancy; that this shows itself even in literature, and that nothing solid and thorough would be appreciated if written. The knowledge of this, according to these authorities, deters authors from undertaking the production of great works. Our own opinion on this subject, continues the *Waseda Bungaku*, we may state as follows. (1) Modern authors are mostly men of slender means, who depend on their pens for a living and who cannot afford to wait long for their money. They live very much from hand to mouth. To wait two or three years while a lengthy work is being written and published means starvation to such men. (2) The world is getting more and more absorbed in business. The struggle for existence every year becomes more intense, so that there are few people who have the leisure to wade through books a thousand pages in length. Those that do read such works take so long over the task that they lose the sequence of thought long before they reach the end. (3) The works for which there is a ready sale in modern days range in price between 20 and 40 *sen*, and consist of stage plays or short stories. For books whose price exceeds this sum the sale is very limited and publishers are wary about accepting them. (4) The only hope of a change in this matter rests on the progress that the community is making in purchasing capacity. It is to be anticipated that with a rise in the price of labour, with the increased facilities for turning an honest penny by engaging in some of the many new occupations now presenting themselves, ability and willingness to pay for high class literature will be forthcoming. It is vain to hope that the time will ever arrive when book-sellers will be so impelled by literary motives as to forego their business profits. (5) There is no doubt much truth in the statement that the majority of modern Japanese authors are not qualified to write really valuable works of great length. The demand for simple and short works, which divert and amuse rather than instruct, has a demoralising effect on the men that make a living by writing. The thoughts expressed by these writers would not bear expansion so as to fill several volumes. It is our opinion that with most of the writers of the present day an attempt to write a long treatise would end in insufferable prolixity.

Various ardent admirers of the late Ernst Curtius have furnished the magazines with obituary notices of the great archaeologist and historian. Dr. Mitsukuri Genpachi relates that he once succeeded in impressing the learned professor with the beauty of Japanese scenery; when, with a beaming face, he remarked, "If what you say is correct the scenery of your country must resemble that of Greece," as though the idea that there could be another country in the world like Greece was a revelation. By him, continues Dr. Mitsukuri, Greece was regarded as a very paradise which no words could adequately describe. The enthusiasm with which he pursued his researches knew no bounds, and furnishes to

Japanese historians a magnificent model of painstaking investigation extending over a lifetime. The *Teikoku-bungaku* observes that, in recent times, the tendency to abandon ancient history in favour of modern, has displayed itself in various educational quarters, but that no one who has read such a work as Curtius' "History of Greece" can deny that in the hands of a thoroughly competent historian ancient history may be made as profitable a study as anything relating to modern times that has been written. There was no grander sight, concludes the *Teikoku-bungaku*, than to behold Ernst Curtius and his brother George, who died 12 years ago, working shoulder to shoulder, respecting and loving each other in a manner peculiar to brothers whose souls are on fire with zeal for learning.

The *Tōyō Gatugai Zasshi* has of late years been almost exclusively devoted to the discussion of technical scientific subjects. The articles published are mostly contributed by professors of the University or of other high class educational establishments. Recent numbers, contain, among other subjects, articles on "The Eclipse of the Sun," by Professor Hirayama Nobu (written before the August eclipse). "The Connection of Mental Science and Economic Science," by Dr. Mōtōrō Yūjirō. "The Ainu Language," by Professor Jimbo Kōtōrō. A writer signing himself I.K. comments on the statistics of crime and invites attention to the fact that there are more criminals proportionately among *shisoku* (gentry, descendants of *samurai*) than among *heimin* (pelebeians). The inference drawn from this fact by several writers is that, since the *shisoku* are better educated than the *heimin*, education is conducive to crime. To prove that this inference is entirely unwarranted, I.K. furnishes tables of statistics showing the nature of the crimes committed by *shisoku*. These figures show that, in the case of grave offences, the number of criminals of the *heimin* class is more than fifteen times the number of those of the *shisoku* class. The offences for which *shisoku* suffer imprisonment are political disturbances with violence, the forgery of documents, the unlawful use of official seals, or petty thefts. Crimes against parents and other relations, which are very common among the lower classes, are almost unknown among *shisoku*. In opposition to the notion that education is conducive to crime, I.K. alludes to the fact that, corresponding with the spread of education, there has been a steady decrease in the amount of crime committed.

Professor Nakajima Rikizō contributes to the July and August numbers of the magazine quoted above, a long essay on "Ethics, Ancient and Modern," which contains little that is new, being a *résumé* of the views held by Western writers on the subject. The great questions of ethics, says Professor Nakajima, are what is the chief object of man's life, what is the *summum bonum*, what is virtue, what is duty? No theory that leaves these questions unanswered, or that answers them in an unsatisfactory manner, can be regarded as adequate. In ancient times ethics was a branch of philosophy. In the middle ages it became a branch of theology; and in modern times, especially in England, it has become a branch of science. In order to be properly understood, ethics must be studied as a branch of knowledge which treats of certain mental phenomena. All explanations that divorce ethical ideas from their mental surroundings are imperfect and misleading.

The *Seikai-no-Nihon* draws a contrast between Japanese and Western novels. The writer is of opinion that European and American novels are usually written with some moral purpose in view; that many of the writers are impelled by deep convictions on various social, political, or religious subjects, and aim at effecting reforms, whereas the majority of Japanese modern novelists seem to aim only at creating a sensation. It was not so with Bakin, or with the novelists of the *Genroku* period [A.D. 1688-1703], who all endeavoured to make virtue look attractive and vice repulsive. Among modern novelists

that approach to the standard of Bakin, as regards moral purpose, Gensai is undoubtedly the best. It is evident that he wishes to instruct and educate rather than tickle the fancy of his readers. It is said that no novels sell better than those of Gensai, which is a proof that there is something about him that people like. It can hardly be his style, for there is nothing very captivating about it. In considering this subject, it must never be forgotten that the mass of general readers in Japan, when compared with Occidentals, are poorly educated, and that it is questionable whether they could appreciate a higher class of literature than that with which they are now supplied. The majority of foreign readers are sufficiently acquainted with modern inventions and scientific apparatus to be able to understand the constant allusions to such subjects made by foreign novelists. Modern readers of Japanese fiction are in a different stage of progress to people in the West, and the same rules do not apply. To attempt to enforce uniformity would be like expecting a cat to dance because we happen to have seen a monkey dancing. We are not of opinion, concludes the *Sekai-no-Nihon*, that it is desirable to demand that every novel should be written with some special moral object in view. If a novel describes the intricate working of human emotions, the beauties and wonders of nature, it can never be said that it contains no instruction. Though it may teach little to certain individuals, it may impart much knowledge to others. There is something in the modern novel that recommends it to the masses. It fills a place in their lives. To us it seems that its dissimilarity from the foreign type of romance constitutes no drawback to its usefulness.

The *Tetsugaku Zasshi* observes that, corresponding with the increased number of articles published on religion and philosophy, there is a marked tendency to discuss at useless length questions of little general interest, and many of the authors of long essays are pedantic in the extreme. Two causes of this practice are assigned by the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*: one being that many magazine writers are dependent for a livelihood on their pens; the other, that not a few young scribes are actuated by personal vanity.

Among scraps of literary news published by the above named organ we find the following: The number of literary students that have just entered the University is 84: they are graduates from various Higher Schools, namely 36 from the First, 14 from the Second, 11 from the Fourth, 13 from the Fifth, 7 from the Yamaguchi Higher School, and 3 from the Kagoshima Zōshikan. The special subjects taken up by these students were as follow:—Philosophy, 21; Japanese History, 9; General History, 14; Japanese Literature, 6; Chinese Literature, 7; Foreign Languages, 8; English Literature, 11; German Literature, 3; French Literature, 4. The increase in the number of Foreign Language students is most noticeable.

Mr. A. J. Balfour's "Foundations of Belief" has been translated into Japanese by Mr. Yoshimura Daijirō, under the title of *Tetsugaku Shinron*, "A new Philosophical Theory." Whereas the original work costs over 6 yen, the translation is to be procured for 90 sen. The book has been issued by that ever busy publishing company, the Tetsugaku Shoin. Various criticisms of Mr. Balfour's book have appeared in Japanese periodicals; one of the best was from the pen of Mr. Nakajima Rikio, published in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. The translator asserts that he has taken great pains with the work and that he has in every case endeavoured to give due weight in the translation to the author's modes of expression.

The Buddhists are about to issue a book that ought to prove of considerable value to students of Japanese Buddhism. It bears the title of *Tsūzoku (通俗) Bukkyō Gimon Kaitō Shū* (A Collection of Answers to Questions respecting popular Buddhism). The work has been com-

plied by the editor of the *Tsūsoku Bukkyō Shinbun*, Mr. Takami Dōken. It covers some 600 pages and contains an account of Buddhist doctrines, ceremonies, and sacred utensils. The difficulties encountered by students of Buddhism in endeavouring to understand some of its abstruse theories receive special attention. Nearly a hundred perplexing questions are discussed and explained. The work will be issued on the 30th inst. and will be sold at 80 sen per copy. The office of the above-named magazine is printing and publishing the work.

The translation of Professor Alfred Marshall's work on Economic Science by Mr. Inouye Tatsukurō, of the Tōkyō Semmon Gakkō, which was published last July, has sold sufficiently well to reach a second edition. The new edition will be published by the Tōkyō Semmon Gakkō and will be sold at 1 yen 20 sen per copy.

Dr. Shigeno Anyeki, the eminent historian, has just published a work consisting of two volumes entitled *Teikoku Shidan* (Discourses on the History of the Empire). The history of the various eras is classified under five heads as follow:—(1) Morals. (2) Government. (3) Literature. (4) Arts. (5) The position of Woman. The work is written in the classical style of which the author is so perfect a master, and will, it is considered, prove to be of great use as a text book in Middle Schools. The learned author has reached a great age for a Japanese, and some anxiety is naturally felt whether the results of the special researches on which he has been engaged for many years can be given to the world before he is "gathered unto his ancestors."

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* contains a notice of Mr. Yoneyama Umekichi's new work on Commodore Perry, published by the Hakubun Kan. It contains a biography and an account of Perry's visit to Japan. The style of the writer is perhaps the only attraction the new volume possesses, as the facts recorded are familiar to everybody. The word painting of the author in some passages resembles that of Sir Edwin Arnold.

In *Tōyōtetsugaku*, in giving an account of the annual opening ceremony of the Tetsugakkan (Philosophical Institute) held on the 16th ult., reports that the Tōyō Zushokan (The Oriental Library) has lately been enriched by a large number of Buddhist books. It may not be known to many of our readers that this library contains a magnificent collection of Buddhist books. Dr. Inouye announced that, in addition to the professors hitherto employed, Messrs. Anezaki Masaharu, Matsumoto Kōjirō, and Kuwabara Shitauō have been engaged, the first to lecture on Comparative Religion, the second on Aesthetics, the third on Oriental History.

Dr. Mishima Ki, a well known Chinese Scholar, read a learned paper before the Gakushikai-in, a short time ago, on the teaching of Itō Jinsai (died A.D. 1706), which is known among the Japanese as *Jinsai-gaku*. An epitome of this paper appears in the *Dai Nippon Kyōikukai Zasshi*. Learning in China, says Dr. Mishima, has been divided into three branches namely 氣學, *Kigaku*, 人學, *Jinsōgaku*, and 理學, *Rigaku*. The first deals with the vital and mechanical energy displayed in nature; the second, with things of human manufacture, material and mental; and the third, with abstract principles. The relative importance of these three branches of learning has been subject of dispute for ages. In China 王陽明 Wang Yang-ming (died A.D. 1529) was the great exponent of the *Kigaku*, and Jinsai was his follower in Japan. By scholars of this school, the *Kigaku* alone is considered trustworthy as a method of study and basis of philosophy. The *Jinsōgaku* school, of which 荀子, Xunzi, was the leading spirit, taught that the authority to which men bow is for the most part human and not divine; that even moral standards are all of human invention. Their great saying

was *Michi wa sennō no tsukuru tokoro nite tenchi shisen no michi ni arasu*. "That which among men passes for the right way is not nature's way, but was constructed by ancient sages." In Japan, Sorai was the representative of this school of thinkers. The champions of the more abstract form of philosophy were 老子, Laotz and 莊子, Chwangtze. According to this school, all things in heaven and earth are controlled by abstract principles, and those that would understand nature must study these principles. O-yōmei attempted to show that the *Kigaku* and the *Rigaku* were only two forms of one class of knowledge, and his Japanese follower Jinsai argued on the same lines, and caused no small stir among contemporary scholars in the peaceful days of the Tokugawa era.

The *Uchū Shinkyō* has some very sensible and discerning observations on the subject of degrees. Degrees being comparatively new in Japan, there is a tendency to make far too much of them. The possession of a degree shows only that the holder has succeeded in fulfilling the conditions necessary for the obtaining of this distinction, and is no indication whatever that a man having M.A. or LL.D. affixed to his name is intellectually abler than the scholar possessing no title whatever. Our study of foreign authors has led us to the conclusion that, taking literature as a whole, finer things have been written by men with no degree or possessing the modest M.A. degree only, than by the so-called learned Doctors. Not a few Doctors in the learned world are quite objects of pity: they have no title to distinction except the degrees they have obtained. Some writers are agitating for the publication of the essays that won for their authors literary degrees. We also should welcome their appearance, as we think they would certainly show one of two things; either the true genius of the writers, or that, for the obtaining of a degree in certain places, no genius is required. Among possessors of degrees in this country, literary men doubtless make the worst show. There are persons called rhetoricians whose discourses are fragmentary and disconnected, a mere string of words with no special point and no order. There are literary men of whom it would be true to say that the service rendered to the public by a hundred of them would not be equal to that rendered by one good dictionary.

The *Nihon Shimbun* writes regretfully of the low status of Japanese newspapers as regards their general get-up and contents, when compared with foreign dailies. The low price at which they have to be sold is, our contemporary thinks, to a great extent the cause of this. American rather than English papers, according to the *Nihon*, furnish the Japanese daily sheets with models. The practice of publishing papers in the evening as well as the morning has been tried in Japan, but without success. Perhaps no improvement in the character of newspapers is possible till education has become more general and the nation has grown richer. Of all newspapers in the world, *The Times* furnishes the best model of what a newspaper can be made. Though its size is nothing wonderful, its ability and thoroughness are beyond praise. Our *Fiji Shimpō* has taken the London *Times* as its model, and has greatly improved of late, but shows no signs of attaining the standard of the great London daily.

As items of literary news, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that two literary men of great promise have just accepted appointments in the Sendai Second Higher School. One of these is Mr. Takayama Binjirō, who has been a constant contributor to the *Teikoku Bungaku*, and who has written for other magazines also. He is to deliver lectures on Philosophy at the Sendai School. The other is Mr. Sasa Seisetsu, also a brilliant writer, who is to lecture on Japanese Literature. While the literary world is so thinly populated that even in great cities the feeling of solitariness often creeps over one, the banishment of

two literary magnates to the country, concludes the *Yomiuri*, tends to augment the feeling of desolation.

A writer in the *Teikoku Bungaku* maintains that there is a great difference between the East and the West as regards the hold that abstract ideas have on the minds of leaders of thought. In Europe almost all great movements have originated with purely abstract notions. Men have started with theories and have proceeded to find facts corroborating them, or have made them the bases of certain lines of action, and most of their philosophy is of a highly metaphysical type. They view the world as from a distance. Though this tendency of the Western mind is responsible for numerous fallacies, on the other hand it has resulted in a vast knowledge of general principles and led to the discovery of processes of nature too complicated to be understood by men unaccustomed to carry on a long train of reasoning. Science in the West professes to deal only with facts, yet there can be no question that it has always started with certain theories, certain abstract ideas. Science never has been and never can be divorced from philosophy and metaphysics. In China all theory is based on practice and thought proceeds only as far as practical necessities require. Hence the ideas of the Celestials are sadly cramped. There is little or no scientific progress because there is little philosophical thought of the highest class. Philosophy may be regarded as the father of science. There are those who maintain that philosophy has been superseded by science, but it is evident that, instead of the one rendering the other superfluous, they have always been and always will be interdependent. Among Europeans the English are noted for the practical turn of their minds. Their philosophy is less abstract than that of the Germans, for instance. But even their great leaders of thought, men like Locke and Hume, are found to have been permeated with metaphysical ideas. Some have cast doubt on the trustworthiness of the abstract ideas to which philosophers attach so much importance, but men whose reason, imagination, and reflective power have been properly developed can never question the truth of the great abstractions of philosophy.

The organ from which we have been quoting fires a shot at an already bullet-riddled practice, the *Yobun no-het*, or preface abuse, to use the term it employs. It is well known to our readers that for many years it has been the custom in Japan to obtain prefaces from men of influence or literary reputation, in order to attract attention to the work to be published, and to make it appear as though the author of the preface had guaranteed the worthiness of the book by allowing his name to appear in it. This practice, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, cannot be too strongly condemned. It is a mere make-believe, and a device showing how low are the notions of certain authors. The natural thing for a writer to do is to pen his own preface, or at any rate ask a friend to do so, but, in obedience to mere mercenary motives, to engage the services of a man who is a perfect stranger to him is altogether unbecoming in any one aspiring to the title of an author.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA'S HAND-BOOK.

Following the example of the great steamship companies of Europe and America, among which it now ranks high, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has compiled and issued a "Hand-book of Information for Passengers and Shippers." Commencing with a brief but succinct account of the origin, growth, and development of the company, the book next gives lists of the *personnel* and fleet, and then passes on to a series of brief notices of the various celebrated places in Japan visited by the steamers of the Kaisha. This part of the work is beautifully illustrated with collotypes by Mr. Ogawa, and the text is com-

pleted with spirit and discrimination. The writer is evidently not impressed by the aspect of the foreign settlements, which, he says, "are distinguished by the plainness, inelegance, and unpretentious character of their structures," but for the Yokohama Bluff he has unlimited praise:—"An ideal site, it soon became dotted with villas, generally unpretentious and plainly constructed, but standing in trim little gardens, completely segregated from the tradal atmosphere of the settlement below, and revelling in prospects of supreme beauty on every side. This 'Bluff,' as it is called, where the jaded business man of Yokohama has his home, may fairly claim to be loveliest place of residence in the whole East. The Settlement itself can boast only three attractions: its Bund, its Public Garden, and the broad straight road, laid out with almost ironical magnificence of side-walk and marginal greenery, that separates it from the Japanese town." Particulars of the company's services follow this section of the volume. They are accompanied by maps, showing routes, regular and occasional, of the steamers, and after these we find conditions of passage, general information for travellers, and details as to the currency, weights, and measures, postal services, and so forth, the whole forming a volume useful for general purposes, quite apart from the immediate object of its compilation. It is printed on Japanese paper, and the technical part of the work is thoroughly well done, with the exception of the dimensions of the margins, which are so scamped as to give the book a somewhat insignificant appearance. We may mention that the Company has a capital of ~~twenty-two million yen~~; that its steamers number ~~sixty-two~~, ranging from 5,789 tons to 228 tons; and that it has twelve steamers of from 5,000 to 6,000 tons now building, to be followed by ~~six more~~.

A CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY ON JAPANESE NATIVE VIRTUES.

The Rev. Henry Scott Jeffreys, of Sendai, contributes to "The Japan Evangelist" a paper entitled "Some of the Native Virtues of the Japanese People." We make the following extracts:—

"Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips." "After seven years' residence among this people, I wish to place on record my humble testimony to their *native* virtues. I refer to virtues that belong to the Japanese people without reference to their faith. In this connection it may be said that perhaps their most remarkable part is their devotion to ethics alone, utterly divorced from religion. They love virtue for its own sake and not from fear of punishment or hope of reward.

"In some of our Christian lore there is the story told of a sage who saw in a vision an angel with a torch in one hand and a bowl of water in the other, who, when asked his mission, replied that with the torch he would burn up heaven and with the water he would quench the flames of Gehenna that men might no longer follow virtue from the fear of pain or the hope of pleasure, but from the pure love of God alone. This story would have but little effect upon the Japanese, from the fact that they are far beyond it; for they have eliminated from their system of ethics not only heaven and hell, but God also. Neither Mr. Herbert Spencer's theories in his "Data of Ethics," nor Mr. W. H. Mallock's opinions concerning the dependent relation of ethics to religion help us to account for the fact that we have here a people, speaking roughly, who have a system of ethics in practical operation whose motive force is not to be found in either love of self or fear of any higher power, but which seems to be the spontaneous creation of the native instinct. To be sure there are religions (so called), both native and foreign, but they have little effect upon the popular conscience.

"In Confucian ethics as taught in China there may be a theistic element, but it is wanting in Japanese ethics. And yet, strange to

say, the idea of conscience is very strong. In some popular books of ethical instruction some very interesting stories are told of the power of the *honshin*, the true or original heart, and of conversion marked by tears and sighs and groans of penitence and remorse. But the conversion is not the gift from God of a new heart, but the return of the man to his original or true heart of natural righteousness; it has no idea of "repentance toward God" in it at all.

"Perhaps the most prominent virtue of the Japanese is their patriotism, their loyalty to and love of country. They have family feeling, clan feeling, local partisan feeling, strongly developed, but they are willing to devote all to the love of their country.

"The Japanese are the least sordid, the most unworldly, the most entirely devoted to the ideal of any people in the world. . . . In some places, Satsuma for example, it is impolite even to mention the word money, and to display coin in the presence of gentlemen is an insult. The admonition contained in the fifth chapter of the Epistle to the Ephesians, in the last part of the fifth verse, is superfluous—"covetousness, let it not be once named among you as becometh saints." In instructing catechumens for baptism, I generally omit the tenth commandment, conscious that a foreigner needs to sit at the feet of a Japanese to learn how to forsake the sin of covetousness.

"The Japanese are very keen in their judgment and discrimination of character. If a man in authority has an idea that a certain policy should be followed and is unable to bring it about, he resigns and retires from office. His honesty and integrity of purpose are apparent, and his plans are adopted. The way to get power in Japan is to give it up.

The conversion of this people to the Christian faith is a most complex and perplexing problem, not because they are so bad, but because they are so good. Their virtues are obstacles in the way of contrition."

A MARVELLOUS MACHINE.

Mr. E. Charquette, of Bridgeport, in Connecticut, claims to have invented a machine which defies all the laws hitherto laid down by physicists, inasmuch as the power applied to set it in motion is only a small fraction of the power that it develops. Many devices already exist for multiplying power, but none operates without some corresponding loss in another direction, whereas Mr. Charquette insists that he can obtain a return of 2,500 units of horse-power out a machine upon which only 140 units are expended. Here is a description of the machine, reproduced by the *Literary Digest* from *The Railway Age*:—

The machine is an immense horizontal wheel, a little over 82 feet in diameter, composed of ten spokes or arms and the periphery made of latticed steel girders. By revolving this great wheel by means of two 70-horse-power steam-engines, located on a platform in the hub, 2,500 horse-power is to be developed in the shape of air under a pressure of 100 pounds per square inch. To attain this great power by the use of so little, at the end of each spoke a set of three vertical wheels 9 feet in diameter, and each weighing 41 tons, are to be journaled. The middle wheel of the three is to run upon a circular track, and the outside and inside wheels are to act upon the rocker levers of 100 air compressors, which in turn are to work the pistons in the air cylinders. The cylinders are 12 and 16 inches in diameter, and all have a stroke of 12 inches. An air tank carrying a working pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch is provided, and the air is led by pipes to this tank from the compressors. The large wheel is revolved at the rate of ten revolutions per minute by the two 70-horse-power steam-engines, and the solid 41 ton wheels engaging the rocker arms, do the rest. Naturally something must happen, and it is seriously anticipated that 2,500 horse-power will be developed by this mechanism.

The criticism of *The Railway Age* is this:—

Under these circumstances, it seems natural to suggest that the use of the 70-horse-power steam-engines does not seem apparent. After the 2,500 horse-power has been developed 41 per cent. of it can be borrowed to keep the thing moving and the balance is clear gain. In fact, after it is started everything is clear gain, and it must run on forever or break down. As an off-hand suggestion it would seem that it might be as well to save the expense of the two steam-engines, and start the revolutions by means of a crank and pinion.

LETTERS FROM JAPANESE IN MANILA.

The *Nippon* publishes two letters from Japanese in Manila, one addressed to the Japanese Consul in Hongkong, and the other to a writer on the staff of that paper. We reproduce here the substance of the letters.

On the forenoon of August 24th, four Spanish officers came to the Manila Branch Office of the Kwaigai Boyeki Kwaisha (Foreign Commerce Firm), and asked the shopmen the reason why they had not closed the store that day. These replied that it was not customary to suspend business except on Sunday. Being told that the rebels might invade the city at any time and might loot the shops, the shopmen deemed it prudent to obey the injunction of the officers, and forthwith put up the shutters. They learned, afterwards, that with the exception of Chinese shops, all stores kept by foreigners were closed that day. Since then business has been almost entirely suspended. This is especially felt by the Japanese merchants. On the evening of Sept. 2nd, an officer, accompanied by four gendarmes carrying unsheathed swords, visited the "Osaka Bazaar" and the "Nippon Bazaar" (the Branch Office above referred to), and commenced a search, lasting from 8 till 11 p.m. The search was conducted with such strictness that even ceilings, floors, walls, and so forth were broken open. Nothing suspicious appearing, the officer produced a short document in Spanish, and required the shopkeepers to affix their seals to it. Not fully understanding the import of the note, but believing it to be a certificate that nothing suspicious had been found, the shopmen did as was required of them. Nevertheless, being naturally uneasy about the incident, and about the state of affairs in general, the Japanese residents of the Philippines appointed four of their number as representatives, and these, repairing to the German Consulate the next morning, stated the facts connected with the search and requested that the Japanese residents might receive the protection of the Consul in the event of any emergency. This request they preferred to the German Consul in particular, because that official had been in the habit of endorsing the passports of the Japanese. The Consul did not give any definite answer at the moment, but promised, a few hours afterwards, that he would do everything in his power to ensure the safety of Japanese life and property in the islands. It is further stated that when the four Japanese representatives visited the German Consul, he told them that he had heard of the arrest of one of their countrymen, an event of which no intimation had reached them previously.

A letter sent from a clerk in the Nippon Bazaar to a member of the staff of the *Nippon*, says that the writer, with one other Japanese, started from Kobe for Manila on August 19th, by a Spanish steamer, and reached the latter place on September 1st. For 12 days the passengers were not permitted to land, on the pretext that the ship had to be quarantined. When they were suffered to go ashore on the 13th day, the two Japanese were subjected to a search of the strictest description though passengers of other nationalities were at once allowed to go about their business. The trunks and bundles of the Japanese were emptied and the contents carefully scrutinized, the search extending even to their boots and hats. The Customs Officials and non-commissioned officers that conducted this search detecting nothing suspicious, at last permitted the two Japanese to proceed to their destination, though they seized documents and old newspapers found among their effects. Since the incidents related above the Japanese residents in Manila have not suffered any special indignity, but a strict watch has been kept over their movements. Wherever they go they are shadowed by detectives, so that they feel decidedly uneasy, more particularly in view of the fact that the Spanish Authorities do not scruple to resort to acts of great cruelty. At present, a telegram in the Japanese language can not be

transmitted, and letters from or to the Japanese residents are freely opened at the Post Office. The number of natives thus far arrested is almost countless. Among them are included every person with whom the Japanese residents were on terms of intimacy.

Commenting on the above, the *Nippon* says that the preparations to despatch a warship to Manila were completed at the close of last month, and that the officers on board the ship are only awaiting orders to set out. The Foreign Department, however, does not yet see any imperative necessity for despatching a man-of-war. The *Nippon*, of course, censures this attitude of the Foreign Office as extremely lukewarm and negligent.

DEVASTATED DISTRICTS.

The full list of damages wrought by floods on Aug. 30th and Sept. 7th and 10th in Kyoto Prefecture has been tabulated by the Local Office. From that table we learn that persons killed numbered 341; those injured, 330; cattle killed, 120; cattle wounded, 11; persons missing, 18; houses totally destroyed, 2,442; those practically destroyed, 2,200; those damaged, 23,438; those carried away, 1,083, in all 29,166 houses. Besides these about 30,000 houses were flooded. Embankments were breached at 14,442 places, to an extent of 569,612 yards; roads were destroyed in 10,432 places, aggregating 512,728 yards; 3,338 bridges were carried away and 11,277 others were damaged. Land, arable and residential, that was either buried under debris or washed away, totaled 3,355 *cho* and some fragments (8,387 acres), and land flooded, 13,400 *cho*, approximately (33,500 acres). Besides the above, a large number of irrigation ponds, stone walls, ships and boats, were partially or totally destroyed.

It is estimated that the Central Treasury will have, in consequence of the disasters since July, to spend on account of public works nine million *yen*, of which a third is for works of urgent moment, and the rest for works of a permanent nature. This money will be taken from surplus revenue as a measure requiring immediate attention, and will be put before the coming session of the Diet for *de facto* approval. It is said that a surplus of some 15 million *yen* is expected to accrue from the previous year's finance, so that this appropriation may be easily met. In Gifu alone a sum of 230,000 *yen* in grants-in-aid has been applied for.

The *Shogyo* gives some statistics as to the expected result of this year's rice crop in various localities, the statistics being based on reports from Local Offices and private sources.

Locality.	Average yield.	Expected yield.	Decrease or increase compared with last year's.	Rate of increase or decrease compared with the average yield.
Chiba ...	2,416,674	2,345,723	-70,951	-2.9%
Miyagi ...	1,509,015	769,910	-739,105	-49.0%
Wakayama ...	499,691	273,130	-226,561	-45.3%
Oita ...	608,143	608,957	814	+0.1%
Ehime ...	645,300	710,000	64,700	+10.0%
Shiwan ...	617,700	723,891	106,191	+17.2%
Nara ...	640,000	643,972	3,972	+0.6%
Niigata ...	2,338,619	2,695,499	356,880	+15.3%
Nagano ...	2,101,222	2,099,865	-1,357	-0.06%
Myazaki ...	2,238,512	1,100,000	-1,138,512	-50.9%
Yamagata ...	2,200,756	1,400,716	-800,040	-36.4%
Tottori ...	465,000	475,000	10,000	+2.2%
Saga ...	810,280	975,400	165,120	+20.4%
Kumamoto ...	2,285,000	2,471,050	186,050	+8.1%
Fukuoka ...	2,069,927	4,111,174	2,041,247	+98.7%
Shiga ...	2,130,564	978,338	-1,152,226	-54.1%
Hiroshima ...	841,363	921,895	80,532	+9.6%
Yamaguchi ...	2,250,300	2,260,000	9,700	+0.4%
Kagoshima ...	536,800	786,000	249,200	+46.4%
Shizuoka ...	1,110,000	1,000,000	-110,000	-9.9%
Ishikawa ...	936,398	710,000	-226,398	-24.2%

In the figures arranged in the third column those marked with the minus sign total 2,422,907, and those with the plus sign 935,510, a difference of 2,487,390 *roku*, which, at the ruling market price, amounts to about 15 million *yen*. There yet remain returns from 25 other localities, and supposing that the above ratio holds good, we may conclude that the damages inflicted on the crop by the floods and so forth comes as high as 30 million *yen*.

A TRANS-JAPAN CANAL.

The long-talked-of idea of cutting a Canal across the main island, to connect the Japan Sea with the Bay of Osaka, has been recently brought within the field of practicability. The originator of the project is Mr. Sakurada Snkesaku, who elaborated the design from the systems in vogue in France and Belgium. His main idea is to cut a canal from Tsuruga to Lake Biwa on the one hand, and, on the other, to excavate a canal from Otsu to Rokujijo-mura *via* Yamashima. The scheme having obtained support in the Keihin and Kei-Han Districts and in Echizen, Mr. Sakurada and his fellow-projectors have forwarded an application for a charter to the proper Authorities, and have already established an office at Takiyama-cho, Tokyo. The name of the canal will be the Central Canal of Japan. The capital is to be 2,750,000 *yen*, divided as below:—First Canal between Tsuruga and Otsu, distance of 13½ miles approximately, twelve yards wide, *yen* 1,500,000; second canal between Otsu and Rokujijo, situated on the bank of the river Uji, distance about 9 miles, 12 yards wide, *yen* 1,250,000. The projectors think that a dividend of over 10 per cent. may be easily earned when the canal is in working order.

HARBOUR CONSTRUCTION IN JAPAN.

Though the reconstruction of Shimonoseki Harbour is eagerly advocated by local folks, their wish is not likely to be satisfied, the military authorities objecting to that harbour's being opened to foreign commerce. That explains why, in the recently published list of new special export ports, Shimonoseki does not appear. It is estimated that Shimonoseki could be converted into an excellent anchorage at a cost of 3,600,000 *yen*. A similar scheme is afoot for Moji, an anchorage just opposite Shimonoseki. But this is on a smaller scale, and the funds required are estimated at half a million *yen*. If, however, the military authorities object to Shimonoseki being opened, the same objection applies to Moji.

The construction of the harbour of Wakamatsu, Chikuzen, is more hopeful. In fact, it has already been undertaken, on a small scale. The prosperity of Wakamatsu dates from the opening of the Chikuhō Railway, which terminates there. Formerly it was a little known fishing village, but since the completion of the railroad Wakamatsu has grown to be a town next in prosperity to Moji and Hakata. When the Chikuhō Railway Company determined to have a terminus at Wakamatsu, a special company was organized to reconstruct the harbour, with a capital of 300,000 *yen*. The harbour was dredged and a breakwater projected. The capital was subsequently increased to 400,000 *yen*, so that the basin could be deepened to a depth of 14 ft. at low tide, and so admit ordinary junks and small vessels of mixed style. The Company, encouraged by good results, is now contemplating further dredging of the basin, deepening it to 20 feet at low tide. That would admit the approach of steamers close in to the shore. The reconstruction of Wakamatsu would be attended by immense advantages. At present, owing to the shallowness of the basin, coal brought by the Chikuhō Railway to Wakamatsu has to be carried by junks to Moji, at the cost of about 40 *sen* per ton. The railway carries some two million tons of coal. When, therefore, steamers can take in coal direct at Wakamatsu, a sum of 800,000 *yen* would be saved in transportation alone. Hence the future of Wakamatsu is very bright. A similar enterprise is on foot in Hokkaido, for the harbours of Otaru and Akkeshi. Both are Government schemes. The main difficulties in the way of Otaru are the silt deposited during the continuance of south-westerly breezes, and the accumulation of sand brought down by the rivers that empty into the harbour. The Government estimates the expense of getting rid of these troubles at about one million *yen*. The Administration Board of Hokkaido is understood to have inserted a clause

providing for this scheme in the Budget for next year; but very probably it has been struck out by the Treasury. At any rate, as Otaru is coming more and more into prominence, owing to its increased commercial relations with Russian Siberia, the matter must be taken up sooner or later. Akkeshi is situated on the coast of Kushiro. It is naturally a good harbour, being sheltered on the north-east and west by hills, and from the south and south-east by two islands. The only trouble with Akkeshi is its spaciousness, the bay measuring more than 30 miles in circumference, while the entrance has a width of over 10,000 ft. The result is that high waves often visit the harbour during southerly gales. The Hokkaido authorities estimate the cost at 1,400,000 yen.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND PHOTOGRAPHERS IN JAPAN.

Professor W. K. Burton has been the moving spirit in contriving that a number of *The Practical Photographer* should be devoted to the subject of photography and photographers in Japan. How much Professor Burton has contributed to the progress of his favourite pursuit—we cannot call it "pastime," for although, in the routine of his life duties, it presumably stands second to sanitary engineering, he has nevertheless obtained world-wide celebrity as a photographic expert and artist—how much he has contributed to its progress in Japan, we should find difficulty in estimating. But it seems to us now, as we look back over the record of the past half dozen years, that in almost every movement for encouraging the development of the art and making known the successful efforts of its votaries, Professor Burton has been the central figure. It was he that suggested and organized that memorable exhibition in Ueno Park, three years ago, when Japanese photographers obtained an opportunity of examining the work done in Europe and comparing it with their own, and it was he that founded the Photographic Society, now a flourishing and useful institution. Like all really earnest workers, he is modest. In introducing to the public this Japanese number of *The Practical Photographer*, he might with all propriety, have devoted a considerable space to descriptive work of his own. But his writing occupies only one page. He is contented to let the Japanese tell their own story in words and by specimen photographs. That they have done so very successfully seems to us beyond question, but we confess that we turn with special interest to Professor Burton's brief remarks, for it is there that we look to find a general, discerning, and trustworthy verdict as to the present condition and future prospects of photography in Japan. Nor are we disappointed. "The great question now," writes Professor Burton, "to those who are at all interested in photography in this country, is its future. It is not too much to say that, till about eight years ago, the technical difficulties that the Japanese photographer had to contend against were so great, that his attention was taken up with these alone, and that he had no superfluous mind or energy to grapple with the artistic side of the subject. Since, however, dry plates came into general use, and the supply became fairly reliable, things have changed, and the advance in photography in the country, from an artistic point of view, during the past eight years or so, has been most remarkable. It will probably not be generally granted that the photography of the Japanese of the present day is up to the level of the best Occidental photography, so far as artistic merit is concerned, but if the present rate of improvement be maintained, what is to be looked for twenty years hence, or it may be fifty, or even a hundred? I, for one, should not be at all surprised to see Japan excel all other countries in the matter of photography as an art. To begin with a small detail, the Japanese are infinitely deft with their hands, so that the mere manipulative part of the work presents far less difficulty than it does to the average Occidental. Far more important is,

however, the inherent artistic taste of the people. With the Occidental, artistic taste is a thing that has, as a rule, to be acquired; with the Japanese, it is inborn. The coolie who trundles his fare along in a *jinrikisha* has probably a more refined taste in what is beautiful than the average University man in England, who has not had any special art training. * * * There will be a Japanese school that will be characteristic and inimitable. It may be, at any rate, but time only will show." We ourselves are disposed to endorse Professor Burton's forecast, for certainly the Japanese have inexhaustible patience, fine art instinct, and great industry. It is most interesting to read, in this beautifully illustrated number of *The Practical Photographer*, the story told by themselves of their early struggles. Mr. Esaki, now a leading photographer, describes how painfully scarce were all photographic supplies in the early days. "I never dreamed," he writes, "that there could be such a thing as a pound bottle of nitrate of silver, believing an ounce bottle to be the limit." Often customers had to be turned away because the materials for taking a picture were unobtainable. But customers were marvellously long-suffering folk in those times. "They came to the studio in the morning and after enduring some dozen sittings, if the photographer still could not do a picture by noon, they went out for lunch and came back again for further sittings." One instance is mentioned of a customer who devoted two whole days to a fruitless endeavour of that kind. After innumerable failures, the photographer at last retired into the dark room, on the afternoon of the second day, and the customer waited quietly until night-fall. Then, getting a little weary, he peeped into the dark room, only to find that the artist, ashamed to own a fresh failure, had made his exit from the window! Many other curious facts bearing on the history of the development of photography in Japan are related in the memoirs that this volume contains. They fully bear out Professor Burton's comment that the successful acquisition of knowledge in the face of obstacles such as Japanese photographers had to encounter indicates much earnestness of purpose and determination. As for the specimens of photography that illustrate the book, they are really admirable. They include a crinkled cover, printed in colours by Mr. Hasegawa. Most of our readers are now familiar with this kind of work, but they will probably be surprised to learn that many of the pictures so profusely employed to illustrate books brought out in Tokyo of late years required no less than twenty printings. Ten thousand covers in crinkled crape were made by Mr. Hasegawa for the Japanese number of *The Practical Photographer*, and the work occupied between four and five months.

ACCIDENTS ON JAPANESE RAILWAYS.

During 1895, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the number of injuries to life and limb upon the State Railways of Japan aggregated 258, the killed being 169 and the wounded 89. Neglecting cases of suicide and accidents due to the carelessness of the persons injured, it appears that one railway employé was killed for every 2,700,000 miles traversed, and one wounded for every 318,000 miles. With regard to passengers, there was one person wounded for every 47,500,000 miles. We gather from this record that no passenger was killed throughout the year on State lines. As compared with the figures for the preceding year, there was an increase of 36 deaths and 52 injuries. On private lines the total of killed and injured was 646, namely, 290 deaths and 356 injuries; being an increase of 60 deaths and 49 injuries as compared with 1894. The ratio of casualties to miles traversed is not given in the case of private lines. Our readers are of course aware that by far the larger part of Japan's railways belong to the category of private lines.

COLONEL CONNELLY ON LABOUR IN JAPAN.

The United States Consul in Kobe has compiled a very interesting and useful report—already reproduced in these columns—on the trade of Osaka and Hyogo for 1895, devoting special attention to the question of competition between Japanese productions and the productions of Europe and America. With Colonel Connelly's conclusions we do not purpose to deal at present, but it is difficult to pass unnoticed an interview reported in the *Kobe Herald* between the Colonel and a representative of that journal. Here is the particular part of the interview that attracts our attention:—

"You personally then, Col. Connelly, think that there is no reason to apprehend grave consequences from the sudden rise of Japan as an industrial and manufacturing nation in the estimation of the outside world?"

"I think so, and I also sincerely believe that there is not and never can be serious competition between labour of all classes in Japan and that of the western nations."

"And may I ask what is your ground for this belief?"

"Certainly. In the western nations the economic question of the relationship of capital and labour has been considered in every phase, not only by individuals but by legislative bodies representative in character. Questions regarding organized capital and organized labour have become of supreme importance. They affect not only the welfare of peoples but the stability of governments, and a state of things is presented to our gaze such as has not been seen since the organization of constitutional government. Labour is considered the wealth producer, and the wealth produced, jointly with the producer, forms the economic basis on which is built the prosperity of the Government and the happiness of the people. In Japan these potential questions are in their infancy and by the time experience will have necessitated governmental action, the law of supply and demand will, in my opinion, have placed Japanese labour beyond the scope of competition with that of the Western nations."

We can not pretend to be certain about Colonel Connelly's exact meaning, for either he or his interviewer has managed to construct an exceedingly ambiguous statement. One fact, however, seems to admit of no doubt, namely that Colonel Connelly considers the competitive capacities of Japanese labour to be handicapped by absence of official regulation. He further holds that, before official regulation, or "governmental action," can be inaugurated "the law of supply and demand will have placed Japanese labour beyond the scope of competition with that of the Western nations." This latter thesis is totally beyond our comprehension, but the former appears intelligible. In what respect, however, can "governmental action" add to the potentialities of labour? Does it not, on the contrary, restrict them? Its effect is to set limits to the daily working hours of the factory hand or the miner, which is simply a method of enhancing the cost of labour by diminishing the supply. The longer that Japanese employers remain unhampered by governmental action of that kind, the more accessible will labour be, and the greater, in consequence, will be their potentialities for competing with the products of foreign labour. It is scarcely possible to imagine that Colonel Connelly errs about such a rudimentary proposition of political economy, but if his words bear any other construction we should like to know what it is.

RAILWAY PECULIARITIES.

The complaint urged by our correspondent, "Constant Traveller," is evidently due to the difficulty under which all foreigners labour of obtaining accurate information about railway affairs in Japan. We are not so unreasonable as to suggest that the railway authorities are under any kind of obligation to publish notices in such a form as to be intelligible to the foreign community. That kind of thing is not done in any Western country. But assuredly it is not too much to expect that railway officials at Shimbashi should not give to travellers information entirely at variance with facts. "Constant Traveller" may well complain of the inconvenience to which he was subjected in consequence of the misleading answers given to his questions at Shimbashi. For the rest, if the 10.25 p.m. train, though calling at Yokohama, may no longer be boarded by passengers there, it is well that the fact should be circulated so as to prevent further disappointment.

KOREAN NEWS.

The brief announcement recently telegraphed from Korea that the Cabinet had been abolished, and a body called *Gissido* (according to Japanese pronunciation) established in its stead, conveyed very little information to the general public. We now learn, however, that the new body is a Council of State, and that the Korean term for it is *Eui-chung-bu*. The Edict establishing the Council declares that the object is to secure the absolute control of the Government by the King. That sounds retrogressive, but the *Soul Independent* would assuredly not approve anything of a mischievously conservative tendency, and it has nothing but praise for the new measure. Our contemporary has undertaken to publish, by degrees, an English translation of the edict. Here is the portion thus far published:—

Edict No. 1.—**Laws governing the National Council.** In order to secure absolute control of the Government by His Majesty, the National Council is established. (1) The National Council will be composed of one President, and five Councilors, one Assistant Councilor, also the Ministers of the different Departments become members of the Council by virtue of the office they hold; and the Minister of the Home Department, becomes the Vice-President of the Council. In case the President is absent the Vice-President will act in his place. Acting Ministers of Departments will have the same privileges at the Council as the regular Ministers, while acting as such. (2) (a) When the Council is in session His Majesty may be present to preside at the meeting, and in case His Majesty is not able to be present, H.R.H. the Crown Prince may act in place of His Majesty. (b) Only the members of the Council are allowed to vote. (3) Opening and closing of the sessions will be announced by the President.

(4) The following matters will be discussed and decided by the Council. (a) Laws, rules, and regulations relating to the Government and national affairs in general. (b) Abolition, revision, and interpretation of the present laws, rules, and regulations governing the whole of the national affairs. (c) Declaration of war or making of treaties with foreign countries. (d) In case of insurrection or any other disturbance in the country the Council will make plans and devices to pacify such troubles. (e) Matters relating to telegraphs, railroads and mining. (f) The Government budget will be made by the Council. (g) Special appropriations can be made by the Council. (h) Matters relating to establishment, or abolition, increase or decrease of Government revenue or customs tariff. (i) The Council can make changes in the salaries of officials and other items in the budget for this year. (j) In case of using private lands or timbers for internal improvements, the proper price is to be decided by the Council and paid to the owner or owners. (k) His Majesty may send special messages to the Council for its deliberation. (l) Laws that are approved by His Majesty will be announced to the people by the Council.

The *Independent's* criticism on the whole law, of which the above is a fragment, runs as follows:—

According to the new law, all matters of national importance will be discussed in the open Council by the members of the body, and the Ministers of State who have become ex-officio members of it. The questions that come up before the Council will be debated by any member, and each will tell the world his own idea in the matter by his vote. The trouble we have found with the Korean statesmen was that one could not tell where they stood in the important questions of the nation. They all kept a diplomatic silence in all things, hence the world had no opportunity to judge them. But under the new law everybody will have a chance to express his opinion by speech and vote. Another important point in the law is that His Majesty will attend the Council meetings and will hear the debates of the members. The difficulty which has hitherto existed in the Government was that whenever His Majesty consulted his Ministers the meeting was always a private one. Hence one Minister made one representation of a case to him, and another told another story of the same case when his turn for audience came. On account of this arrangement there has been much confusion to His Majesty. But when the new law goes into effect, His Majesty will be present at the sessions of the Council and will hear the open debate of different Councilors. From these debates he will know the facts of the case and with that knowledge he will form his opinion. On the whole the new law is similar to the laws governing the Go-

vernments of Europe and America, and it will minimize the possible corruption of the official class. The *personnel* of the new Council seems to meet the approval of the people. The President, Kim Pyeng Shi, is an old type of statesman with a clean record, and is said to be very honest and fair in his dealings. He may not be familiar with Western civilization, but a conservative man with an honest heart is far preferable to a corrupt *kaiwhaitte*. The next person among the new Councilors is Mr. Min Yung Whan, who is now on his way home from Russia. Mr. Min is known to most of the foreigners in Seoul. He is considered by the natives as well as foreigners as one of the best member of the Min family. He always conducts himself as a gentleman, and his past record is better than any other of the influential Mins of the days gone by. He was sent to Russia to represent his Government at the Coronation of the Russian Czar, where he saw the wonders of a civilized Western nation, which will be a fine education to him. We expect great things of him when he reaches home and takes a seat in the National Council. With a few exceptions the rest of the Councilors are loyal to His Majesty, and, when properly guided, will do whatever is good for Korea and her people.

The *personnel* of the Council is as follows:—

President of the National Council, Kim Pyeng Shi; Councilors, Min Yung Whan, Yun Yong Ku, Kim Yong Su, Nam Chung Chul, Yun Yong Sun; President of the Privy Council, Min Yung Chun; Privy Councilors, Yun Wu Sun, Yi Kyo Hun, Shin Hun Ku, Kim Sé Ki, Yi Keun Su, Yun Sung Chin, Yi Sang Chai, Yi Bong No, Yi Keun Hong, Sin Tai Kinn.

Almost immediately after the announcement of the above appointments, the President of the Council, the Minister of Finance, Sim Sang Hun, and the President of the Privy Council, Min Yung Chun, sent in their resignations, but the King declined to accept them. It is very conceivable that the President of the Privy Council and the Minister of Finance, seeing their functions seriously affected by the creation of the new body, should have desired to resign, but the action of Kim Pyeng Shi needs explanation. Of course he was not consulted before being gazetted President of the Council of State (or National Council). No one is consulted in Korea by way of preliminary to being appointed to a high office.

We take the following items from the *Soul Independent*; some of them are very quaint:—

Magistrate of Chung Pyeng, Yi Ké Hun reports that 150 rebels entered his district and threatened his life, so he prepared a banquet and other entertainments for the rebels and treated them very hospitably. The rebels praised him and went away. The War Office charged the Magistrate with cowardice and recommended his dismissal to the Home Department.

Military Director Kim Chai Hun reports that Capt. Im Pyeng Il captured four leaders of rebels in Yang-Yang district and obtained several pieces of arms. He further reports that Kang-Wha Militia captured forty-rebels in Song-Wha district and shot them before a crowd of people.

Edict.—The relatives of the Royal family lost their offices and pay from the Government for the last three years. At this time when we are changing the form of the Government, we must remember Our relatives. Therefore, all those who are related to the Royal family shall be given titles and proper emoluments.

A few days ago the Department of Law announced a new regulation concerning the *Soul Court* in which it states that no private letter is allowed to be sent to the Judges of the Court during the office hours. Two days later a Judge of the Supreme Court wanted to send a private letter to a Judge in the *Soul Court*, but the policeman at the gate of the latter Court did not admit the epistle. The Judge in the Supreme Court devised a scheme to send the letter to his fellow jurist. The scheme was not altogether legal as far as we can judge, and certainly not a dignified action for a judge of the highest tribunal of the land. He went to the *Soul Court* and stood outside of the building where he could see a boy in the window. He tied a stone to his letter and threw it into the window. Evidently the boy understood the meaning of it and picked up the letter and delivered it to the Judge. It is true that the regulation does not say anything about delivering private letters through the windows, so the Supreme Judge may not be guilty of breaking the rule on a technicality, but he deserves a sound thrashing on general principles.

On the night of Sept. 18th, a Japanese named Kimura came to the South-gate with two pack

horses after the gate was closed. He demanded the policeman at the gate to open the gate for him, but the policeman refused on the ground that he received an order from Headquarters to the effect that under no circumstances the gate shall be opened without permission from the Department. The Japanese climbed over the city wall and went to the Chin-Ko-Kwai and brought with him a Japanese policeman named Okawa. They came to the gate and again demanded the Korean policeman to open the gate, but the latter refused. They became very much enraged and beat the policeman with their swords. They forced the gate open and let in the pack horses and two drivers. Such a high-handed action on the part of the Japanese always brings about ill-feeling between Koreans and Japanese.

CHINESE ITEMS.

A case of cholera terminating with shocking suddenness occurred at Wuchang on the 21st of September. Dr. MacKay, who had been working for five years in connexion with the London Missionary Society, was struck by the disease in the early morning, and before 24 hours had passed, life was extinct. Mr. MacKay's work among the Chinese is spoken of in terms of the highest praise.

Action recently taken by the Chékiang authorities with reference to cotton grown in that province, of which the Hsiao-shan and Anch'ang districts are said to be the most fertile in China for purposes of cotton growing, shows that there is good ground for the apprehensions expressed by us many months ago, namely, that in order to obstruct the cotton-spinning industry, as carried on by foreigners, the Chinese would probably tax the raw material on its way to the mills. It is alleged that the proximity of the above-named districts to the coast, has hitherto enabled cotton-growers to get their cotton shipped without paying *likin* or other taxes on it. Four-fifths of the annual production are said to have escaped all impost. A *likin* bureau has now been established to prevent these evasions. It is presided over by a Mr. Wang, under whom are thirty-six excisemen and assistants, and a scale of taxes has been fixed. Unginned cotton and ginned cotton transported to Ningpo by river routes, are to pay 30 dollar cents and sixty dollar cents per bale, respectively, and unginned cotton transported to the same place by sea will have to pay 20 dollar cents a bale. Similar imposts are determined for cotton going in other directions. There is nothing at present, so far as we can see, to prevent the Chinese Authorities from raising these taxes to prohibitive rates, if they see reason to do so.

The following despatch is published by the *North China Daily News*:—

Legation of the United States.

Pekin, 24th September, 1896.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the port of Shashih, in the province of Hupeh, will be opened, under the provisions of the Shimonoseki treaty, to foreign commerce on the 1st day of October next, corresponding with the first day of the 145th Customs quarter. You are directed to notify American merchants of this announcement.

The Yamen informs me that the date of the opening of Chungking will be fixed by the Customs later.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES DENBY.

THOS. R. JERNIGAN, Esq.,
United States Consul-General, Shanghai.

"Mr. Jernigan, Consul-General for the United States," writes the *N.-C. Daily News*, of the 6th instant, "has left for Soochow to attend the trial before the criminal judge of the prisoner Tsiang Hioh-so, who is believed by all Americans acquainted with the Kiangyin riot last May to be innocent. He was the first to lease property to the American Mission, suffered imprisonment for a year, and was released in 1895 by order of the Rev. J. E. Bear, Deputy Consul. It was Tsiang's sister who divulged the plot of burying the child, on the chapel premises, and in revenge, both on the part of the perpetrators and the magistrate, Tsiang was arrested and tortured. Before the Chinkiang Taotai, it is said, he was put to the rack three times on the 'Tiger's Bench,'

fainted away, and at last confessed. The Kiangyin missionaries were not permitted to be present as witnesses and the Government representative did not withhold his approval of the sentence of death. For five months the innocent man has languished heavily ironed in the most horrible places in the prison, and was forbidden all communication with his friends. His real offence was that he has been the 'Friend of the Americans.' He is now brought for final trial before H.E. Loh Ch'in-kiang, who holds the triple office of Grain Commissioner, Customs' Taotai, and Acting Criminal Judge. Now Mongolian and Anglo-Saxon sit on the same bench. The results of the trial are looked forward to with great interest and we wish Mr. Jernigan a pleasant journey to the newly-opened port."

THE ACTION OF JAPANESE GUILDS TOWARD FOREIGNERS.

The various Japanese Guilds formed during recent years by merchants having dealings with foreigners at the open ports, have generally laid down for themselves the ostensible programme of promoting everything good and correcting everything bad, their avowed purpose being to assist the development, on honest lines, of the particular branch of trade in which they are interested. But it must be frankly confessed that their combinations seem to have had no practical object but to assist their individual members, rightly or wrongly, to force the foreigner's hand. The power of applying a boycott whenever temptation offers is, perhaps, too convenient to fail of abuse, and thoroughly well abused it appears to have been by the guilds in question. Recently the Secretary of the Hyogo Prefectural Government, Mr. Akiyama, acting, of course, under the direction of the Governor, addressed to the Kobe Chamber of Commerce the following note, which, together with a statement of its immediate result, we reproduce from the *Kobe Chronicle*:

Hyogo, Sept. 24th, 1896.

YAMAMOTO KAMETARO, Esq., Chairman of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce.

I have repeatedly heard of late that the guilds of our traders at open ports, who sell goods to foreign firms, have resorted jointly to a practice of boycotting the foreign merchants, in case of disagreement arising over business transactions between them. The object of the practice may be to correct evils attending the business transactions between our merchants and foreigners, but I hear of extreme injustice resulting, for instance, in one case in which a certain Japanese trader had trouble in business with a foreign firm and adopted the proper course for testing right and wrong, namely the Japanese law courts; the decision of the law court was given in favour of the foreign firm, proving that the Japanese was in the wrong, and yet the guild determined on boycotting the foreign firm. Such action on the part of Japanese merchants will be regarded by foreigners as interfering with the commercial rights of foreigners, and cause dislike and distrust of the Japanese among foreign countries, and it will place a serious impediment in the way of the development of the trade of our country. This is specially communicated to you for your consideration.

The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, on the 31st ult., distributed copies of the Prefectural communication to each member of the Chamber as well as to the trade guilds of Kobe, with the following covering-note:

The enclosed in a copy of a note from the head of the Internal Affairs Department in the Hyogo Prefectural Government, addressed to this Chamber, in reference to the boycotting of foreign merchants by Japanese traders. do not know in which port occurred the trouble referred to in the note of the Secretary of Hyogo. I beg to forward you a copy of his note for your consideration.

If need scarcely be added that the trouble in question was the Kimura-Cornes case.

CHINA'S TEA TRADE.

Eight of the leading British tea merchants in northern China have addressed to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce the following interesting letter:

As the Tariff question is now being re-opened, the occasion seems fitting that we, the undersigned, buyers of tea in North China, should ask your particular attention to the disastrous condition into which the Chinese tea trade has fallen; which is, in our opinion, largely due to the heavy taxation under which it has laboured for many years, a taxation far in excess of the Treaty tariff of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*.

During last season, 1895 x 1896, the export of black tea from China to Great Britain has amounted to only

37½ million pounds, as against 117 millions in season 1887 x 1888, and 160 millions in season 1880 x 1881, a decrease of 13¼ million pounds in fifteen years. This enormous decrease in the volume of the trade, one of the main foundations of our commercial existence in China, has, needless to say, been attended in its course with terrible loss and distress to a large number of foreigners and to hundreds of thousands of Chinese.

The taxation consists of the export duty, Haikuan Tael 2½ per picul, and the *likin* taxes which average about 1 taels 2½ per picul.—In all, say Tls. 5 per picul, which as the average cost of black tea in North China is about Tls. 20 per picul duty paid, means a tax of over 30 per cent. on the cost of tea purchased at the Treaty Ports. On sound common tea, which costs about Tls. 11 per picul duty paid, the taxation thus amounts to over 80 per cent. on the cost. Now the Treaties of Nanking and Tientsin (1842 and 1858) fixed the duty on tea at Haikuan Tael 2½ per picul, which was to represent an *ad valorem* rate of 5 per cent. At the present time, however, an *ad valorem* rate of 5 per cent. would be only about ¼ of the Tael per picul and foreigners were entitled every ten years to have the Tariff revised in this sense, under Article 27 of the Treaty of Tientsin, 26th June, 1858. As to the *likin* exactions, which go to make up the Tael 5 per picul, these were of course never contemplated by the Treaties.

It is only natural that Chinese tea penalised as it is by this crushing taxation, has been quite unable to compete with the untaxed produce of India and Ceylon. Not only in England but also in the smaller markets of Australia and America, do we see the working of this inevitable law.

To Australia, China will ship this season only about 7 million pounds of Black Tea, as against 21 millions in 1880 and 1881; there the untaxed British grown teas have begun to be taken of late years with the usual result, so that the Australian is now almost on all fours with the English trade.

To North America China ships the bulk of her green teas, and there again the taxation tells, as in that market these teas have to face the competition of comparatively untaxed Japan teas (the duty in Japan being only \$1 per picul) with the usual result of a declining export from China.

The decay of the China Tea Trade is going on so persistently that it will soon become a lost trade, unless its burdens are removed. To restore it to a healthy state, we would recommend further steps being taken towards improved quality, and as the producers seem unable or unwilling to effect reforms in this direction, it would be well if the government were to appoint a board of enquiry, to carry out such reforms as might suggest themselves, from a study of what is done elsewhere.

The same subject occupies the attention of foreign merchants in Amoy, where the proximity of Formosa and consequent familiarity with Japanese rates of taxation, bring into marked salience the crippling weight of the Chinese impost. Tea grown in Formosa under Japanese rule pays no *likin* or other local tax, the only impost levied being an export duty of \$1.10 per picul. On the other hand, tea exported from Amoy pays an export duty of \$3.85 per picul, together with about \$3 *likin*. Thus the difference of taxation is no less than \$5.75, or, in other words, tea exported from China is taxed more than five times as heavily as tea exported from Formosa. A great difficulty against which Formosa has to contend is the want of harbour facilities: there is no harbour within easy reach of the tea districts where large steamers can load safely throughout the year. Hence Formosan tea has hitherto been carried to Amoy for final shipment, and the merchants of Amoy are naturally apprehensive lest, under Japanese rule in Formosa, the course of trade may be altered. Mr. Consul Gardner, in his last trade report for Amoy, says:—

The loss of the Formosa tea business to Amoy would be a very serious blow to the prosperity of the port, would seriously effect the Customs revenue in the matter of tonnage dues, would throw out of employment many hundreds of labourers, and, by reducing the circulation of money in the city by some millions of dollars, materially affect its already rapidly-declining prosperity. It is impossible to over-estimate the value in indirect ways which the Formosa tea trade is to Amoy, and all interested in the welfare of our port, officials and merchants alike, should do their utmost to retain it.

We do not, for our own part, believe that the want of harbour facilities will long be suffered to injure Formosa. Harbour improvement is among the projects seriously contemplated by the Japanese. Meanwhile, it is possible that the vivid object lesson furnished by Japan's methods in Formosa may help to teach wisdom to Chinese officialdom. Mr. Gardner says that, were it not for excessive taxation, the Amoy tea districts could compete with Formosa in growing Oolong. Twenty-five years ago, three million dollars was the annual income derived

by Fokien from the business of growing tea for foreign markets; to-day, the income is little more than one-tenth of that sum.

This question of the duties levied by China upon tea has much interest for Japan, apart from the Formosan phase of the problem. There is no doubt that the cheaper grades of Japanese tea would find a considerable market in the north of China were not the duties prohibitive. In the early days of China's tea trade, the tea had to be carried to Canton for firing and packing, with the result that its original price was doubled, approximately. Moreover, the producer obtained a comparatively high price in those times, so that, on the whole, the specific export duty of 2½ Tls. per picul was not very onerous. But when the tea came to be shipped direct from Hankow and other producing centres, the manufacturing charges were largely reduced, and, at the same time, the producer's price fell in response to the European markets. The average cost of black tea in northern China being now 15 Tls. per picul, approximately, it is evident that an export duty of 2½ Tls. (S) and *likin* of 2½ Tls. (S) represent taxes aggregating 33 per cent. Now Japanese tea sent to China has to pay an import duty of 2½ Tls. (S) per picul, together with 1½ Tls. *likin*, or 4½ Tls. in all, and as the average cost of the tea at the port of shipment is 7 Tls., it results that the taxes levied in China aggregate nearly 50 per cent. If, despite this crushing impost, nearly a hundred thousand *yen* worth of Japanese tea found its way to China last year, we may reasonably assume that were the import duty and other taxes reduced to 5 or 10 per cent., the Japanese leaf would find a considerable market in the neighbouring empire.

JAPANESE SUBJECTS AT THE BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Japan and her affairs receive a considerable amount of attention at the very fine and well organized Institute of Arts and Sciences which, when the buildings now in progress are completed, will be one of the most imposing and beautiful structures of its kind in the world. In the prospectus for the current year we observe that there appear six illustrated lectures on Oriental Art, by Professor Ernest Fenollosa, L.L.D., Curator of Japanese Art at the Boston Museum of Arts; and also six lectures on "Political, Social and Literary Japan," by the Rev. W. E. Griffis, D.D. Dr. Griffis divides his subject thus:—(1) "Early Political History; Monarchy, Duarchy and Feudalism (A.D. 400-1868);" (2) "Imperial and Constitutional Japan (A.D. 1868-95);" (3) "Social Institutions in the Early and Middle Ages;" (4) "Modern Japanese Social Life;" (5) "Literary Japan, to age of Iyeyasu (A.D. 700-1600);" and (6) "Books and Writers of the Tokugawa and Meiji era (A.D. 1100-1894.)"

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

The *N.-C. Daily News* has been informed by Mr. G. D. Scott, Reuter's agent, that he has received a telegram from Peking dated the 2nd instant, stating that Count Cassini, Russian Minister, left for home on leave on the 30th ult. He had waited a month, having refused to proceed until the Manchuria Railway Convention between Russia and China was signed. The native report, says the Shanghai paper, is that the Emperor tried to postpone the signature of this Convention until after Li Hung-chang's arrival at Peking, but to this Count Cassini would not submit. On the 6th Oct., *N.-C. Daily News* said:—We learn from Reuter's Agent that he has received another telegram from Peking stating that the Siberian Railway agreement only refers to Northern Manchuria, the railway across which is redeemable by China within thirty years. The railway across Southern Manchuria is refused. Sheng Taotai is likely to obtain the Hankow-Peking railway. His purchase of the Hanyang ironworks is confirmed, and he is appointed Director of Railways.

THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

By the sudden death of the Archbishop of Canterbury the Church of England loses its chief ecclesiastic. The late Archbishop Benson was never a very strong Churchman in the sense that Archbishop Tait, his predecessor, was; but he managed to steer clear of many rocks that lay in the path of such a high dignitary. A schoolmaster, perhaps, more than a parish priest, his selection by Mr. Gladstone came somewhat as a surprise, until the facts of the possession of a considerable private fortune and high favour at Court, were found to have been behind him. *Men and Women of the Times* says: The Most Rev. Edward White Benson, D.D., Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, and Metropolitan, son of Edward White Benson, Esq., of Birmingham Heath, and formerly of York, was born near Birmingham in 1829. He was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, of which he was successively Scholar and Fellow, and where he graduated B.A. in 1852, as a First Class in classical honours, and Senior Chancellor's Medallist, obtaining also the place of a Senior Optime in the Mathematical Tripos. He graduated M.A. in 1855, B.D. in 1862, and D.D. in 1867, Hon. D.C.L. (Oxford), 1884. He was for some years one of the masters in Rugby School, and he held the head-mastership of Wellington College from its first opening in 1858 down to 1872. For several years he was Examining Chaplain to the late Bishop of Lincoln, by whom he was appointed Chancellor and Canon Residentiary of Lincoln, having been a Prebendary of the same cathedral for three years previous. He was Select Preacher to the University of Cambridge (1864, 1871, 1875, 1876, 1879, and 1882), and to the University of Oxford (1875-76), Hon. Chaplain to the Queen, 1873, and Chaplain in Ordinary, 1875-77. In Dec., 1876, he was nominated by the Crown, on the recommendation of the Earl of Beaconsfield, to the newly-restored Bishopric of Truro, and was consecrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, April 25, 1877. The diocese, which was taken out of the diocese of Exeter, consists of the county of Cornwall, the Isles of Scilly, and five parishes of Devonshire, constituting the old Archdeaconry of Cornwall, with the church of St. Mary, Truro, as a Cathedral. During his occupation of the See he began the building of a new Cathedral at Truro (with Mr. J. L. Pearson as architect), of which the outward shell has cost over £100,000, much of that sum having been gathered through the energy of the Bishop. In Dec., 1882, Dr. Benson was appointed by the Crown, on Mr. Gladstone's recommendation, to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, in succession to Dr. Tait.

CURIO SALE IN TOKYO.

We observe that printed cards, widely circulated by a Mr. Mikata Ichiro, on behalf of the *Seikado*, give notice of a great sale of pictures and objects of vertu, to be held at the well-known Nakamura-ro, Ryogoku Bridge, Tokyo, on the 17th and 18th instant. The articles profess to come from private collectors, and for aught we know to the contrary, they may do so. But our readers should be told, if they do not already know, that all the sales hitherto announced in the manner now resorted to, were contrived by associations of dealers in bric-à-brac, and that nine-tenths of the goods exposed there were not at all what they were represented to be. Of Mr. Mikata Ichiro, or the *Seikado*, we have nothing to say, either favourable or unfavourable, but the receipt of the circular inevitably recalls experiences which our readers are entitled to share.

Earthquakes were reported from Gifu and Kumamoto (twice) on the 14th inst. at 2.17 a.m., 10.52 a.m., and 11.7 a.m. respectively.

The Japanese man-of-war *Yoshino* put into Tsu on the 13th inst.; the *Seiven* left Mororan on the 14th. The *Kuso* and *Chiyoda* left Fusan for Chemulpo the same day.—*Official Gazette*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Having indulged about a month ago in some gossip concerning the political campaign in progress across the Pacific, I beg leave now to offer a few more items.

The "gold Democrats" have assumed the name "National Democratic Party," and emblem consisting of a gray ribbon, around the "Stars and Stripes." This badge was suggested by the fact that their candidates represent both the blue and the gray, as the Hon. John M. Palmer, their Presidential candidate, was a brave Union soldier who attained to the rank of Major-General; and Ex-Gov. Senior Bolivar Buckner, of Kentucky, their candidate for Vice-President, was a Confederate who also reached a General's grade. It was Buckner, by-the-way, who surrendered Fort Donelson to Gen. U. S. Grant on "no terms other than unconditional surrender"—the phrase which gave rise to the name, "Unconditional surrender Grant."

It is evident, from the results of the Vermont and Maine elections, that the "gold Democrats" will not cut much figure in the Northern States, except to make most of them safe for McKinley; and will probably not be able to draw away many Southern States from Bryan. The main contest is in the Mississippi Valley, especially in Illinois, Minnesota, Kentucky, Tennessee; and West Virginia, Delaware, and Maryland and New Jersey are also doubtful. Senator Palmer is very popular in Illinois, as Buckner is in Kentucky.

On the other hand, the fusion of the Democrats, Silver Republicans, and Populists has been quite successfully accomplished in most States; and, if Sewall should be withdrawn in consequence of the Maine election, Bryan's chances would be greatly improved. The general situation is this; the gold forces are divided, while the silver forces are practically united. And yet the increased Republican majority in Maine would seem to indicate that large numbers of Democrats are either staying at home or supporting the Republican ticket. Evidently McKinley has the best chance, but—

September 12th, 1896.

UNCAS.

RAILWAY PECULIARITIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It may not be without interest to your Tokyo readers to know that the Railway authorities sometimes decline to receive passengers for Tokyo by the 10.25 p.m. train from Yokohama. Last night, after having previously enquired at the Shimabashi Station whether I could take the 10.25 p.m. return train from Yokohama, and having been answered in the affirmative, I arrived at the Yokohama Station at 10.15. The train came in immediately, remained to minutes, and left almost empty. Although I was on the platform with my return ticket, I was prevented by force from entering the train by an official who represented himself to be the station-master and seven other officials. The station-master stated that that train never look passengers from Yokohama, whereas some of my friends had travelled by it on the previous evening.

The absurdity of sending off an almost empty train after ten minutes stop with passengers desirous of joining it waiting on the platform and the officials declining to receive them, requires no comment, but the fact appeared to give cause for much merriment at my expense among the station officials during the hour I had to wait for the last train.

A note of this peculiarity in the list of trains given in the English papers would be very desirable. I am Sir, yours truly,

A CONSTANT TRAVELLER.

October 14th, 1896.

COTTON-SPINNING IN YOKOHAMA.

MESSRS. W. M. STRACHAN & Co.'s MODEL MILL.

On Saturday morning some hundred members of the Japanese commercial bodies of Tokyo and Yokohama had an opportunity of inspecting the model cotton-spinning mill that Messrs. W. M. Strachan and Co., have recently erected at the rear of their Yokohama head office. The day was anything but pleasant climatically, but the warmth of the reception accorded and the attention shown the visitors by Mr. J. P. Reid, the resident mem-

ber of the firm, and his staff, fully made up for any discomfort undergone in journeying to the function. Messrs. Strachan & Co., have taken the agency of Messrs. Howard and Bullough, Ltd., the well-known manufacturers of cotton-spinning machinery of Accrington, England, and the model mill that was in operation on Saturday, is a splendid example of the high class machines that this firm turns out. To many visitors on Saturday the ingenuity displayed in the construction of such intricate machinery came as a revelation. Mr. T. Davenport, a representative of Messrs. Howard and Bullough, who superintended the erection of the mill, very courteously gave an outline of the process of cleaning, combing, and spinning raw cotton, from the time it leaves the pod till it reaches the bobbins as yarn-thread. The raw material is first placed on a machine having a wide bed. This bed is put in a motion and passes the cotton on to a cylinder in which a beater revolves. The beater helps to clean away all superfluous substances, and then the cotton is forced by a fan between two cylinders of perforated zinc that pass it out in layers on to four rollers. The cotton now looks like a beautiful white fleece. So nicely are the machines adjusted that each roll is about the same weight. The cotton is next passed through a carding engine by which it is combed out ready for the next process. The carding engine has all the latest improvements, electrical and otherwise. The cotton passes from the carding engine in long, soft coils, and is passed on to the drawing frame, from thence to the slubbing frame, that draws it out still finer and puts sufficient "twist" into it to carry it on to the "intermediary." Finally it reaches the ring spinning frame on which it is wound on to bobbins as the finished yarn of commerce. Crossley's oil and gas engines drive all these machines, and the noise that is created when all are at work can more easily be imagined than described. But the Japanese work-girls have already grown accustomed to the whir and rattle, and on Saturday were talking at ease with each other, while the possessors of untrained ears could hardly hear one another speak.

After the mill had been thoroughly inspected, the large company adjourned to the offices, where a sumptuous luncheon—provided by Mr. W. N. Wright, of Wright's Hotel—was spread. Mr. J. P. Reid presided at one table; Mr. F. H. Bull at the other, and Mr. E. T. Nicholas and Mr. Gibson were in the Vice-chairs respectively. Among those present were Messrs. Endo Shogoro, of the Fuji Spinning Mill; Tamura Rishichi and Kajima Unokichi, officials of the Tokyo Spinning Mill; Wada Toyoharu and Otani Takekichi, of the Kanagafuchi Spinning Mill; four officers of the Shimotsuke Spinning Mill; Representatives of the *Boyeiki Shimbun*, *Shogyo Shimpō*, and *Fiji Shimpō*; Hiramura Senzo, Kimura Riyemon, and numerous other representative merchants of Yokohama; Messrs. Horikoshi Kakujio, Kakinuma Tanizo, Sugimura Jimbei, Kajima Minosuke, Mayekawa Tarobei, Satsuma Jijiei, Hibiya Heizemon, and many others from Tokyo.

Mr. J. P. Reid welcomed his guests in a short speech. He said:—I thank you all very much for coming to the opening of our mill to-day. I see around me many whom I have known since my arrival in Japan, and some whose acquaintance I have made since. To all I extend a very hearty welcome. Encouraged by the orders that you have already so kindly given us for machinery, we have erected a little mill so that intending purchasers can see exactly what our machines can do; and I think I am correct in saying that wherever Howard and Bullough's machines have been introduced they have taken the front rank. Although we are somewhat late in the field, I think we shall give as much satisfaction in supplying you with cotton-spinning machinery as in other branches of business.—(Applause.) For our success we are very much indebted to you, and I trust that in years to come our business may always be accompanied by that friendship which has always existed between us in the past.—(Applause.)

A representative of the Shimotsuke Boseki Kaisha responded on behalf of the guests.

After luncheon, Mr. J. P. Reid proposed the toast of His Majesty, the Emperor. He said:—I ask you now to drink to the health of the Emperor of Japan, under whose beneficent rule we live. Long may he live to guide this country with wisdom.—(Loud applause.)

The toast having been enthusiastically received, one of the visitors, in a flowing speech containing many grandiloquent phrases, proposed the health and prosperity of Messrs. W. M. Strachan & Co., and success to Messrs. Howard and Bullough. This was also received with enthusiasm. During the proceedings the Town Band gave a stirring selection of music, playing the *Kimigayo* after the toast of the Emperor.

CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

A most enjoyable concert was given in the Public Hall on Monday evening in aid of the fund for the widows and orphans of those who perished on S.M.S. *Iltis*, and the funds of Christ Church, Yokohama, the band of the flagship *Kaiser* taking the principal part. There was a very large audience, few seats remaining unoccupied by nine o'clock, and late comers had to be content with standing room. The band of the S.M.S. *Kaiser* is composed of clever musicians, and seldom has finer music been discoursed within the walls of the Public Hall, or been more thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed. If the bandmaster had acceded to the desires of the audience every piece must have been followed by an encore, but very wisely he restricted himself to two, the first in response to a most enthusiastic recall to "Die Mühle," and the other to Macbeth's delightful "Forget-me-not," when an entirely pizzicato selection was given. In the first half of the pro-

PART I.

OVERTURE from "Athalie" MENDELSSOHN.
Band S.M.S. "Kaiser."

1.—LARGO HANDEL.
Band S.M.S. "Kaiser."

2.—SONG TOSTI.
Mr. FLEET.

3.—(a) Serenade } String Quartette { HAYDN.
(b) Die Mühle } EHRICH.

By Members of the Band S.M.S. "Kaiser,"

4.—SONG Rossini.
di Sevilgia").....ROSSINI.

5.—FANTASIE from the Opera "Faust" GOUNOD.
Band S.M.S. "Kaiser."

PART II.

OVERTURE from "Egmont" BEETHOVEN.
Band S.M.S. "Kaiser."

6.—FANTASIE from "Lohengrin" R. WAGNER.
Band S.M.S. "Kaiser."

7.—DUET (Piano) Larghetto, BEETHOVEN.
Miss ORTH and Miss MEIER.

8.—SONG MOZART.
from "Figaro".....MOZART.

9.—FORGET-ME-NOT... (String Quartette)
Mrs. GRAUERT.

By Members of the band S.M.S. "Kaiser."
10.—SONG... Che faro senza, "Euridice"... GLUCK.

11.—TURKISH MARCH... ("Maid of Athens")
BETHOVEN.

Band S.M.S. "Kaiser."

THE AUTUMN REGATTA.

Many an unkind "dry-bob" has expressed the opinion in times past that a regatta is the slowest form of spectacular amusement ever invented, the few minutes of excitement that crop up at intervals not compensating for the exasperatingly slow "waits" that intervene. This opinion relates principally to regattas held in dry weather; the "dry-bob's" opinion of a regatta held in a steady downpour of rain is said to be too deep for words. We quite believe it. Saturday's regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was absolutely the dearest performance on record in the annals of the settlement. Rain had been falling the better part of the night; during the early morning it gathered force and by the time the first race was timed to start the downpour was torrential; the rain absolutely coming down in sheets. It was impossible to postpone the function, so with a determination to make the best of things, the committee and competitors set to work to carry the programme through. But it was dreary, chilling work, and by the time the Clerk of the Weather had begun to relent a little—about 4 o'clock—the stock of Mark Tapleyan philosophy had run very, very low in the hearts of everyone. One thing the rain did effect for good—it kept the surface of the sea delightfully smooth. The Committee of Management were:—Messrs. J. T. Boag, Captain; H. R. Mair, Hon. Secretary; M. Schellenberg, Hon. Treas.; F. J. Hall, Judge; W. Sutter, Starter and Umpire; H. Tennant, Time keeper; W. W. Campbell; J. B. Rentiers, C. K. M. Martin, J. Walter, P. S. Bent, G. C. Murray, and R. Schmid. The International Fours turned out somewhat of a surprise to the "prophets," the English crew winning as they liked. Another good race was the Junior Pairs, the winners only succeeding in achieving victory at the post. At the close of the proceedings, Miss Lay presented the prizes. The band of the *Olympia* was in attendance, but very little dancing was indulged in, the dreary weather keeping away the majority of the ladies who usually grace these functions. Details:—

INTERNATIONAL FOURS.—1 Mile.

ENGLISH, "DARTER."		lb.
Bow.	H. Hayward	138
2.	W. Young	146
3.	J. B. Rentiers	156
Stroke.	W. Goddard	128
Cox.	A. H. Lay	130
SWISS, "FLAMINGO."		lb.
Bow.	E. Baumgartner	144
2.	A. Krayer	145
3.	M. Schellenberg	154
Stroke.	A. L. Mottu	146
Cox.	E. Bosshart	142
ABORIGINES, "SEA MEW."		lb.
Bow.	H. Goddard	135
2.	M. Stephens	140
3.	A. B. Smith	170
Stroke.	D. Marshall	153
Cox.	W. Carst	85

A good start was effected. The Aborigines went away at a great pace and lead for a short distance, but at the Niche the Englishmen drew level and from there lead the procession home, Goddard's long, even stroke getting all the work possible out of his men. The Swiss finished about three-quarters of a length in front of the Aborigines. Time, 9m. 40½ secs.

The Dinghy race for scudows was won by the Captain-sendo of the Boat Club, No. 1 of the Bathing Barge only getting second position.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—1 Mile.

"TERN."		lb.
Bow.	H. E. Irwine	135
Stroke.	John MacArthur	172
"PEARL."		lb.
Bow.	H. Goldman	189
Stroke.	L. Salabelle	192

MacArthur took Stephens' place in the *Tern* at the last moment. A good start, Salabelle, if anything, getting the best of it. At the Pacific Mail Wharf the *Pearl* was leading, though both boats were pulling easy. At the breakwater MacArthur pulled out and passed Salabelle, and going up the Bund increased the lead with every stroke, eventually winning easily. Time, 8m. 1½ secs.

CLUB FOURS.—1 Mile.

"DARTER."		lb.
Bow.	E. J. Libeadd	133
2.	H. D. Curtius	159
3.	L. Salabelle	192
Stroke.	H. E. Hayward	138
Cox.	K. Wilson	115
"FELICAN."		lb.
Bow.	H. Poole	150
2.	H. E. Allcock	138
3.	J. B. Rentiers	156
Stroke.	D. Marshall	153
Cox.	W. W. Campbell	130
"FLAMINGO."		lb.
Bow.	J. F. Drummond	117
2.	H. Goddard	129
3.	J. J. M. Carst	160
Stroke.	H. R. Mair	130
Cox.	W. Carst	85
"SEA MEW."		lb.
Bow.	M. Sakamoto	115
2.	E. Baumgartner	144
3.	R. Böhlke	151
Stroke.	A. L. Mottu	145
Cox.	A. H. Lay	130
"SWAN."		lb.
Bow.	E. H. Irwine	155
2.	F. J. Nutter	156
3.	F. Kluss	145
Stroke.	W. Goddard	128
Cox.	K. Kingdom	125

A very pretty start. Hayward lead out, with Mair next. At the Pacific Mail Wharf Hayward spurred and obtained a long lead; Marshall's boat came next, making a good race with Mair's, Mottu's and Goddard's boats bringing up the tail of the procession. On entering the harbour Marshall spurred, passing Mair, and then he called on his crew to pull down Hayward's lead. The distance was not long enough, however, Hayward getting his gun by half-a-length; good third. Time, 9m. 30½ secs.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—1 Mile.

"TERN."		lb.
Bow.	G. Hood	152
Stroke.	M. Schellenberg	154
"PEARL."		lb.
Bow.	W. Young	146
Stroke.	C. Kalkhof	183

Schellenberg took the lead soon after the start, and rowing in better form than the other boat won much as he liked. Time, 7m. 5½ secs.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—1 Mile.

"WIDGEON."		lb.
Bow.	E. J. Libeadd	133
Stroke.	H. E. Hayward	138
Cox.	A. H. Lay	130
"MALLARD."		lb.
Bow.	E. H. Irwine	135
Stroke.	F. Kluss	145
Cox.	W. Goddard	128

Another even start, and until the P.M. Wharf was reached neither boat was ahead of the other. Then Hayward took the lead, though the Mallards held on gamely. Up the Bund a fine struggle ensued, and the winners only succeeded in getting home by a bare quarter of a length. Time, 8m. 10½ secs.

SCRATCH FOURS (From Inside of Breakwater).

"DARTER."		lb.
Bow.	Budge	133
2.	Williams	138
3.	Salabelle	192
Stroke.	W. Goddard	128
Cox.	Bouffier	128
"SWAN."		lb.
Bow.	Drummond	117
2.	Poole	129
3.	Carst	160
Stroke.	Hayward	130
Cox.	Carst	85

Five boats started, and all made the pace hot from the very beginning. Hayward succeeded in getting his crew out of the tuck first, but Goddard followed hard after him, and just as the Boat-house was reached, succeeded in lifting her nose just in front of Hayward's. Such a finish caused huge excitement among the spectators.

IN SWITZERLAND.

The following letter from a friend whose family are now in Japan, will probably interest many of our readers:—

May 19th, 1896.

I have a long story to tell, but there is so much to say of the last few days that I shall do well if I get in any introduction at all. Suffice for this sheet to say that within a week S— and I decided to quit Montreux, and yesterday forenoon mounted our bicycles, which we had hired by the week, and started up the Rhone valley in search of adventures and cheap living. We have found both, and I think the two days have been—of their kind—the most delightful of my life. The main thing has been that we have been so completely independent. Our heavy luggage is stored in Montreux, and a little valise contains all that is necessary for our easy-going, unconventional existence. This we send by train from place to place at the enormous expense of about ten cents a day.

Travelling as we were over a highway that was used by the Romans and bordered by castles in the Middle Ages, we felt quite like knights errant with our trusty steeds, riding out in search of adventure. We had not at the start, nor have we even now, a definite idea of how long our trip will be or where we shall go. Our plans are made only one day ahead.

We left Montreux at eleven in the morning, rode past Chillon and Villeneuve, where the army of Cassius went under the yoke (B.C. 107), passed Roche, a little village on our left, and stopped at Aigle for lunch, after an easy ride of about nine miles. After lunch, as the sun was beating down very hot, we went into the hotel garden and read together Howell's "Swiss Sojourn," which was written of Villeneuve, Aigle, and the country thereabouts. There is an old chateau at Aigle which we visited. A part of it dates back nearly a thousand years, we were told. From Aigle to Bex was a pretty hot ride, which we broke with one long rest under a tree by the roadside. You can hardly imagine a more contented and happy individual than I was as I lay on my back in the grass and looked up through the tree at the clear blue sky, the fluffy white clouds and the snow-capped Alps on all sides. * * * * * We ordered dinner at the Hotel des Alpes soon after reaching Bex and ate it out under the trees. A short spin of half an hour after dinner brought us to the ancient town of St. Maurice, where we obtained a room for the night at the Hotel Groscon. Just before we reached the town we entered a narrow and strongly fortified defile through which the Rhone flows with a very swift current. The road crossed the river over a wide-arched bridge and brought us past the Chateau of St. Maurice, then down along the base of a lofty cliff into the town. We took a little walk through the town in the cool of the evening and went into the church attached to the ancient monastery of St. Maurice.

The entire population of the village was at the evening service, and we watched the people come out with the greatest interest. Both S— and I were tired and went to bed at nine o'clock. After breakfast the next morning we visited the monastery and were conducted through the cloisters by one of the brotherhood—that of St. Augustine. The Abbey was founded in the fourth century, but the present building dates only from 1600, the old one having been burned. From the Abbey we went to another monastery—of Capuchin monks—where we were shown all over the place by the Father Guardian. It was as medieval as could be. Here and there we saw a brother who was quite willing to interrupt his religious meditations and greet us, or another who appeared in the corridor and then vanished into his cell. They all wore long, brown, hooded gowns with a cord around the waist. They refused to let us give them anything for their courtesy, but finally consented to our putting a couple of francs in the poor box. After we had seen the monastery, we went to the Grotto aux Fées, an underground passage nearly a quarter of a mile long, which went into the side of the lofty cliff I mentioned above.

[May 21st.—I take up my account in a guest chamber of the famous Hospice of St. Bernard, at the top of the Grand St. Bernard Pass from Switzerland into Italy. How we got here and the reception we received, I shall tell later. It is certainly the most interesting adventure of my life.]

The grotto ended in a good-sized subterranean lake into which a cascade poured. It was all quite suggestive of Jules Verne. After leaving the grotto we went back to the hotel for lunch; and then started out again on our wheels for Martigny, about fifteen kilometers away. On the road, we passed a lovely cascade three hundred feet high at Evionnaz and a magnificent narrow cañon, the Gorge de Torient at Vevey. We stopped at the latter place and walked a quarter of a mile up the gorge. It was a magnificent spectacle. We passed along a little wooden gallery which was suspended from the rock, some thirty feet above the torrent, and were soon shut in by the huge crags on either side. A narrow blue strip above us was all we could see of the sky. A ride of a few minutes more brought us to Martigny where we put up for the night. We decided before we went to bed that our next expedition would be to the Hospice of the Grand St. Bernard and we set out accordingly the following morning with our bicycles loaded—with S— on a stout mountain wagon. I preferred to walk all the way, but would not have done so, had I known of the hard pull we were to have at the end. We stopped for lunch at a little village called Orsines and arrived at the end of the carriage road at half-past four—in the little village at Bourg St. Pierre.

I had got far ahead of the carriage, and when it came up, I found that S— had picked up one of the Hospice brothers who was returning from a little vacation. We stopped to rest at the Dejeuner de Napoleon, and then started up the mountain, leaving our bicycles at the hotel. S— took a mountain wagon as far as the first stop, a little house called the "Cantine," and then rode horseback as far as the road was passable. We were then all provided with Alpine-stocks and started up across the snow. When about half-way up the last stretch, a thick snow storm began, and we should certainly have had to turn back if it had not been for our guides, the monk and a pupil of his at the monastery. S—'s strength began to give out early, and I had to help him a good deal. When we were about half an hour from the Hospice, the monk and the guide began to halloo, as it had been telephoned from the "Cantine" that we were coming and we expected a monk to come out to meet us.

After a good deal of hard, slippery climbing over ten feet of snow, we were cheered by the answering shout of a monk who now appeared in the darkness ahead. He brought with him a leather flask of wine and some bread and cheese. We all took some and were much refreshed. If it had not been for this help, I do not know what we should have done. The new monk and I pulled and pushed S— along, until my place was taken by the other brother. The relief of having only my own weight to carry enabled me to push ahead easily for a few rods and then suddenly my strength gave out. You see I had walked nearly forty miles, and during the last five had had to pull S—, who was very weak; but fortunately we had not much farther to go. I climbed the last bit almost on my hands and knees. All of a sudden, I heard the monastery bell ring, and the Hospice loomed up close at hand. I followed the young student into a dark hall and from that into the kitchen. The sight there was one which I shall never forget. A huge range covered with pots and kettles gave out a cheerful light and heat, and by it was standing one of the monks, the cook of the brotherhood.

The kitchen was a low, vaulted room, with the walls covered with cupboards and various utensils, all in apple-pie order. The cook came forward cordially and shook hands with me, and then poured out some hot water into a bowl, which he told me to drink with a little wine. It warmed me up considerably, but I was still ready to drop with cold and fatigue. S— came in with the monks a minute or two afterwards, apparently less used up than I was. He said they had practically carried him part of the way. We were presently shown to our room and given a hot foot bath and a change of shoes and stockings. Then a hot dinner of beef and omelette was served us in the guests' dining-room, after which we went to bed. It was frightfully cold in spite of the abundance of bed clothing, at first, but I managed to get warm in time and slept pretty well all night.

It is still stormy to-day. I went down to the kitchen to get warm and then we had breakfast. The hall outside of the kitchen was occupied by the fine old St. Bernard dogs, who greeted me kindly as I passed. The man who came to meet us last night said he would have brought the dogs, only he hurried so on account of the storm that he did not have time to get ready. Imagine our being rescued by the Hospice dogs like the little boy in "Reading Without Tears!" That we were rescued from a fearful exposure, I have no doubt, as S— could not have gone on alone.

Hasn't this all been an interesting experience? Perhaps a little more so than you would like me to repeat.

Martigny, May 22nd.—The snow storm increased in fury all yesterday and continued through the night. We thought we should have to start out sometime, however, so we came down with a good sized party of working-men this morning. It was very easy for me, but S— gave out, when about half-way down, and we had to support him most of the time. Though he came out all right when he had had an omelette and some wine at the "Cantine." The rest of the way we had a carriage. The roads were so bad that we kept our bicycles in the carriage until within three or four miles from here and then I rode the rest of the way on my wheel.

So this adventure is over. What we owe to the Brothers Antoine and Lugin, it is hard to express. I thanked them as well as I could and told them they would have your gratitude as well as mine.

The Brothers are a noble set of men. Starting in at eighteen, the high mountain air ruins their health before they are forty. At all times of the day and night they have to be ready to go out at the risk of their lives to save lost travellers. Father Lugin who came to meet us told me that he once carried a man on his back for an hour through the snow. They never ask money for their services, but give gratuitous shelter and food to forty or fifty thousand travellers a year, including the working-men who are constantly going over the pass. Their lives are laid down for their love to God and their fellow-men.

They are such a calm, serious, yet thoroughly cheerful and agreeable set of men, that one cannot but be touched just to see them, especially when one has tasted their hospitality as we have done.

We are going back to Montreux to-morrow, stopping one night at Bex. From Montreux we shall probably go in a day or two to Geneva where I shall mail my next letter. * * *

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

(BY AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

September 1st.

During the week of the solar eclipse on your side of the globe, part of last month, we on this side were sweltering under the most terrific and protracted torrid wave experienced in the history of this city or country.

Nine days continuous temperature at 99 to 102 in the shade produced over a thousand fatalities and several thousand prostrations in the metropolis. This is equal to an epidemic. The whole of July recorded but 918 deaths in New York City. Fevers and various diseases followed in the wake of the torrid term—causing unprecedented mortality for August in this city. The municipal order for the demolition of several blocks of rear tenement houses (which Jacob Riis terms the "cave-dwellings of civilized (?) New York") had been now too soon promulgated. Every citizen approved the wisdom of this act.

Reports from all over the country concerning the excessive heat those nine days were of similar nature. One place out west reported fifteen days at 101 in the shade.

Every American citizen, interested in the progress of science—and many there are—rejoices in the successful observation, though not completely

so, of the Solar Eclipse by the American Expeditions to Japan. Miss Proctor, daughter of the late astronomer, Richard Proctor, who has just returned from Norway, was the most successful of all scientists sent out from this continent. She is preparing already to go to India in 1898 for the next eclipse.

The official reports on the eclipse last month are awaited with deep anxiety.

The political contest is already monopolizing the attention of the people as never before. The campaign really began six weeks prior to the usual time, i.e., before September 1st, because the interest had become so intense. Even the women have become more deeply absorbed in the issues than ever before in the history of the nation. "Women's Auxiliary Leagues" are being organized here and there similar to those connected with Grand Army of Republic, Law and Order League, &c.

Four years ago some 12,000,000 votes were polled, in the last Presidential Election, out of 15,000,000 eligible voters. It seems already assured that next November will witness the largest proportion of ballots cast ever known in the United States. The entire 16,000,000 eligible citizens will doubtless exercise their sovereign right of suffrage—as the contest is so close.

The Presidential Candidate Bryan has a unique attraction in Mrs. Bryan's accompanying him everywhere over the country. She has power herself, a "power untold" in the canvass thus far, winning the highest encomiums from the adherents of all parties. Her husband's helpmeet politically also she claimed to be. It is questioned, however, by not a few whether Mrs. Bryan can be commended for such a course in the public campaign. All business is at a stand-still. The suspense of these coming two months is seriously apprehended by all classes. It is acknowledged by every citizen that there never has been such a crisis, politically and financially, since 1860,—issues preceding the late Civil War.

In the marriage last Thursday, Aug. 25th, of Miss Gertrude Vanderbilt, elder daughter of Cornelius Vanderbilt, to Hon. Payne Whitney, son of ex-Sec. Whitney, some fifty millions of dollars were linked together. Bride and groom represent two of the wealthiest families of America. Each is expected to receive, as his or her portion, some twenty-five millions. Sufficient to begin life with comfortably! Playmates as children together in their homes, opposite each other on Fifth Avenue, this it is considered a true love match extending through years past. The wedding ceremony and all appointments thereto, at the palatial summer residence of the bride's father at Newport, were of the most refined and unostentatious yet regal character.

Severely in contrast was this wedding was that of her cousin, the Duchess of Marlborough—née Consuela Vanderbilt—some months ago, where the vulgar display of wealth and extravagance was so unpleasantly prominent as to shock the refined and cultured, especially in the United States.

The "Diary of a Japanese Convert"—Kanozo Uchimura—brought out this year by the Keiseisha, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo, and by a Chicago publisher, is attracting marked attention in this country. Formerly a student at the Agricultural College, Sapporo, and then spending five years in the United States, Mr. Uchimura is led to write his experience and impressions. He is a keen observer of men, and principles underlying action, and wields a trenchant pen. He is a philosopher evidencing a judicial mind. Although not "to the manner born," in the English tongue, yet his style is most fascinating and his mastery of the English language marvellous.

He presents clearly the distinction between the false and the true in both nations, in religion and civilization of both Japan and America; between the principles and truths of Christianity and the inconsistent exponents of the followers, both as labourers in the Mission field and citizens in this country. His facile pen portrays vividly the excrescences of Christianity, and with scathing irony, but sadly true to life, describes the idols worshipped by Christians at home and abroad.

The publisher's note in truth says:—"So far as we know, it is the only book of this kind ever written in any language." This work from the pen of Mr. Uchimura will doubtless have a wide circulation on both sides of the Pacific Ocean, attracting readers from all classes.

Six weeks ago the National Capital was besieged by some 36,000 young people from every State and Territory, and a few representatives from every country on the globe. This cosmopolitan gathering was not political: It was the Christian Endeavour Convention—the fifteenth international.

For six days the "Endeavours" captured Washington, predominating at, if not controlling, hotels, public buildings, streets, trolleys, parks, &c.

The three tents, each accommodating 12,000 persons, were filled morning and evening, and the programme was unusually good. Next year the convention goes across the continent to San Francisco, and in '08 to Nashville, Tennessee, the first time in the South. Dr. Francis E. Clark, the founder of the organisation, and his wife, have just embarked for a year's tour in Africa and Europe in the interest of the movement.

At this writing all New York is astir. The Viceroy Li Hung-chang has just arrived from Europe, *en route* home. His official designation as registered at the Hotel is:—"His Excellency Li Hung-chang, Special Envoy of China, Senior Guardian of His Apartment, Earl of First Rank, Prime Minister of State, with title of Su-yi." For ten days His Excellency is to be the Nation's guest. Elaborate preparations were made weeks previous for receiving this honourable visitor. Some fifty-two rooms have been assigned the Viceroy and his suite at the Waldorf Hotel, the famous hostelry for entertaining Royal and Princely visitors. A special kitchen for His Excellency's Chinese Chief and Aides was set apart. Civic, Military, National, Municipal and Diplomatic—all vying with one another in their eagerness to do honour to the Oriental statesman, before delivering him over to the Canadian authorities at Montreal. Thence direct to Vancouver, where he is to embark for his home-land via Japan. It has been reported the "hoodlum" classes in California are so bitter in their antipathy that it was not safe for the Earl to pass through the Golden State or embark from our American Pacific coast.

A few months ago Marquis Yamagata was our honourable guest, likewise attracting attention and receiving unbounded hospitality, as a highly distinguished visitor. But in marked contrast there was not the least antipathy or ill-feeling lurking anywhere in the whole United States towards the noble Japanese warrior and statesman, as has been unfortunately bruited in relation to our eminent Chinese Envoy. Individual liberty in America, as elsewhere, has been too frequently prostituted into unbridled license.

The eminent jurist and publicist Lord Chief Justice Russell will carry back to England the very warmest admiration and deepest appreciation from the American people. His timely visit this summer and his able papers on International Arbitration before our National Bar Association can but more closely bind in fruitful harmony the two great Anglo-Saxon speaking nations. Mr. Secretary Chamberlain is expected soon to visit Mrs. Chamberlain's home in Massachusetts. While not on any official business, yet the British Secretary expects to meet Secretary Olney for a conference, before he returns to London, which may have important bearing on the Venezuela and Permanent Arbitration questions.

As I close this for the mail, Vermont sounds the first gun of the campaign, her gubernatorial election occurring to-day. Republican majority 35,000. This is nearly twice as large as has been given at any previous choice for Governor in the history of the State. McKinley's hosts are unbounded in their enthusiasm to-night from Maine to California.

THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIVOR Esq., Consul-General
and Judge.—MONDAY, October 12th.

CHINA AND JAPAN TRADING COMPANY V.
A. WESTON.

Judgment was delivered in this case on Monday afternoon. Mr. Lowder was present on behalf of the plaintiffs, Mr. Seidmore representing defendant, Captain A. Weston.

His Honour said—This is an action brought to recover yen 106.62, the amount of damage alleged to have been caused by water, between the evening of the 28th June and the morning of the 29th June, 1896, to a shipment of 200 bags of Nitrate of Soda, ex steamer *Glamorganshire*, against the defendant, A. Weston, landing agent, the damage claimed being charged to the negligence of the defendant in not sufficiently protecting the goods after they were landed on the Customs jetty at Yokohama. The pleading and arguments present several issues both of law and fact, and are supported by Counsel to call for a decision of this Court defining, to a large extent, the duties and responsibilities of a landing agent, under the customs and conditions existing in the port of Yokohama, or, to speak more exactly, the main point upon which a decision is sought, is as to the extent of the duty and liability of a landing agent in the course of his business as a carrier and handler of

general cargo—whether or not his liability as a common carrier (the existence of which is, I think, properly admitted) ceases upon the deposit by him of the goods entrusted to his care in the place designated in his contract of carriage; whether or not, if such farther liability exists, it is that of a common carrier, a warehouseman, or what it is, and what duties it imposes. I cannot reach the conclusion that the scope of the decision called for by the evidence is necessarily or properly so wide as stated; the laws of the United States, in common with those of other systems, permit the making of contracts by individuals without governmental interference. Since this permission is accorded, the will of the individual parties as it appears in the contract, whether express or implied, is "the law of the case" when it comes before a Court of Law. It is the province and the duty of the Court first to determine, on the evidence offered, what the terms of the contract are (generally a question of fact); then to determine what laws apply, and what the result or effect of their application shall be. The case at bar is one which is based upon a contract (admitted) between the plaintiff and defendant. It is to be regretted that this contract is not one expressed wholly, or in part, in written or spoken words, but is one which is implied and seems to rest solely on the custom ruling, in a mercantile or business sense, in the Port of Yokohama. The laws governing judicial procedure permit the introduction of evidence as to custom to explain or even to extend the terms or provisions of a contract, upon the theory that where doubt exists as to the intention at the time the contract is entered into, terms which are proved to be in accord with established local custom where the parties reside and do business, will be supposed to have been within their knowledge, and an intention to incorporate such terms in the contract will be presumed; but it is most unusual to find a contract resting entirely on implied terms based wholly on custom. The existence of a contract between the parties is alleged in the plaintiff's petition and admitted in the defendant's answer, and the Court does not discuss the matter except to call attention to the fact that the conditions referred to have greatly increased the labour of determining what the terms of this contract were, it being necessary to depend entirely on evidence of general custom in reaching a conclusion as to the terms and extent of the contract set up. It is a fact to be noticed that the evidence offered as to custom was most conflicting, and was, most of it, furnished by witnesses of little technical experience, in the employment and interest of the plaintiff, and of the defendant in the handling of this shipment, each of whom must have felt that if the omission of duty which caused the damage were held to be that of his employer, the moral responsibility must necessarily fall upon him and his associates. But one expert witness (Mr. Paul Helm) was called, having no interest whatever in the adjudication of this case, or in the judgment rendered as affecting matters arising in the future; a witness, whom it appears, from the evidence, had been, for some years, the principal, in fact the only, competitor of the defendant at Yokohama in the landing business, but who had sold out and retired from the business some two months before the occurrences on which this action is based. Now what was this contract? It seems that it consisted of an undertaking on the part of the defendant to convey 200 bags of nitrate of soda from the S. S. *Glamorganshire* to the Customs compound in Yokohama, upon the understanding that the plaintiff was to pay the customary charge for such landing. This contract is clearly, I think, distinguishable from that which formed the basis of the action in *Mitchell v. Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company*, principally relied upon by the learned counsel for the plaintiff, and other cases cited on the same point. In the case cited it is supposed that the contract sued on was based upon an undertaking on the part of the defendant Railway Company, to transport certain merchandise from one station to another, and a knowledge of the universal custom of railway corporations, justified both consignor and consignee in supposing that a further duty would be performed beyond the carriage, viz., the depositing of the merchandise in the warehouse of the railway corporation until it could reasonably be received by the consignee: in other words, the undertaking was more than one of carriage, it was an undertaking to transfer certain goods from one warehouse to another, both of which were under the control of the defendant, and there to protect them until notice of readiness to deliver could be given to the consignee. Upon the arrival of the goods they were not housed but were piled in the open air, and exposed to rain which damaged them, and the court held that the railway corporation had not performed its contract fully and was liable to the damage resulting from such failure, even though the plaintiff was

most dilatory in taking delivery, the learned judge who decided the case, making use of the following words:—"These were goods which could be taken care of and remain at the defendant's (Railway Company's) station." In the case at bar the undertaking seems to have been a very different one. The evidence shows that Mr. Weston (the defendant) undertook to transfer certain perishable or easily damaged goods from a ship to the compound of a third party (the Imperial Customs at Yokohama). It also shows that, though he, to some extent, controlled a warehouse on this compound and used it for the storing of goods brought on shore by him, it was the property of and ultimately controlled by the third party, the Yokohama Imperial Customs officers. It also appears that this third party had, some time ago, promulgated and has since acted upon a regulation prohibiting the storing of nitrate of soda in any sheds or warehouses on its compound, and that this regulation was known to both plaintiffs and defendant; that the arrival of this cargo in the harbour was known to the plaintiffs on or about June 22nd, 1896; that it was actually landed about the middle of the afternoon of the 26th June; that one or more agents of the plaintiffs were charged with inspecting cargo delivered from ships, and, so far as I can judge from the evidence, should have known of the landing of these 200 bags of nitrate of soda; that it was not the general custom, nor was it expected, that the landing agent should secure the passage of goods landed by him through the Customs, but that it was the business of the consignee (in this case, the plaintiffs) to take delivery within the Customs compound, and attend to all the details required for freeing them from duty charge, that there was little free space in the Customs compound on the 26th of June, and that defendant's agents at the time of landing the goods piled them up outside of the warehouses and sheds on the ground, without placing "skids" or dunnage under them, at a point near the stone-faced edge of the jetty, and afterwards covered them with tarpaulin; that they so remained with the plaintiff's knowledge until the night of the 28th or the early morning of the 29th June, when a heavy fall of rain more or less flooded the compound and damaged the goods from below, the damage being noticed by the plaintiff's agents the next morning. It is unnecessary for the court at this time to announce an opinion as to the duty of a landing agent after the deposit of goods on the public compound, in the case of general cargo, which the regulations of the compound permit to be stored in a place of safety, attention being directed, in this case to goods of a particular and peculiar class, perishable or easily damaged goods, which are excluded by regulations, having the force of law, from the sheds and warehouses of the public compound, on which the defendant was required by the terms of his contract to deposit them. On these facts, since the plaintiffs had knowledge of the perishable nature of the shipment consigned to them, and of the regulations governing its bestowal upon land, it was incumbent upon plaintiffs to use more than ordinary diligence in taking delivery and transferring to a place of safety. I am of the opinion that the plaintiffs failed to take delivery of and remove these goods within a time after their landing, which might, on the evidence in this case, be considered a reasonable time, since they could have removed them on the afternoon of the 26th, on the 27th, or the 28th, and that the failure to do so contributed directly to the damage complained of. Judgment will be entered for the defendant. Costs will be taxed to the plaintiffs.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.—TUESDAY,
October 13th, 1896.

ELIZABETH DIACK V. JOHN DIACK.

In this case, Mr. J. F. Lowder represented the plaintiff, Mrs. Elizabeth Diack, of Aberdeen, Scotland, and Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the defendant, Mr. John Diack, builder and contractor, of No. 111, Bluff, Yokohama.

Plaintiff's petition showed:—

1. That defendant is the husband of the plaintiff.
2. In the month of January, 1888, an agreement was made between the plaintiff and the defendant, by which, in consideration of the immediate payment by the defendant to the plaintiff of the sum of £60 as an allowance towards the maintenance of the plaintiff for the year 1887, and of the undertaking of the defendant that he would thereafter make the plaintiff an annual allowance of £60 to be paid in two equal instalments of £30 in the months of January and July in every year, the

first of the said installments to be paid in the month of January, 1888, the plaintiff promised that so long as the defendant should continue to make the said payments as aforesaid, he should live free from claim, demand, or molestation, by or on behalf of the plaintiff his wife.

3. In pursuance of the said agreement the defendant on the 22nd day of January, 1888, caused to be delivered to the attorney of the plaintiff in Yokohama, a bill of exchange on London made payable to the order of the said attorney for £90, the same being in payment of the aforesaid allowance of £60 for the year 1887 and of £30 for the first six months of the year 1888, and the defendant thereafter continued to deliver to the attorney of the plaintiff in Yokohama in the months of January and July of each year, a bill of exchange on London for the sum of £30, for which the defendant on each occasion demanded and was furnished with the receipt of the said attorney. But in the month of July last, an installment of £30 falling due to be remitted, the defendant refused to pay or remit the same, first, unless and until he should be furnished with what he might consider to be a valid acquittance showing that the remittance immediately preceding that which fell due to be remitted on the 20th day of July, 1896, had been applied to the purpose; secondly, unless and until he should be furnished with such a certificate as in his opinion would be valid showing that at the latest reasonable date, the plaintiff was still alive.

4.—Prior to the making of the agreement in paragraph 3, hereof, the defendant by his Counsel had demanded and had been granted inspection of the power of attorney given by the plaintiff to her attorney in Yokohama, by which it is provided that the receipt of the said attorney shall be a good and valid discharge for all monies paid to him on behalf of the plaintiff.

The plaintiff therefore prays:—

1. That the defendant may be ordered specifically to perform the agreement made as aforesaid on the 27th day of January, 1888.
2. That the defendant be ordered to pay the costs of this action.
3. That the plaintiff may have such further and other relief as the nature of the case may require, or as the Court may see fit.

The defendant's answer was as follows:—

1. The defendant admits the agreement mentioned in paragraph 2 of the petition, and says he has always been willing to pay the sums of £30 in the month of January and £30 in the month of July in each year, during the life of the said Elizabeth Diack, upon having sent to him evidence that the said Elizabeth Diack is still alive, or was alive at a time approximately near to the date of each of the said payment coming due.

2. On the 12th July, 1893, the defendant wrote to the plaintiff's Counsel as follows:—"J. F. Lowder, Esq.,—Dear Sir,—Please find herewith first and second of exchange for £30 sterling (thirty pounds) on Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in your favour in payment of the allowance to my wife up to the 31st January, 1894, which please to be so good as to send me a receipt. To prevent irregularity, before making any further payments, I have to request that on each occasion your client may be called upon to furnish me with a certificate from a well known resident of standing in the locality where she lives showing that she is still alive.—Yours faithfully, J. Diack."

3. On or about the 22nd October, 1893, the defendant received the following certificate:—"J. Thomas Roberson Gillies, Advocate, Notary-Public, do hereby certify that Mrs. Eliza Diack, wife of John Diack, No. 11, Bluff, Yokohama, was alive on the 2nd day of September, 1893, and that I personally paid to her the half-year's allowance of £30, paid in terms of agreement, by her said husband, and I undertake personally to pay to the said Mrs. Eliza Diack, all further remittances from her said husband, or to account for any remittance that may be received by me on her behalf should she predecease the date when the same became due. Signed and sealed at Aberdeen, the 7th day of September, 1893. [Notarial Seal.] Signed, T. R. Gillies."

4. The said T. R. Gillies is the attorney in Scotland for the plaintiff who has instituted these proceedings.

5. Other letters have passed between the defendant and T. R. Gillies, in one of which dated 4th March, 1896, said T. R. Gillies stated that the defendant was "of course entitled to an acquittance and a satisfactory certificate of survival at the date when each instalment was paid." But the defendant has received no notice or certificate of any kind that the plaintiff is alive, or that she has been alive in 1896.

6. The defendant has offered to deliver to the plaintiff's Counsel in Japan, a draft dated 28th July, 1896, for £30 upon receiving evidence that

the plaintiff lives, and he now brings into Court the said draft.

7. The power mentioned in paragraph 4 of the said petition does not survive the said Eliza Diack.

8. The defendant does not consider a certificate of survival which is given by a relative or person interested in the case, or the attorney or agent of such person, to be a valid certificate of survival.

Mr. Lowder said—This case is based upon the terms of the agreement set out in the petition of the plaintiff and which has been admitted by the defendant.

His Honour—I think that was understood in advance.

Mr. Lowder—The evidence for proving my case rests entirely in the correspondence that has passed, and which has been admitted by both sides. I will read this correspondence, in its proper sequence, to the Court, for it will tell its own tale much better than I can. The agreement having been duly agreed to, I received the first letter that I now intend to put in. It was from my learned friend, Mr. Litchfield, and was addressed to me under date, January 27th, 1888. It ran:—

"I enclose sight draft for £90 payable to your order, this sum being the allowance agreed upon for Mrs. Diack for 1887, and the first half of 1888. Be good enough to sign the accompanying agreement on the part of Mrs. Diack.

I am, etc., Henry C. Litchfield."

To this I replied by giving the following receipt:—

"Yokohama, Japan, 28th January, 1888. Received from Mr. John Diack, Thirty Pounds (£30) half yearly allowance to Mrs. Diack for the six months ending 30th June, 1888—£30.0s.0d.—E. H. Diack, by her attorney, J. F. Lowder.—From this it will appear that the agreement was drawn up for the defendant by my learned friend and signed by me as attorney for the plaintiff. Thereafter, instead of receiving the £30 every half-year through Mr. Litchfield, I received them direct from defendant: that is on the 25th July, 1889, and twice every year in 1890, 1891, 1892, till 1893. I received payment of the money direct from the defendant, in this form:—

"111, Bluff, Yokohama, 25th July, 1889—J. F. Lowder, Esq., Dear Sir—Please find first and second of exchange enclosed for Thirty Pounds sterling (£30) in your favour in payment of the allowance to my wife up to January, 1890—for which please send me a receipt.—Yours faithfully, J. Diack."

But on the 19th July, 1893, a remittance then falling due, I received the letter from Mr. J. Diack that is set out in the plaintiff's petition. I acknowledged this letter the same day, and in the course of my reply said:—"I shall of course forward to her a copy of your letter, and of this reply; but in the meantime you must not understand me as acquiescing in your demand, or as in any way binding my client to enter into a new agreement with you. The condition you seek to impose would be impossible to fulfil, considering the distance between this and Scotland, on the occasion of each payment,—even although there should be no other objection thereto, as to which I am without instructions." After this date—July 19th, 1893—I continued to receive from Mr. Diack the same kind of letters that I had hitherto received. I will put in two such letters, which your Honour will see are in the same form of words as the one dated 25th July, 1889.

His Honour—Then the position he assumed in the letter of July 19th, 1893, he apparently abandoned—he abandoned apparently the intention there expressed?

Mr. Lowder—Yes; he had apparently abandoned the intention. He goes on making the payments as before notwithstanding the letter he had sent me in July, 1893, and I put in the letters covering drafts dated 22nd January 1894, 1st February 1895, and 31st July, 1895. All are in the same form, until we come to the 30th January, 1896. On that date he writes me:—"Please find enclosed first and second of exchange for thirty pounds (£30) sterling on the H.K. and S. Bank drawn in my name and endorsed by me in payment of the allowance to my wife up to the 31st July, 1896, for which be so good as to send a receipt to, Yours faithfully, J. Diack."

Appended to the draft is a press copy of a letter addressed to Thos. R. Gillies, Esq., Advocate, etc., Aberdeen. Defendant's letter to Mr. Gillies, of which a press-copy was forwarded by him to Mr. Lowder was then read by Counsel. The writer stated that he was advised that he was entitled not only to the certificate asked for before making a payment, but also for a legal acquittance showing that the money had been applied to the purpose for which it was sent; failing the same, he said that he would decline to remit further sums. Defendant added:—"And I here state,

once for all, that I decline to accept as valid any such certificate and acquittance from anyone through whose hands the money may pass in transit, or from my son William, or any of his or of your client's relatives." In the same letter defendant informed Mr. Gillies that, "should any drafts reach him after defendant's wife's death, he, Mr. Gillies, was in no way authorised to cash them, and that he, the defendant, would not be responsible for any debts incurred by his wife."—Mr. Gillies, I may mention, said Mr. Lowder, is the solicitor for plaintiff in Scotland. Prior to this letter, and in reply to a letter in 1893—I should have read it before—Mr. Gillies wrote on the 7th September, 1893, enclosing a certificate. Mr. Gillies' reply, dated 4th March, 1896, to defendant's letter was then read. In the course of the epistle, the writer said:—"You are, of course, entitled to an acquittance, and also to a satisfactory certificate of survival at the date when each installment is paid." He also said that he had been "in the way of giving certificates of survival in connection with annuities and pensions as a Notary Public and these were accepted by Government Departments." No farther correspondence on this particular subject took place until the 30th January, 1896, when the defendant wrote to Mr. Lowder the letter just quoted, and which contained the Post Scriptum, "appended to this is a press-copy of a letter sent to Mr. Gillies."

His Honour, interposing, inquired why the drafts were not made payable to the plaintiff; that would have been a most sensible course to pursue.

Mr. Lowder—If the suggestion your Honour has just made had been in mind when the agreement was drawn up, this case could never have been brought into Court at all.

His Honour—It seems to me that the course pursued was most undesirable. If Mrs. Diack had had the drafts made payable to her, she would have had to endorse them to obtain the money, and no bother would have resulted.

Mr. Lowder—There would then have been no occasion for bringing the case into court.

His Honour asked if the course suggested could not be pursued in future?

Mr. Lowder—What I ask in the petition is that the defendant be ordered to specifically discharge the terms of the contract, with the variation that the drafts be made out in plaintiff's name and that they be made payable to her in the month of January and July.

His Honour—With only a difference in the payee?

Mr. Lowder—Without going any further in the case, I am prepared to accept a decree of the Court in such terms, if the other side will agree.

His Honour—Mr. Litchfield, what have you to say to that?

Mr. Litchfield—At present we are not aware whether Mrs. Diack is alive or not.

His Honour—I just now threw out a suggestion, which, if it is agreeable to both parties to adopt, would dispose of the case. I take it that you are pretty well aware that Mrs. Diack is alive, or rather you do not doubt that she existed at the time when the last payment was made in July.

Mr. Litchfield—We want a certificate that she was alive at some time approximate to the date of the payment of the last £30.

His Honour—You want to know some date; that is what you want is it not?

Mr. Litchfield—Some date approximate to the time of payment.

His Honour, turning to Mr. Diack—Have you any doubts as to the existence of Mrs. Diack?

Mr. Diack—I don't know whether she is dead or not?

His Honour—There are many things we do not know. What I ask you is, have you any reasonable doubts as to her existence?

Mr. Diack—I have some doubts.

His Honour—Very well, then the case must go on. I only thought that if you had no doubts, reasonable doubts, we might have arrived at some arrangement and so close the case. You mentioned some relatives in one of your letters, would you not believe them on the point, supposing you applied for the information?

Mr. Diack—I would not believe anything that my son would write.

Mr. Lowder—I will put in a reply sent by Mr. Gillies, dated March 4th, 1896; and then we will come to a letter from defendant written to Mr. Gillies on the 28th May of this year.

Counsel proceeded to read the letter to Mr. Gillies from a press-copy-book belonging to Mr. Diack, and had not gone far when

His Honour asked what bearing it had on the case. He thought that it was merely fault-finding with the attorney in Scotland, Mr. Gillies.

Mr. Lowder thought the letter had better be read, he had not seen it before but would like to

introduce it in order that Mr. Gillies reply could be put in. Proceeding Mr. Lowder read:—"I (Diack) hold receipts from Mr. Lowder showing that the several drafts passed into his hands, but that is no security of what becomes of the money afterwards; besides Mr. Lowder is a man in whom I have no confidence. [Mr. Lowder at this point stopped his reading for a moment and remarked, with a smile, that although he had not read or seen the letter before, he had no fault to find with it. He then resumed reading.] "So much so, that some nine months ago, when waited upon by a valued client in connection with some proposed work, I chose to risk giving him serious offence, by distinctly and decidedly refusing to have anything to do with any business of any kind with which Mr. Lowder was connected. I have not changed my opinion of him since, and I certainly do not feel disposed to entrust him with money without security; nor am I disposed to hold any communication with him of any kind whatever." Continuing, Mr. Lowder said—"Mr. Gillies sent me the reply that he made to this note. In this letter, dated 10th July, Mr. Gillies wrote to the defendant suggesting that if his bankers or solicitors would make inquiries either at the agent of the Royal Bank of Scotland in Aberdeen, or of Mr. James Fraser, of the Chartered Bank of I. A. & C., London, he thought that they would receive information that would satisfy them. We now come to the 29th July of this year, when Mr. Diack, the defendant, wrote me the letter that appears in the petition. The next letter came from my learned friend on the 20th August, 1896, and then these proceedings were instituted. Having read the correspondence I have now laid before your Honour, you will better understand the pleadings, that I now intend to read.

His Honour—You need not read them unless you like.

Mr. Lowder—Very well, your Honour. I now submit that my client is entitled to the decree that is set forth in the prayer of the petition.

His Honour—All the letters and the agreement are put in by consent?

Mr. Lowder—Yes. Your Honour will perceive by the agreement that the defendant in the months of January and July agrees to pay the sum of £30 to the plaintiff, his wife; that in the beginning, as the first letter shows, Mr. Litchfield sent the draft to me. Then Mr. Diack sent the drafts to me direct, and I sent them on through the plaintiff's solicitor. There is no question in regard to that. Now the defendant comes in and claims that a certificate should be furnished him some six weeks before the date of the payment of the money, to show that his wife is still alive. Such a certificate, I cannot agree to give. I now ask that the agreement shall be carried out specifically by the defendant and that he procure a bank bill payable to Mrs. Diack, which she shall endorse and present to the bank, so that sufficient money reaches her hands. I ask the Court to make the decree prayed for.

His Honour—I understand that you ask that the agreement be varied to payment six weeks earlier than the dates mentioned here?

Mr. Lowder—So that payment may be made to her on the dates mentioned; that is but a specific performance of the agreement itself.

Mr. Litchfield—The agreement, now asked by plaintiff to be specifically carried out, is an agreement of non-disturbance, by which the plaintiff agrees, in return for regular payments of certain sums of money, to abstain from molesting her husband. That agreement must be carried out while this person is alive, or remains alive; therefore it continues for a period, an undefined period, during which defendant is bound to comply with it. Now when the plaintiff comes into court and asks that the agreement be specifically carried out, the first thing one expects and asks to find is some satisfactory evidence that the person is alive. Of such evidence there is none before the Court. The other side is absolutely silent on the point.

His Honour asked Counsel what he wished the Court to find?

Mr. Litchfield—To order evidence on the point whether the plaintiff is alive or was alive in July of this year.

His Honour—On what date?

Mr. Litchfield—Some approximate date in July.

His Honour—Will you fix a date?

Mr. Litchfield—Say the 28th July.

His Honour—You want evidence of her existence on the very date the draft was obtained. Such evidence would be difficult to get, except by telegraphing.

Mr. Litchfield—I submit that the Court can not deal with the matter of a person of whose existence it has no knowledge. I submit that, before payment can be made on the agreement, that evidence must be forthcoming of her existence at the date of the drawing of the draft.

His Honour—Would six weeks before the 15th June do?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes, but I submit that no such evidence has been produced.

His Honour—That is clear. The question is, are you, on the agreement, entitled to such evidence.

Mr. Litchfield—I submit that I am.

His Honour—Does the agreement entitle you to such right? Where does it state so?

Mr. Litchfield—The agreement is silent on the point. It does not appear on the agreement.

His Honour—Yet you say, standing on the agreement, you are entitled to such evidence. The thing must of necessity be mentioned if you wish to adduce that from it.

Mr. Litchfield—The contract says nothing about it; but we do not know whether she is alive or not, and I contend that it is only reasonable for us to have evidence produced to show that she is still in existence. On 7th Sept., 1893, Mr. Gillies gave a certificate under notarial seal, from which we gathered that plaintiff was still alive, but since then both Mr. Gillies and my learned friend have refused to furnish any such certificate of survival. A certificate of survival is the simplest thing imaginable. It may be given by the annuitant, be signed by her and then properly attested by a responsible party; it may emanate from her butcher or baker, and be attested by a person of standing. But when we find the other side refusing to furnish this simple form of evidence, I think that it is most reasonable for the defendant to be suspicious and for him to insist on evidence being produced to show that plaintiff is alive at the time of her making application to this Court for a decree ordering defendant to make specific performance of the terms of the agreement. This has not been done.

His Honour—That has been admitted.

Mr. Lowder—It was impossible to obtain.

His Honour—Well, we are in the month of October now.

Mr. Lowder—We did not undertake to furnish such information; although it might possibly have been got.

Mr. Litchfield—Until the existence of this person is proved the Court cannot make the decree. Letters have been put in showing that defendant is ready and willing to perform his part of the agreement if it can be shown that the annuitant exists. To me it seems not only logical, but also reasonable that the defendant should be assured of the annuitant's existence.

Mr. Lowder said that he was unable to explain why the draft of Sept. 13th had not been acknowledged. He had no evidence to lead upon it. He did not admit the right of the defendant to call for evidence of survival. The absence of such evidence was no excuse for not tendering payment of the money when it became due. To say that plaintiff may be dead was no excuse for non-payment. The presumption was that he was alive in the absence of evidence to the contrary. There was nothing in the agreement to show that the defendant was entitled to the evidence he asks for now demanded.

His Honour—Do you say that the defendant was bound to pay the £30 in January and July as the months came round?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—Unless he has evidence to prove that the plaintiff is no longer alive?

Mr. Lowder—It was for him to make the payments. Distance made no difference in the agreement.

His Honour—Your contention is that the burden of proof as to non-existence rests on him, not on you?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—The agreement is unconditional during life?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour thought that it was rather the custom for lawyers to affix to such agreements a clause "upon proof of existence"; it would have saved much bother in this case.

Mr. Litchfield—There is no such condition in this agreement; but one naturally suggests that the relations of husband and wife cease with death.

His Honour—If such a clause had been put in this agreement it would have made it perfectly clear. Lawyers sometimes meet these cases by framing such a clause. But we are often wiser after the event.

Mr. Litchfield—Very often we are, sir. I submit that we should be furnished with knowledge of the existence of the annuitant.

Mr. Lowder did not accept the term annuitant.

His Honour—I do not doubt for a moment that Mrs. Diack was in existence in June; what do you say, Mr. Diack?

Mr. Diack—I have had no correspondence with those parts for eight years.

His Honour—But if you wanted to find out

about the case, surely there is somebody whom you could communicate with?

Mr. Diack—There's not.

His Honour—I have thrown out the suggestion that if you wish to know whether she is alive or not, the difficulty could be got over by getting a fresh draft from the bank and making it payable to her.

Mr. Litchfield thought this would obviate the difficulty.

His Honour—It seems to me that this would settle the matter. If there is no one who could furnish the proof of plaintiff being alive, then for the future it would be the best thing to make the drafts payable to Mrs. Diack herself.

Mr. Lowder—That would be perfectly satisfactory; but as for furnishing a certificate of existence, I submit that it would not be fair to put my client to that expense.

His Honour—It would be very little expense.

Mr. Litchfield—A postage stamp.

Mr. Diack—But I want a certificate; Mr. Lowder's receipts are no valid acquittance.

His Honour—But if you make out the drafts payable to Mrs. Diack she alone can cash them; if she is alive she can cash them; if she is not alive she cannot cash them, and they return to you.

Mr. Diack—But I want a more valid certificate than Mr. Lowder's receipt that I shall not have to pay the money twice.

His Honour—The draft is not money until it is cashed; if it is made out to Mrs. Diack, she alone can cash it; there is no question of money or of her solicitor or Mr. Lowder.

His Honour said that if the defendant agreed to the taking out of a fresh draft and making it payable to his wife there would be an end to the trumpery case. Otherwise somebody would be put to the expense of spending more money upon it.

Mr. Litchfield—I see no objection.

Mr. Diack—I think I am entitled to know whether my wife is alive.

His Honour—I pointed out the cheapest way of finishing the case and furnishing the information. If I have to adjourn the case to-day more money will have to be spent. If I have to decide the case, I shall have to take time to read the letters through and the other documents.

Mr. Diack signified that he wished the case to go on.

His Honour then took down the heads of the arguments and reserved judgment.

THE INTERPORT CRICKET MATCH.

The following account of the first day's play in the Interport cricket match between Japan and Shanghai—played on Monday, Oct. 5th—is taken from the *North China Daily News*—

At a quarter-past eleven White and Tate opened the batting for Japan, against the bowling of Jackson (pavilion end) and St. Croix. The first ball from Jackson, White nicked for a single, and then his partner, a left-hand bat, gave a difficult chance to point, which was not taken. St. Croix's first over had a single hit off it to leg by White, and then a 3 by Tate, a nice stroke which was loosely fielded at long leg. White followed with a single. By singles runs came at a reasonable pace, to being hoisted on the telegraph board in as many minutes from the start. After a maiden over by Jackson, Tate, in trying to run 4 off a good leg hit by White, was run-out, a smart piece of throwing-in securing his wicket before he could recover his ground—14-15. The vacant crease was taken by Lucas, but he stayed only a minute or two, as after his partner had added a single he was bowled by Jackson, the ball breaking tremendously and completely mastering the batsman—15-20. It now looked as if Japan's tide of misfortune had set in, as Jackson's next delivery bowled Wilkinson, who had joined White—15-30. Townsend coming in made a single off Jackson, closing an eventful over in which two wickets had fallen for the addition of only 2 runs. The score rose by singles, 20 being reached half an hour from the start. Jackson had sent down two maiden overs in succession, and seemed in a fair way to make another, when White hit the last ball square to leg for 4. A couple of singles resulted from St. Croix's over and then, off a somewhat risky hit over square-leg's head, White made a 2. Mann relieved St. Croix with the total at 30, Townsend making a single off the last ball of the new bowler's over. A maiden over by Jackson was followed by a very lively one. White scored three 2's off Mann in succession, the first by a leg hit and the others by nice cuts, which so far had been conspicuously absent from the batting. The total had reached 40, when Townsend was bowled by Mann, having made 5-40 4-5. Walford, captain of the Japan team, now joined White, who continued to force the pace with a 3,

off Mann, whilst the new batsman contributed a single. The score aggregated 44, just an hour after the commencement, when White, in playing back to Jackson, was caught by Mann who was fielding just behind the wicket-keeper. White had played capital cricket for 30-44-5-30. Smith filled the vacancy and 8 runs were put on, when he lost his partner, who was bowled by Mann, with the last ball of an over which had had a 3 and a 2 made off it—52-6-5. Kingdon became Smith's partner at this point and started scoring with a couple of singles. Smith then had a distinct let-off, a ball which he had "skied" in the direction of square-leg being dropped by Cox. The batsman followed this up by a cut, from which a 4 was made, with the assistance of an overthrow. Kingdon, too, was evidently in a scoring mood, first Jackson and then Mann being hit for 3. In a quarter of an hour 20 runs had been put on, and the lively scoring was obviously to the taste of the onlookers. The substitution of Firth for Mann at the top end immediately had effect, Smith being caught behind the wicket by St. Croix off a high-hit ball—71-7-14. When he had made 9 Kingdon, who had been joined by Goddard, was missed behind the wicket-keeper, off Firth, and almost immediately after his partner had an escape from being caught at long-on, before he had made a run. The score was carried to 84 when Kingdon was bowled by Jackson with 14 to his credit—84-8-14. Robinson had no sooner taken his place at the wicket than the tiffin bell rang, the score standing at 84, Goddard being not-out 4.

Play was resumed at twenty minutes past two, Jackson and Firth still having the bowling. Two maiden overs were sent down, and then Goddard opened with a single and his partner with a 2 off Firth. Again there was a lull in the scoring, three maidens being bowled, when Goddard made a 2 off Jackson, followed by a single, but he was then bowled by Firth, having put together 8—90-9-8. Pearson was the last man in, but the second ball he received from Firth found his wicket, the innings closing at thirty-five minutes past two for 90; Robinson not-out 2.

The Shanghai innings opened at five minutes to three o'clock, when Firth and Lanning were sent in, Lucas, at the pavilion end, and Townsend sharing the bowling. Each bowler having sent down a maiden over, Firth opened the scoring with a leg hit for 2, followed with a nice cut through the slips for 3, both off Lucas. From Townsend's succeeding over one run was made by Firth, the batsman following this up with another single off Lucas. Townsend's high delivery with a good deal of break appeared to puzzle the batsmen somewhat, Firth doing what scoring there was. He drove Townsend for 4, and then a single, whilst off Lucas he made a cut for 2. Lanning began scoring with a very pretty cut for 4, off Townsend, and in the same over he added one more to the score. Firth went on with a 2 off Townsend, and a single off Lucas, Lanning also scoring one, bringing the total to 23, when Goddard took up the bowling from Townsend. Twice Lanning hit Lucas for 2, behind the wicket, Firth cutting the other bowler for 4. But then the bowler had his revenge as, with his third delivery, he bowled Firth, the score standing at 33, of which Firth had made 23. Jackson joining Lanning the score was steadily added to. The newcomer, off a pair of singles and a 2, made a hard cut off Goddard, which reached the boundary. Another bowling change was tried at this point, White replacing Lucas. The first ball from the new bowler went perilously close to Lanning's wicket, and a smart piece of fielding by Lucas, at point, of a hard cut by Lanning evoked a well-deserved cheer. A bowling change was made at the other end, Tate being substituted for Goddard. A single was made by Jackson off the first over. With the score at 42, Jackson was well caught at the wicket, off White, having made 9—42-2-9. Mann coming in scored a 2, and a 4 by a fine leg hit off Tate. Then he lost his partner, who was bowled by White, after having been in over three-quarters of an hour for his 11. The next man in was St. Croix, who, before he had made a run was missed by Walford, off White, and 2 was made from it, the batsman following up his escape with a good drive for 4. Just an hour from the opening of the innings the 60 was reached. A characteristic hit square to leg by Mann, which resulted in 4, was the next noteworthy incident, St. Croix playing cautiously and scoring by singles. Lucas again took up the bowling at the pavilion end, the score aggregating 71. Off him St. Croix made a 4 by a straight drive, but he seldom had a chance of indulging his partiality for leg hits and, as a consequence, runs came rather slowly. When the total amounted to 84, Goddard took the ball from Lucas, and off the last ball of the over Mann was out l-b-w. He had been batting for fifty

minutes, and had compiled 21. His successor, Tyack, had a very short life, for the first ball he received from Tate he played on to his wicket—85-5-0. Farbridge joined St. Croix, and a few minutes later the Japan score was equalled. White again went on to bowl and his first over received summary treatment, St. Croix making a brace of 2's and a 4, the 100 being posted an hour and fifty-five minutes from the opening of the innings. The run-getting continued at a very respectable pace, St. Croix after a 3 off White, hitting Tate in the next for over a 4 and a single. Then St. Croix gave what looked very much like a chance to the wicket-keeper when he had made 35. Farbridge was evidently bent on hard hitting, but until Lucas resumed bowling he had not been able to get hold of the ball. A fine hit to leg for 4, followed by 3, showed, however, his old form. With the total at 126 time was called at a quarter past five, St. Croix being not-out 42 and Farbridge not-out 15. Present score and analysis:—

JAPAN.					
Mr. F. E. White, c. Mann, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	30
Mr. E. W. Tate, run out	...	...	...	...	5
Mr. H. Lucas, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. E. W. Townsend, b. Mann	...	...	...	...	5
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Mann	...	...	...	...	5
Mr. Matt. Smith, c. St. Croix, b. Firth	...	...	...	...	24
Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	24
Mr. H. S. Goddard, b. Firth	...	...	...	...	8
Mr. A. L. Robinson, not out	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. B. H. Pearson, b. Firth	...	...	...	...	0
Byes 6, l.b. x	...	...	...	...	7
90					

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
	O.	M.	R.	W.	
Mr. Jackson	4
Mr. St. Croix	0
Mr. Mann	2
Mr. Firth	3

SHANGHAI.					
Mr. A. E. Lanning, b. White	...	...	...	...	11
Mr. C. M. Firth, b. Goddard	...	...	...	...	23
Mr. W. H. Jackson, c. Robinson, b. White	...	...	...	...	9
Mr. J. Mann, l.b.w., b. Goddard	...	...	...	...	21
Mr. F. A. de St. Croix, not out	...	...	...	...	63
Mr. W. J. Tyack, b. Tate	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, not out	...	...	...	...	17
Byes 2, l.b. 2, w.b. x	...	...	...	...	6
126					

P. A. Cox, T. Wallace, A. J. McClure, R. Macgregor, to bat.

Barely an hour's play was possible on Oct. 6th, when the match was continued, the rain coming down with such force as to drive the players from the field, and literally flood the ground. The change from the conditions which prevailed on the previous day was the cause of intense disappointment. The rain that had fallen during the night had in no way damaged the wicket, and though the Shanghai team had obtained a considerable advantage, it by no means put the result beyond the range of all sorts of possibilities. Arrangement for the accommodation of a still larger attendance of spectators had been made as the Banks and several business establishments having agreed to close from noon, it was anticipated many more persons would be able to visit the ground in the afternoon. The ladies' tent, too, had undergone a most tasteful embellishment, being draped and decorated with the Shanghai colours. But hardly had the finishing touches been put, than the rain came on and in the course of an hour covered the ground so that cricket was out of the question, and with the weather prevailing at the time of writing, there is but faint hope of play to-day, although it has been agreed that, should circumstances admit, the game is to be continued at half-past ten this morning.

It will be recollected that when the game was suspended on Monday, Shanghai, with five wickets down, were 36 runs to the good, St. Croix and Farbridge being the two not-outs. When the play started again yesterday morning the runs came rather slowly, and Farbridge, after being in for twenty minutes could only add 2 to his overnight score before he was caught. Cox then came in, and after being let-off when he had made 6, set to work to infuse more spirit into the game. St. Croix, though he played with great steadiness, gave two more chances, so that it cannot be denied that he has had a full allowance of good fortune. With the exception of the missing of these catches, the Japan fielding was excellent, and the batsmen had all their work to get the ball through the field. As the game is now, Shanghai, with four wickets still to fall, is leading by 87 runs.

So far as the details of the play are concerned it has to be recorded that St. Croix (not-out 42) and Farbridge (not-out 15) resumed the Shanghai innings at twenty minutes past eleven, Lucas (pavilion end) and Townsend having the bowling. In Lucas's first over St. Croix made a single, and from the last ball of Townsend's over he made the same. In this way the score was taken to 130, ten minutes after the start. An appeal for a catch at the wicket against Farbridge, of Lucas, was given

in the batsman's favour, and off the next over from the other end, St. Croix hit a 2. So far St. Croix had had the bulk of the bowling, but Farbridge getting the opportunity drove Lucas to the off for 2, which was the only addition he made to his overnight score. Then, off Townsend's bowling, he was caught by Tate at long-on. He had been at the wickets altogether for nearly an hour—136-6-17. Cox coming in began with a single, followed by a 3, whilst his partner also assisted, but the rate of scoring was by no means rapid, mainly on account of the good fielding. Cox had made 6 when he had a fresh lease of life from an unexpected chance behind the wicket-keeper, off Lucas's bowling. Shortly after this he made a good leg hit for 4 off Lucas, following this up by a 3 on the off side from Townsend's bowling. The score had reached 157 when Tate took up the bowling from Townsend. In his first over Cox hit a 2, and his partner a pair of singles, the latter then having another escape behind the wicket off Lucas's bowling when he had 54 to his credit. At this point rain began to fall, whilst the light was anything but satisfactory. However, the score was added to by both batsmen, at an even rate. St. Croix gave another chance through slips, but the catch, if it had been secured, would have been a very good one. The rain coming down very heavily, play was suspended at a quarter past twelve. Present score and analysis:—

JAPAN.					
F. E. White, c. Mann, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	30
E. W. Tate, run-out	...	...	...	...	5
H. Lucas, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	0
F. E. Wilkinson, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	0
E. W. Townsend, b. Mann	...	...	...	...	5
A. B. Walford, b. Mann	...	...	...	...	5
Matt. Smith, c. St. Croix, b. Firth	...	...	...	...	24
A. Kingdon, b. Jackson	...	...	...	...	24
H. S. Goddard, b. Firth	...	...	...	...	8
A. L. Robinson, not out	...	...	...	...	0
B. H. Pearson, b. Firth	...	...	...	...	0
Byes 6, l.b. x	...	...	...	...	7
90					

BOWLING ANALYSIS.					
	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wts.	
Jackson	4
St. Croix	0
Mann	2
Firth	3

SHANGHAI.					
A. E. Lanning, b. White	...	...	...	...	11
C. M. Firth, b. Goddard	...	...	...	...	23
W. H. Jackson, c. Robinson, b. White	...	...	...	...	9
J. Mann, l.b.w., b. Goddard	...	...	...	...	21
F. A. de St. Croix, not out	...	...	...	...	63
W. J. Tyack, b. Tate	...	...	...	...	0
R. C. Farbridge, c. Tate, b. Townsend	...	...	...	...	17
P. A. Cox, not out	...	...	...	...	17
Byes 2, l.b. 2, w.b. x	...	...	...	...	6
177					

T. Wallace, A. J. McClure, R. Macgregor to bat.—N.C. Daily News.

The following telegrams have been kindly placed at our disposal for publication:—

Nagasaki, October 13, 8.20 p.m.
The Shanghai Cricket Club this morning began the match against the Japan Team in fine weather, on a wet but rapidly drying wicket. At the end of the day's play, the score stood, Shanghai 65 for four wickets, W. H. Moule not out 47.

Nagasaki, October 14, 50.5 p.m.
The Shanghai Cricket Club's innings closed at half-past twelve to-day. Japan then went in and made the following score:—

Mr. F. E. White	...	...	...	...	14
Mr. E. W. Tate	...	...	...	...	11
Mr. H. Lucas	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. E. W. Townsend	...	...	...	...	10
Mr. A. B. Walford	...	...	...	...	6
Mr. Matt. Smith	...	...	...	...	10
Mr. A. Kingdon	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. A. L. Robinson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. S. Goddard	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. B. H. Pearson	...	...	...	...	0
Byes 7, n.b. 4	...	...	...	...	11
115					

Shanghai's first innings closed for 130.

Nagasaki, October 14, 8.35 p.m.
The following is the scores of Japan's second innings:—

Mr. F. E. White	...	...	...	...	28
Mr. E. W. Tate	...	...	...	...	3
Mr. H. Lucas	...	...	...	...	21
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson	...	...	...	...	5
Mr. E. W. Townsend	...	...	...	...	9
Mr. A. B. Walford	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. Matt. Smith	...	...	...	...	3
Mr. A. Kingdon	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. A. L. Robinson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. S. Goddard	...	...	...	...	4
Mr. B. H. Pearson	...	...	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	...	...	20
89					

Shanghai in its second innings made 170 for four wickets and thus won the match with six wickets to spare. Beautiful weather prevailed throughout the day and much enthusiasm was evoked.

A HAWARDEN ECLOGUE.

[The Chinese Envoy, who reached Hawarden half an hour before the advertised time, conversed freely on very varied topics with the ex-Premier through the happy medium of Mr. Lo Feng-lo. During the entire interview Li Hung-chang refrained from smoking.]

GRAND OLD MAN—LI HUNG-CHANG—LO FENG-LO
—MISS DOROTHY—MUTES AND SUPERS.

GRAND OLD MAN—
How does your excellency do?
Rude health, I trust? So good of you
To come a shade before the time!

INTERPRETER—
He prays that on your crest sublime
Old age and honour fall together;
He also likes the peacock feather.

LI HUNG-CHANG—
I thank you for your courteous word;
It is a rather fetching bird!
And you yourself? you age a bit?
But still you look extremely fit!
Your voice is rich, your eye is bright,
Your waistcoat, I observe, is white;
You ought, upon my word, to mix
A little more in politics.

INTERPRETER—
His Lordship hopes that Heaven will spread
Large bounties on your hoary head.
He also hears that you have spent
Some useful years in Parliament,
And wishes very much to know
If this is actually so.

GRAND OLD MAN—
As politician I have done
More time than almost any one;
But there are certain, I confess,
Who freely doubt my usefulness.

INTERPRETER—
He gives the praise where praise is due,
And says he took his line from you.

LI HUNG-CHANG—
I gather from a private source
That you possess a naval force.

INTERPRETER—
He says Britannia rules the waves,
And Britons never will be slaves.

GRAND OLD MAN—
I take it, through no fault of mine,
Our naval power is large and fine;
But, though a necessary evil,
It costs the land the very d—!

INTERPRETER—
He says that China has a fleet
Exceptionally hard to beat;
But should you wish in case of war
To do still better than before,
Then, if there's money in your chest,
The British article's the best.

LI HUNG-CHANG—
(Aside.) How strange! when I was on the
Sprees,
The best was "made in Germany."
(Aloud.) Pray, what is your opinion, sir,
About the present Premier?
[Host steals out of room unobserved,
And then, again, about Japan—
(Detects absence of Host.)
Wherever is the Grand Old Man?
[Pause, during which Miss Dorothy
draws furiously nearer with visitors'
book and paint-box. Re-enter G.O.M.
with large bundle of monumental
volumes.]

GRAND OLD MAN—
Of each effusion of my pen
Kindly accept a specimen.

LI HUNG-CHANG—
(Aside) Confucius! how does he suppose
That I can read his barbarous prose?

INTERPRETER—
(Aloud) His Lordship positively dotes
On your renowned Homeric notes;
And as for your remarks on Butler,
He really knows of nothing subtler.
At a signal Miss Dorothy advances.

GRAND OLD MAN—
Your mark, if you will condescend,
Would gratify our little friend,
[Li Hung-chang makes his mark in
indigo. G.O.M. continues:]
The signature has much impressed her.

INTERPRETER—
He says it's time to start for Chester.

LI HUNG-CHANG—
(To G.O.M.). Adieu, mine host! the hour
is ripe.
(To Interpreter.) Come on, I am dying for
a pipe.
[The Envoy is carried out.]

—The World.

NAUTICUS.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, October 10.

The British cruiser *Gibraltar* has been detached from the Mediterranean Squadron for service at Zanzibar, where, it is understood, the position is regarded as serious owing to the hostile attitude of Germany.

Sir William Vernon-Harcourt is generally designated Lord Rosebery's successor as leader of the Liberal Party.

Mr. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, has given orders for the building of four new cruisers of 11,000 tons.

London, October 14.

A semi-official German note attributes the naval reinforcements to Zanzibar to the fear of Said Khalid's intrigues, and adds that if Khalid abuses the asylum Germany has extended to him he will be expelled from German territory.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, Oct. 17.

H.M.S. *Linnæ* arrived here yesterday from the Behring Sea.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, Oct. 8.

H.M.S. *St. George*, the British flagship on the Cape and West Africa station, has been ordered back to Zanzibar from Capetown. Reinforcements have also been ordered to Zanzibar from the Mediterranean Squadron.

Great Britain, Russia and France have agreed to immediately despatch a vigorous note to the Porte demanding the adoption of reforms for securing the safety of the Armenians.

The city of Guayaquil, the principal sea-port of Ecuador, has been almost wholly destroyed by an incendiary fire. The damage is estimated at two millions sterling.

London, Oct. 12.

The Archbishop of Canterbury was seized with a fit of apoplexy yesterday whilst at divine service in Hawarden Church. He was carried to the Rectory where he expired in a few minutes.

His Majesty the Czar has left France on a visit to Darmstadt.

Lord Rosebery, addressing a meeting at Edinburgh on Saturday, said he felt unable to sacrifice the interests of the country to his own personal ambition and he had therefore resigned his leadership of the Liberal Party. He would fight tooth and nail against the isolated intervention of Great Britain in Turkey, which he was convinced would involve an European war.

London, October 15.

A Republican estimate gives Mr. McKinley 270 electoral votes and Mr. Bryan 110, whilst 67 votes are considered doubtful.

P. J. Tynan, the notorious No. 1, who was recently arrested in France, has been released, the refusal of the French Government to extradite him being based on the French statute of limitation.

It is reported from Home that Italy cedes Kassala to Great Britain, the latter power reimbursing Italy the cost of occupying the town.

London, October 14.

Exchange on London at Paris..... 25.17½

" " " New York 4.87½

(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 6.

Sir William Harcourt in a speech declared himself in favour of an *entente* with Russia on the whole Eastern Question, and the abrogation of the Cyprus Convention.

(The Cyprus Convention, signed at Constantinople on the 4th of June, 1878, engaged England to join the Sultan in defending his territories in Asia against Russia by force of arms. The Sultan undertook to introduce reforms; and for the protection of the Christian and other subjects of the Porte, and in order to enable England to execute her engagement the Sultan assigned Cyprus to England.—En. N.C. D. N.)

London, October 8.

Lord Rosebery, in a letter to the Liberal Whip, resigns the leadership of the Liberal party, as he

finds himself in apparent difference with the mass of the Liberals on the Eastern Question, and in some conflict of opinion with Mr. Gladstone, while scarcely anywhere does he receive implicit support.

(FROM "LE COURIER D'HAIPHONG.")

Paris, Sept. 24.

Bubonic plague is prevalent in Bombay.

The Czar will lay the first stone of the bridge to the Paris Exposition of 1900 which will be styled Alexander the III. Bridge. The Czar will review the French troops at Châlons on the 9th October, and will then leave for Darmstadt. Twenty-one warships will receive him at Cherbourg.

(FROM THE "EL COMERCIO.")

Motilla del Palancar, Sept. 24.

It is probable that the next direct mail steamer will leave Barcelona on the 30th instant, taking on board the guns for the artillery battery, the force of cavalry and four hundred cases of cart-ridges for Mauser rifles.

In Pinar del Rio, forty battalions will be collected shortly for the autumn campaign.

Sept. 25:

The battery of the mountain artillery being sent to the Philippines is composed of six Krupps of nine centimetres.

The Colonel of Cavalry, Leon Espian y Mora, has been ordered for the Philippines to organize a new cavalry regiment of natives.

The Minister of War, Sr. Axcarraga, holds in readiness ten battalions more to be sent to the Philippines the moment General Blanco asks for further reinforcements.

(FROM "EL COMERCIO.")

Votilla de Palancar (Madrid), Sept. 28.

The cruiser *Isla de Cuba* is ready to leave for the Philippines. Next month the direct steamer will carry two more battalions for the Philippines.

The Governor-General of Manila received the following telegram from the Minister of War on the afternoon of the 22nd September: "Besides the forces already despatched, two more battalions will follow, and next month other two battalions. If you have horses for cavalry and you wish men to be sent, one hundred and sixty will be despatched. Will send presently one battery of nine pounders, besides two howitzers, two mortars and, two cannon, fully equipped. The forces will carry Mauser rifles, and the cavalry will also carry lances.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Singapore, Thursday, Oct. 1.

The Estimates for the Straits Settlements for 1897 show an estimated revenue of four millions of dollars (\$4,000,000) and an expenditure of four and a-half millions (\$4,500,000).

The Secretary of State for the Colonies proposes to substitute modern guns for the defences of Singapore, costing the Colony thirty thousand pounds sterling (£30,000) and the Imperial Treasury forty-two thousand pounds (£42,000).

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Bakan, October 11.

Mr. Murakami, Governor of Daichu Prefecture (Formosa), called here while en route to Formosa by the *Denshin Maru*.

Gifu, Oct. 12.

An extraordinary meeting of the Prefectural Assembly was held to-day, the subject under discussion being a petition to the Government for a State grant-in-aid.

Tomiyama, October 12.

Snow has fallen on Tate-yama.

Nagano, October 12.

Snow has fallen in this neighbourhood.

Utsunomiya, October 12.

Frost has visited this district.

Gifu, October 12.

The dysentery cases in this Prefecture now total 3,864 with 847 deaths.

Wakayama, October 12.

The Kii Ginko removed to its new building to-day.

Kobe, October 12.
Mr. Rikaei, the Korean Minister, is to leave here for Tokyo this morning.

Nagasaki, October 12.
The *Yamashiro Maru* of the N.Y.K. has left this port for Australia.

Fukushima, Oct. 12.
Mr. Hayashi Yuzo arrived here on Sunday evening to attend a political meeting.

Moji, Oct. 13.
Small-pox has now attacked twenty-eight persons.

Osaka, Oct. 13.
The Shimauchi Bank has been declared bankrupt.

Bakan, Oct. 13.
Mr. Sudzuki, an expert of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, has arrived here to inspect the newly discovered anthracite vein.

Okayama, Oct. 13.
A special meeting of the Prefectural Assembly is to be held to-day.

Kyoto, Oct. 13.
General Kawakami arrived here yesterday. To-day he proceeds to Kobe.

Marquis Saionji arrived here on Monday.

Tsu, Oct. 13.
Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has left for Tokyo.

Fukuoka, Oct. 13.
Two hundred of the Formosa relief troops leave here this morning.

Nagano, Oct. 13.
The line between Nagano station and Shinonoi is to be doubled.

Aomori, Oct. 13.
Some members of the Prefectural Assembly have left here for Tokyo to petition for a Government grant-in-aid.

Osaka, Oct. 13.
The Tennoji Bank is declared bankrupt. Several other Banks are in a precarious condition.

Okayama, Oct. 14.
The Kishibi Railway Company was given a license on the 13th inst.

Nagano, Oct. 14.
On the 13th inst. in consequence of a storm, the river Sai overflowed, and the railway is interrupted.

Later.
Though the temporary bridge over the river Sai was damaged, trains run from Karuizawa to Shinoi.

Kumamoto, Oct. 14.
The river Meteorha has overflowed. A part of the town is inundated.

Toiyama, Oct. 14.
The heavy rain of the 13th inst., caused the river Shinsu to overflow.

Kobe, Oct. 14.
The heavy fall of rain since the 12th inst. has caused the Buko-gawa to overflow. This morning the railway was restored to working order.

The French man-of-war *Bayard* arrived here this morning from Yokohama.

The United States man-of-war *Olympia* arrived here from Yokohama on Tuesday.

Kochi, Oct. 14.
By the storm of the 13th inst. twenty-three Japanese boats in this harbour were wrecked.

Nagasaki, Oct. 14.
Mr. Manrikoji, who had been travelling through Siberia, arrived at this port to-day.

Mr. Kuze, Consul of the first class, at Korsakof, has arrived here.

The *Tairen Maru*, that left Ujina with some Formosa reliefs, has put into this port, her engines being damaged.

Marugame, Oct. 14.
The Fifth Army Division is manœuvring in this district.

Fukuoka, Oct. 14.
Two hundred soldiers from the 24th Regiment are to leave for Formosa to-day.

Tsu, Oct. 14.
The Japanese cruiser *Yoshino* put into this port yesterday.

Gifu, Oct. 15.
The river Kiso has overflowed. In Nakajima district, four hundred houses were inundated

above the floor. The Southern part of Abachi district was also flooded.

Kobe, Oct. 15.
Mr. Miura, Consul at Manila, leaves here for Manila by the *Idsumi Maru* to-day.

Nagano, Oct. 15.
The heavy fall of rain caused the river Chikuma to overflow. In Kami Takai-gori, three hundred houses were inundated. In Shimo Takai-gori, three hundred *cho* of rice-fields were flooded.

Kobe, Oct. 15.
General Kawakami and suite leave here for Formosa by the *Otaru Maru* to-day; Mons. Pimodan, Attaché in the French Legation, will accompany them.

Takamatsu, Oct. 15.
On Wednesday, the Ninth and Tenth Brigades engaged in field manœuvres. H.I.H. Prince Nashimoto took part in the sham fight.

Kumamoto, Oct. 15.
An extraordinary meeting of the Prefectural Assembly was held on Thursday.

Hiroshima, Oct. 15.
Frost has visited the northern district of this prefecture.

Kobe, Oct. 15.
The general election of the Prefectural Assembly is to take place on Thursday.

Gifu, Oct. 15.
Snow fell on Norikuragatake, Hida, on the 11th inst.

Atami, Oct. 15.
H.I.H. Prince Fushimi has arrived here from Shimoda in command of six hundred soldiers.

Kyoto, October 15.
H.I.H. Prince Kikumaro left here for Nara on Thursday. He will return in a few days.

Nagasaki, October 15.
The *Tairen Maru*, that put into this port with her engines damaged, left here for Formosa on Thursday.

Nemuro, October 15.
The Japanese man-of-war *Saiyen* put into this port on Wednesday morning.

Takamatsu, Oct. 16.
The troops of the Fifth Army Division will arrive here tomorrow from Seisan, and will stay for two days.

Miyazaki, Oct. 16.
A meeting of the projected Railway company was held to-day, and Mr. Iwamoto was elected President.

Akita, Oct. 16.
A severe hurricane has swept over the devastated districts. Many houses are ruined and several scores of persons wounded.

Niigata, Oct. 16.
Kawanishi-mura, in Nishi Kambara-gori, has been inundated again.

Sakata, Oct. 16.
A slight earthquake was felt here to-day at 6 a.m.

Osaka, Oct. 16.
An extraordinary general meeting of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha was held on Thursday at which it was decided to increase the capital to yen 10,000,000.

Nagoya, Oct. 16.
On Wednesday night, a fire broke out in the engine-room of the Mikawa Taihei Boseki Kaisha. The building was destroyed.

Marugame, Oct. 16.
The autumn manœuvres of the Fifth Army Division ended to-day.

H.I.H. Prince Nashimoto arrived here on Thursday to take part in the sham fight.

Nagasaki, October 16.
The United States man-of-war *Olympia* left here for Chefoo on Thursday.

YOKOHAMA-SHIMBASHI RAILWAY.

YOKOHAMA—5.20, 6.15, 7.10, 8.08, 8.47, 9.20, 9.57, 10.45, 11.50 a.m.; 12.45, 1.35, 2.25, 2.50, 3.35, 4.15, 4.55, 5.25, 6.13, 7.15, 8, 8.50, 9.45, 10.25, 11.20 p.m.
SHIMBASHI—4.40, 6, 6.40, 7.25, 8.15, 9, 9.45, 10.25, 11.10, 11.50 a.m.; 12.30, 1, 1.40, 2.35, 3.25, 4.10, 4.55, 5.40, 6.20, 7.20, 8.20, 9.10, 10, 11.15 p.m.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 251.

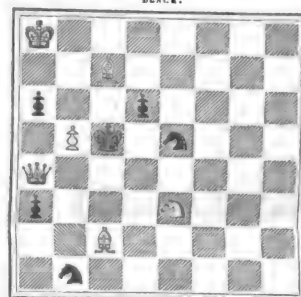
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to R 8	1—P to K 4
2—Q to Kt 6	2—K to B 4
3—Q to Q Kt 6, mate	
	1—K to B 4
2—Q to K 7 ch.	2—K to B 3
3—Q to B 7, mate	
	if 2—K to Q 5
3—Q to Q 6, mate	
	1—K to K 4
2—Q to Q B 7 ch.	2—K to Q 5
3—Q to Q 6, mate	
	if 2—K to B 3
3—Q to K Kt 7, mate.	

Correct answers from J.D., Shogi, W.H.S., W.d.H., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 254.

By J. POSPISIL and J. KOTRE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN KOBE.

W.d.H. writes as follows:—"You will be pleased to hear that a Chess Club is being organised under the auspices of the K.R.A.C. More later on—at present nothing very definite."

We are indeed delighted at the good news, and wish the new venture every success. Our Nagasaki friends should follow the good example of Kobe; all chess-players will do better work if they meet in a Club, instead of playing hap-hazard games in private houses.

SPECIAL LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

We are glad to see that absent friends do not forget us. Last week we heard from Mr. Balk in New Zealand, to-day we have a contribution from our old friend "Digamma" (former Champion of the Tokio Chess Club), who has reached New York after his trip through Europe.

Digamma's letter reports some good chess with his fellow-passengers on board the steamer *Saale* while crossing the Atlantic, and sends us a specimen in the shape of a Consultation game which we print below. The leading players on both sides are well-known Amateurs in the Eastern States. "Mr. Adolph Hirsh is President of the Club of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith in New York, where he plays excellent Chess, and Dr. Hoffman is a well-known physician at Ashland, Pa."

GAME No. 586.

Played August, 1896, on board the *Saale*.
NOTES BY "DIGAMMA."

WHITE.	BLACK.
Messrs. Adolph Hirsh, Henry D. Winans, and Henry W. Austin.	Dr. J. L. Hoffman and Mr. Clarence L. Graff.
1—P to K 4.	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—B to B 4
3—K Kt to B 3	3—P to Q 3
4—P to Q 3	4—Q Kt to B 3
5—K Kt to Kt 5	5—Kt to K R 3
6—Q to B 3	6—Q to K 2
7—P to Q B 3	7—B to K 3
8—Kt takes B	8—P takes Kt
9—Q B takes Kt	9—P takes B
10—Castles (K R)	10—Castles (Q R)

11—O to K R 3
12—P to Q Kt 4
13—Q takes P (R 3)
14—B to Q R 4
15—P to Q R 5
16—Kt to Q R 3
17—Kt to B 2
18—P to Q 4
19—Q R to K sq.
20—Q to K R 3
21—Q to K 3

To this move the Black allies chiefly ascribed their subsequent defeat. P takes P, the simplest way of undoubling their pawn, was decidedly preferable.

22—B to Q 3
23—Q to Kt 3
24—Q P takes K P

B takes P was far better, preventing the White allies from getting a superiority of pawns, besides removing the most dangerous pawn on the board. Some very fine play on both sides now follows.

25—K P takes Q P
26—Kt to K 3

A fine reply. Here the game becomes intensely interesting.

27—K to R sq.
28—Q to B 3
If Q takes P, then 29—Kt to Kt 4.

29—R takes B
30—P to Kt 3
31—Q to K 2
32—P to K 3

To prevent Q to K 3 supporting the Rook.

32—Kt to Kt sq.

The only move to save the Rook.

33—P to K B 4
34—B to B 5!
35—P to Kt 4
36—P to Kt 5
37—B to Kt 4
38—Q to B 3
39—Q to Kt 3 ch.
40—R takes R ch
41—R to B 3
42—B to B 5!
43—B takes Kt
44—Q to B 2!
45—R to B 8 ch.
46—P takes P
47—Q to B 4
48—Q takes Q
49—P to K 7

GAME No. 587.

A "SUMMER-LIKE" GAME IN LONDON.

NOTES BY I. GUNSBURG.

WHITE. Mr. X.	BLACK. Jas. Glass.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 4 (a)
6—P takes P	6—Kt takes P
7—Castles (b)	7—B to Kt 3
8—R to K sq.	8—Castles
9—Kt takes P	9—Kt takes Kt
10—R takes Kt	10—B takes P (ch.) (c)
11—K to R sq. (d)	11—Kt to B 3
12—P to Q 4 (e)	12—Kt to Kt 5
13—R to R 2	13—Q to R 5
14—P to K R 3	14—B to Kt 6
15—B to K 3	15—Kt takes B
16—R takes Kt	16—B takes P (f)
17—P takes B	17—Q takes P (ch.)
18—K to Kt sq.	18—Q to R 7 (ch.)
19—K to B sq.	19—Q to B 7, mate.

(a) It is not good to advance this pawn too early; it makes Black's centre rather weak.

(b) 7—P to Q Kt 4, B to Kt 3, 8—P to Kt 5, might be played. 7—B to Q Kt 5 would likewise make it rather awkward for Black to defend his K P.

(c) If this combination is the original invention of Mr. Glass, it is highly creditable to him, but it does not prove that White cannot take the pawn.

(d) If 11—K takes B, Q to B 3 (ch.), 12—Q to B 3, Q takes R, 13—B takes Kt, P to B 3, 14—B to Kt 3, Q takes R P, 15—B to K B 4, Q to R 5 (ch.), 16—B to Kt 3, Q to K 8, 17. Kt to Q 8 and we do not think that White has a very bad game; and are sure that he has a much better game than in the actual play following on K to R sq.

(e) B to Kt 5 afforded a better defence, as it prevented Kt to Kt 5, which is usually so fatal in similar positions with Q to R 5 to follow.

(f) White's demise now follows as a matter of course.

JAMES MASON'S SUMMING-UP RE NUREMBERG.

The *Field* has the following to say in reference to the Nuremberg tournament:—

Lasker lost three games—one with Pillsbury, a French defence; the second with Janowski (this game should have been won by Lasker, but he failed to avail himself of two opportunities to do so), and the third to Charousek. We will give Lasker the benefit of the doubt in the latter instance, for he had this game to spare, having won the first prize in the previous round. The three draws—against Maroczy without a fight and practically also with Schlechter and Walbrodt—were played to the score. So much for the debit side.

The twelve games on the credit side were won legitimately, except the one against Showalter, which he should have lost, and the one against Tschigorin, which should, perhaps, have been drawn. Lasker therefore takes his place at the head by reason of his undoubted superiority.

Maroczy—When the young Hungarian won the amateur championship last year at Hastings it was generally admitted that, had he played in the masters' tournament instead, he would have given a good account of himself. This opinion was proved to be correct on the present occasion. Unconscious of his strength, or perhaps overestimating his opponents at the beginning of the tournament, he gained confidence after having crossed swords with some of them, proving equal to the best and superior to many of the others. Of all the opponents, he told us, he feared Steinitz and Teichmann most. He could not explain why. That may account for the fact that he hardly made a fight against the former and was glad with a draw with the latter. All the others he met cheerfully and with confidence, predicting almost exactly the net result of his score of the last week's rounds. He only lost one game, and should have won at least three games that he gave up as drawn, notably one against Walbrodt.

Pillsbury—The element of chance favoured Pillsbury more than any of the other players. A case in point is the game with Janowski. It is to be assumed, however, that had he not been so severely handicapped at the very start and all through the tournament by a severe illness, he could have dispensed with the slightly compensating chances mentioned. The single fact of beating Lasker (brilliantly), Tarrasch, Tschigorin, and Steinitz speaks volumes in favour of the young American, and it is to be regretted that he could not do full justice to his talent on this occasion.

Tarrasch—With the exception of Steinitz, there is no player in the whole tournament who took such pains with his games as Dr. Tarrasch. We fear it must have been over anxiety to secure the much-coveted prize given by the Prince Regent of Bavaria. Dr. Tarrasch seems to make no distinction between his opponents. He plays only against Black or White, the individual opponent does not exist and he always tries "to make the best move." His games are perfectly correct, perfectly sound, but we fail to find any other leading idea in it beyond the general plan of trying to find the weak point in his opponent's arrangement of the forces. Thus it happened that his games lasted an inordinate time, and that he drew with Porges a heavy game, while Charousek bowled him (Porges) over with the greatest ease. A less classical style and more imagination would have served the doctor better.

Janowski—He and Charousek were the most enterprising players. Janowski is the opposite pole (no pun intended) of Tarrasch. Impatient at resistance, he sacrifices a piece for the attack, and not infrequently succeeds in thus baffling his opponent. Cases in point are his games against Lasker and Steinitz, and the failure against Tschigorin. Janowski is much improved since Hastings and should have taken deservedly a higher place, in two instances he drew an easily won game (against Pillsbury), and lost a drawn position—a draw offered by Charousek—and against Albin he should have won. Considering Janowski has no practice whatever in Paris, it is remarkable that he not only should keep up his strength, but have actually improved within the last twelvemonth.

Steinitz—He has still a wonderful power of endurance. He still grasps clearly most complicated situations (mostly created by himself), but there is an occasional break-down if one thread of the painfully woven fabric breaks. He still indulges in "fads," notably his defence to the Ruy Lopez, to which he added another freak, 3—P to K B 3 against Dr. Tarrasch and Schlechter. The one he lost and the other he won by a fluke. Still, in spite of age, he possesses power enough to do himself more justice, if we consider that, even if he loses, the victory must be wrested from him after a tremendous struggle, and all his games bear that stamp. It may, therefore, be assumed that, were he to abandon fads and bestow the same labour upon sound games which he devotes to a thankless task, he would be a more formidable opponent.

Schlechter—It is to be regretted that Schlechter graduated at the Vienna school. He plays fast with the greatest ease; he sees lucidly, but he is wanting in energy and concentration. Characteristic is the game with Tarrasch. In a most complicated position and under heavy fire in a king's side attack, Schlechter saw clearly through his opponent's plans, and quietly walked about from board to board observing the other games while his opponent was pondering over his move. Asked what he thought of his position, he replied: "The attack is not so dangerous as it looks. If he fails he must lose on the queen's side." He only drew,

but perhaps a little more concentration might have proved his estimation of the position to have been more correct. He only lost two games altogether. The one against Steinitz he should have won.

Walbrodt—His strength is passive; somewhat similar, but in a lesser degree, to Tarrasch's present form. Powerful in defence, but without initiative. He keeps his game together and shapes it safe and sound. An agreeable exception was his earlier performance. He showed a little more enterprise than formerly; but after the first reverse (at the hands of Charousek) he lapsed into his old apathetic style, and that he was still placed in spite of a splendid start he has to thank Tschigorin who made him a present of a game, and Tarrasch, who failed to see the right course to a win. The former should have been a draw and the latter a loss to Walbrodt. If Walbrodt were dependent upon chess he would no doubt be less careless than is the case at present.

Schiffers—Generally Schiffers considers a tournament an agreeable holiday, and makes the most of it accordingly. Indifferent to gain or loss, he plays *en artiste*; he is fond of chess and enjoys it as such, independent of the result. If he has played a good game he is satisfied.

Tschigorin—His motto seems to be *Aut Caesar aut nullus*. Impatient of temperance, he cannot bear resistance, and often sacrifices the whole position in order to force the game. He had a promising start for high honours, but broke down at the first reverse. Having endangered his position, he was quite reckless about the remainder. With Walbrodt he threw away a perpetual check, rather losing than drawing a game. One of the finest games he played was against Charousek. In a perfectly even position (not only to the casual observer, but Charousek included) he got up an attack which was irresistible in its impetuosity. But, as said on a former occasion, he has his own theories and he knows no middle course. He either wins or loses. Tschigorin's low position in this tournament is a surprise to everybody.

Blackburne—After the first week he stood as well as the favourites, but he played indifferently afterward. At the lowest computation he should have added at least two points to his score, namely, the games with Albin and Porges, and half a point with Janowski. As it is, he just managed to get the prize for the best score against the prize-winners.

Charousek—Maroczy's fellow-townsmen, who was substituted as reserve man for Burn, has justified the choice of the committee who admitted him—an unknown quantity—to compete among the masters without any record or credentials whatever. All the players (with only one exception) admit that Charousek is a genius. He has an exceptional knowledge of the theory—not routine knowledge—and plays the middle and end game well. Like Tschigorin and Janowski, he is averse to drawn games, and in more than one instance he lost by trying to win an even position, notably his game with Steinitz. He is full of confidence and pluck, and goes for his opponent, no matter who he is.

Marco, according to the score, is just a shade below the high prize winners, and level with the other competitors. He is strong enough to have done better.

Albin is an erratic player, most dangerous; he may win of the best and lose with the worst. He won a brilliant game of Charousek, one of the finest games of Steinitz and was within an ace of beating Tarrasch in the final round. For the lover of "chessy" games, Albin is the *bel idéal*.

Winawer is passé. Out of practice, he consumes his time in the opening, and has to hurry on anyhow afterward. With unlimited time he would still be dangerous. He played one brilliant game—a flash of former time—with Steinitz.

Showalter is stronger than his score indicates. It is the first time of his appearance in Europe, and the early hour (9 a.m.) is against his habits; he could not reconcile himself to it.

Porges, besides not having played for five years—since Dresden—was in indifferent health at the beginning and wanted to retire. Better counsel prevailed, and he made a better stand afterward. He drew with Tarrasch, Pillsbury, Schlechter and Schiffers, and his game with Steinitz was the longest in the tournament. But for Steinitz' extraordinary power of endurance he would have drawn it to.

Schallop played much below his strength. He, too, is out of practice, and threw away several games, notably one with Winawer, which was as good as won for him.

Teichmann started in bad health from London and has not recovered yet. He will remain a few weeks in Germany to recuperate.

The net result of the tournament is a number of first-class games for all tastes, sound and steady, and dashing and brilliant.

The theory has not gained much. Charousek has introduced a variation for White in the gambit declined (Falkbeer's variation), which is worthy of notice. Steinitz's defense of Ruy Lopez, 3—B to B 4, followed by Q to B 3, as well as the latest, 3—P to K B 3, have proved wanting, but that we suspected before. The Giuoco piano variation of the two knights defense (4—P to Q 3) has become fashionable, and that we knew before. And, finally, the queen's pawn openings and the Ruy Lopez remain the *pieces de resistance* as before.

Lasker won 4½, Pillsbury, 4½ in the match games as played between these experts. Lasker beat Pillsbury in the New York and Hastings tournament, and won 2½ points in St. Petersburg. Pillsbury beat Lasker in the Nuremberg, and won 3½ points in St. Petersburg.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Oct. 20th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 25th.
From America	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 26th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 16th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, Oct. 22nd.
From Canada, &c.	per P. & O. Co.	Monday, Oct. 26th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. & N. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 5th.

* *Doris* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 30th. *Pearl* left Hongkong on October 9th. *China* left San Francisco on October 9th. *City of Rio de Janeiro* left Hongkong on October 9th. *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 23th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Oct. 20th.
For America	per P. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 21st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 26th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 26th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. & N. Co.	Monday, Oct. 26th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per C. P. & N. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 30th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. & N. Co.	Friday, Nov. 5th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 10th October, —Hongkong via Moji and Kobe 8th October, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 10th October, —Hongkong 3rd October, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 10th October, —San Francisco 21st September, via Honolulu 29th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Hildebrandt, 10th October, —Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 10th October, —Yokkaichi 9th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, John A. Davis, 11th October, —Birkenhead via ports, and Kobe 10th October, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 11th October, —Yokkaichi 10th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tientsin, British steamer, 1,250, Phillips, 12th October, —Kobe 10th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, S. Kawamuro, 12th October, —Kobe 10th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, E. G. Andrews, 12th October, —London via ports, 8th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, H. Walter, 12th October, —Otaru via ports, 9th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Thompson, 12th October, —Kobe 11th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 13th October, —Yokkaichi 12th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Albatross, U.S. fish commission steamer, 638, J. F. Moser, 13th October, —Yokosuka 13th October.
Federation, British steamer, 1,570, John Prentice, 13th October, —Java via ports, and Kobe 12th October, General.—M. Raspe & Co.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, A. Gove, 13th October, —Hongkong via ports, 1st October, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, F. L. Sommer, 14th October, —Hiogo 11th October, General (Rice).—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Hayashi, 14th October, —Yokkaichi 13th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 14th October, —Yokkaichi 13th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 15th October, —Hakodae 13th October.
Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Yagi, 15th October, —Nemuro 13th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 16th October, —Nagasaki 13th October, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 16th October, —London via ports, and Kobe 15th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 16th October, —Shanghai via ports, 10th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, A. Nishimura, 16th October, —Kobe 15th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 16th October, —Yokkaichi 15th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 10th October, —San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 10th October, —Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 10th October, —Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 11th October, —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Idsumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,999, J. Curnow, 11th October, —Bombay via ports, Mails and September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Menelaus, British steamer, 2,770, W. Lowell, 11th October, —London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Nanimo Kan (8), Japanese cruiser, Captain Furukawa, 11th October, —Yokosuka.
Nissen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,483, Murai, 11th October, —Niigata and Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 11th October, —Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Fortin, 12th October, —Kobe.
Olympia (14), U.S. flagship, Captain J. G. Read, 12th October, —Chefoo via Kobe.
Toyoashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, Horton, 12th October, —Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 12th October, —Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Tientsin, British steamer, 1,250, Phillips, 12th October, —Kobe, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 12th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 13th October, —Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, S. Kawamuro, 13th October, —Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 13th October, —Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 14th October, —Hongkong, Ballast.—Captain.
Lennox, British steamer, 1,869, Williamson, 14th October, —Hongkong, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, H. Walter, 14th October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 15th October, —Australia and New Zealand via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, F. L. Sommer, 15th October, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 15th October, —Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, A. Gove, 15th October, —Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Kinshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, W. Thompson, 15th October, —Seattle, Wash., via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Cassius, German steamer, 1,504, Unruh, 15th October, —Kobe, Ballast.—M. Raspe & Co.
Federation, British steamer, 1,670, John Prentice, 16th October, —Java via ports, General.—M. Raspe & Co.
Hertha, German steamer, 2,199, Hildebrandt, 16th October, —Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Kaiser (15), German flagship, Captain Faeslike, 16th October, —Hongkong.
Irene (22), German cruiser, Captain von Driesky, 16th October, —Hongkong.
Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, John A. Davis, 16th October, —Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Yagi, 16th October, —Kobe and Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 16th October, —Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Hayashi, 16th October, —Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. W. A. Main, Baron Nissi, Mr. K. Miyagawa, Mr. W. Araki and servant, Lieut. D. H. Mahan, U.S.N., Ensign M. M. Taylor, U.S.N., Mr. E. J. Bori, Mr. W. J. Smith, Mrs. Lucien Young, Mrs. H. B. Hunt, Miss Emma Hunt, Miss M. L. Chase, Mr. L. Ford, Mrs. Stoddart, Miss E. S. Crittenden, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Milne in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. A. Charlton, Mr. W. B. Charlton, Mrs. Orwin and family, Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Faris, Rev. E. O. Boen, Rev. K. S. Stokke, and Rev. D. W. Nichols and family in cabin. For Hongkong:—Lieut. L. C. Antran, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Kelly, and Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Newton in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ceylon*, from London via ports:—Mr. Petherbridge in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. Grunwald, Mr. O. Williams, Mr. H. Siffins, Mr. J. E. Martin, Mr. H. G. Shaw, Dr. Wye, Mr. O. L. Boeck, Mrs. Dithlefsen, and Master Dithlefsen in cabin; 2 Europeans, 107 Chinese, and 4 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Manila*, from London via ports:—Mr. Street and Mr. Woodhead in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Findlay and child, Miss Morgan, Mr. R. H. R. Burder, Mr. R. A. de Villard, Baron Gunzberg, Rev. H. B. Gattivalt, Messrs. Houston, Kishida, Nambu, Hanaya, K. Nakamura, T. Inagaki, Miss and Mrs. Wehrmann, Messrs. Oestmann, Paul Kleinwort, E. C. Pakenham, V. Aikawa, E. Krause, Sub-Lieut. N. Cho, Messrs. K. Tani, G. W. Hooper, A. M. Howe, H. Busse, Strauss, and Mrs. Hellyer in cabin; Messrs. J. Brown, L. W. Williams, B. de Castella, Sakaguchi, Mrs. Chung and child, Master K. Goto, and Master Y. Goto in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mr. Paul Bie, Lieut. Commander G. Blocklinger, U.S.N., Mrs. G. Blocklinger, Commodore G. T. H. Boyes, R.N., and family, Mr. A. Fair, Mr. G. Gipperich, Mrs. H. C. Hazen, Miss Heriman, Mr. T. G. Hughes, Mr. T. Iida, Mr. A. C. S. Manners, Mr. and Mrs. McLeod, Dr. A. B. Morrill, Commander K. Narita, I. J. N., Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Taylor, Jun., Dr. Tschudnowsky, Mr. J. C. Peter, Mrs. C. Richards, Miss Fannie Scovill, Mr. H. J. Slater, Mr. S. Uchida, Mr. and Mrs. Winam, Mr. Gregoire de Wollant, Mr. Y. Wooyeno, and Rev. N. W. Utley in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Colonel and Mrs. Faithfull, Mr. Frugier, Surgeon-Major James and servant, Mr. J. Stubbs, Mr. E. Emeler, Mrs. Sherman and daughter, Mr. McCalmont, Mr. and Mrs. P. de Bathe, Mrs. Fanning, Mr. H. de Bathe, maid-servant and man-servant, Messrs. H. Marcus, P. M. Papisian, F. Fidirigo, P. N. Parnek, K. Yun Poo, and Pow Tsan in cabin; one Chinese and 2 infants in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Miss Nering Bogel, Miss Suto, Mr. W. S. Young, Count Wydenbruck, Messrs. S. Inouye, S. Yokoyama, S. Yuwanaga, S. Inugai, L. N. Ford, Mrs. A. C. Stoddart, and Miss E. S. Crittenden in cabin; Messrs. H. Idzumi and Z. Tanaka in second class. For Fusan:—Miss M. L. Chase in cabin. For Jinsen:—Lieutenant D. H. Mahan in cabin. For Tunku:—Mr. T. J. Tooritzin in cabin. For Shimonoeki:—Messrs. K. Inouye, K. Fukagawa, and T. Fukagawa in second class. For Nagasaki:—Messrs. K. Watanabe and M. Matsuyo in second class. For Shanghai:—Rev. W. Nichols and family, Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Faris, Rev. K. S. Stokke, Rev. E. O. Boen, Mrs. W. Orwin and family, Mr. W. A. Moller, Mrs. L. Young, Messrs. K. Nakajima, H. Tanase, and S. Machida in cabin; 87 passengers in steerage for ports in all.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Victoria, B.C.,

and Tacoma, Wash.:—Messrs. Owen Williams, H. Sniffin, V. L. Boeck, Mrs. Dithlefsen, Master Dithlefsen, Mr. Geo. B. Dodwell, Mr. Bernard, Captain Furber, General and Madame Solomko, Mrs. J. L. Mayers, Mrs. N. E. Dreas, and Master and Miss Morgan in cabin; Messrs. C. Brouard, C. G. Rindsley, A. O. Decker, and P. Deig in European steerage, and 108 Chinese and 47 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kinshu Maru*, for Honolulu:—Mr. G. B. Boardman in cabin; Mrs. Takagi Haru in second class, and 250 passengers in steerage for all ports.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	NEW	TRA.	TORON-OTHER
	FRANCISCO, YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, TO, CITIES, TOTAL.		
Hyogo	120	313	433
Yokohama	1,456	789	2,495
Amoy	12,481	1,160	14,818
Total	1,576	13,370	14,746

	NEW	TRA.	TORON-OTHER
	FRANCISCO, YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, TO, CITIES, TOTAL.		
Shanghai	5	33	37
Hongkong	—	30	30
Yokohama	—	229	229
Total	5	291	296

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 504 bales; Waste Silk, 150 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$256,180.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	NEW	TRA.	TORON-OTHER
	FRANCISCO, YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, TO, CITIES, TOTAL.		
Shanghai	1,530	—	1,530
Hyogo	974	1,020	1,994
Yokohama	2,849	2,133	7,252
Hongkong	—	44	84
Amoy	—	1,051	1,051
Foochow	4,604	699	7,230
Colombo	—	—	15
Total	8,427	6,731	19,164

	NEW	TRA.	TORON-OTHER
	FRANCISCO, YORK, CHICAGO, BOSTON, TO, CITIES, TOTAL.		
Shanghai	30	—	30
Yokohama	374	—	374
Total	394	—	394

RATES.
Tea 14 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement \$11 Gold per ton.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain I. Sealby, reports:—Left Hongkong the 30th September, via Amoy the 2nd October, Nagasaki the 5th, and Kobe the 7th at 2 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th October at 2.33 p.m. Had moderate weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain A. Gove, reports:—Left Hongkong the 1st October, Amoy the 2nd, Foochow the 4th, Shanghai the 7th, and Kobe the 12th. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th October at 11 p.m. Fresh N.E. winds was experienced in China Sea; heavy N.E. gale with rain squalls from Kobe.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, October 18th, at 9 a.m., the "OCEANIC."—Messageries Maritimes Co.
For LONDON, via Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, and other intermediate ports, October 20th, at Daylight, the "CYLON."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, October 20th, at 11 a.m., the "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimomoseki, and Nagasaki, October 20th, at Noon, the "SAIKO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO DIRECT, on or about 20th October, the "ETTRICKDALE."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For NEW YORK via Ports, and Suez Canal, October 21st, the "MOGUL."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, October 25th, at Daylight, the "VERONA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For PORTLAND DIRECT, October 25th, the "ALTMORE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For GENOA and Marseilles, October 25th, the "COWRIE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, October 26th, the "EMPEROR OF INDIA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., October 29th, the "OLYMPIA."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, October 30th, at 10 a.m., the "DAFNE."—Norddeutscher Lloyd.

For MELBOURNE, via Kobe, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, and Sydney, November 4th, at Noon, the "OMI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., November 6th, the "EMPEROR OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For SAN FRANCISCO, November 15th, the "DORIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Honolulu, November 17th, at Noon, the "SAKURA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STAMERS.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 10th October, Hongkong via Moji and Kobe 8th October, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Albatross, U.S. fish commission steamer, 638, J. F. Moser, 13th October, Yokosuka 13th October.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, E. G. Andrews, 12th October, London via ports, 8th August, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July, Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 16th October, London via ports, and Kobe 15th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 6th October, Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th October, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 7th October, Marseilles 30th August, Hongkong 29th September, Shanghai 2nd October, and Kobe 6th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Palamede, British steamer, 1,482, Williams, 7th October, Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 6th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 16th October, Shanghai via ports, 10th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

SAILING VESSELS.

Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagon, 23rd September, New York 3rd May, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 6th October, North Pacific, Otter Skins.—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 2nd September, Guam 9th August, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Funcke, 17th September, North Pacific, Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kennan.

Hutton Hall, British ship, 1,989, Rowlands, 22nd September, New York 18th April, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

J. B. Walker, American ship, 2,103, Wallace, 30th August, New York 28th March, 80,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 20th September, North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—A. Fisher.

Pointer, American schooner, 40, Snow, 8th October, North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 9th October, North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kennan.

Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 26th May, Sydney, via South Sea Islands, 24th May.—Captain and Owner.

MAN-OF-WAR.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 15th October, Hakodate 13th October.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market unchanged in tone from last week. Yarn and Shirts stagnant. Fancies quiet. Woollens—Small sales of Italian Cloth, nothing of interest in other goods.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 39 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 41 inches	2.75 to 3.40
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sateen Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.32
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 1/2 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilotas, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidentas, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 36 to 42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	50.00 to 51.00
Nos. 160, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 280, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 200, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 260, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 280, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

As we anticipated last week, the financial troubles seem to have touched this market and enquiry seems to have collapsed *pro tem*. Quotations unchanged but nominal.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.70 to 1.75 1/2

KEROSENE.

No change, fair business at late rates.
American \$2.25 to 2.27 1/2
Russian 2.27 to 2.28
Langkat

SUGAR.

Brown—A fair business in China and Manila sorts at full rates. Formosa dull and no business. White active, and prices advancing.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takau	\$4.70 to 4.75
Brown Manila	5.50 to 5.60
Brown Daiteng	3.95 to 4.00
Brown Canton	3.85 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	7.10 to 7.15
White Refined	7.00 to 9.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Much less doing and prices declining. It seems that the tightness in the money market makes sellers anxious to realise. At the same time, they will not accept much lower quotations at present. Quotations more or less nominal and weak, with very little business at closing.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Hatta 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom. \$880
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	870
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	Nom. 830
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 780
Filatures—No. 2, 13/16 deniers	780
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	775
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	710 to 720
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Kakadas—Extra	770
Kakadas—No. 1	750 to 760
Kakadas—No. 1	730 to 740
Kakadas—No. 2	710 to 720

WASTE SILK.

No settlements during the week. Very small enquiry at present, quotations nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$105 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Good	90 to 100
Noshi—Oshu, Best	105 to 110

Noshi—Oahu, Good	95 to 100
Noshi—Oahu, Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Bushu, Best	130 to 140
Noshi—Bushu, Good	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 62½
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 82½
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 22½

TEA.

Demand active, prices up, stocks down to very small figures. Settlements to date 200,000 piculs against 227,000 piculs last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$27 to \$28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Rates of exchange fluctuated slightly during the week, but the decline was recovered and at the close rates stand at the same figures as those of a week ago.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/1½
— — 6 months' sight	2/1½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.63
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.67½ to 8½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1½ % p.
— — Private 10 days' sight	par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— — Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	177
— — Private 30 days' sight	179½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	50½
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— — Private 4 months' sight	2.18
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BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 13th.

Hongkong reports by wire that H. & S. Banks have sellers at 192 per cent. premium, and of H. & K. Wharfs at \$59. The former stock has been purchased locally from the Colony. There are local sellers of the latter stock at \$59.

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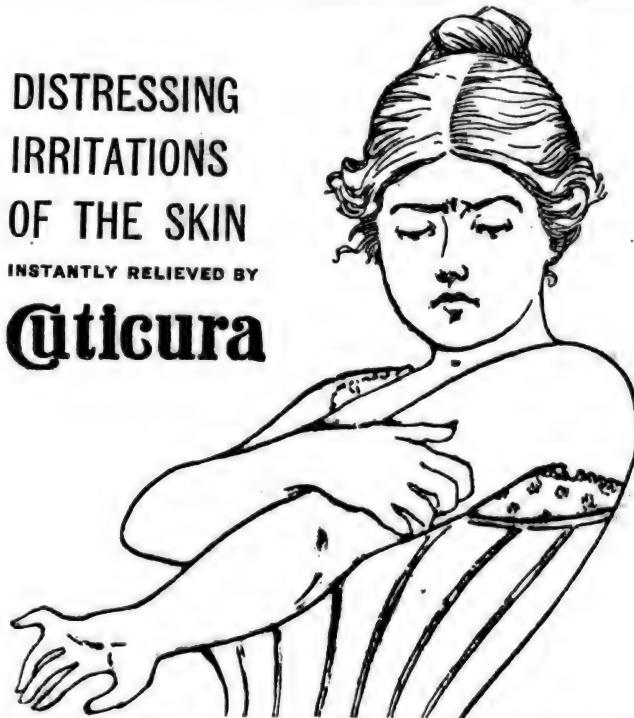
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1y.

REVIEW

OF THE CHAPTER ON PAINTING IN
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"JAPAN MAIL," 51, Main Street, Yokohama, March 26th, 1895.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 17.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 24TH, 1896.

月三年五十二光明 Vol. XXVI.
西曆會通曆十月十三

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence, whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 24TH, 1896.

BIRTHS.

On Oct. 23rd, 1896, at 70, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of J. C. NICHOLSON, of the Hongkong Bank, of a Son.

On the 24th October, at No. 20, Bluff, the wife of VALDEMAR BLAD, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

It has been decided not to rebuild or reconstruct the Club Hotel at Yokohama.

ONLY one yacht race, out of the four started, was finished on Saturday afternoon.

EVERYTHING bids fair for a very successful autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club, the

fine weather of the last few days drying the course, and much assisting training operations.

THE reported cession of Kassala by Italy to Great Britain is declared to be unfounded.

YOKOHAMA has been badly beaten this week at cricket and baseball by the Kobe Cricket Club.

MARQUIS ITO, who is now staying at Oiso, will, it is said, go to Kyoto in a few days to view the maples.

MR. STUART ELDRIDGE is appointed Hawaiian Consul at Yokohama, vice Mr. B. C. Howard, resigned.

THE trial of the Pyx at the Osaka Mint is to be held at the end of this month or beginning of November.

A VERY enjoyable Smoking Concert under Masonic auspices was given at the Public Hall on Friday evening.

MR. W. H. R. CAREW, Secretary of the Y.U. Club, died at the R.N. Hospital, Yokohama, on Thursday afternoon.

THE Salvation Army intends starting a seamen's reading, coffee, and recreation room in Honmura, Yokohama.

OWING to recent floods and storms, the damage done to Government railway lines is estimated at about yen 5,000,000.

MR. JOHN T. BOAG, exchange-broker, shot himself with a revolver on Tuesday night, as he lay in bed at his house on the Bluff.

THE Teikoku Beer Brewery Company, which has been experiencing difficulties ever since its establishment, was dissolved on Sunday.

MR. S. E. UNITE was duly installed W.M. of the Oentosama Lodge, No. 1263, E.C., on Saturday evening, at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama.

LAST Sunday at Kobe, Père Chaitron was installed as Roman Catholic Bishop of Osaka, with all the pomp and splendour of ritual appertaining to the Romish Church.

ANTHRACITE coal deposits have been discovered in Yamaguchi Ken. It is said that the bed extends for about ten miles and the quality of the coal is very good.

It is reported from Washington that President Cleveland, in his next message to Congress, will announce an amicable settlement of the Venezuelan question.

MR. R. S. MILLER, Interpreter in the United States Legation, having returned home, Mr. Ernest W. Clement has been appointed to fill the vacancy in the Legation.

TRAINS will begin to run between Naoyetsu and Kashimazaki on the Hokuyetsu Railway in the course of this year. The line between Nagaoka and Numadare will be completed by Feb. next.

It has been officially stated in Paris that China has entrusted Frenchmen with the reconstruction of the Foochow Dockyard, and that the contract was signed at Peking on the 14th inst.

THE race-meetings of the Ueyeno Race Club have been abandoned for some years. H.I.H. Prince Kanin being desirous of restarting the Club, races will shortly be held on the course.

THE French Minister of the Interior has announced that the Government's programme to be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies, will include proposals for the creation of a Colonial army.

THE Liberal Party do not wish to have Mr. Hoshi Toru, Minister at Washington, within

their immediate circle. He himself, it is said, has no intention of returning to Japan unless ordered home by the Foreign Office.

The Times, in an article referring to the increasing virulence of the German press, observes that it is gradually alienating Great Britain at a time when British support to the Triple Alliance is specially needful in view of the alliance between Russia and France.

THERE is a severe outbreak of bubonic plague at Bombay. It commenced on the 20th Sept., and by the 25th there were 300 deaths. Hundreds of rats, as in the Hongkong epidemic, died. The outbreak is attributed to the foul state of the sewers.

The Times states that owing to Lord Rosebery's suggestion that Mr. Asquith should be his successor as Leader of the Liberal Party, and to the certain opposition of Sir William V. Harcourt, the situation is complicated, and that Mr. Gladstone's return is seriously advocated.

THE Right Hon. G. N. Curzon, speaking at Glasgow, said that the Nile task would be incomplete until the Egyptian flag was hoisted again at Khartoum. Referring to Armenia, he said that he deprecated agitation as long as Great Britain did not intend to go to war on behalf of Armenia.

TRAFALGAR DAY was largely celebrated throughout London on Wednesday. The Nelson column was decorated with wreaths from top to bottom and great crowds assembled in the square, where patriotic speeches were delivered. The newspapers concur in the opinion that nothing hostile to foreigners was implied by the celebration, and that it was only awakening the nation to the importance of the Navy.

In a recent speech, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, denounced the connivance of the Sultan and of the Porte in the late massacres, but stated that Russia, Austria, and Germany were determined to uphold the *status quo* in Turkey, and that therefore the British policy consists in promoting concerted action by the Powers with a view to advising and, if necessary, compelling reforms. He stated that Dongola was the stepping stone to a further advance when the time was ripe.

THERE is little change in the Import trade, and no improvement is reported in any branch of the Textile business. The Metal trade is quiet and unchanged, but buyers shy at any increase in prices. The Kerosene market is quiet and prices are steady, buyers having about satisfied all requirements. "Langkat" Oil is reported as being produced now in such quantities that it is expected this Eastern Oil will shortly become an active competitor with the products of the States and Russia. The Sugar trade is quiet but healthy, and though not much has been done in Brown sorts, a fair quantity of White kinds has been taken at late rates. The Silk trade has passed through the usual phase during the week. In the beginning, when there was not a bid in the market, holders, anxious to be moving, made concessions that induced buyers to deal. This was followed by some orders from Europe which further stimulated purchases, and then succeeded the usual tactics of holders, who put prices up to the extent that buying was at once stopped. Holders are hoping for a similar splash in the Waste department as that just over in the Raw, but there is no sign of it at present. The Tea trade is brisk considering that we are now drawing towards the close of the year, and prices for the leaf purchased have been full. Small fluctuations only have taken place in rates of exchange.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The conclusion of the Commercial Treaty between Japan and China is regarded with much satisfaction by the public at large. The *Mainichi* argues that even with regard to the cotton-spinning industry, which appears to be the most profitable of all the enterprises that can be undertaken by Japanese in the interior of China, such a high authority as Mr. Masuda Takashi, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, has arrived at a very unfavourable conclusion after thorough research into the subject. He has decided that it would be an extremely doubtful business for the comparatively poor capitalists of Japan to enter into competition with the far wealthier capitalists of Europe and America, and that the privilege of manufacturing goods in China would prove beneficial to the latter alone.

The *Nippon* gives some interesting information on this point, showing to what extent the manufacture of yarns in China is likely to impair the development of the same industry in Japan. The export of Japanese yarns to Shanghai yields about 9½ per cent. net profit. But when yarns can be made in the interior of China free of duty, the profit accruing will be 17.5 per cent. In other words, the Chinese yarns can be sold 8 per cent. cheaper than the Japanese.

The *Nichi Nichi*, the *Chuo*, and the *Tokyo Shimbun* join in attacking the Government and its supporters, the *Shimpo-to*, and in seeking to discredit them in the eyes of the nation.

The *Nichi Nichi* sneers at what it considers the absurd inconsistency of the resolution passed by the standing committee of the *Shimpo-to* on the subject of the declaration of policy made by the Premier in his speech to the Local Governors. The Committee resolved to approve the declaration, and in the same breath, decided to oppose the Government should it fail to act up to its promises. Does not that practically amount to a resolution that the committee can not repose faith in the Ministry's determination to make good their promises? In other words, does it not amount to a vote of want of confidence? The Committee's action can be compared only to that of the foolish thief in the old story, who afraid lest the bell that he wanted to carry off might make a noise, plugged his own ears with cotton.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* has a note in the same strain. It observes that if the Premier has even a small modicum of spirit, he must be indignant to see the *Shimpo-to* assuming the attitude of an overseer towards the Cabinet, just as though the latter were a bad child whose reformation could not be believed in without practical proof.

The *Chuo* devotes two articles to expounding its views of the *Shimpo-to*'s position, and the events leading up to it. The main obstacle to the formation of the present Cabinet was the struggle for supremacy between the military party of Satsuma and the party led by Count Okuma; between the conservative principles of the former and the progressive principles of the latter. The rivalry between the two commenced on the very threshold of the work of organization; lasted to the time of the announcement of the Government's policy, and terminated in the complete discomfiture of the civil party. Both parties had discovered that the sentiments they entertained towards the Ito Cabinet coincided; each aimed at pulling it down; Count Okuma's party because it was tired of being perpetually relegated to the rôle of Opposition, and the Satsuma party because it felt dissatisfied with the Ito section and had conceived the ambition of forming a Satsuma Ministry. The two made a league to attain their common purpose, each, however, being secretly desirous of making a cat's paw of the other. No sooner had they attained their aim of overthrowing the Ito Cabinet than the inevitable internal struggle began. It commenced on the occasion of the conference

of September 19th, when Count Okuma, though not yet gazetted a Minister, propounded certain views which he wished to have adopted before he finally determined to join the Cabinet. All those views of his were mercilessly rejected by Count Kabayama, the leader of the Satsuma Party. Thereat the consternation and despair of the *Shimpo-to* were beyond description. Count Okuma shut himself up on the plea of tooth-ache, and his wire-pullers engaged in a hot dispute as to the course that he ought to adopt under the circumstances. Mr. Shimada's section maintained that the Count must not join the Cabinet, but must wait till a more favourable opportunity presented itself, while the Inukai-Ozaki section held the opposite view. The latter won the day, and Count Okuma entered the Cabinet unconditionally. That was the first defeat that the *Shimpo-to* sustained at the hand of its rival, the Satsuma Party. The latter, however, entertained a secret hope, that at least a portion of its views would be adopted by the new Ministry, but even there it was doomed to disappointment, as witness the vague declaration of policy made by the Premier, and the diametrically contradictory view proclaimed by Count Kabayama the next day before the Local Governors. Even then the *Shimpo-to* were so invertebrate that they could not summon courage to revoke their original resolution. On the contrary, they once more surrendered unconditionally to the Matsukata Cabinet, pretending that they purposed overseeing its actions. That was the second discomfiture sustained by the Party. Politically inimical as the *Chuo* is to the *Shimpo-to*, it professes, with fine sarcasm, to be quite pained by the procedure of the latter.

As already mentioned in these columns, the speech of the Home Minister to the Local Governors continues to be a subject of dispute between the pro-Government and the Opposition papers.

The *Chuo* argues that the speech has considerably shaken the ranks of the *Shimpo-to*, and as evidence of its assertion points to the suddenly altered tone of the *Yomiuri*. On the 13th ult., the *Yomiuri* did not hesitate to interpret the announcement of the ministerial policy in the sense of a resolution on the part of the Government to conform to the principle of party cabinets. On the 15th, it took up quite another attitude, and averred that if the Ministry failed to satisfy public expectation they ought to be driven out of power and replaced by other statesmen. The *Chuo* also undertakes to show that the action of Count Kabayama in the matter of the speech will impair his prestige and credit. It is upon the Count above all others in the present Ministry that public attention is centred; not on account of his ability, but rather because of his fearlessness and straightforwardness, as witness his unceremonious opposition when Count Okuma exposed the conditions on which he was willing to enter the Cabinet. Can it be supposed that the people, and above all the Local Governors who are under Count Kabayama's immediate control, will continue to repose the same confidence in him after seeing that, intimidated by the threats of the *Shimpo-to*, he suffered the most important portion of his speech to be incontinently expunged? Such an action was entirely unworthy of his usual conduct.

The *Mainichi* undertakes to defend the action of the Government in this matter. The meeting held on the 13th ult. at the Home Minister's official residence had to do with the affairs of the Home Department alone, and its proceedings must consequently have been confined, for the most part, to stating and discussing the Home Minister's views about the affairs of his own Department. Questions relating to the Cabinet, as a whole, and to its responsibility, cannot have been propounded at such a conference. Hence, it is obviously extravagant to suppose that, in addressing the Local Governors, Count Kabayama transgressed the legitimate bounds of this subject so far as to refer to party cabinets. The meeting at the Premier's official residence held on the previous day would

have been the occasion for such an utterance. If Count Kabayama had really alluded to the question of Cabinet responsibility at the meeting of Local Governors held in his residence, his remarks would have been of a most exceptional character, and could not have failed to be carefully noted by all present. But as nothing of the kind appears in the authorized version of the speech issued by the Home Office, the *Mainichi* is persuaded that the Count did not refer to the point at all, and that the report given in the *Nichi Nichi* must have been erroneous.

The *Nichi Nichi* traverses the *Mainichi*'s contention, and observes that, as the authorized version was only an abridgment of the original speech, a fact that even the *Mainichi* must admit, it does not follow that because that version contained nothing about Count Kabayama's allusion to Cabinet responsibility, therefore he did not actually touch upon the subject at all. In short, the *Mainichi*'s argument is palpably lacking in cogency. The *Nichi Nichi* has devoted much energy to ascertaining the facts of the case and the truth of its own report. It has interviewed four of the Local Governors that heard the address of the Home Minister, and all four unhesitatingly declared that the language of the speech had been even stronger than that reported by the *Nichi Nichi*. Moreover, Messrs. Imai and Hayakawa, members of the Diet, identified with the National Unionists, personally learned from the Count himself that he did speak about Cabinet responsibility in the way reported by the *Nichi Nichi*, and that his opinions had not undergone any change whatever as compared with those formerly held by him. It is to be noted that only the *Mainichi* has questioned the authenticity of the *Nichi Nichi*'s version, other papers on the Government side remaining silent or alluding to the matter in a perfunctory way.

The *Kokumin* scoffs at the vast importance with which the difference between the systems of *Seito Naikaku* and *Kunshu Naikaku* (party-cabinets and Sovereign-cabinets) are regarded by a section of the people. Our contemporary considers that the question is only worthy of academical discussion. So long as a country is presided over by a monarch, and so long as it convenes a Diet, the Cabinet is naturally bound to be under the control of the Sovereign and to conduct its administration with the consent of the Diet. Either appellation would do, provided that the practical results be satisfactory. That such a problem causes a stir in political circles and tends in any degree, however small, to estrange the Government and its supporters, is because an exact understanding has not yet been arrived at between the two. What is wanted at this juncture is a clearer exposition of the Government's views about the conduct of State affairs.

Mr. Shimada, Vice-President of the House of Representatives, addresses an open letter to the columns of his paper, the *Mainichi*. The letter is somewhat disappointing, being merely intended to proclaim the virtues of Count Kabayama to the public at large. It does not refer at all to the interesting feature of the Home Minister's recent action. Mr. Shimada eulogises the Count on the authority, first, of Count Katsu, and subsequently from the writer's own personal observation. The Home Minister is declared to be man of rare integrity, sincerity, and straightforwardness, not afraid to carry out what he considers just, and to rectify what he considers erroneous even in himself. He did not shrink, for instance, from declaring boldly in the House the merit of the Sat-Cho clans in developing the prosperity of the country. But his opinion about the competence of the people is understood to have subsequently undergone a considerable change, and he is now disposed to place greater reliance upon their capacity. Mr. Shimada hopes that he will not fail to give practical effect to his new convictions.

The *Fiji* desires to make a suggestion to the new chief of the Metropolitan Police. It is

about the advisability of paying more attention to general police business, and of being less absorbed in political affairs, for in the *Fiji's* opinion, the latter are made to take undue precedence of the former. The abolition of personal guards for the Ministers of State augurs well for the point that the *Fiji* has in view, and is applauded as thoroughly suited to the time, for the tone of political discussion has become gradually elevated and no such horrible practice as assassination is likely to be resorted to even at the climax of excitement. While advising the new Police Chief to pay more attention to ordinary police business, there is another thing to which *Fiji* wishes to call his attention, namely, the propensity that constables display to attach too much importance to their office. The result is that they are often careless of inconveniencing persons of inferior rank, and exaggerating the gravity of offences committed by them—treating a drunkard's follies, for example, as "disrespect to Government officials."

The abolition of the Ministers' personal guards elicits two leading articles from the *Nippon*, which consider the change, small as it is, an indication of the radical difference between the present Government and its predecessors in their attitudes towards the people. It shows that the latter regarded the people with suspicion, whereas the former are determined to treat them with confidence. The change is an earnest of far larger reforms and improvements.

The *Fiji* writes sympathetically about the Manila people, recommending them specially to the protection of the Japanese who live among them. Judging from the attitude that the natives have assumed towards Spanish rule, they must be determined to oppose it to the death. But that is a very reckless idea on their part, for in view of the grave disadvantages under which they labour with respect to arms, stores, and so forth, it must be well-nigh hopeless for them to attain their object. Their outbreak will only involve bloodshed, and bring down upon them summary treatment from the Government. Japanese living among them should dissuade them from such rash undertakings, and urge them to remain peaceful subjects. Such a course, would earn the gratitude not only of the natives but also of the Spanish Government, which is now believed to entertain suspicions of the Japanese people's designs. Moreover, the Japanese should exert themselves to extend protection to orphans and widows that find themselves reduced to straights on account of the rebellion. Such an act of charity must commend itself to people related by blood to the natives of Manila, as the Japanese are.

The *Tokyo Asahi* offers a suggestion for the consideration of the Government in connection with the latter's avowed intention of making officialdom more accessible to young men of ability. The idea is that Directors of Ordinary Upper Schools, or educational institutions of similar standing, must be relieved from the disqualifications that at present obstruct their entry into Government service. The position of a school director is very onerous, for he has to control a number of teachers and hundreds of students. A director competent to discharge such a task efficiently must be fit to undertake administrative business. The innovation would prove of immense benefit to the cause of education, for the directors would apply themselves with greater assiduity to discharge of their functions, so as to recommend themselves to the Government's notice.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"AS OTHERS SEE US."

THE Rev. G. M. Reith, after a long residence at Singapore, has gone back to the home-land via China, Japan, and America. He is contributing interesting notes on his passage, under the heading of "Partant Pour la Patrie," to the *Singapore Free Press*. This is what he has to say about Yokohama:—There is a strong Yankee flavour in the atmosphere of Yokohama.

The shrill nasal twang affected by our American cousins is heard above the hum of voices, and the newspapers seem to be entirely in American hands. I formed this opinion on reading some of them, whose articles combined the crow of the American eagle with effusive flattery of "the great Empire of Japan." . . . Yokohama is disappointing to the visitor in many ways. Chiefly, because knowing it to be the largest foreign settlement in the Mikado's Empire, he draws a mental picture of it in anticipation to which the actual town does not bear the remotest resemblance. . . . On the day of my arrival, I got into a jinrikisha, and told the coolie to take me on a "go-look-see" expedition. He did. I wondered what the real impression of the foreigner was on the Japanese mind, when I found the coolie taking it for granted that what I wanted to see was every vile haunt and low den in the place. He seemed surprised and ventured some unintelligible protests when I peremptorily ordered him to go on, as he stopped now and again at places which the European visitor is supposed to delight in. But this impression of European tastes is not confined to Japan. . . . I went one night to see the *Yoshiwara* in the native city. It is a sight to be seen—once; and to be remembered ever afterwards with mixed feelings. It is a scene infinitely touching, and inexpressibly sad to all who respect pure womanhood, but, according to modern notions of delicacy, not to be described in print. . . . "The Grand Hotel, the largest and I suppose the best in the town, is a centre where one meets persons whom he never expected to see again on this earth. During my first day there, I encountered two Americans whom I had last seen in the heart of Java, and an Englishman whose path crossed mine in Ceylon some years ago, like ships passing in the night. The usual comments were made of course—that the world after all is a very small place. These chance meetings are full of pleasure to both parties, though both are apt to become tediously reminiscent. They are like the finding of an old faded photograph of a place visited long ago; memory and imagination are called in to fill up the almost indistinguishable outline, and we live again through the experiences of the past in a friendly chat." The reverend traveller also ventures the opinion that Yokohama is a large and prosperous town—a city of wide streets and fine buildings, where the European element is more prominent than the Japanese, and where the hurry and bustle inseparable from the white man's activity strike the visitor who is fresh from the quieter scenes of native life.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

WE are informed by Brigadier Powell, meantime leader of the Salvation Army in Japan, that a house has been taken in Tokyo (Koishikawa) as a home for discharged prisoners. According to Japanese Police regulations, a prisoner is not released until he can find some one to become his guardian; there are numbers of men in Tokyo at the present moment, whose term of imprisonment has expired, but who are still detained on account of their having no such friend. These are mostly long service men, and to them the S.A. will in the first place open its doors, the Japanese officer in charge of the house becoming their guardian and making it his object to foster in them that spirit of independence and self-help which will enable them as soon as possible to stand alone and earn a livelihood. The Salvation Army hopes later on to open other homes of a similar character for all classes of discharged prisoners, their success in this class of work in Australia, India, South Africa, England, and other countries, encouraging them to hope for proportionate success here. In Australia this work has been so successful that it is supported by an annual grant from the Government. The building is situated in Otowa-machi, Koishikawa, and will be officially opened by Brigadier Powell and a detachment of Salvationists next Monday, the 26th, at 3 o'clock. Another new departure is a building in the Settlement, Yokohama, at No. 187, which is to be opened as a coffee house, reading-room, lodg-

ings, baths, and meeting-place for seamen. For the fitting up of the latter Captain (Miss) Hatcher is collecting in the Port, while any one able to send any good substantial pieces of furniture suitable for such a building can thereby greatly assist. A further detachment of officers is soon expected to arrive from England.

WORK OF A BICYCLIST.

EXPERIMENTS recently made as to the power consumed by riders on bicycles are thus epitomized in *The Electrical Engineer*:—"It is shown that there is no absolute dead point such as occurs with an ordinary connecting rod-and-crank motion, and, secondly, that there is always some pressure on the pedal during the rise, the negative work due to which has to be subtracted from that done during the down stroke to obtain the net amount used in propulsion. The experiments were made at speeds ranging from 10½ to 21½ miles per hour, the machine being run on a wooden racing-track. The results were as follow:—

Speed miles per hour.	Work done per semi-revolution. Ft. lb.
10	28.58
10½	30.06
11	31.08
12	35.90
13	47.30
14	53.73
15	63.63
16	66.08

It will be seen from the above figures that the average pressure of the foot required on the pedal increases rapidly with the speed, being at 20 miles an hour nearly 3½ times as much as at 10 miles per hour. Unfortunately the gear used is not noted by the experimenter, and so it is impossible to deduce from the above figures the average tractive resistance of the machine at the different speeds. Probably at the higher speeds named a large proportion of the total work done was expended in overcoming atmospheric resistance, and the run of the figures might be changed considerably if the trials were conducted on a rough road instead of on a smooth track.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOP CHATRON.

SUNDAY was a red-letter day in the history of Roman Catholicism in Kobe, says the *Chronicle*, the occasion being the consecration and investiture of Père Chatron, the Bishop-elect of Osaka, *vice* the late Bishop Vasselon. Never before, we believe, has an ecclesiastical function of this kind been solemnised in Kobe. It is not generally known that appointments of this kind are made by the Roman Catholics in Japan by election of the priests. The votes are sent to Paris where the result is ascertained and sent to Rome for the confirmation of the Pope. The nominee in this instance has spent upwards of a quarter of a century in Japan and the appointment has given general satisfaction amongst the Roman Catholic community here. Although the service occupied more than three hours, the Church was crowded to the doors the whole time, Japanese converts occupying the aisles, and foreigners the nave. At the entrance gate an arch of evergreens had been erected, the portals of the church were draped with flags, while the interior was artistically adorned with evergreens and artificial flowers. The consecrating prelate was His Grace the Archbishop of Tokyo, who was assisted by the Bishops of Nagasaki and Hakodate, and about a dozen priests. The ceremony consisted, first, of the Archbishop receiving the homage of the bishops and priests; secondly, the reading of the mandate from the Vatican authorising the appointment and consecration; then followed the anointment and the bestowal of the signet ring; next, High Mass was celebrated, in course of which bread blessed by the new bishop was distributed to the congregation. Then followed the investiture of the Bishop in full canonicals, and finally the Eucharist administered to the priests by the Archbishop assisted by Bishop Chatron, who afterwards pronounced the blessing. The fine band from the French flag-ship *Bayard* was esconced in the gallery and assisted in the musical portion of the service. The Admiral, Captain Fortin, and other officers of the ship accompanied the French Minister and Consul to Church, and among the congregation might have been noticed during

the earlier part of the service some of the pillars of the Anglican Church, including the chaplain, as well as one of the Nonconformist ministers.

THE CHINESE SCANDAL.

THE scandal among the Chinese residents of Yokohama, alluded to by us a few weeks ago, has entered a new phase. The Treasurer of the Chinese Guild, who is accused of misappropriating some \$1,731.36 of its funds, has laid a criminal charge of assault against nine of his compatriots. On the 3rd instant the case was called on in the Chiko Saibansho, when the thirteen-year-old nephew of Wong Kwai Kai, the Treasurer, applied for the case to be postponed until the 16th inst. He gave no reason for the request. This action roused the suspicions of the Chinese in Yokohama, and a search was made for Wong Kwai Kai. He was not to be found in Yokohama, and a rumour got abroad that he had left the country. After a few days these fears were allayed, the missing Treasurer being found in a Chinese official's house in Tokyo, where he has taken refuge. Wong steadily refuses to leave his shelter, notwithstanding all the letters he receives from his Yokohama friends, or enemies, as the case may be. And so matters remain at date.

THE H.K.V.C. "CAMP GAZETTE."

THE Hongkong Volunteers were lately sent into camp at Stonecutter's Island, and, to increase the gaiety of nations, some of the literary wits in the various detachments published a *Camp Gazette*, or to give the broadsheet its full title, *The H.K.V.C. Camp Gazette and Stonecutter's Island Chronicle*. Its pages are very lively, even the advertisers' announcements being "sub-edited." Many puns, good, bad and indifferent, on the names of well-known officers of the garrison, residents of local note, etc., are freely scattered about its columns, and of course poetry bulks largely. These fugitive verses are of the kind generically known as "local and topical." For instance, the recent prosecution of the Sanitary Authority for illegal removal of cock-lofts was hit off as follows:—

Da, da, Dauby,
Have you read the rules?
Any more cock-lofts
Pulled down by fools?
One in the Queen's Road
And one in the Strand,
Won't there be a rumpus
When Franky takes a hand!

Another jingle runs:—

To honours and war-medals we most of us aspire,
But all we got was a blowing up for setting the grass on fire;
So we limbered up the guns again and then we did retire—

Marching! Yes, marching, to Victoria.

In another poem entitled "The zealous Volunteer," we read:—

Then I sponged and I rammed,
And the Maxims I jammed,
Till my Captain showed signs of emotion;
And he said in distress
This is zeal in excess
So they gave me two stripes as promotion.

The Stonecutter's Distillery Co.'s advertisement of "Fine Punch," a T. Rose-coloured liqueur (samples supplied free in Mooris Tubes), is one of several happy bits. Artillery officers of the garrison should find the issue of special interest.

MARRIAGE.

ON Wednesday evening Miss Yei Sato and Mr. Y. Matsumoto were united in the bonds of holy matrimony by the Rev. R. Hosokawa, at the American Mission Home, No. 212, Bluff, Yokohama. The home was prettily decorated with evergreens and flowers, while the lawn was illuminated by many rows of Japanese lanterns. The bride was arrayed in a heavy, elaborately hand-painted black crêpe kimono, lined with white silk, and brightened by a brilliantly coloured obi. According to ancient custom, the bride appeared in three different kimono during the course of the evening. Over eighty persons sat down to the marriage feast, after which the happy couple left for their honeymoon. Miss Irving is the present principal of the school from which Miss Sato graduated; Mr.

Matsumoto, who is a graduate of the *Meiji Gakuin*, Tokyo, is a member of a ship-broking firm, and in charge of the Yokohama branch. Among those invited were Consul and Mrs. J. C. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Lowder, Rev. and Mrs. H. Loomis, Miss Crosby, Miss Moulton, Miss Case, Rev. J. H. Ballagh and sister, Miss Webb, Dr. and Mrs. McCauley, Rev. and Mrs. Harris, Dr. Wyckoff, Professor and Mrs. J. C. Ballagh, and others.

THE CUBAN REBELLION.

A PRIVATE letter received from Cuba by the last American mail, says—"The war, or rebellion—call it what you like—still continues to ravage this fertile country; and it is likely to go on for some time, as Spain will not give up until the very last. I am sure, from observation on the spot, that the Cubans will gain their Independence this time. The Spanish troops are dying off wholesale by yellow fever and dysentery, and a good many of the poor fellows are deserting and going over to the Cuban side as they have not received a cent of their pay for over three months. I have seen numbers of them land in Havana from the Spanish troop-ships and never saw such a lot of wretched looking objects in my life. They looked as though they had just been caught in the ploughing-fields and shipped right away without any training. Poor fellows, they seem to have no heart for the work that lays before them."

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A LARGE attendance of members of the Yokohama Literary Society at the Public Hall on Friday evening was presided over by Mr. J. T. Griffin. The principal item was a lecture on "Some ways of explaining history," by Mr. John Carey Hall, H.B.M. Consul at Yokohama. The paper was most erudite and well considered and at its close the lecturer was most heartily thanked, on the motion of Mr. Griffin. The musical items of the programme were—Overture, "La Dame Blanche" (Boieldieu), Mr. and Miss Griffin; pianoforte duet, "Hausel and Gretchen" (Humperdunk), Mrs. Poole and Miss Wheeler; song, "Imperfection" (Sir W. Robinson), Miss Sale; Part-song, "Softly Fall" (Hatton), eight singers; song, "Come to me" (Bemberg), Miss Rice; song, "Trysting Time" (Scott Gatty), Mr. Lewis, Part-song, "O, who will o'er the downs" (Sir R. de Pearsall).

THE CUBAN REBELLION.

The Times has the following from its Havana correspondent:—

Careful study for the past four months convinces me that despite serious losses, the rebels are holding their own against the troops. The wealthy agricultural districts are completely under rebel control, and the whole sympathy of the islanders is with the rebels. Even Havana, which is more Spanish than any other town or district, is permeated with animosity toward Spanish rule, and is honeycombed with intrigues on behalf of the rebellion. It is quite false to call it a colour struggle. In the fighting ranks of the insurgents the proportion is 70 per cent. of whites to 30 per cent. of negroes. Another fallacy is the rebel contention that Spanish misrule originated the rebellion. The crisis in the sugar trade was much more formidable in fomenting the revolt. The struggle is prolonged by the facility with which the insurgents obtain ammunition and stores of all kinds from abroad and from every town in Cuba, under the noses of the Spanish officials, with impunity. The seizure of contraband is most rare. It is now too late to compromise by granting reforms. The Cuban insurgents would not now accept full autonomy as the price of yielding their arms. I say this advisedly after a careful examination of the situation from all points of view. Spain will be compelled to conquer or to abandon the island. This irreconcilable attitude of the rebels is largely due to the wholesale execution of rebels after summary trial. These drastic measures only increase the hatred of Spain without deterring recruits from joining the rebellion. Another reason is the hopeless prospect of any rehabilitation of Cuban credit while the island is under Spanish dominion. Taxation must be heavily increased to pay the burdens of the war. Hence people with vested interests prefer the risk and uncertainties of independence, coupled with the earnest hope that at no distant date Cuba will become a State in the American Union.

THE INUNDATIONS FUND.

WE have to acknowledge the following subscriptions to this fund:—

M. Boissonade de Fontarabie \$25
Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Choral Society 20

WINNING YACHTS.

MR. A. BARCLAY WALKER's cutter *Ailsa* heads the winning yacht list for 1896 with 60 starts,

21 wins, and 13 seconds. She took 34 prizes of a value of £2,020. The Prince of Wales' *Britannia*, with 57 starts, won 15 firsts, 10 seconds, and 27 prizes of a total value of £1,665. Mr. Howard Gould's 20 rater *Niagara*, with 43 starts, won 12 first prizes, 8 seconds, and 20 prizes worth £270; in addition to two cups.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

THE second transport, the *Montserrat*, arrived at Manila on the 6th October from Spain with over a thousand soldiers. The arrival of the troops has been made the occasion of great rejoicing. The rebels still hold their own in the province of Cavite, and the bombardment of their positions by the Spanish men-of-war is kept up continuously. No doubt is entertained that with the reinforcements arriving the Government will soon be able to place a sufficient force in the field to drive the rebels into the hills. Meanwhile, occasional conflicts occur, but with no decisive result.

SILK.

JULY, says the *American Silk Journal* for September, was a somewhat notable month in the Yokohama silk trade. The raw silk market was greatly depressed, the shipments being but 350 bales, as against 4,500 bales in July, 1895. But of *habutai* there were shipped 32,436 pieces, as against 18,854 in July, 1895; while the handkerchief shipment was 204,204 dozens, as against 133,903 dozens in July, 1895. Labour in the weaving department is fifty per cent. higher than in December last.

H.M.S. "CENTURION."

IT is curious to note the effect of the bilge keels upon H.M.S. *Centurion*, says the Nagasaki journal. When first launched her speed was, if we remember rightly, over 17 knots. Upon a recent four hours trial, however, she averaged 18.2 knots per hour, while for half an hour she managed to make a little over 19 knots, and it is confidently expected that upon her next trial she will make that speed for the whole of the four hours.

FUNERAL OF MR. J. T. BOAG.

THE funeral of Mr. J. T. Boag, that took place at Yokohama Cemetery on Thursday morning, was very largely attended by members of the banking and mercantile community. The Rev. E. C. Irwine conducted the service. The pallbearers were Dr. Wheeler, Messrs. Jas. Dodds, David Jackson, W. R. Bennett, F. S. James, W. W. Campbell, A. Babington, and J. C. Potts.

NEW BISHOP OF OSAKA.

ON Sunday L'Abbé Chattron was consecrated Roman Catholic Bishop of Osaka. Archbishop Osof, of Tokyo, Bishop Cousin, of Nagasaki, and Bishop Berlioz, of Hakodate, took part in the ceremony. Among those present was Mons. Harmand, the French Minister to Japan.

MRS. GREATHOUSE.

NEWS has reached Yokohama of the death in Soul, of Mrs. Greathouse, mother of Mr. Clarence Greathouse, who was Consul-General of the United States at Kanagawa, several years ago. The information comes in a private letter, and the news will undoubtedly cause sorrow to the many friends that the venerable lady made while resident in Yokohama.

MARINE MISHAP.

THE American bark *Sonoma*, bound to Vladivostok with a general cargo, got on shore near the entrance to Tsuruga Straits, but after discharging 700 tons of flour was got off and taken into Hakodate Harbour. Whether the vessel sustained any damage has not transpired.

THE SHOOTING AFFRAY AT NAGASAKI.

BARNES, the American man-of-warman, who was the principal actor in the recent affray at Nagasaki, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and costs, by Dr. Abercrombie, the American Consul, and two Associates. Prisoner was defended by Lieut. Rose, U.S.A., a fully qualified barrister.

NEW HAWAIIAN CONSUL.

DR. STUART ELDRIDGE, of Yokohama, has been appointed Consul of the Hawaiian Republic at this port *vice* Mr. B. C. Howard, resigned.

COUNT KABAYAMA'S SPEECH.

What the Minister of State for Home Affairs has actually said about Cabinet responsibility and what he has not said, are questions that still provoke journalistic discussion. The reasons of the perplexity enveloping the affair were briefly stated in our last Weekly Summary of the Vernacular Press, but, for the sake of clearness, we may recapitulate them. Before the Minister President, addressing the assembly of Local Governors on the 12th instant, enunciated the policy of the new Ministry, conferences were naturally held by the Cabinet to discuss that policy. At one of these conferences Count Okuma, according to newspaper reports, is represented as having strongly advocated the principle of Cabinet responsibility to the Diet, and Count Kabayama as having endorsed the Foreign Minister's views in even stronger and plainer terms. It may be pointed out here that Cabinet meetings, especially Cabinet meetings convened for such a purpose, are not open to the public; nor are the views expressed by the Ministers of State on these occasions supposed to be published. Indeed, no methods are organized for recording those views, and it thus becomes evident that, unless notes are surreptitiously taken by some of the officials present, no accurate information of what has been said can be subsequently accessible. Under any circumstances, reports published by newspapers must be the outcome of mere hearsay, and can not receive explicit credence. Thus much premised, we return to the sequence of events. On the 13th instant, Count Kabayama, in his capacity of Minister of Home Affairs, addressed the Local Governors. Here, again, the meeting was not public, and any reports published by the press about the proceedings must be taken with due allowance for errors of casual transmission. The newspapers, of course, were keenly on the watch to obtain the drift of the Count's address, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, generally worthy of all trust in such matters, published a version in which the Minister of Home Affairs was made to say, most emphatically, that the Cabinet's tenure of office should not depend upon the Diet's attitude. Other journals, namely, those accredited with friendly sentiments towards the present Cabinet and known to be strongly in favour of Government by Party, did not ascribe any such declaration to Count Kabayama in their reports of his speech, and consequently the public remained uncertain as to what His Excellency had really said. Presently, an official version of the speech was published, and on examination it was found not to contain any allusion whatever to the subject of Cabinet responsibility. The *Nichi Nichi* thereupon stigmatised the official version as incorrect, and pledged its honour that Count Kabayama had actually declared himself opposed to party Cabinets. Even the *Fiji Shimo* entered the lists against the Government. It contended that, whether Count Kabayama's utterances had or had not been misinterpreted, there could be no doubt of his having made some allusion to the great question of the day, and that the omission of any allusion whatever from the official version of the speech, must be regarded as a pusillanimous act of excision on the Government's part. It is not altogether easy to follow that line of reasoning, but the *Fiji* must, of course, be credited with sincerity. The outcry is augmented by the *Chuo* (organ of the National Unionist), which says that some Unionist members of the House of Representatives called on Count Kabayama the day after the delivery of his speech, for the purpose of making inquiries about the aid to be extended to the districts ravaged by inundations. They availed themselves of the opportunity to ask what views the Minister had expressed the day previously about Cabinet responsibility, and received from him an assurance that he had pronounced emphatically against party government. Yet when the official version appeared the next day, it contained no allusion to the subject. Altogether, there is a great deal of perplexity and discussion. The theory advanced by the enemies of the Ministry is that Count

Kabayama did really declare himself radically opposed to party Cabinets in his address to the Local Governors on the 13th instant, but that in view of the danger of the *Shimpo*'s coöperation being alienated were such a declaration officially recorded, the Count's colleagues insisted on excising the mischievous paragraph from the authorized version of his speech, published on the 15th instant. As for the authorized version, here is a translation of it:—

"Gentlemen:—The laws relating to freedom of speech, of public meeting, and of publication have been repeatedly discussed by political parties and debated in each session of the Diet. Now, with regard to the exercise of popular rights, though it is necessary that more or less restraint should be imposed so long as education is imperfectly developed, it is equally true that when knowledge has become diffused and experience has been garnered to such a degree as to guarantee public tranquillity against disturbance through the free exercise of those rights, then steps should be taken to permit their exercise. Therefore, the Government intends to make its policy conform with the intellectual development of the people, and by sparing no effort to promote the educational progress of the nation and to spread the light of knowledge, will seek to give free exercise to individual rights.

"As politics can not be expected to reach a satisfactory stage until the people's knowledge is sufficiently advanced, and as diplomacy and finance can not be efficiently managed unless the nation has developed substantial strength, therefore to guide the people into the paths of moral and material progress is essentially necessary at the present epoch. What you should pay careful attention to in this context is the conduct of local police affairs, for the due enjoyment of popular rights is inseparably connected with the behaviour of the police. The system of appointment to posts in the civil service is open to criticism as being too much restricted, so that inconvenient difficulties are placed in the way of admitting able young men. Much more liberal methods should be adopted, with, of course, due reservations. The Government contemplates undertaking investigations in this matter.

"To dispense with profusion of documents on official business, is most essential to the improvement of administrative affairs. Local Governors must endeavour to simplify the processes of local administration and to provide against deadlocks and delays.

"The local administrative system must be conducted so as to ensure the prosperity of cities and villages. The hot contests now fashionable in many districts, on the occasion of electing urban or rural officials, must be discontinued, for they deter really competent candidates from coming forward, and convert cities and villages into arenas of party squabbles.

"Official discipline must be strictly maintained, for it is naturally regarded as a standard of public morality. There have of late been symptoms that discipline needs more careful enforcement, and the Government will cause inquiries to be conducted in this matter."

The Home Minister concluded by referring to the recent inundations, but his remarks, as officially reported, do not differ from the version already published in these columns.

LOOKING FOR A WEAK SPOT IN THE CABINET'S ARMOUR.

The Liberal Party, according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, have resolved to pursue for the present the policy of "lying low," and watching for a favourable opportunity to attack the Cabinet. Their idea is that, towards the middle of the tenth session of the Diet—that is to say, about next January—they will find themselves in a position to charge the Government with failing to put into practice the intentions outlined in the Premier's address to the Local Governors. That is a long-sighted prediction on the part of the *Yomiuri*, in whose columns we certainly would not look for very accurate knowledge of the Liberals' intentions.

THE BIRTHDAY REVIEW.

It is announced in the *Official Gazette* that, on the 3rd proximo, His Majesty the Emperor will leave the Palace at 8.30 a.m., and proceed to the Aoyama Parade Ground, where the usual Birthday Review of the troops in garrison will take place.

THE HIGH COUNCIL ON INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

The High Industrial and Commercial Council opened its first conference on Monday in the Noshomusho buildings, Count Sano, President of the Council, in the chair. Among the members present were Messrs. Ando and Fujita, Chiefs of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau and of the Agricultural Bureau, respectively Messrs. Shibusawa, Nakakamigawa, Fujita (Densaburo), and so forth, the only absentees being Messrs. Sonoda Kokichi and Inouye Kakugoro, now away from Japan. The Premier was to have honoured the meeting with his presence, but pressure of official duties detained him. The Ministers of Agriculture and Commerce, of Foreign Affairs, and of Communications, attended, and the two former delivered speeches.

The meeting was opened with a speech by Viscount Enomoto. He dwelt at first on the necessity of cordial coöperation between the Government and the people for promoting the development of the national resources, especially in consideration of the duties devolving on the country in the sequel of the war, and the near approach of the time when the Revised Treaties will go into operation. He further called the attention of the members of the Council to the necessity of expanding the markets for Japan's agricultural and industrial products abroad, and explained that the unsatisfactory state of affairs in that respect, and the desire to investigate the causes responsible for the comparatively slow progress of Japan's foreign commerce, and to devise measures for hastening it, had been the chief reasons for convening the Council.

Count Okuma's speech was less abstract. He carried his hearers back to the time when the Noshomusho was first established as a separate Department of State. Till 1881, affairs relating to Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry were separately controlled by the Departments of Home Affairs and of Finance. This arrangement ultimately proved unsatisfactory in view of the steady development of business, and because of the obvious advisability of still further promoting commerce. The Count's notions on this subject coinciding with those entertained by Marquis Ito, then a Minister of State, a representation was submitted to the then Cabinet over the joint signatures of the two Ministers (Count Okuma held the portfolio of Finance at the time). The document obtained the approval of the Cabinet, and the *Noshomusho* was organized that year on the model of the English Department of Agriculture. There was also a conviction at that time that as Industrial and Commercial affairs developed, committees should be appointed from among the people, in order to ascertain their opinions on these affairs, and thus by combined deliberation on the part of the Government and the public, to reach definite conclusions on important topics both at home and abroad. The establishment of the present Industrial and Commercial Council must be considered an embodiment of that original idea, and consequently indicative of the progress of industrial and commercial affairs in Japan. The Count then alluded to the importance that industry and commerce play in the economy of a nation, and showed how the expansion of each country's foreign commerce is absolutely necessary for maintaining the balance of power among nations and preserving peace in the world. Persuaded of the truth of these things, Count Okuma, so long as he continued to preside at the Foreign Office, would not fail to pay the closest attention to all matters bearing on the expansion of Japan's foreign trade, the balance between exports and imports, and the enforcement of the Revised Treaties. The Foreign Office, would resolutely pursue a fixed policy in the discharge of its functions, and the Count was desirous that his hearers should keep these various points in view, and apply themselves energetically to development of business.

Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Shibusawa also delivered speeches, and the following topics were an-

nounced for discussion, the first only being taken up that day :—

No. 1.—TO DESPATCH EXPERTS TO MAKE SURVEYS OF THE ROUTES LEADING INLAND FROM THE YANGTSÉ-KIANG, CHINA.

The Yangtsé-Kiang is a large river running through the most prosperous district of China. Shanghai is situated near its mouth, while five inland ports already opened for foreign commerce, and two others newly opened in virtue of the Shimosenki Treaty, lie along the banks. Between the mouth and Ichang several companies established by either natives or foreigners are engaged in various businesses, and steamers ply up and down the river. From Ichang to Chung-king, however, a steam service is not yet established, though, in virtue of the same Treaty, Japan is entitled to open a service. The business offering must prove very profitable, and though natural as well as artificial obstacles exist, they need not prove deterrent. It is conceivable, therefore, that the benefits to be secured from the Treaty concessions may not be fully obtained until thorough researches have been carried out by competent experts along this special route.

No. 2.—MONETARY MECHANISM ABROAD.

Foreign trade can not be satisfactorily developed unless proper monetary mechanism be established abroad. In view of this consideration the Government is urging the Specie Bank of Yokohama to extend the scope of its business and to increase the number of its branch offices or agencies in foreign countries. But that does not seem to satisfy public requirements, judging from representations repeatedly made to the Authorities on the subject of insufficient financial facilities for Japanese in the West. The opinions of the Council on the proper methods of satisfying this public need are requested.

No. 3.—TO ESTABLISH BONDED WAREHOUSES, SUBJECT TO THE CONTROL OF THE CUSTOMS.

The establishment of Warehouses of such a character that commodities stored there may be exempted temporarily from payment of import duties, and to arrange that these Warehouses may issue to owners of goods warehouse receipts which if necessary can be used for raising money, the Warehouses being under the control of the Customs, could not fail to prove highly beneficial to foreign trade. The opinion of the Council on this subject is requested.

No. 4.—TO EXPAND THE MARKETS FOR STAPLES OF EXPORT.

Though the export trade of Japan shows steady growth, it is not yet so far developed that Japanese goods are sent to all the important markets of the world. If, occasionally, access is obtained to a new market, it is, as a rule, soon closed against Japanese goods. This serious defect in the foreign trade of Japan is generally traceable to the sale of shoddy goods at high prices, or to the fact that consumers in foreign countries are not well informed about the real worth and cost of Japanese goods. To correct that defect, it seems desirable to exhibit samples of Japanese commodities free of charge at Japanese Consulates, public or private museums, chambers of commerce, and trustworthy stores kept by Japanese or aliens, and to make the places of exhibition serve for the direct purchase of Japanese goods by foreigners. The opinions of the Council as to the advisability of this plan, and if so, the methods of carrying it out, are requested.

No. 5.—ABOUT FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Japanese Consulates stationed abroad are required to report constantly on the condition of the markets and so forth, these reports affording no small benefit to Japanese merchants and producers. However, in view of the steady progress of Japan's foreign trade, more prompt and perfect means of providing intelligence are deemed necessary. What methods would be best adapted for the purpose?

No. 6.—MARINE INSURANCE.

In expanding foreign trade the three mechanisms of steam, marine insurance, and banking service must be properly provided. The Japanese Marine Insurance Companies chiefly confine themselves to insuring cargo and ships engaged in the coasting trade, and leave those connected with foreign trade to the care of foreign marine insurance companies, a fact that cannot fail to impede transactions of foreign trade to no small extent. What processes should be devised for developing Japanese marine insurance business with special reference to foreign trade?

No. 7.—CONTROL AND PROTECTION OF MECHANICS.

With the development of Japan's industry the old method of household manufacture must sooner or later give way to factory systems. It is therefore advisable at this juncture to devise means for

maintaining cordial relations between employers and employed and to preserve the proper balance between labour and capital, to the end that the interests of the two classes may be permanently preserved and the creation of troubles may be provided against. To what extent may contrivances of the kind be devised and by what processes?

BANKS.

The 15th National (Peer's) Bank held an extraordinary meeting a few days ago at the Young Men's Christian Association building, Mitoshicho, Tokyo, to discuss its future programme after the expiration of its charter on May 20th, 1897. A resolution was adopted to continue the Bank's business in the capacity of a joint-stock bank, in accordance with the provisions of the Law relating to Banks whose charters have expired. The capital is to be 18 million yen, of which 17,826,100 yen will be taken from the present capital, and the remaining 173,900 yen will be raised from among the shareholders by a competitive process. It was further resolved to dispose of a sum of 33,380,000 yen, consisting of reserves and other assets, in the following way: 31,195,675 yen to be refunded to the shareholders borne on the books of the Bank on the day of winding-up business; 360,000 yen to be distributed as rewards to officers who have rendered meritorious services since the founding of the Bank, and the remaining 367,800 to be carried forward to the account of the new Bank.

The speech delivered on the above occasion by the President of the Bank was to this effect:—In 1876, at the instance of the late Prince Iwakura, the Bank was started with a capital of over 17 million yen, its primary objects being to furnish funds for redeeming the foreign debts of the country and for constructing railways. Civil war broke out in Kyushu at that juncture, and the Bank was induced to furnish a sum of over 15 million yen to the Government, to meet the pressing need of the State. Consequently, ordinary banking business was not transacted till 1883, when the Government amended the National Bank Regulations, and at the same time refunded to the Bank a sum of 5 million yen, so that it found itself in a position to undertake ordinary business. The Bank also extended help to the Nippon Railway Company started about that time, and the profits that accrued to both the Bank and the Company contributed so materially to the prosperity of the former that its total assets are now estimated at the great sum of over 54 million yen, or more than treble the capital originally invested. The gradual approach of the period when the Bank's charter expires, caused much anxiety to the Directors as to what course should be adopted at that time. They were of opinion that the charters of the National Banks should be prolonged, and they agitated in favour of that view. But such a plan failed to secure the approval of the Authorities, who issued a Law dealing in another manner with the affairs of the expiring National Banks. To dissolve such a large concern as the Fifteenth Bank would not only disturb the money market, but would at the same time subject the shareholders to great inconvenience, a result that ought to be provided against as carefully as possible, seeing that about two-thirds of the Bank's shares are incorporated into the family property of the shareholders. After mature deliberation, the Directors resolved to formulate the policy briefly propounded above, namely, that about two-thirds of the Bank's assets be distributed among the shareholders in the shape of Government bonds or shares of the Nippon Railway Company, so that no difficulty might be experienced in substituting those stocks for the shares of the Bank that formed part of the family property of the shareholders; and that the remaining assets be applied to continuing the business of the Bank on a new footing. This arrangement will be of benefit to the money market in general and to the shareholders in particular.

The charter of the pioneer National Bank of Japan, the First, has expired, and it has been continuing its business since the beginning of

the month as a joint-stock concern. In memorandum of the defunct Bank, and by way of introducing the newly born institution to public notice, Mr. Shibusawa, the President of the Bank, invited, on Saturday last more than five hundred distinguished personages to a garden party at his villa in the Oji suburb of Tokyo. An address delivered by the host on that occasion was to the following effect:—

The First National Bank was started on July 30th, 1873, and carried on business during a period of 23 years and 2 months, for though the prescribed duration of a National Bank's charter is only 20 years, according to the existing Regulations, the Bank was enabled to continue operations for 3 years and 2 months longer, under the old Bank Regulations. The economic world of Japan was in a miserable state before the founding of the Bank. It fact it may even be said that economic science did not exist prior to the Restoration, merchants and manufacturers were looked down upon by *Samurai* and officials as not differing much from beggars. In truth, trade and manual labour were scarcely distinguished. It was at such a time that, with the support of the millionaires of the day, as the Mitsui, the Ono, and the Shimada, and with the encouragement of the Government, the First Bank was started. But though duly established, the Bank was without any definite programme as to the business to be pursued. Moreover, as the Bank's notes were convertible into gold yen, it was extremely difficult to expand its business. Everything was in a very primitive state. For example, advances were made on land and buildings only, and the cost of transferring money to Osaka was not less than 1 per cent. Fixed and current deposits, correspondence with other banks, and the discounting of bills did not exist at all. In addition to transacting business entirely novel in Japan, the Bank had to discharge another important function, namely, that of elevating the status of business men and of asserting their rights. In the meanwhile, the collapse of the Ono and the Shimada Firms, the depreciation of the *fiat* currency, and the gradual depression that subsequently ensued, were among the troubles that the Bank had to encounter during its long and eventful career. Nevertheless, though lacking totally in experience, it succeeded in steering through these difficulties and in opening the route for its successors, a retrospect that may be regarded with some pride by the President and his associates. Mr. Shibusawa concluded his speech by recommending the new joint-stock bank to the goodwill of the public.

Baron Suyematsu made a short speech appropriate to the occasion on behalf of the guests.

STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE TREATIES.

A few years ago, we used to hear a great deal about the strict enforcement of the Treaties. It was a subject that evoked much unfavourable criticism from foreigners, and certainly did not tend to smoothe the relations between the Japanese and the strangers within their gates. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* now writes as though Count Okuma were about to revive the strict-enforcement idea, and there is a tone of evident exultation running through our contemporary's paragraph. We venture to predict, however, that no step taken by Count Okuma will be open to condemnation by fair-minded men. It is conceivable that necessity may be considered to exist for undertaking investigations into the conditions under which land is held by foreigners, or trade carried on, outside the Settlements, and if any infractions of the Treaties be discovered in the course of the inquiry, Count Okuma is certainly not the man to condone them. But such action would be taken only by way of preface to the time when the Revised Treaties will go into force, and would assuredly not be prompted by any notion of causing embarrassment or inconvenience to foreigners.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The decision of the Cabinet Ministers to dispense with police escorts is said to have been prompted by Count Kabayama. It is certainly unpleasantly suggestive to see every Minister of State attended by armed constables wherever he goes, and many attempts have been made by individual Ministers, from time to time, to get rid of these followers. The assassination of Mr. Okubo, Minister of State for Home Affairs, who met his death at Kioi-zaka in Tokyo many years ago, was the original cause of the precaution. Probably had that unfortunate, and most distinguished statesman been attended by an escort of any strength, he might have escaped, for the weapons used by his assailants were swords, and they dragged him from his carriage to accomplish their sanguinary purpose. But in these days of pistols and bombs, a couple of constables riding behind a Minister's carriage can scarcely afford effective protection, and, on the whole, the impression conveyed to onlookers is scarcely compensated by the additional safety provided. Of course the Emperor's sanction had to be sought before this step was taken, and it seems that His Majesty was not disposed to assent too readily, but, after all, he had no choice save to conclude that the Ministers knew what they were about. Journals opposed to the Government will of course represent this change as a sensational attempt to demonstrate publicly that the present Cabinet believes itself justified in relying solely upon popular sympathy.

For the purpose of conducting investigations preliminary to Administrative and other reforms, as referred to in the speeches addressed by the Minister President and the Minister of Home Affairs to the Local Governors, a committee of investigation has been appointed under the presidency of Count Okuma and the Vice-Presidency of Mr. Kionra. Among the members are the Vice-Ministers of State, the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and the Chief of the Legislative Bureau. It is interesting to recall the fact that during his tenure of office in 1888 and 1889, Count Okuma preside over a Committee appointed to conduct investigations with a view to Departmental reorganization.

The rumour, referred to in a recent issue, that for the purpose of avoiding misunderstandings between the Government and the people, the Premier intended to invite prominent publicists and business men to tea *reunions* several times each month, has proved correct. The first meeting of the kind was held on Thursday last at Count Matsukata's official residence.

The rise in the market price of commodities and the scarcity of hands in almost every line of business have furnished an excellent pretext to mechanics and workmen to demand increased wages, and to organize strikes when their demands are refused. About 3,000 persons engaged in carting coal at Moji recently abandoned their work, but were induced to resume it the next day, their employers having assented to an increase of wages.

On the same day that the Moji coal-heavers struck work, that is to say, on the 7th instant, more than 1,000 male and female operatives of the Owari Spinning Mill adopted a similar course. Numbers of the girl hands planned to escape secretly to Osaka, and though their design was detected, the mill is said to have been thrown into a state of great confusion. The issue of the complication is not yet announced.

The porters and plate-layers in the employ of the Kōbu Railway Company's Office at Idamachi Tokyo, also decided to strike, but the news reaching the ears of the officers of the Company, they succeeded in persuading the men to refrain from such a form of demonstration. A promise was given that the Company would deal fairly with the case.

On the receipt of a message from the Acting Japanese Consul in Hongkong, who was ordered, a short time ago, to proceed to Manila to inspect the state of affairs in that island, the

Foreign Office has decided not to despatch a war vessel thither. The message was to the effect that nothing particular had happened to the Japanese in the Philippine group.

That the Spanish Authorities in Manila instituted a strict watch over the Japanese living there was not unjustifiable, in view of the remarkable confidence reposed by the rebels in Japan. For instance, the insurgents importuned the two Japanese shops in Manila for a supply of arms and ammunition, declaring with confidence that 3,000 rifles and a corresponding quantity of ammunition would be enough to drive the Spaniards from the island and make it independent. Whenever a steamer arrived from Japan, the rebels showed immoderate joy, expecting that she would prove to be laden with arms.

We read in the *Yomiuri* that the Government, though resolved to effect retrenchments in Administrative expenses, will also take into consideration the condition of junior officials. For instance, they will be relieved from contributing a tenth portion of their salary towards the War-vessel-construction Fund, and their travelling allowances will be increased. Moreover, the Cabinet does not intend to adopt any indiscriminate system of reducing establishments and salaries. On the contrary, additions may possibly be made to both the numbers and the emoluments of really important officials in the various Departments.

Buddhist circles are considerably agitated in consequence of a pending lawsuit. The cause of the trouble lies in the alleged suppression of the fundamental maxims of the Myōmanji Branch of the Nichiren Sect by the Compilation Committee of the Buddhist polity. The Chief Abbot of that Branch preferred a complaint against the Lord Abbot of the Nishi Hongwan Temple, the President of the Committee, and four Committee-men, before the Tokyo Local Court. The case began on the 10th prox. The maxims in question are four in number, but are all so strongly abusive of the other sects, that the Committee considered their suppression absolutely necessary. However, the complaining party hold these maxims as the very essence of the Nichiren Sect, and allege that their suppression will undermine the very foundation of the Sect. The Party are therefore resolved to oppose their suppression by any means.

Negotiations between Japan and China as to the imposition of duty on goods manufactured in the interior of China, have been definitely settled on the basis of mutual concession. Article VI. of the Shimonoseki Treaty secured to Japan the right of free manufacture in the interior, but this was subsequently considered as scarcely conducive to the real interest of Japan, inasmuch as foreign countries, in virtue of the most favoured nation clause, would participate in the same right, and their subjects or citizens would start industrial enterprises in China, to the detriment of Japan's industrial prosperity. It was therefore decided, making advantage of China's desire to impose duties on commodities manufactured within her territory, to concede the point to China, and in return, to ask from that country more convenient concessions in the new Japanese settlements at the open ports, and so forth. Acting on instruction from the home Government, the Japanese Representative in Peking reopened negotiations with the Tsung-li Yamen on the 30th ult., that is, on the day on which the ratified copy of the Japan China Commercial Treaty was despatched by the Foreign Office to Baron Hayashi. The Baron eventually succeeded in carrying the point.

The above statement is taken from the vernacular press of Wednesday, and is supplemented by a fuller explanation in the *Yūji Shimpō* of the 23rd inst. The fact is that from the outset the question of taxing goods manufactured in China proved a bone of contention, and finally the Japanese Government agreed to conclude the new Treaty, leaving out any reference to taxation of that nature, but, at the same time,

premising that the omission was not to be construed prejudicially to any of the privileges embodied in the Shimonoseki Treaty. In truth, the Shimonoseki Treaty was explicit enough for all practical purposes, since it provided that goods manufactured by Japanese subjects in China should be placed on the same basis as imported articles. Feeling, doubtless, that their hands were thus tied as effectually as though a clause had actually been inserted in the new Treaty of friendship and commerce, the Chinese apparently re-opened the subject, and the Japanese Representative in Peking finally received instructions to accede to China's desire provided that a full equivalent could be obtained. The counter-proposals advanced by Baron Hayashi were that sites for Japanese Settlements should be allotted in Shanghai, Tientsin, Hankow, and Amoy, and that the export duty on raw cotton should be done away with. China demurred stoutly. She insisted that no land could be found for the desired concessions, and that at present she could not possibly afford to take any step tending to reduce her customs revenue. This latter plea the Japanese considered reasonable, but they adhered resolutely to the other stipulation, and China finally yielded. Thus the case stands that Japan has waived her Shimonoseki Treaty right in respect of the taxation of articles manufactured in China, and has obtained, in lieu of it, a promise of land for Japanese Settlements at the above four places. The ratifications of the new Treaty of Commerce and Amity were exchanged in Peking at 1 p.m. on the 20th inst.

According to official returns, mail matter dealt with by the Postal authorities during last year totalled 446,384,710 packets, exclusive of those coming from foreign post offices. This means that the people of Japan sent letters and packages at the rate of 10 per head during 1895. Compared with 1894, the figures show an increase of 13.7 per cent.

The allegations concerning seal poaching—about which so much has been written by the chauvinist papers of Japan—have been signally contradicted by Captain Togo, Commander of the Japanese war-ship *Musashi*, who started early this year to investigate the actual condition of affairs on the sealing grounds. The Captain ascertained that the principal homes of seals—animals that are very regular in their habits—are a series of small islands lying east of Kamchatka. Thence, about February of each year, the animals come down into the warmer currents to a spot about 1,000 leagues east of Awa and Kazusa. As the weather grows warmer, they return, making their way leisurely along, reaching the coast of Nemuro in the latter part of June. As above observed, seals are very regular in their habits; and the routes they take southward and northward, and the seasons of their travels are generally uniform. The so-called "poachers" put in at Ogasawara-jima about the beginning of February, to ship supplies, and then follow the seals as far as the coast of Hokkaido. By the end of June the speed of the seals suddenly accelerates, and the sealers give up the chase, and call at Hakodate. Even when the seals approach nearest the coast of Japan, the distance between them and the shores ranges between 10 to 30 miles, and if the limit of territorial waters be accepted as eight miles, the sealers do not come within Japan's waters at all. They pursue their occupation on the high seas. Japan need therefore concern herself no longer about the alleged encroachment of "foreign poachers," but should rather apply herself to entering into fair competition with them on the high seas.

A coal bed recently discovered by Mr. Yoshiwara, a graduate of the Engineering College of the Imperial University, and others, at Miyagun, Yamaguchi Prefecture, is reported as being a very valuable addition to the coal measures of Japan. The vein extends for 10 miles and contains some 50 seams, varying in thickness from 3 to 14 feet. The coal is of a smokeless quality. The discoverers aver that one million tons can be extracted there within 30 years.

ECONOMIC TOPICS.

The depression from which the Japanese export trade has lately been suffering is gradually passing away. We have already referred to the revival in the silk market. This has since been followed by a spurt in the tea market, and is undoubtedly due to the improved prospects of Mr. McKinley in the Presidential election, as well as to certain tariff measures mooted by the Canadian Parliament. Be the cause what it may, the tea market has undergone a favourable turn, and all the leaf produced in Shizuoka, the largest tea centre in Japan, has been bought up by merchants of Yokohama and Kobe, so that Yokohama middle-men are now sending agents to Ise to obtain supplies there. However, tea of a superior quality is not in demand either at Yokohama or Kobe. It is said that the possibility of an additional tariff on tea being carried through the Canadian Parliament has accelerated the export of the staple to America. A general meeting of the Tea Guild of Japan was held on the 11th and 12th inst., at Tsu, Ise, the meeting being attended by more than 150 members. Mr. Otani Kahei, of Yokohama, was in the chair. It was proposed by certain members that an application should be forwarded to the Central Authorities for a grant of 700,000 yen, to be spread over 10 years. This amount was thought insufficient by others, it being urged that the most formidable rivals of Japanese tea, the Ceylon and Indian growers, spend 200,000 yen a year on pushing their production in the American market alone. An amendment was therefore proposed in the sense that subsidies of 1,750,000 yen be applied for. It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of a special committee.

The matting trade has revived somewhat. It is stated that all the inferior matting was cleared from Kobe by the end of last month, and that the demand for superior goods is now steadily advancing. The disposal of the shoddy goods is attributed by the Kobe correspondent of the *Nippon* to resident merchants attempting to open up new channels for Japanese mattings and to their having sent the goods as samples to those markets. A curious way of canvassing for custom, in truth?

The spinning mills of Osaka are suffering from scarcity of hands and a consequent rise in wages. Wages went up 7 per cent. during the first half of 1896, as compared with wages in the preceding half-year. This rise has apparently affected the profits of the mills, for in spite of the establishment of six or seven mills during the first half of the year, the total profits show a diminution of about 100,000 yen as compared with the result of the preceding half-year. The mill owners of Osaka are so perplexed at the insufficiency of hands that they are doing everything in their power to prevent their girls from leaving, while holding out special inducements to new hands. For instance, they now provide their mechanics with houses at cheap rentals, and reduce that rental according to the number of hands supplied by each family.

The Kobe Silk Exchange is in danger of being declared illegal. This is due to an accusation preferred by certain business men in Kobe, who say that the projectors, in applying for the issue of a charter, fraudulently represented their project; stating that they were dealers in silk goods, whereas they are dealers in waste silk only. The case is now before the Kobe District Court.

Two wholesale paper merchants of Tokyo have been declared insolvent by the Tokyo Local Court as a result of a petition of the Commercial Bank, one of their creditors. This is the first notable instance of the kind in Tokyo.

The *Zamashime Maru* (2,285 tons) belonging to Mr. Fukunaga, of Osaka, lately running between Osaka and Naoetsu, was cast on to the shore off Naoetsu during the late storm. All cargo was taken out safely, but the damage the vessel sustained is said to be beyond repair.

ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE DAY.

It appears to be now generally concluded that the embarrassments by which several petty banks in Osaka and merchants in Kwanto were recently overtaken, will not involve any serious consequences, but may rather be regarded as auguring well for the future stability of economic affairs. The current Japanese saying, "after rain the soil grows firm" is appositely applied to the incident. For by putting the banks and traders generally on their guard, it has served to avert any crisis of a more serious nature. The collapse of the Banks in the Keihan districts was indeed a foregone conclusion. They were of the frailest description. They aimed at reaping profit by offering high interest to depositors and advancing the money thus obtained to untrustworthy creditors on easy terms. Not that they were ignorant of the real condition of the borrowers. They knew well that these were merely speculators and stock jobbers with whom Banks of old standing had refused to transact business. None the less they deliberately took the risk of advancing money to such persons on the security of "potential shares" and other equally questionable stock. A slight tightness of the money market and a fall in stocks and shares, especially "potential shares," at once dislocated the operations of these banks, and as their equilibrium had always been unstable, they speedily toppled over. The run that has naturally been caused by the alarm thus engendered may lead to the fall of other frail banks, but when all such speculative concerns have been swept out of existence, sound business will go on more prosperously than ever.

The cause or causes of these temporary ripples that have appeared upon the surface of the market are variously explained by leading economists and bankers, whom representatives of the *Fiji Shimpō* have interviewed very opportunely. Mr. Taguchi, a member of the Diet and Editor of the *Tokyo Economist*, ascribes the panic to an excessive issue of convertible notes by the Nippon Ginko. The volume of notes in circulation to-day, as compared with that for the corresponding period of 1887, shows an increase of more than 40 million yen. Meanwhile, the market prices of commodities have gone steadily upward, a very seductive state of affairs to business men, and the wholesale cotton-goods merchants of Tokyo, who are now in distress, unable to resist the temptation, proceeded to increase their stocks in trade, paying for them with promissory notes. Unfortunately, inundations repeatedly visited various districts, interrupting railway traffic and inflicting heavy losses on the people. Thus the goods laid in by these merchants failed to find purchasers. At the same time, the excessive issue of notes tended to disturb the money market and to raise the interest on money. The promissory notes that the merchants had issued beyond their means failed to circulate, and embarrassment at once overtook their issuers.

As to railway schemes, Mr. Taguchi is of opinion that only a portion of the countless projects now afoot will be carried into practice, and therefore no economic trouble need be apprehended from that direction. Probably no greater source of danger exists than the savings banks. In the eighth session of the Diet a change was effected in the Bank Regulations: they became empowered to invest the capital in stocks. Consequently, whenever stocks fall depositors at once feel uneasy about their money in the banks. Mr. Taguchi does not pretend to assert positively that the ruin of the Osaka Savings Bank was ascribable to the recent fall in all kinds of securities, but whatever many have been the real cause, the restoration of the Regulations to their original form is urgently needed.

The present trouble is traceable, according to certain bankers of high standing, to financial events immediately subsequent to the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula. Whether owing to the special request of the Government or acting on its own judgment, the Bank of Japan, while the public expected to find money

grow tight, suddenly lowered its rate of interest, as if to inform people that nothing need be apprehended about the future of the market, and as if to impress upon them that accommodation could be procured to any desired extent. Encouraged by this confident attitude of the Bank, enterprises began to be started at an alarming rate, and hence the reaction now felt.

Without reflecting so severely on the action of the Government or of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Shibuzawa also is inclined to attribute the economic trouble to an excessive spirit of enterprise. He caused the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, of which he is President, to investigate the number of enterprises of all descriptions in June and December of last year, as well as in June of this year, and at the date when that investigation was carried out, namely the 17th of September. In June of last year the sums invested in banks, railways, and companies totalled 330 million yen; it increased to 410 millions at the end of the year; in June of the current year the figure rose to 537 millions; and at the date of the investigation it had reached 593 millions. These figures related to mercantile and manufacturing corporations actually carrying on business. Account must also be taken of enterprises for which temporary charters had been granted or for which charters had been solicited but not yet granted. Corporations of this tentative character counted 544, representing a total investment of 479 million yen. The two totals aggregated over 1,000 million yen. Mr. Shibuzawa is of opinion that these investments are in great part premature, and that a reaction of more or less gravity could not fail to follow such a state of affairs. As to whether a greater disturbance than the present will overtake economic circles, Mr. Shibuzawa does not pronounce any definite opinion, though he regards the present trouble as a very small affair, one not worthy to be considered in the light of a reaction. None the less, the embarrassments that has overtaken certain petty banks in Osaka are proximately due to the action of various companies in calling up installments on their shares. Railway companies alone have called in nearly 15 million yen since August. Petty Banks at once feel a pinch on such occasions. Mr. Shibuzawa concludes that large banks must not be too much on their guard, for that might have the effect of aggravating the evil.

THE CODES.

"For a reason that is not apparent much discussion is attempted to be forced on the question of the ownership of land under the new Codes. Seeing that these Codes have not yet, or only partially, been promulgated, and perhaps never will be in their present form, all controversy must be somewhat premature." Thus the *Japan Gazette*. What our contemporary means, we are unable to determine. The whole of the new Civil Code, with the exception of the sections on family law and succession, was passed by the Diet last session, after undergoing thorough revision at the hands of a Committee of experts appointed four years ago; received Imperial sanction almost immediately afterwards, and was duly promulgated on the 27th of last April. It has not yet gone into operation, but the power to put it into operation at any moment is explicitly vested in the Government. The *Gazette* appears to be labouring under a delusion. It may, perhaps, seek to justify its misstatement by pretexting that the parts of the Codes bearing on family law and succession have not yet been promulgated. But that would be a mere subterfuge, for the discussion that elicited the *Gazette's* criticism and is denounced by it as premature was, according to its own statement, a discussion about the ownership of land, and the 724 articles promulgated last April cover that whole subject. The only conceivable explanation of the *Gazette's* singular assertion is that it knows nothing about the history of the Civil Codes career, or about the fact that 724 articles were promulgated last April.

BUSINESS MEN AND POLITICAL PARTIES.

"If the full scope of constitutional systems is to be realized, political parties must be perfected, and to make political parties perfect, the only course is to bring them into closer touch with the people by making business men their foundation." Such is the view taken by the *Kokumin Shimbun*. It recalls the curious fact that business men in Japan have always stood, for the most part, outside the ranks of political parties. There are a few exceptions of course. Mr. Tanaka Shozo, for example, is a business man, and so was the genial, large-minded Mr. Awaya Shinazo, who did as much to bring credit on the House of Representatives as Mr. Tanaka has done to disgrace it. Besides, Mr. Awaya did not stand in the interests of any party, but was always an independent member. The agricultural class is, of course, pretty fully represented in the Lower House, and many of its representatives belong to the Liberal Party. But the genuine business men, the *Futsugyo-ka*, that entered the political field after the first dissolution of the Diet, have remained from the outset a separate group, not allying themselves with any party or voting uniformly for any Cabinet's measures. It must be fresh in the memory of our readers that the Opposition Journals used to make a habit of abusing these *Futsugyo-ka*, calling them "official traders," "sycophants," and other unpleasant names. A strange phase of political prejudice, in truth, worthy to be classed with the unreasoning antipathy that held up to public scorn and detestation everything official and made members of the Diet ashamed to own themselves Government supporters. Apparently a wiser mood is beginning to prevail to-day, and the change gathers significance from the fact that a journal like the *Kokumin* takes the lead in advocating it.

The same journal has another striking paragraph:—"A special species of government organized outside political parties and outside the people, is not good. The elders of Sat-cho and the Ministers of long standing must be brought into the ranks of political parties. Let Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu join the Liberals; Marquis Yamagata and Mr. Shirane, the National Unionists; Counts Matsukata, Okuma, and Kabayama and Viscount Takashima, the *Shimpo-to*. For the rest, they can ally themselves with whatever party suits them. That is the way to place governmental organization upon clear lines." Such a paragraph is interesting and suggestive. Interesting because it has long been apparent to every thoughtful person, and has over and over again been pointed out in these columns, that so long as the *Meiji* statesmen held together and stood entirely outside political parties, the latter could never develop competence to take over the Administration. An essential preliminary to the raising of political parties to a status such as should qualify them to destroy and construct Cabinets, was that they must absorb into their ranks the men whose record as administrators had taught the nation to trust them with the control of affairs. It was all very well to call those men "clan statesmen;" to pretend that they suffered themselves to be enslaved by personal considerations, and to gibbet them as corrupt administrators, misapplying the country's resources and obstructing the path of progress. But the very agitators who thus reviled them knew well that without their co-operation no efficient or tolerably stable Ministry could be formed, and apparently the time has now come for proclaiming that knowledge once so carefully hidden. The *Meiji* statesmen themselves, reading such paragraphs, ought to be reminded that union in their case meant absolute mastery of the situation. Had they stood together, they might have deferred the era of party Cabinets as long as they pleased, and if, suffering themselves to be torn apart by minor differences, they have dissipated their power to postpone such a radical innovation until the nation was fully prepared for it, history will hold them responsible.

THE CABINET.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* hints very plainly that discord already threatens the Cabinet. One of the Ministers, we are told, is not such a man as the public would have indicated for a portfolio had choice been possible, and if he obtained admission, it was because matters distinct from mere competence or fitness had to be considered. His transfer to some other post is therefore a question of time merely. All this is very mysterious, but we presume that our contemporary has some reason for its assertions.

With respect to the above, the *Chuo* undertakes to name the Minister referred to, whom it declares to be Viscount Enomoto, who holds the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. But the same journal adds that if Viscount Enomoto retires, it will not be on account of any dissension in the Cabinet. From the outset the Viscount's agreement to serve in the new Ministry was not of a permanent character: it was understood that he would be ready to resign his portfolio at any time should such a course be found convenient by the Cabinet. The *Chuo* apparently thinks that the convenient time has now come, for it says that either Count Goto or Baron Yasuba will probably be appointed. We doubt the correctness of the *Chuo's* information if only for the reason that the state of Count Goto's health would certainly not permit him to re-enter public life at present. The Count has been suffering for some time from cardiac trouble that forbids any attempt to discharge active duties.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The National Unionists are reported to have resolved that for the present, they will not adopt any decided attitude towards the policy announced by the new Cabinet, since the principles enunciated not only seem to accord with those hitherto professed by the Unionists themselves, but also do not differ perceptibly from the platform of the last Cabinet. The question turns, therefore, on the Cabinet's method of putting its professions into practice, and for that result the Unionists must wait. The fact is that the present Ministry, if they play their cards skilfully, may attain a very strong position. They are morally sure of the support of the *Shimpo-to*. Whatever disposition to coquet with the situation may be displayed by the leaders of that party, or however much they may hold back on the pretext of desiring to retain independence of criticism, they will assuredly be found in the Government's camp when the session of the Diet opens. On the other hand, if the Cabinet moulds its administrative and financial programmes on virtually the same lines as those chosen by the Ito Cabinet—and there is little room for it to do otherwise—the Liberals can hardly offer any serious opposition. Such appears to be the forecast of the best informed persons just now, but a very different view may prevail two months hence.

REDEMPTION OF BONDS.

The Department of Finance announces the redemption of the remaining portion—namely, 3,119,150 *yen*—of the New Four-per-cent Public Loan Bonds, the redemption to be effected on the 31st instant. These bonds are among the longest outstanding of Japan's public obligations. At the time of abolishing the fiefs (*han*) and establishing prefectures (*ken*) in their stead, the Central Government found itself compelled to take over all the debts contracted by the fiefs. Of these debts some dated from pre-*Meiji* days, and the rest from the period between the beginning of the *Meiji* era and the 7th month of its fourth year. The bonds issued to cover the former debts were called "Old," and those issued to cover the latter, "New." The New Bonds originally aggregated 12,418,175 *yen*, but they have been gradually redeemed with the exception of the remnant mentioned above, which will now disappear from the market.

WEAKNESS IN THE CABINET.

Public expectation that the present Cabinet can enjoy but a short tenure of office is not unlikely to be fulfilled, observes the *Yiji*, judging from the part thus far played by the Ministry. The entry of Count Okuma under ambiguous circumstances, the announcement of the "policy" by the Premier in highly abstract sentences, and the glaring discrepancy that exists between Count Kabayama's alleged speech before the Local Governors on the question of Cabinet responsibility and the speech officially published—these are points that induce the *Yiji* to form this adverse opinion regarding the new Ministry. Where lies the root of the trouble? The *Yiji* replies, through the medium of a certain anonymous publicist, that the want of an influential centre and the lack of perfect unanimity among the members of the Cabinet must be considered as the principal causes that obstruct resolute and prompt action. Who is the centre, the pivot, of the new Cabinet? Ostensibly Count Matsukata occupies that position, while practically Count Okuma or Count Kabayama or even Marquis Saigo and Viscount Takashima are the men of influence. The late Cabinet was open to the criticism of being deficient in men of ability and talent, but in one respect it was far better than its successor. The last Ministry moved harmoniously around the person of Marquis Ito. The new Ministry being, as it were, a heterogeneous group, different and sometimes quite contradictory opinions naturally rise whenever any question of importance is on the *tapis*, and a long time is wasted before a definite conclusion can be arrived at. The want of a pivot not being easily remediable under the circumstances, what the Ministry should strive to attain is cordial unity among themselves, and the elimination of any who interfere with their procedure. At least Counts Matsukata, Okuma, Kabayama, Marquis Saigo, and Viscount Takashima should strive for uniformity of view. If any of these statesmen cannot endorse the views of the rest, he should resolutely sever his connection with the Cabinet. As things stand, the Cabinet affords pretexts for attack.

INDUSTRIAL LOAN BONDS.

The Government's failure to float the last instalment of the War Loan naturally inspires anxiety about the fate of the Public Undertakings Bonds that have to be issued during the present fiscal year, to the amount of 8,370,000 *yen*. In the present state of the money market, it would obviously be unwise to attempt any issue of the Bonds. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, referring to the subject, says that as the money to be raised is not immediately required, the Treasury may possibly defer any action until the close of this year or the beginning of next, since the law leaves the choice of time entirely to the discretion of the Minister of Finance within the limits of the fiscal period ending March 31st, 1897. It is also conceivable that the money accumulated with the object of redeeming loan bonds or consols already issued may be utilized in this difficulty, though as to the details of such a transaction our contemporary is not very explicit. To us it appears that the limited amount of capital at Japan's disposal has been turned over about as often as it will bear to be turned. How so much has already been done with it is an enigma. The total of the contemplated Public Undertakings loan is 130 million *yen*, and it will surprise us very much if such a sum can be spared by the people.

GOVERNMENT BILLS NEXT SESSION.

The *Chuo* professes to have information of the principal bills that will be submitted by the Government to the Diet next session. They will be the remaining part of the Revised Civil Code, the Registration Law, the Revised Criminal Code, and the Forestry Law. Many other drafts of law will be introduced by the Departments of State, but they will be of minor importance.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

AMONG the fiscal measures submitted by the Government to the Diet last session, and approved by that body, perhaps the most important and interesting was the scheme for establishing an official monopoly of the sale of leaf-tobacco. Similar means of raising a revenue are employed in other countries, as France, Turkey, Austria, and so forth, but the conditions existing in Japan are so different that the plan to be applied here must also vary, and in view of that fact, as well as of the magnitude of the financial issue involved—an addition of ten million *yen* annually to the Public Funds—the Government's proposals have undergone considerable scrutiny since they received the approval of the Legislature and the sanction of the SOVEREIGN. The result of the scrutiny appears to be distinctly unfavourable, for reasons so obvious that their public discussion presents no difficulty. Briefly stated, the programme is this:—All tobacco-leaf grown in the country is to be delivered to the Government at prices fixed by the latter, who will then store it and subsequently sell it at specified rates to manufacturers and others. Growers, or intending growers, are required to send in, by the end of April each year, notices of the area of land to be devoted to cultivation, and must obtain official permission; for the Government, in order to regulate the supply of leaf, reserves to itself competence to limit the area of cultivation. The delivery of the leaf into the Government's stores is to be effected by the end of March, every year. A grower is not permitted to keep back any part of his produce, whether for his own use or for sale, unless he intends to export the leaf, in which case he can obtain a permit exempting him from the obligation of selling the tobacco to the Government. It is further provided that the collection and purchase of the leaves will be effected by special offices established at convenient places throughout the country. The system will go into force from January 1st, 1898, and from the same date the existing Tobacco Tax Regulations will cease to be operative, so that the sale of manufactured tobacco will thenceforth be conducted without the use of stamps.

Such are the salient features of the programme. By it the Government becomes, in effect, a colossal trader in leaf-tobacco, and engages in the operations of buying and selling that staple to the full extent of its production throughout the whole empire. Obviously two things are indispensable to a merchant undertaking business on such a scale; the first is capital; the second expert knowledge. As to the former, the Government, having free access to the public funds, can command whatever amount is required. But there can be no question that the smaller the capital sum involved in the operation the better for the interests of the Treasury.

It is not difficult to estimate, with close approximation to the truth, the amount that must be expended at the outset, but before proceeding to arithmetic, there will be advantage in examining some other phases of the question. The expert knowledge available for the purposes of the buyers offers itself for consideration in the first place. Japanese tobacco, varies greatly in quality, no two years giving like results, and, moreover, presents an exceptional number of kinds. More than eighty different varieties are recognised by dealers, their values ranging from 4 *yen* to 40 *yen* per picul. Obviously the Government will require experts competent to judge and assess all these different kinds, and on the capability of the experts will virtually depend the success or failure of the scheme. The Government, it is alleged, does not command the services of such experts, and certainly it can not hope to train them, for, in the first place, tobacco is one of the most difficult of all articles to judge; and, in the second, competent experts will be required from the very outset, for, on January 1st, 1898, the Government will have to buy all the stock of tobacco leaf then found in the country. A huge transaction it will be. The annual produce of the leaf in Japan averages twelve hundred thousand piculs, and as there will certainly be one-third of the stock of 1897 remaining unmanufactured at the beginning of 1898, the total amount to be purchased will be sixteen hundred thousand piculs.

The next point of importance is that Japanese tobacco is eminently liable to deterioration. The damage may come at any time, but is most to be apprehended shortly after the leaf is baled. Loss from that source may be limited by careful attention, but can not be altogether prevented, and may be moderately estimated at from 20 to 25 per cent. That item must, of course, be included in any general statement of the enterprise's accounts. Moreover, on the Government will devolve the duty of preserving equilibrium between supply and demand, the natural law being supplanted by official control. A large surplus of stock in hand would mean certain loss, for Japanese tobacco does not improve by keeping, but deteriorates in colour and quality alike. The opinion of persons thoroughly competent to judge is that, under ordinary circumstances, the proposed system will result in a yearly accumulation of damaged and unsalable leaf, and the accumulation growing steadily, will at last eat up the capital originally invested. In this context it must be remembered that there is no export outlet of any consequence. England is the only market open to the Japanese product, and English manufacturers consume only some 7,000 bales (14,000 piculs) yearly, out of an estimated production of 1,200,000 piculs. To the radical defects of the system, must be added another of a

scarcely less serious character. It might naturally have been supposed that, in organizing a monopoly, every possible precaution would have been adopted to prevent leakage of revenue, already a source of considerable loss under the present stamp-tax system. But we find, on the contrary, that one of the most vital safeguards is neglected. For anybody is allowed to buy leaf-tobacco from the Government, and of course to re-sell it, a wide gate being thus opened for illicit dealing and smuggling. The only persons debarred from purchasing are the growers, but it is easy to foresee that combinations of the simplest character between growers and non-growers will provide a ready route for evading the law. A grower may keep back a large part of his produce, acting in collusion with a non-grower, and the latter, having purchased a small quantity of leaf from an official store, will be in a position to incorporate it with the former's illicitly retained produce. These dangers might have been avoided by providing that no leaf should leave the Government's hands unless its immediate destination was a factory, but no such precaution seems to have occurred to the drafters of the scheme. Moreover, by allowing transactions in leaf-tobacco, the Authorities have cut themselves off from the source whence they might have obtained a supply of expert advice, namely, tobacco merchants and middlemen with whom all the experience lies. These will be arrayed against the official monopolist, since it will naturally be their interest to buy all the best leaf from the Government's warehouses and leave the rubbish. Indeed, it is, we believe, precisely from the experts that the most unfavourable predictions come about the working of the scheme.

Referring now to the outlay that will be required to work the monopoly as planned by the Government, to raise a revenue of 10,000,000 *yen* annually the figures seem to stand thus:—

Cost of purchasing 1,600,000 piculs <i>YAN.</i> (being the stock remaining from 1897 together with the new crop of 1898), at 8 <i>yen</i> per picul.....	12,800,000
Cost of erecting store-houses.....	1,000,000
Total	13,800,000
Interest on working capital at 5 per cent.	690,000
Working expenses, calculated at 7½ per cent. of ten million <i>yen</i>	750,000
Annual loss by damage and dead stock, calculated at 25 per cent. on a yearly production of 1,200,000 piculs at 8 <i>yen</i> per picul	2,400,000
Total annual outlay	3,840,000

or nearly 40 % of the revenue.

This calculation is made on the hypotheses that capable experts are obtainable, and that the tobacco-leaves when sold have the same weight as when purchased by the Government. But, in practice, the latter supposition would prove untenable, for a loss in weight of at least 15 per cent., and sometimes as much as 30 per cent., must be anticipated.

It seems impossible to predict anything

but failure for such a plan as the above. The drafters of the measure do not appear to have paid sufficient attention to the experience of other countries, where tobacco is turned into a special source of State revenue. It is true that France has a *régie*, or monopoly, but she retains the leaf and undertakes the task of manufacturing it; and as she grows little herself, relying chiefly on outside sources, she has no difficulty in preserving equilibrium between supply and demand. The same is true of Austria and Italy, and as for Turkey, she farms her tobacco to a company, imports little, and has a large export to all parts of the world. In short, Japan's case is differentiated from the cases of all other States practising the monopoly system by the fact that, while they either obtain their supply from abroad or export their surplus, she is without any such safety-valve. There is still time to reconsider the subject, and possibly these comments may contribute something to its better understanding.

"THE DOLLAR OF THE FATHERS."

(COMMUNICATED.)

NO previous Presidential contest in the United States has commanded such profound interest throughout the civilized world as the extraordinary campaign now in progress. The result of the election, next month, is awaited by all nations with an anxiety which can be accounted for only by the general conviction that the young Republic may presently be exposed to perils greater than have ever before overshadowed its career, and more difficult to surmount than even the exhausting ordeals of the civil war. To what extent these extreme apprehensions are justified is a question which cautious observers hesitate to discuss. That the situation is grave, and in many respects ominous, few are disposed to deny; but the materials for forming a decisive judgment have yet to be collected, and most of the arguments thus far produced seem based rather upon unsupported assumptions than upon sound demonstrations. The crisis has been suddenly and unexpectedly precipitated by the party leaders in America, and the various circumstances which have contributed to hasten its development are by no means fully comprehended, except, perhaps, by financiers who have had opportunities of studying events at close range for the past twenty years. Not many persons, outside of the circles most directly concerned, can pretend to be familiar with all the complications through which the silver agitation has reached its latest acute stage, and the statistical data essential to a thorough investigation are almost entirely out of reach. Especially as regards recent occurrences, we are unable to apply satisfactory tests to the daring assertions in which the opposing politicians frequently indulge. It hap-

pens, however, that evidence bearing upon the earlier history of silver in America is more easily accessible; and, as the condition of affairs at the foundation of the country is referred to with apparently boundless confidence by both parties to the controversy, it may be useful to cite one of the most significant opinions proclaimed a century ago by the financial authorities to whom the duty of establishing the national currency was entrusted. From the speeches which the principal orators on both sides are now delivering, it appears that the Democrats and their allies claim to be sustained by the example and doctrine of "the fathers," whose fundamental theories they profess to revive in the scheme for enforcing a silver and gold ratio of "sixteen to one." The Republicans, on the other hand, and those who co-operate with them, strenuously deny that any such principle as that of a fixed and unalterable proportion was sanctioned by the framers of the Constitution. It is not our purpose to offer comments upon the testimony supplied by the documents of the past, but merely to extract from them certain passages the pertinence of which is obvious, and the authenticity of which, we believe, is nowhere disputed.

Long before the actual work of compiling the Constitution was taken in hand, eminent experts in economy were busy with preliminary studies. The writings of ALEXANDER HAMILTON, ROBERT MORRIS, THOMAS JEFFERSON, and their associates, show how carefully they weighed not only the necessities of the time, but also those of the years to come. In consequence of their recommendations, the minting of silver at the ratio of fifteen to one was ordered by Act of Congress in 1792. This measurement was then held to be accurate and just. But that it should be permanently and arbitrarily maintained, was not intended or contemplated. HAMILTON distinctly recognized the paramount advantages of the gold unit, though as the comparative values of the two metals had long been practically unvarying he believed that a double standard could be employed with safety. As Secretary of the Treasury, he officially declared that changes in the condition of silver were not unnaturally to be expected, and that these should be provided for by regulating the proportions between it and gold "with an eye to their average commercial value." These were his words:—"As long as gold, either from its intrinsic superiority as a metal, from its rarity, or from the prejudices of mankind, retains so considerable a preëminence in value over silver as it has hitherto had, a natural consequence of this seems to be that its condition will be more stationary. The revolutions, therefore, which may take place in the comparative value of gold and silver will be changes in the state of the latter rather than in that of the former."

"If, reasoning by analogy, it could be

affirmed that there is a physical probability of greater proportional increase in the quantity of silver than in that of gold, it would afford an additional reason for calculating on greater steadiness in the value of the latter."

"There can hardly be a better rule in any country for the legal, than the market, proportion. The presumption in such case is that each metal finds its true level according to its intrinsic utility in the general system of money operations."

JEFFERSON had already, in 1784, announced the same proposition, in still more emphatic terms. "The proportion between the values of gold and silver," he affirmed, "is a mercantile problem altogether." "Just principles will lead us to disregard legal proportion altogether; to inquire into the market price of gold in the several countries with which we shall principally be connected in commerce, and to take an average from them." In this spirit the laws governing the gradations of American currency were primarily laid down. The language of the men who prescribed these laws unmistakably indicates the intention that silver should first be coined at the rate of fifteen to one—that being its relationship to gold in 1792—and that the future proportion should be adjusted in accordance with the comparative commercial values ruling in the markets of the great body of nations. The necessity for such action was additionally illustrated by HAMILTON in the following statement:—"It is evident that, as often as a country which overrates either of the metals receives a payment in that metal, it gets a less actual quantity than it ought to do, or less than it would do if the rate was a just one." Furthermore, he held up a warning identical in purport with the principle of a well known and long accepted law:—"One consequence," he affirmed, "of overrating either metal, in respect to the other, is the banishment of the one that is undervalued."

The foresight of these masters of economic science was vindicated before the Republic had passed through its first half century. During JACKSON'S administration, a readjustment of proportions was imperatively demanded, and in the time of VAN BUREN the ratio established by Congress was a slight fraction less than sixteen to one. A few years later, the fluctuations of silver became the cause of such general inconvenience that the attempt to maintain its equality was given over, and in 1853 the white metal ceased to be a legal tender for more than five dollars. No legislative experiments in the direction of conferring upon it a definite value were thereafter undertaken until the period when the vast increase of production set in, about twenty-five years ago. The leading facts of what has happened since 1873 are in the remembrance of all who have occupied themselves with

the subject. Spasmodic efforts have been made to open the mints to silver on a gigantic scale, and laws have been enacted by which the inferior ore is made to stand on an absolute parity with gold, and to serve as a legal tender to any amount. The acceptance of silver dollars as the equivalent of gold dollars, notwithstanding a difference of nearly fifty per cent. in their true value, is compulsory upon the American people. The struggle of the silver advocates to secure unlimited free coinage has thus far failed, and the issue of the white dollars has been so restrained by law and by the prudent watchfulness of the Treasury officials that no violent derangement of the monetary system has yet manifested itself. But for the precautions observed by his Department, Secretary CARLISLE asserts that gold would already have been driven out of the country, and that public confidence in the ability of the Government to preserve the fictitious ratio would be completely overthrown. Now, however, the Democratic candidate for the Presidency calls upon the community to empower him to break down all barriers; to admit silver to the mints in unrestricted quantities, and to enforce the recognition of the manufactured tokens at an artificial valuation of double their true worth. In proposing these departures from usage and precedent, he and his companions profess to be inspired by the highest motives of integrity and morality. Startling as his premises are, and dizzy as the structures which he builds upon them appear to those who hold by the ancient safeguards, he undoubtedly carries with him numbers of voters who have been persuaded that their material interests will be advanced by the adoption of his "platform." That he should win their acquiescence on many points which they are unable to consider intelligently, need not excite surprise. When the masses lose their bearings altogether, adroit and ingenious leaders can often turn them whithersoever they choose. In this case, the Democrats are launched upon waters hitherto unknown and unexplored, without charts or soundings to help them in determining their course; and it is the way of the unreflecting to accept such pilotage as cheers them by lavish promises of speedy refuge in the pleasantest and most prosperous harbours. The vainest fallacies are sometimes difficult to refute, simply because they travel beyond the boundaries of human experience; and the multitude may be easily misled by audacious paradoxes against which no negative proof can be promptly brought. But the silver partisans attempt too much when they seek to gain adherents by representing that their policy is the same as that of the statesmen of 1792, and that the cherished object of their ambition is to restore the "dollar of the fathers" to a sure and lasting basis by carrying out the mandates of the Constitution. The express

avowals of the fathers themselves are too explicit to be thus distorted. It will not do to assume that popular credulity and ignorance have no limits whatever. That has been tried before, in American elections, with results not calculated to encourage repetitions of the experiment. The silver "dollar of the fathers" was regarded by the wisest of their own generation as a subsidiary piece of money, dependent in value upon the market price of the metal of which it was composed. If the dollar of the great-great-grand-children is to take a higher position, it must be through the employment of other methods than unchecked freedom of coinage and the fiat legislation of a single Government.

THE MARKET PRICE OF JAPANESE CONSOLS IN LONDON.

According to intelligence published by the vernacular press on the 16th instant and reproduced in these columns on the following day, arrangements had been completed for placing Japanese consols among the securities regularly quoted on the London market, but as to the price that they were likely to command, no news had yet been received. We now read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that a telegram reached the Specie Bank in Yokohama on the 17th instant, to the effect that a thousand-yen Consol was quoted at £105 15s., which, at the rate of exchange then ruling, meant 1,015.20 yen or a premium of 1.52 per cent. Seeing that the same Consols were quoted in Japan at a little below par, the London price is a decided improvement. But we entertain no doubt that if Japanese finance were better understood in England the quotation would be very different.

LADIES' VOLUNTEER SOCIETY.

A movement has been inaugurated by Viscountess Yagiu and others to form a Ladies' Volunteer Society for the purpose of raising a naval fund. It is believed that several millions of ladies will join, and that if each contributes not less than one *sen* monthly, a large total can soon be raised. Doubtless the spirit displayed by the promoters and their associates will prove very valuable, but when we observe that to get together the price of a second-class cruiser, every female in Japan, of whatever age or position, would have to join the association and contribute steadily for one year at the rate of a *sen* per month, it is difficult to be very sanguine about the practical results of the scheme. We wonder, too, whether the promoters have taken into account the heavy expenses involved in getting together these petty subscriptions. That factor has always proved fatal to the success of such programmes.

THE PROGRAMME OF NAVAL INCREASE.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpō* that, owing to financial considerations, the original programme of naval expansion has undergone some modification. It had been planned that all the important portions of the expansion should be completed in five years, but after much consultation between the Departments of Finance and the Navy, that period has been extended to seven years. The *Shogyo* explains, however, that this change of time will not at all affect the dimensions of the programme or impair its efficiency. On the contrary, by judicious discrimination between the parts needing speedy attention and those that may be slightly postponed without disadvantage, the new scheme will prove practically better than that submitted to the Diet and passed by it last session.

THE LIBERALS.

Journals like the *Yomiuri Shimbun* take some pains to demonstrate that the Liberals are extremely perplexed what attitude to assume at this juncture, and are vainly seeking some pretext to attack the Cabinet. The public are even invited to believe that the big party is threatened with the mood of indecision so often preluding disruption. Such suggestions are not likely to receive much practical attention. The Liberals are certainly displaying self-restraint. Their organs make no attempt to assault the Ministry, nor do they betray any disposition to adopt the destructive tactics pursued so inveterately by their former opponents. But they are very much alive, we imagine, though little *en evidence* for the moment, and it might be wiser for the *Yomiuri* and its allies to let them bide in peace.

O'TENTOSAMA LODGE INSTALLATION.

The annual installation meeting of the O'Tentosama Lodge, No. 1263, E.C., took place at the Masonic Temple on Saturday. A very large number of the Brethren were present, many coming down from Tokyo for the occasion. The installation of Bro. S. E. Unite, D.G.J.D., as W.M., was most impressively conducted by Wor. Bro. G. Hodges, D.G. Treas., Wor. Bro. H. Moss, Pres. of D.B.G.P. delivering the address to the Lodge. Wor. Bro. J. T. Griffin conducted the musical portion of the ceremonies, which were of an ornate character. The Worshipful Master having been duly installed, he invested his Officers as below:—

Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss	.....I.P.M.
Bro. A. B. Brown	.....S.W.
Bro. T. W. McIlraith	.....J.W.
Wor. Bro. H. Moss	.....Treasurer.
Wor. Bro. G. Hodges	.....Secretary.
Bro. Rev. A. R. Morgan	.....Chaplain.
Bro. J. B. Barrett	.....S.D.
Bro. F. C. Herli	.....J.D.
Wor. Bro. W. A. Crane	.....Organist
Bro. C. B. Clausen	.....I.G.
Bro. J. E. Beale	.....Steward.
Bro. N. Gordon Munro	.....Steward.
Bro. H. Ivison	.....Tyler.

After the ceremony, the Brethren adjourned to partake "of that nourishment which is called supper." Wor. Bro. S. E. Unite presided, being supported on his right and left by some dozen Past Masters of the English and Scotch constitutions. The first two toasts—"The Queen and the Craft," and "The Most Worshipful, H.R.H. the Grand Master and Officers of Grand Lodge"—were given by the W.M., who made allusions to the fact of Her Majesty having just entered upon the sixtieth year of her reign, and to the Prince of Wales having commenced his twenty-first year of office as Grand Master of English Freemasons. Both toasts were received with musical honours, the appropriate anthems to each being enthusiastically sung. Wor. Bro. Lea proposed "The R.W. the District Grand Master and Officers of D.G.L. Japan," to which Wor. Bro. H. Moss responded. Wor. Bro. Geo. Hodges proposed the toast of "The newly-installed Worshipful Master and his Officers," to which the W.M., S.W., and J.W. responded. This toast was accorded musical honours. Bro. A. B. Brown toasted "The Past Masters," to which Wor. Bro. Crane replied. "The Sister Constitutions and Visitors" was proposed by Wor. Bro. Retz—in the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of the I.P.M.—which was responded to by Wor. Bros. J. McDonald (Tokyo Lodge), H. W. Lea (Yokohama Lodge), and Andrew Patterson (Star in the East). The time-honoured toast of "the Mothers, Wives, Daughters, and Sisters of Masons" was proposed by the Junior Warden, and "the Tyler's Toast" was given by the W.M. During the evening songs were sung by Bros. Clarke, Corke, Eagling, and the W.M.; Wor. Bros. Griffin and Crane, and Bro. Dr. Munro gave one of Haydn's trios; Bro. Donnenburg contributed some musical selections, and other Brethren delivered recitations: a most enjoyable evening being spent.

KOREAN NEWS.

The editor of the *Sōul Independent* announces that from the 1st of January next his paper will cease to be bilingual, as it is at present, and that he will publish a four-page English journal and a four-page Korean journal separately. The rates of subscription will, of course, be correspondingly increased, the cost of the English paper becoming six dollars annually, instead of \$1.30, the remarkably low charge now made. This increase in the size and scope of the *Independent* will be welcomed, if we mistake not, by all residents in the Far East. Korea is the naughty child of the Orient, and the question whether coercion or conciliation will eventually have to be resorted to is so decidedly interesting that we want to learn as much as possible about the country and its doings.

The Department of Justice in Sōul evidently remains far beyond the reach of effective reform. Several prisoners are said to have been confined there for months, without undergoing any form of trial or even having a specific charge preferred against them.

A magistrate of Chung-san writes to the *Independent* a letter showing that even provincial folks in the peninsula have begun to appreciate the uses to which a public journal may be put. Since the incident will probably stand in history at the first of its kind to occur in Korea, we reproduce the letter, which, for its own sake indeed, deserves notice:—

DEAR SIR,—I consider your paper as not a friend of any special class of people but a friend to all those who are wronged and oppressed. I have a grievance against my superior the Governor of South Chung-Chong, and desire to publish my feelings in your valuable columns so that it may be known to the world. The Governor of South Chung-Chong re-established several unnecessary offices under his direction according to the old custom, and levied tax on the people for the purpose of maintaining these places. Such offices had been abolished by the law and the Government never made any appropriation for them. The Governor demanded the Magistrates under him to collect illegal revenue from the poor and helpless people in order to support these illegal institutions. I did not think it was my duty to obey his order, which is illegal, so I refused to comply with his demands. The Governor charged me with insubordination and reported to the Home Department to that effect. I want no favour from any body, but I court a thorough investigation. If I am guilty I will receive the proper punishment without a murmur. I hope your paper will publish the communication and let the Home Department know the other side of the story.

Yours respectfully, YUN KAP PYEHO.
Magistrate of Chung-San.

September 28th.

The first attempt to form a political party after Occidental models has met with official opposition in Korea. Here is the story:—

Kwak II, of Chemulpo, issued a public notice among the citizens of Chemulpo and its vicinity stating that "people of other civilized countries have the right of criticising the actions of the Government officials who are paid by the people. But in Korea we, the citizens, simply pay out our money to support the officials, and these officials treat us like their slaves. This state of affairs is due to the ignorance of their rights on the part of the citizens. In order to right the wrong we must organize a party among the citizens of the Commonwealth, the object and duty of which will be to establish freedom of speech and criticise the actions of our public servants who try to oppress the poor and ignorant people. The name of the party will be called 'Liberal People's Party.' Those who approve the movement and desire to join the organization are requested to send their names to the Head-quarters, Chemulpo." It is reported that over 200 names have been subscribed on the list and this caused quite a stir in Chemulpo. The Mayor arrested Kwak and Kwak's friend, Choi Chin Han, and sent them up to Sōul for trial.

It is a veritable case of the cure is worse than the disease with the people of Pung-Duk. The troops sent to suppress the rebels in that district are more active than the insurgents themselves in the matter of looting villages. The people have petitioned the War Office in Sōul for relief, and orders have been issued in the desired sense. In truth, the state of affairs in Korean provinces seems to be most primitive. Here is an illustrative item:—

The people of Jiksan petitioned the War Office stating that some weeks ago a band of rebels entered the town of Kalsan and asked the people to take care of an ox which they claimed was their own. The people had to keep the ox in the public stable of the town. A few days later a man in the neighbouring town came to them and claimed the ox and took it away. Later the rebels came back and demanded the ox, and threatened to burn the town if it was not returned to them immediately. A company of Sōul troops arrived in the town just at that time and drove away the rebels. After this the Sōul troops began to press them for money and provisions so that the people are in a worse condition than ever before. The War Office ordered the commander of troops in that locality to prohibit all such conduct among the soldiers.

Korean courts of justice evidently attach much importance to the motive of a crime. A woman of Ye-ju surrendered herself to the police confessing that she had killed a man named Chang. If appeared that the man had murdered her husband some time previously. The woman, bent upon vengeance, hid herself in the vicinity of Chang's house after dark, and plunged a knife into his heart as he was passing homeward. Her sentence was three months' imprisonment.

The *Independent* continues the task of translating and publishing the laws governing the procedure of the new Council of State, or "National Council," as our Sōul contemporary calls it. Plainly the purpose of the drafters of the laws has been to follow the methods of deliberative bodies in the West. Any member of the Council has the right to introduce a bill, which is to be suffered to lie on the table for at least a week before being brought up for debate. Provision is made for speeches in due order, for amendments and for voting, the last being by closed ballot. Minority reports are also contemplated, and after a bill has duly passed the Council, it goes to the King for approval. Whether this innovation is to become abortive in practice or to possess real efficacy, the framers of the laws have unquestionably evinced a desire to subject public measures to free and intelligent scrutiny. Of course the Council, since it consists entirely of officials nominated by the Sovereign or enjoying the privilege of membership *ex officio*, cannot be said to represent the voice of the nation in any respect. But the same criticism might have been applied to the *Chihokwan Kwaigi* which was the embryo of representative institutions in Japan.

Min Yong-chun, who was appointed President of the Privy Council against his will, has tendered his resignation thrice. The Court has at last been obliged to acquiesce in his request. On the 10th inst. Min retired to his villa in the suburbs of Sōul.

The two ex-Vice-Ministers of the overthrown Kin Cabinet and nine others, all understood to hold progressive views, who were arrested several months ago on the charge of treason, were acquitted by the High Court on the 9th inst. The tables are now turned against their four accusers, three of whom have been sentenced to penal servitude for life, together with 100 blows, and the other to 2½ years imprisonment with 90 blows. It is said that this impartial judgment was chiefly due to the influence of Mr. Greathouse, who took part in the trial.

The coal sheds of the Russian Fleet at the Island of Wōl-mi having been completed, a steamer carried thither, on the 9th inst., 1,100 tons of coal from Chefoo. Magazines are said to have been built in the vicinity of the sheds. The latter cover only 150 *tsubo*, and can store only a limited quantity of fuel.

The Korean Ambassador to Russia reached Ninsen on the afternoon of the 20th inst. Mr. Waerber and several Korean officials awaited his arrival at Ninsen. Seven Russian officers who are to be engaged by the Korean War Office, accompanied the Embassy.

The *Yomiuri* gives strange news about some Korean refugees in Japan. It says that several recently met, and, as a means for propitiating the favour of the King, drew up a representation urging that the concession of the Sōul-Fusan Railway should not be granted to Japan. They have already forwarded this to the King through a certain channel.

CHINESE NEWS.

We are reminded of the marked difference between China and Japan in the matter of maritime enterprise, by an article in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*. It is now many years since the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company was organized, yet not another enterprise of the kind exists to this day in the Middle Kingdom, and the Company's fleet of 26 steamers remains a constant quantity, no attempt being made to augment it. The fleet is commanded by foreign officers exclusively, no Chinese seaman being thought worthy of a master's billet. The shareholders are for the most part, Mandarins, and the head of the affair is Li Hung-chang. Add to all this the fact that China is practically without a sailing vessel of foreign type, and the contrast between her and Japan becomes very striking.

What some propagandists of Christianity have to endure in China is illustrated by the story of a missionary who, after spending ten months at Si-ning among the scenes of the Mahomedan rebellion, set out to travel with his wife to Lanchow, the capital of Kan-su. He mentions incidentally that they were glad to get away from Si-ning, not merely because the long period of strain and excitement spent there had tried their nerves, but also because the place was a "veritable dunghill, all the nightsoil, as well as the carcasses of horses, cows, mules, asses, and dogs, that had perished of hunger, having been deposited in the streets throughout the siege. The journey from Si-ning to Lanchow was an affair of nine days. "The first night," writes the missionary, with the most-of-fact nonchalance, "we"—that is to say, he and his wife—"shared part of a brick bed with others, and had as much room for the four of us, including our servants, as an ordinary-sized man would require for himself. Another night, we shared bed with four soldiers who very kindly crushed together to make room for us."

Terrible accounts are published of incidents with the Mahomedan rebellion in Kan-su. It is estimated that ten thousand Mahomedans, chiefly women, children, and old men, have died of hunger, or been frozen to death in the hills and mountains. Those that have submitted number eighteen thousand, women and children for the most part. Thirty or forty thousand remained under arms among the hills in the south-eastern district at the time (June 16th) of compiling the account from which we quote. The business of seizing and beheading the insurgents was conducted with wholesale vigour so soon as their strength was broken in any district. An average of sixteen had been decapitated daily for two weeks in Si-ning on June 16th, and as three thousand heads remained to come off, the sanguinary carnival was expected to go on for an indefinite time longer. Crowds of people watched the executions, and it is easy to conceive the demoralization that must have resulted from such prolonged intimacy with blood-shed. The missionary referred to above, writing in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, says:—

Mr. H. and I witnessed twenty-two rebels being brought into the city a few days ago, a sight which we do not care to witness again. Looking up the main street we saw a vast crowd of people rushing toward us. They came on at a tremendous pace, forced forward by the crowds behind them. Every one was mad with excitement. Close on the heels of the mob came the body-guard in charge of the rebels. Some of the rebels were old, grey-haired men, whose tottering steps were scarcely equal to the hurried march; yet in their last moments no mercy was shown by the soldiers, who, at the least sign of their falling in the rear, took them by the neck and ran them forward amidst sardonic laughs and jeers from the frenzied mob. We saw several soldiers waving their swords in the air, and uttering terrible things about the deeds they were about to perform on the bodies of living men with feelings and passions like themselves. We hastened our steps homeward to be far away from the scene of gloating blood-thirstiness.

It appears to be assumed in Shanghai that Mr. Dudgeon's mission to Peking has been a failure. We can not discover that anything definite is yet known about his doings in the Chinese capital, but the fact he left Peking on

the 5th or 6th instant is regarded as evidence that he could not accomplish anything. The *North-China Daily News* ascribes his failure to the fact that the co-operation existing among the various nationalities in the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, which sent him, is not reflected in the Foreign Corps Diplomatie in Peking.

KEROSENE IN JAPAN.

The existence of "inflammable water" in Echigo has been known for more than ten centuries, though the extraction of kerosene and its purification for purposes of illumination date only from the Meiji era. It was in 1888 that machines were introduced and the extraction of the oil regularly started. But for a long time no satisfactory result was obtained. The introduction of American kerosene machinery, a year or two ago, was the signal for a sudden development of the industry, as may be seen from the following table:—

	Echigo, Totomi, Ugo, Shinano, Ishikari, Total.
1884.....(Koku)	24,885...3,784...771...481.....23.....30,541
1885.....(Koku)	25,023...3,630...805...425.....48.....30,931
1886.....(Koku)	25,042...3,832...840...625.....53.....30,393
1887.....(Koku)	26,259...3,507...1,118...609.....78.....33,504
1888.....(Koku)	224,866...2,548...3,115...345.....105.....231,072

Japan imports kerosene from America and Russia to an extent of five to six million yen per annum. Partly from a desire to meet this demand with home products, and also from the unusually satisfactory returns that some capitalists succeeded in making from this industry, kerosene extraction has become very brisk in Echigo. The latest returns of the Echigo petroleum companies record exceptional profits, the dividends declared by some being as much as 113 per cent., and none were less than 20 per cent. The attention of wealthy men being directed to the industry, several new companies were started lately with capitals ranging from 300,000 to 500,000 yen. The establishment of these companies has been a great desideratum, for owing to the nature of the industry the companies at work previously suffered severe strain owing to their paltry capital. Kerosene is chiefly obtained in the five districts of Koshi, Naka, and Higashi Kubiki, and Mishima and Kariba. The first district yields the largest amount of oil at present, owing to the employment of American machinery. At a depth less than 200 yards below sea level more than 30 koku (1 koku=30.70 gallons) can be daily extracted from some wells. The monthly output reaches about 20,000 koku at present. It is confidently expected that the introduction of similar improvements in other districts will be followed by a large increase in the total output of oil in Echigo.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The *Fiji Shimpō* announces that after bringing very sharp pressure to bear upon the Chinese Government, Baron Hayashi has at length succeeded in obtaining strict observance of the terms of the Shimonoseki Treaty. Our contemporary does not explain the particulars of China's attempts to evade the Treaty, but alleges very emphatically that attempts in that sense were actually made, and that in some respects, the Treaty was deliberately violated. At the close of the paragraph announcing this news we find a significant corollary:—"The power of imposing taxes on manufactures is left to China." If our readers recall all that has passed upon this subject, they will appreciate the importance of the *Fiji's* corollary.

Another paragraph in the same paper says that, according to agreement, the ratifications of the new Treaty between China and Japan were to have been exchanged within two months of date of its signature, and that the two months would expire on the 23rd instant. Much discussion took place, however, with reference to the taxation of articles manufactured by foreigners in China, and it was not until the 20th that the exchange of ratifications could take place. As to the result of the discussion, what has been said above seems conclusive.

ROLLING STOCK MADE IN JAPAN.

This subject has already been mentioned in these columns, but the following items from the *Osaka Asahi* may be worth noticing. The information is said to have originated from Viscount Inouye, ex-chief of the Imperial Railway Department, and now President of the Rolling Stock Company in course of establishment at Osaka. The total mileage of Government and private railway lines in Japan open to traffic aggregates about 2,000 miles. When the traffic mileage of Japanese railways doubles this figure, considerable difficulties will be experienced in supplying sufficient rolling stock, judging from existing conditions. At present, the supply of rolling stock falls very far short of the demand as compared with the mileage open to traffic; and compared with the ratio that rolling stock bears to mileage in England, there is a deficiency of 275 locomotives, 1,390 carriages, and 15,951 waggons in Japan. At least 500 locomotives, 2,000 carriages, and 10,000 waggons should be provided in the near future for the additional mileage. If orders for all this rolling stock were sent abroad, the money that Japan would have to pay on that account would reach an enormous figure, the single item of locomotives alone amounting to more than 15 million yen. The exodus of so much money and its consolidation as fixed capital would bring about many economic troubles and ultimately would impair the development of railways in Japan. There are various benefits that would accrue from the making at home of rolling stock, and the one that specially commends itself to the attention of railway capitalists is that Japanese locomotives would be 6,000 yen cheaper than imported engines. If a home-made locomotive could be sold 10 per cent. cheaper than an English one, a net profit of 4,000 yen would be obtained per locomotive. This means a saving of 3,100,000 yen on 775 locomotives, supposing that future demands are entirely met at home. Then in regard to cars and waggons the saving made would also be immense. These considerations induced the Viscount to persuade Baron Iwasaki and other capitalists to start a rolling stock company in Osaka.

THE DOSHISHA.

The Letter of the Doshisha Trustees to the American Board has already been printed in these columns. A correspondent, not connected in any way with the Doshisha or with the Board, now sends us the reply that the Board made to the above letter, his feeling being—a feeling with which we entirely agree—that our readers, having heard one side of the question, should hear the other also, and should learn the thoroughly Christian treatment that the Doshisha Trustees have received both from the Missionaries and from the Board they represent. The following is the reply:—

Rev. H. KOZAKI, President of the Doshisha, Kyoto, Japan.

DEAR PRESIDENT KOZAKI,—Your communication signed on behalf of the Trustees of the Doshisha, bearing date April 30th, 1896, and received June 3rd, addressed to the Prudential Committee of the American Board, was presented to the Committee, who, after careful consideration, authorize the following reply, which has been delayed owing to the necessary absence of the secretary from Boston:—

It is needless to state that this Board, and the Churches of the United States supporting the Board, have from the first taken a deep interest in the cause of Christ in Japan, and especially in the Doshisha, which has been aided by this Board in order to advance the kingdom of our blessed Lord in that Empire. The large sums of money given for this purpose, the great number of men and women sent out, and the prominence accorded in the religious press of our denomination to Christian work in Japan, clearly show that. It must be clear, too, that there has been no other motive upon the part of the Board or its constituency than to hasten the day when Japan shall become a Christian nation. Money has been given, life consecrated, effort put forth, not for the Board nor for America, but for Japan.

Without further explanatory statements, we will refer to the main points of your communication.

The Missionary Houses in Kyoto.—It is only recently that the Prudential Committee learned that the Trustees regarded those houses and land as the exclusive property of the Doshisha. The Prudential Committee did not appropriate the money for the purchase of the land and the erection of the houses for any other purpose than to furnish residences for its missionaries in Kyoto. In one case, at least, land for one of these houses was purchased by the mission from the Doshisha. At first this property was held in the name of individual Japanese, and later, in order to secure greater safety, was transferred to the name of the Trustees of the Doshisha. The Prudential Committee did not consider the status of the property any different after the transfer than before, nor as differing in any way from the status of property held for the Board by individuals in various parts of Japan, none of whom ever claimed that the property was a gift. But few of the missionary houses were built when the letter you quote of Mr. Neeshima's (April, 1883) was written. This letter could not have referred to unbuilt houses or to unpurchased land. We understand that it refers exclusively to the land upon which the school buildings stand, and to the land only. The missionaries continued to occupy, care for, and manage the houses, such as were temporarily vacant, and collect and use the rents, etc., the same as before. It is only within two or three years that we have had any suggestion that the Trustees of the Doshisha laid claim to the absolute ownership and control of this property. The mission was as much astonished as the Prudential Committee and have repeatedly made protests against the exercise of such prerogatives.

The mission houses in Kyoto are legally in the hands of the Trustees of the Doshisha, consequently they have the legal right to say what uses they will make of them. We are gratified to learn by the action of the Trustees reported in your letter May 19th, that you have decided to permit the missionaries of the Board to occupy these houses, free of rent, for a term of fifteen years, according to the regulations of your corporation. (We do not know what the regulations are.) The question is not one of money or rent but of Christian integrity. We believe this act of the Trustees, assuring the Prudential Committee that the missionaries, for the next fifteen years, will be permitted to occupy these mission houses, free of rent, will meet the approval of the Christians in America and of Japanese churches.

It seems to us unnecessary to enter into discussion regarding the *Hospital and Nurses Training School*. We see no reason for changing the statement made in the report of the Deputation.

Regarding the change that has taken place in the spirit of the Doshisha.—Nothing in the history of the work in Japan has so pained the friends of the Board as the marked change in the spirit of the Doshisha. That such a change has taken place seems to be the almost universal opinion of Japanese pastors and prominent Christians of various denominations in Japan, as well as large numbers of the members of the Churches and almost the entire body of foreign missionaries of all Boards. Certainly, the American Board and American Christians would not have contributed to found, endow, or build up an institution in Japan in which professors or others under the auspices of the school were permitted openly and publicly to attack the principles of Christianity which the constituency of the Board regard as vital to the faith. We would not deprecate free discussion nor deny the right of free speech, but a school founded and endowed to strengthen and build up Christianity in Japan can not be used directly or indirectly for attacking the faith without a misappropriation and misuse of sacred trust funds. A single man upon the Faculty can do more harm to the pupils of the school in a week than all the rest of the Faculty combined can correct in years. We would not always insist that every member of the Faculty must be an earnest Christian, although that would be most desirable, but it does seem to us that no one connected with the teaching corps of the school should be permitted to maintain his position and assent in the presence of his pupils or elsewhere the very principles which the institution was founded to promulgate. We do not believe that the founders would have permitted it; we are sure the missionaries would never have sanctioned such action; and we know the American Board would not have given money to aid or endow such an institution. Herein lies the change, which leads to much solicitude and anxiety upon the part of those who have had the interest of the Doshisha so much at heart. These changes involve the entire question of the Christian influence of the school and are apparent to the world.

We regret that you did not quote more fully and consecutively from the writings of Mr. Neeshima,

the founder of the school. Had you done so, it seems to us the spirit of the institution at that time would have been more clearly manifest. When he said in one of his published statements, "The most important work to carry out Christ's kingdom is to raise man after God's own heart. If you raise up strong and truly pious men to work for Christ, Japan will be ours in His name," there can be no doubt as to his spirit and purpose.

Regarding the Missionaries.—The many letters from their pens printed in the religious press of America, together with the large correspondence on file here in the Rooms and the annual Reports of the mission, are conclusive evidence that they have always attributed the great progress of Christianity in Japan to the efficiency of the Japanese workers. If they have ever taken the glory to themselves, it does not appear in their writings, nor in their addresses in the United States, but quite the reverse.

Withdrawing Aid.—Your favour of May 10th in which the Trustees express gratitude to the American Board for assistance hitherto rendered and request the discontinuance of its aid of money and foreign teachers from the close of 1896, was duly received. It has never been the policy of this Board to aid institutions which did not desire that aid. It would indeed be embarrassing and inexcusable for it to insist upon continuing the subsidy or forcing its teachers upon the Doshisha after the Trustees have taken definite action declining such assistance. We shall of course, comply with your decision in regard to aid in subsidy and teachers. Should you at any time have any proposition to make to this Committee regarding future relations, we assure you that we will gladly receive the same and give it most careful and considerate attention.

Your statement "that the Trustees have no intention of turning all missionaries out of the institution" is not clear to us, for your action previously reported in the same letter compels this Board to withdraw all teachers at the close of 1896, for the Board cannot permit its missionaries to teach in the Doshisha when the Trustees officially inform the Board that it no longer desires such aid.

Our missionaries are informed by this post of your action and the acceptance of the same by the Prudential Committee, and the consequent necessity of their withdrawing at the date you have set, namely, at the end of 1896. This is in accordance with the note of the trustees of the Doshisha and not of the Prudential Committee. The action as reported will necessitate, also, the withdrawal of subsidy and foreign teachers granted to the female department of the Doshisha. If that is not your intention, please inform the missionaries in writing, and report the same to us at your earliest convenience.

We enjoin upon the Trustees of the Doshisha not to think that by declining further subsidy from the Board and dispensing with the services of the missionaries, they thereby release themselves from obligations to maintain the genuine Christian character of the institution. All the aid given by the Board and by American Christians, has been contributed from the first for the purpose of establishing and supporting an institution positively and aggressively Christian, which shall be the centre and life of the Christian work in Japan. The eyes of the Christian world are upon the Doshisha, waiting to see what its future action will be.

Brethren of the Doshisha, by severing of all organic relations with this Board, you cannot separate yourselves nor your institution from our sympathies and prayers. We can not believe that the Doshisha is to fail of the object of its organization and disappear from the history of the Christian Church in Japan. We believe that it was established by prayers and divine intervention, and that God has wonderfully blessed it hitherto. We have faith also, that when the exaggerated national feeling has subsided and the mists have cleared away, we shall again see the school in the van of the advancing Christian movement, helping, inspiring, leading in every good work in the onward progress of the kingdom of Christ in that Empire. We want you always to regard the American Board as the warmest, truest friend of the Christian Doshisha.

Praying that you may have guidance from above, I am, on behalf of the Prudential Committee of the American Board,

Most faithfully yours,

(Signed.) JAMES L. BARTON,
Foreign Secretary.

July 13th, 1896.

Sales of tea at Yokohama on Tuesday include:—12,600 cattiees to No. 178; 9,600 cattiees to No. 1; 2,400 cattiees to No. 162; 8,200 cattiees to No. 225; 7,900, cattiees to No. 22; total, 41,700 cattiees.

A COMPOSITE COIN.

The suggestion made by "Inquirer" as to a coin composed of gold and silver is excellent in its way. It follows the principle of the compensating balance used in delicate machines. The same idea has occurred to others and has frequently been discussed. But it is open to the objection that bars the introduction of a bimetallic system, namely, that international agreement would be just as essential to the successful circulation of the composite coins as it is to the adoption of a fixed ratio between the two metals. In other words, the difficulty surmounted by "Inquirer's" method is connected simply with possible fluctuations in the relative values of silver and gold subsequently to the rehabilitation of the former metal, but how to bring about that rehabilitation remains still an unsolved problem. Many objectors assert that to attempt to fix a ratio of value in the case of two metals varying so greatly as silver and gold vary in all the natural bases of fixity, is and must always be, a hopeless task. To such persons "Inquirer's" proposal furnishes a conclusive answer. Nothing is easier than to obtain a measuring rod absolutely impervious to changes of temperature by uniting in its construction two substances with equal but opposite indices of expansion and contraction. Similarly, a coin composed of silver and gold united in quantities to-day equivalent must always possess a fixed value in terms of the two metals combined, for what is lost by its white component would be gained, by its yellow, and *vice versa*. But to bring themselves into practical touch with such a system would be nearly as perplexing for silver-using nations as is the old dilemma now confronting them. They could not place themselves beyond the range of the two metals' fluctuations except by combining them in their coinage, and that would probably be an operation beyond their financial competence. The gold element in the composite token of exchange would still remain to some extent variable in terms of silver, and to that extent the evils of fluctuating exchanges would continue to hamper trade. In short, the ideal state of stability would not be reached. We say "to some extent," because undoubtedly the proposed action would exercise a steadying effect. Were silver raised from the rank of a subsidiary metal and restored to its old functions for coinage purposes in countries now using gold alone, it would certainly recover stability of value in a considerable degree. But could gold-using countries be persuaded to undertake such a radical operation of re-coinage? The expense would be very great, and unless all civilized nations came into the arrangement, the evils now complained of would not be effectively remedied. Thus, as a device for obviating any need of re-adjusting the silver-gold ratio after bimetalism had been established, the composite coin is excellent; but as an aid to the establishment of bimetalism, it can not do much service.

"LES NEIGES D'ANTAN."

A correspondent writes:—"Here is a coincidence that is too funny not to be brought to your notice. I hadn't quite got over my amusement at the hopeless muddle that the writer of a sketch in the last *Westminster Budget* (p. 10) made of the very familiar line from Villon's "Ballade des Dames," "*Mais où sont les neiges d'antan?*" (i.e. the snows of last year, and hence applied to things that have gone beyond recall), when your Paris correspondent, in to-day's (15th) *Mail*, comes a cropper too over the very same line! But the *Westminster Budget* man must have the prize for his "go where autumn's snows went." We're not much accustomed to autumn's snows, but anyhow they can't well be lost: they would be found, I should say, under the following winter's snows. You must admit, I think, that after that effort, your man comes a long way behind with his "where are the snows of Antan?" We might be able to tell him if he allowed us to consult an atlas."

THE CZAR'S VISIT TO GERMANY AND FRANCE.

The press comments in some of the latest papers to hand from Germany and France, with reference to the visit of the Czar and Czarina of Russia, are not without interest. We reproduce a few examples. The *Schlesische Zeitung* says:—"It is in many respects most regrettable that such important political events are announced so far in advance. The unavoidable discussions which follow such announcements do not always throw a clear light on the significance of the event; on the contrary, it is often the case that as a result of heated discussions by interested parties, excitement is produced and a feeling created that finally, when the event takes place, dims the objective view of the real situation. This applies, at least in part, to the pending visit of the Czar which, under given circumstances and some details of the programme of this journey, is doubtless not without important political significance. For the last quarter of a century every journey of the ruler of Russia to Western Europe has been the occasion of all but agreeable discussions, as to whether the Czar would touch Germany and visit the Imperial Court. It must be admitted that this fact was most inconvenient to the Emperor of Russia. If the late Emperor, Alexander III., always found it difficult to make up his mind to visit Germany, and if none of his visits left a completely harmonious impression, the then political situation may not have been the only cause; the tiresome and depressing discussions about the friendship between Russia and France and the possibility of Russia's assisting France in case the latter should undertake a war of revenge against Germany, made it impossible for him to remain any length of time at the German Court. The burden of the blame for this regrettable fact falls upon our Western neighbours with their feverish desire for revenge, as set forth in their press ever since the peace of Frankfort. It seemed sometimes as though the thought of revenge was the only patriotic sentiment remaining in France. The late Czar had no sympathy with that attitude of the French people, and could never be induced to visit France. It is to be different hereafter! The young Czar, Nicolas II., believes he cannot avoid a visit to France. A glance over the columns of the French press, since the announcement of the Czar's visit, reveals an amazingly ill-conceived and overheated national fantasy. Not a firm friendship based upon mutual inclination, but a hatred against Germany. The hatred is nourished in French soil. The Imperial visitor will not reciprocate, and therefore there can be no real uniformity of sentiment. The German press has again in the present instance followed a dignified course, over against the chauvinistic demonstrations of the French press. Some of the German papers have properly pointed out that, in consequence of the close relationship of the two Imperial houses, a visit by the Czar and his wife to Germany was unavoidable and self-evident, wherefore it has no particular political significance, while no Court etiquette required a visit to Paris. No doubt political interests alone are the motive of the Czar's visit to France. * * * There must have been very strong reasons that led the Czar to believe that he could not avoid a visit to France, although the task is difficult enough. There is no occasion to speculate on those reasons. That he should go there merely to place Russian loans, seems to us putting the Czar too much in the attitude of acting the part of a merchant. We could only be interested in this subject if the Czar's visit had, as its ulterior object, the intention of uniting the military forces of Russia and France in a future war against our fatherland. Such a possibility we must regard as entirely excluded. An extension of Russia towards the West is at present not intended, nor will it be for a long time to come. Russia's tendency and far-reaching plans are directed toward the far East. But even if there were a tendency towards the West, the realization would first have to reckon with German opposition. In this connection, it is significant that the

Russian press, which is under the powerful influence of the Government, just at this moment, and in connection with the Czar's visit, strongly favours a close union between Russia, France, and Germany, and as a proof of the advantage of such a union, points to the satisfactory outcome of the united action of these three Powers in the Orient last year. Such a union, of course, is not what the French intend while preparing their ovations for the Czar. For the very reason that we see no unfriendly intentions against Germany in the Czar's visit to France, we regard a discussion of this subject as out of place. As is seen from the above quotation, the *Schlesische Zeitung* labours under the impression that the entire French press has lost its head over the visit of the Czar. This, however, is not the case. In *La Petite République* we find the following:—"The visit of the Czar is perhaps only a *fata morgana*. As the time approaches, its significance decreases. At first the whole nation was called upon to honour the great friend of France. Every one strained his imagination, and plans developed like mushrooms after rain. Then the first disappointment. The Government reserves the right to prepare the programme. 'Not over zealous,' it says to daring chauvinists. Second disappointment. The Czar will lodge at the Russian Legation, so that even while he is with us he will be on Russian soil; he will thus be here without being really in France. He leaves one foot in his empire and ventures only to place the points of his toes among us just enough to permit submissive tongues to lick them. While the Germans, the Austrians, and the English, on the other hand, will have full possession of him. Let us not be disappointed on this point, when he comes along. Third disappointment. One hears that it was originally planned that the Czar should remain ten days in France; now it is reduced to two days. We are a beautiful, a good, and a great country, but distinguished people have no desire to remain long in it. In *Justice* (Paris), Clemenceau writes as follows:—"During the visit of the Czar let us guard against acting undignifiedly. Too much zeal may be as fatal to friendship as it is to diplomacy. This noble sentiment requires equality, reciprocity, and reservation; for it can easily degenerate into servility when the attitude of the one is to constantly offer, while the business of the other is to consent to have so much love thrust upon him. In 1870 it was in Russia's interest to have us crushed, to-day the reverse is the case: Russia then gained by our defeat; she is now prepared to gain by our restoration. This is the plain truth, and is the admitted reason why our great friend will now pay us a visit. It is also in his interest to leave our enthusiasm unfettered. We wish to have Russia become the means of our revenge. No one would believe us if we were to deny this: it is therefore simpler to admit it. We wish to make a bargain, and nothing but a bargain, wherefore we have no desire to hear stories about the ideal beauty of our mutual feelings. As this is a business transaction, it is about time to learn what France is to receive in return for her milliards.

RAILWAYS IN FORMOSA.

It has long been understood to be the Government's intention to leave to private enterprise the work of constructing railways in Formosa. The contemplated railway system is to be divided, we believe, into four sections; the first, a line from Kelung to Takow, passing through Taipeh, Taichu (Taiwan), and Tainan, that is to say, a line along the Western coast; the second, from Kelung to Giran, in the north; the third, from Takow to Hienchun in the south; and the fourth, from Hienchun to Giran, along the east coast. A company has already been formed in Japan for the purpose of undertaking the work. It is said to have a capital of fifteen million yen, and doubtless it will find no difficulty in obtaining a charter from the Government. The *Shogyo Shimpō* contains a paragraph to the effect that work on the Kelung-Taipeh road will soon be commenced.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

According to latest statements, the insurgents in Cuba now aggregate 44,300. At the outset their number was much smaller, but the failure of the Spaniards to subdue them has gradually put heart into the movement. They are not organized into one compact body, however, but are divided into forty bands, ranging in strength from 200 to 5,000, and scattered over three provinces. Among the leaders of these bands two are women, Clotilda Garcia, with a following of 800, and Pilar Rosa, with a following of 200. Antonio Maceo, the commander-in-chief, has 5,000 men under his command, and Roloff, a Prussian, has 1,500. But in addition to these regularly organized and tolerably well equipped corps, there are said to be a number of petty companies, formed chiefly for the purpose of pillaging the property of the loyalists, and there are, moreover, two hundred and fifty thousand separatists, who, though they do not actually fight, assist the armed forces and harass the Spaniards in every possible way. Spain, if we may credit official statements, has now a hundred and twenty thousand troops in the island, but it is extremely difficult to believe that, in the first place, she has been able to transport such a force to such a distance, and in the second, that she can keep them supplied so as to render them efficient. Under any circumstances, the task still awaiting Spain is tremendous, and its accomplishment must tax her resources to the very utmost.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN JAPAN.

The "Official Minutes of the Japan Conference," as the Methodist Missionaries call their annual record of work done, is a very full and minute account of everything connected with the Mission throughout the year under review. In examining such a publication, with its detailed reports from eighty-three districts, its elaborate statistics and its maps, the reader can not fall into any mistake about the diligence and earnestness of the men engaged in the task of propagandism. If patient and enthusiastic labour deserve to bear fruit, the missionaries ought to succeed in Japan. Yet the results are as yet scarcely worthy of the effort. There are twenty-one Methodist Missionaries on active service in this country. The oldest has been at his post for nearly twenty years, and no less than eleven of the number have a service of over ten years. They are assisted by 33 local preachers; they have 126 schools, with 430 officers and teachers and 6,310 scholars, and they have 44 churches. Yet their full members aggregate only 3,369, and their probationers 1,018. Truly, when one considers the population of Japan and compares it with these latter figures, one is disposed to recall the disciples' ejaculation "what are these among so many!" Still the zeal and hopefulness of the workers do not seem to be one whit diminished. From the island of Ezo, where, after 22 years' work, the church membership amounts to only 433, and the baptisms last year numbered 78, we find in the reports such expressions as:—"Hakodate was blessed with such a spirit of revival during the winter as the church has not known for many a year;" "Otaru was touched by the revival flame," and "No more hopeful and encouraging field is to be found in Japan than Hokkaido." Doubtless if that spirit of inexhaustible confidence were not sustained, the workers must soon begin to flag. We should have been interested to find in this volume some exact statistics of the work done at the Aoyama Gakuin, a college of exceptional size, well equipped and well conducted, which has long been the centre of Methodist-missionary effort in Japan. But the record does not help us to discover the number of students, of teachers, or of graduates, a regrettable want of information at a time when the progress of all educational institutions under missionary control is keenly watched. The Rev. John Wier, Dean of the College, makes these comments in his reports:—

Method must conform to circumstance. Circumstance in the Orient is far from the same as in the Occident. To the missionary this is a commonplace; but only long residence in the East leads one to clearly perceive it.

In England or America, for instance, the young man enters his Theological School from a Christian environment, possesses a Christian ancestry, and has had no immediate acquaintance with or experience in religious systems other than the Christian. From his infancy he has been familiar with the Bible and the cardinal truths of Christianity. The breathing of a Christian atmosphere from his cradle has given him all and the only moral life he has. His work upon leaving the Theological School will not be to traverse and refute other religious systems, but to persuade men to accept that gospel with which they are already as familiar as himself, and which their own Christian conscience dictates they should accept. Such a man a short and practical seminary course will fit for a life of usefulness.

But in Japan the case is different. Here the young man comes with a mind more subtle and active than his brother in the West, from no Christian environment, with little previous Christian experience and training, and thought saturated with non-Biblical systems. To this man the Theological School is not to be a mere training place for practical, evangelistic work; it is the place to acquire much of the knowledge with which the American or English student begins his course. If during the twenty-seven months allowed him at the Seminary his time is much employed in what we denominate "practical" or outside effort, he misses in proportion his only chance to obtain information respecting the literature, doctrines and history of the very system of religion which he must go forth to represent, teach and defend. If to him the school is to be mainly a place for cursory training in evangelistic methods outside of its halls, why the school? This "practical" technical training can be done where alone it is possible to efficiently do it,—in association with the pastors and presiding elders in the field. The School must undoubtedly combine practice with knowledge; but in a place like Japan the knowledge is the prime essential. All judicious and successful practical effort presupposes the possession of something to use in practical effort. It does not require a large gift of political prophecy to foresee that, in Japan, one of the Church's future dangers will be zeal and activity without substantial knowledge.

Therefore let not the highest conception of a Theological School in Japan be chiefly a band led by the Faculty in aggressive evangelistic work; but rather a School where scholarly, level-headed, yet practical-spirited evangelical men devote their time to the imparting of knowledge to be put into practical aggressive use when the student goes forth to the field under the direction of our ecclesiastical practitioners,—the pastors and presiding elders.

TRAIN OFF ON THE EX-VICEEROY.

The coming of Earl Li to the United States set the bee buzzing in the bonnet of Citizen George Francis Train. It must be premised that some indignation seems to be felt in the States because the President, instead of receiving Li at the White House, received him at Ex-Secretary Whitney's New York residence. The *Washington Telegram* says that "Citizen George Francis Train, who was so well received in China, is one of the most prominent men that has (*sic*) expressed his (*sic*) indignation at the treatment accorded the great Chinaman." From that fact, the magnitude and importance of the indignant multitude may be inferred. The great citizen wrote a letter to the distinguished visitor, but owing to a conspiracy on the part of the New York city papers and the United Press and Associated Press papers, the document barely struggled into daylight through the columns of the *Washington Telegram*. It has been forwarded to us as a cutting from that journal, duly corrected Citizen Train, and we reproduce it for our readers' extreme delectation:—

REPUBLIC'S (ONLY) CITIZEN TO CHINA'S GREATEST STATESMAN? SHOWING UNITED STATE'S INSULT TO CHINESE EMPIRE!

Citizen Ambassador to Cosmos Li Hung-chang, The Waldorf, New York.

By Imperial Appointment, Director of the Northern Fleet, and of Coast defence, Senior Guardian of the heir apparent, Grand Secretary, Viceroy of Pe-che-lee, Earl of First Rank, Li, Ambassador from Pekin to all Nations visited!

You ask questions! So do I! What Evidence have you that China has more than One Hundred Million Population, instead of Four Hundred Millions alleged?

Can you reach Shanghai from U.S.A. (Puget Sound) in 13 days! I made it in 15 days, (Three years ago) via Yokohama and Kobe! (Holding 60 Day Round World Record (England cannot reach there (via Suez Canal) under 35 days! China can now visit Europe (via America) in 21 days! (Asia and America are only parted by Forty miles (Three Islands Station) at Behring Straits!

(As only citizen in 70,000,000, being Democrats or Republicans Gentiles or Jews,) I apologize to you for Ignorance of President and Cabinet, in receiving you in Standard Oil Headquarters (Private Residence), and in Tavern (where any one can get room for Two Dollars a Day! President came in Borrowed Yacht and received you in Borrowed Private House! (An insult through Gross Ignorance of Official-Diplomatic-Etiquette! Did not Foster-Drew-Russell-and-Wilson know this?)

HOW EUROPE HONORED ASIA WITH ROYAL COURTESY!

Ovated, As Royal Prince, with National Honors, by Russia, Germany, England, and France, why should United States of America receive the Friend-of-all-Americans (for Forty Years) (Un-) officially unless from suggestion of English and other Foreign Ministers at Washington? (Presuming on Ignorance of Cabinet and President?) Smallest of 13 South American Republics, and Half-Dozen Central American Republics (Bolivian-Guatemalan-Columbian-Yucatan-Honduras) have their Ministers received Officially in The Mansion of the Nation with Honors due their Respective Countries!

You have behaved splendidly (old Friend), and I am proud to know (as Asia's Grandest Statesman) that you return the Official Insult (quietly) by ignoring National-Ignorance? How-in H'll did you pass Ellis' Island with Forty Servants, when Our Laws (through very Administration that received you), forbid Chinese to land in this (Mis-) called 'Republic-of-Liberty' (and Assumption?) I am surprised that when face to face with President, so ready a Questioner, did not ask if United States still intended to Insult the Chinese Empire, by making that Nation only One whose People are Prohibited from Landing on our shores!

HALF-CENTURY BUSINESS CONNECTION WITH CHINA.

My Business Relations with China through Great American Firms, Russell & Co., Augustine Heard & Co. and Gideon Nye (Hongkong, Canton, and Shanghai) for Half Century is my excuse for talking to America's Friend so plainly. Flying Cloud, Sovereign-of-the-Seas, Red Jacket-and-Staffordshire (2,000 tons Clippers) were some of the Clipper Fleet under my control despatched to China almost Five decades ago! The Sovereign-of-the-Seas (2,200 Tons), stood in my name at the Custom House (1849) when I was but Nineteen Years Old! As Merchants-Bankers and Tradesmen the Chinese are most honest people in the World!

HOW TO (RE) CONSTRUCT CHINESE EMPIRE!

Abolish Gold (and Silver) Currency (now) Wrecking our Republic! Build your own Railways with your own People, Manufacture your own clothes! Prohibit Foreign goods! (Whether England likes it or not!) And Send our Missionaries out Country who are always Rioting round your Joss Houses! Were Chinese to Proselyte our People round our Joss Houses They would be killed Front of Parkhurst Church, and Corrigan's Cathedral! Our Chinese Treaties, have Framed Nation-Clause and China should Shut out all Americans till our Laws against Chinese Immigration are Repealed! I explained to your Interpreter, (L. Wing, Chinese Embassy) who called on me at Continental, my long Commercial Connection with your People! And that I was the welcome Friend for Fifty years in Chinese Seas!

Our country is on Eve of Revolution! South and West Solid Against English Syndicates (Old England In New England) in new Declaration of Independence which does not mean another Century as Financial Slaves in British Colonies.

THE GREAT QUESTIONER QUESTIONED.

Let me discount you by asking few more Questions? Why don't you interview Press-Club on Greary Bill-Insult to Friendly Nation? Why don't you Metairieuse our Subsidized-English-Gold-Bug-Newspapers? Why don't you visit China-Town to see how our White Caps clean Chinese streets! Why not stop Seventh Regiment Parade? why visit West Point, Annapolis and Washington after National Insult at Wheat-Nee's Standard Oil Palace? Why invite Huntington to China before he pays Hundred Millions owed

to Government? why not tell World you understand Seven Languages? Why not explain that you don't propose to Buy American Ship or invest Chinese Money in Country that Breaks Treaties, and Insults Your Emperor, and Friend Empress Dowager, by not receiving you in White House at Washington! I do not call upon you because you are Surrounded by Americans who are not 'Big Enough to take-Me-In' and are Jealous of my Cosmopolitan-Reputation!

Geo. FRANCIS TRAIN.

All these points were acted upon by Li Hung Chang (save Washington visit) and the Viceroy not only wrote Citizen Train polite note acknowledging kind remembrance, flowers, and courtesies; but his son, Lord Li, called personally, on the Citizen, at Continental Hotel, with Photograph nearly Foot Square of His Excellency!

Editors Washington, D.C. Telegrams.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. W. H. R. CAREW.

We regret to record the sudden death of Mr. W. H. R. Carew, that took place between 4 and 5 o'clock at the Royal Naval Hospital, Yokohama, on Thursday afternoon. For some time he has been far from well, but it was only yesterday afternoon that Dr. Wheeler, his medical attendant, had him removed from his house to the Hospital. This took place about 3 o'clock, and in less than two hours death supervened, being due to suppressed jaundice and liver complications. The deceased gentleman was for many years the Secretary of the Yokohama United Club, being very popular among the members. A keen lover of all kinds of sport, Mr. Carew was active both afloat and ashore. He generally acted as scorer in the interport cricket matches, and was Vice-Commodore of the Mosquito Yacht Club, sailing his boat, the *Cocktail*, with great skill and pluck in all weathers. Much sympathy will be felt for the widow and her little son.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.

LAND TENURE IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There has been some interesting discussion in the papers on the subject of land tenure in connection with foreigners in Japan. As you correctly say, land can be rented without ownership. The ownership simply means that the landlord collects the rent. If one buys land he, instead of paying rent yearly, pays it all in a lump sum. The title always continuing in the name of the Japanese they will get the "unearned increment." The most important element in this question in these discussions is left out, that is, within a very few years the Single Tax will be in operation in Japan, and the community will take the rent, because it belongs to them, and then land speculation will have become a thing of the past. The Single Tax propaganda is advancing by leaps and bounds in New Zealand, New South Wales, England, and the United States.

After one country has adopted it, others will be compelled by public opinion to follow the example, and the era of *free production*, which is more important than free trade (we shall have both), will be ushered in. The Single Tax will place natives and foreigners exactly on the same footing. It will make the land free and it will cease to have a speculative value. When a man uses land all his capital can go into his business.

The higher land is taxed up to the rental value, the better for the *user* of the land, because the larger is his share of what is produced. The landlord, as such, produces nothing, and should therefore have nothing.

There is no use in wasting printer's ink on the land question, if justice and equity are not sought: they can only be attained by giving to the community what it creates, the rent of land, and by giving to every individual what he creates, that is, exempt his property from taxation. Land is rising in price very rapidly in Japan, which means that proportionately labour is being paid too little.

The poor are now on the "starvation line," and many will, during the coming winter, go below it. "Prevention is better than cure," give the

people their rights to land and let them help themselves.

The Emigration Society is, in my opinion, a disgrace to Japan. Let every man who considers the land question, remember that the day is not distant when the community will be the landlord. Every lease for land should have a clause in it expressly stating that all taxes are to be paid by the landlord.

CHAS. E. GARST.

44, Tsukiji, Oct. 16th, 1896.

THE GIFU FLOODS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge with many thanks the following additional subscriptions to the fund for the relief of sufferers by the recent floods in this district.

Yours truly,

H. J. HAMILTON.

Offerory, S. Andrew's Church, Shiba,	
Tokyo	\$42.50
C.M.S. Mission, Tokyo.....	20.00
Ven. Archdeacon Page	5.00
Miss Ballard	7.00
J. H.	20.00
Rev. A. Elliot	5.00
S. Hilda's Mission	15.75
Offerory, Church of the Ascension, Ushigome, Tokyo	3.15
Rev. J. Macqueen Baldwin	50.00
S. Andrew's Guild, Shiba	10.00

A SOLUTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—At the present value of silver, about twelve grains of gold are equal to one silver dollar. The silver dollar, for the sake of argument, is worth fifty cents; therefore, 412 grains of silver plus 12 grains of gold are worth one gold dollar. Why is it that a coin composed of the two metals in these proportions should not always remain of the same value? For if silver became further depreciated, the gold in the coin would be appreciated to the same extent, and *vice versa*. This would be bimetalism made easy.

Your obedient servant,

ENQUIRER.

Tokyo, October 20th, 1896.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN EUROPE.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

London, September 7th.

The greatest difficulty for a political correspondent at any one place is to be able to report on the general aspect of political affairs. As a rule he will be inclined to over-estimate the importance of impressions received on the spot and to underrate the facts and events arising elsewhere. Hence the diplomatic reports received from different sides not only differ in their opinions but are even contradictory in their tendencies, and hence, too, the great difficulties encountered by the central authorities whose duty it is to form a general policy on the strength of the facts reported, and on the true international position of the Powers as ascertained by their agents. Public opinion in Europe is supposed to be very sensitive, and as a rule to be guided by something positive. Unfortunately, however, it is really led by impulses, and not by perceptions, and in consequence of the artificial methods employed by most continental Governments for its official or semi-official tutelage often driven to conclusions contrary to the conditions of the case and even detrimental to the real interests at stake.

How absurdly public opinion can be led we have lately been able to observe in the case of the reception accorded to Li Hung-chang. In this case it was not only Germany, but also France, England, and probably even the United States of America that were taken in, led astray by the managers of this absurd "ambassadorial farce" and induced to worship the "viceregal idol," who was carried in triumphal procession throughout Europe! Now the great Chinaman has left Germany, its industrialists have noticed that he has not ordered anything from the German workshops, and the French have reluctantly observed his peculiar habits of daily life, so very contradictory to the European conventional rules of decency and respectability, and last, but not least, Englishmen have felt and even resented the impertinent manner and overbearing conduct of the ex-Viceroy, who cleverly engaged their hospitality, accepted their adulation, but gave nothing in return.

For Japan there remains the satisfaction to note, however, that after all the great demonstrations of friendship and all the brilliant pictures developed

by this "extraordinary Embassy," the result for China has been nothing, and the effect created by Li is very much like that of a flashy firework. The spectators are now again in the dark, and nothing but a disagreeable smoke fills the space which for a short time was so beautifully and artistically illuminated. We may therefore leave for the present Li Hung-chang to oblivion and turn to something more important, namely, the consideration of the general political aspect of Europe.

During a recent trip to Austria and Hungary, I had some opportunities of observing the political horizon, especially during the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Russia to Vienna. It would, however, be contrary to the principles of sound political judgment to base an opinion on the impression produced by these fraternal interviews between the Austrian and Russian sovereigns, or on those happening just now in Silesia between the German and Russian Emperor. The official Press on such occasions is scarcely a true indicator of public feeling. We must also distinguish here clearly between the sentiments existing between the sovereigns of Europe—that is to say, the natural tendency of the reigning houses to each other—and the feelings of their peoples, namely, the predominant opinion, which a certain fraction of those peoples, statesmen, journalists, bankers, and a portion of the so-called educated masses for a time hold or act upon. I may here at once observe that to-day there scarcely exists in Europe a sovereign who personally exercises such influence on the destinies of the world, as monarchs exercised during the middle of this century until the great war of 1870. The sovereigns to-day are more closely allied to each other, from the fact that their interests as sovereigns are identical owing to the necessity of guarding in common against the socialist and anarchistic tendencies of the masses. Their personal inclination is therefore always for peace, and this tendency is augmented by the noble desire of preventing the immeasurable sufferings to their peoples which the outbreak of a general war would be sure to produce. There is therefore no reason to apprehend disturbance of the peace from highest regions, whereas during former centuries and even during the greater part of this century, the passions, prejudices, jealousies and ambitions of individual rulers were productive of much conflict. But, unfortunately, some other causes of international dissension still remain in force, and these are all the more to be dreaded because there is no living statesman in Europe who with a master hand can attempt to guide the conflicting interests and is able to find sufficient guarantees for peace. No one in Germany has succeeded in replacing Bismarck, and the loss Russia has suffered by the death of Prince Lobanoff, her able Minister for Foreign Affairs, produced a far greater shock than could have been expected. The difficulties experienced by the Russian Emperor in obtaining another competent man to fill this post are a proof how well the late minister had succeeded.

The necessity for some guiding spirit in the chaos of European politics is all the more felt because the most complicated questions are daily springing up, requiring ingenious and statesman-like solutions and something better than the old fashioned system of maintaining the *status quo*, which is only a diplomatic and polite phrase for "procrastination." The Turkish Empire is a mixture of Despotism, Ignorance, and Barbarity. It is fast going to pieces. All measures taken so far have only succeeded in temporarily keeping down the flames which are breaking out continually in one or another quarter of the Ottoman Empire. Not a single Power trusts the other, and none of them are trusted by Turkey, but the latter succeeds, by artfully playing one power against the other, in keeping its head over water. But this expedient will only be effective for the moment and can only last until the day when the causes working for the destruction of the Turk's power will have reached a point when either the Turkish Empire will have to be cut up, or a revolution from within and without make an end to a polity neither suited to this century nor admissible within the European system of civilized states. Again, looking towards France, we find her resolved to have her revenge, though that is more the result of passion than a resolution guided by considerations of interest. The alliance with Russia is growing more and more intimate, and fresh ties will be created by the visit of the Czar to Paris. Germany, in the meantime, has unfortunately lost all chances of an rapprochement with England. The causes of the strange disagreement are too well known to be repeated here, but are all the more to be regretted, for if it had been possible to bring Germany and England closely together, there would have been an increase in the strength of the triple alliance which would have made it almost irresistible; or, if the triple alliance had failed, the union of Germany with England would alone have suffered to secure peace.

So we find Germany now divided between its apprehension of France's revenge, its suspicions of the latter's ally, Russia, and its monarchical preferences for Russia with whom the Prussian Court has been always on exceptionally good terms. The Austrian connection with Germany is more artificial, for it is only the Hungarian element in the dual Empire that really is at heart in favour of the alliance, principally from hatred of the Russians, whose armies assisted the Austrian Emperor in 1848 to punish his subjects and to reconquer Hungarian dominions. But Austrian statesmen can scarcely look with satisfaction towards the prospect of an increased gravitation of the German element in Austria toward the German nation. Besides, the numerous Slav elements in the Austrian crown dominions have sympathies towards Russia. The third partner, Italy, is weakened by financial difficulties and is momentarily paralyzed by an ill advised colonial experiment, and would be therefore unable to bear the burdens of a great war in conformity with the obligations of the compact of the triple alliance. Thus the last work of Bismarck, and far from his best, is scarcely a complete guarantee of peace, and may, when actually called upon to take practical effect, prove utterly insufficient.

The only rational policy under the circumstances seems that of England, namely, to keep aloof from all engagements and reserve its strength and freedom of action for the decisive moment. England, great as a naval power, is still vulnerable at many points, owing to the expansion and decentralization of its dominions. Hence the necessity of very cautious action, which on the one side exposes it to the reproach of egotistical selfishness, and on the other to that of a want of vigour. If all appearances do not deceive, England after all will be the Power to show the least forbearance, when it comes to the conviction that its real interests are in jeopardy. For the present its big game with Russia should be watched with interest, both in Europe, on the Bosphorus and in Crete, whilst in Asia along the whole line of contact and contention, every nerve is already strained to the utmost tension. How long will this last, and where will the powder-mine explode? That is the question which for practical statesmen is the most important. Much will now depend on the person chosen to succeed Prince Lobanoff. According to the character of that individual it may be possible to forecast to a certain extent the appearance of the unavoidable catastrophe, in which the Far East, especially Japan, is so much interested. Prince Lobanoff's game in Turkey and China was a big one—it meant the whole as a prize or nothing. Perhaps his successor will be able to reap the fruits of the seeds the former so cleverly sowed; perhaps, but not likely, will the joint efforts of mediocrity succeed in patching up peace for a score of years—though this respite will, under the tolerant system pursued towards Turkey and its maladministration, scarcely be a credit to Europe or an advantage to the world.

THE YOKOHAMA JUVENILE TONIC SOL-FA CHORAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held on Saturday in the Vestibule of the Public Hall. All the members were present except three. Mrs. E. S. Patton (President), while congratulating the Society upon having attained its 5th anniversary, regretted the gradual shrinking of the choir from year to year, but expressed a hope that it had now reached its minimum, the number of old members being reduced to eleven, out of a choir originally composed of forty-three. The accession of four new members brought the present number to fifteen, and there was a prospect of several others joining when they had reached the necessary grade.

Mrs. Patton read a list of no fewer than 63 names of former pupils who had been musically educated to become members of the Choir, of whom there were now only three remaining. This made the continuance of the Society very arduous, especially as parents appeared so little sensible of its advantages to their whole lives, as it enabled them, when grown-up, to take a position in any Choir or Musical Society. It was much the fashion in Yokohama for parents to deplore the very limited opportunities there existed for giving children a liberal education. She supposed that if there were no Juvenile Choral Society in the place parents would bemoan the absence of one, but the appreciation in which the present one was held was sufficiently evidenced by the fact that out of the large number of families growing up in Yokohama, there had only been three applications from parents desiring a child to join a preparatory class for the new

season. The President then read a letter from two sisters, who were amongst the eldest members of the Choir, resigning their membership on account of their having out-grown the age suitable for a Juvenile Society, and expressing in polite, grateful terms, their appreciation of the benefits they had received from Miss Bloxham's and Mrs. Patton's musical training, and wishing all success in the future to the Society. The President said this seemed but a small matter to bring into prominence, but she felt compelled to allude to it, because the reception of such letters on members resigning, was altogether exceptional. She was sorry to have to state the fact that in this land of "gentle manners," as Sir Edwin Arnold designated Dai Nippon, the members who on leaving the Society had expressed themselves, either personally or through their relatives, as sensible of the benefit the choir drill had been to them, were decidedly in the minority. The majority had simply discontinued their attendance without even the formality of forwarding their resignations, showing that the universal atmosphere of politeness popularly supposed to pervade the air of Japan, had not been inhaled by them. In saying this she hoped it would be clearly understood that she was not casting any reflection upon the Japanese people, as there were none of that nationality of the choir.

The Treasurer reported a clear balance to the Society of \$100.54, exclusive of the incoming subscriptions from members; therefore it was voted, on a suggestion from Mrs. Patton, that a donation of \$20 be forwarded by the Treasurer for transmission to Bishop Bickersteth's relief fund for the sufferers by the late disastrous inundations.

It being necessary to appoint a new secretary in the place of Mr. N. J. Sargent, Miss Emily Jarman was elected for the ensuing year, Master Bennett and Miss Diack retaining their positions as Treasurer and Librarian.

Miss Bloxham, who was present, suggested that the weekly practice be resumed on the second Monday in November. This terminated the meeting.

DEATH OF MR. J. T. BOAG.

INQUEST.

An inquest was held at No. 153, Bluff, Yokohama, on Wednesday morning, by John Carey Hall, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, acting as Coroner, under the circumstances attending the death of Mr. John Thomas Boag, exchange-broker, who was found by his house-boy dead—shot through the head—in his bed at the 153, Bluff, on Tuesday evening shortly before 12 o'clock.

Upon the names of the jurymen summoned being read out, it was discovered that Messrs. J. B. Coulson and G. Syme Thomson were absent, and the Coroner inflicted a fine of \$50 upon each for non-attendance. Mr. J. B. Coulson, however, arrived just as the jury were being sworn, and upon proper excuse being tendered by him, his fine was remitted. The following jury were empanelled:—Messrs. G. W. Rogers, J. B. Coulson, W. Gordon, and H. B. Collins. Having viewed the body, that lay in the bed just as it was found by the house-boy, the following evidence was taken:—

Edwin Wheeler, M.D., sworn, said—This morning, a little after midnight, I was called up to see Mr. Boag. On reaching the house I went to his bedroom and found that he had been dead between one and two hours. On examination, I found a bullet wound just about an inch and a half above the right ear. The bullet had evidently passed right through the head; penetrated the brain and passed out at a spot on the same level as its entry, on the left side. Upon examining the room, I found the bullet embedded in the door of the ward-robe. In my opinion, death must have been nearly instantaneous. I have no doubt that death resulted from this pistol wound.

To the Coroner—I found a revolver in the room. There were still five chambers undischarged. I found the pistol lying on the bed across deceased's stomach, near his hand, not in it. Only one chamber had been emptied.

The Coroner—Now, to your knowledge, was there anything that could lead you to suppose that he had taken his own life?

Witness—As his private medical man, I may state that he had periodical fits of very heavy drinking. This has been so for some years past. I saw him last alive yesterday morning, at half past 9 o'clock: he was then in bed. I made him go to bed on Monday. He said then that he had not been feeling up to the mark; that he had been drinking a little too much, but had stopped it. I gave him some medicine, and when next I saw him he said he felt better. In the course of our talk on Tuesday he said that he could not face

business that day, but would go down the day following. I tried to cheer him up, endeavoured to get him to eat something, and before leaving ordered his breakfast to be sent in at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Rogers—There was nothing unusual in his manner then to induce you to believe that he was out of his mind?

Witness—Nothing unusual. But he was rather despondent.

Mr. Rogers—Had he shown any previous tendency to self-destruction?

Witness—No, never.

The Coroner—Are you aware whether he has been drinking lately?

Witness—Well, he has complained to me lately that he "could not leave off taking the beastly stuff." I talked to him about it, and he said, "No, I can't leave it off." He seemed despondent at not being able to brace up and shut-down on the liquor—to use his own terms.

Mr. Gordon—On Tuesday, was he more despondent than usual?

Witness—No, not more than usual. He seemed angry with himself for not being able to shake off the liquor. A little while ago I tried to get him to go into hospital for ten days. He went to the German hospital, but only remained there four days. He said to me that he could not stay there, it was like a prison. He was a man that could not bear restraint of any description. I told him that people in hospital had to conform to the rules of discipline there, and he said he could not bear restraint. He was a little better after this. Then he had a relapse. He went into hospital, I think, about a month ago.

Yamada Seishu, the deceased's house-boy, cautioned, deposed—I went into the deceased's bedroom about half-past eight o'clock last night, with some beef-tea and toast. As my master had not taken his medicine, I urged him to take it, but he said he could not, but would take it a little later on. I went to the room again at half-past nine o'clock and asked him again if he had taken the medicine. He said that he had not done so, but I was to leave it on the table. Then my master said: "As you have not slept for four nights you had better go and have a sleep." I left the room and went to get some sleep. I thought my master would be able to go to the office in the morning. At a quarter to twelve o'clock, as I had not locked up the house, I came out of my room to see if all was right. I went into the deceased's room and found a candle still burning, which I thought dangerous. My master was lying quite still. I asked him if he had taken his medicine, and looking at the glass I saw that he had not. Then I said: "Please take it." At the same moment I noticed that my master's face was changed. Previously, I had been told by my master, that whenever he had been drinking I was to pull him by the leg and wake him up. By the light of the candle I looked at my master's face and found that the appearance was not that of sleep. Looking at the left side of the head I saw blood, this caused me great consternation. Then I called the other boy and sent for Mr. James, of No. 158. Mr. James came soon. On Saturday afternoon my master drank a lot; and on Sunday morning asked me how long I had been in his service. I told him 18 years and 8 months. He said, "If I were to die, it would be a bad thing for you, would it not?" I said, "Yes." He then said that he would probably die of drink like another person he named. Then he added, "I will leave you a present of money, \$1,000, as you have been in my service so long." I think, judging from this, that my master intended to commit suicide, as he was in this right mind then—in view of what happened last night.

To the Coroner—I have seen the revolver before I first saw it twelve days ago. I believe it was bought at a Japanese shop. I did not notice any pistol when I first found my master. I was too flurried. Counting the *finrikisha* men, there are eight servants on the premises, none of us heard a report. All the doors in the house were shut, as my master objected to outside noises. I alone was in attendance on him.

To Mr. Coulson—I have never heard my master talking about suicide, only of dying. Deceased drank, but not very much, the day before his death. Yesterday my master was calm in manner, and told me he would go to the office next morning.

To Mr. Rogers—The pistol was kept on the top of the drawers close to the bed. He would have to get out of bed to reach it.

The Coroner said that this was all the evidence he had to bring, but he thought it was sufficient to enable the jury to give the simple verdict that was required of them. If there was doubt upon any point, if they thought that any point in the sad affair was obscure and needing clearing up, then he would consider the advisability of adjourning the enquiry until another day. But he thought the evidence given by Dr. Wheeler was so clear,

and the evidence of the houseboy so explicit, that the jury would have but little difficulty in arriving at a verdict.

Mr. Coulson thought that there was one point that might be made clearer. If the Japanese from whom the deceased had purchased the revolver could be found, he might be able to say whether the deceased made any remark as to the purpose for which he bought it. Still he did not press the point.

The Coroner thought that the evidence already given was sufficient for the purpose of enabling the jury to give their verdict. It was unnecessary for him to sum up in detail. They had heard the evidence of the old and faithful servant, who deposed to having gone to the deceased's bedroom about a quarter to twelve last night and found a change in the face of his master, a change that he soon discovered meant death. Then they had the evidence of Dr. Wheeler that the wound must have been self-inflicted. As for the reason that the servants heard no sound or noise of a pistol-shot, the servants slept in their own quarters that were far away from the bedroom that deceased himself occupied. Then came the question as to deceased's state of mind when he committed this deplorable act? It was the old, old story—too much drink. It was an old and well-tried axiom that nothing deranged the mental faculties so greatly as over indulgence in drink. Then as to the purchase of the pistol: it took place some days ago, and if there had been premeditation at that time, the jury must recollect that between the time of purchase and last night a considerable interval had elapsed. It seemed hardly probable that the deceased was continually and uninterruptedly meditating on self-destruction during all that time. When there were two possible ways of ascribing such an act, it was, in his opinion, the more charitable that was often found to be the more correct. Drunkenness had been found, over and over again, to have injured the balance of the faculties, and without going further into the case, he would leave the jury to consider their verdict.

The jury, after a short consultation, found that John Thomas Boag, between the hours of half-past nine o'clock and a quarter to twelve on Tuesday evening, shot himself in his bedroom at No. 153, Bluff, while of unsound mind.

The Coroner—In that verdict, I concur with you, gentlemen of the jury.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.—FRIDAY,
October 16th, 1896.

DIACK V. DIACK.—JUDGMENT.

The afternoon judgment was delivered in the case *Diack versus Diack*. Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. H. C. Litchfield for the defendant.

His Honour said—This is an action by a wife against her husband for specific performance of an agreement made between them on the 27th January 1888, under which (so far as this action is concerned) she was to receive from him an annual allowance of £60, in half-yearly installments of £30, in January and July. The husband and wife have, it appears, lived apart since some time prior to November, 1886—the plaintiff at home and the defendant here. Payments in the shape of bank-drafts were regularly made under the agreement by the defendant to his wife's agent here every January and July without any demur till July, 1893, when, in forwarding the draft representing the allowance to January, 1894, defendant wrote that in future, before making any further payments, he desired to be furnished on each occasion with a certificate from a well-known resident of standing in the locality where his wife was living, showing that she was alive. This procured from her solicitor in Aberdeen, Mr. Gillies, an advocate and notary public there, a certificate under his notarial seal, stating that he had personally paid to her on the 2nd September, 1893, the half-year's allowance then received, and undertaking personally to pay to her all further remittances from her husband or to account for any remittance that might be received by him after her death. This certificate and the undertaking given in it would appear to have satisfied the defendant, for he continued the payments, as before, for two years without any evidence of the kind he had said he desired. Suddenly, however, on the 30th January, 1896, he, for some unaccountable reason, wrote to the plaintiff's solicitor in Aberdeen, complaining strongly of the terms of the very certificate and undertaking with which he had found no fault whatever when it reached him twenty-seven months previously. In the same letter he ad-

ded, to the original requirement in his letter of July, 1893—viz., a certificate that his wife was alive—the further one that he should be furnished on each occasion with an acquittance showing that the previous remittance had been applied to the purpose for which it was sent; and he gave notice that unless such certificate and acquittance were sent he would not remit further funds after the remittance he was then making. He added that he would decline to accept as valid a certificate or acquittance from anyone through whose hands the money might pass in transit (which would include, of course, Mr. Gillies), or from certain other persons. He wrote further: "On this occasion the draft is in my own name"—they had up to that time been drawn in favour of the wife's agent here—"and endorsed by me, and should this or any future draft, reach you after your client's death you are in no way authorised to cash such draft but must return the same, both first and second, intact to me." To that letter the solicitor replied on the 4th March. He admitted that the defendant was "of course entitled to an acquittance and also to a satisfactory certificate of survival when each installment is paid," and explained that as he was in the habit, in his capacity of Notary Public, of giving certificates of survival in connection with annuities and pensions both for his own clients and others—which certificates were accepted by the Government Departments—it had not occurred to him that the fact that he was receiving the annuity on behalf of the payee would be considered by the defendant as any disqualification to his granting the certificate in the present case. He added: "I should certainly consider myself personally responsible to you to refund any installment arriving after the death of my client, and I hereby accept notice of your intimation that in the event of the draft now on its way or any future draft reaching me after my client's death, I am not in any way authorised to cash such draft, but must return intact the same to you." I presume you received from Mr. Lowder—"the plaintiff's agent here—" acknowledgments of the payments up to date, and in any case I have taken from Mrs. Diack specific receipts for each half yearly payment up to and including that receipt in August last. I shall continue to do so, and undertake to hold these available as evidences of the payments made by you. Trusting the above letter will fill the requirements indicated in yours of 30th January last, I am, etc." This, however, did not satisfy the defendant, who wrote in reply on the 28th May, insisting that the certificates of acquittance and survival asked for in his previous letter should "be promptly rendered, without which I shall withhold remittance." This unfortunately did not lead to a certificate of either kind being sent: in Mr. Gillies' reply of 10th July the defendant was only offered an opportunity of satisfying himself, by making enquiries in certain stated quarters, as to the "responsibility" (by which is evidently meant the standing and reputation) of Mr. Gillies. He was further informed that the remittance of 30th January had come to hand, and that the receipt of it was not acknowledged in the earlier letter "because it is with Mr. Lowder that you have to do and you no doubt received his receipt." The defendant had in the meanwhile, before that letter could be received, intimated on the 29th July to the plaintiff's agent here that a draft for the allowance to 31st January next was ready for delivery to him in exchange for the acquittance and a certificate showing at the latest reasonable date that the plaintiff was alive. No such certificate, of course, could be supplied by Mr. Lowder, nor was any, as I have said, received subsequently from home.

The plaintiff thereupon brought her action for specific performance, to which the defendant pleaded,—that he had always been and still was willing to pay the £30 half-yearly on evidence being sent to him that the plaintiff was alive at a time approximately near the date of the said payments becoming due; that he had received no notice or certificate of any kind, that the plaintiff was alive in 1896; and that he had tendered the plaintiff's counsel in Japan a draft for £30 on the condition stated;—and he brought into Court the draft in question. His answer raised the further defence that a certificate of survival given by a relative or person interested in the case or the attorney or agent of such person, was not a valid certificate of survival; but nothing arises upon this contention, because as a fact no certificate of survival was given at all: there is nothing beyond the statement in Mr. Gillies' letter of the 10th July that the remittance of January 30th had come to hand in March.

At the hearing, the only evidence consisted of the correspondence, etc., between the defendant and the representatives here and at home of the

and Tyack, with 27, which included a distinct chance to the wicket keeper when he had made 8, being the highest scorers. The Japan eleven went in to bat for the second time after the interval for tiffin, and until after the fall of the third wicket the prospect was by no means unsatisfactory for them. White had scored 28—he should have been caught when he had made only a single—and Lucas was punishing the bowling with considerable freedom. Mann was put on to bowl at this point, and so effectively did he do his work that the wickets fell rapidly, the last seven wickets adding only 24 to the score, and the innings, closing for 83, leaving the S.C.C. 69 runs to win. Of this number 23 were obtained before Tyack and Farbridge, who had opened the second innings, were separated. The next wicket, St. Croix's put on 10 more, and the next, Moule's, just double that. Then McClure and Mann came together, and settling down to determined hitting they quickly knocked up the requisite runs, the match ending a few minutes before five in a victory for the S.C.C., as already stated. Full score and analysis:—

JAPAN.				
1st Innings		and Innings.		
Mr. F. E. White, b. Mann ...	24	b. Moule ...	28	
" E. W. Tate, c. Macgregor, b. St. Croix ...	21	c. and b. Mann ...	3	
" C. Lucas, b. Cox ...	33	b. Mann ...	21	
" F. E. Wilkinson, l.b.w., b. Mann ...	0	c. and b. St. Croix ...	5	
" E. W. Townsend, b. Moule ...	30	c. Sawyer, b. Mann ...	9	
" A. B. Walford (Capt.), c. and b. Mann ...	6	b. Mann ...	0	
" Matt. Smith, b. Cox ...	30	b. Mann ...	2	
" A. Kingdon, c. Macgregor, b. Cox ...	0	b. Mann ...	0	
" A. L. Robinson, b. St. Croix ...	0	b. Cox ...	0	
" H. S. Goddard, b. St. Croix ...	0	not out ...	4	
" B. H. Pearson, not out ...	0	c. Sawyer, b. Mann ...	1	
byes, 7, l.b. 4 ...	21	byes, 8, l.b. 3 ...	20	
Total ...		83		

S.C.C.				
1st Innings		and Innings.		
Mr. C. M. Firth, c. Pearson, b. Tate ...	8	st. Wilkinson, b. Goddard ...	21	
" W. H. Moule, b. Lucas ...	39	b. Goddard ...	11	
" F. H. Sawyer, l.b.w., b. Tate ...	0	b. Goddard ...	5	
" J. Mann, b. White ...	3	not out ...	4	
" F. A. de St. Croix, b. Tate ...	3	b. White ...	4	
" W. B. Cheetham, c. Walford, b. Goddard ...	25	c. Lucas, b. Tate ...	11	
" W. J. Tyack, b. White ...	27	c. Lucas, b. Tate ...	11	
" F. A. Cox, c. Lucas, b. White ...	8	b. Goddard ...	21	
" R. C. Fabridge (Capt.), run out ...	0	b. Goddard ...	21	
" A. J. McClure, c. Robinson, b. White ...	8	not out ...	33	
" R. Macgregor, not out ...	0	not out ...	33	
byes 2, l.b. 1, w.b. 2, n.b. 2 ...	6	byes 4, n.b. 2 ...	5	
Total ...		130		

C. M. Firth, P. A. Cox, F. H. Sawyer, W. B. Cheetham, and R. Macgregor, did not bat.

S.C.C.—2nd Innings.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Mr. Tate ...	27	10	39	3
" Goddard ...	7	1	30	1
" Lucas ...	10	6	25	1
" White ...	23.4	3	20	4
" Townsend ...	3	0	29	0

Goddard bowled 2 wickets and Lucas a no-ball.

and Innings.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Mr. Lucas ...	3	0	7	0
" Tate ...	10	3	25	1
" White ...	5	0	29	1
" Goddard ...	4	1	22	2

Goddard bowled a no-ball.

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB VS. JAPAN.

The visitors on Oct. 15 gained a victory by 38 runs over the strongest team the Shanghai Recreation Club could put into the field, and then playing out time, put together 110 runs for the loss of but three batsmen. The Japan captain won the toss, and a favourable beginning was made, the first three wickets putting on 75 runs. The remaining batsmen, however, were not able to maintain such a high rate of scoring, the ninth wicket—Robinson being unable to bat on account of the injury to his hand—falling for the addition of only 22 more runs. When it came to their turn, the S.R.C. batsmen, with the exception of Jackson, who played a very spirited innings of 30, were able to do comparatively little with the Japan bowling, and they were disposed of for 59 runs. For a second time the Japan eleven went in to bat, and in the time remaining scored 110 for three wickets, Lucas again playing vigorously, for 41, and Walford being not-out 39.

Full score and analysis of the day's play are appended:—

JAPAN.				
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, b. T. Wallace ...	28			
" C. Lucas, c. Naylor, b. Jackson ...	46			
" F. E. White, c. Veitch, b. Jackson ...	7			
" E. W. Tate, b. Möller ...	2			
" Matt. Smith, b. Naylor ...	1			
" E. W. Townsend, run-out ...	8			
" A. B. Walford (Capt.), c. S. M. Wallace, b. T. Wallace ...	4			
" A. Kingdon, c. Purcell, b. T. Wallace ...	5			
" H. S. Goddard, b. T. Wallace ...	0			
" B. H. Pearson, not out ...	0			
Leg-byes, 2; w-b, 2 ...	3			
Total ...				

S.R.C.				
Mr. H. W. Row, b. White ...	9			
" H. Veitch, b. White ...	3			
" E. W. Tate, l.b.w., b. Tate ...	3			
" W. H. Jackson, b. Lucas ...	30			
" N. E. Möller, b. White ...	1			
" T. Wallace (Captain), c. Kingdon, b. White ...	3			
" F. Griffin, b. Goddard ...	3			
" C. H. Purcell, b. Lucas ...	0			
" T. Veitch, c. and b. Goddard ...	1			
" H. O. White, c. Kingdon, b. Goddard ...	3			
" J. Naylor, not out ...	1			
Bye, 3; w-b, 2 ...	4			
Total ...				

JAPAN—Second Innings.				
Mr. C. Lucas, c. and b. White ...	41			
" E. W. Tate, run out ...	5			
" F. E. Wilkinson, c. and b. Jackson ...	2			
" A. B. Walford, not out ...	39			
" E. W. Townsend, not out ...	28			
Bye, 1; l.b. 2 ...	1			
Total ...				

BOWLING ANALYSIS.—JAPAN.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Mr. Jackson ...	10	10	34	2
" Möller ...	9	8	30	1
" H. Veitch ...	2	0	20	0
" T. Wallace ...	10.3	1	20	4
" Naylor ...	4	2	9	1

S. R. C.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Mr. Tate ...	13	6	14	1
" White ...	12	3	29	4
" Lucas ...	4	1	6	0
" Goddard ...	3.2	1	6	3

JAPAN—2nd Innings.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Mr. Jackson ...	12	0	32	1
" T. Wallace ...	8	0	16	0
" Griffin ...	5	0	16	0
" Möller ...	2	0	10	0
" Naylor ...	6	3	20	0
" White ...	5	1	7	1
" S. Wallace ...	3	0	5	0

A RETROSPECT.

The Japan cricket eleven, who have been with us since the 3rd of October, leave here by the *Melbourne* for Japan. Their stay was prolonged on account of the wet week which commenced on the second day of the match against a combined eleven of Shanghai, and though as cricket enthusiasts we lamented the abandonment of that game and the postponement of further play, we are able now to look upon it as a disguised blessing, for it enabled Shanghai to become acquainted with the social merits of its guests, and to return in some slight degree the profuse hospitality heaped upon Shanghai cricketers when visiting Kobe and Yokohama. Besides the more public functions, such as the dinner at the Shanghai Club and the entertainment at the Lyceum Theatre, many members of the community have been only too glad to do what they could to add pleasure to the visitors' sojourn, and had the weather been less favourable no doubt a good deal more would have been possible. It is pleasing to notice, in this connection, the completeness and excellence which marked the arrangements connected both with the Cricket, and the less serious amusements, and it is only right to say that for this Mr. Gumpert, the Hon. Secretary of the S.S.C., deserves the warmest praise. The performance of such duties as his demands much tact and judgement, and he has shown he possesses those qualities in a high degree.

From a cricket point of view the festival has been a great success. With the first match, when the prospect for Shanghai looked certainly bright, the rain came on the second day, and cut the game short when Japan had made gain in the first innings, and Shanghai, 177 for six wickets. The downpour continued for days, but at last on Tuesday, the weather changed, and the S.C.C. ground drying with its usual rapidity, the Club began a match against the visitors which was continued on Wednesday and resulted with the home team gaining a decisive victory. On Thursday an invitation was accepted to play against the Shanghai Recreation Club, and here the visitors had the satisfaction of achieving well deserved success, whilst the way in which they punished the S.R.C. bowling in the second innings will not be quickly forgotten. It is not necessary to criticise in detail the performances of the individual members of the eleven, for, like most visiting teams they could not embrace the full cricketing strength of Yokohama and Kobe, but we may say this much that collectively they appeared to be undoubtedly strong in bowling, but weak in batting. Their fielding all round was excellent, but the few mistakes they made in the way of missed catches proved decidedly expensive.

In bidding them good-bye to-day, the many friends they have made in Shanghai will cordially wish them a pleasant journey homeward, and an-

ticipate the renewal, at a not distant period, of a companionship which owes its existence to the finest of all manly games, and which has been so mutually enjoyable.—*North China Daily News.*

KOBE V. YOKOHAMA.

Kobe on Tuesday went a long way to retrieve its fortunes in the cricket field, when the match with the Yokohama eleven was begun. More suitable weather could not have been desired; it was cool and, though somewhat cloudy, the light for the best part of the day was good. Kobe won the toss and went to the wickets with J. Marshall and Wilkinson. Yokohama put on Murray and Goddard to bowl. Play commenced about half-past ten. The opening play was somewhat disappointing, the bowling was poor, and included several wides—three from Goddard in one over—but it soon showed signs of improvement. At the commencement of the sixth over, the score stood at 20. The seventh over yielded seven to Marshall off Murray's bowling. Goddard's was safer but did not allow of many runs. After the thirteenth over, Edwards relieved Murray and began with a maiden. Wilkinson in the next over made a boundary hit off Goddard, and a little later three for a bye was put down against Edwards. Kingdon was sent in to relieve Goddard when the score had reached 40, and for the next two overs only two were added to the score, but Wilkinson in the next two scored three boundary hits, and 50 went up. Edwards made up for this by making his next two overs maidens. Goddard returned to relieve Edwards and began with a maiden. Kingdon had five maidens in succession to his credit. The fielding of the visiting team was smart, and successfully kept the Kobe men from scoring rapidly. When Murray was put on again to relieve Kingdon, a smart catch by Tyng put Marshall out for 26, the score standing then at 73. C. Lucas went in next, and the stand was maintained for some time, but with small results. They had only added 9 to the score when Wilkinson was bowled by Murray, the ball going off his pads. Score—79-2-39. Tate filled the vacancy, and began play with a boundary hit off Goddard. Lucas made another in the next over. The century was reached at seven minutes past twelve, and then Edwards was sent in to relieve Kingdon. Tate made the first straight drive of the day, counting 4, and he made the second not long afterwards. Boundary hits were a very good feature of the Kobe play and about equally distributed among the batsmen. Just before the adjournment, Tate might easily have been caught by Libeaud, but a good chance was missed. The adjournment for tiffin was made at half-past twelve, the score standing at 134-2-39. Lucas then had 26 to his credit and Tate 25.

Play was resumed shortly after two o'clock, Murray and Edwards sharing the bowling. Only two overs had been played and 13 added to the score when Lucas was cleaned bowled by Murray. Score—147-3-30. Tate with the next ball added 3, and then a straight drive counting 4. Lightfoot went in, and came out for a duck's-egg, being smartly caught by Libeaud. Score, 155-4-0. Edwards filled the vacancy at the wicket. Tate made his fourth 4 in the next over. Edwards made his first run off a high ball which ought to have been caught. After two or three single runs, Tate added another 4, and Kingdon was put on to bowl again, relieving Edwards. Tate continued to bat well, but Edwards was not up to his usual form. The first maiden after tiffin was made by Murray off Edwards, but not long afterwards the batsman buckled to it, and made two drives (4's) in succession off Murray's balls. Tate followed this with a 3, and Edwards with 3. Two or three singles, and then another 4 drive by Edwards. Another good attempt followed, the ball going high and dropping near the boundary with no one there to catch it. Only one run was made off the hit. Edwards fell shortly afterwards to a straight ball played on by Murray. This bowler, it will be noted, had taken all the wickets, though at no light cost. During the partnership of Edwards with Tate the score was increased by 52, so that it now stood at 207-5-22. Scrymgeour was the new-comer, and three overs later Edwards went on bowling again in place of Goddard. Tate's next good hit added a 6 to his score, the ball going clean over the boundary into the road. His next was a good driving hit but the ball was well fielded. Scrymgeour fell just afterwards, being caught by Goddard at cover point off a ball by Edwards. Score 228-6-3. Abbott was the next man to go in, but Tate was the next out, for 86—the highest score of the day. Murray took the wicket with a ball played full on. Score, 247-7-86. Townsend took the place of Tate at the wicket. Abbot's wicket was taken for 6 by a full pitch from Edwards. Score, 250-8-3. W. Braess was the tenth man in and it was not long before Murray took Townsend's

wicket for 3. Score, 250-9-3. The last batsman to go in was S. Lucas. He looked like making a stay, but these expectations were soon disappointed by Braess being caught out for 4 by Tyng off Kingdon. The innings closed for 266; including, it will be seen, 41 extras:—

Kobe.	
Mr. J. Marshall, c. Tyng, b. Murray	...
" F. E. Wilkinson, b. Murray	...
" C. Lucas, b. Murray	...
" E. W. Tate, b. Murray	...
" C. H. Lightfoot, c. Libaud, b. Murray	...
" W. D. S. Edwards, b. Murray	...
" J. Scrymgeour, c. Goddard, b. Edwards	...
" F. J. Abbott, b. Edwards	...
" E. W. Townsend, b. Murray	...
" W. Braess, c. Tyng, b. Kingdon	...
" S. Lucas, not out	...
Byes 4, l.b. 5, w. 8	...

BOWLING ANALYSIS.	
	R. B. M. W. WD.
Mr. Murray...	160 107 4 7 1
" Goddard	95 58 6 6 4
" Edwards	120 43 11 8 3
" Kingdon	81 59 6 1 0
" Johnson	10 0 0 0 0

The Yokohama team went in sharp at four o'clock, when the light was getting bad. Dickinson and Tyng went to wickets, and Tate and Edwards were sent out to bowl. Dickinson's stay at the wickets was brief. A weak hit off Tate gave C. Lucas an opportunity for an easy catch, and the batsman was out for 4. Score, 5-1-4. Johnson took his place but was soon dismissed for 2, the total for the two wickets being 10. Tyng, the youngest member of the Yokohama team, made a brave stand against fairly good bowling, but the smart fielding of the Kobe men did not admit of his scoring very much. Four maidens were made in succession by the bowlers—two each. When Murray succeeded Johnson, C. Lucas relieved Tate, who probably was fatigued after playing nearly the whole time. There was no other reason for changing; at any rate, Kobe could not hope to do much better than to get 2 wickets for 10 runs. There was not much run-getting for some little time after this. The monotony was broken by Tyng being neatly caught by Wilkinson off Lucas. Score, 17-3-8. Wallford was partnered with Murray, but his stay was very brief, being caught by Braess (wicket keeper) off Edwards. Score, 20-4-3. Edwards (brother of the bowler) then went out. He was some time without scoring, and then surprised the field by a drive for 4. Though Murray remained a good time at the wickets it was without any compensating advantage to the total score, as he only managed to get a single and a three and was then caught out by Edwards off Lucas. Score, 28-5-4. Kingdon signalled his advent at the wicket by a drive for three and when that over was finished, stumps were drawn—about five o'clock—the light at the time being very bad. Their scores were:—

YOKOHAMA.	
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. C. Lucas, b. Tate	...
" T. Tyng, c. Wilkinson, b. Lucas	...
" R. C. E. Johnson, b. Edwards	...
" G. C. Murray, c. Edwards, b. Lucas	...
" A. H. Wallford, c. Braess, b. Edwards	...
" E. B. S. Edwards, not out	...
" A. Kingdon, not out	...
" W. Goddard	...
" E. O. Kenyon	...
" E. F. Libaud	...
" J. H. Pearson	...
bye 1, no ball 1	...

A fair number of spectators followed the play with keen interest. Mr. Rizetti's band was in attendance and at four o'clock tea was provided in the Ladies' Pavilion, Mrs. Playfair presiding.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

Manila, October 6th.

Quarantine has been abolished, as you are no doubt aware, and the shipping people are consequently elated.

Affairs in the country still remain in a state of disturbance similar to the condition a week ago. Last Friday, the Spanish Transatlantic Company's steamer *Cataluna* arrived with 937 of the 1,500 troops expected, and to-day the *Montserat*, belonging to the same Company, arrived with probably the same number aboard, for the number stated to have been sent is also 1,500. The streets in consequence have been decorated with arches and floral displays, while the buildings are draped with the national colours, red and yellow. Meanwhile, the firing can be plainly heard, as the gunboats and fort keep pounding away at the rebels of the Cavite province, who hover dangerously near the village of Old Cavite. Yesterday morning a severe engagement took place near Binacayan, where the Government powder magazine is established, and the Spanish forces thought

it prudent to withdraw and wait for reinforcements. Fortifications have been erected by both rebels and Spaniards, and as yet the latter have acted only on the defensive. At present, out of the 22 villages in the province the rebels hold 19. With the Spanish reinforcements arriving the Government will soon no doubt be able to put a force into the field sufficient to drive the badly armed insurgents into the hills. But what then? Will the Spanish be able to pursue and subdue them completely? Opinions do not vary on that point. It is almost an impossibility, unless the Spanish can put ten men in the field where they have one now. The mother country cannot do this until the Cuban difficulty is settled.

The native troops, have been loyal to the Spanish from the first, and it is, to say the least, most creditable. Throughout the difficulties they have not yet swerved from the path of duty. And this, one must remember, at a period when the power was in their own hands, and they could have put a bullet in the heart of every Spaniard in Manila if they so desired. Will the Government recognize this loyalty? They should. One cannot view the profuse displays, the expense incurred in decorating and banqueting the arriving Spanish troops, without wishing that the money spent, or that a similar sum, be afforded to give to these poor weary natives whom one sees marching backward and forward in the heated streets, a testimonial of the appreciation that the citizens have for their loyalty.

Arrests continue, and it is said that over two thousand prisoners are now confined, packed in ill-ventilated dungeons to an extent that, if not absolutely fatal to great numbers, causes much suffering. But the fearful incident of the "black hole of Manila," when 57 suspects were smothered to death, will probably not be again repeated, for the Governor-General, who is generally known to be a man of sterling qualities, was greatly enraged over the affair, which the guards in attendance swear was an unavoidable accident, and has given such orders that the soldiers are aware it would be greatly to their disadvantage to allow any more such "unavoidable accidents."

H.M.S. *Pigmy* is here, and it is reported that the officers have had a slight controversy with the Spanish Naval authorities as to what the duties of a foreign warship in a similar position may be. A mutiny broke out aboard a Nova Scotia ship yesterday morning, and a squad from the *Pigmy* went aboard to quell it. This the Spanish feel was not the proper thing, for in Spanish waters they do not like it to appear that they can not protect foreign ships that may for the time be in their jurisdiction.

THE RÖNTGEN RAYS AND THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE.

The Annual Meeting of the Victoria Institute of 8, Adelphi Terrace, London, England, held in September, must certainly be regarded as the most important one in the history of this Institute.

For the last twenty-six years the Victoria Institute has held each successive Annual Meeting in the large hall of the Society of Arts, on each occasion chronicling the gradually-increasing extension of its most important work, carried on during the lifetime of its late president, the last Earl of Shaftesbury, under whose auspices the Institute was founded; and, during the last few years, under his earnest and gifted successor, Sir George Stokes, Bart., the initial objects being steadily kept in view by its energetic Council, among whom are still to be found many of those earnest workers who first assisted at its foundation. Those objects seem never to be forgotten, and on Wednesday last, two of the greatest scientific men of the age, the President, and Lord Kelvin, supported by a crowd of some of the foremost scientists of the age, gathered together to listen to the thirtieth Annual Address on the Institute's progress and the greatest discovery of the age. Whether it be Lord Kelvin or Sir George Stokes who is the greatest authority on heat and light, it matters not, both gave their verdict, as members of the Victoria Institute, on the Laws of Light and the Röntgen Rays, and the whole scientific world in England receives it with respect. Well may we congratulate the Victoria Institute in having steadily maintained its course, and having successfully united men of cultured minds and calm judgment in the investigation "of important questions which bear on the great Truths of Holy Writ"—in order that hasty conclusions might no longer afford ground for unseemly attack—to the injury both of Religion and Science.

Rarely has the Society of Arts seen so great and important a gathering as at this meeting. Every

seat was occupied, the entrance lobby was crammed, and many late arrivals found it hopeless to obtain even standing room. The following are a few among those present:—Lord Halsbury, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Kelvin, who appeared at the meeting immediately on his arrival from Windsor and receiving his new honour, Lord Greenock, Lord Radstock, the Bishop of Ripon, the Right Hon. Sir R. Couch, Sir Sidney Shippard, Sir F. Middleton, Sir H. Barkly, Sir G. Parker, the Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal, Sir Joseph Lyster, President of the Royal Society, Dr. Crookes, F.R.S., Captain Creak, F.R.S., Inspector-General Meiklejohn, F.R.S., Professor E. Hull, F.R.S., J. H. Gladstone, F.R.S., Dr. Common, F.R.S., Dr. Seeley, F.R.S., A. Hailey, F.R.S., J. Althaus, F.R.S., H. W. Blake, F.R.S., Generals Robinson, E. D. Smith, Colonel Welby, M.P., Mr. Radcliffe Cooke, M.P., James Round, M.P., and others; in all about 400 were present. Letters of regret were read from the German Ambassador, Sir J. W. Dawson, C.M.G., F.R.S., Professor Sayce, and others. The report was read by the hon. secretary, Captain F. Petrie. The number of members had risen to 1,500, of whom one-third were resident abroad. Among its losses the Institute had to regret the death of Professor Pasteur, who had been a firm supporter. Among those who had contributed to the subjects discussed during the season were Sir J. Dawson, C.M.G., Professors Cleland, F.R.S., Calderwood, Hull, Fritz Hommel, Sayce, Macloskie, and many others. The Report having been adopted, the President gave a brilliant address. Prefacing it by referring to the work of the Institute, he described the bearing of the laws of light on the question of Röntgen rays, which he considered merely transverse vibrations of very short period. Dr. Gerard Smith, M.R.C.S.E., one of the Council of the Institute, contributed much to the interest of the address by showing illustrations of the effect of the rays. Towards the close of the address Lord Kelvin entered the meeting on his arrival from Windsor, whither he had been summoned to receive his new honour. His appearance was the signal for the whole meeting rising and warmly applauding him. In afterwards moving a vote of thanks to Sir George Stokes, he, to point out one of the marvels of the Röntgen rays, mentioned that the rays of green light vibrated 70 thousand million million times in a second. Sir Joseph Rayner, K.C.S.I., F.R.S., seconded the vote of thanks, which was conveyed to Sir G. Stokes by Lord Kelvin.

We may here point out that the Victoria Institute practically consists of two classes, 1st, the workers, and 2ndly, those who approve of the work done, and desire to strengthen a Society formed with such high objects, and all of these, clergymen especially, profit by the carefully and simply arranged results of the work done as published in the Institute's journal.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, October 17.

The Times, in an article referring to the increasing virulence of the German press, observes that it is gradually alienating Great Britain at a time when British support to the Triple alliance is especially useful in view of the alliance between Russia and France.

London, October 22.

Trafalgar Day was largely celebrated throughout London yesterday. The Nelson column was decorated with wreaths from top to bottom and great crowds assembled in the square, where patriotic speeches were delivered.

The newspapers concur in the opinion that nothing hostile to foreigners was implied by the celebration, and that it was only awakening the nation to the importance of the Navy.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Kobe, October 21.

The Yokohama team, continuing their innings this morning, were all out for 38, and then, following on, made 99 in their second innings, the Kobe team thus winning by an innings and 129 runs.

Kobe, October 23.

In the baseball match, Kobe won twice, the Yokohama totals being 14 and 6, the Kobe totals 16 and 25.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, October 19.

The reported cession of Kassala to Great Britain is declared to be unfounded.

It is reported from Washington that President Cleveland, in his next message to Congress, will announce an amicable settlement of the Venezuelan question.

The French Minister of the Interior has announced that the Government's programme to be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies, will include proposals for the creation of a Colonial army.

Exchange on London at Paris25.19½

Exchange on London at New York... 4.84
(Tel. Trans.)

London, October 21.

Reports from Paris and Berlin foreshadow joint diplomatic action by Great Britain, France, and Russia, to secure the opening of the Dardanelles to foreign warships, the Sultan's personal protection and the integrity of his dominions being guaranteed. It is added that the Sultan is not adverse to this proposal, which would necessitate an European conference.

Exchange on London at Paris.....25.22

Exchange on London at New York... 4.84
(Tel. Trans.)

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

London, September 23.

Baron Banffy, President of Council, speaking in the Hungarian Diet, states that Austria and Russia have agreed upon a pacific policy, and to endeavour to maintain the *status quo* in the near East.

The *Times* states that the Russian fleet at Sebastopol has been placed upon a war footing and has embarked three battalions of infantry, and that it will go to the Bosphorus if a telegram from the Russian Ambassador so orders.

(FROM THE "LA COURRIER D'HAIIPHONG.")

Penang, Oct. 1.

The trial of Swi Bock and Low Chang, formerly store-keepers at Messrs. Behn, Meyer & Co., who have been on their trial for criminal breach of trust in respect of tin, has at last concluded after lasting for seventeen days—a record case.

Both prisoners were found guilty, but Counsel moved for an arrest of judgment.

Paris, Sept. 27.

The rumour that the Czarewitch was very ill is denied.

Sept. 28.

An English despatch from Shanghai announces a general rising in Thibet against China.

Sept. 30.

Count Tornelli and M. Hanotaux (the French Foreign Minister) have signed a new treaty in regard to Tunis. Italy abandons all her claims, and her products will be admitted into Tunis on the minimum French tariff.

Oct. 1.

France and Italy have signed a convention conceding reciprocal and national treatment and freedom of navigation in their respective ports.

(FROM "LA COURRIER DE SAIGON.")

Paris, October 2.

M. Chichkine, permanent secretary in the Foreign Department of Russia, has arrived in Paris. The President of the Republic has nominated him to the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour.

The epidemic of cholera in Egypt has entirely subsided.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Hongkong, October 13.

There is a severe outbreak of bubonic plague at Bombay. It commenced on the 20th Sept., and by the 25th there were 300 deaths. Hundreds of rats, as in the Hongkong epidemic, died. The outbreak is attributed to the foul state of the sewers.

October 15.

Captain James Stewart, Commander of the Customs cruiser *Kaipan*, died yesterday.

The steamer *Malacca* spoke the British barque

West York, which was anchored fourteen miles from Turnabout, with all masts gone.

(FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.")

Penang, October 5.

Low Chang (the father of the other accused) has been condemned to seven years' rigorous imprisonment; a further term on one charge is reserved for appeal. Swee Bock (the store-keeper of Behn Meyer and Co.) has been condemned to twelve years' rigorous imprisonment.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 10.

The Sirdar, Sir H. H. Kitchener, and his chief officers have returned to Cairo.

October 12.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, who was seized with apoplexy in Hawarden Church, and expired at the Rectory, was the guest of Mr. Gladstone, who was absent from church owing to the cold weather.

October 13.

The *Times* states that owing to Lord Rosebery's suggestion that Mr. Asquith should be his successor as Leader of the Liberal Party, and to the certain opposition of Sir William V. Harcourt, the situation is complicated, and that Mr. Gladstone's return is seriously advocated.

The *Novoe Vremya* says that the changed tone displayed by England will materially facilitate united European action with regard to the Porte.

October 14.

It has been officially stated in Paris that China has entrusted Frenchmen with the reconstruction of the Foochow Dockyard, and that the contract was signed at Peking on the 14th inst.

October 15.

In a recent speech, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, denounced the connivance of the Sultan and of the Porte in the late massacres, but stated that Russia, Austria, and Germany were determined to uphold the *status quo* in Turkey, and that therefore the British policy consists in promoting concerted action by the Powers with a view to advising and, if necessary, compelling reforms.

He stated that Dongola was the stepping-stone to a further advance when the time was ripe.

The Right Hon. G. N. Curzon, speaking at Glasgow, said that the Nile task would be incomplete until the Egyptian flag was hoisted again at Khartoum.

Referring to Armenia, he said that he deprecated agitation as long as Great Britain did not intend to go to war on behalf of Armenia.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kobe, October 20.

In the cricket match to-day, Kobe went in first and made 266—Tate 86, Wilkinson 39, Lucas 30, Marshall 26, Edwards 22. Murray took seven wickets. For Yokohama, when the stumps were drawn, five men were out for a total of 21 runs, the highest scorer being Tyng, who made 8.

Nagoya, Oct. 20.

Twenty-two officers and nine hundred and eighty-seven men of the 18th Regiment left here for Hiroshima on Monday evening, *en route* to Formosa.

Kyoto, Oct. 20.

Marquis Yamagata arrived here on Monday evening.

Sendai, Oct. 20.

Lieut.-General Yamaguchi and Major-General Ogihara, who went to Yamagata Ken for the autumn manoeuvres, have returned to the city. Major-General Ogihara afterwards left for Aomori.

Kobe, Oct. 20.

The Japanese man-of-war *Matsushima* left this port on Monday evening for China.

Nagasaki, Oct. 20.

The German flag-ship *Kaiser* arrived here this morning.

Bakan, Oct. 20.

Three thousand ruffians attacked the Oshima district office. Four policemen were wounded in the tumult.

Takamatsu, Oct. 20.

Lieut.-General Oku, Commandant of the Fifth Army Division, who was appointed Commandant of the First Army Division, arrived here *en route* to Hiroshima from Tokyo. On Monday morning, he left for Kotohira.

Nagasaki, Oct. 19.

Generals Kawakami, Noda, Ishiguro and suite arrived at this port to-day by the *Otaru Maru*. This evening they leave for Formosa.

Bakan, Oct. 19.

Major-General Shioya, who was appointed Commandant of Wei-hai-wei left here to-day for Tokyo.

Marugame, Oct. 20.

The autumn manoeuvres of the Fifth Army Division ended on Monday. An entertainment was given to the whole army at Kotohira-cho to-day.

Takamatsu, Oct. 21.

The autumn manoeuvres of the Fifth Army Division have come to a close. The troops were dismissed to day at Kotohira.

Yatsuyama, Oct. 21.

The Japanese men-of-war *Matsushima* put into Matsugahama on Tuesday. She leaves for Nagasaki to-day.

Fukushima, October 21.

Mr. Ogura, Governor of this Prefecture, returned last night.

Aomori, October 21.

The Governor gave an entertainment last night at his official residence to all the high officials, to celebrate his new appointment.

Bakan, Oct. 21.

Oshimo-gori is still in a disturbed condition and the people are greatly excited.

Kyoto, Oct. 21.

Marquis Saionji has been robbed of a revolver, a telescope, and two other articles.

Marquis Saionji left here for Tokyo to-day.

Kobe, Oct. 21.

The French man-of-war *Bayard* left here for Nagasaki this morning.

Kyoto, Oct. 21.

Mons. Harmand, the French Minister, leaves here to-day.

Okayama, Oct. 21.

Mr. Kono, Governor of this Prefecture, has been elected President of the Chugaku Nakū Daikai, that opened on Tuesday.

Nagasaki, Oct. 21.

Two British men-of-war left this port to-day for Kyobun-to.

A Russian Volunteer steamer conveying twelve hundred and nineteen soldiers has put into this port to-day *en route* to Vladivostock.

Osaka, Oct. 22.

The Minister of War has asked the Commandant of the Fourth Army Division to send photographs of those soldiers who fell during the Japan-China War, to the War Office.

Hiroshima, Oct. 22.

The troops of the Nagoya Division leave here to-morrow for Formosa.

Hiroshima, Oct. 22.

The *Gaisen Maru* and *Fusan Maru*, conveying Formosa reliefs, arrived here on Wednesday evening from Formosa. This morning the men were landed. The *Kyoto Maru* is due here to-morrow.

Kyoto, Oct. 22.

H.I.H. Prince Yamashima has left here for Ise.

Matsuyae, Oct. 22.

Colonel Tazaka is surveying the vicinity of the town.

Toyama, Oct. 22.

The Shokonsai fête held to-day was very successful.

Aomori, Oct. 22.

Dysentery cases in this Prefecture now number four hundred and seventy-four.

Kyoto, Oct. 22.

The mother of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa arrived here to-day from Maiko.

Kyoto, Oct. 22.

Marquis Yamagata, who is staying here, will hold a conversation on Saturday to which he has invited the high officials of the city.

Sapporo, October 22.

Mr. Hara, President of the Hokkaido Ad-

ministrative Office, who had gone on a tour through the Island, returned here on Wednesday. Colonel Asada, Head-Councillor of War of the Seventh Army Division, who was appointed Head-Councillor of War in the Eastern Section, is to leave here for Tokyo on Sunday to take up his new appointment. A farewell was tendered him to-day.

Kobe, Oct. 22.

The Imperial Chamberlain, Viscount Higashizono, and *suite* arrived here to-day from Nishinomiya. To-morrow they will inspect the recently flooded districts.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHAMBERLAIN.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 252.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to R 8 1—K takes Kt
2—Q to R 7, mate.

Correct answers from Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.H.S., W.d.H., and Omega.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 253.

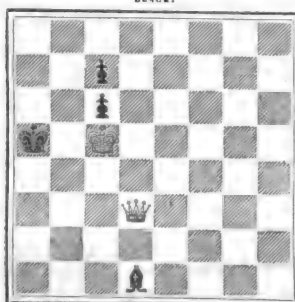
WHITE. BLACK.
1—R to R 6 1—B takes R
2—Q takes Q, mate
2—Q takes Q, mate
2—Kt to K 2, mate
2—Kt to Q 3, mate.

Correct answers from W.D.C., J.D., Shogi, W.H.S., W.d.H., and Omega.

Problem No. 251.—W.D.C. sent correct solution and we omitted to mention it last week, for which sincere apologies.

PROBLEM No. 255.

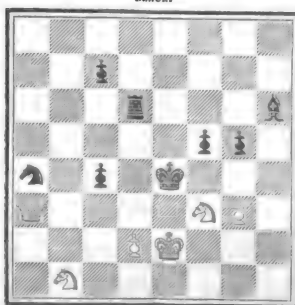
By S. LOYD.



White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 256.

By the Hon. EDWARD PLUNKETT.



White to play and mate in two moves.

HONGKONG.

The *China Mail* notes that the "Japanese" (!) Chess Clubs have reopened for the season. We thank you for your kindly interest dear Black Bishop, but please don't call us "out of our names." We are not yet under Japanese jurisdiction much less have we become Japanese subjects, nor do we play Japanese chess, but the same old game beloved by the Salamanders of Hongkong.

GAME No. 588.

Notes by JAMES MASON.

ROY LOPEZ.

WHITE. BLACK.
W. Weiss. W. Pollock.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5 3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4 4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3 (a) 5—P to Q Kt 4
6—B to Kt 3 6—B to B 4
7—P to B 3 (b) 7—P to Q 4!
8—P takes P 8—Kt takes P
9—Q to K 2? (c) 9—Castles
10—Q to K 4 (d) 10—B to K 3
11—Kt takes P? 11—Kt takes Kt
12—Q takes Q Kt 12—Kt to Kt 5 (e)
13—Castles (f) 13—Kt takes Q P
14—Q to R 5 14—B takes B
15—P takes B 15—R to K sq. !
16—Kt to Q 2 (g) 16—Q to K 2
17—P to Q Kt 4 17—B takes B P ch. !
18—K to R sq. (h) 18—Q to K 8!
19—P to R 3 19—Kt takes B (i)
20—R takes Q 20—R takes R ch.
21—K to R 2 21—B to Kt 8 ch.
22—K to Kt 3 22—R to K 6 ch.
23—K to Kt 4 (j) 23—Kt to K 7!
24—Kt to B sq. (k) 24—P to Kt 3
25—Q to Q 5 25—P to R 4 ch.
26—K to Kt 5 26—K to Kt 2!
27—Kt takes R 27—P to B 3 ch. and mates in 2 moves.

(a) White should Castle soon when this mode of defence is adopted, and play P to Q 4 in preference to P to Q 3. This defence was a favourite with the unequalled Paul Morphy and is in reality a counter-attack of considerable force. It is unsafe for the player to rely on the prospective weakness of his adversary's Queen side Pawns in the ending.

(b) It would be better to Castle.

(c) P Castles would still be better.

(d) A hazardous and misguided attempt to secure the Pawn.

(e) Very pretty play which turns the scale in Black's favour.

(f) It is scarcely too much to say that White is virtually lost from this point. He should take the Knight. Then, if 23... B takes Q Kt P ch.; 24—Kt to B 3; B takes B; 25—Castles, he would still have a game to play.

(g) An awkward defence of the Bishop Pawn, which Black threatened to take with his Knight, after first attacking the Queen by 16.... P to Kt 3, relieving his Bishop.

(h) White's difficulties accumulate. Evidently 18—R takes B would lose the exchange, at the very least; as if the two pieces were taken for the Rook, mate would follow in two moves.

(i) Black conducts all his operations with great skill. He must get more than an equivalent for the Queen if White refuses to go out and face the chance of mate at move 22, as in that case the Knight would be lost by 22.... B to K 6 ch. &c. Afterwards the doubling of the Rooks would soon prove decisive.

(j) Interposing would be no better; 23—P to Kt 4, B to B 7 ch.; 24—K to R 4, R to K 5 ch.; 25—P to Kt 4, B to B 7 ch., and mates in two moves. White is in the toils and has no escape from mate or loss of his Queen.

(k) If 24—R takes B, then 24.... R to Kt 6 ch.; 25—K to R 4, P to Kt 4 ch. &c., and Black would come out a Rook to the good.

BUDA-PESTH.

This tournament was to begin on 5th instant, but so far we have heard no results. Steinitz and Pillsbury had both entered and the Steinitz-Lasker match in Moscow is postponed till November.

GAME No. 589.

WHITE. BLACK.
E. Lasker. E. Schallopp.
1—P to Q 4 1—P to Q 4
2—Kt to K B 3 2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to B 4 3—P to K 3
4—Kt to B 3 4—B to K 2
5—B to B 4

We do not think this move is worth playing.

We are quite sure that this is premature.

6—P to B 5 5—Castles
7—P to Q Kt 4 6—P to Q Kt 3
8—P to Q R 3 7—P to Q R 4
9—Kt takes Kt 8—Kt to K 5
Likewise not good; loses a pawn.
10—Kt to K 5 9—P takes Kt
11—Kt to B 4 10—P to K B 3
12—R P takes P 11—R P takes P
13—Q takes R 12—R takes R
14—Q to B 3 13—Kt to B 3
14—Kt takes Q P 14—Kt takes Q P

All this is excellent play.

15—P to K 3 15—Kt to B 4

We prefer Kt to Kt 4.

16—Kt to Q 2 16—B to Kt 2

Fatally tempted by a fine idea, P to K 4 was a simple continuation.

17—P to B 6 17—B takes B P
18—Q takes B 18—B takes P

19—Q to B 2 19—Q to Q 4
Q to Q 4 seems better, for then R to Q sq. or R to R sq. could follow.

20—B to B 4 20—B takes Kt ch.
21—K to K 2 21—Q to B 3
22—K takes B 22—K to Q sq. ch.
23—K to K 2 23—R to Q 4
24—Q to Kt 3 24—R to B 4
25—B takes P ch. 25—K to B sq.
26—R to Q sq. 26—Kt to Q 3
27—B takes Kt 27—P takes B

The romance of Black is now rapidly drawing to a close, and White will win; such is the luck which favours strong players.

28—B to Q 5 28—R to B 7 ch.
29—R to Q 2 29—R takes R ch.
30—K takes R 30—Q to B 4
31—B takes P, and White won.

As will be seen from the above game, White did badly in advancing his Q B P to B 5 too early. Nobody knows this better than Lasker himself, who won one of the finest games he ever played against Steinitz through the latter playing P to Q B 5 too early. As a further illustration of this point, we also append the opening moves of a good game played at Llandudno, between Messrs. Gunston and E. O. Jones, in which White likewise loses through the same fault.

GAME No. 590.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. BLACK.
W. H. Gunston. E. O. Jones.
1—P to Q 4 1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4 2—P to Q B 3
3—Kt to Q B 3 3—P to K 3
4—P to K 3 4—B to Q 3
5—Kt to B 3 5—P to K B 4
6—P to B 5 6—P to B 2
7—P to Q Kt 4 7—Kt to Q 2
8—P to Q R 4 8—Kt to B 3

Such an attenuated advanced line is always weak.

9—Kt to Kt 5 9—Q to K 2
10—P to B 4 10—Kt to K 5
11—Q Kt takes Kt 11—B P takes Kt
12—B to Q 2 12—Castles
13—B to K 2 13—P to K 4!

A fine move, which pulls White's game to pieces.

14—Q to Kt 3 14—P takes Q P
15—Castles 15—P to K R 3
16—Kt to R 3 16—P to Q 6

and Black won.

PILLSBURY VERSUS SHOWALTER.

Through the efforts made by the New York *Tribune* there is now a prospect of a Pillsbury-Shawalter match. The former is willing to play the Kentuckian for \$1,000 a side, and it is expected that the match will come off soon after Pillsbury's return from Europe. If the match really takes place the odds will be greatly in Pillsbury's favour, as his recent play has shown him to be immeasurably superior to his probable opponent.

Li Hung-chang has the reputation of being one of the best Chess-players in China.

CHESS AT ODDS.

As a relief from the dullness of the precise style of modern match play, we quote the following game played about 1834. Mr. M'Donnell, a native of Belfast, was then considered the strongest British player, and excelled at giving odds, for he rarely played against those of his own strength. His opponent was the celebrated Captain Evans, the inventor of the immortal Evans Gambit. Captain Evans never attained the strength of M'Donnell, but the following game was played long before he attained his maximum strength.

GAME No. 591.

REMOVE WHITE'S K KT FROM THE BOARD.

WHITE. BLACK.
M'Donnell. Capt. Evans.
1—P to K 4 1—P to K 4
2—B to K 2 2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q 3 3—B to Q B 4
4—Castles 4—Castles
5—K to R sq. 5—P to Q 3
6—P to K B 4 6—Kt to B 3
7—P to B 3 7—Q to K 2
8—P to B 5 8—B to Q 2
9—P to K Kt 4 9—K to R sq.
10—P to Kt 5 (a) 10—Kt to K Kt sq.
11—P to K R 4 11—P to K B 3
12—Q to K sq. 12—Q Kt to Q sq.
13—Q to K Kt 3 13—Kt to B 3
14—P to Kt 4 (b) 14—Kt takes P
15—P to R 3 15—Kt to B 3
16—R to R 2 16—Q to B 2
17—R to Kt 2 17—Q to K 2
18—B to Q sq. (c) 18—P to Q R 3
19—R to R Kt 2 19—P to Kt 4
20—Kt to Q 2 20—Q R to Q sq.
21—Kt to B 3 21—B to B sq.

22—P to Kt 6 (d)
 23—Kt to R 2
 24—Kt to Kt 4
 25—P to Q 4 (e)
 26—R (B sq.) to Kt sq.
 27—Kt takes R P (f)
 28—Q takes B P
 29—R to K sq.
 30—R to Kt 7 ch.
 31—Q takes Kt
 32—R to Kt 4
 33—R to B 4
 34—B to B 3
 35—B takes P
 36—Q to R 4
 37—K to R 2
 38—R (B 4) takes B
 39—R takes Q
 40—K to R sq.

(a) This game is typical of one at odds. The odds-giver must, for the chance of winning, risk much and adopt original play at the expense of soundness.

(b) In an ordinary game this would be an error (and Mr. Staunton thinks it so here), for Black can play Kt takes P, and if 15—P takes Kt, B to Q regains the piece; but the error is doubtful, for White, at the cost of a Pawn, gets his Q R into play.

(c) If 18—R takes P, R to Q Kt sq. would force an exchange of Rooks, which the odds-giver must avoid.

(d) White's attack is very showy, but 22—B to Kt 3 seems stronger.

(e) Preparing for a sudden onslaught, which must either carry the position by storm or utterly fail.

(f) This is the onslaught, but it is insufficient. The play is very interesting.

(g) Black intentionally gives up his Kt, as he has sufficient force to win.

(h) A move of a high order, and not expected from a Knight-receiver. The White Bishop at K 4 cannot move now.

(i) Black finishes the game remarkably well. His play shows that he was too strong to receive a Knight.

George Schreyer, who must be somewhat of a philosopher, writing in Art and Literature, delivers himself of the following:—

The game of chess itself is an allegory of life. The world is a globular chess board, and all the men and women merely figures which destiny moves at her will. In the turning lathe of nature some are fashioned into kings and queens, others into bishops and knights, and the majority come into the world as pawns. As in chess, so in life, position is everything. Like a pawn, the most humble person as he slowly moves over the squares of this sublimary chess board, may eventually arrive at that square upon which he assumes a power even greater than his own king.

GAME No. 592.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Steinitz.	BLACK. Janowski.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to R 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—B to K 2
5—Q to B 2 (a)	5—Castles
6—P to K 4	6—P takes K P
7—Kt takes P	7—Kt to B 3
8—B to K 3	8—Kt takes Kt
9—Q takes Kt	9—P to B 4 (b)
10—Q to Q 3	10—P to B 5
11—B to Q 2	11—P to K 4
12—P takes P (c)	12—B to K Kt 5
13—Q to Kt 3	13—Kt to Q 5
14—Q to Q sq.	14—B takes Kt
15—P takes B	15—R to B 4
16—B to Q 3	16—R takes P ch.
17—B to R 4	17—Q to Q 2
18—B to B 3	18—P to B 4
19—Q to Q 3	19—R to Q sq.
20—Castles (Q)	20—Q to R 5
21—K to Kt sq.	21—B to B 3
22—B takes Kt P (e)	22—R to K 2
23—B to K 4	23—R to Q Kt sq.
24—K R to K sq.	24—K to R sq. (f)
25—B to Q 5	25—R to Q 2
26—R to K 4	26—R to Q 3
27—Q R to K sq.	27—R (Q 3) to Kt 3
28—R to B sq.	28—P to Q R 3
29—P to K R 4	29—P to Q R 4
30—P to R 5	30—R to R B sq.
31—P to R 6	31—Q takes R P
32—R takes P	32—R (B sq.) to Q Kt sq.
33—P takes P ch.	33—B takes P
34—R (B 4) to K 4	34—Q to R 8 ch. (g)
35—K to Q 2	35—K takes P ch.
36—K to R 3	36—R to K B sq. (h)
37—P to B 4	37—Q to R 4
38—B takes R	38—Q takes B
39—R to K R sq.	39—P to R 3
40—R to K 5 (i)	40—R to Q Kt sq.
41—B to K 4	41—B takes R
42—R takes P ch.	42—K to Kt 2

Resigns.

(a) Unusual in this opening. Steinitz's object is to play P to K 4 and endeavour to produce a lively game out of a dull opening.

(b) Very enterprising on part of Black. By the bold play here and in the next few moves he gains time and development.

(c) Probably best. P to Q 5 looks good, but Black had several replies, all assisting his development.

(d) Quite safe for Black: White cannot play 27—B takes R P ch., for after 28—K to R sq. Black threatens Kt to K 7 ch. and wins.

(e) It is interesting to watch how Black utilises this open file for purposes of attack.

(f) It is now necessary to guard against B takes R P ch.

(g) The game now becomes exceptionally interesting; till the end the play is most instructive.

(h) This is all well planned. If 37—R takes Q, R takes P mate.

(i) The Rook cannot be taken, otherwise White mates.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE.

From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 25th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 5th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 26th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Oct. 28th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 1st.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 4th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 5th.

* China left San Francisco on October 11th. * Belga left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 17th. * Empress of India left Vancouver on October 13th. * Daphne left Hongkong on October 20th. The English mail is on board the steamer Olympia.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 25th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 25th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 26th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 29th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 30th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 1st.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 6th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 15th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ettrickdale, British steamer, 2,468, J. R. Stewart, 17th October,—Kobe 15th October, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 18th October,—Hongkong via ports, 9th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 18th October,—San Francisco 30th September, via Honolulu 7th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 18th October,—Otaru via ports, 18th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Nunome, 18th October,—Kobe 17th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 18th October,—Yokkaichi 17th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,828, J. Geier, 19th October,—Kobe 17th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, F. L. Sommer, 19th October,—Kobe 18th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 19th October,—Handa and Yokkaichi 18th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, Horton, 19th October,—Otaru via ports, 15th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 20th October,—Yokkaichi 19th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 20th October,—Hongkong via ports, 9th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 20th October,—Otaru via ports, 16th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radley, British steamer, Fullock, 21st October,—Middlesbrough via ports, and Kobe 19th October, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Yoshizawa, 21st October,—Higo 19th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chihli, British steamer, 1,158, Newcome, 21st October,—Shanghai, via Kobe 20th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Osborne, British steamer, 2,033, P. Rettie, 21st October,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Duchateau, 22nd October,—Marseilles 13th September, Hongkong 13th October, Shanghai 17th, and Kobe 21st, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 22nd October,—Yokkaichi 21st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 22nd Octo-

ber,—London via ports, and Kobe 21st October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ceres, German steamer, 2,663, Behrens, 22nd October,—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Nishimura, 22nd October,—Kobe 21st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 23rd October,—Handa and Yokkaichi 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 23rd October,—Shanghai via ports, 17th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), British despatch-ship, Commander De Lisle, 23rd October,—Kobe 22nd October.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 23rd October,—Nagasaki 20th October, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Ohno, 23rd October,—Shimonoseki 21st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fintu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,577, Fukui, 24th October,—Kobe 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cowrie, British steamer, 3,155, S. Parsons, 24th October,—Batoum via ports, and Kobe 22nd October, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, Tipple, 17th October,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, A. Nishimura, 17th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 17th October,—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 18th October,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 19th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 19th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, E. G. Andrews, 20th October,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 20th October,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 20th October,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 20th October,—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Wright, 20th October,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 21st October,—Hongkong via Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ettrickdale, British steamer, 2,468, J. R. Stewart, 21st October,—San Francisco, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Williams, 21st October,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, H. Walter, 21st October,—Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, F. L. Sommer, 21st October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 21st October,—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,828, J. Geier, 22nd October,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Yoshizawa, 22nd October,—Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albatross, U.S. fish commission steamer, 638, J. F. Moser, 22nd October,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, Horton, 22nd October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chihli, British steamer, 1,158, Newcome, 23rd October,—Hongkong, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 23rd October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 23rd October.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. E. Hunt, Mr. C. Michelan, Rev. and Mrs. Moore and 2 children, Mr. R. Perrott Forshaw, Captain W. Walker, and Mr. Takeshiro Mayeda in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. E. H. Warner, Lieut. H. G. Hannun, U.S.N., Mrs. Warner, Mr. C. Laughton, R.N., and Surgeon-Lieut. and Mrs. Hyde and 3 children in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—For Honolulu:—Mr. Otto Isenberg, Mrs. Isenberg and 2 children, Mrs. Chas. Cooke, Master Cook, Mr. W. W. Goodale, and Mr. Sim Mack in cabin. For Yokohama:—Mr. J. M. Rothschild, Mrs. W. W. Law, Miss Law, Mrs. Wm. Russell, Mrs. M. P. Bligh, Miss Bligh, Mr. L. Anderson, Mrs. A. Duncan, Mr. S. Shibutani, Mr. R. Nagao, Rev. J. Soper, Rev. L. W. Atwood, Mr. T. Asai, Mr. Konmiasay, Mr. D. Arai, Mr. G. J. Campbell, Miss Ella R. Church, Mr. T. Nishigawa, and Mrs. T. Nishigawa in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss Annie Bardsley, Colonel C. de Wogack, Mr. Tung Ping Foo, Mrs. M. Bond, and Mr. Kwei Ping Hong in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. W. C. Vander Heyden, Mr. G. Stafford Northcote, Mr. Chung Liang Wong, Mr. Milton Harley, Mrs. Lida S. Ashmore, Mrs. M. R. Norris, Mr. L. E. Clayton, Mrs. A. B. Brolly, Miss A. Hart, and Mrs. L. Miller in cabin. From Honolulu to Yokohama:—Mr. J. V. Sweetser, Mrs. Sweetser, Miss Delight Sweetser, Mr. Cortaz, Mrs. Cortaz, Mr. T. H. Miller, Mrs. Bouschoff, Mrs. L. McCormick, Miss McCormick, Mrs. J. M. Rothschild, Miss Rothschild, Miss Parrish, Mr. G. H. Pattengill, and Mr. S. Ozaki in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. J. C. Abell, Mr. Lo Sui Choi, Mr. W. Curtis, Miss Curtis, Mr. R. W. Almond, General Flagg, Mr. K. Tanabe, and Mr. J. Johnstone in cabin; one Chinese and child in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Sakai, Mr. S. Soga, Mr. M. Allix, Mrs. Abramovitz, Mrs. W. Ellis, Mrs. P. Hoffmann, Mr. O. Oppenheim, Mr. G. V. Bodenhausen, one Chinese, nine Roman Catholic Missionaries, Dr. H. M. W. Furness, Dr. H. M. Hiller, Mr. L. L. Eizel, three Roman Catholic Sisters, Mr. F. Casati, Dr. W. Miller, Miss Brandt, Mr. F. Schoene, Mr. Berlioz, Mr. W. Aratoon, Mr. L. Hashin, one Roman Missionary, Mr. F. G. Tay, Mr. Liu Cheng Chee, Mr. A. Delbourgo, and Baron T. d'Anethan, Belgian Minister, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Miss M. Shade, Miss Terris, Messrs. T. I. Shade, Chaffanor, L. Gay, Mangini, K. Inagaki, Major and Mrs. Park, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. How, Messrs. Walford, Dickinson, R. Fukushima, H. Sharp, and Tallor in cabin; Miss M. Yukawa, Messrs. Tominaga, Ogita, and J. Murphy in second class, and 71 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. Tennant, Baron d'Anethan, Messrs. Murray, Edwards, Dickinson, Tyng, Kenyon, Libeaud, Johnson, Pyle, Ellis, Smith, Scott, L. H. Abel, Ed. L. Van Nicrop, J. Sibiodon, L. de Michaux, Baron Oberkamp, Miss Oberkamp, Mr. and Mrs. Booth, Mr. Chantoiseau, Miss Lanjuinier, Messrs. Ebrahim, Abdul Kather, V. Delbourgo, Cheong Yue Cheu, K. Gadellus, Kwan Sang, Wan Chee Cheong, J. Ritchie, Goddard, Gaultillon, H. Bhunia, Miss S. Rome, Mr. Kwan Yue, Mr. Charpentier, Captain F. S. Johnson, Colonel A. Howle, Mr. J. R. Mikkers, Mrs. Wm. H. Stone, Messrs. A. Veillon, H. A. Twidall, Fioravanti, Mrs. Tanning and maid, Messrs. J. A. Guibert, Cottin, Helm, P. Vieugne, W. Andreeff, Kumazo Kuwada, and Captain L. H. Petersen in cabin; one Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ceylon*, for London via ports:—Captain and Mrs. Pritchard, 2 children, infant, and European nurse, Master George Moss, Mr. L. H. Roots, Mr. Serno, Mrs. Wehrmann, and Misses Wehrmann (2) in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Robert E. Carney, U.S.N., Mrs. Carney, Lieut. B. Cherevkoff, Mrs. B. Cherevkoff and child, Mr. A. Grille, Dr. F. Grunewald, Lieut. W. G. Hannum, U.S.N., Surgeon-Lieut. Hyde, Mrs. Hyde and 3 children, Mr. K. Komura, Mr. C. Laughton, R.N., Rev.

and Mrs. S. F. Moore and 2 children, Mr. M. Oshima, Mr. F. Onana, Mr. H. Passavant, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Rosendale, Mr. D. P. Thompson, Mr. J. Takayama, Mr. E. H. Warner, Mrs. Warner, Miss L. Wisemsky, and Mr. G. Yasunaga in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. Tait, Mr. F. J. Hall, Mr. E. Krause, Mrs. Hellyer, and Mrs. and Miss Bligh in cabin; Mr. M. Wusami, Mr. and Mrs. Kawakami, Mr. S. Matsuo, Mr. D. Takashi, and Mr. K. Tagawa and family in second class. For Kelung:—Messrs. T. Makino, T. Wuchiyama, and T. Owatari in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Messrs. K. Fukagawa and T. Suzuki in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. A. J. Boushneff, Mrs. Thompson, Miss Grey Le Mais, Mr. Y. Shibayama, and Mr. T. Kamaya in cabin; Messrs. C. Lucini and Tominaga in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. B. Chorton, Mr. A. Chorton, Mr. Twentyman, Miss DelBerigny, Mrs. Twentyman and 4 children, Mrs. M. Bond, Mrs. A. Duncan, and Mr. L. Andersen in cabin; Messrs. Cio Chi No, Ro Shu Hei, and Eckermann in second class, and 157 passengers in steerage for ports in all.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via Nagasaki:—Mr. H. U. Jeffries, Mr. C. H. Mendham, Mr. W. J. Smith, Mr. H. Ginsburg, Mr. E. A. Ram, Lieut. L. C. Autram, Mr. M. McPherson, Mr. W. E. Hunt, Miss Hunt, Miss Pune Hunt, and Dr. J. M. Atkinson in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 323 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 123 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	BOSTON	VER. OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	198	—	15	—	213
Hyogo	—	294	562	—	856
Yokohama	2,738	400	—	361	3,499
Hongkong	196	—	—	—	196
Total	3,132	694	562	361	4,749

	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	BOSTON	VER. OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	—	47	—	47
Hongkong	—	—	261	—	261
Yokohama	—	—	487	—	487
Total	—	—	795	—	795

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$159,460.00.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 9th October, via Nagasaki the 15th, and Kobe the 17th. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th October at 8.40 p.m. Had heavy N.E. gales and high sea in the Channel and crossing the eastern sea.

The British steamer *Doric*, Captain H. Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 30th September at 4.29 p.m. and arrived at Honolulu the 6th October at 9.31 p.m. in 6 days, 7 hours, 24 min. Sailed thence October 7th at 4.25 p.m., crossing the 180th meridian in lat. 31° N. and arrived at Yokohama the 18th October at 11.55 p.m. in 10 days, 11 hours, 40 min. Experienced strong W., N.W., and S.W. winds and heavy confused sea on 15th, 16th, and 17th, otherwise fine weather with northerly swell.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 10th October.—Hongkong via Moji and Kobe 8th October, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Ceres, German steamer, 2,663, Behrens, 22nd October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Cowrie, British steamer, 3,155, S. Parsons, 24th October.—Batoum via ports, and Kobe 22nd October, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Inverlay, British steamer, 810, Airth, 27th July.—Hongkong 7th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 23rd October.—Shanghai via ports, 17th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 16th October.—London via ports, and Kobe 15th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Duhamel, 22nd October.—Marseilles 13th September, Hongkong 13th October, Shanghai 17th, and Kobe 21st, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Osborne, British steamer, 2,033, P. Pettie, 21st October.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radley, British steamer, Fullock, 21st October.—Middlesbro' via ports, and Kobe 19th October, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 22nd October.—London via ports, and Kobe 21st October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 20th October.—Hongkong via ports, 9th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagon, 23rd September.—New York 3rd May, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 6th October.—North Pacific, Otter Skins.—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 2nd September.—Guam 9th August, Copra.—Jardine, Mathieson & Co.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Funcke, 17th September.—North Pacific, Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Hutton Hall, British ship, 1,989, Rowlands, 22nd September.—New York 18th April, 84,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

J. B. Walker, American ship, 2,103, Wallace, 30th August.—New York 28th March, 80,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 20th September.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—A. Fisher.

Printer, American schooner, 40, Snow, 8th October.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 9th October.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 26th May.—Sydney, via South Sea Islands, 24th May.—Captain and Owner.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Alacrity (4), British despatch-sloop, Commander De Lisle, 23rd October.—Kobe 22nd October.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 15th October.—Hakodate 13th October.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import trade generally is far from satisfactory, the financial stringency appearing to give considerable trouble. Probably the revival in demand for the chief export (Silk) may relieve the money market presently by transferring dollars from the Foreign to native bankers, and thus benefitting the Import trade indirectly.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 50 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 1/2 yds, 45 inches	2.75 to 3.20
T. Cloth—7 yds, 24 yds, 32 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.50
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.34
Medium	0.25 to 0.27
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	50.00 to 53.00
Nos. 1/60, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

Quiet and unchanged. Dealers protest against higher prices and will not pay them until absolutely obliged.

	PER TON.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	13.50 to 13.55
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.00 to 3.65
Round and square up to 4 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pin Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

KEROSENE.

Satisfactory market, but there are signs that buyers have about filled their present requirements. It seems that "Langkat" is to be regularly imported in future, and some dealers think that it will, in time, become a powerful competitor with American and Russian brands.

American	\$2.25 to 2.27 1/2
Russian	2.27 to 2.28
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Nothing of particular moment. White—Good business has been done at quotations.

	PER TON.
Brown Takao	\$4.70 to 4.75
Brown Manila	5.50 to 5.60
Brown Daitong	3.95 to 4.00
Brown Canton	3.85 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	7.10 to 7.15
White Refined	7.00 to 9.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Another "boom" has been experienced in this market. At the beginning of the week things looked blue, but holders reduced their prices and tempted buyers into the market. As soon as business resulted on a fairly large scale dealers rushed up prices once more, and are asking an advance on the quotations current a fortnight ago. This will probably check buyers for a bit. Our quotations must be considered nominal, as there are no sellers except at an advance, which for the moment staggers buyers.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den	\$880
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den	870
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	840
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	820
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	775
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 24, 14/18 deniers	710 to 720
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Kakedas—Extra	770
Kakedas—No. 1	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 14	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

No especial change. Dealers are hoping for a spurt similar to that in the Raw market, but the outlook for such an event is by no means brilliant.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$105 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Good	90 to 100
Noshi—Oshu, Best	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Good	95 to 100
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Bushu, Best	130 to 140
Noshi—Bushu, Good	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 62 1/2
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 82 1/2
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

Good business considering the advanced period of the season. Prices firm.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$27 to \$28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, October 19th, 1896.

Hongkong wires us the following Saturday's closing quotations:—H. & S. Banks 190 per cent, premium Sales; Hongkong Lands \$76 Sel-

lers; China Fires \$96.50 Buyers; H. & W. Docks 219 per cent, premium Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$59 Sales; Douglasses \$60.50 Sales; Steamboats \$33 Sales; Pinjoun Mines \$1.50 Buyers; National Banks \$26 Sellers; Indo-Chinas \$42.50 Buyers; Straits Insurance \$27.50 Steady; Unions \$235 ex dividend Steady, and Traders \$76 Sellers.

H. & K. Wharfs have been sold to Hongkong at \$59 and Hongkong Ropes at \$128.

Yokohama, October 23rd.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report the following changes in the share market:—H. & S. Banks 188 per cent, Sellers; Hongkong Lands \$76 Sellers; China Fires \$97 Buyers; H. & W. Docks 218 per cent, Buyers; H. & K. Wharfs \$58.50 Sellers; Douglasses \$60 Sellers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33.25 Sellers; Pinjoun Mines \$12 Sellers; Ramb Mines \$6.20 Buyers; Balmorals \$1.50 Buyers; National Banks \$25.50 Buyers; Indo-Chinas \$44 Sales; Straits Insurance \$27.50 Steady; Union Insurance \$232.50 Sales, and China Traders \$78 Sellers.

EXCHANGE.

Only small fluctuations have taken place in exchange, the last movement being a fractional decline.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/8 to 1 1/2
— — Bills on demand ..	2/1 1/8 to 1 1/2
— — 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8
— — Private 4 months' sight ..	2/1 1/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2.65
— — Private 4 months' sight ..	2.70
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 % p.
— — Private 10 days' sight ..	1/2 % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight ..	72 1/2
On India—Bank sight	173 1/2
— — Private 30 days' sight ..	176
On America—Bank Bills on demand ..	50 1/2 to 1
— — Private 4 months' sight ..	52 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14
— — Private 4 months' sight ..	2.19
Rar Silver (London)	30 1/2

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OF THE

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 31ST, 1896.

DEATH.

On Monday, Oct. 25th, shortly after 2 a.m., at the German Naval Hospital, Yokohama, JOSEPH BERRICK, aged 49.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. J. C. HALL is appointed H.B.M. Consul at Hiogo and Osaka.

LI HUNG-CHANG has been reappointed a Minister in the Tsung-li Yamén.

A RUMOUR is afloat that the Department of Colonization will be abolished.

YOKOHAMA beat the Fleet at cricket by about 20 runs on Wednesday afternoon.

THE treaty between Japan and China having been completed, the Chinese Consulates at

Nagasaki, Kobe, Hakodate, and Yokohama will be reopened within a few weeks.

THE chrysanthemum show at Dangozaka, near Uyeno Park, was opened on the 25th inst.

THE Minstrel troupe of H.M.S. *Undaunted* give an entertainment at the Public Hall this evening.

THE Yokohama Juniors beat the Tokyo Recreation Club at Cricket last Saturday by a few runs.

THE Treasury has granted yen 220,000 to Gifu Ken and yen 60,000 to Fukui Ken for flood repairs.

THE treaty between Peru and Japan having passed the Diet of Peru, will be ratified in Japan in a short while.

T.I.H. PRINCE AND PRINCESS KIKUMARO, who recently went to Kyoto, returned to the capital on Saturday last.

THE Right Rev. Frederick Temple, D.D., Bishop of London, has been appointed Archbishop of Canterbury.

MR. JAMES TROUP, H.B.M. Consul at Yokohama, returned to the port on Tuesday, after a year's absence on leave.

FOR the fourth week in succession, lack of breeze on Saturday afternoon turned all the yacht races into failures.

THE further hearing of the Iron-pipe Scandal case will come on at the end of November or beginning of December.

THE rebellion in the Philippines is said to be slowly dying out in the face of strong reinforcements for the Spanish garrison.

MR. HIROKAWA HIROSHIRO, *Kogakushi*, an expert in the Communications Department, died suddenly on the 22nd instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE MORIMASA, who has been with the troops in Elhime and Kagawa Kens, returned to his Regiment on Sunday last.

PROF. CLEMENT gave a chatty paper on Tom Hood at the fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday night.

IN Formosa some slight disturbances have occurred through three native tribes objecting to telegraph wires being stretched through their districts.

MARSHAL COUNT NODZU, Commandant of the Eastern Section, will command the troops that pass in review before the Emperor on the Third of November.

THE Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Belgium and Japan having been ratified, was despatched on Tuesday to Viscount Aoki, Minister to Germany.

THE fifth of November being the first anniversary of the death of H.I.H. the late Prince Kitashirakawa, a grand memorial service will be held at his late residence.

COMMANDER TSUDA, Engineer Tomioka, Surgeon Kuwabara, Paymaster Yamada and several others have been ordered to bring home the Japanese man-of-war *Fuji* from England.

THE autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club has been favoured with fine weather, good fields, and fast times. H.M. the Emperor visited the course on Thursday.

AN inquest was opened on Saturday by H.B.M. Assistant Judge, into the circumstances sur-

rounding the death of Mr. Carew. A chemical analysis of the contents of the stomach was ordered and after the evidence of five witnesses had been taken the inquiry was adjourned till Monday next.

THE license for the Formosa Railway having been granted, Baron Yasuba, President of the newly projected Railway, will cross to the Island shortly.

AT a crowded meeting held at St. James's Hall it was resolved to support the Government in any steps taken to end the reign of terror in Turkey. A letter from Mr. Gladstone was read, deprecating the abridging of Lord Salisbury's discretion by prescribing any particular line of action.

THE *New York Herald* in a forecast of the Presidential election, gives Mr. McKinley 261 votes against 134 for Mr. Bryan, 65 votes being counted doubtful. The same journal says that a large majority of the new Representatives will be anti-Silverite, whilst in the new Senate the Goldite and Silverites will be almost evenly matched, a majority on either side being uncertain.

TRADES have been issued at Constantinople imposing a poll tax of five piastres on Mussulmans, putting an increase on the sheep tithes, and making other increased imposts to yield £T. 1,250,000. The Porte is devoting the proceeds of the new poll tax to arming the Mussulman population. The foreign Ambassadors at Constantinople have met to consider this grave measure.

PRINCE BISMARCK's organ, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, says that a secret Russo-German agreement was concluded soon after the accession of the late Czar, Alexander III., by the terms of which if either country was attacked, the other was to remain in a position of benevolent neutrality. Count Caprivi, ex-Imperial German Chancellor, terminated this agreement in 1890. The statement has caused a great sensation in Austria.

IMPORTERS are hard-pushed these days to discover business of any description, and the godowns at Yokohama and Kanagawa are steadily filling with goods that arrive. Not that the Japanese dealers do not want the goods, they would be only too willing to take delivery could they but find the money to pay for them. Importers are wary these days of accepting "paper," and consequently the tone of the market is deplorably below par. But as soon as the financial tightness has passed a bit we shall see a little better business doing. Cotton-piece goods, Woollens, Cotton-yarns, and Metals have all experienced a blank week. There is a more healthy ring about the Kerosene market, although sales are not very large at the moment. In Sugar there has been a fair business for Browns, and a steady sale for Whites at unchanged rates. The week has seen another speculative movement in Raw Silk, principally for full-size Filatures and Re-reels for the United States. Dealers are anxiously awaiting the tidings that the 3rd of November will bring, for it is thought that as soon as the Presidential election is over there will be a strong revival in business generally in the States of the North American Union. It is now admitted that the best grades of Filatures and Re-reels will be scarce on the Yokohama market this year, so that things point to a rise in them very shortly. The Waste Silk business has been steady throughout the week. Tea is active and prices are tending upwards for desirable lots owing to the greatly reduced stocks now in the market. Exchange closes steady despite a slight drop in Silver.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The new Commercial Treaty between Japan and China, published on Thursday, is regarded with unmixed satisfaction by the vernacular press. The Tokyo papers agree in warning the Government that no effort should be neglected to enforce the Treaty to the letter, for no Treaty, however advantageous its text, can be of any practical value unless its observance be guarded with jealous care.

The *Yiji* thanks the Authorities for having succeeded in concluding such a good treaty with China, a country notorious for procrastination, irresolution, and incorrigible obstinacy. It hopes that the Japanese people will avail themselves of the rights and privileges secured to them by the Treaty and will strive to promote the prosperity of their country. While grateful for having obtained, in virtue of her victories in the recent War, such an advantageous treaty, Japan should not forget that the document imposes grave obligations on her also towards China. In other words, she must keep in mind the important fact that China, from whom she has obtained large privileges, some of them non-reciprocal, is a member of one big community in the Far East and is not less concerned than Japan in the welfare and tranquillity of this part of the world. Japan should endeavour to lead China out of her present state of darkness and ignorance, for such a change would be of mutual benefit.

The *Kokumin* thinks that there are two weak points in the armour of the present Cabinet, namely want of cordial unity among the Ministers themselves, and deficiency of prestige. The necessity for a long and somewhat acute discussion before the Premier could deliver a speech—though it was a speech anything but precise in phraseology—illustrates the former point; and the discontent that certain heads of bureaux and local officials are said to secretly entertain towards the Central Government indicates deficiency of prestige. These are indeed grave matters, for steady views and resolute actions are possible only when the Ministry are firmly united; and maintenance of official discipline is out of the question unless the central authorities possess sufficient prestige. It behoves the Cabinet to remedy its weaknesses promptly and completely. To secure cordial unity of views among its members, it must divest itself of all trimming or invertebrate tendencies, and to command unqualified respect it must introduce drastic changes in the *personnel* of subordinates, especially Local Officials.

The *Yiji* desires to call the attention of the new Foreign Minister to the state of affairs in Korea, especially to the utter decadence of Japan's influence in the peninsula in the sphere of politics and commerce alike. A glance at the Customs returns will suffice to convince anybody of the latter point. In May of 1895, the imports by Japanese and Chinese merchants totalled 234,000 *yen* and 61,000 *yen*, respectively, and in June, the corresponding figures were 211,000 *yen* and 36,000 *yen*. But the situation has been completely reversed so that the figures for May and June of the current year were 121,000 and 188,573 *yen*, and 70,000 and 101,000 *yen* respectively, all in round numbers. Japan entertains no ambitious designs upon Korea. Her principal purpose in endeavouring to guide her neighbour out of darkness into light is to promote commercial relations with her. But that purpose is now completely defeated. The fault does not lie with merchants alone, but also with the Government, for the latter's protection is especially essential for promoting commerce in such a disorderly country as Korea. The little kingdom must be treated as a patient, officious grandmother would treat a naughty grandchild. While sternly warning the nation against any repetition of bad conduct, it must be put into good humour at times by administering sweet things. The contention that a display of force alone is appreciated in Korea, can not be demonstrated by actual facts, for Russia, without

moving a single soldier, has succeeded in bringing Korea completely under her sway. While extending every possible protection to the commercial transactions of Japanese subjects, the Government must, at the same time, encourage people to go to Korea and establish themselves there as in a second home.

In another article devoted by the *Yiji* to the same subject, it calls the attention of the authorities to trite old sayings about thrift and the preservation of sound health, and observes that, just as a man who aspires to obtain a competence and to be in sound health must practice thrift and live hygienically, so the Japanese Government, in striving to regain its influence in Korea, must not neglect to pay attention to the most trifling details, and must expect to attain its goal by step after step of steady progress.

The *Nichi Nichi* publishes a series of articles about the economic situation. It thinks that the present troubles are more sentimental than actual. People speak gloomily about the probable outcome of the year's rice crop, but even that cause of despondency does not exceed, according to the latest trustworthy information, ten per cent. of an average yield; that is to say, only four million *koku*, which, estimated at the rate of 10 *yen* a *koku* amounts to a loss of 40 million *yen*. Excess of imports over exports from the beginning of the year constitutes another important source of public apprehension. It is true that the excess amounts to about 51 million *yen* up to September. But people should remember that specie and bullion were imported at the same time to the amount of over 16 million *yen*, and that it is not clear whether the goods imported have already been delivered to consumers, or are stored away, awaiting purchasers. Further, if, as the recent turn of affairs in the market indicates, the export of silk and other staples steadily increases during the remainder of the year, the ultimate excess of imports may be reduced to a small sum. The fact is that the advent of a panic having been loudly predicted by pessimists, and enterprise having apparently become feverishly active in various directions, people recalled the experience of Germany after the Franco-Prussian War, and became so nervous that something like a panic created itself out of no solid materials whatever. The way to dispel the delusion must be equally sentimental. Thus, the time for convoking the next sitting of the Railway Council should be delayed till the public mind has recovered its equilibrium. People will then be assured that no further fixing of capital need be feared from the railway quarter, and their overstrung nerves will be calmed.

The *Kokumin* assigns a grave duty to the Matsukata Ministry, or the "Sasshu Cabinet," namely, the transfer of power to the people. This process is called by our contemporary the "Second Restoration." It consists in effecting drastic reforms in the Administration, and in recasting the *personnel* of the Government. If the Sasshu statesmen are really resolved to carry out this Second Restoration, or more properly, Reformation, then they must calmly and honestly observe the trend of affairs in general, and must make up their minds voluntarily to hand over the power to those that may properly be regarded as representatives of the people. Granted that these statesmen will have to give up their authority to others, sooner or later, how much more conducive it would be to the development of the people's political ideas and to the furtherance of the country's welfare, did they make the surrender of their own accord to the peoples representatives, than did they wait to be compelled by their rivals, the statesmen of Choshu extraction! In recommending for the Sovereign's approval candidates qualified to be entrusted with power, the Satsuma statesmen need not concern themselves much about the capacity of the men recommended: it will suffice if they select persons not tainted by clannishness. That is the most important thing that the people have to expect from the present ministry. Dis-

cussions about the responsibility of the Cabinet and so forth are merely secondary matters.

The *Yiji* is inclined to believe that the new Cabinet will really prove itself a *Sekinin Naikaku* (responsible Cabinet), judging from all that has been said on both sides of the question. The Home Minister's declaration before the Governors is regarded by this paper as an evidence of caution on the part of the Cabinet. The Home Minister must have thought, when he delivered his speech before the Local Governors, that as politics, after all, are of mobile and even shifting character, and as the important needs of the nation are liable to be overlooked at times owing to excessive party rivalry, the Government must be prepared to dissolve the Diet over and over again should political parties be betrayed into temporary aberration. Therefore, while secretly resolved to shape his actions according to the principle of responsible cabinets, Count Kabayama doubtless felt it necessary, as a point of caution, to make declaration capable of a wholly different construction. None the less, in view of the very considerable development that the political ideas of the people have attained, the Cabinet must bring its procedure into conformity with the drift of popular opinion as indicated in the House of Representatives. However rich in statesmen of conspicuous resolution the Cabinet may be, it will never have recourse to repeated dissolutions of the Diet. Moreover, the inauguration of the system of responsible Cabinets being one of the few points maintained in common by the *Shimpo-to* and their rivals the Liberals, any administrative policy in direct conflict with that principle would range the two parties alike against the Government, and produce its speedy fall.

Mr. Miyake Yujiro, writing in the columns of the *Nippon*, regrets to see the anti-Government politicians fail to present a firm and united front. A weak-kneed Opposition is most pernicious, for it is under the stimulus of resolute and keen-eyed opponents that the heads of an Administration develop their highest qualities of statesmanship. The writer advises Marquis Ito and his adherents to impose a check upon the desultory and rampant action of Baron Ito's section, and recommends Count Itagaki to restrain the similarly irregular proceedings of Mr. Hayashi Yuzo's followers. By so doing, the Party can recover its wholesome tone, as well as its capacity for delivering bold, upright, and square attacks, with benefit not only to itself but also to the nation at large.

The last two volumes of the fortnightly proceedings of the Liberal Party vehemently attack the Matsukata Cabinet, accusing the Premier and his influential colleagues of the crime of fomenting socialism, inasmuch as they try to overbear the people by the power of money. The accusation that the Premier overthrew the last Cabinet through the instrumentality of certain millionaires with whom he is closely allied, has already been ventilated in the columns of the Liberals' daily organ, the *Tokyo Shimbun*, and referred to by us. But the "Crime of fomenting socialism" being a new count, we shall briefly summarize the articles embodying it. The *Toko*, which is the name of the fortnightly proceedings, dwells very much on the personalities of Counts Matsukata and Okuma and Viscount Takashima. It describes how Count Matsukata, uniting himself with the Iwasaki and the Matsumoto by ties of marriage, and Count Okuma, ingratiating himself with the Mitsubishi while he was Minister of Finance, and resorting to various shady transactions (upon which the *Toko* does not fail to dilate) have sought to court the favour of the wealthy; and how Viscount Takashima, though himself a soldier, is absorbed in the business of money making through the medium of his relatives who undertake the work of emigration agents. Side by side with this trio, Marquis Ito with his strict disinterestedness and incorruptibility, Viscount Watanabe with his constancy and integrity, and Count Itagaki with his honourable poverty, form a striking contrast. The alleged cupidity of

Count Matsukata and Count Okuma, is all the more culpable when it is remembered how they abuse the power of their wealth and their friendship with millionaires to satisfy their political greed. Did not Count Matsukata secretly ask his "monied friends" to refrain from subscribing to the last installment of the Loan when it was issued by the late Cabinet? In short, the Matsukata Cabinet seeks to corrupt the administration of the country by the force of money and to secure the power of the State for an oligarchy of monied men. What difference is there between this form of oppression and that exercised by the *Samurai* in feudal days? The Liberals played no small part in subverting the military regimen, and they must similarly exert themselves to do away with this new form of abuse.

With unwearied persistence, the *Fiji* continues to draw the attention of the public to the importance of maintaining a strong naval force. Our contemporary thinks that, in view of the maritime strength of Occidental Powers in the East, Japan may find it necessary to increase her navy from 200,000 tons displacement to 250,000, or even 300,000 tons. In short, the *Fiji* would be pleased to have Japan's navy increased, even though the effort involved some sacrifices on the side of the land forces. For that purpose the nation should tax its capacity to the limits of feasibility. Our contemporary is of opinion that the maintenance of a fleet of 300,000 tons would not be difficult, judging from the present condition of the national resources.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH BERRICK.

A LINK with the early business days of Yokohama is snapped by the death of Mr. Joseph Berrick, that occurred early on Monday morning at the German Naval Hospital. A native of Liverpool, Mr. Berrick came to Yokohama in 1872, after a short stay at St. Louis, U.S.A., and joined the firm of Berrick Brothers as junior partner. His business operations were very successful and long before he left Japan in 1891 for England, the firm held a commanding position. About 5 years ago Mr. Berrick determined to go home for good, but he paid a visit to Japan in 1893, and again this year, arriving by the O. & O. steamer *Belgic* three months ago. His health then gave grave cause for anxiety, and the day after landing he entered the German Naval Hospital, where he gradually sank under exhausting liver complaints and cardiac affection. A genial, large-hearted man, Mr. Joseph Berrick made a host of friends in Japan, and his early demise—he was but 49 years of age—will be much regretted.

The funeral of Mr. Joseph Berrick, that took place on Tuesday from the German Naval Hospital, was very large attended. The services at the hospital and at the grave-side in Yokohama cemetery were conducted in accordance with the rites of the Hebrew faith. Many lovely wreaths were sent by sorrowing friends, besides some stands of Japanese mortuary flowers from the Japanese staff in the employ of the firm of Messrs. Berrick Bros.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

LAST night's meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was mostly devoted to Thomas Hood, the elder. Prof. Clement, of Tokyo, read a sketch of the poet and essayist's life, with apt quotations from his work; Mrs. Clement, the Rev. L. Dearing, and Mr. Schurr gave appropriate readings. Miss Webb sang "The Garden of Sleep," Miss Griffin gave a piano-forte solo, and Miss Vincent and Mr. Griffin concluded with one of Mozart's duets.

CUT TO PIECES ON THE RAILWAY.

THE *Hiogo News* reports that as the 6.18 p.m. up-train on the Sanyo Railway from Himeji was crossing the bridge over the Ichikawa on Thursday it ran into a party of four women, aged about 54, 34, 26, and 17 years respectively. All

save the second were killed on the spot, the bodies being horribly cut up; that the oldest woman was literally cut in two at the thighs and the trunk was dragged for some distance across the bridge. The survivor has, it is feared, very small chance of recovery. The women were all well dressed; it is surmised that after a day's outing they had taken to the railway as a short cut for home.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for September, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1895.	1896.
Exports	13,299,210.350	8,098,903.330
Imports	11,509,187.320	15,813,183.310
Total exports and imports	23,912,176.640	23,912,176.640
Excess of imports	899,443.400	899,443.400
CUSTOMS DUTIES.		
Exports	125,699.589	125,699.589
Imports	474,176.311	474,176.311
Miscellaneous	19,040.079	19,040.079
Total	618,915.979	618,915.979

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
China	2,047,095.280	3,501,480.420	5,548,575.700
Hongkong	2,607,241.030	659,778.810	3,267,019.840
British India	393,474.170	1,441,891.480	1,835,365.650
Korea	330,203.680	377,285.510	707,489.190
Russian Asia	98,545.070	300,081.000	418,626.070
Philippine Islands	27,197.650	190,695.340	217,892.990
Annam & other French			
India	1,885,000	174,238.010	2,059,238.010
Siam	3,683.080	51,471.340	55,154.420
Great Britain	56,465.000	63,315.730	119,780.730
Germany	64,446.760	1,751,090.510	1,815,537.270
France	893,433.070	465,877.650	1,359,310.720
Italy	304,489.130	11,888.060	316,377.190
Belgium	31,033.900	318,011.570	349,045.470
Switzerland	44,075.160	355,295.680	399,370.840
Russia	17,633.000	4,588.150	22,221.150
Spain	78.000	13,673.150	13,751.150
Austria	304,704.410	3,394.540	308,098.950
Holland	3,451.000	3,841.830	7,292.830
Norway	7,180.000	149.560	7,329.560
Sweden	682.810	2,470.410	3,153.220
Denmark	1,432.000	149.560	1,581.560
Portugal		11.780	11.780
United States of America	2,863,850.870	1,758,334.770	4,622,185.640
Canada & other British America	216,977.460	2,064.300	219,041.760
Peru		31.560	31.560
Australia	283,749.420	16,970.880	300,720.300
Hawaii	30,101.470	7,076.000	37,177.470
Other Bountries	23,517.880	30,171.070	53,688.950
Total	7,780,155.540	15,813,183.310	23,593,338.850

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
Yokohama	3,885,065.680	7,023,517.180	10,908,582.860
Kobe	2,845,975.860	1,182,714.270	4,028,690.130
Osaka	113,028.520	213,859.380	326,887.900
Nagasaki	431,185.130	635,139.010	1,066,324.140
H. Kodate	206,603.470	101,711.000	308,314.470
Niigata	7,309.710	5,981.480	13,291.190
Shimonoseki	158,500.430	17,356.410	175,856.840
Moji	183,706.000		183,706.000
Katsuta	37,078.000		37,078.000
Kuchinotsu	131,100.000		131,100.000
Iidzumi	360.800	2,813.970	3,174.770
Shishimi	1,513.130	2,637.160	4,150.290
Sasaka	660.610	3,378.300	4,038.910
Fushiki		5,419.430	5,419.430
Muroran	20,408.380		20,408.380
Otsu	1,824.610	3,998.190	5,822.800

Specie and Bullion { Exports	1,485,007.840
{ Imports	586,464.410
Total	2,072,372.280
Excess of imports	899,443.400

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	2,115,297.010
{ Imports	4,297,592.460
Imported by Government	14,103.850

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.	Silver Yen.
January	7,743,062.350	14,273,188.440	22,016,250.790
February	10,063,110.000	11,285,665.160	21,348,775.160
March	9,154,041.480	10,641,030.810	19,795,072.290
April	9,774,017.710	13,595,151.010	23,369,168.720
May	9,570,717.160	14,431,386.280	24,002,103.440
June	7,579,880.390	14,121,060.510	21,700,940.900
July	7,527,194.590	14,653,027.710	22,180,222.300
August	7,008,050.080	17,275,141.110	24,283,191.190
September	8,298,993.330	15,813,183.380	24,112,176.710
Total	77,308,070.130	128,809,151.380	206,117,221.510

ARTIFICIAL SILK.

THE *Textile Mercury* says, with regard to artificial silk:—Our sympathy is with the gentlemen who, after a series of highly interesting chemical experiments, appear to have deluded themselves into the belief that they have succeeded in supplanting the silkworm; and should a company be formed in this district, the shareholders will, we fancy, certainly be entitled to commiseration also. The *Mercury* thinks that "wood pulp" may have its uses, but as a substitute for the queen of textile materials, it says, "practical experience up to the present utterly condemns it." It regards the assertion that the English company (should it ever be formed) will be able to

sell artificial silk at 4 shillings a pound as surprising, in view of the fact that on the Continent, where the production is cheaper, 8 shillings a pound is charged for the yard in the gray condition. It adds: "From the facts already given, and others which have come under our notice, we do not think that artificial silk merits the claims put forward on its account, and we are able to announce the important fact that anyone offering cloth composed of the material, the nature of which is not clearly indicated, will be prosecuted by the silk manufacturers themselves, who are determined that an article possessed of such inferior properties shall not be allowed to masquerade as the real thing itself. The fibre, if fibre it can be called, may be used in small quantities as well, alternately with threads of a stronger and more lasting material, but to say that the article is a substitute for real silk is such a glaring perversion of the facts of the case that we feel it our duty to issue this warning to the trade at large. In doing so, we may add that if artificial silk was likely to fulfil the promises made concerning it, silk manufacturers would be the first to establish its manufacture, and to consume the yarn themselves. They have no sentimental consideration for the silk-worm, if they can find a cheaper product and one that answers their purpose as well as that of the *Bombyx mori*. The fact that they have tried artificial silk, and will have none of it, speaks for itself."

A WRECK AT NAOYETSU.

A DISPATCH from Naoyetsu to the *Fiji*, states that the steamer *Tamahime Maru*, which called there to discharge some cargo on the 19th inst., on her way from Kobe to Otsu, got aground in consequence of a gale. Four steamers tried to tow her off and the inhabitants of Naoyetsu did all they could for her assistance. All efforts were, however, of no avail and the position of the steamer got worse on account of a high sea which set in on the morning of the 20th, and her rescue became hopeless and the crew abandoned her that morning. The steamer was insured for 50,000 yen with the Japan Marine Insurance Company. She was originally the Blue Funnel liner *Sarpedon*.

A THIEVING SAILOR.

ON Friday morning, in H.B.M.'s Court, before John Carey Hall Esq., Acting Assistant-Judge, Allen Pringle Mann, who a week previously had pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing a pair of trousers, and other articles from the boarding house of Mr. John Kernan, 187, Settlement, on the afternoon of October 21st, was brought up on remand. In answer to His Honour, the prisoner said he wished to have the case dealt with summarily. He hoped His Honour would be lenient, as he intended to amend his evil ways. A sentence of one month's imprisonment with hard labour was imposed.

MR. DU MAURIER.

MR. DU MAURIER, the gifted *Punch* artist and author of "Peter Ibbetson," "Triby," and "The Martian," died in London on Oct. 8th. His death will be regretted by many who loved his exquisite black-and-white work, while the world of letters is the poorer by one delightful thinker and writer.

AN EXCITED LEGISLATURE.

THE elementary passions seem to have full sway in some of the Colonial legislatures, to judge by reports of oft-recurring "scenes," but the disturbance in the New Zealand Chamber, detailed in an Auckland letter to the *Sydney Mail*, appears to take the "cake"—A disgraceful scene, it says, arising out of the banking inquiry, occurred in the lobby of the House to-day. During the examination of Mr. Vigers, one of the liquidators of the Colonial Bank, before the Banking Committee, Mr. Hutchison, member for Patea, made a remark to the effect that if the Judge of the Dunedin Supreme Court were present at the committee meeting the Minister for Lands would insult him. The Minister thereupon, in threatening tones, remarked that he should like to hear Mr. Hutchison make that remark in the lobby,

adding that if he did he would get "a smack over the head." Subsequently Mr. Hutchison met the Minister in the lobby, and addressing him said, "Well, John M'Kenzie, you challenged me to repeat the words in the lobby. I do so." The Minister immediately tore off his coat and threw it to one of the members standing near and proceeded with clenched fists and threatening attitude towards the member for Patea. The latter stood calmly awaiting an onslaught. Mr. J. G. Ward, ex-Colonial Treasurer, however, came between the two men, and Mr. Graham, chairman of the Banking Committee, also intervened, crying excitedly, "Don't disgrace us; don't disgrace us all!" The Premier also stood guard over Mr. Hutchison. The Minister for Lands several times attempted to break away from restraint, but eventually the counsels of friends prevailed and he retired to his room.

TRAFALGAR DAY ON THE "GRAFTON."

ON Wednesday, the 21st inst., by way of commemorating Trafalgar Day, Rear-Admiral Oxley gave a half holiday to the Squadron under his command at Hakodate. A regatta, for service boats, took place in the afternoon, and in the evening H.B.M. Consul and Mrs. Bonar, the Captains of the ships in port, and a large number of the Officers were entertained by the Admiral at dinner, after which a Smoking Concert was given on board the Flagship, to which the Officers and ships' companies were invited. This is the first entertainment of the kind attempted by the *Grafton*. The programme, which we give below, opened very appropriately with the grand old song "The death of Nelson," very creditably rendered by Mr. Allen, R.N., the chorus being taken up by all present in the most effective manner. The entire programme met with the general approbation of the audience, many of the performers being recalled, but the omission of Lieut. Wilde's song was regretted. It is hoped that the talent brought to light on this occasion may continue to develop, and the pleasant impromptu concert on Trafalgar Day may be the forerunner of still greater triumphs. During the interval and after the performance all the guests were most hospitably entertained, the ship's company providing quite a substantial supper for their friends. The following is the Programme:—

Overture	.....	Band.
Song	.....	"Death of Nelson".....Mr. Allen.
Song	.....	"Half Mast High".....Gunner A. Aconley.
Mandoline Duet	.....	{ Private C. Winalade.
	.....	{ P.O. & cl. J. Manser.
Song of Songs	.....	Private J. Croft.
Song	.....	"The Pirate of the Isles".....P.O. & cl. H. Bush.
INTERVAL OF 30 MINUTES.		
Song	.....	"Mother-in-Law".....Private C. F. Jones.
Song	.....	"Anchored".....Gunner A. Aconley.
Song	.....	"Tommy Atkins".....D. Capponi, A.B.
Song and Dance	.....	{ G. Meade, Sig.
	.....	{ R. Herd, Ste.
	.....	{ H. Clark, A.B.
Song	.....	"Comedian".....G. Barry, A.B.
Song	.....	"Jack Jones".....A. Clements, A.B.
Song	.....	"No more up in Covent Garden".....Lt. Wilde, R.N.M.
Song	.....	"Molly Riley".....Private H. G. West.
	.....	"God Save the Queen."

NEWCHWANG.

In their circular dated the 6th October, 1896, Messrs. Bandinel and Co. say:—The crops within 100 miles from this and along the river banks are badly damaged, but elsewhere are said to be so very good as to make the total yield a fair average one; meantime, beans come in very slowly, and are not expected in quantity before 30th inst. Princes are high and there is but little doing, except for Japan to fill contracts. Arrivals to date are 302 steam and 7 sail, against 273 steam and 36 sail in 1894. Vessels in ports—*Sullberg*, *Chunsang*, *Peiping*, *Frogner*, *Sumiyoshi Maru*, *Pakhoi*, *Chili*, *Orient*, *Bylgia*, *Galveston*.

A SALVAGE SUIT.

The *Paoting-Strathesk* Admiralty suit was concluded before Sir N. J. Hannen at Shanghai on the 10th inst. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, agents for the China Navigation Co., claimed Tls. 20,000 for salvage services rendered by the *Paoting* on the 24th, 25th, and 26th July, the *Paoting* towing the *Strathesk* 167 miles to Woosung. The owners of the *Strathesk* tendered Tls. 10,000. After evidence in detail and long arguments, Mr. W. A. C. Platt, agent for the plaintiffs, stated, in reply to His Lordship,

that he based his claim at ten per cent. upon the value of the ship saved. His Lordship, in giving his decision, said—"I do not think it would be any use my taking time to consider the case further. I think the offer made by the other side is as much as could have been expected, and I think it is about right. Whether it should be a little more or a little less I do not think it is worth my while or anybody else's to inquire. I think that Tls. 10,000 is a proper amount. It has been paid in and it has not been accepted. It must go as amount to be awarded to the plaintiffs, and as they have not accepted it they will have to pay costs. Judgment accordingly." Damage to the extent of \$1,000 was done to the *Paoting* in rendering towage service.

BISMARCK ON SILVER.

We take the following interesting item from an American exchange:—

Governor Culberson, of Texas, wrote to Prince Bismarck of Germany to secure his views on the silver question, particularly his opinion of the effect of the immediate adoption of bimetalism by the United States, and has received the following reply:—

Friedrichsruh, August 24, 1896.

Honored Sirs—Your esteemed favour of July 1st has been duly received. I have always had a predilection for bimetalism, but I would not, while in office, claim my views of the matter to be infallibly true when advanced against the views of experts. I hold to this very hour that it would be advisable to bring about among the nations chiefly engaged in the world's commerce a mutual agreement in favour of the establishment of bimetalism.

Considered from a commercial and industrial standpoint, the United States are freer by far in their movements than any nation of Europe, and hence, should the people of the United States [literally North America] find it compatible with their interests to take independent action [literally, "einen selbstständigen Schritt"—*Editor LITERARY DIGEST*] in the direction of bimetalism, I cannot help but believe that such action would exert a most salutary influence upon the consummation of international agreement and the coming into this league of every European nation.

Assuring you of my highest respect, I remain, your most obedient servant, BISMARCK.

CHESS AMONG THE MALAYS.

MR. HULBERT, the district Magistrate of Kuala Kangsar, writes in his last month's report:—I commenced and brought to a conclusion, in July, a chess tournament among the Malays in the different Kuala Kangsar mukims. They divided into two classes, viz., those who considered themselves adepts, and those who did not. There were 32 entries for the prizes, amounting to \$30, given by the District Magistrate. It was surprising the amount of interest the Malays all over the district took in it. I propose to hold one every six months. The Datoh Sri Adika Raja and Raja Ngah Petra won the first and second prizes in the adepts class, a deaf and dumb Malay getting into the semi-final. In the novices class two small boys from Kota Lama won the prizes, greatly to the delight of the onlookers, beating, as they did, several elderly Malays, who were very much chaffed.

PRESENTATION TO MR. LIGHTFOOT.

A WEDDING gift was presented to Mr. C. H. Lightfoot at the smoking concert given in Kobe on Thursday. The gift, which consisted of a beautiful case of cutlery, was subscribed for by the members of the K.R. & A.C., not only in appreciation of Mr. Lightfoot's valuable services to the Club, but also as a token of personal esteem. Mr. Abell, the President, in handing the gift to Mr. Lightfoot, expressed the indebtedness of the Club to him, and on behalf of the members wished both Mrs. Lightfoot and himself long life, health, wealth, and prosperity. Mr. Lightfoot appropriately acknowledged the gift, which was accompanied by the enthusiastic cheers of the gathering.

NEW CHINESE CRUISERS.

THE *N. C. Daily News* announces that on Saturday, Oct. 17, the Tsung-li Yamên signed with Mr. J. J. Bucheister a contract for two cruisers to be built by Sir Wm. Armstrong's company at Elswick.

CAPTAIN RIDDERBËLKE RETURNS.

CAPTAIN RIDDERBËLKE has returned to Yokohama without accomplishing his intention of

crossing the Pacific in a 17-ft. boat. He only got as far as Hakodate, storms and heavy gales having been the order of the day almost from the day of leaving Yokohama. He intends starting the voyage again from Hakodate in the spring.

THE "GLENFALLOCH."

THE Glen liner *Glenfalloch*, which arrived at Singapore from Kuchintotozu on the 19th September with a cargo of coal, has changed owners, having been sold to Messrs. Wee Bin & Co. for £6,500. She is now at New Harbour undergoing repairs and alterations to adapt her to the requirements of the local trade. It is understood to be uncertain as yet where she will be run to.—*Free Press*.

CUTTER RACE.

ON Saturday last a race took place in Hakodate Harbour between the cutters of Her Majesty's ships *Grafton* and *Æolus*. After a well rowed race over a course of four miles, the *Æolus* crew (stokers) won by four boats' lengths, the *Graftons* making a game struggle of it to the finish.

CAPT. DU BOULAY.

CAPT. N. W. H. DU BOULAY, R.A., who was attached to the Japanese army during the late China-Japan War, has been selected to succeed Major C. E. Callwell as brigade-major, Royal Artillery, Devonport.

DEATH ON THE "CENTURION."

ONE of the stokers on board H.M.S. *Centurion*, named J. Peters, died at Nagasaki on Wednesday last, from heart disease, and was buried on Friday at Urakami with naval honours.

DECORATIONS.

THE Emperor has advanced the Marquis C. Nembrini de Gonzaga to the Fourth Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure. Don. Jose Caro, of the Spanish Legation, has received a decoration of the same order.

THE INUNDATIONS FUND.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums for this fund:—

R. A. Mowat, Esq.....	\$100
C. Haas, Esq.	10

COUNT OKUMA ON FREE TRADE.

The vernacular press publishes a report of a speech delivered by Count Okuma before the High Council of Industry and Commerce. We reproduce here only the last portion of the address, namely, that embodying the Foreign Minister's opinion on the tariff system of the country. His Excellency thinks that the public are inclined to attach too much importance to the export side of foreign commerce. They frequently declare that imports must be checked, and exports vigorously encouraged. Now there can be no question that exports are of great importance, but it appears to Count Okuma that in their eagerness about exports, people are liable to overlook the equal importance of the import trade. In point of fact, there is no country in the world whose foreign trade consists of exports alone. A nation which, in order to foster its own home industries, imposes heavy duties upon foreign goods, is like a man doctoring himself with a drug more injurious than the disease it is intended to remedy. That is the case with the United States of America. So thoroughly is the American nation permeated with the poison of protection, that any rigorous attempt to cure the malady would almost paralyse the whole frame of commerce and industry? Though America is one of the largest countries in the world, and though it possesses a vast area of virgin and fertile land, the adoption of a high protective tariff has seriously impaired its producing power and only very mediocre results are attained. Commerce must be international from its very nature, and no country ought to think of confining itself to operations of sale. Without purchasers there can be no sellers. The Count excused himself for inculcating a lesson that should be self-evident to any intelligent man.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The Tokyo City Assembly met a few days ago and decided unanimously that a representation should be forwarded to the Authorities urging the abolition of the Special Municipal System now enforced in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto. The Assembly contended, at the same time, that the amendment should be carried a step farther, in the sense of elevating the status of the city. At present Tokyo is placed on the same footing as country towns containing only forty or fifty thousand citizens, and ranks administratively below the prefectures. This anomaly should be changed: the capital must be placed above the prefectures. Tokyo has a population estimated at about a million and a half, and, in respect of wealth, it possesses nearly a quarter of the entire wealth of the country. Its citizens pay a third, approximately, of the total income tax levied from the whole nation. The expenditures of the capital must reach a sum of about 3 million *yen* per annum, the Water-works alone costing at present about one million. City improvements are in progress, and the work of harbour reconstruction is sure to be taken up sooner or later. In short, from every point of view, Tokyo deserves special consideration. The Municipal System Bill submitted to the Diet last session, contained provisions in that sense, but as it proposed to make the Mayor aldermen, and junior officials not servants of the municipality but Government officials, although, at the same time, their salaries were to be paid out of the municipal taxes, it failed to secure the support of the public or of the Diet. Were that fundamental point in the proposed system satisfactorily dealt with, the citizens of Tokyo would be glad to endorse the Bill.

The High Industrial and Commercial Council closed on the 26th inst. after having sat for one week. Of the seven topics of discussion brought before the Council, six obtained a favourable vote, and the seventh, namely the "Control and Protection of Mechanics," was entrusted to a special committee of seven.

The result of this year's rice-crop is thus estimated by a certain high authority:—

	Per cent. below or above average.	Estimated yield of the year. koku.
Tokyo, Saitama, Tochiki, Chiba,		
Ibaraki	-8.5	4,024,248
Kanagawa, Gumma, Nagano, Yamaguchi, Fukushima	-9.5	3,587,043
Miyagi, Iwate, Aomori	-9.0	2,208,173
Akita, Yamagata	-8.5	2,029,501
Niigata	-7.5	1,772,170
Toyama	-8.5	1,195,868
Ishikawa, Fukui	-7.5	1,214,494
Shizuoka	+5	946,680
Aichi	-7.5	385,503
Miyagi	-7.0	768,208
Gifu, Shiga	-5.5	985,568
Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Nara, Wakayama	-9.0	4,135,661
Okayama, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Shimane, Tottori	+5	4,518,196
Shikoku	+5	1,981,162
Kyushu	+1.0	5,497,487
Total		35,879,962
Average during the last 5 years		39,661,617

ECONOMIC TOPICS.

It seems that the endeavours of several leading merchants of Tokyo to save the Sawa Firm from the disaster of bankruptcy have not been successful. The goods of the Firm were seized on the 22nd inst. by a creditor whose claim amounts to five thousand *yen*, and, as it inevitable under such circumstances, two or three others have similarly appealed to the law. Rumour further alleges that several other merchants in Kiryu are in an equally critical situation. In truth, the whole town of Kiryu is in a state of crisis. Almost every weaver in that large centre of the industry has dismissed employees and released apprentices, both male and female, so that the noise of the busy shuttle, once heard in all the streets, has been completely

silenced. Ashikaga is in a somewhat better condition, and weaving is still carried on there to a greater or less extent. In Sano, another weaving centre in Joshi, the depression has affected the industry to such a degree that wages have fallen by 50 to 60 per cent., to the great distress of the working class.

The trouble has extended to other industries in other districts. The cotton-flannel weavers of Kishu, for instance, decided that business should be virtually suspended after the 25th inst., and wages should be reduced by 50 *sen* a loom. The cotton-prints weavers of Takegahana, Mino, have also decided to stop production, and the silk and cotton-goods weavers of Aichi contemplate similar procedure.

The match-manufacturers, too, of the Keihan districts are reported to be suffering. The recent rise in the market prices of commodities and in rates of wages has so injuriously affected this business that manufacturers find themselves confronted by a great loss in the production of matches; the cost of producing a given quantity being 14.60 *yen*, whereas the selling price is only 13.80 to 14.30 *yen*. There is talk of suspending the industry pending the return of more favourable times, but no step in that sense has yet been taken.

The only redeeming feature of the situation is the silk market of Yokohama, where business has partially revived. The *Shogyo* reports that 1,300 bales were sold on Sunday last.

THE ECONOMIC TROUBLE IN OSAKA.

The economic trouble from which Osaka has been suffering is apparently about to end quietly, though it has involved the resignation of Mr. Kawakami, Director of the Osaka Branch of the Bank of Japan. The proximate cause of the complication was indiscreet transactions in cheques at the old clearing house in Osaka, certain banks having issued cheques beyond their means, and others having endorsed or accepted the cheques. Between the 16th of September and the 15th of October, the cheques that changed hands at the clearing house totalled over 5 million *yen*, generally redeemable in 30 days from the date of issue. The following were the chief debtors or creditors in connexion with those cheques:—

Creditors.	Amount. Yen.
The Hundred-and-Thirtieth National Bank	870,000
The Sumitomo Bank	710,000
The Thirty-fourth National Bank	720,000
The First National Bank	620,000
The Hemmi Bank	830,000
The Forty-second National Bank	630,000
The Third-National Bank	550,000
The Oni Bank	400,000

Both debtors and creditors grew more and more alarmed as the date of redemption approached, for they were well aware that funds available for the purpose could not be easily procured. They came to the conclusion that no exit from the dilemma was possible except to apply the Bank of Japan for help. Mr. Doi Michio, President of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, was asked to lay the exact facts of the situation before Baron Kawada, President of the Bank of Japan, and at the same time, it was resolved to present a number of petitions to Mr. Kawakami. On the 18th inst., Mr. Matsumoto Jyutaro, one of the most influential merchants and bankers of Osaka—a man of almost the same standing as Mr. Shibuzawa in Tokyo, and President of the Hundred-and-thirtieth National Bank, and Mr. Tanaka Ichibei, President of the Forty-Second National Bank, called on Mr. Kawakami, then staying at Arima, for the benefit of his health. After submitting to him all the details of the complication, they requested him to advance 3 million *yen* on the joint responsibility of the principal banks of Osaka. Mr. Kawakami finally consented, on his own judgment, to grant the application. Mr. Doi, however, did not succeed so well with the President of the Bank, upon whom he called on the same day that Mr. Kawakami was visited by Messrs. Matsumoto and Tanaka at Arima.

Baron Kawada objected to give such large accommodation on the security of the Osaka Banks, but promised, at the same time, to make every possible effort to save the Osaka market from anything like a crisis. When, however, this decision of the President's reached the Director of the Osaka Branch of the Bank of Japan, it was too late, Mr. Kawakami having already given his promise to the bankers of Osaka. Hence there was nothing for it but that Mr. Kawakami should resign. Baron Kawada himself forwarded his resignation to the Minister of Finance, but the latter dissuaded him from taking any such step. Opinions are divided as to whether or no the three million *yen* have already been handed over to the applicants, but even though the money has not been paid, the Bank will feel bound to implement a promise made by its Osaka manager, and it is therefore concluded that the Osaka folks will be helped out of their difficulty. The Hemmi Bank, though a small concern of only 100,000 *yen* capital, has always enjoyed great credit in Osaka, so that it was able to transact business considerably out of proportion to its capital. A telegram received by the *Fiji* from Osaka says that Bank has succeeded in borrowing 300,000 *yen* from the Nippon Ginko and that a total advance of 1½ millions will settle the trouble satisfactorily.

COUNT MATSUKATA ON FINANCE.

On the 22nd instant, Count Matsukata addressed the High Council of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry on the subject that has given rise to so much speculation of late, the revenue and expenditure of the State. A résumé of the speech was published, on the 24th, in the columns of the *Shogyo Shimpō*, but owing to a very grave error on the part of the reporter, the public were, for a moment, greatly misled. According to the *Shogyo*, the Minister informed his hearers that the estimates of expenditure submitted by the various Departments of State for the 30th fiscal year—April 1st, 1897, to March 31st, 1898—aggregated 300 million *yen*; that revenue to meet such demands not being available the Heads of the Department had been invited to a conference, with the result that the total was reduced to 250 millions, and that since sources of income to defray even the latter amount were not forthcoming, it would be necessary to issue bonds to the extent of 120 millions; in other words, to increase the national debt by the latter amount. This somewhat startling description of financial prospects created considerable surprise, but, on the following day (25th) the same journal explained that its report was misleading. What the Minister had really said was that the total expenditure for the next fiscal year, including extraordinary as well as ordinary outlays, would be 250 million *yen*; but of that total only 120 millions represented ordinary expenditures. Moreover, on the revenue side, when His Excellency spoke of 120 millions, he alluded to the ordinary revenue only, and did not include the extraordinary. The latter would include the surplus from the preceding year; an appropriation of more than seven millions from the indemnity fund; subscriptions to public undertakings bonds, and so forth, the combined sums being sufficient to cover the extraordinary expenditures. There was thus no idea whatever of an addition to the national debt. The *Shogyo* further explained that from the beginning of 1897 the additional revenue from the tobacco monopoly would begin to accrue, and as that must be regarded as ordinary revenue, the total of the latter would ultimately stand at 130 millions. In brief, then, the financial situation, as outlined by Count Matsukata, is that the ordinary revenue and expenditure for the next fiscal year will each be 120 millions *yen*, and that the extraordinary expenditures will aggregate 130 millions, to meet which funds are duly forthcoming.

MR. TAGUCHI UKICHI & FINANCE.

Mr. Taguchi, M.P., has published his views on the financial programme of the Government through the columns of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. He starts with the declaration that if, as rumour says, the present Cabinet follows the financial programme elaborated by its predecessor, with the coöperation of the Liberals, then he has no choice but to oppose it. Several of the financial measures formulated by the Ito Cabinet are regarded with strong disfavour by Mr. Taguchi, the most prominent being the expansion of the Army, the Tobacco Monopoly, and that portion of the Registration Tax bearing on the census. If, therefore, the Matsukata Cabinet can retrench the Army expansion programme by more than seven million *yen*, and abolish the other two new measures that the *Shimpo-to* declared for in the previous session of the Diet, nothing, according to Mr. Taguchi, could be more beneficial to this realm. Even if it should be found impracticable to carry out retrenchment in the Army programme, he must still persist in proposing the abolition of the other two measures. Such a proceeding would create no small gap in the finances of the State, especially when the recent sudden rise in the market prices of commodities is taken into consideration. Some other measures for meeting the State's necessities must therefore be devised. Mr. Taguchi proposes two such measures, namely, an addition to the land tax and the abolition of the free coinage of silver, the adoption of either alternative being sufficient to supply the lack caused by the abolition of the Tobacco Monopoly and the contested portion of the Registration Tax. First, as to the amendment of the Land Tax. Mr. Taguchi tabulates the quantity of rice employed in payment of the land tax before the amendment of the system of assessment, and arrives at the conclusion that the quantity employed prior to 1874 was 11 million *koku* approximately. The price of rice being quoted at 9 *yen* per *koku* at present, the burden on farmers prior to 1874, estimated at current rates, amounted to 99 million *yen*. At present, however, even including the newly-opened lands in Hokkaido and Loochoo, the total assessment does not exceed 38½ million *yen*, approximately, to which 14 million *yen* of local rates ought to be added. In other words, farmers now pay only 53 million *yen*, which, taking into consideration the appreciation of rice subsequent to 1874, is equivalent to the payment of 5,800,000 *koku* only, that is, only about out half of the assessment of two decades ago. Is not that a very extraordinary boon to farmers?

As a result of the redemption of inconvertible notes subsequent to 1882, the market for rice in Tokyo fell as low as 5 *yen* per *koku* in 1886, the average quotation throughout Japan being about 4 *yen*. On that occasion an assessment of over 42 million *yen* as land tax and 15 million *yen* as rates, in other words, an assessment in kind amounting to about 14 million *koku*, was somewhat stiff as compared with the assessment prior to 1874. This is attested by the extraordinary increase in the number of arrears between 1883 and 1886; farmers who were dealt with on account of failures to pay taxes ranging between 35,000 and 100,000. It was evident that the farmer's burden needed lightening at that time, but this is entirely unnecessary and unreasonable now that the market rate of rice has risen above 7 *yen*. In 1892 only 292 farmers were in arrears, and in 1893 only 345.

The contention that the land tax should be levied at the rate of 2½ per cent. on the registered value of land, possesses no sound basis. The real rate should be estimated on the amount of rice raised. Can the argument be maintained as sound that the rate should be 2½ per cent. irrespective of how the market stands, whether rice be fetching 4 *yen* or 11 *yen*? Viewed from this standpoint, the idea of the last Cabinet to establish Industrial and Agrico-Industrial Banks at a time when rice stood as high as 11 *yen*, and to further benefit the already forlorn farmers at the expense of other tax-payers, was indeed a most inexplicable proposal. These considerations induce Mr.

Taguchi to declare for the necessity of adding to the taxes laid on farmers. That is the simplest as well as the least injurious mode of increasing the revenue of the country, but if the public are deterred from carrying out the proposed amendment, the only alternative is to abolish the free coinage of silver. To tell the truth, Mr. Taguchi cannot countenance that step, but he waives any objection in the interest of adjusting the disordered national finance. Briefly stated, his idea is as follows: to melt down a certain portion of the present silver currency within a certain prescribed period, so that the gold price of silver may be reduced. To forbid the Bank of Japan to use silver bullion as specie reserves when issuing convertible notes. To issue loans bearing 2½ to 3 per cent. interest and to take advantage of the fall in interest to redeem the consols and War Loans. To reduce the salaries of Government civil and military functionaries, in accordance with the fall in the market price of commodities. The reassessment of the land tax may be carried out, when, subsequently to the enforcement of this scheme, such a step is considered necessary. The volume of currency now in circulation is about 170 million *yen*, but of that sum 50 million *yen* belonging to the Special War Fund may be withdrawn at once. The actual circulating currency may therefore be set down at 120 million *yen*. In order to bring silver to a parity with gold the further withdrawal of about 20 million *yen* of convertible notes will be necessary. The silver currency in one-*yen* pieces coined since 1870 totals over 130 million *yen*, of which a part has left this country and another part is lying in the vaults of wealthy men. But when the free coinage of silver is abolished and its gold value is elevated, the *yen*-pieces now abroad or privately hoarded will reappear. Supposing then the volume of currency is lessened to 120 million *yen*, and that a sum of 35 million *yen* over and above the guarantee reserve of 85 million *yen*, is be laid by in one-*yen* silver pieces (a process that the Nippon Ginko will be ready to carry out on its own accord, because of the advantages accruing from it), and supposing that another 30 million *yen* are needed for public purposes, then the remaining 70 million *yen* must be melted down. The loss attending this process would not exceed 20 million *yen*. Mr. Taguchi's idea in recommending this measure is to convert the currency system of Japan into one similar to that prevailing in the Latin League and in the United States of America. The following retrenchments, he says, can be effected by the enforcement of this scheme. Interest on loans of 400 million *yen*, now amounting to about 18 millions, can be reduced by one-third, and other administrative expenses may be reduced by one half. The Army expansion programme of 43 million *yen* and the Navy expansion programme of 95 million *yen* may be reduced by one-third at least. If the scheme is carried out, though the State incur every year more or less loss through melting down silver, the Tobacco Monopoly and the Census Registration Tax may be abolished, and other complicated and hard-pressing taxes may either be abolished or amended, and all without adding a new item to the list of taxes. Needless to say that murmurs of trade depression will fill the country for a short while, as was the case about the years 1885 and 1886, but the Government must steadily pursue its policy when once it has decided upon it. One of Mr. Taguchi's cherished ideas is to keep the price of rice at about 6 *yen* in ordinary times, as this rate is considered by him conducive to maintaining order in Japan's economy and providing against the Government's or people's incurring any serious loss. It is this motive that induces him to advocate the World's adoption of a bimetallic system. The adoption by the world of bimetallicism can not be expected to take place at once, but the adjustment of Japan's finances is a question of urgent necessity. Hence Mr. Taguchi makes these suggestions. In conclusion, he avers that there are at present no convenient resources for new taxation available for increasing the receipts of the Treasury. In fact, the new measures for-

mulated by the last Cabinet are far from being satisfactory, inasmuch as they involve, when in full operation, collection expenses amounting to as much as 1,450,000 *yen*. This sum would support one military division or a fleet of 20,000 tons displacement. But either of the two schemes he propounds will necessitate no expense at all. Of course, if the deficit in the revenue does not exceed a few millions, recourse may be had to many miscellaneous taxes, but the present deficit is not small. The only way to satisfy it is to adopt either of the above alternatives.

FINANCE.

There is much lack of uniformity in the reports circulated from time to time by the vernacular press on the subject of the Budget for next fiscal year. A few days ago, the *Shogyo Shimpo*, publishing the gist of a speech delivered by Count Matsukata before the High Council of Agriculture and Commerce, made the Minister say that against an expenditure of 240 million *yen*, a revenue of only 120 millions was forthcoming, and that it would consequently be necessary to issue public loan bonds to meet the deficiency. Two days later, the same paper explained that it had fallen into a serious error. The expenditures referred to were the ordinary and extraordinary combined, whereas the revenue spoken of was the ordinary revenue only. What the Minister really had said, according to our contemporary, was that a total expenditure—ordinary and extraordinary—of 300 million *yen* had been estimated by the various Departments of State, but after effecting economies, the figure had been cut down to 240 millions, namely, 120 millions of ordinary outlay and an equal amount of extraordinary. Moreover, revenues to meet these outlays were declared by His Excellency to be forthcoming, and there never had been any question of issuing loan bonds. But now we find the following paragraph in the *Fiji Shimpo*:—"The expenditures estimated by the various Departments of State for next fiscal year originally totalled over 300 million *yen*, but after consultation between all the Ministers, the sum was reduced by sixty millions. Still the available revenue did not suffice to cover such an outlay, and as no new source of income was available, nothing offered except to issue loan bonds. Subsequently, however, the Departments applied themselves once more to the task of effecting every possible diminution of their demands, the Naval Department especially cutting down its figures by notable amounts, and thus finally the expenditures have been brought within the margin of the revenue, and there will be no need to issue bonds." Obviously these two accounts are more or less contradictory, but from both alike the fact emerges pretty clearly that the total expenditures for next year will be in the neighbourhood of 240 million *yen*, and that they will be covered by the revenues.

The *Tokyo Shimbun*, on the other hand, alleges that it will probably be necessary for the Treasury to appropriate the proceeds of the House Tax—now devoted to purposes of local finance—from which source seven or eight million *yen* annually could be obtained. Our contemporary speaks as though there were a chance of the tobacco monopoly project and the new registration tax being abandoned, and says that while the Diet could easily be brought to approve that step, both of the measures being unpopular, it could scarcely be induced to vote an increase of the land tax and the abolition of the free coinage of silver, steps suggested by some financiers as means of increasing the revenue. We do not, for our own part, see how the Treasury could gain anything by stopping the free coinage of silver, for the operation puts an appreciable sum every year into the Government's pocket. We showed in a recent article that the total profits made by the Osaka Mint since its establishment are over eleven million *yen*. To prevent people from carrying silver to the Mint for coinage ought to reduce rather than to increase the States' income, and, at any rate, the matter is a veritable baga-

telle as a factor of public revenue. However, that is what the *Tokyo Shimpō* tells its readers. It further alleges that although the funds of the communes must suffer as much as the Treasury would gain by changing the destination of the money accruing from the House Tax, there is a belief that by thinning the ranks of local officialdom and postponing all public works not absolutely essential, no new burden need be imposed on the people to defray communal expenditures even though the House Tax were appropriated by the Treasury.

PRISON REFORM.

The new Minister of Justice has detailed to a representative of the *Maishichi* the points that he considers require reform in the present prison system of Japan.

In the first place he holds that the position of governors of prisons should be made more stable. At present, governors, being under the control of the Department of Home Affairs, are viewed in the same light as ordinary administrative officials, their tenure of office is similarly precarious. Even the main principles of prison administration are liable to be altered on the occasion of a change of Minister. Under such circumstances, it is impossible to expect any marked improvement in the prison system, for all reforms of that nature evidently require a long time before they can be made permanently successful. Theoretically the position of governors of prisons should be of life tenure, as is that of Judge, but such a change would scarcely be applicable at present, for the majority of the governors are old, worn-out officials, holding office simply as a means of support, and generally destitute of new ideas. The easiest method of correcting these evils would be to transfer the prisons to the control of the Department of Justice, especially from the standpoint of making the tenure of governors' offices more stable. When this transfer is accomplished and the post of governor becomes a life affair, the next step will be to reform the method of appointment, and to replace it by the competitive examination system, as in the case of Judges and public procurators. Were these changes effected, the real reform of prisons might be anticipated within a reasonable time. The *Yū* also prints an account of an interview that a member of its staff had with a high authority on police and prison affairs. The criminal record after the War, observed that authority, was unexpectedly satisfactory. The Police authorities had apprehended that the disbanded military coolies would behave in an unruly manner and might subject peaceful folk to considerable annoyance. But, on the contrary, these coolies conducted themselves in such a law-abiding way, that the public knew nothing of their existence, with the exception of the fact that they preferred complaints against certain contractors in connection with arrears of pay that the coolies considered due to them.

The supply of police constables, according to the same authority, is as deficient as ever, especially since the recent industrial activity and the appreciation of the market prices of commodities. Many factories engage ex-police constables as master mechanics at wages of over 50 *sen* a day, especially in the Kei-Han districts. Miyagi used to furnish a large number of Police constables, but even thence the supply is considerably diminished. At present it is only from the three districts of Kagoshima, Kumamoto, and Ishikawa that candidates for the police can be obtained in sufficient number. To obviate this embarrassment, the only remedy is to raise the rate of pay. The average monthly pay of a constable or jailer is now 9 *yen*; it should be increased to 10 at least. The opinion that prison expenses should be transferred to the Treasury, though frequently discussed in the House of Representatives, has no hope of being carried into effect in the present state of the national finances. Therefore people in the provinces, who hesitated to improve their prisons since the question of transfer has been mooted, must proceed at once to reconstruct the local prisons.

One of the most urgent improvements required is to increase the accommodation, so that numerous prisoners may not be huddled together in one cell. That change is necessary, not so much from a hygienic standpoint, as for the purpose of lessening the number of criminals. At present a prison may not unjustly be called a school of crime, for when many prisoners are kept together in one room, even those who are honestly disposed become liable to the infection of vice. Sometime ago a mason thrown into prison for robbery lived in the same cell with political offenders who had been connected with the Satsuma rebellion. He was so far converted that on emerging from jail he pursued his legitimate occupation assiduously, and earned an ample competence. But other convicts, who had lived in the same cell with him and who were also robbers, annoyed him so often with unwelcome visits that he could no longer continue his respectable and law-abiding career, but drifted once more into the community of robbers.

JOINT-STOCK BUILDING COMPANY.

The Joint-stock Building Company started business on the 1st inst. with a capital of one million *yen*. Mr. Yasuda, of the Yasuda Bank, is President, and Messrs. Takei Morimasa, Otani Kahei, and two others are Directors. The company will erect buildings and so forth. The most interesting feature in the Company's prospectus is the statement that it will erect houses and godowns at the request of applicants and effect the transfer of the buildings to the latter upon payment of yearly or monthly installments spread over a period of 5 to 15 years. When, for instance, a building costing 1,000 *yen* is required, the applicant must pay down, on conclusion of the contract, a sum corresponding to 30 per cent. of the cost, that is, 300 *yen*. Of that 300 *yen* two-thirds will go towards paying off the cost of construction and the remaining one-third will be held by the Company as security for the other monthly payments. After the remaining sum of 800 *yen* has been paid off, the 100 *yen* deposited with the Company as security will be refunded. The following table shows the rate of repayments on various investments:—

Cost of construction.	5 years.		7 years.	
	Yearly.	Monthly.	Yearly.	Monthly.
1,000.....	311 98	18 494	275 894	21 608
2,000.....	415 856	36 078	350 519	29 216
3,000.....	605 784	55 483	515 883	43 824
4,000.....	887 712	73 976	701 118	58 432
5,000.....	1,100 640	98 470	876 412	73 039
6,000.....	1,313 568	116 964	1,051 706	87 647
7,000.....	1,526 496	139 458	1,227 001	102 255
8,000.....	1,739 424	161 952	1,402 295	116 863
9,000.....	1,952 352	184 446	1,577 590	131 471
10,000.....	2,165 280	206 940	1,752 884	146 078

Cost of construction.	10 years.		15 years.	
	Yearly.	Monthly.	Yearly.	Monthly.
1,000.....	141 587	11 799	117 439	9 788
2,000.....	283 174	23 598	234 918	19 577
3,000.....	424 762	35 397	352 397	29 365
4,000.....	566 349	47 196	469 877	39 153
5,000.....	707 936	58 995	587 356	48 941
6,000.....	849 523	70 794	704 835	58 730
7,000.....	991 110	82 593	822 314	68 518
8,000.....	1,132 698	94 392	939 793	78 306
9,000.....	1,274 285	106 190	1,057 272	88 094
10,000.....	1,415 872	117 989	1,174 751	97 883

Buildings constructed on these terms must be insured, the premia to be paid by the applicant. The Company estimates that profits will accrue of not less than 15 per cent. per annum. This is considered by the *Tokyo Economist* as too high a rate, especially when the comparative freedom from risk involved is considered, as well as the average returns accruing from land, about 3 to 4 per cent. per annum. Be that as it may, the enterprise is well timed, seeing how badly Tokyo needs a better and more durable class of buildings than those that now so generally disfigure the capital.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

The *Official Gazette* of the 29th inst. contains an Imperial announcement that the new Commercial Treaty between China and Japan has been ratified.

THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

Our readers are aware that it has been the purpose of the new Cabinet to appoint a Special Committee, with the object of conducting investigations into Administrative organization. The names of the Committee have now been announced in the *Official Gazette*. They are:—President, Count Okuma, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Vice-President, Mr. Kioura Keigo, Minister of State for Justice; Members, Baron Ito, Vice-Minister of the Navy; Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War; Baron Kitagaki, Vice-Minister of Colonization; Baron Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance; Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Suzuki, Vice-Minister of Communications; Mr. Matsunaka, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Hirata, Chief Secretary of the Privy Council; Mr. Komura, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Hama, Chief of the Audit Bureau; Mr. Matsumoto, chief of the Railway Bureau; Baron Noda, Chief Inspector of the Army; Baron Kawaguchi, Chief of the Bureau of Finance in the Naval Department; Mr. Sone, Chief of the Hokkaido Bureau in the Department of Colonization; Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet; Mr. Komuchi, Chief of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Takagi, Chief of Bureau of Civil Law in the Department of Justice; Mr. Nakabashi, Secretary in the Department of Communications; Mr. Yasuhiro, Chief of the Bureau of Shrines and Temples in the Home Department; Mr. Shibata, Secretary of the Cabinet; Mr. Ishizuka, Councillor of the Legislative Bureau; and Mr. Kawasaki, Secretary in the Foreign Office.

It is observed with regard to the composition of this Committee that excepting Count Okuma, Mr. Komura, Mr. Takahashi, and two or three others, the members are all men belonging to the late Cabinet, and the inference is drawn that the results of the committee's investigations may not be sufficiently satisfactory to win popular approval. Of course, considering the constant talk there has been about administrative reform—talk outside the ranks of officialdom—many critics are prepared to allege that the present Cabinet's chances of winning the heart of the nation depend entirely upon the issue of the Committee's labours, and unless some steps are taken signally progressive as compared with the conduct of affairs under Marquis Ito, the Matsukata-Okuma Ministry must fall. But very few people sincerely believe that Marquis Ito left a state of things offering much margin for reform, and perhaps no course could be adopted more injurious to the present Cabinet than to represent its public credit as depending upon the achievements of a committee which can not reasonably be expected to achieve much.

THE CODES.

A vernacular newspaper attributes to the Vice-Minister of Justice certain statements with reference to the Codes. It was originally intended, we read, to submit the remaining portion of the Civil Code to the Diet next session, but as the work of revision has not yet been completed, some delay may prove unavoidable. As for the revised Criminal Code, the draft was ready in the spring of this year, and will doubtless be laid before the Diet even though the revision of the Code of Criminal Procedure be not ready for presentation at the same time. The case of the Registration Law, however, is different. Some evidence of its practical working must be obtained by way of preliminary. Without such evidence, to submit the draft for the Diet's approval would be a useless undertaking, and there is therefore little probability that the law will be brought up for debate next session.

On the First of November, at Omiya Park, Saitama Ken, the autumn general meeting of the *Yū* will be held. Messrs. Hayashi, Tamura and a few others are to be despatched thither from Head-quarters.

HABEAS CORPUS.

WE observe that the old question of *habeas corpus* has again been brought up in Kobe, in connection with the case of a Chinaman who, having been discovered, when landing from the steamer *Doric*, to be in secret possession of opium and opium-smoking apparatus, was arrested, handed over to the Kobe police, examined before the magistrate the following day, remanded for public trial, and finally condemned, seven weeks later, to a term of imprisonment with hard labour. These are the facts so far as they have been published. On the strength of them a Kobe English journal alleges that in Japan "the right of bail is virtually denied," and that "the principle of the *Habeas Corpus* Act has been deliberately and purposely set aside by those responsible for the laws adopted for the governance of Japan, since she has set herself the task of identifying herself with the form, regardless of the spirit, of Western jurisprudence." It would seem that the writer of this last sentence laboured under some mental excitement too acute to consist with coherency of expression, for though he explicitly charges Japan with the intention of adopting the form only, and rejecting the spirit, of Western jurisprudence, he could not possibly be so silly in his lucid moments as to advance such an accusation. For the rest, the whole story and the comments evoked by it are characteristic of the blundering, slipshod methods too often followed by critics of things Japanese; methods so flagrantly prejudiced that whatever assistance the cause of reform might derive from the criticism itself, is marred by the mood of the critic. In the case of the Kobe Chinaman, one fact alone is seized: the man remained in prison for seven weeks before being finally brought up for trial. Did any special circumstances intervene to cause his detention? Did he make any attempt to recover his liberty upon bail? If he did, for what reasons was he unsuccessful? These are the first questions that would suggest themselves to any thoughtful person in considering the affair from the point of view of criminal procedure, and without distinct replies to them, he would never dream of offering any criticism. We ourselves are not in possession of any information to supplement that of our Kobe contemporary, but we gather indirectly from the published account that some difficulty of jurisdiction intervened, and if that be so, the delay becomes easy to understand. However, without attempting to discuss this particular case exhaustively, let us refer briefly to the general allegations that "the right of bail is virtually denied in Japan," and that "the principle of the *habeas corpus* has been deliberately and purposely set aside" by the framers of Japanese laws.

What is the *habeas corpus*? It is a

remedy for the violation of personal liberty. In old times, a common abuse of power was the detention of freemen in prison without any criminal charge being duly preferred against them. To guard against that abuse the writ of *habeas corpus* was introduced. It enables persons held in custody to obtain speedy access to a court of law, there to be remanded, admitted to bail, or discharged, in accordance with the view taken by the court. In England the Habeas Corpus Act is a special statute. Like many other laws of the United Kingdom, it had its origin in special circumstances. The absence of any independent law or ordinance in Japan of similar import has been frequently misconstrued as an evidence that the principle of *habeas corpus* does not exist here. But, of course, whether certain provisions be embodied in a separate statute, or included in a general code, the practical result may be precisely the same. What we have to see, then, is whether and how far the principle of *habeas corpus* finds expression in the Japanese Code of Civil Procedure. In the 73rd Article, it is laid down that any one accused of a crime must be brought up for judicial examination within 48 hours from the time of his arrest, and, after examination, must be either set at liberty or duly remanded. The 85th Article provides that, except in the case of *mise au secret*, an accused person is authorized to receive, in the presence of an official, visits from his parents, relatives, friends, or legal adviser. And the 150th Article provides that, on the demand of a person awaiting trial, a judge may order that he be provisionally set at liberty, under written engagement to present himself when required, and on furnishing bail. There we have a series of enactments apparently ample to guarantee an accused person, first, against being held in custody without a proper hearing of his case; secondly, against being secluded from those that are ready to assist him; and thirdly, against detention in prison if the nature of his crime admit of bail. So far, then, as the principle of the *habeas corpus* is concerned, it certainly finds expression in the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure. Just as a writ of *habeas corpus* compels a man's jailers in England to conduct him, within a specified period, before a law court, where, if not again remanded, he may procure temporary release upon bail, so the 150th Article of the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure entitles an accused person to obtain liberty upon bail, subject, of course, to the judge's decision. Nothing could be farther from the truth, therefore, than to say that in Japan "the right of bail is virtually denied," and that "the principle of the *habeas corpus* has been deliberately and purposely set aside" by the framers of Japanese laws. But whether the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure are so drafted as to preclude all abuses of

the kind under consideration, we are not prepared to say. That there have been some abuses under its operation is beyond doubt, and we ourselves have direct cognisance of an assertion made by the most prominent among its drafters, namely, that however excellent the intention of the law, its execution appeared to require fuller safeguards. The amended Code, which will be submitted to the Diet next session, is expected to be more satisfactory. But in the meanwhile the laws now actually in force certainly do not justify criticisms so sweeping as those referred to above. We have examined the matter here because of its interest for foreigners soon to come under Japanese jurisdiction, and because it seems a pity that the manufacture of ill-founded prejudices should be suffered to proceed unchecked.

THE OUTLOOK IN THE UNITED STATES.

ALTHOUGH the latest advices from America point strongly to the probability that Mr. MCKINLEY will be chosen PRESIDENT, it appears to be admitted by many of his adherents that if the election had taken place three months ago, or soon after the nomination of Mr. BRYAN, the Democrats would have held at least an equal chance of carrying the country. The change in popular feeling is said to have been largely caused by the failure of the Democratic leaders to convince their followers that the party "platform" was sound. Theories which at first delighted the impulsive multitude by their apparent hopefulness were found sadly defective when subjected to logical investigation. The working classes, and especially farmers, had long been disheartened by reverses for which they could discover no remedy, and the prediction that unbounded prosperity would result from the employment of a hitherto untried expedient was received in something of the spirit with which a despairing sick man accepts a panacea of alleged supernatural power. The free and unlimited coinage of silver, according to Mr. BRYAN and his allies, would at once diffuse comfort and happiness throughout the land, and insure the welfare of the majority of inhabitants without endangering in any degree the safety of the State. So certain was this process to secure the desired end, that no other measure was brought forward for discussion by the Democrats. Free silver was their only cry;—not the bi-metallic reform which the Republicans advocate, and the principle of which has already been recognised as feasible in a recent Act of Congress, but unrestricted coinage at a legally enforced and nationally independent valuation far above silver's actual worth. In holding out his promise of ease and plenty, at the outset of the campaign, Mr. BRYAN announced that he was prepared to stand by certain cardinal points of doc-

trine with arguments and facts that should carry conviction wherever they were heard. These were his premises:—

I.—That the establishment of a fixed ratio of sixteen to one was in strict obedience to the precepts of the statesmen who founded the Government a century ago.

II.—That free coinage would have the effect of restoring the commercial value of silver to what it was before the depreciation began, namely, \$1.29 an ounce.

III.—That the unlimited admission of silver would promote prosperity not alone by raising the prices of all products, but also by increasing proportionately the wages of all classes of labourers.

IV.—That the enormous addition of silver money to the circulation would not be followed by the expulsion of gold, and that the embarrassments consequent upon the disappearance of the yellow metal need therefore not be apprehended.

Upon these texts Mr. BRYAN has made some two hundred and fifty speeches during the summer and autumn. The people have waited eagerly for his promised demonstrations, and have often clamoured for the proofs he undertook to supply. What has he given them, and what has he encountered in return?

His first proposition, that he was sustained by the teachings of "the fathers" has been completely overthrown by citations from the writings of the "fathers" themselves, who left on record their judgment in favour of a ratio to be governed always by existing commercial values.

His second assertion has turned out merely the expression of his individual opinion. "I am firmly convinced," he has repeatedly said, "that by opening our mints to free and unlimited coinage of silver at the present ratio, we can create a demand for silver which will keep the price of silver bullion at \$1.29 per ounce measured in gold." At no time has he presented anything more conclusive than this. Not a scrap of evidence; not a solitary fact to assist him in controverting the universal experience of mankind.

His declaration that the general rise in prices which he anticipates will be accompanied by a corresponding advance in wages has been not only invalidated by economic statistics from foreign countries, but specifically refuted by reference to a Congressional report published within the last ten years, which shows that during the Rebellion, when the Republic was flooded with cheap currency, prices of goods were increased one hundred and seventeen per cent. above the rate ruling before the war, while the pay of the wage-earners never rose more than forty-three per cent.; the labourer being always left far behind.

His allegation that gold would not be supplanted in the event of an enormous influx of silver remains wholly unsupported by concurrent testimony and has been

overborne by the weight of adverse precedents collected from other nations.

It may well be believed that suspicion has at last been awakened by the inability of the Democratic candidate to redeem his pledges. He promised the people bread, and he has given them the most indigestible banquet of stones ever offered by a suitor for popular favour. On one vital and vehemently disputed question of his policy he considers that he has satisfied expectation by saying he is "firmly convinced" of the correctness of his views. On others he contents himself with prophesying events such as have never yet occurred under analogous circumstances, and the realization of which would be an absolute reversal of established economic laws. And on others he appeals to historical data which, when produced, are found so utterly at variance with his contentions that doubts are raised as to his having ever consulted them with serious purpose. Whatever impulses of enthusiasm may have swayed the masses of the South and West in the earlier stages of the contest, it is not surprising to hear that their faith is weakened by Mr. BRYAN'S unsatisfactory treatment of the few subjects he deems worthy of attention. It is with difficulty that he can be persuaded to utter a word except in persistent iteration of his own narrow group of ideas. If he is invited to touch upon deeper themes, he asserts that "there are no deep questions in government,"—a statement which does not greatly tend to reassure anxious minds. It is noteworthy, indeed, that when he does yield to wider demands for enlightenment, his responses are not always of a kind that his admirers can point to with pride. He consented on one occasion to depart so far from his regular course as to examine the charge that the enforcement of payment of debts in silver would be equivalent to spoliation of depositors in savings banks, and it was in the following curt sentences that he disposed of the matter:—"Our opponents express much solicitude for these depositors. They constantly parade before them the advantages of a gold standard. But these appeals will be in vain, because savings bank depositors know that under a gold standard there is increasing danger that they will lose their deposits because of the inability of the banks to collect their assets." To this astonishing *non sequitur* nothing can be compared, as an intellectual feat, except perhaps Mr. BRYAN'S impromptu discovery of the silver dollar's latest title to veneration. He was speaking at one of the numerous places in Virginia where WASHINGTON once flung a specimen of the coin across a river,—a habit to which, if tradition may be credited, the first PRESIDENT of the United States was as inveterately addicted as he was to not telling lies. Whether he did, or did not, throw the dollar, Mr. BRYAN recalled the legend with relish. "Would you believe it, my

friends," he cried, "that a silver dollar which was good enough to be handled by the Father of his Country is now so mean a thing as to excite the contempt of many of our so-called financiers?" The immediate listeners applauded, but judging from the more general comments which followed later, the nation at large was blind to the pertinence of this flight of argumentative inspiration.

The impression is plainly gaining ground in America that Mr. BRYAN might have done better for himself and his party by remaining silent in his Nebraska home than by engaging in oratory all over the country upon problems of grave public importance to which he seems to have given only the most superficial consideration. He has certainly shaken confidence in his fitness for the responsibilities of an exalted public station, and if he is destined to defeat, his overthrow is likely to be attributed—justly or unjustly we do not pretend to say—as much to his own rashness and imprudence as to the strength of his adversaries. On all sides we find the belief more or less openly declared that no other Presidential candidate within memory has suffered so severely from self-inflicted injuries. The comparatively few speeches of Mr. MCKINLEY, on the other hand, while rising to no very lofty height of statesmanship, and leaving untouched,—apparently with deliberate intent—some of the most disturbing political questions that now agitate American society—are emphatic in proclaiming that financial justice and integrity shall be maintained by the Government; and this, after all, is the main point upon which the several parties are divided in the present struggle. Neither of the rival candidates is credited with ideal attributes, but one of them represents at least a principle which no nation could renounce without forfeiting the confidence and respect of the world.

EDUCATIONAL AIDS.

The Department of Education having resolved, with the consent of the Diet, to disburse every year a sum of 150,000 yen towards encouraging technical education, already from Oct., 1894, to the 15th ult., 81 schools, where education of that kind is given, have been subsidized, the sums thus defrayed totalling over 66,000 yen. The chief motive of the Department being to educate experts in various branches of technical knowledge, schools of that particular description enjoy more consideration than others. In fact of the total thus far defrayed, more than one half has gone to such schools. The following table shows the number of schools subsidized, their nature, and the amount of the subsidy granted to each:—

	No. of School.	Total amount of subsidy. Yen.
Advanced technical schools ...	31	8,083.30
Technical schools for apprentices ...	14	18,740.00
Agricultural schools ...	25	20,190.00
Industrial schools ...	5	12,400.00
Commercial schools ...	6	6,000.00

Applications for subsidies are reaching the Department from many other schools, and all these cases will be dealt with according to the view that the Department entertains on this subject.

KOREAN NEWS.

The acquittal of the prisoners, arrested some time ago in Sôul, on a charge of plotting against the Government, is welcomed as an evidence of great judicial progress. The *Sôul Independent*, which, being edited by a Korean, must be credited with knowledge on such a subject, says that formerly men could be arrested without any charge being preferred against them and could be punished before trial. Their sentence was determined by the influential folks that caused their apprehension, and the Judges simply carried out the instructions given by the latter. But that cruel state of affairs has now been remedied. The last political suspects had a fair trial, and much of the credit is given to Mr. C. R. Greathouse, who has been appointed by the King to oversee the Judiciary and the procedure of the Courts. At the same time, the *Independent* thinks that conservative tendencies are now where so marked as in the police department.

A vivid idea of the state of affairs in the Korean capital is conveyed by the following incidents:—An aspirant for official position gave fifty-two dollars to an ex-Inspector of Police, who promised to use influence with the Minister of the Household in the interests of the aspirant. But the ex-Inspector saw a better device. He did, indeed, buy an office from the Minister with the money, but it was an office for himself. Thereupon, the brother of the deluded aspirant would have made public complaint, but, venturing into the Minister's residence, was imprisoned by the latter in a store-room. These facts having found their way into the columns of the *Independent*, the implicated Minister addressed a letter to that journal, declaring that he had not imprisoned the man, but had merely "invited him to my house and asked him to stay in one of my guests' rooms for the purpose of getting some information from him in regard to the scandal with which my name was connected."

An emphatic denial is published of the report recently circulated in Japan that the Russian Government had signed a convention with the Korean Government pledging the latter to seek Russian approval before opening Mokpo to foreign trade, or allowing any other country to construct telegraph lines or build railways in the interior.

The desecration of graves by black-mailers is a familiar crime in Korea. Recently, a band of robbers exhumed a corpse, and cut off and carried away its head, sending word to the son of the dead man—an ex-Governor of a province—that if he wanted to have the head restored, he must pay two thousand dollars within three days. The demand has not been complied with and the head remains in the robbers' possession.

The line of telegraph between Sôul and Wiju, on the Yalu, has now been restored to a serviceable condition, and it is announced that messages may be sent across it to any part of the world through the Korean Telegraph Office. This line was used constantly by the Japanese during the war.

The Sôul authorities are busily collecting statistics to obtain the census of the city.

Sôul has a new Governor, in the person of Mr. Ye Cha-yun, who formerly resided for several years in Washington, and is said to have an intimate knowledge of Occidental municipal systems. Mr. Ye had just been appointed Governor when the disturbance of last October occurred. He was then compelled to give up his office and retire to the country, but he has now been re-appointed, and strong hopes of municipal reform are entertained. There is a difficulty in the way, however: the police are entirely beyond the Governor's control, and the Chief of Police is opposed to progressive ideas. Thus the Governor's reforms are not likely to be carried out.

A robbery of some magnitude was perpetrated at one of the Government granaries in Sôul on the 12th of October. Ten thieves entered the building, tied up the guards, and carried off \$7,786. The loss of the money was not known until the next morning, when the officials were discovered as the robbers had left them, securely bound.

It is certainly singular that the watchmen, who equalled the thieves in number, were so effectually and noiselessly dealt with.

The work of constructing the Sôul-Chemulpo railway seems at length about to be commenced. An engineer has started from San Francisco and will make the final survey on his arrival in Korea.

The Korean Government's project of increasing the tax upon *ginseng* from \$10 to \$16 a catty threatens to kill the industry. Dealers allege that after paying such a tax no margin of profit remains, and that exportation would be a certain loss. The revenue at present derived by the State from the *ginseng* tax is \$150,000 annually.

A letter that has reached the Colonization Authorities from Formosa, under date of the 18th inst., reports that frequent raids are made by the aborigines in the vicinity of Ra-to-gai, who are evidently hostile to the Japanese. Capt. Imaya, the commander of a small garrison at Boryoshu, proceeded to the haunts of the aborigines on the 2nd inst., to inquire into the cause of these troubles. He was informed that this sudden outbreak of hostility on the part of certain tribes was due to superstition. An epidemic disease had been prevailing among them for some time, and the simple-minded folks had come to the conclusion that the stretching of telegraph wires through their district was at the root of the trouble. They forthwith set about cutting the wires, but the injuries were repaired with such celerity by the Japanese that the aborigines concluded they must turn their attention to the "wire-stretchers." Hence their raids into places inhabited by Japanese. Another cause of grudge against their new masters, was the refusal of the Local Authorities at Hienchun to give pay to the chiefs of these particular tribes, though others received that consideration. On the 5th inst. the chiefs of the 18 tribes under the jurisdiction of Hienchun Local Office were invited to repair to Hienchun, an invitation which the chiefs of the three tribes entertaining grievances against the Japanese refused to obey. The Authorities then asked the opinion of the loyal chiefs as to the steps that ought to be taken towards the recalcitrant tribes, and the unanimous reply was that an expedition must be fitted out against them, the chiefs of the loyal tribes undertaking to act as guides. The military authorities decided to adopt this advice, and despatched several detachments towards the districts inhabited by the three tribes. However, as the main object of this mission was to dispel the strange delusions under which the tribesmen were labouring, and also to warn them against any repetition of such misconduct, several civilians accompanied the expedition for the purpose of peacefully offering advice.

The family of Lieut.-General Baron Nogi, the new Governor-General of Formosa, apparently retain the old *samurai* spirit that flourished in the prosperous days of the Tokugawa régime. The Baron's mother, now a lady of over seventy years, and his wife, are to accompany him to the scene of his new duties, so as to render every aid in their power towards the discharge of his functions. The mother was specially warned by her physician against such a project, but she declined to pay attention. It did not matter, she said, whether she died in Formosa: one place is as good as another for dying, provided only that it be within the realm of Japan. The old lady's heart is in the right place, but we do not quite perceive what she is to do in Formosa.

A YOKOHAMA THEATRE DESTROYED.

About 4.40 o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out in the Chitose Theatre, in Chitosecho, and despite the exertions of a large number of firemen was completely destroyed by twenty past five. Several adjacent houses also were totally burnt out. The cause of the fire has not yet been ascertained, but the police are prosecuting enquires.

CHINESE NEWS.

The much-talked-of Shêng, Taotai of Tientsin, who like all prominent Chinese officials has as many assailants as supporters, had audience recently of the Emperor in Peking, and so won upon his Sovereign's approval by clever expositions that he received promotion to the rank of a Court Official of the Third Grade, and is thus the equal relatively of a provincial governor.

An instructive case of religious trouble is reported from Huangmei-hien, a city near Kiu-kiang. A man of bad character having been refused admission to the Protestant church until he reformed, took umbrage, announced himself a Roman Catholic, and posted notices declaring his intention of destroying the church and beating the pastor and members unless they quitted the place. He did catch one of the members and nearly beat him to death, and when the man complained, his assailant appeared with a self-inflicted wound, protested that he had been attacked first, and defied the magistrate to punish him as he was under the protection of the Roman Catholic priest. The magistrate did not even reprimand him, and the case is now creating some excitement. It may fairly be doubted whether this *ex-parte* account is quite correct, but under any circumstances it illustrates the trouble only too often arising between the Chinese local authorities and the Christian converts, of whatever denomination.

The Viceroy Lu, who was some time embarrassed by the scarcity of copper cash in the districts under his jurisdiction, has now resorted to the device of issuing one-tael notes to circulate throughout the province of Szechuan. The notes bear the great seal of the provincial treasury, and proclamation has been made that they can be exchanged at any time by presentation at the treasury in Chêngtu. If this experiment in note-issuing proves successful, it may possibly be largely extended. The Viceroy is said to have obtained the idea by studying foreign works on finance. Meanwhile, the cash difficulty is being dealt with in the province of Chihli by manufacturing quantities of coin containing nearly 30 per cent. less metal than the old cash. In carrying out this work the mint is not employing the highly finished stamps and dies imported at great expense some years ago. With that machinery bronze of high quantity only could be cast and cash of a fixed weight made. The process resorted to is moulding, and from one to two million coins are made every week. At that rate many months' work will not produce any very sensible relief.

The use of opium for suicidal purposes is said to be so greatly on the increase in China, that the Authorities are thinking of imposing some special restrictions on the retail of the drug. Death by swallowing opium is regarded as a delightful lapsing into dreams that end in a painless decease, and even children do not shrink from the act. Recently at Foochow three little girls, each about ten years old, who were being educated to lead a life of shame, swallowed opium after receiving a chastisement, and though two were saved by prompt measures, one died. Such things are inexpressibly sad, but who can regret that the unhappy child succeeded in escaping the wretched existence lying before her? The fact is that the prevalence of pain and want in China necessitates some refuge.

A riot on a large scale recently took place at the porcelain kilns of Kiangsi. About four thousand potters went on strike, and being unable to persuade the rest to follow their example, attacked them, killing six and wounding several others.

It has been virtually decided that yarns manufactured at foreign-owned cotton mills in Shanghai shall pay a duty of 10 per cent. on emerging from the mill. If native cotton mills are similarly treated, if raw cotton is not taxed on its way to the mills, and if the goods are not subjected to additional imposts before reaching the market, there will be nothing prohibitive in the programme.

The Han river has broken through its banks

and inundated the districts about Wuchang and Nguanlu-fu. The little town of Hanchuan is virtually swamped, the water being ten feet deep in some of the streets.

A letter from Mr. R. Jeffries, C.E., published in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, gives some interesting information about the Pekin-Hankow Railway. Mr. Jeffries says that he actually entered into a contract last February with H.E. Hsu, who had been appointed by the Chinese Government to collect money and organize a company composed of Chinese merchants for the purpose of carrying out the work. The capital was to be 30 millions of taels, of which the Chinese agreed to furnish two-thirds and the syndicate represented by Mr. Jeffries one-third, provided that the latter received a contract to build and equip the road for a sum not to exceed a maximum of forty thousand taels per mile, the exact amount to be agreed upon after proper surveys had been made. It does not appear, however, that the actual commencement of the work is yet in sight. Mr. Jeffries is waiting to carry out his contract, but the Chinese have not completed the financial arrangements on their side.

TREATY RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

China has of late violated the provisions of the Shimonoseki Treaty, write several vernacular journals, in three ways; namely, with regard to privileges of navigation, arrangements as to neutral ground, and extraterritorial jurisdiction. She has, however, admitted herself to be in the wrong, and promised that there shall be no repetitions of such incidents.

The navigation of the Yangtze-kiang was one of the privileges ceded to Japan by the Shimonoseki Treaty. It was, however, provided that, pending the enactment of detailed regulations by the High Contracting Parties, Japanese subjects were to conform with the terms of the convention relating to navigation of Chinese inland waters by foreign ships. But China arbitrarily drew up special rules for controlling the navigation of her inland waters by Japanese vessels, and sought to enforce them against a service of steamers between Shanghai and Soochow. Remonstrances against that procedure on the part of the Chinese Authorities were at once lodged by Baron Hayashi, in obedience to instructions from the Home Government, and China had to admit the justice of Japan's protests.

In order to avoid collision between the Japanese garrison in Wei-hai-wei and the Chinese troops quartered in the vicinity of that place, the two Powers agreed to establish a neutral zone. But the Chinese troops subsequently disregarded the compact and pushed beyond the limits of the zone. On this point also China has promised to adopt such measures as shall prevent any repetition of the abuse.

Lastly, China showed a disposition to regard Japanese residents at the newly-opened ports of Soochow, Chungking, and so forth, as coming under the control of her own police, but in that respect also she has admitted her mistake.

It is said that the Tsungli-Yamen has issued instructions to the various local authorities with respect to the above points, and has warned them to guard against any repetition of such unwarranted procedure.

The ground given to Japan in the eight old or new open ports, for the purpose of laying out Japanese settlements, is reported to total about 400,000 *tsubo*. The lease is in perpetuity and the annual rent is 2 *yen* per lot of about 260 *tsubo*. It is said that the Japanese Government will transfer the land to Japanese subjects desirous of carrying on business in those places, at the rate of three hundred and fifty, two hundred, and one hundred and fifty *yen* per lot, according to the grade of the site, and that no one applicant will receive more than ten lots.

FORMOSA.

The Governor-General's Office has issued a notification relating to the sale of forests and forest products, as well as fields, in Formosa. Sales will be of two kinds, namely, by public auction, according to Art. CXXII. of the Law of Finance, and by special process. According to the latter, an intending purchaser is to deposit as security a sum corresponding to one-tenth of the price, and the transfer will only be effected after the whole sum has been paid within a prescribed period, payment by installments being permissible when the price is above 1,000 *yen*. In default of payment within the prescribed period, or when an application is withdrawn, or when the applicant violates the rules of the established process, the security will be confiscated. He may also be ordered to pay damages should he have caused any injury to the land or forest. When, after transfer has been effected, the purchaser fails to remove his property—as in the case of timber or other forest products—within the prescribed period, postponement of removal will be allowed if he pays in advance a sum corresponding to a thousandth part of the price. When, without previous permission, removal is delayed, he is liable to incur fines of twice the amount due. When, after having effected transfer by special process in consideration of the use to which the property transferred is to be applied, the purchaser arbitrarily changes his original purpose, or sells, or transfers the property to another, he is liable to incur the imposition of a fine equivalent to the original price. He may also be ordered to pay damages. Forests or fields will be sold for converting into open ground or pasture, the area to be sold not exceeding 100 *cho* per applicant. The clearing of forests or laying down of pasturage must be effected within four years when the area purchased is under 5 *cho*; six years when it is under 20 *cho*; eight years when it is less than 50 *cho*; and ten years if less than 100 *cho*. An intending purchaser must erect posts or marks on the boundary line within 30 days calculated from the day on which the license was issued, and he must start work within 90 days, also counted from the same date. When the work has been completed the fact must be reported to the Governor-General's Office. When the completion of the work is acknowledged, the price for the land shall be levied and its transfer shall be effected. The land may be taken back by the Governor-General's Office when any process relating to the transfer is violated, or when work upon it is unduly delayed.

FUNERAL OF MR. W. R. H. CAREW.

The funeral services over the remains of the late Mr. W. R. H. Carew took place on Saturday afternoon, and were very largely attended. The Rev. E. C. Irwine read the first portion of the beautiful Burial Service of the Church of England at Christ Church, after which the sad procession was formed for the Cemetery. The pallbearers were Messrs. James Dodds, R. A. Mowat, Jas. Stewart, L. J. Healing, and J. R. Parsons. At the close of the service, the Rev. E. C. Irwine, in a short address, referred in feeling terms to the regret and sorrow experienced by the friends of the late gentleman at his untimely death. Mr. Carew had endeared himself to all who knew him by his manly yet gentle character, and his loss would be mourned by many besides those who were nearest and dearest to him.

The floral *in memoriam* wreaths and crosses that covered the coffin were very numerous and included, beside some stands of Japanese mourning flowers sent by the Chinese and Japanese staff of the Yokohama United Club, lovely memorials from Mrs. Carew, Mr. Porch, the Yokohama United Club, the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, the Mosquito Yacht Club, Mr. and Mrs. Strähler, Mr. and Mrs. St. John, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Walter, Mr. and Mrs. Blad, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Tilden, Mr. and Mrs. Pollard, Mr. and Mrs. Fearon, Mr. and Mrs. Dare, Mr. and Mrs. Showler, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff, Mr.

and Mrs. Dinsdale, Mr. and Mrs. Budd, Mr. and Mrs. Strome, Mr. and Mrs. Colomb, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Middleton, Mr. and Mrs. Lowder, Mr. and Mrs. Syme Thomson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. G. Guinness, Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. W. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Healing, Mr. and Mrs. S. Isaacs, Mr. and Mrs. Whittall, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, Mr. and Mrs. Bramhall, Mr. and Mrs. Gillett, Mrs. Colomb, Mrs. J. P. Mollison, Mrs. C. K. M. Martin, Mrs. Patton, Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Kitchell, No. 2 Mess, and Messrs. Kingdon, Andreis, Kinjiro, Tanner, Abenheim, M. Russell, Choep, Sutter, Schedel, Jephson, Adet, Babington, Daniel, Heap, Bent, Yasuda, Macondray, de Flesch, Fox, Herliby, Kaufmann, J. Fraser, W. Gordon, White, Hellendaal, Blum, and Dr. Runkwitz.

ELECTION INDICATIONS IN AMERICA.

The political barometer in America fluctuates very sharply, the mercury running up on the Democratic or the Republican side with remarkable regularity of alternation as lines of party cleavage are accentuated in this State or that. Louisiana has been a Democratic victory; Oregon, a Republican; Alabama, a Democratic; Vermont, a Republican, Arkansas, a Democratic, and Maine, a Republican. In the face of such a record, it is exceedingly difficult for outsiders to arrive at any clear forecast of the great December issue. Each party tries to belittle all indications favourable to the other, and so clever are these attempts that the grain and the chaff become indistinguishable. One fact, however, emerges plainly enough: it is that the people are excited to a degree of earnestness without precedent. The returns from each State show that the numbers polled are markedly in excess of those in previous years. It will be understood, of course, that the elections referred to are not Presidential, but merely for governors or congressmen. Still their results indicate pretty clearly the line that the States in question will take in December. We can not, for our own part, anticipate anything like a Democratic victory. The Bryan programme goes so far beyond the limits of reasonable finance that its endorsement by a reflecting nation seems incredible. Many a man who sees clearly that the rehabilitation of silver is absolutely essential to the world's prosperity, must hesitate before setting about the operation in a manner reckless of all the dictates of moderation. That silver will ultimately be restored by American action, we do not doubt. For the success of Republicanism next December would not bring back prosperity or re-establish business confidence. It is as bad for the merchant and the manufacturer that tariffs should become political weapons as that the currency should be perverted into a party platform by men of boundless rashness. Some contend that since of all things injurious to business uncertainty is the most injurious, therefore it would be better that the silverites should win the day in December, and that America should thus become a silver monometallic country once and for all, for such would certainly be the result of the financial leap proposed by Mr. Bryan. But the American people will probably think twice before they follow the Democrats over such a precipice. Yet, silver they will rehabilitate, sooner or later.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT NEAR YOKOHAMA.

A terrible accident happened near Honmoku, Yokohama, about seven o'clock on Thursday evening. Mr. Kaneko Kamakichi, a barber, was engaged in blowing up a fox's hole near Sugita hill with dynamite, when the charge prematurely exploded. The man was severely injured about the head and body and his companion, Mr. Watanabe Eikichi, aged 33, was also wounded. Kaneko was taken to the Juzen Hospital, where little hopes are held out of his recovery; and Watanabe was taken to the Police station pending inquiries.

FINDING IN JUDGE BESSHO'S CASE.

The Supreme Court, after due hearing of the case against Judge Bessho, pronounced judgment on the 22nd inst. in favour of that official, and decided that the costs of the litigation must be borne by the State.

The facts adduced and the reasons of the finding are these:—The accused, while serving in the Kofu Local Court, received, through the acting Chief Judge of that tribunal, a notice from the Minister of Justice, dated May 13th, 1896, that he had been transferred to the Aikawa District Court. He returned the notice on the ground that such an order was *ultra vires*, being contrary to the provisions of Art. LXXIII. of the Law for the Organization of Law Courts. On May the 22nd, the Secretary of the Department of Justice, acting in obedience to instructions received from the Minister of Justice, sent another written communication, to the effect that, in filling up vacancies produced in the *personnel* of the Niigata Local Court, such vacancies having been caused by removal of six Judges to Formosa, the prompt discharge of judicial functions might be prevented if new men only were appointed, and that, consequently trained experts of experience like Judge Bessho, had been chosen as far as possible. The document further stated that, so long as the removal was effected in accordance with the provisions of Art. LXXIII. of the said law, and so long as the official notice was duly forwarded through the proper channel, the recipient of the notice, no matter whether he returned it or not, was clearly and as a matter of course a Judge of the District Court of Aikawa, and therefore he must, in accordance with Notification No. 17, Class D., proceed to his destination within the space of two weeks. This intimation from the Department of Justice and another of similar import subsequently conveyed to Judge Bessho, in each case through the Chief of the Kofu Local Court, were disregarded by the Judge, who persisted that he did not think it obligatory to obey what he considered an unlawful order. Now the provision in the above Law, with reference to the compulsory filling of a vacancy, becomes applicable only when no Judge of suitable status consents to be removed, and when, in consequence, the legal business of the Court in which a vacancy has occurred, is in danger of being retarded. This is borne out by another provision of the said law, which clearly sets forth that no Judge shall be removed against his will. An exceptional case must be interpreted in a restrictive sense, otherwise the whole spirit of a law might be destroyed by a single provision. Therefore the Court decides that the judgment of the lower tribunal, namely, that the defendant's action falls under Clause 1, Art. I., of the Law of Discipline of Judges, and that, in accordance with Clause 5, Art. II., of the said law, he should be dismissed from office, was not proper. The Court consequently reverses that judgment in accordance with Clause 2, Art. XLIV. of the said law, and acquits the defendant.

The decision of the Supreme Court does not terminate this vexed question, for the judgment merely relates to Judge Bessho's action, saying nothing as to whether the administrative order originally issued by the Minister of Justice should be held valid or invalid. That order stands as before and will continue to stand so long as it is not withdrawn. Theoretically considered, the Minister is at liberty to insist upon the removal of Judge Bessho, irrespective of the verdict of the Supreme Court, and the Judge may persist in refusing to be removed, so that the affair may drag on *ad infinitum*, since at present there is no special mechanism in Japan for dealing with a case of the kind. It is believed, however, that a compromise will be effected, and that Judge Bessho will be removed, presumably with his own consent, to some other place. One rumour has it that the Judge will resign and practice as a barrister.

The most curious incident connected with this affair has been the resignation of Chief Justice Miyoshi. The Chief Justice appears to have thought that the other Judges of the Supreme

Court were bound to subserve their opinions to his, and not being able to enforce that idea, he resigned. If the affair finally disposes of any such old fashioned fancies, something will have been gained.

THE GOLDITES AND THEIR METHODS.

Mr. David A. Wells, doubtless an economist of distinction but scarcely yet included in the ranks of celebrities, refers to Mr. Morton Frewen as "that silly Englishman." It is this tone of intolerant insolence that discredits so much of the writing of the anti-bimetallic school. The hauteur of conservatism seems to deprive them of all capacity to be courteous. They are so wise in their own conceit that every one venturing to differ from them is a fool in their eyes. Yet they ought by this time to have acquired some perception that their position is not absolutely unassailable. Twenty years ago, indeed, the voices of the bimetallics were few and feeble. Here and there in the *gorges vastus* of the monometallic heresy a rare Cernuschi or a Lavelaye ventured to raise his head, and found himself immediately greeted with a storm of derision. In those days the arena was virtually occupied by the gold men, and it was much if they could be persuaded to admit that some academical interest attached to the silver question. But what a change has come over the world since then! Instead of being whispered in corners, bimetallicism now fills the atmosphere everywhere. It is the question of the day *par excellence*, and surely the gold men should be able to perceive that their old pedestal of arrogant certainty is not less antiquated than absurd. They have always received civil treatment at the hands of their opponents. Is it beyond the range of their politeness to return like for like? If the crust of custom has grown so thick over their intellect as to render it impervious to any idea from without, can they not at least see that the forces arrayed against them have grown too formidable to be treated with rude disdain?

A MARVELLOUS MACHINE.

Mr. E. Charquette, of Bridgeport, in Connecticut, claims to have invented a machine which defies all the laws hitherto laid down by physicists, inasmuch as the power applied to set it in motion is only a small fraction of the power that it develops. Many devices already exist for multiplying power, but none operates without some corresponding loss in another direction, whereas Mr. Charquette insists that he can obtain a return of 2,500 units of horse-power out a machine upon which only 140 units are expended. Here is a description of the machine, reproduced by the *Literary Digest* from *The Railway Age*:—

The machine is an immense horizontal wheel, a little over 82 feet in diameter, composed of ten spokes or arms and the periphery made of latticed steel girders. By revolving this great wheel by means of two 70-horse-power steam-engines, located on a platform in the hub, 2,500 horse-power is to be developed in the shape of air under a pressure of 100 pounds per square inch. To attain this great power by the use of so little, at the end of each spoke a set of three vertical wheels 9 feet in diameter, and each weighing 41 tons, are to be journaled. The middle wheel of the three is to run upon a circular track, and the outside and inside wheels are to act upon the rocker levers of 100 air compressors, which in turn are to work the pistons in the air cylinders. The cylinders are 12 and 16 inches in diameter, and all have a stroke of 12 inches. An air tank carrying a working pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch is provided, and the air is led by pipes to this tank from the compressors. The large wheel is revolved at the rate of ten revolutions per minute by the two 70-horse-power steam-engines, and the solid 43 ton wheels in the periphery of the large horizontal wheel, continually engaging the rocker arms, do the rest.

Naturally something must happen, and it is seriously anticipated that 2,500 horse-power will be developed by this mechanism.

The criticism of *The Railway Age* is this:—

Under these circumstances, it seems natural to suggest that the use of the 70-horse-power steam-engines does not seem apparent. After the 2,500 horse-power has been developed 44 per cent. of it can be borrowed to keep the thing moving and the balance is clear gain. In fact, after it is started everything is clear gain, and it must run on forever or break down. As an off-hand suggestion it would seem that it might be as well to save the expense of the two steam engines, and start the revolutions by means of a crank and pinion.

THE NEW BATTLESHIP
"ILLUSTRIOUS."

The battleship *Illustrious* was floated out of dock at Chatham on September 17th in the presence of a large and distinguished assemblage. The ship was named in the orthodox fashion by Lady Bedford, wife of Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Bedford, second Sea Lord of the Admiralty. The *Illustrious* is a sister ship of the *Magnificent* and *Majestic*. The principal dimensions of the *Illustrious* are:—Extreme length over all, 420 ft.; breadth, 75 ft.; draught, forward, 27 ft.; aft, 28 ft.; freeboard, forward, 25 ft.; amidships, 18 ft.; aft, 18 ft. 6 in.; displacement to load water-line, 15,000 tons. The vessel is built entirely of steel, and is effectively armoured. The sides in the vicinity of the load water-line are clad with hardened face solid steel plates, 9 in. thick, extending over a length of 216 ft. amidships. At the ends of this belt are rounded armour bulkheads, also of "Harveyed" steel, 14 in., 12 in., and 19 in. thick, which extend from the sides of the ship to the barbettes. The barbettes differ from those of the *Magnificent*, being circular, whilst those of the latter were pear-shaped; they are also of "Harveyed" steel armour, the upper tier being 14 in. thick, and the lower (which are behind the side armour) 7 in. thick. The main belt of armour is 15 ft. in breadth; the strake next above this, affording protection to the secondary battery of 6 in. guns, being 6 in. thick. A protective deck of steel, varying in thickness from 3 in. to 4 in., extends the whole length of the ship, and gives security to the propelling machinery, hydraulic machinery, air compressors, steering gear, the magazines, and shell rooms.

The propelling machinery consist of two sets of triple expansion engines, developing 10,000 horse-power under natural draught, and 12,000 horse-power with induced draught, with speeds of 16.5 and 17.5 knots respectively. She will carry four 46-ton 12 in. wire-guns in pairs, in the redoubts, and twelve 6 in. quick-firing guns, all protected by casemates—eight on the main and four on the upper deck. Eight 12-pounder quick firing guns will be placed on the upper deck amidships, and eight others on the main deck, fore and aft. Each of the ship's four "fighting-tops" will carry three 3-pounder Hotchkiss guns, and eight 45 in. Maxim guns will be placed on the boat-deck and bridges. The ship will also carry 17 torpedoes. She is to be completed in June, 1897, by which time the expenditure upon her will have approached the sum of one million sterling.

TRANSMUTATION OF METALS.

In earlier, and as we are pleased to think, less civilized years, alchemists devoted decades of study and experiment to the task of transmuting metals, and they are now remembered with laughter for their pains. Yet their ambition seems to be immortal, for even now, in the closing years of the nineteenth century, several American journals announce that Dr. Stephen H. Emmens has discovered a chemical process by which silver may be transmuted into gold. Scientific men are sceptical. The editors of *The Engineering and Mining Journal* especially have endeavoured to discredit the alleged discoverer. They say that while science does not deny the abstract possibility of such a transformation, many great thinkers being persuaded that all metals are merely allotropic forms of one primitive base, they can not accept Dr. Emmens' unsupported word, and Dr. Emmens, who appears to be working in the interests of a syndicate, declines to expose his processes. It is recalled that Paraff, not so very long ago, claimed to be able to transmute copper into gold, but never succeeded in doing anything except transmuting other people's gold, into his own gold. However, the story told by Dr. Emmens himself in the *Journal* is this:—

It is, of course, out of the question for me to make public the whole of our knowledge in this matter. But I may without danger to our interests give a general explanation of our work which will be satisfactory to the scientific world.

Our starting-point, so far as silver and gold were

concerned, was afforded by the remarkable discoveries of Mr. Cary Lea with regard to the changes that could, by laboratory methods, be induced in the molecular structure of metallic silver. That gentleman discovered a means of causing silver while still in a metallic condition to enter into aqueous solution.

In other words, he discovered a method of reducing metallic silver to a condition of extremely minute subdivision. It was found, as might have been expected by anybody familiar with the periodic law of the elements, that this subdivision of metallic silver was attended by considerable changes in the physical properties of the substance.

The inference was obvious that if such subdivisions could be pushed a stage further, the silver molecules would become dissociated if they were in themselves of composite structure. And as all chemists have long been agreed respecting the reality of such composite structure, we felt absolutely sure of our ground.

Accordingly, when by certain physical methods and by the aid of certain apparatus, we succeeded in bringing about further subdivision of the silver, we were not surprised to find that the substance obtained differed so far from ordinary silver that it could no longer be regarded as the same elementary substance. It seemed to require a new name and chemical symbol.

Inasmuch, therefore, as our theory was that this substance was common to both gold and silver, and in reality was the raw material out of which both gold and silver were constructed by the hand of nature, we named the substance "argentaurum." We also gave it the chemical symbol "Ar."

Dr. Emmens goes on to say that further test showed that this substance was identical, so far as all known properties went, with ordinary gold, and that he believes it to be gold. He estimates that the waste in the transformation is about twenty-five per cent., and the cost sixteen dollars an ounce, so that the profit would be considerable. He adds, in a later statement:

The metal which we have made from silver answers every test to which the United States Government Assay Office subjects the gold offered there for sale. It is, therefore, gold to all intents and purposes. This metal made from pure silver by the process discovered by us could be proved to be gold in a court of law. It not only answers every test of the government mints, but it also has every quality required by the gold of commerce, having the same colour, weight, and strength.

A GLIMPSE OF OLD TIMES.

Mr. Mitsuoka Shichirobei, who resides at Dango-zaka in the Komagome district of Tokyo, is the fortunate possessor of a house to which the Shogun Iyenori paid several visits in old times. The rooms thus honoured have now been restored to all their original artistic beauty, and their owner—we translate from the *Foros* *Choho*—proposes to admit the public to view them. To make the spectacle more entertaining, there is to be, at the same time, an exhibition of some 500 figures, divided into five groups, representing processions of the *Daimyo* of Choshu, Nabeshima, Tajima (Yagyu), Akimoto and Matsudaira, of Dango. The figures are the handiwork of Mr. Yamada Ikuyemon, now Chief Spearsman in the Household Department, who is said to have spent thirty years modelling and robing them. The display commences on the 30th instant and lasts 30 days.

INTEREST ON PUBLIC BONDS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* notes that the interest of various loan bonds constituting part of the national domestic debt begins to be paid on November 1st, and will be completely discharged by the 15th or 16th of December. The payments are these:—

Half a year's interest at 5% on Consols amounting to 160 million yen	4,000,000
Half a year's interest at 5% on War Bonds amounting to 80 million yen	2,000,000
Half a year's interest at 5% on Naval Bonds and Pension Bonds amounting to 80 million yen	2,000,000

Total 8,000,000
Such a large sum coming into circulation within the course of six weeks, ought to produce a sensible effect on the money market.

Lieut.-General Nogi, Governor-General of Formosa, family and suite, left Shimbashi Station on Thursday at 10 o'clock. Mr. Hashiguchi, Governor of Daihoku (Taipei) Ken (Formosa), and family accompany them to Formosa.

AMERICAN BANKERS ON SILVER AT 16 TO 1.

A declaration of principles was adopted by the executive council of the American Bankers' Association at a convention in St. Louis on Sept. 22nd. Many of the views contained in the declaration have already been advanced in our leading columns with reference to the course—a reckless course, in our opinion—advocated by Mr. Bryan and his supporters. The document will have much interest for our readers:—

The American Bankers' Association, in its twenty-second annual convention assembled, and representing every section of the Republic, hereby declares that in its opinion the existing commercial depression is immediately due to the attacks which threaten to overthrow the present gold standard of value, and that we further believe our full measure of national prosperity will not be gained until the whole world understands that the dollar of the United States is 100 cents' worth of gold and that the nation intends to keep it at that value.

We believe that an opportunity is presented by the issue of this political campaign to give a lasting definition of the dollar as a money unit, to permanently settle the foundation of an overturn of values, and far-reaching ruin and distress, which a descent to a silver basis would involve.

We warn our countrymen against the rash proposition that this nation should single-handed attempt to legislate silver to a parity with gold at a fictitious ratio.

We declare that the free coinage of silver means monometallism, with gold at a premium, all other forms of our currency at a discount, and the value of the dollar an uncertain quantity, depending each day upon the gold price of silver bullion, with corresponding fluctuations in the value of all kinds of property.

We believe that before the mints could begin to coin silver every dollar of gold would disappear from circulation, thus violently contracting our currency, and that the value of the remaining dollars would be the bullion value of the silver in them measured by the gold standard of the chief money-markets of the world.

We denounce as utterly false the claim that the gold standard is a device of bankers, creditors, and financiers. They have no such power in human affairs, and never had. The gold standard is an edict of commerce translated into law. It was dictated by those who conduct the commerce of the world rather than those who handle the money of the world. It is rooted in a preference lodged in the human breast. Test of the weight of the two metals in quantities of equal value shows how and why traders decided in favour of the money which they could carry with the least burden and use wherever they might go to the best advantage. Gold commands all values because it is the most stable in value. It was not legislated into the world's finance until commerce selected it as a gauge, and it will not be legislated out of use if laws are changed. We assert that mere "money changers" have always found more profit in a fluctuating than in a stable currency, and that one source of revenue which those who thus handle money always had when the money was not stable has been closed up in this country the influence of the gold standard, and that what they have lost by revenue has been gained by producers and merchants. But bankers are not mere money-changers; they are trusted custodians of the money of the world.

"As bankers we are debtors to the extent of our deposits. We have received these deposits in money as good as gold. We desire to return them in money of equal value. It will be impossible for banks, life-insurance companies, mutual benefit orders, building and loan associations to return to their creditors money equal to that which they received if our currency is depreciated to the bullion value of the silver dollar. We have no interest in the metal composing our national standard of value which is not shared by every man who owes a dollar or has a dollar due to him. We desire to have debts due us paid in as good money as we have loaned. We desire to pay our debts in the same way. The banking business is not vitally dependent upon any specific standard or upon any particular kind of currency. It adapts itself to all conditions, but conscious of the needs of our customers, we earnestly desire to see our country purged of the monetary delusions which drive money out of the channels of business. A dollar of fixed value in the world's commerce has the power to make markets, sharpen trade, invite capital, develop resources, and extend our national power and influence. A doubtful or depreciated dollar will blight every man's prospects and prove a curse. As bankers, we want the dollar which will do our country the most good, and commend to all our countrymen the opportunity they now have and which will decide upon the future value of their dollar, and to remove from our land the menace which has destroyed more values and caused more suffering than war or pestilence."

The only point in the above to which emphatic exception must be taken is the assertion that "gold commands all values because it is the most stable in value." This statement implies that gold possesses, above all other metals, some inherent property of stability. But that is a mere postulate. Gold seems to owe its stability, in great part, to the fact that legislation has assigned to it a virtual monopoly of the functions of a money token. Were gold demonetized, as silver has been, were it reduced to the rank of a mere commodity as silver is, it would doubtless fluctuate as silver has fluctuated. Certainly the figures showing the annual production of the yellow metal betray variations not less acute than those of the white.

MR. KAWASHIMA JUN, M.P.

Mr. Kawashima Jun, M.P., has been giving the *Mainichi* the benefit of his views on some needed amendments of the taxation system in his country. He argues that the better control of rivers is urgently needed, and that to obtain the money necessary for this object the Government should reduce the land-tax and raise the money thus saved to farmers and landed proprietors in another form, which, while not adding to the burdens of the people, would produce funds for this much needed project. He urges that the interests of the farming classes are still paramount in Japan, but his financial remedies, as given in the *Mainichi*, are decidedly obscure. One thing is certain, however: he is opposed to Mr. Taguchi's theory that the farmers' burdens are too light. He thinks that Marquis Ito inserted the clause in the Shimonoseki Treaty regarding the manufacture of various goods in China by aliens, as a compliment to foreigners, and he holds that much sense has been displayed in abandoning it, as the lion's share of benefit would have fallen to foreigners. He is at one with Count Kabayama in declaring that the Sovereign of Japan is paramount in his influence in the Cabinet, that his voice is above that of the people of this empire, there being a great difference between Japan's Constitution and that prevailing in England. However, the Cabinet should not disregard the views expressed by the Diet, and he thinks the Home Minister fully intends to court the good opinion of the majority in the House of Representatives.

JAPANESE YARNS VERSUS CHINESE.

It is a very interesting question whether cotton yarns manufactured in Japan will be able to compete with yarns manufactured in China under foreign management. The *Asahi* undertakes to answer it. There are 430,000 spindles already working, or soon to be working, in China, says our contemporary, 230,000 of them being in factories built with foreign capital in Shanghai. On the other hand, the two factories projected by Japanese capitalists would have only some sixty thousand spindles. Moreover, from the financial point of view, it is calculated that after deducting all expenses, and on the hypothesis of complete freedom from taxation, yarns manufactured in China leave a clear profit of 17½ per cent., and yarns manufactured in Japan and carried to China can be sold there at a profit of 10 per cent. If, therefore, the Chinese Government puts into practice the intention now attributed to it, and imposes a tax of 10 per cent on yarns manufactured in China, it is plain that profits accruing on the latter will be reduced to 7½ per cent., as against 9½ per cent. accruing on imported Japanese yarns. We (*Japan Mail*) do not vouch for the accuracy of these figures, but there can not be much doubt that if yarns made in China have to pay an impost of 10 per cent. on leaving the factory, Japanese manufacturers ought to be able to compete.

AMENDMENT IN TAX COLLECTION

The Government issued the Amended Tax Collection system on the 21st instant, and the amendment is to come into force from the 1st prox. Tax collection was hitherto under the control of the Local Offices, but has now been transferred to the Department of Finance, the expansion of taxes making this amendment necessary. The 46 Local Chief Tax Collectors are to be replaced by 38 Senior Tax Collectors to be stationed in 38 different districts. Another important change is the appointment of 108 probationary tax collectors to be selected from junior tax collectors of over five years service, and above the 5th clerical rank. Junior tax collectors at present total about 4,700, but according to the amended Regulations some 600 new clerks are to be appointed.

BANK OF CHINA AND JAPAN, LTD.

A circular forwarded to shareholders states as follows:—The accounts, to June 30 last, from branches have been so far adjusted that the Directors are now able to issue a statement, as promised at the meeting held on April 16 last. The balance sheet on Dec. 31, 1895, showed old fixed deposits outstanding £735,324. Since then there have been repaid Jan. 1, 1896, 10 per cent. £113,178; July 1 1896, 15 per cent., £169,713 16s. 7d.; reducing such deposits outstanding to (40 per cent. of original amount) £452,433 6s. 1d. The proceeds of realisations effected since June, and the installment due next month of 10s. per share of the call of £3 15s., will enable another substantial repayment to be made at the end of this year. The number of ordinary shares applied for and allotted up to date is 106,223, and further applications are still being received. Judgments have been obtained in all suits brought in British Courts by the Liquidator of the Old Bank against defaulting shareholders for the payment of calls, leading in many cases to satisfactory settlements. Chinese and Foreign shareholders did not appear in these Courts, and suits are being instituted by the liquidator in the local Courts in Shanghai, New York, and elsewhere, to enforce payment of calls, and it is expected to obtain favourable judgment also. The six months' working has about met the expenses of establishments, and the service of the Bank has much aided the liquidation of outstandings. The credit of the Institution has distinctly improved.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MIXED COINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The proposition of your correspondent "Enquirer,"—that coins composed of gold and silver will always remain of the same value—may catch the fancy at first sight, but on examination appears to be fallacious. The metals in the supposed coin cannot be measured by one another indifferently, but must be subject to a single unvarying standard. If a gold dollar and a silver dollar had been melted together and minted as one coin twenty-five years ago, before the depreciation of silver began, the value of that coin would then have been two dollars. To-day its value would be only one dollar and fifty cents. The gold remains worth one dollar, as at first. The silver is worth fifty cents. If a mixed dollar had been coined in the same proportions, that dollar would now be worth only seventy-five cents. The gold may appreciate in relation to the silver, but its value as a component part of the coin remains precisely what it was. The mixed coin would have no stability unless the coinage value of silver were made fixed and unalterable by universal agreement; and in that case mixed coins would not be necessary.

Yours truly, E. H. H.
Tokyo, October 23rd, 1896.

NEEDLESS GUSH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am quite sure that it is not worth one's while to pay attention to every bit of sentimental bosh that appears in these latter days in regard to Japan and its people; but if someone does not occasionally scrape a little gift off these sunset-hued pictures, the glare will be past all endurance. It may be true that in certain decayed aristocratic circles in Japan, there is quite as great reluctance to mention the word money, as there is to do honest work to acquire enough of that article to support family life in comfort. But having somewhat intimate knowledge of the affairs of a gentleman at present living in Satsuma, I hasten to disabuse anyone of the idea that it is a safe place in which to leave out reference to the Tenth Commandment in moral instruction, the Sendai contributor to the *Japan Evangelist*, quoted in your columns, to the contrary notwithstanding. If raising a man's house-rent one-third because of the general rise in prices, and within two months raising it again an equal amount for the expressed reason that the occupant is a foreigner, and it is

customary to get a good round price out of a foreigner, and this on the part of a noble *shisoku*, is not covetousness, what should it be called? I have myself had some direct dealings with the people of that section. I am not sure that I have ever exhibited coin in the presence of what would technically be called a "gentleman," but in general I have never witnessed any greater shock on the exhibition of currency there than is customary in other parts of the world.

There is no especial reason for finding fault with the Japanese as a people. They are of about the same nature as other specimens of the *genus homo*, no better, no worse. But I am heartily tired, and I am sure I have many sympathizers, of hearing them continually treated like a parcel of dear little children, who are to be patted now here, now there, now praised, now apologized for, till one is led to suspect that perhaps after all, some at least of the writers are not sincere, and rather wish to lead the world to believe that the Japanese are a unique collection of emasculated wax dolls.

Yours very truly, SOJOURNER.
October 30th, 1896.

LETTER FROM BOSTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

September 30th.
The Presidential campaign is of absorbing interest. You cannot pass along the streets without hearing the question of free coinage discussed by the labourers, and especially the unemployed, that stand at the corners waiting for something to turn up. Protection and free-trade seem to have lost their hold on the minds of the people, and the newspapers are unable to force these questions to the front. McKinley and Bryan work hard, especially the latter, who seems bent on making a tour of the whole of the Northern states. An eloquent and magnetic *extempore* speaker, he has made the best impression everywhere, especially here in Boston, with the single exception of New York where, to the disappointment of the thousands that had come to hear him, he read his speech from manuscript, a mistake he has promised himself not to repeat elsewhere. Bryan's campaign in the East is disapproved of by many of the party managers as a useless undertaking; but throughout the East, even in New York and Pennsylvania, there are districts where silver Congressmen may be elected if the people are sufficiently stirred up, and Bryan, with his chivalry and eloquence, is a man to arouse enthusiasm wherever he goes, and is thus well able to assist his friends in need. His declaration that "the life tenure which relieves an official from all further care is destructive of the highest citizenship and is not to be tolerated in a country like ours," has somewhat injured him with civil service reformers. Significant of the spirit of the campaign is the popularity of a song the refrain of which is "You shall not press the crown of thorns upon the brow of labour," a sentiment first expressed by Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, in 1894; and repeated by Bryan in his famous Chicago speech.

McKinley is almost as active as his young rival. Nearly eighty thousand people assembled at Canton, the other day, to honour him; hand-shaking, reviewing parades, and making brief speeches occupy much of his time. The Congressional Committee of the Republicans has sent out one hundred and twenty-five car loads full of campaign literature, and among it a million copies of Carlyle's speech to the labouring men in Chicago. The Republicans are confident of success, and rely on a sentiment that has always been very powerful in the United States and that Mr. Foraker has thus expressed: "Can we afford to make an experiment station of the White House?" While few of them believe in the possibility of Bryan's election, some are willing to concede that he might succeed in getting the majority of the popular vote.

The Gold Democrats seem to carry on their campaign in a listless manner, considering the third ticket as "a means of keeping in organized form the ancient principles of democracy." Most of them, especially in the doubtful States, will vote for McKinley when election day comes, hoping that any tariff measure later on can be defeated by combination in the Senate, especially as there seems little enthusiasm among the people for another tariff that would again unsettle business conditions. Owing to the American Republican College League and its efforts, most of the students of the country are McKinley men, especially so at Harvard, Yale, and the Wisconsin State University. Even the girls at Smith and Wellesley have started clubs to influence "fathers, brothers, and sweethearts" in the same direction. In the West, however, Bryan is more popular in the colleges, es-

pecially as he is still a very young man. Many college professors have retired their free trade views for a time and purpose voting for McKinley, especially that life-long democrat President Hyde, of Bowdoin.

One fact of the campaign is characteristic of party feeling and discipline. Fifteen States had sent delegates to the Chicago Democratic Convention pledged to resist the adoption of a free silver platform, yet about two months afterwards fourteen of the Democratic State organizations had accepted the Chicago platform unreservedly. The State convention of Maine "resolved, that we take from our state platform the following declaration: 'We oppose the free coinage of silver and favour the single gold standard, unless a different standard is adopted through international agreement,' and that we indorse the national Democratic platform, with Bryan and Sewall." A cooler *volte face* cannot easily be imagined. There are few congressional candidates that can avoid giving definite and binding pledges much as they may agree with the sentiment thus expressed in the *Biglow Papers*:

I don't approve o'givin' pledges;
You'd ought to leave a feller free,
An' not go knockin' out the wedges
To ketch his fingers in the tree.

Japanese tea growers must bestir themselves. The representatives of the Ceylon planters in America are very able men and, what is more, extremely active. In 1894, the consumption of India and Ceylon tea was reported to have been 5,379,542 lbs.; in 1896 the figures rose to 9,283,144 lbs., an increase of over seventy per cent. It is advertised that "only half the quantity of India and Ceylon tea is required as compared with China and Japan." Japanese tea has still a good hold on the country districts of New England, but in Boston it seems to have become less popular of late. The Japanese plum, especially the variety called Botan, recently introduced, seems to thrive well in some parts of the United States, much better than European varieties. It has lately been crossed with American plums, especially in Missouri, with a view to increasing its size, quality, and hardness.

The coming jubilee of Queen Victoria is attracting much attention, and many good words are spoken of her both in private and in the press, and incidentally also of Cousin Bull, who is generally recognized as "a good 'un when you know 'im, but you 'av to know 'im first." Rudyard Kipling has left, and Lord Russell has reached our shores. The former and his family had become very popular among the Vermont farmers, and they may, perhaps, return to the United States.

Boston does not present its usual aspect. The work on the subway, undertaken to relieve the congested state of the business part of the city, does not contribute to enhance the beauty of the Commons, the Public Garden, and Tremont Street. Carts are going and coming, and confusion seems to reign supreme. The citizens are anxious that the work should be done quickly and well, and Contractor Everson bends all his energies to that end. If Boston cannot boast of the fine condition of its streets at present, her citizens rejoice at the steady increase of her foreign commerce, and as the Interstate Commerce Law secures to Boston a fair field and no favour, they are anxious to show that the claim that "everything must gravitate to the metropolis on Manhattan Island" is not based on fact. The wonderful apple crop in New England has sent freight to Liverpool and Glasgow up 75 and even 100 per cent., and there is a total of 3,000,000 barrels that await shipment to Europe. Like all commercial cities, Boston has a large foreign born population, as is attested by "Little Italy" west, and "New Jerusalem" east of Hanover Street, as also by "China Town," a very respectable part of the city, very different from the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. The Hebrews residing in Chelsea recently adopted a special political organization, and control about one-fourth of the votes there. Needless to say that they are nearly all in favour of gold.

The plans for the new Art Museum in Worcester contemplate an expenditure of \$300,000. Japanese art, I suppose, will be as well represented there as it is in Boston. Tokyo is not enjoying a monopoly of "funny" shop signs. In a city not far from Boston there is a restaurant with this sign above its door "All odors executed with despatch." A fit of the blues can be cured in Boston for one dollar a week as advertised in the local papers. Let us hope that the advertiser may not have to take his own medicine. This is a verdict recently brought in by a Maine jury: "Deceased came to his death by excessive drinking, producing apoplexy in the minds of the jury." Latest definition of Christianity's leading doctrine as given by a Chinese at Sunday school: "Buy thow stone, smash window, try catchee, no can catchee, for-givum."

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

By JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, September 22nd.

The Hon. Audley Coote, who lately visited Japan in connection with the Pacific cable and other commercial matters, has created something like a sensation in Australia by the somewhat startling views of Japan and Japanese affairs communicated by him to the representatives of the leading papers in Brisbane and Sydney. In the latter city he told a reporter that his opinion of the Japanese was—"that they are like a lot of school-boys who have taken their master by surprise and given him a thrashing, and as certain as the sun will shine to-morrow they will come to grief. They are spending money like water. They have invested between ten and fifteen million pounds sterling in building battleships and making fortifications without thinking for a moment what it will cost to maintain these undertakings. They will not listen to reason, even from their oldest advisers who are still staying in Japan. In fact they have become absolutely insolent. Their export trade is nominal compared with that of China or other countries. There is certainly plenty of coal there, and they export rice, tea, silks, and matting. As soon as they have to enforce taxation to maintain their great navy then there is not the slightest doubt that their internal troubles will follow. At the present time they want and are determined to have an outlet for their surplus population. They are looking around in all directions for a suitable country to send settlers to. I was on one occasion travelling on a railway during my visit with a friend who had been 30 years in Japan, and who spoke the native language fluently. In the carriage were five or six Japanese military and naval officers. My friend said, 'What do you think these men are talking about? Australia.' They say that you are doing nothing to develop Australia—that you have a large country, fine pastoral lands, great forests, and in the north excellent lands for growing rice, coffee, tea, and other tropical products; that you are like a dog in the manger among nations, and that someone else will have to take a good part of Northern Australia and develop it!" The officers went on to say that it was a great pity to see such a great country lying waste. They recognised that England was a useful nation to be allied to in the case of war, but if any ill-feeling occurred between England and Japan the first object of the latter would be to send their best battleships down south to annex a large portion of Northern Australia. This is only representative of the feeling of Japanese regarding this country. It is not surprising that such a small country, teeming with its 45,000,000 of inhabitants should regard Australia with its 4,500,000 with a certain of feeling covetousness."

Mr. Coote went on to relate another circumstance in regard to his apprehension of the Japanese. "When I was coming down in the *Chingtu*," he said, "Mr. Omitsu, representing the Japanese Intelligence Department, was on board. He told me he intended to travel all over Queensland, and thence over the greater part of Western Australia. His object was to find out where labour was required, and where sugar, rice, and coffee could be grown. The information he obtains is to be sent back to the Government of Japan, and to the Japanese press. I found that Mr. Omitsu was provided with all the maps of Queensland showing all the towns, both coastal and inland. He told me where supplies could be obtained. It is remarkable how fully the Japanese are posted up in the resources of other countries. I was informed by one of our consuls in China that during the war Japanese were found in possession of maps of every village and town in China, with particulars of their population and their ability to afford supplies. None of the consuls could conceive how the Japanese had succeeded in getting this information or when they had obtained it, but when the necessity arose they were not slow to make good use of it. In the same way Mr. Omitsu showed me that he was provided with similar maps of Australia."

These utterances of Mr. Coote have occasioned considerable uneasiness in Australia and assisted in intensifying the popular dislike to Asiatic immigration, but there have not been wanting persons having a more extensive knowledge of Japanese matters than is evidently possessed by Mr. Coote, to actively combat his assertions. Among these is a Japanese art-worker, named Inosaki Takuma, resident in Sydney, who has been interviewed by the representative of one of the weekly papers in that city. In the course of conversation, Mr. Takuma, referring to the statements made by Mr. Coote, said,—"I think that gentleman knows nothing about Japan or Japanese intentions, if you ask me [dropping into the vernacular like a

son of the soil]. First of all no naval or military officer even if he ever thought, as he is reported to have spoken, would have given public expression to his feelings in the way stated. Personally, I would not take the least heed of such statements. Japan is certainly going in for a progressive policy, but it is a policy of peace and enlightenment. She wants to light up the dark spots in Asia, and to do that she will have quite enough to occupy her without going so far afield as Australia."

"But how about her large military and naval expenditure?"

"Well, she has to be prepared to protect herself from her neighbours. She is not done with China yet, I suppose, and there is also Russia."

"Mr. Coote says the country will soon go bankrupt, because of the huge expenditure on war material."

"He does not know what he is talking about. Japan, as it happens, has just now a very capable Minister of Finance."

"Then you don't think Japan has any sinister designs upon Australia?"

"No, it is too ridiculous. She is not powerful enough to undertake anything of the kind, even if she had not enough to occupy her nearer home."

"Have you heard anything of the Japanese gentleman who, as ambassador, has come here to spy out the land?"

"No, I don't know anything about him; but I am safe in saying he is not an ambassador. He is very likely an official who has come in connection with the employment of Japanese labour on the sugar plantations in Queensland. The labour is sent under Government supervision, and is returned at the end of three years. Japan does not believe in sending her people away from home. The policy is to keep them, and while there is plenty of occupation in their own land few are likely to leave. There is room for a good many in Formosa. The Japanese will never come to Australia like the Chinese. If labour is found for a certain number they will come and fulfil their contract and return, or most of them. There are only about 50 Japanese in Sydney. The Government keeps up a careful system of registration, and knows exactly where all the people are. If any die abroad it is recorded."

The Australian papers, generally appear disposed to accept Mr. Coote's views. The *Brisbane Courier*, alluding to the awakening of China closely following that of Japan, says:—"It may be confidently assumed that the awakening of China has really begun, and that its development, if less rapid than that of Japan, will be on a much grander scale, and will ere long materially alter the balance of power in the Far East. The large numbers of Chinamen who have returned to their home after long residence abroad must exercise an appreciable missionary influence in the country in the cause of European civilisation. It may be that the present dynasty has become effete, and will disappear. But the Great Powers could not tolerate anarchy in the country, and, if disorder arose, would probably set up a native Government amenable to European influences. In any case there must be progress with such a population, for whether we regard its number, its habit of obedience to authority, or its colossal force if highly organised either in peace or war, we can only assume that China will exercise an important effect upon the future of Australia as well as of Asia. We may pass Asiatic Exclusion Acts, and determinedly exclude both Japanese and Chinamen from our country, but the time may not be distant when irresistible millions will demand reciprocal intercourse and access. Then nothing less than the aggregate strength of the United British Empire will suffice to protect our European civilisation from fusion with Asiatic."

The *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, while expressing an opinion that Mr. Coote's representations are somewhat highly coloured, remarks that the view he puts forth of possible Japanese aggressions "is undoubtedly one that should be considered by the Australian colonies, although not in a spirit of acute apprehension. Japan is bitten by earth-hunger. She is seeking to extend her population over a wider area, and has just realised one aspiration in this direction by acquiring Formosa. It has cost her some trouble to grip her conquest firmly, and it will take her a good deal of time to fully utilise it. But although this occupation is ready to their hand, it is quite comprehensible that the eyes of the enterprising Japanese are roving further afield, and have lighted upon Northern Australia as a promising field for activity. They are bent just now on extending their commercial and industrial relations in every possible direction, and it is as traders that the Japanese immediately contemplate approaching these colonies. The mission of Mr. Omitsu, which Mr. Audley Coote describes, is primarily of an industrial character, and is probably a prelude to a further endeavour

to build up closer trade relations between the two countries. It is easy to see that disappointment is here in store for the Japanese. Notwithstanding the one or two commercial reconnaissances which Australia has lately despatched to Japan, never were overtures made in more half-hearted fashion. Australia is inclined to think she would like to sell, but is in lively apprehension as to the kind of payment she would receive in return. To have to accept cheap Japanese manufactures would be chastisement with whips; to admit coloured immigration from Japan would be chastisement with scorpions. We have not formulated or even discussed any rational policy to guide us in our dealings with these Eastern neighbours; consequently the attitude of Australia must be one of simple aloofness. Undoubtedly when this comes to be well understood it will not propitiate Japanese good will. But to anticipate active Japanese hostility is a long leap. Japanese officers may talk idly and grandiosely of their scheme within earshot of Mr. Coote and no great harm be done. Australians mean to have New Caledonia when they can get it, and have often said so, but at Noumea the Governor sleeps just as soundly in his bed of a night. Mr. Coote's tidings are an eloquent homily to Queensland as to the necessity for federation and a reminder to the colonies generally how precarious the position of Australia would be were it not an integral part of the British Empire. While that is so, menace can only arise to Australia in the event of a greater war in which the naval strength of the empire is overtaxed. In such a case Japan, enrolled upon the side of England's enemies, would be an important factor in the sum from the Australian point of view. No doubt the springing up of a new and efficient naval power in these seas is not a circumstance to be overlooked. To imagine, for instance, Japan a satrap of Russia, is to conjure up uncomfortable possibilities. Happily the present trend of international politics is in the opposite direction. Japan has been thwarted and humiliated by Russia; Great Britain pointedly refused to assist in the browbeating process. For Japan to entrust herself to the mercies of Russia would be a strange way of embarking upon a career of national aggrandisement. It would rather mean surrendering all her cherished dreams of empire."

Recently there has been a large influx of Chinese from Northern Australia into Queensland, and recently the Home Secretary of that colony was asked in the Legislative Assembly certain questions, together with his replies, are appended:—1. Is he aware that Chinese from the Northern Territory of South Australia are still continuing to enter the colony across the border in violation of the law of Queensland?—Yes, but not in large numbers. 2. What steps, if any, have he taken, or is he prepared to take, to prevent the continued influx of these law-evasive coloured aliens?—The law is now enforced by imprisonment for six months of all who unlawfully cross the border. 3. Is he in communication with the South Australian Government on the subject; and, if so, is there any prospect of securing their friendly aid in stopping the influx in question by preventing Chinese from entering the colony in the illegal manner complained of?—The Chief Secretary communicated by wire with the Government of South Australia on the 25th June last, inquiring if they would do anything in their power to protect this colony from this most undesirable immigration. On the 27th June the following reply was received:—"Will inquire into suggested Chinese overflow, and do anything we can to meet your wishes. We fear, however, that we have no power to assist by interfering with exodus. Can you suggest how it can lawfully be done? We think the utmost would be for us to issue notice that you intend to enforce your border law against these immigrants. (Signed) C. C. Kingston, Premier." On the 14th July a reply was sent, suggesting that it should be publicly and authoritatively made known at Port Darwin that all Chinese unlawfully crossing the border would be deported from Queensland by sea to Port Darwin; that instructions should be given not to permit the landing of such Chinese at that port; that South Australia should share with Queensland the cost of returning such Chinese to Port Darwin; and requesting that at their early convenience a reply should be sent whether these suggestions had the approval of the Government of South Australia. No reply whatever has yet been received. Recently, however, I personally reminded the Minister for Agriculture of South Australia of the fact, and earnestly requested him to induce his Government to take some action in the matter. Since then no reply has been received. Whether there is any prospect of securing their friendly aid will be best evidenced to members themselves from the facts now disclosed.

As regards the Japanese population in Thurs-

day Island and in Northern Queensland, it has been ascertained that it is considerably less numerous than had been represented, and that the majority of the immigrants were hard-working colonists. The exceptions are men of the lowest class who are said to systematically, as in Western Australia, import Japanese girls for the most infamous purposes. In New South Wales the Japanese residents are among the most industrious and respected members of the community, leading blameless lives and affording a bright example of public and private morality. But the same cannot be said of the Chinese who not only have their opium dens and gambling houses in all the leading centres of population, but have lately introduced a system of food adulteration on a most extensive scale. A New South Wales paper, alluding to this, says:—"Of late it has been discovered that in Sydney various kinds of jams, pickles, sauces, and other condiments are manufactured in the city from the vilest ingredients and sold as English-made goods by many reputable storekeepers. The Chinese and Asiatics are the individuals who manufacture these food commodities, and the public purchase them in good faith, believing them to be genuine. The majority of them are rubbish or worse, and the question arises as to how the distribution is carried out among the retail grocers. The articles are put up in packets, the labels of which are intended to deceive the purchasers of the goods, and as a safeguard to public health it is high time that some steps were taken to put a stop to this kind of trading. When deleterious compounds can be made in disgusting slums by filthy and degraded opium smokers, to be sold to the unsuspecting public as pure and English-made condiments, it is high time the authorities stepped in and demanded that all goods put upon the market shall bear the honest brand of a genuine manufacturer. Such a step would protect the public against this species of fraud, and it practically rests with the Legislature to see that it shall be carried into effect."

It is a most remarkable fact that while in Sydney all the Japanese stores are smart, well conducted establishments, doing trade almost exclusively with Australians, the Chinese shops are invariably dirty or extremely untidy, and seldom entered by colonials, the customers being exclusively Chinese. There are several respectable Chinese merchants, but they do business chiefly with their fellow countrymen in the provinces, where the Chinese storekeepers occupy a position akin to that held by the Japanese traders in the colonial metropolis, and are much respected both by their neighbours and by all who have business dealings with them.

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY.

BY THE REV. HENRY S. JEFFERYS, B.A.

"That they all may be one."—S. John XVII. 21-3.

These words were uttered by Our Lord on the night before his crucifixion, when he had instituted the Holy Eucharist, after he had washed his disciples' feet; these object lessons in love and humility being finished, he poured out his heart in prayer to his Father for his apostles.

This prayer is written in the XVII. Chapter of the Gospel of Saint John. Every word is weighty with meaning and deep emotion, but the burden of it all is the unity of the apostles and of their successors.

9. v. I pray for them, I pray not for the world, but for them.

11 v. "Holy Father keep" them that they may be one as we are.

20—for them also that shall believe.

21—that the world may believe.

He sees clearly that it is the mind and will of Christ that his apostles first, and their followers next, should live in love and unity, and that the world is to be converted by a united church.

The cause of disunion is in the pride, the self-will, the stubbornness, and the ambition of the human heart; the apostles themselves had these human frailties. Our Lord's prayer for his apostles was needed. You remember the request of Salome that her sons might be preferred and seated on either side of Our Lord's throne—you remember that there was strife among them as to who should be greatest. You remember that the immediate successors of the twelve, SS. Paul and Barnabas, the apostles had so severe a contention concerning their assistant S. John that they were forced to separate. This very S. Paul is very urgent in his epistles (I. Cor. XII. 25) that there should be no schism in the body (Cf. I. Cor. III. 3-10).

The influence of Our Lord's words and the example and teaching of the blessed apostles continued in the Church for centuries; to be sure there

were schisms and sects and strife and division, but all the time there was pressing upon the conscience of even the most inconsistent heretics and the most obstinate schismatics the persuasion that all these divisions and separations were wrong and contrary to the mind and will of Christ, so that the most popular heretical sects, even those basking in the sunshine of Imperial favour, were gradually absorbed into the One Universal Church. Ulfilas, the heretical bishop, first evangelized the country now called Russia, that is under the sway of the Holy Orthodox Church.

The influence of Arius especially led to the definition of the faith "once for all delivered to the saints," as distinguished from popular opinion. The universal undivided Church has handed this to us in the formula known as the Nicene Creed. In that we say even to this day, "I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church." The road to unity lies in the direction of making real in our hearts this profession of our lips.

No one denies that the Church that formulated the Nicene Creed was governed by bishops; in fact the council was in the main a council of bishops. It was not necessary to affirm episcopacy because no one denied it, for the presbyterian polity had not been invented, but we find these men asserting the authority of the Apostolic Church. Surely they would not have asserted this had they not believed that they were the heirs of apostolic authority.

The present popular protestant notion that the original apostolate was lost is founded upon no facts; but is an after-thought to bolster up the modern and erroneous doctrine of the "parity" of the ministry. This doctrine of the parity of the ministry is not found in the New Testament and was unknown to the Universal Undivided Church. The theory of the loss of the apostolate has led to at least two attempts to restore it, i.e. Irvingism and Mormonism. As to the doctrine that presbyters are the highest order in the Church, this might have some colour of plausibility if the Universal Church had once in a General Council so decided and had that decision been accepted everywhere by the laity. No such historic claim for the Presbyterian polity is made.

Our Lord's words to his apostles were "So I am with you always." If he had intended to abolish the Apostolic order, he would most certainly have published his decision, and some one in the Church would have remembered it and proclaimed it to the world.

On the contrary, we find the Church electing S. Mathias into the Apostolic College, SS. Paul and Barnabas exercising apostolic authority, and the Epistle to the Galatians written for the purpose of establishing the apostolic authority of S. Paul.

In addition to this, SS. Timothy and Titus exercised similar powers of government and ordination by direct command of S. Paul, acts that point toward their inheritance of a similar apostolic authority. No society can exist without a head, an executive officer, a president of some sort. This is common sense. No one denies that the Apostles were the Presidents of the Church. To whom did they deputate their authority? the seven deacons? or to the seventy elders? If so there might be some record of the fact in Holy Scripture or the writings of the Apostolic Fathers.

On the contrary, we find there the plainest evidences that the episcopal order was everywhere regarded as possessing the succession to the presidency of the Church with apostolic authority. The Church is regarded as a Divine Organism—the Body of Christ—and not a human society. It is One; it is Universal; it is Undivided; its distinctions are geographical and temporary merely for convenience of ministration and government.

Let us try to get back to that state of affairs once more, even if it is impossible to reproduce all the details of the church of the first three or four centuries. How was the Church's unity broken? How may it be restored? The first great enemy to unity was Popery: the doctrine that one of the successors to apostolic authority had power and authority over the others.

As you know well, this growth of the power of the Bishops of Rome was very gradual, and was resisted from time to time through the centuries. It was augmented by the removal of the capital to New Rome or Constantinople, and crystallized by the crowning of Karl the Great (Charlemagne) as Emperor of the West on Christmas day 800. About the year 1000 A.D. there was a hope of the personal advent of Christ that thrilled the heart of Christendom. The text, "The kingdoms of this world are to be kingdoms of Our Lord and of His Christ" was written upon all hearts and murmured by every lip.

The doctrine that the Pope and the Emperor were to prepare the way for Christ was a ruling idea all through the Middle Ages, and gave strength and unity in the midst of violence, robbery, and

disorder. The eastern empire did not share so deeply in these ideas. The Greek mind, wearied with speculations concerning the mystery of the Divine Nature, rested on the formulas of the early church.

There was a drawing away of the Eastern and Western Church, and an ever-widening breach, but the schism was not finally and formally completed until the 10th century. A line drawn through the map of Europe from the Baltic to the Adriatic Sea would roughly mark this division. East of this we find the oriental churches agreeing substantially in doctrine; with national freedom and inter-communion. West of this the Latin Church in which the Imperial idea of power is uppermost.

These distinctive characteristics have continued even to the present day, and we find in the names of the Japanese branches of these churches the ideas of the East and West reproduced. The East insisting upon purity of doctrine, and the West upon Sovereignty. Therefore the names are the *Sei Kyo Kwai*, or the "Straight Teaching Assembly," and the *Tsu-Shi Kyo Kwai*, or the "Lord of Heaven Teaching Assembly." The example of the "Uniates" shows that the Latin Church can for the sake of unity concede the cup to the laity and marriage to the priesthood, nor is the future utterly without hope that there may be a softening of the Petrine claims to heal the first great wound or schism in the Body of Christ. This is a matter for earnest prayer, but to further which we have but little personal influence.

The second cause of the division of Christendom is Protestantism.

There is a popular idea that the Devil and the Pope obtained power over the church at an early date and retained it until Martin Luther, by burning the Pope's bull and flinging his inkstand at the Devil, broke up their combination and created Protestantism.

It is more probable that the daggers of Brutus and Cassius prepared the way for Protestantism when they stabbed Cæsar at the foot of Pompey's pillar. For had the great Julius lived long enough to consolidate his empire, he would, no doubt, have pushed his conquests beyond the Rhine and would have thoroughly subjugated the Teutonic races. Had these peoples once been completely under the yoke of the Roman Emperors they would not have broken off so completely from the power of the successors to their prestige, namely the Popes. This discussion belongs rather to the sphere of hypothetical history; but it is at least interesting to note that the river Rhine was roughly speaking the limit of the Roman military conquests and the limit of the permanent power of the Popes. The nations north of the Rhine became Protestant while the Roman nations south of it remain to this day, in the main, loyal to the Roman See.

Switzerland, partly protestant and partly Roman in religion, is an example of the theory that Protestantism is not merely a revolt against the development of doctrine, but has its causes in climate, race, and language.

We see examples of this in the British Isles. The Teutons of the South ardently accepting the new doctrines of their brother-Teutons of the continent, but with a wiser conservatism (which has always been their strength), retaining intact their ancient Church which had never been completely subjugated to the Papal See. The Scotch-Irish of the North of Ireland, and the South of Scotland, more ardent but less wise, going farther in shaking off the apostolic authority of the episcopacy, while the Celts of the North of Scotland and the South of Ireland, still more ardently and madly devoted to the Roman See and the House of the Stuarts endorsed by it, clinging with the obstinacy of despair.

Time does not allow of the discussion of these interesting theories and their examples in detail.

Protestantism produced dissent, disintegration and, sad to say, in Germany and in New England at least, doubt, and finally infidelity.

With a few exceptions, sporadic and uncertain in their results, it has not had power to re-unite what it has broken.

While the causes that produce disunion are often trivial in the extreme, and while Protestants will often freely unite temporarily in worship and in charitable works, the permanent corporate union of Protestant sects is hardly thought of, much less hoped for by the sectarians themselves.

Popery is centripetal, Protestantism is centrifugal.

Popery has drawn into the body of doctrine much that should have been left to pious opinion, while Protestantism is a system, or rather a lack of system, of denials.

Popery makes a man believe too much, while Protestantism makes him believe too little.

Popery leads to superstition, while Protestantism leads to agnosticism.

What is the remedy for this? The sectarian says, "Let all join our sect!"

There is substantial unity in this cry, but these cries cancelling each other make this method manifestly impossible. Others say, "Let us found a new sect on a basis broad enough to embrace all." This also has been tried with the result of Campbellite, Plymouth-brother, and Quaker sects that have failed to produce the result desired.

The Protestant Episcopal Church of the U.S. of N.A., one of the small branches of the Anglican Communion, some nine years ago published to the world a bases of corporate union which was the first attempt of a practical nature to heal the schisms in the Church. The Anglican bishops followed its example in 1888, and one of the three branches of the Catholic Church has now stated to all Christians throughout the world that the proper basis of unity is to be found in conforming to but four foundation principles.

I.—The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

II.—The Nicene Creed as a sufficient statement of doctrine.

III.—The two Sacraments of Baptism and the Holy Eucharist, with the unfailing use of the formulae and elements commanded by Christ Himself.

IV.—The Historic Episcopate.

This gives up everything that belongs distinctively to the P. E. Ch. in the U.S. or in the Anglican communion that is at all modern in its origin, e.g. the Prayer Book, the 39 Articles, the surplice, etc., and insists only on those things that are essential to the very being of the Church.

This declaration has produced but feeble apparent results, but beneath the surface the waves of an emotion, a longing for visible outward unity are felt by those who are in touch with the spirit of the times.

The Pope himself has responded, not directly to be sure, but probably influenced by the fact that the Anglican Communion had moved so far in the direction of Unity.

The Roman Church by its very development of doctrine, making the Pope's official utterances dogma to be received by the faithful, has made its action easier than that of bodies in which the power is more distributed.

United action of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the President of the House of Bishops of the American Church, would no doubt receive the cordial assent of all Anglican Churchmen.

While the Oriental Church is not centralized, if it could once be aroused to action would, to a large extent, follow the lead of the Holy Synod of the Russian Church.

If these three bodies the Greek, the Roman, and the Anglican Churches would call, not a General Council, but a preliminary Conference, embracing representatives of every sect that calls itself Christian, however heretical, to consider what basis would be acceptable to the vast mass of the Christians in the world for permanent corporate unity—to be sure some obstinate heretics and incorrigible schismatics would become still more irreconcilable, human nature being what it is—but without doubt the heart of Christendom would be stirred to its depths and a long stride would be made towards the day when a General Council would be practicable. In a General Council the Church United in its corporate capacity would speak with a weight and an authority now denied to its divided branches.

The participation of Greek, Roman, and Anglican ecclesiastics even of apostolic rank in the Chicago Parliament of Religions, hand in glove with the representatives of atheistical societies, e.g. Buddhists, leads to the hope that men of like rank might be induced to meet brother Christians, however far away from the Catholic faith.

It took a thousand years to separate the East and West, another 500 to produce the upheaval called Protestantism.

Many sects founded in the most fanatical spirit have now become quite tractable, almost tame in their assertions of their peculiarities. Would John of Leyden, with his plural wives and prophetic utterances, be followed or even tolerated by the Anabaptists of to-day? I trow not. The gentle, soft-spoken Friends no longer go into the "steeple house" and tell the "hiringling" minister to come down from his "preaching box;" it would be impolite.

The old controversies that produced the sects are dead, buried, and forgotten, and would cause only loathing and horror could their ceremonies be torn from the crumbling corpses.

There is a substantial agreement concerning what is really of vital importance among all sorts and conditions of Christians. The differences are very largely matters of opinion, taste, and preference, concerning which large liberty should be allowed to both individuals and societies.

In fact, the great danger to-day, of Protestants especially, is that they are not sufficiently tenacious about the difference between truth and error, and have no clearly defined views as to what is important, and what is trivial in matters of faith. While so far as the older communions are concerned, so far as the laity think about such matters individually, if we subtract from what they are supposed or expected to believe what they really do believe, we should find their position differing but little from that of the original standard of the Faith, i.e. the Nicene Creed.

If it were possible to take a spiritual photograph of the mind and heart of Christendom, we might find some dark spots of heresy like those upon the face of the sun itself, and some extravagances and superstitions spreading out like the corona of the sun beyond its circumference, but the great body of the face of Christendom would shine as the sun in its strength.

Is it too much to hope that when popery has reached its 1000th year and Protestantism it 500 that we may look for their mutual cancellation, and is it too much to pray for that the year of Our Lord 2000 may behold the extinction of the sects and the reunion of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church?

DEATH OF MR. CAREW.

INQUEST.

An enquiry was opened on Saturday morning, at the Royal Naval Hospital, Yokohama, by John Carey Hall, Esq., H.B.M.'s Assistant-Judge, acting as Coroner, into the circumstances surrounding and attending the death of Walter Raymond Hallowell Carew, late Secretary of the Yokohama United Club, that occurred suddenly on Thursday afternoon last. The following jury were empanelled—Messrs. G. Blundell, E. T. Nicholas, J. K. Trafford, T. Rose, and E. Powys.

The jury having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken:—

Edwin Wheeler, M.D., sworn, deposed—I was the medical attendant of the late Mr. Carew. He was ailing on Thursday week. I advised him to go home and keep quiet for a few days. I told him that his liver was out of order, and that he had better remain quiet. On Saturday he had some signs of irritability of the stomach, but part of Sunday and Monday he retained his food. On Monday evening he had extreme irritability of the stomach, and was excessively thirsty. On Tuesday morning I told Mrs. Carew that I thought I would ask Dr. Todd to come round and see him. We had a consultation—Dr. Todd and myself—that afternoon. The only thing that we could find was that the liver was slightly contracted—symptoms of cirrhotic liver—but not enough to account for the excessive vomiting and distress. On Wednesday morning I was told that he passed a very bad night, and slept very little. That morning he had very bad diarrhoea, added to the other symptoms, the motions being of a dark green colour. At tiffin-time I had a letter from Mrs. Carew stating that she did not think her husband was so well, and asking me if I could get Dr. Baetz down from Tokyo to look at him. I telegraphed up, the answer being "Impossible this evening, will to-morrow do?" A little before dinner time, I took the answer up to Mrs. Carew and showed it to her. This was about 7 o'clock. As Mr. Carew had had a rather better afternoon, we decided to wait until the morning. On Thursday morning I went round to the house at 7 o'clock and found my patient considerably worse. I made up my mind to get the deceased into hospital as soon as possible. When I was attending Mr. Boag's funeral, a little after nine, a communication was made to me by Mr. Dunlop, telling me to go and see Mrs. Carew's nursery governess, and mentioning something about arsenic being taken. I went round to Mr. Lowder's, where the children were with the nursery governess. I asked the governess, "What is this idea about arsenic?" She said: "What do you suspect, Doctor?" and I said that "I had suspected it last night and this morning, and had determined to get him into hospital this morning." I did not know who was giving it or whether he was taking it himself. There was a slight delay in getting Mr. Carew into the hospital, owing to Dr. Todd being away for a day, and the junior doctor in charge not liking to take the responsibility. As you (the Coroner) are aware, I asked you to use your influence to get Mr. Carew admittance into the hospital as soon as possible. A little before tiffin I told Mr. Porch, Mrs. Carew's brother, to go up to Mr. Carew's room and to remain there until I returned with a stretcher, and I told him that I thought Mr. Carew was getting arsenic in some form, and I added that he was to see that Mr. Carew was only to have a little milk and soda from

him. A little before two o'clock, Dr. May told me I could bring Mr. Carew round to the hospital. I asked for a stretcher and had him removed to the hospital somewhere in the neighbourhood of three o'clock in the afternoon. After a consultation with Dr. May, I left, saying that I would return at half-past five, but when in the Settlement, about 5 o'clock, a messenger met me with a chit, telling me to come up to the hospital at once. When I arrived I met by Dr. May, who told me that Mr. Carew was dead. I may state that I had a letter, unsigned, which my office-boy told me came from No. 6, with the words, "Three bottles solution of arsenic one week, Maruya." That is about as much as I know of the case, except that Mrs. Carew, I think between ten and eleven on Thursday night, told me, "Doctor, there is one thing I should like to tell you, which I suppose I ought to have told you before. Mr. Carew had a stricture, and he asked me would I get him a small bottle of arsenic, and he also wanted some sugar of lead." I merely replied, "It would have simplified matters if you had told me so before." She answered, "But I can't find the bottle, it was in the drawer at the bedside." I do not know anything further.

The Coroner—You made a post-mortem examination of the body, did you not?

Witness—Dr. Todd and Dr. May made a post-mortem examination of the body. I was present looking on.

The Coroner—In your opinion, Dr. Wheeler, was death the result of natural causes?

Witness—From my view of the body, and in consultation with Dr. Todd and Dr. May, we came to the conclusion that there was no lesion of the body sufficient to justify us in giving a certificate of death from natural causes. Dr. Todd has three exhibits. Deceased was ailing on Friday and the Thursday before. I told him on Thursday that he had better go on to Vichy water again as his old liver complaint was troubling him again. The illness therefore lasted about a week. He was able to get out of bed right up to the day before his death. He took to his bed on Saturday, at what hour I do not know, but then he was always moving about. His wife, a China boy, and the ayah were in attendance, nursing him during his illness; but his wife principally nursed him. Mr. Porch, his brother-in-law, was also in and out seeing him.

The Coroner—Have you any grounds for supposing that the deceased administered the arsenic himself? Do you consider it probable?

Witness—I know nothing further than what Mrs. Carew told me the night after his death.

The Coroner—I said, do you consider it probable?

Witness—I repeat my answer. It is possible but not probable, that he would go on taking a thing that caused him so much pain and distress.

The Coroner—If you had been informed during his lifetime—that is during his illness—that he had been taking arsenic, would that have made any difference in your mode of treatment?

Witness—Yes, certainly. I should have had him removed to hospital at once.

Mr. Trafford—Do you know if arsenic or sugar of lead would have any effect in cases of stricture?

Witness—I have never heard of arsenic or sugar of lead being taken for cases of stricture. Sugar of lead could be applied in the form of a lotion.

To Mr. Rose—Deceased had had bouts of liver in Australia; and in the Straits Settlements he suffered much from malaria, and had to be invalided from there.

Mr. Rose—Then, doctor, are you of opinion that if poison had not been administered, he would have lived a longer life?

Witness—I was surprised to see the healthy state of the viscera. There was only the cirrhotic liver and slight symptoms of bladder trouble—chronic cystitis.

Dr. Percival Marshall May, R.N., sworn, deposed—I admitted Mr. Carew into the R. N. Hospital on Thursday afternoon (Oct. 22nd) about 3 o'clock. He was brought in on the hospital ambulance and immediately removed to his room. When he arrived here he was in a state of collapse and in a most dangerous condition. I administered stimulants to him, and he rallied very slightly. He complained of great difficulty of breathing, and tossed from side to side endeavouring to get his breath. He complained of terrible pains in his chest. His extremities were cold, and he continued in this condition until a quarter-past four o'clock, when he became quite pulseless and in spite of the administration of stimulants died at about twenty minutes, or a quarter, to five.

To the Coroner—I assisted at the post-mortem examination, and agree with Dr. Todd's opinion as to the result of the post mortem.

Staff-Surgeon Howard Todd, R.N., sworn, deposed—I saw Mr. Carew on the Tuesday, at Dr.

Wheeler's request. He was then suffering from great irritability of the stomach. I asked to see what he had vomited, but it had not been kept. I examined Mr. Carew and found that his liver was contracted. I could find nothing else. I recommended Dr. Wheeler to save the vomit and motions for examination, to see what they were like. The next occasion I saw Mr. Carew was after his death, at the *post mortem*, which I performed in conjunction with Dr. May. The result of the examination was to find that his liver was contracted and there was some inflammation of the bladder, but no lesion sufficiently grave to cause death.

To Mr. Rose—I did not see Mr. Carew alive in the hospital. I was not present when he arrived.

The Coroner—Do you concur with me, Dr. Todd, that a further examination of the viscera is desirable?

Witness—Distinctly so.

The Coroner—That there should be a chemical analysis of the contents of the stomach?

Witness—Exactly so.

The Coroner then read the section of the Coroner's Inquest Act in which it is provided that in cases of doubt as to the sufficiency of medical evidence as to the cause of death if the majority of the jury were of opinion that the contents of the stomach and intestines of a body should be chemically analyzed by a professional expert who had not previously been examined, then they should put such requisition into writing.

The jury concurred with the Coroner that the contents of the stomach of the deceased should be examined and analyzed, and on the suggestion of the Coroner, Dr. E. Divers, Professor in the Imperial University of Tokyo—whom the Coroner said was the only man in Japan who could undertake the task, it being of a highly expert and technical character—was named as the expert to conduct the analysis.

It now being some few minutes past noon, the Coroner suggested an adjournment for tiffin. He proposed that the jury and witnesses should re-assemble at the British Court at 2 o'clock that afternoon.

Mr. Trafford said that the funeral had been fixed for 2.30 p.m., and several of the witnesses might like to attend the ceremony; therefore it would be inconvenient for them to attend the Court at 2.

The Coroner said that personally he would like to pay that last token of respect to deceased—attend his funeral—but in view of the seriousness of the case, he thought that the jury would be acquitted of any disrespect if they waived attendance at the funeral.

Mr. Trafford said that perhaps Mrs. Carew would like to attend the funeral.

Mrs. Carew, upon being interrogated by the Coroner, said—I want to attend the funeral, and I desire to give evidence at this enquiry.

The Coroner—Will you attend after the funeral?

Mrs. Carew—Yes.

The Coroner—Then the inquest will be resumed at 2 o'clock at the British Consulate, when the evidence of Mary Esther Jacob, the nursery governess will be taken; and after the funeral, Mrs. Carew will attend.

The inquest then stood adjourned. Upon re-assembling at the British Court-room, Mr. Lowder said that with the Coroner's permission he would watch the case on behalf of the widow of the deceased.

Miss Mary Esther Jacob, was sworn, and deposed—I had nothing to do with the nursing of Mr. Carew except once, when I was asked to take him, on Wednesday night, a glass said to contain brandy and soda. I was having my dinner at the time, upstairs. Mrs. Carew called me, and asked me to see if Mr. Carew would take this glass from me. She said the glass contained brandy and soda and cocaine, as Dr. Wheeler had ordered. He refused to take it. This was the only time I had anything to do with his nursing.

To the Coroner—I have never, in the course of his illness, seen him take medicine. I have never seen Mrs. Carew or other people take medicine to Mr. Carew. I have seen her give things to people to take up to him. I have purchased medicine for Mrs. Carew. This was on Wednesday, the 21st, at Maruya, Benten-dori. It was syrup of lead and Foster's solution of arsenic. I only purchased this once: on that one occasion. I have never seen any use made of the medicine that I purchased. I do not know where this medicine was kept in the bedroom. The two poisons that I purchased were in two bottles; the quantity was not specified on the paper outside the bottles. I had nothing to do with nursing, but I entered the room about once a day to show the children to their father. I was out with the children as much as possible, so I know nothing of what was kept in the bedroom. I do not even know if there is any table-drawer there.

The Coroner—By whose orders did you purchase this medicine at Maruya's?

Witness—By Mrs. Carew's.

The Coroner—Did Maruya ask for a doctor's prescription?—No.

Did you ask for the medicine or was it written on paper?—It was written on paper.

Who wrote the paper?—Mrs. Carew.

Did the man make any remark?—Yes.

What did he say?—He asked me if I was Mrs. Carew, and then said, "Why do you buy so plenty deadly poison?"

What did you reply?—I don't know. I did not know any poisons had been bought before. The man told me that somebody had bought poison the day before, and some the day before that, and that I was to warn Mrs. Carew how she used it. No further conversation ensued. I did not repeat this conversation to Mrs. Carew, but I told Mr. Porch.

What did Mr. Porch say?—I did not think he understood the drift of my remark, because he said he thought it impudent of the man to make any remark about the medicine. There were only the two children present in the dining-room at the time. I did not mention to Mrs. Carew anything at all about this conversation.

Do you know who purchased the other medicines?—Maruya told me that on the 20th it was a boy, and on the 19th, Mrs. Carew. I do not know who the boy was, Maruya would not say, but I imagine it was the *jinrikisha* man.

Did not this conversation with Maruya arouse your suspicions in any way?—Yes. I had been told that Mr. Carew had been very sick, in great pain and very drowsy, and I became very uncomfortable as I had bought some medicine. I do not think anyone assisted Mrs. Carew much in nursing her husband. We fetched and carried for her, but as I was out of the house so much with the children I do not know what went on during the day. Mr. Porch used to go and see Mr. Carew when he came home, to see how he was. He would be in and out of the room now and again.

Mr. Blundell—Did the deceased offer any explanation why he refused that brandy and soda?—He said, "I have taken a whole chemist's shop to-day, and I want a brandy and soda without anything in it—meaning without medicine. He said if he had a brandy and soda he could go to sleep.

To Mr. Rose—I do not know whether deceased knew that I was purchasing the medicine. He never asked me.

To Mr. Trafford—The slip of paper for Maruya bore no signature. The chemist asked me if I was Mrs. Carew. I had never been to the chemist before. I had the little boy and the little girl with me.

To Mr. Rose—I was not aware until the shopman told me, that Mrs. Carew had been there before.

To the Coroner—I left the piece of paper at Maruya.

Mr. Lowder, in answer to the Coroner, said he was not sufficiently instructed at present to ask any questions. He came there merely to watch the case.

A little later witness said in reply to Mr. Lowder—The slip of paper was in the handwriting of Mrs. Carew. I am quite positive of that.

Mr. Reginald Colmore Porch, sworn, deposed—I am the brother-in-law of the deceased. I used to see Mr. Carew very often, from 8 to half-past, from 12 till nearly 2 o'clock, and from 5 in the evening and afterwards. I often saw Mrs. Carew giving him medicine, and he was always a very bad hand in taking it. On Thursday afternoon he was removed to the hospital. I saw him in the hospital and gave him some ice. When I spoke to him he was quite conscious and understood what I said. I might say that Dr. Wheeler made a mistake this morning when he said that Mr. Carew suffered from malarial fever. I believe he was very ill in the Straits, and very nearly died there, on account of his liver. I believe that he was also very ill of the same complaint last spring.

To Mr. Trafford—When the last witness informed me that she had been purchasing poison, I was leaving the room, and did not quite understand her remark. I thought that she was making a comment on the shopman's impudence.

To Mr. Nicholas—Medicines were given, so far as I know, according to Dr. Wheeler's directions.

To Mr. Rose—I do not know why the arsenic was purchased. I have no idea.

To Mr. Blundell—I never saw the three bottles, mentioned by the previous witness, being used. I now know what became of them. The medicine was taken in the ordinary way according to prescription. I can't say whether they were used in a proper way, because I never saw them administered.

To Mr. Rose—I thought it very extraordinary when I heard of such a large quantity of arsenic being purchased. The last witness did not tell

me, the quantity. It never occurred to me to inform the doctor.

To Mr. Trafford—I saw Dr. Wheeler often, but it never occurred to me, when I knew arsenic had been purchased, to inform him about it.

To the Coroner—When the witness told me that she had been down town and purchased the arsenic, I did not know that this was not in accordance with what Dr. Wheeler had prescribed. I knew that arsenic is taken as medicine.

To Mr. Rose—I did not know what Dr. Wheeler had prescribed.

To the Coroner—I have several times seen my sister administer medicines to the deceased. I could not tell you their names, for he had a good many. I never saw any administered from the bottles that the last witness bought nor from similar bottles. I have heard that deceased suffered from stricture; I did not know of it personally. I believe Dr. Munro treated him about three years ago.

Mr. Lowder—Were you present when the deceased left his dwelling to go to the hospital?—Yes, I was.

Was his wife also present?—Yes.

What conversation, if any, took place between them?—Mr. Carew said he did not feel at all well, and I don't think he cared about going to the hospital.

Did he say anything about going to the barber's to get shaved?—I did not hear him say that. I lived in the same house with my sister and her husband.

Did they live on affectionate terms?—Yes, very.

You are able to state that positively, that they were on affectionate terms?—Yes, always. I never knew a quarrel.

Did you ever hear anything to lead you to think that your sister suspected her husband's death was so near?—I did not think it was so serious, but she was very anxious. She told Mr. Parsons that she would like another medical attendant, and told me that Dr. Baelz had been wired for.

She showed wifely anxiety?—Yes, she nursed him night and day. She had no idea that his end was so near. He was quite conscious when he left the house, and Dr. May has said that he rallied after his admittance.

To the Coroner—So far as I know, Mrs. Carew was not assisted by anyone in administering medicines to the deceased. I never saw anyone else do so, but most of the day I was not up at the house.

To Mr. Powys—I believe that sometimes Mr. Carew used to doctor himself.

To Mr. Rose—I do not know whether he did so during his present illness.

Mrs. Edith May Hollowell Carew, sworn, said—My husband has been ailing for some weeks past, but he was not very ill till Thursday, when he came home and said that Dr. Wheeler had ordered him to take Vichy water and to keep quite tranquil. He has had several attacks of liver during the last seven or eight years. He did not get any better on Saturday or Sunday. On Saturday he expressed a wish to go to Kamakura on Monday. I wrote to Dr. Wheeler and asked if he could do so. Dr. Wheeler, after seeing him on Saturday, said that he was afraid he might catch a chill, and advised him not to go down to Kamakura. He did not get any better, and in fact became worse, and I had on Monday to send twice for the Doctor, also on Tuesday. At tiffin time on Tuesday Dr. Wheeler asked me if I had any objection to his calling in Dr. Todd, as he would like to consult him on the case. Dr. Todd gave his evidence this morning, in which I agree. I was present at the consultation. Dr. Wheeler told me that afternoon, that my husband was to have nothing but milk and soda and no stimulants. I can't recollect whether it was before Dr. Todd's visit or afterwards that my husband expressed a wish that he should be given his usual dose of arsenic. I may say that he has been in the habit of taking arsenic in small quantities for some time. I cannot say what kind, for I do not know. I told him that as Dr. Wheeler was treating him, he had better not take it. However, he insisted and begged me to give him some, and I went to cupboard where he kept his medicine but only found an empty bottle, or perhaps a drop in so inside. I remonstrated with him a good deal on his taking arsenic, especially in his present state. He then told me that when I was in England, in 1893, he had been obliged to consult Dr. Munro, and later Dr. Baelz upon a disease which he did not wish me to mention to Dr. Wheeler. I do not know whether Dr. Munro prescribed for him at that time, but later Dr. Baelz had, and I have had this prescription made up for him from time to time. He told me that when he was suffering in such a way, arsenic was the only thing that gave him relief. On Tuesday evening he gave me a big slip of paper, which I have in my possession, on which was

written:—"One bottle Foster's solution of arsenic, one bottle sugar of lead." I told him at the time, that I should not send for the things, but if I did eventually I should tell Dr. Wheeler. On the Wednesday, he again spoke to me of the great pain he was in, and told me that if I did not get the medicine he would send for them himself. I wrote out, on a slip of paper, what he had given and gave it to my governess and asked her to get the things for me. When she returned with the bottles, I gave them to my husband, sealed in the paper in which they were received and told him that I should not allow him to take the mixture at that time, as he was taking medicine from Dr. Wheeler. Within a short time, I thought my husband was worse and I wrote to Dr. Wheeler, saying that I should like to see Dr. Baelz. Dr. Wheeler gave his reply in his evidence this morning. He came and saw my husband that evening, and said that he thought he was slightly better, as he had retained his food, but as he had had such a restless night, he thought it advisable to give him a hypodermic, and gave me two or three cocaine tablets, one of which he told me to give him in a little milk, soda, and brandy. I gave him this about 8 o'clock. During Mr. Carew's illness we experienced great difficulty in getting him to take any medicine, and several times, I had tried various means of getting him to take it. I mixed it up in barley water, in milk, and lime squash. Since Thursday morning I gave him no medicine. The hypodermic that Dr. Wheeler gave him did not have the desired effect. Towards 9 o'clock he became very delirious and very excited. Dr. Wheeler had told me he was dining out that night, so I went round to the house where he was dining and told him that my husband was very excited and unable to sleep. I was absent from the house about half-an-hour. When I returned, my husband was asleep, and apparently quite well. Dr. Wheeler came about 11 o'clock that night and seemed to think that Mr. Carew was better. But he slept for only a very short time; he was very restless, and complained of great thirst. Dr. Todd had advised my giving him, at short intervals, small pieces of ice. He complained of great pain in his back and side, and I called up the servants and had the fire lighted and applied hot water bottles to his feet and side as I saw that his temperature was very low. At 5 o'clock on Thursday morning, I did not like certain symptoms that I saw, and I sent for Dr. Wheeler. He came at 7 o'clock and gave my husband a cocaine tablet, with a little brandy, milk, and soda, and a draught of hydrate of chloral to send him to sleep, which, however, had no effect. At 8 o'clock I felt so anxious about him that I wrote to Mr. Parsons, who came shortly afterwards. I told him that I did not share Dr. Wheeler's opinion as to the satisfactory progress of the case, and that I insisted upon having some other opinion. Mr. Parsons promised to see Dr. Wheeler at once. He saw Dr. Wheeler and came back in a quarter of an hour. His words to me were, "Do not alarm yourself unnecessarily, Dr. Wheeler says that he is quite confident about his case." From 9 o'clock that morning my husband was never conscious for more than a few moments at a time and I saw that he was getting weaker. Dr. Wheeler came again about 12 o'clock, just looked at my husband, who was more or less unconscious at the time, and said—"I have arranged to have him taken to the hospital, he is only going from bad to worse." During Thursday I gave him some beef tea, some milk and soda, with a little brandy in it, according to Dr. Wheeler's instructions. On going up to his room after tiffin, he complained of great pain in his chest; of feeling very sick but being unable to be so. As I thought at the time it might be indigestion, I gave him a little hot water, but it had very little effect in making him sick. Dr. Wheeler arrived about this time, and my husband was taken to the hospital. He was perfectly conscious when he left the house, and although I knew at the time he was admitted into the hospital that he was seriously ill, I had no idea of there being any danger. Several people whom I saw I told that I thought he was going on all right, and it was a great shock to me when I heard at 5 o'clock that he had passed away. Earlier in the day, my brother told me that Dr. Wheeler thought or knew that my husband was taking arsenic. I attached little importance to the remark at the time, as I knew from past experience that my husband had been in the habit of taking arsenic. It never occurred to me to be of any importance. After I heard of his death, and had been told that a *post-mortem* would be held, I remembered the fact that he had ordered, and that I had given to him a bottle of sugar of lead. I went upstairs and opened the drawer where he had placed them when I gave them to him, and found

both bottles missing. I at once sent for Dr. Wheeler. I told him of the facts but at the time he would not say anything beyond what you heard him repeat this morning. I subsequently ascertained that on or about the 20th Oct. Mr. Carew gave a written order to my *amah*, and she sent it to Maruya. Last night I thought it necessary to make a thorough search for the missing bottles, and after a good deal of trouble I found them, at the back of the table which stands by the corner of his bed. Without measuring, I should say that there are about 6 to 8 drops of arsenic left in the bottle and about half of the bottle of sugar of lead. At the time he ordered the arsenic through me, when he ordered the sugar lead, I told him there was a small quantity in a bottle in the stable which had been used some time ago as a lotion for my pony, and I asked him what he wished to do with it. He told me that some years previously he had used it with great effect as an external application for congestion of the liver. I did not again see the two bottles until yesterday. I should like to contradict, if I may, a statement made by Dr. Wheeler this morning that Mr. Carew was invalided from the Straits on account of malarial fever. To my knowledge he has never had malarial fever. He was obliged to leave the Straits owing to nervous depression due to worry and overwork.

To Mr. Lowder—We have lately had unpleasant discussions on a certain point, but generally we were on affectionate terms as husband and wife.

To Mr. Rose—I sent for the arsenic, not because I thought it necessary, but more to please him. I did not think he would take it. He did not appear very ill, when I sent for the arsenic; and I also knew that he was in the habit of taking arsenic. I have known of this for a long time. I know now that it would have been wiser to have told Dr. Wheeler of the arsenic at the time; but my husband did not become seriously ill till the Thursday. I do not know whether Dr. Wheeler knew on that day that my husband was taking arsenic. He never gave me to understand that he knew it.

To Mr. Lowder—I will produce the slip of paper and the bottles. The paper was in his handwriting. The paper I sent to Maruya was copied from it by me.

To Mr. Nicholas—I gave him the bottles sealed. I did not see them again until I found them behind the table.

Mr. Lowder—One witness speaks of three purchases of medicine at Maruya's, you have only spoken of two. Did you ever purchase arsenic there yourself, as the witness says?

Witness—That is not so.

Witness added—I did not wake up to the fact that Mr. Carew was so ill till Wednesday night, because he had been walking about up till then. In fact he was so well when Dr. Wheeler came to see him, that my brother, Dr. Wheeler, my husband and myself were taking and laughing together.

The Coroner here announced that he had telegraphed to Dr. Divers in regard to the chemical analysis of the stomach and had received a reply from Tokyo that the learned analyst could not possibly attend the enquiry and give evidence before Friday.

After some discussion it was determined not to take any further evidence that day, but to adjourn the inquiry until Monday week, Nov. 2nd, at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon, when the evidence of Dr. Divers, the shopman at Maruya's, and others will be given.

CRICKET.

Y.C. AND A.C. VERSUS THE FLEET.

A cricket match was played on Wednesday, between a team from the Fleet and an eleven of the Club, in cold weather on a perfect wicket. The Fleet was considered the strongest team the sailors have put in the field this year. Johnson's innings of 77 not out, was a good exhibition, the runs being made chiefly by boundary hits. He was well supported at the other end by Goddard who kept up his wicket whilst a great number of runs were scored. White made 40 out of a total of 50 for the first wicket, and he played a free game until caught at third man, off a rather loose ball. The fielding of the naval team was hardly up to usual standard.

The home Eleven declared their innings closed at 2.45 p.m., and with only an hour and a half left for play it seemed that the visitors could not hope to win. Runs came very rapidly for the first two wickets and the scoring was at no time slow. White bowled throughout from the S-tillement end with considerable success, but the bowling from the other end was feeble until Goddard appeared for the second time. Johnson made a good one-handed catch at short mid-on and Showler brought off a brilliant one at point. Score:—

Y.C. & A.C.			
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Pearson, b. Shelford	...	...	16
Mr. F. E. White, c. Rising, b. Shelford	...	...	40
Mr. R. Johnson, not out	...	...	77
Mr. A. W. Walford, c. Gillett, b. Shelford	...	...	21
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Atlay, b. Shelford	...	...	6
Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Gillett	...	...	0
Mr. A. M. West, c. Goldie, b. Shelford	...	...	0
Mr. A. Kingdon, b. Gillett	...	...	0
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Gillett	...	...	5
Mr. W. V. Showler, c. and Pearson	...	...	7
Mr. H. S. Goddard, not out	...	...	24
Extras	...	...	1

BOWLING ANALYSIS.			
	B.	R.	M.
Mr. H. A. Gillett
Mr. H. Pearson
Mr. Shelford
Mr. Goldie
Dr. Pead
Mr. Donkin

H.B.M.'s FLEET.			
Dr. Pead, c. Johnson, b. White	...	...	36
Mr. Garde, b. White	...	...	30
LT. Gillett, b. White	...	...	30
Mr. Pearson, st. Dickinson, b. White	...	...	4
Mr. Rising, c. Dickinson, b. Goddard	...	...	0
Rev. Borthwick, not out	...	...	16
Mr. Shelford, c. Walford, b. Goddard	...	...	0
Mr. Donkin, b. White	...	...	0
Mr. Goldie, c. Showler, b. White	...	...	18
Mr. Atlay, not out	...	...	4
Mr. Ryan, did not bat	...	...	—
Extras	...	...	16

BOWLING ANALYSIS.			
	B.	R.	M.
Mr. White
Mr. Goddard
Mr. Kingdon
Mr. Walford

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, October 26.

The Right Rev. Frederick Temple, D.D., Bishop of London, has been appointed Archbishop of Canterbury.

London, October 28.

The *New York Herald*, in a forecast of the Presidential election, gives Mr. McKinley 248 votes, against 134 for Mr. Bryan, 65 votes being counted doubtful. The same journal says that a large majority of the new Representatives will be anti-Silverite, whilst in the new Senate the Goldite and Silverites will be almost evenly matched, a majority on either side being uncertain.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, October 26.

H.M.S. *Plover* being overdue from Robben Island, the *Aeolus* was despatched from this port to search for her on Saturday morning.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London October 26.

The Porte is devoting the proceeds of the new poll tax to arming the Mussulman population. The foreign Ambassadors at Constantinople have met to consider this grave measure.

London, Oct. 24.

Irades have been issued at Constantinople imposing a poll tax of five piastres on Mussulmans, putting an increase on the sheep tithes, and making other increased imposts to yield £T. 1,250,000 which is to be used for military preparations.

Exchange on London at Paris..... 25.22½
" " " " New York ... 4.85
(Tel. Trans.)

London, October 27.

Prince Bismarck's organ, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, says that a secret Russo-German agreement was concluded soon after the accession of the late Czar, Alexander III., by the terms of which if either country was attacked, the other was to remain in a position of benevolent neutrality. Count Caprivi, ex-Imperial German Chancellor, terminated this agreement in 1890. The statement has caused a great sensation in Austria.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 19.

The Dervishes are preparing to make a stand at Metemneh and Abuhamed.

London, October 20.

At a crowded meeting held at St. James's Hall it was resolved to support the Government

in any steps taken to end the reign of terror in Turkey.

A letter from Mr. Gladstone was read, deprecating the abridging of Lord Salisbury's discretion by prescribing any particular line of action. Hongkong, October 20.

The position in the Philippines is more critical. The rebels hold the district near Manila, while the troops are acting on the offensive in Cavite province.

(FROM "LE COURRIER DE SAIGON.")

Paris, October 9.

The President of the Republic entertained the Czar at a dinner and concert at the Chateau de Versailles. The town was *en fête* and the crowd enormous. The Sovereigns left at 11 p.m. for Chalons.

At midday a review was held in which 70,000 men took part. The review was splendid. The Czar on horseback and the President in a landau passed along the lines. A crowd of more than two hundred thousand persons cheered the Sovereigns and the troops. The Czar was particularly attentive to the march past of the Sixteenth Corps.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Tientsin, October 22.

An Imperial Decree was issued yesterday appointing Sheng Taotai Director General of Railways, with the rank of Viceroy, and right to report to the Throne direct.

Sheng had audience with the Emperor on the 19th instant.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

Calcutta, October 6.

The number of deaths from the plague at Bombay at 10 o'clock yesterday morning for the previous 24 hours was ten. The Corporation has voted a lakh of rupees for measures to extirpate the disease.

London, October 5.

The Times, in a special article on Indian affairs, compares the success of Ranjitsinhji to that of Chatterji and Professor Bose in the intellectual arena, all denoting important changes in life and thought in India.

The Fenians Kearney and Haines were quietly shipped to New York by the Rotterdam police.

The death is announced of Mr. Henry Byron Reed, Conservative member for East Bradford.

(FROM THE "DIARIO DE MANILA.")

Madrid, September, 20.

To-morrow the funds voted in connection with the cost of sending large reinforcements to the Philippines will be drawn from the Treasury by the Military authorities.

Senor Canovas, the Prime Minister, has stated that the Government has the fullest confidence in General Blanco's ability to suppress the rebellion.

To cover a portion of the extra expenses incurred in the suppression of the rebellion a royal decree has been signed sanctioning a special tax to be levied at Manila on the exportation and importation (? a coastwise duty) of tobacco.

September 30.

On the 6th October more troops will leave for the Philippines.

The War Department is organising three more battalions for service in the Philippines.

The British Government has sent special instructions to the Governors of Hongkong, the Straits Settlements, and other British possessions to place difficulties in the way of any persons who favour the rebellion in the Philippines.

October 2.

The column led by General Hernandez had an encounter with General Maceo's Cuban forces a few days ago, resulting in the defeat of the rebels, who left ninety of their number dead on the field.

October 3.

General Malguzo's brigade has had a "brush" with the Cuban rebels, whom he defeated, killing 30 of them and wounding a large number. On our side Commander Izquierdo and Capt. Cabanas were wounded. The body of the notorious Feliciano Alvarez was found among

the slain when the trenches were dug for burying those who had fallen on the field of battle.

The steamer *Isla de Panay* has arrived from Manila. She brought the famous Dr. Rizal under a strong guard. She was at once placed in quarantine and kept there three days.

Special prayers, including a requiem mass, for the eternal repose of the souls of the victims who have been massacred by the rebels in the Philippines have to-day been offered up in San Sebastien. M. R. P. F. Tomas Rodriguez, senior member of the Augustinian Order, officiated.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kobe, October 28.

H.I.H. Prince Nashimoto started for Kyoto last evening.

Sendai, October 28.

Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, the new Commandant of the Fifth Army Division, left here to-day to take up his new appointment.

Hiroshima, October 28.

Colonel Oseko, Head-Councillor of War, arrived here last night.

Bakan, October 28.

Mr. Hasegawa, Commandant of the Pescadores, is to cross to the Pescadores at once.

Tau, Oct. 28.

Eight experts from the Home Department are to inspect the recently flooded districts from to-morrow.

Otsu, Oct. 28.

The Expenditures required in this district owing to the recent disasters, are estimated at about yen 9,795,171.

Kobe, Oct. 28.

An extraordinary meeting of this Prefectural Assembly was held to-day. The election for President and Vice-President has resulted in the return of the *Kaishin* Party.

Mr. Long, an official in the German Communications Department, after inspecting the post and telegraph affairs at this port, proceeded to Kyoto.

Matsuyama, October 29.

On Wednesday afternoon, the steamer *Uragasu Maru*, owned by Mr. Kometsani, of Tado-tsu, collided with the steamer *Onogawa Maru* of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, off Hakata-mura, Noma-gori. The former sank, but all her crew were saved by the *Onogawa Maru* with the exception of one, who is still missing.

Bakan, October 29.

Lieut.-Colonel Masuda and Captain Furuichi, who were suspended from duty in Formosa, arrived here to-day by the *Odaru Maru*.

Shidzuoka, October 29.

Lieut. General Nogi, Governor-General of Formosa, will stay at Hamamatsu to-night.

Nagasaki, October 29.

The Russian man-of-war *Imperator Nicolai I.* left this port on Wednesday for home.

Kanazawa, Oct. 29.

Major-General Miyoshi, Commandant of the Sixth Brigade, Lieut.-Colonel Sakai, Commandant of the Seventh Regiment, and Lieut.-Colonel Yamamoto, Commandant of the Thirty-fifth Regiment, have returned to this city from the autumn manoeuvres of the Third Army Division.

Otsu, Oct. 29.

Messrs. Daito, Tanizawa and Wakizaka, Representatives of this prefecture, left for Tokyo to-day.

Fottori, October 29th.

A Branch of the Sakai Customs will be opened here on the 1st of November.

Nagasaki, October 29.

On extraordinary meeting of the Prefectural Assembly is called for to-morrow.

Toyama, October 29.

Mr. Hayashi Toyoji, a member of this Prefectural Assembly, has been taken into custody on a charge of gambling.

A conflagration occurred on Wednesday night at Unamimura, Imidzu-gori. One hundred and seventy houses were destroyed.

Kyoto, October 29.

The fifth anniversary of the death of the late H.I.H. Prince Kuji was observed to-day at the Senyōji. H.I.H. Prince Kunihiko, his successor, and T.I.H. Princes Yamashina, Kayo, and Nashimoto were present.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 254.

WHITE.

1—B to Q 8
2—Q to Q 4 ch.
3—B to Kt 6, mate

2—Q to R 7 ch.
3—B to R 5, mate

2—B takes P
3—Q to B 4, mate

2—B to K 7 ch.
3—Kt takes P, mate

2—K to Kt 7
3—B to K 7, mate,

BLACK.

1—Kt to Q B 6
2—K takes Q

1—P takes P
2—K to Kt 5

1—P to R 4
2—Kt to Q 6

1—P to Q 4
2—K to Kt 3

1—P to R 7
2—P to Q 4

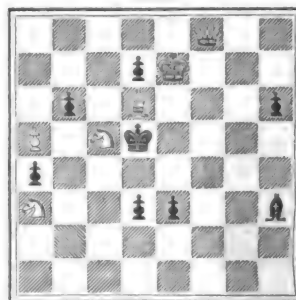
etc., etc.

Correct answers from Shogi, W.H.S., W.D.C., J.D., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 257.

By JAN DOBRUSKY & JOSEF PACIT.

BLACK.



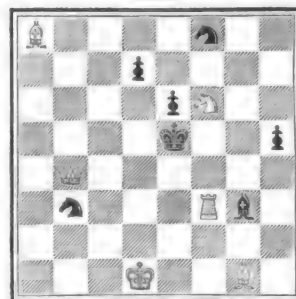
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 258.

By J. J. GLYNN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

BUDA-PESTH.

Still no news of the result. We take the following from the *New York Literary Digest* of 3rd instant, which is the latest intelligence we have received so far:—

We have received information that the International Tourney at Budapest began on October 1st, and it promises to be equal if not superior to those of Hastings and Nuremberg. Steinitz, Lasker, Pillsbury, Tarrasch, Tschigorin, Maroczy, Janowski, and the other masters who were at Nuremberg will play, while another, Makowicz, will in all probability be among the leaders.

Then comes the great match for the championship of the world between Steinitz and Lasker. When these two experts met in 1873, Steinitz had been champion of the world for twenty-seven years. He was the Grand Champion, for, no other man had ever held the championship for so long a time, Lasker, who had made a phenomenal record in Europe, succeeded in wresting the

championship from the veteran, but the latter has never been satisfied with the result of the match, and claims that his defeat was due not so much to Lasker's superiority, as to the fact that he (Steinitz) was not in good health, and, therefore, did not play his best. Since then, these two have played in three tournaments, in which Lasker came out ahead of Steinitz, and defeated him in every personal encounter. The general opinion is that Lasker will win, although everybody knows that Steinitz is one of the greatest of masters. If Lasker should win, the Chess-world will expect a match between him and Pillsbury. The young American has made a most enviable record. Out of eight games played between him and Lasker, he won four and a half.

SIMULTANEOUS CHESS.

The following is one game (out of 24) contested at Hastings by Herr Marco. Black wins in fine style:—

GAME No. 593.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Herr Marco. 1—P to K 4 2—Kt to K B 3 3—B to Kt 5 4—B to R 4 5—Kt to B 3 6—B takes Kt 7—P to Q 4 8—Kt takes P 9—Castles 10—K Kt to K 2 11—Kt to Kt 3 12—P to B 4 13—P to K 5 14—K to R sq. 15—Q to B 3 16—Q to R 5 17—Kt takes Kt 18—P to B 5 19—Q to Kt 4 20—B to Kt 5 21—B to R 6 22—Kt to Kt 3 23—B to Q 2 24—Kt to Q sq. 25—P to Kt 3 26—P to B 3 27—Kt to K 3 28—Kt to R 5 29—Kt to B sq. 30—B to K sq. 31—Kt takes B 32—Q to R 4 33—K to Kt sq. Resigns.

BLACK. Mr. H. F. Cheshire. 1—P to K 4 2—Kt to Q B 3 3—P to Q R 3 4—Kt to B 3 5—P to Q 3 6—P takes B 7—P takes P 8—B to Q 2 9—B to K 2 10—Castles 11—B to K 3 12—P to Q 4 13—B to B 4 (ch.) 14—Kt to Kt 5 15—Kt takes R P 16—Kt takes R 17—P to B 3 18—B to B 2 19—P takes P 20—B to K 2 21—B to B 3 22—K to R sq. 23—R to Q Kt sq. 24—Q to K 2 25—P to K 5 26—R to Kt sq. 27—P to B 4 28—P to Q 5 29—P to K 6 30—P to Q 6 31—P takes Kt 32—R to Kt 4 33—Q R to Kt sq. Resigns.

Advancing the wrong pawn; he should have played P to B 5 first, which would have stopped Black's continuation by Kt to K 5; after which P to K 5 could have followed.

There is no answer to this move. Pretty and effective.

If 20—B to R 6, Q to B 3, 21—B to Kt 5, P to K R 4, and Black escapes triumphantly.

The advance is cleverly managed. Vigorous play.

THE CHESS-MASTERS.

The London Times publishes the following interesting table:—

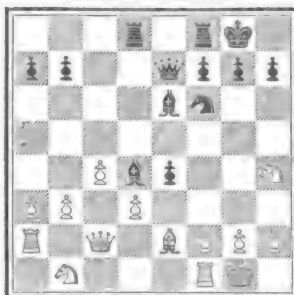
Albin, Adolf.—Born 1848, in Bucharest, aged 48.
Bardeleben, Curt von.—Born 1861, Germany, 35.
Bird, Henry E.—July 14, 1830, West of England, 66.
Blackburne, Joseph H.—December 10, 1842, Manchester, 54.
Burn, Amos.—Dec. 31, 1848, Hull, 48.
Engelisch, Berthold.—July 9, 1851, Austria, 45.
Gunsberg, Isidor.—Nov. 2, 1854, Buda-Pesth, 42.
Janowski, D.—Dec. 1868, Wolkowisk, Russia, 28.
Lasker, Emanuel.—Dec. 24, 1868, Prussia, 28.
Marco, Georg.—Nov. 29, 1863, Czernowitz, 33.
Maroczy, Geza.—March 3, 1870, Szegedin, 26.
Mason, James.—Nov. 19, 1849, New York, 47.
Mieses, Jacques.—Feb. 27, 1863, Leipzig, 33.
Pillsbury, Henry N.—Dec. 5, 1872, Somerville, Mass., 24.
Pollock, W. H. K.—Feb. 21, 1859, Cheltenham, 37.
Porges, Moritz.—March 22, 1858, Prague, 38.
Schallopp, Emil.—Aug. 1, 1843, Berlin, 53.
Schiffers, Emanuel.—May 4, 1850, St. Petersburg, 46.
Schlechter, Carl.—March 2, 1874, Vienna, 22.
Showalter, J. W.—Feb. 5, 1860, Kentucky, 36.
Steinitz, Wilhelm.—May 17, 1836, Prague, 60.
Tarrasch, Dr. Siegfert.—March 5, 1862, Breslau, 34.

Teichmann, R.—Dec. 24, 1868, Attenburg, Germany, 28.
Tschigorin, Michael I.—Oct. 31, 1850, St. Petersburg, 46.
Tinsley, Samuel.—Jan. 13, 1847, in Hertfordshire, 49.
Vergani, Beniamino.—In Italy, aged (?) 40.
Walbrodt, Carl A.—Nov. 28, 1871, Amsterdam, 25.
Winawer, Simon.—March 6, 1838, Warsaw, 58.

The following is quoted by Gunsberg as an example of "Hard luck" in Chess.

GAME No. 594.

BLACK.—BLACKBURNE.



WHITE.—PORGES.

Black has a won game, but he lost as follows:—

15—..... 15—P to Kt K 4
16—P takes P 16—P takes Kt
17—K to R sq. 17—K to R sq.
18—Kt to B 3 18—R to Kt K sq.

Black ought to have simplified matters by taking the knight.

A grievous error; Black could have maintained his advantage and attack by P to R 6.

21—Q to K 4! 21—R takes P
A desperate plunge; but he had to lose a piece any way.
22—P takes R 22—B takes P
23—Q takes B (ch.) 23—P to B 3
24—B to Kt 4! 24—B to B 3
25—P to B 3 25—Resigns.

GAME No. 595.

A pretty Evans Gambit.

WHITE. M. Michael. 1—P to K 4 2—Kt to K B 3 3—B to B 4 4—P to Q Kt 4 5—P to B 3 6—Castles 7—P to Q 4 8—Kt takes K P (a) 9—P takes Kt 10—Q to Q 5 11—Kt takes B 12—Q to B 3 (c) 13—Q to Kt 3 14—B to K Kt 5 15—B to B 6 (f) 16—P takes P 17—K R to K sq. (h) 18—Q to R 4 19—R to K 5 20—Q R to K sq. 21—R to K R 5 22—B to Q 3 23—K to R sq. 24—P to B 4

BLACK. A. Thomas. 1—P to K 4 2—Kt to Q B 3 3—B to B 4 4—B takes Kt P 5—B to R 4 6—Kt to B 3 7—Castles 8—Kt takes Kt (b) 9—Kt takes P 10—B takes P 11—Kt takes Kt 12—Kt to R 5 (d) 13—K to R sq. (e) 14—Q to K sq. 15—P takes B (g) 16—R to K Kt sq. 17—Q to B sq. 18—Kt to B 4 19—R to Kt 3 20—Kt to K 3 21—Q to Kt sq. 22—R takes P ch. 23—Kt to Kt 4 (k) 24—Resigns (l)

NOTES.

(a) "Richardson's" attack.
(b) 8—..... Kt takes K P is the correct reply. The text move is simply playing White's game.
(c) Better than 12—Q to R 5, 13—Kt to K 5, 14—B to Kt 3, P to Q 4!
(d) The B Kt by this move gets right out of play. An alternative continuation, and one worthy of notice, is 12—..... P to Q 4, 13—P takes P, e.p., Q to B 3, 14—Q takes Q, P takes Q, 15—P takes B, B to K 3, etc.
(e) This seems best; 13—..... P to Kt 3 would lose the exchange or worse e.g., 14—B to R 6, 15—B to Kt 5 followed by 16—Q to R 4, or 15—Q to Kt 3 would give a winning attack for White.
(f) A daring sacrifice.
(g) 12—R to Kt sq. is much better; if then 16—K R to K sq., Q to B sq., and Black may take the B with safety.
(h) A very fine move. If 17—..... R takes Q, 18—R takes Q ch., R to Kt sq., 19—Q R to K sq., P to R 3, 20—B to Q 3, and White mates in two.
(i) 12—..... R to Kt 3 seems best here; if then 14—P to B 4, P to Q 3, 15—P to B 5, R to Kt 5, 16—R takes P ch., Q takes R, 17—Q takes R, Kt to B sq., if then 18—R to K 5, Q to R 3, and if 19—Q to Kt sq., with plenty of light left.
(j) There is nothing to be done. White has played excellently. Black's unmoved Q P has been his stumbling block all through.

GAME No. 596.

One of Blackburne's simultaneous games.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Mr. Blackburne. 1—P to K 4 2—Kt to K B 3

BLACK. Amateur. 1—P to K 4 2—Kt to Q B 3

3—B to B 4 3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4 4—B takes P
5—P to B 3 5—B to R 4
6—Castles 6—Kt to B 3
7—P to Q 4 7—P takes P
8—B to R 3 8—P to Q 3
9—P to K 5 9—Kt to K 5
10—R to K sq. 10—P to Q 4
11—B to Kt 5 11—Kt takes Q B P
12—Kt takes Kt 12—B takes Kt
13—Kt takes P 13—B takes Kt
14—Q takes B 14—B to K 3
15—Q R to B sq. 15—Q to Q 2
16—Q to Q R 4 16—K to Q sq.
17—R takes Kt 17—K to Q B sq.
18—K R to Q B sq. 18—K to Kt sq.
19—Q to B 6 19—Q to B sq.
20—Q to Kt 5 20—B to Q 2
21—R takes P 21—B takes Q
22—R takes P ch. 22—Q takes R
23—B to Q 6 ch. 23—Q to B 2
24—B takes Q mate.

KORE CHESS CLUB.

At a small informal meeting in the Gymnasium, says the *Chronicle*, it was decided to form a Chess Club, as a branch of the K. R. & A. C., with Mr. Bardens as president and Mr. E. T. Bethell as Secretary. Rules for the Club were discussed, and various suggestions for the programme of events were referred to for the Secretary to put into shape for the next meeting. It was decided to meet every Monday, beginning 2nd November, at 5 p.m., leaving players the option of arranging their games before or after dinner. The first event will be a general tournament for the purpose of "breaking the ice" and providing a basis on which evenly-matched teams can be made up. It is proposed to arrange, if possible—

(1) A general tournament, to run through the whole season, each member playing each other member the best of three games, or perhaps two games only, and counting the aggregate.

(2) A weekly problem-solving competition for points.

(3) A small charge, say 5 *sen*, on every game played in the Club, match or otherwise, the money to be paid by the loser towards a chess trophy; and a book to be kept for recording the name of every player and every game he wins, match or otherwise, the one who wins most in the season to get the trophy. The book to be always open for reference.

(4) Matches, say one for the second Monday in each month such as—

Concession *versus* Hill.
International.
Professions.
Married *v.* Single.
Over 30 *v.* Under 30.
Interport—Japan ports at any rate.
Handicap.
Simultaneous play.

It is of course impossible to fix the programme definitely until it is known who is coming in, and it is hoped that on Monday next the meeting will be able to settle everything, vote on the various proposals, and get started on the tournament.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America per O. & O. Co. Thursday, Nov. 5th.
From Europe, via Hongkong per M. M. Co. Wednesday, Nov. 4th.
From Hongkong per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Nov. 3rd.
From Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Nov. 2nd.
From Hongkong per C. P. R. Co. Thursday, Nov. 5th.
From America per P. M. Co. Saturday, Nov. 14th.
From Canada, &c. per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Nov. 13rd.

* *Belgia* left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 17th.
† *Ernest Simon* (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 24th.
‡ *City of Peking* left Hongkong on October 27th. § *Assens* left Nagasaki on October 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C. per N. P. Co. Sunday, Nov. 1st.
For Europe, via Shanghai per M. M. Co. Sunday, Nov. 1st.
For America per P. M. Co. Friday, Nov. 6th.
For Canada, &c. per C. P. R. Co. Friday, Nov. 6th.
For Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Nov. 8th.
For America per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Nov. 15th.
For Hongkong per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Nov. 13rd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 24th October.—San Francisco 8th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Hupah, British steamer, 1,847, T. Quail, 24th October.—Vancouver, B.C., 18th September, and Astoria, Oregon 28th, Flour.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 24th October.—Victoria, B.C., via Honolulu, 29th September, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 24th October.—Yokkaichi 23rd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Tibbals, 25th October.—Otaru via ports, 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Linnet (5), British gunboat, Captain B. C. Sparks, 25th October.—Hakodate 23rd October.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 26th October.—Kobe 25th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese cruiser, Captain Furukawa, 26th October.—Yokosuka 26th October.

Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 26th October.—Yokkaichi 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 26th October.—Vancouver, B.C., 14th October, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Toyoi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 27th October.—Otaru via ports, 24th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, C. Young, 28th October.—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 28th October.—Yokkaichi 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 28th October.—Kobe 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, Tibbals, 28th October.—Kobe 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, E. Porter, 29th October.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 7th October, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, Samuelsen, 29th October.—Hongkong 22nd October, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, J. Watson, 29th October.—Hongkong, via Kobe 28th October, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Firebrand (4), British gunboat, Lieut.-Commander G. Tufnell, 29th October.—Kobe 27th October.

Teinkai, British steamer, 3,016, G. W. Long, 29th October.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 28th October, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Bennorlich, British steamer, 2,164, John H. Clark, 29th October.—Hongkong 22nd October, Sugar.—Corney & Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 30th October.—Hongkong via ports, 18th October, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 30th October.—Shanghai via ports, 24th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 30th October.—Bonin Islands 27th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 24th October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, A. Nishimura, 24th October.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 25th October.—Hongkong via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hupeh, British steamer, 1,847, T. Quail, 25th October.—Hongkong via ports, Flour.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Fintu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,577, 25th October.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 25th October.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 25th October.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 25th October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 25th October.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Ohino, 26th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Tibbals, 26th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radley, British steamer, 1,984, Tullock, 26th October.—Mojji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 27th October.—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 27th October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 27th October.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Shka.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Ekstrand, 27th October.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. L. Haddock, 27th October.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 27th October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cowrie, British steamer, 3,155, S. Parsons, 27th October.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 28th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceres, German steamer, 2,663, Behrens, 28th October.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Hutton Hall, British ship, 1,989, Morris Rowlands, 29th October.—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—Captain.

Toyoi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 29th October.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 29th October.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, E. Porter, 30th October.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Alacrity (4), British despatch-sloop, Commander De Lisle, 31st October.—Shanghai.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, Samuelsen, 31st October.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Osborne, British steamer, 2,033, P. Rettie, 31st October.—Singapore via Moji, Ballast.—Captain.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Leopold Abenheim, Mr. Rudolph Abenheim, Mr. J. Abe, Mr. L. L. Bailey, Mrs. E. J. Bell, Mr. H. R. Bostwick, Mr. G. B. Brajevich, Captain Wm. Crichton, Mr. W. T. Carley, Mr. Mr. Robt. Christie, Mr. H. Colbrow, Mr. A. E. Cottier, Mrs. C. Cottier, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Capen, Mr. W. B. Curtis, Mr. W. W. Curtis, Miss E. P. Chamberlain, Lieut. C. W. C. Deering, Miss Agnes Erwin, Commander O. W. Farnholt, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Fernald, Mr. W. J. Gorham, Mr. Eric Gumprecht, Miss Elsie Gregg, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hale, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Newhall, Miss T. E. Phelps and maid, Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Salisbury, Mr. J. Sakamoto, Dr. Geo. L. Tait, General Wm. D. Whipple, U.S.N., Mr. Geo. W. Weeks, Mr. W. H. Wiley, and Miss L. Wirrick in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. Rudolph Daschneid and Mr. J. W. Synder in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Jay May Tong and daughter in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Victoria, B.C., via Honolulu:—Mr. and Miss Glahn, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Van Phon Lee in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Clark in second class, and 46 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong:—Mrs. and Miss Parsons and Mr. Brightwell in cabin; 26 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. Hector Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Armitage, Lieut. Col. Cotton Jodrell, M.P., Mrs. Cotton Jodrell and maid, Misses Cotton Jodrell (2), Mr. J. M. Ringen, Mr. Robt. Patterson, Mr. Lewis Guanl, Rev. and Mrs. Rowland and 2 children, Miss Swartz, Mrs. A. Maddock, Mr. A. Maddock, Mr. and Mrs. H. Maddock, Miss Jennings White, Mrs. Jennings-Mills and maid, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Mr. James Troup, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Howen, Miss Hardwick, Mr. and Mrs. Sale and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Harrison, Mrs. and Miss Morgan, Mr. R. H. Percival, Mr. and Mrs. Vroom, Mr. C. H. Waters, Mr. C. F. Villiers Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Buck, Mr. and Mrs. H. Payne-Whitney and maid, Mr. W. Gibson, Mr. Jas. H. Hart, Mr. H. S. Safford, Rev. J. Huber, Mr. S. E. Whittall, Mr. A. W. H. Whittall, Mr. W. Peer Groves, Mrs. L. S. Abbey, Mr. J. Miyaki, Dr. and Mrs. Renout, Mr. G. Ishisaki, Mr. R. Layui, Mr. and Mrs. Price and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Spooner, Mr. W. G. Norris, Mr. M. White, and Mr. R. M. Galloway in cabin; 14 passengers in second class, and 415 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Daphne*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Boas, Mrs. Ohkisan, Mr. Tanzon, and Mr. Takasi in cabin; 12 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. J. J. Underwood, Miss Sutro, Mr. W. Retz, Mr. H. A. Poole, and Mr. H. G. Waggott in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Howitz, Mr. and Mrs. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Baggandge, Mr. Chen, Mr. A. Spitzel, Mrs. A. Spitzel, Mr. J. Vronis, Mr. F. Truscott, General Okamura and family, Messrs. E. O. Kenyon, G. C. Murray, A. Buddi, Jos. W. Sprague, and R. Yamashima in cabin; Mr. K. Otsuka, Mr. S. Miura, and Mrs. S. Yahagi in second class, and 39 Japanese and 3 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong, via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai:—Mrs. Lida S. Ashmore, Mr. Wm. Ashmore, Jun., Miss Ellak Church, Mr. Kwei Ping Hong, Mr. Tung Ping Foo, Mr. and Mrs. J. Mannish, Mr. J. W. Bolles, Dr. Tait, Mr. E. V. Thorn, Mr. S. Komor, Baron G. de Gunsburg, Mr. Geo. B. Brajevich, Captain Wilson Walker, Mr. Hunter Sharp, Mr. J. T. Smith and daughter, Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. John Will, Col. C. de Wogack, Captain Wm. Crichton, Mrs. E. J. Bell, and Mr. W. Tallers in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. and Miss Harris, Miss Wells, Mrs. J. C. Hall, Misses Hall (3), and child, Mrs. E. Osborne, Mrs. G. E. Cox, Miss Biliho, Miss Wauchope, Messrs. W. H. Drummond, C. Georg, J. S. Hagari, R. T. Coulter, C. H. Balfour, R. J. Davis, H. G. Waggott, Jas. Budge, Dr. W. J. Willes, Mrs. R. S. Gardiner, Mr. R. S. Gardiner, Miss R. S. Gardiner, Mr. S. W. Cummings, Mrs. S. W. Cummings, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Graham, Messrs. H. Anley, Chuy Chu, Cheng Cheng Ying, Mrs. T. W. Cheng and son, Mr. H. H. Horsey, Mrs. P. T. Pollock, Messrs. Lo Chuk Tung, Lam Pak Tsun, F. G. Sale, Capt. Fillet, Mr. H. S. B. Brindley, Mrs. E. J. Dorn, Mrs. and Miss Gorham, Mr. C. H. Fearon, Lieut. von Diedrichs, Mrs. Rothven, Mrs. Goddard, Captain Lei, Mr. E. Junker, Mr. R. A. de Villard, and Dr. Paul Ritter in cabin; Messrs. Julio Toplong, K. Katsuyama, S. Sugiyama, Lei, and Mrs. Lei in second class, and Mr. Ah Loy, Mrs. Lo and 2 children, and Mr. Chang Lee and son in third class.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Yoshitaka and 2 children, Captain E. S. Barstow, and Mr. B. Kusumoto in cabin; Messrs. A. Herd, H. Williams, and Y. Goto in second class. For Kagoshima:—Mrs. Tojio and 2 children, and Mrs. Tojio in cabin. For Shimonoseki:—Mr. T. Inagaki in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. C. F. Seaman and Mr. S. W. Ugenin in cabin; Mr. J. Murao and Mr. H. Baufoed in second class, and 52 passengers in steerage in all.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 8th October; experienced strong westerly to north-west winds till the 22nd, thence to port northerly winds and fine weather. Time, 15 days, 4 hours, 33 min.

The British steamer *Empress of India*, Captain O. P. Marshall, reports:—Left Vancouver, B.C., on October 14th, had strong, head winds and very rough weather in general to port. Delay caused one on account of leaving day late.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 24th October at 12.10 p.m.; had light, increasing to moderate, south-east winds and strong south-easterly swell up to approaching Goto Island; thence to arrival at Nagasaki, the 26th, at 2 a.m., had moderate north-west winds and slightly unsettled weather, with occasional showers. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m.; had light to moderate north-west and north-east winds and clear weather up to arrival at Shimonoseki, the 27th, at 5.30 a.m. Left Shimonoseki at 11.20 a.m.; had moderate north-east breeze and clear weather up to arrival at Kobe, the 28th, at 7.15 a.m. Left Kobe the 29th at noon; had moderate southerly breeze, moderating to light variable airs, clear weather and slightly confused sea when passing Oshima at 8 p.m.; thence to Rock Island, which was passed the 30th at 9.30 a.m., had moderate north-winds, fine, clear weather and comparatively smooth water; thence to arrival at Yokohama at 3.15 p.m., had moderate to light north-easterly winds and continued fine, clear weather. Saw nothing of importance during the voyage.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For AUSTRALIA and New Zealand (from Kobe), Quick Despatch, the "MENMUIR."—Browne & Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., November 1st, at Daylight, the "OLYMPIA."—Doddwell, Carill & Co.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, November 1st, at 9 a.m., the "MELBOURNE."—Messageries Maritimes Co.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimonoeki, and Nagasaki, November 3rd, at Noon, the "YOKOHAMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For MELBOURNE, via Kobe, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, and Sydney, November 4th, at Noon, the "OMI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, November 6th, the "CITY OF PEKING."—P. M. S. S. Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., November 6th, the "EMPEROR OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For BOMBAY, via Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, November 7th, the "MIKIKU MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, November 8th, at Daylight, the "ANCONA."—P. & O. S. N. Co.

For VLADIVOSTOCK, via Fusan and Gensan (from Nagasaki), November 9th, the "NAGATO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, November 15th, the "DORIC."—O. & O. S. S. Co.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Honolulu, November 17th, at Noon, the "SAKURA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, November 23rd, the "EMPEROR OF JAPAN."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For BAKAN, Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo, Penang, Port Said, Marseilles, London, and Antwerp, November 28th, at Noon, the "YAMAGUCHI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Tone still dull. Several reasons are advanced for this state of things. Financial stringency, Race holidays, and all sorts of excuses. Importers generally are not very happy and rather envy their brethren in the Export branch. Probably things will soon settle down to a more satisfactory course.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 33 inches	\$2.40 to 2.80
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 33 inches	2.75 to 3.20
F. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 33 inches	1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 33 inches	1.95 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 33 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italian and Sattins Black, 32 inches	0.10 to 0.22

	PER YARD.
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 42 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 32 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24/25 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24/25 yds, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Unions, 51 1/2 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$37.00 to 38.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	40.00 to 41.50
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00 to 46.00
Nos. 34, Doubles	43.00 to 44.50
Nos. 42, Doubles	50.00 to 52.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	66.00 to 69.00
Nos. 2/80, Plain	84.00 to 87.00
Nos. 2/100, Plain	105.00 to 108.00
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	77.00 to 82.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	93.00 to 98.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00 to 127.00

METALS.

No change of any consequence. Money tight and business unsettled.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Pin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

KIROSHNIK.

Good healthy market although sales are not so very large at the moment.

American	\$2.25 to 2.27 1/2
Russian	2.27 to 2.28
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair business at late rates. White—Unchanged and steady.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	\$4.70 to 4.75
Brown Manila	5.50 to 5.60
Brown Daitong	3.95 to 4.00
White Canton	3.85 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	7.10 to 7.15
White Refined	7.00 to 9.05

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Another speculative movement, chiefly in full size Filatures and Re-reels for America. It is thought by some operators that after the Presidential Election next week there will be a strong revival of commerce generally in the States. It is also admitted that best grades of Filatures and Re-reels will be in small supply here this season. Consequently "buyers for the rise" are *en evidence*.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$880
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	870
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	820
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/18 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	770
Kakedas—No. 1	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 14	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

Quiet with fairly steady market at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$105 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Good	90 to 100
Noshi—Oshu, Best	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Good	95 to 100
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	70 to 75
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	60 to 65
Noshi—Bushi, Best	130 to 140
Noshi—Bushi, Good	115 to 125
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 62 1/2
Kibiso—Filature, Best	85 to 90
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85 1/2
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	35 to 40
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	30 to 32 1/2

TEA.

Active, and stocks much reduced. Prices tending upwards for desirable lots.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$27 to \$38
Choice	25 to 26
Finest	23 to 24
Fine	21 to 22
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange closes steady despite a slight fall in silver.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/8
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/1 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.66
— Private 4 months' sight	2.71
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/2 1/2 p.
— Private 10 days' sight	1/2 1/2 p.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	7 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	7 1/2
On India—Bank sight	173 1/2
— Private 30 days' sight	176
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51
— Private 4 months' sight	53
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14
— Private 4 months' sight	2.19
Rar Silver (London)	29 1/2 to 30 1/2



ITCHING SKIN DISEASES Instantly Relieved By Cuticura

A warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, and a single application of CUTICURA ointment, the great skin cure, followed by mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new blood purifier, will afford instant relief, permit rest and sleep, and point to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of the most distressing forms of Eczema, and every species of itching, burning, bleeding, scaly and crusted skin, scalp, and blood humors, when physicians and all other remedies fail.

Sold throughout the world. British depot: F. NEWBERRY & SONS, 1, King Edward-st., London, E. C. FORTNER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION, Sole Proprietors, Boston, U. S. A.

LAND AND SEA MAY LIE
BETWEEN YOU AND

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No matter where you live, we can deliver to you cheaper than you can buy anywhere else in the world: Clothing, Shoes, Dry Goods, Watches, Jewelry, Sewing Machines, Harness, Saddles, Hardware, Tools, Guns, Ammunition, Bicycles, Agricultural Implements, Vehicles of all kinds, Furniture, Books on every subject.

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Montgomery Ward & Co.

111 to 118 Michigan Ave. Chicago, U.S.A.

September 19th, 1896.

17.

STEAM ENGINEERING

(Stationary, Marine, Locomotive); Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Sanitary & Mining Engineering; Mechanical & Architectural Drawing and Designing; Architecture; and the English Branches. 26 Technical Courses. Over 10,000 Students. References in nearly every country in the world. Send for free Circular, stating subject you wish to study.—The International Correspondence Schools, Box "A," SCRANTON, PA., U.S.A.

September 12th, 1896.

17

"A CHARMING SCENT."

H.R.H. The Duchess of York.

ATKINSON'S WHITE ROSE.

"The Sweetest of Sweet Odours."
Delightfully and delicately fragrant.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

ATKINSON'S IS THE ONLY GENUINE.
Perfume, Toilet Powder, Soap, Tooth Powder, Sachets, & all other specialties with this "charming" odour, of all Dealers throughout the World & of the Manufacturers—
J. & E. ATKINSON, 24, Old Bond St., London.

May 4th, 1895.

THE GREATEST WONDERS OF MODERN TIME

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

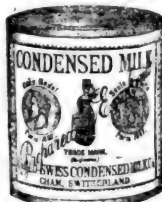
SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN. HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Uncertain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and arresting and subduing all inflammations. Mr. J. T. Gouge, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1894, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas—and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.
May 2nd, 1896.

MILKMAID BRAND CONDENSED MILK



The "Milkmaid" Brand is guaranteed to contain all the cream of the original milk. In the process of manufacture nothing but water is removed, nothing but the best refined sugar added.

Avoid low-priced brands from which the cream has been abstracted, and ask for the "Milkmaid" Brand, the best for all purposes.

June 14th, 1896.

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MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTOR.

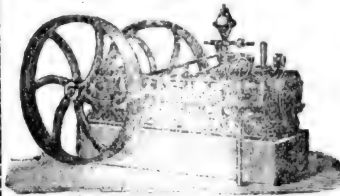
Speciality of Machines for Tannery, &c.

STEAM ENGINES

(Steady and Half-steady.)

LOCOMOBILES, GENERATORS WITH MOVING TUBES
(System Berendorf).

MACHINES FOR TRITURATING WOOD.



Complete Installations for Manufactories.

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The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Bilious Affections.



N.B.—ASK FOR DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

The Physician's Cure for Gout, Rheumatic Gout and Gravel; the safest and most gentle Medicine for Infants, Children, Delicate Females, and the Sickness of Pregnancy.

Sold Throughout the World.

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Capital: £ 300,000

Head Office: 15, Avenue Matignon, Paris

WORKS IN EUROPE:

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Railways and Tramways, Plant and Rolling Stock, Carriages and Waggon, Wheels, Wheels and Axles combined, Permanent Bridges for Railways, Permanent and portables (demonstrable) Bridges for Roads, Girders and metallic Frames, Steam Launches and Steamboats, Boilers and Steam Engines, Dredgers.

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Apply to Messrs. BOYES & Co., Yokohama, Agents for M. OPPENHEIMER and Co., Paris.

June, 1896.

37

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEAL, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1896.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 19.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 7TH, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 7TH, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BARON KAWADA, President of the Bank of Japan, is dead.

MAJOR MCKIVLEY has been elected President of the United States.

MARQUIS ITO is now in receipt of a pension of *yen* 2,250 from the State.

THE Chinese Consulate at Yokohama will be opened on the 10th inst.

CAPTAIN PEARNE, of the O. & O. steamship *Gaelic*, has died at Hongkong.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR held a Birthday review at the Aoyama Parade Ground on Tuesday.

THE Chinese Consulates at Kobe, and Nagasaki were opened on the 3rd inst.

THE Tenth Session of the Imperial Diet will be convoked about the 25th of December.

MR. H. J. SNOW has received the appointment of Manager of the Yokohama United Club.

A MANCHESTER firm has signed a contract to despatch one thousand cotton weaving looms to Japan.

MR. OSHINO and other promoters of Yamagata Ken are now starting the Uno Railway, sixty-five miles in length, to run from Sakata Okumi-ori,

Yamagata Ken to Akita City, Akita Ken. The Company has a capital of *yen* 2,800,000.

THE Yokohama Cricket Club beat an eleven from Her Majesty's ships by 28 runs on Tuesday.

THE submission of the Matabele Chiefs continues, and it is believed that the fighting is virtually over.

It is rumoured that **Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo**, will shortly be appointed a Minister from Japan to a foreign Court.

COLONEL LIEBERT and a party of German officers will sail shortly for China to organise the Chinese army.

THE Jury have returned an open verdict in the inquiry conducted by the British Consul into the death of **Mr. W. R. H. Carew**.

THE idea of establishing a Bank in Formosa backed by a capital of *yen* 5,000,000 prevails among capitalists.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank recently opened a Branch at Formosa with the consent of the Finance Minister.

THE cloth market at Ashikaga is now at a standstill; prices have reached a very low scale, and business is suspended.

AMATEUR theatricals were given at the Shōreikai, Tora-no-mon, Tokyo, last evening by a company of foreign ladies and gentlemen.

THE gold mines at Kufun and Kinso, in Formosa, have been handed over to Messrs. Fujita & Co. and Mr. Tanaka Chobei respectively.

TUESDAY being the Emperor's Birthday, was devoted to holiday-making in Yokohama, and the town was profusely decorated. The weather was perfect.

T.I.M. THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS will leave the Palace on the 11th inst, at 2 o'clock for the Akasaka Detached Palace to view the chrysanthemums.

ON Tuesday evening Count Okuma, the Foreign Minister, and Countess Okuma, gave a ball at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, to a large and distinguished company.

Two hundred emigrants to Hawaii from Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Fukuoka, and Kumamoto left this port on Saturday for Honolulu by the British steamer *Allmore*.

A VOLUNTEER Steam Fleet will be organized in Japan in the near future. Connected with this scheme is a Joint-stock Company backed by a capital of *yen* 10,000,000.

MAJOR-GENERAL SHIOYA, who was appointed Commandant at Wei-hai-wei in succession to Lieut. General Nishi, left Shimbashi Station on Tuesday at noon for his post.

THE British store-ship *Humber*, that collided with the quarantine steamer *Kumagawa Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, has paid \$25 to the Kanagawa Kencho as compensation.

A TELEGRAM from Nagasaki on the 30th ult. states that a conflagration broke out at Nishi Kakitau-ori, Nagasaki Ken, and about one hundred and twenty-two houses are said to have been burnt.

On the 3rd inst. at 11 o'clock, Count Matsukata, all the Ministers of State, all the Privy Councillors, members in the *Kinsei* and *Yakono-ma*, and Princes Tokugawa Iyesato and Konoye Atsumaro, Marshals Yamagata and Oyama, as

well as all the Foreign Representative, had audience with T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress in the Howo-no-ma, where refreshments were served.

COUNT INOUE and Baron Mori, with some of their followers, left Shimbashi Station on Tuesday morning for Yokohama, where they took the *Yamashiro Maru* and sailed for Yamaguchi.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Saitama Branch Hospital of the Red Cross Society is to be held at the Omiya Park on the 8th instant. H.I.H. Prince Komatsu is expected to be present.

THE Tokyo City Assembly having decided to urge the abolition of the Special City Regulations, as a first step a committee will call on Count Kabayama, Home Minister, to present a petition to that effect.

FIFTY female nurses who are to be employed in the hospitals at Tainan, Taichu, and Taipei, (Formosa) left Shimbashi Station on Thursday evening for Kobe, where they will take steamer for Formosa.

LORD DUFFERIN, speaking at a banquet in Belfast, stated that the international situation more than ever imposed on Great Britain the necessity of being in a state of perfect preparation to meet all emergencies.

It is said that **Marquis Saionji**, late Minister for Education, will leave Japan on or about the 29th inst. for a tour through Europe. He will visit England and other European countries, and probably return about August next year.

THE famous old pine tree at Karasaki, known as one of the eight principal features of Omi, was completely covered by water when Lake Biwa overflowed its banks, and it was feared that the tree would die. But it is now found that it has not suffered any ill effects.

THE Japanese men-of-war *Fuso* and *Chiyoda* left Sasebo on the 4th instant for Kobe; the *Yoshino* put into Yokosuka on the 5th, from Tsu; the *Banjo* left Kure for Shinagawa the same day; the *Takachio* left Nagasaki for Sasebo the same day.

MARQUISES ITO AND SAIONJI, President and Vice-President of the Japanese Code Investigation Committee, having been released from their posts at their own request, Count Matsukata, the Premier and Viscount Kiyoura, Minister for Justice, were appointed President and Vice-President respectively.

THE Import trade does not improve, in fact stagnation has arrived at a point where quotations for Textiles may be withdrawn. The stringency of the money market is responsible for this state of things, and some anxiety is felt by buyers, who are unable to come into the market, as well as sellers, who cannot find purchasers. In the Metal trade, news from the home side forces buyers into the market, and a fair amount of stock has been moved at unaltered quotations. There is a steady trade in Kerosene; prices are high and deliveries have been good. The value of Sugar has somewhat declined, and arrivals have exceeded sales. There has been a large business in Raw Silk for the United States, holders having been fairly current, but very little has been done for Europe. In Waste the business has also been good, at advancing rates for suitable fibre. The demand in the Tea trade has slackened, and the stock of leaf has a tendency to accumulate. Exchange has fallen a point.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The news of Mr. McKinley's successful election to the Presidency of the United States of America has been the only topic of common interest to the Tokyo papers during the week. They regard the event with satisfaction, tempered, however, by a certain measure of foreboding as to the tariff prospects for Japan. But the *Yiji* assures the public that no apprehension need be entertained. It bases the assurance on information obtained from persons thoroughly versed in American affairs. Protection, those persons say, has already reached such a point that any attempt to raise the tariff would certainly evoke formidable opposition from the side of the consumers, apart from the extreme improbability of such a measure being endorsed by Congress and the Senate.

The *Shogyo* warns the public not to be needlessly alarmed about the panic so persistently predicted by certain pessimists in Japan. Our contemporary sees no solid reasons for the outcry. The pessimists have no cause for their alarm other than the feverish excitement of the people to start one enterprise after another. But these enterprises can hardly expect to reach the point of being practically launched, in view of the recent tightening of the money market and the fall of stocks. A great part of the enterprises will disappear before even the first installment of the subscription has been called up, or even before a charter can be obtained from the Authorities. Companies now calling in subscriptions were established, in the main, prior to the war, and as these have a solid foundation, they can hardly be expected to cause any agitation in the economic world. The trifling financial complications that have occurred in certain localities were due either to an abuse of the credit system, or to the failure of speculators who had attempted to do banking business without capital. Those troubles will pass away without doing any perceptible injury to the public economy.

The *Kokumin* appeals to the nation on behalf of the Korean refugees in Japan. The treatment enjoyed at the hands of the Japanese by such prominent Koreans as Pak Yong-ho, Prince Whwa, and Li Chun-yong (grandson of the Prince Parent), was formerly of a most cordial description. But after the Ito Cabinet had blundered in its Korean policy and begun to incur the displeasure of the great Northern Power, a sudden change came over the attitude assumed towards the refugees, and in deference to Russia they were left to shift for themselves as best they could. Now that the duty of protecting them has been handed over by the Ito Cabinet to the Matsukata, the *Kokumin* advises the latter to take such measures as shall enable the Koreans to live as their birth and position entitle them to do. The Prince is staying in Japan by way of preliminary to undertaking a tour through the west, and the grandson of the Tai Wön-kun came here to inspect the state of national affairs. To extend appropriate assistance to these persons could not reasonably be twisted into a pretext for offence on the part of other countries. Funds may be publicly given to them by the Imperial Household or by the National Treasury. If certain considerations deter the Government from doing the same by Pak and other political refugees, then other means, as paying their expenses out of the secret service fund and so forth, may be devised. At any rate, it is the duty of the Matsukata Cabinet to rescue them from their embarrassments and enable them to pass their time contentedly in Japan.

The *Yiji* doubts whether the Government has succeeded in divesting itself of the old prejudices about taxation, and whether it really sees that the means of raising revenue are not limited to a land tax alone, as was the case in the pre-Restoration period. That doubt is engendered by observing that, while imposing taxes of almost every conceivable description, the rates seem to be determined in accordance with

the ruling interest on money, as was always the case when, during feudal times, extraordinary imposts had to be levied over and above the regular land tax. It advises the Government to abolish obnoxious and not very profitable sources of revenue like the census registration tax, income tax, and so forth, and to boldly increase the tax on *saké*, which, originally 2 yen per *koku*, was subsequently raised to 4 yen, and now to 7 yen. Nevertheless, the rate is still far below that imposed in any other civilized country. Supposing the original price of one *koku* to be 10 yen, a tax two, three, or even four times the present rate should be charged. The expenses needed for expanding the national armaments could thus be obtained. Even if the rate be doubled, a revenue amounting to 40 million yen at least could be derived from the tax on *saké* alone.

While admitting that to waive the privilege of free manufacture in China was unavoidable on Japan's part, the *Nichi Nichi* wonders at the great noise made by the pro-Government papers, which call this the opening success of the new Foreign Minister. They ignore altogether that Count Okuma has merely followed in the path marked out by his predecessor. The terms already conceded to Western Powers by China were the minimum that Japan ought to accept in exchange for giving up that privilege. Yet, not only do those papers extol their idol for having succeeded in "exacting" the minimum, but they are even shameless enough to count China's public engagement not to repeat a violation of the Treaty, as one of the conditions obtained in return for the renunciation of the manufacturing privilege. If a nation were content to abandon on such senseless grounds, privileges already obtained by it, then its treaties with other Powers would soon be reduced to mere nonentities. The action of the pro-Government journals in this instance reminds the *Nichi Nichi* of the old Japanese saying *hiki no hiki taoshi* (save me from my friends).

Fresh from the impression produced by the Birthday Ball given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs at the Imperial Hotel, the *Yomiuri* wishes to suggest to Count Okuma the advisability of effecting certain changes in this practice. The custom of giving a ball on the Emperor's Birthday was inaugurated, if the *Yomiuri* remembers aright, when Count Inouye held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and had its origin in the desire to transplant foreign social habits and customs into Japan. The effort has failed. Balls and the wearing of foreign garments by Japanese ladies have fallen into disfavor. The only faint reflection of the vogue that these usages seemed at one time likely to acquire, is observed at the Birthday Ball. Now when a Foreign Minister, in the capacity of the people's representative, gives an entertainment to foreign notables, it should certainly have a national character, and be typical of the customs of the country. From that point of view, the people surely can not find it agreeable to see their Foreign Minister entertain foreign guests at a ball that is altogether out of touch with the customs of the country. Even as a means of entertaining foreign guests, does it really conduce to their enjoyment to invite them to a ball in such a small building as the Imperial Hotel, and to have dancing among such a confused throng of people? If foreign guests have any taste, and the *Yomiuri* does not doubt that they have, a quiet and refined entertainment in Japanese style would be far more acceptable to them. Why not, on future occasions of the kind, give an entertainment by day instead of a soiree, and abandon the ball in favour of a garden party? Why not invite foreign and Japanese guests to a beautiful and artistic park, like that of the Hama Detached Palace? The *Yomiuri* disclaims any wish to discourage friendly intercourse between Japanese and foreigners. On the contrary, it is highly concerned by the fact that such intercourse is not so satisfactory or so intimate as it ought to be. Moreover, it thinks that, as a means of encouraging genuinely friendly intercourse, entertainments

given by the Foreign Minister are very important. None the less, in social relations with others, the Japanese should not depart much from their usual customs, or foreigners from theirs. A proper and gradual assimilation of the two must be aimed at. Any sudden change in a Foreign Minister's method of entertaining foreign guests may not be feasible in the West, where customs are so strongly rooted, but no such difficulty presents itself in a Far-Eastern State.

The *Tokyo Asahi* is glad to hear a rumour that the Government contemplates appointing a special Investigation Committee as a preliminary to the approaching enforcement of the Revised Treaties. The going of such Treaties into operation has no precedent in the history of the world. It signifies the commingling of two different races on terms of equality, and any error committed at the outset may exercise grave influence on the welfare and even the very existence of the country. No effort should be neglected to ensure the satisfactory conduct of affairs. The greatest attention must be paid in selecting members of the Investigation Committee. In order to impress the members and the public with the gravity of the business and with the great responsibility attaching to the discharge of such duties, the *Asahi* suggests that the members should be appointed by the Emperor.

The *Chuo* calls attention to the object lesson furnished by the unsatisfactory results of the bourses established in almost every local town of importance during the past few years. The number aggregates over 150 throughout Japan, but an inspection recently made by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce shows that at least two-thirds are struggling for existence, especially in the case of Gumma, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Nagano, Chiba, and Yamaguchi. Some bourses have already given notice of dissolution, and others are contemplating a similar step. Such a fate is sure to overtake enterprises started under the influence of temporary excitement.

The *Shogyo* urges that the Osaka money market should be purged of the abuses that have culminated in the present trouble. Our contemporary invites special attention to the necessity of abolishing the general clearing house, which it declares to be not only inadequate as a means of organizing and developing the system of credit, but also frequently liable to actually derange the smooth and regular course of the money market. For though avowedly an establishment for balancing cheques, it is really a place where currency is bought or sold by competitive processes. The result is that, in times of briskness or dullness alike, rates are pushed far beyond normal figures, and the facilities of circulation afforded by this mechanism often degenerate into tools for speculators, with the result that no small embarrassment is caused to genuine and upright bankers. Unless, therefore, an institution so liable to abuse be done away with, troubles such as that now disturbing the Osaka market, will be sure to occur again, whatever temporary palliatives be applied.

While maintaining that apart from any question of material interest, but simply for the sake of upholding the national prestige, Japan must oblige the Korean Government to acquiesce in her proposals for laying the Seoul-Fusan Railway, the *Yiji* wishes to draw the attention of the projectors to the importance of not sparing money in agitating for the attainment of their scheme. They must be well aware how, even in Japan, square and fair argument alone does not suffice to attain any object promptly, but that the un-sparing use of money conduces highly to that end. How much more must this be the case in Korea where money exercises a most potent charm?

The *Mainichi* writes ruthlessly about the alleged corruption in the Railway Bureau, or rather, dishonesty on the part of Mr. Haraguchi, Chief of the Construction Section of the Bureau.

Devoting an article of three columns to the subject, the *Mainichi* declares that the gambling propensities of that expert vitiate the atmosphere not only of the Section presided over by him, but also of the whole Bureau, and that projectors of railways are wont to take full advantage of his weakness when they set themselves to obtain charters from the Government. Our contemporary wishes it to be understood that the important relation in which the Construction Bureau stands towards the railway system of the country has made the public disclosure of these unpleasant facts a duty, and it concludes its article by urging the authorities to prosecute strict inquiries into the corrupt state of the Bureau.

The *Nippon* wishes to have three Government Offices abolished, namely, the Department of Colonization, the Legislative Bureau, and the Metropolitan Police. Whatever may be said about the future, the *Nippon* can not discover in past events any warrant for maintaining the Department of Colonization. There are only two bureaux in the Department, the Southern (Formosa) Bureau, and the Northern (Hokkaido) Bureau. But Formosa has a Governor-General specially appointed by the Emperor, and though his duties are chiefly administrative, he can, at the same time, easily discharge the function of superintending the colonization affairs of the island. Hence no inconvenience would be experienced if the Governor-General's Office were made directly subordinate to the Cabinet, or if a seat in the Cabinet were given to the Governor-General. As to Hokkaido, that district was managed satisfactorily by the Hokkaido Administration Board before the Department came into existence, and there is no necessity whatever to enlist the latter's services. Nor are emigration affairs so extensive as to be beyond the control of either the *Noshomusho* or the *Gaimusho*. The *Nippon* learns that the Department was created merely for the sake of offering a seat in the Cabinet to Viscount Takashima, and now that the Viscount holds, at the same time, the portfolio of War, that necessity is no longer sensible.

The Legislative Bureau was necessary before the inauguration of the Diet, its functions being to draft and unify projects of law proposed by various Departments of State. But there is no such necessity now that the Supreme Legislative Office, the Diet, exists. Any one maintaining to-day that the continued existence of the Bureau is essential, must be regarded as impugning to the capacity of the Diet. The continued existence of the Metropolitan Police Board is equally unessential, though it was undoubtedly needed during the agitated days before State affairs were settled on a sound basis. It is now simply productive of friction with the Tokyo Municipal Office in questions of jurisdiction. It should be abolished, and the local police system of Tokyo should be given a wider scope.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, LIMITED.

THE following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifth annual ordinary general meeting, to be held at the Municipal Hall, Kobe, on Tuesday, 10th inst.:—The Directors have now the pleasure to lay before the shareholders a statement of the company's accounts for the year ended 31st August, 1896. The total earnings in working account during that term amount to \$91,097.42, showing a profit of \$27,721.85 in that account. On reference to the statement of accounts it will be observed that the nett profit for the year amounts to \$25,787.51, and after making provision for depreciation, viz.:—On steam launch \$987.51, there remains a balance of \$24,800. An interim dividend of 5 per cent. on ordinary shares for the half-year ended 28th February, 1896, was paid on the 26th March last, absorbing \$3,700, leaving now available for distribution the sum of \$21,100. From this the directors

recommend the payment of a further dividend of 3 per cent. on ordinary shares, making 8 per cent. for the year. They also recommended the distribution of a surplus sum of \$8,880 in equal parts to ordinary and founders' shares, in accordance with Articles of Association, making the total return to shareholders for the year 14 dollars per share on ordinary shares, and \$55.50 per share on founders' shares, and that the balance of \$10,000 be carried to the credit of reserve account, bringing this account up to \$20,000. The company have recently completed the construction of the Annexe on Lot 87, Concession, a handsome three-storied building, containing bedrooms, reception rooms, bar and billiard room, and usual offices on ground floor, which was opened for the reception of visitors on 15th July last. The hotel premises are now lighted throughout by electricity supplied by the company's own plant. In order to meet the cost of the construction of the annexe and its furnishing, the Directors on the 1st July last issued debentures to the extent of \$75,000 redeemable on the 1st July, 1901, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly. The property of the company has been maintained in an efficient way and the buildings are in first class order and condition. Directors.—In accordance with Article 90 of the Articles of Association, Mr. A. H. Groom retires from office but offers himself for re-election. Auditors.—In accordance with Article 129 of the Articles of Messrs. H. J. Rothwell and C. Tulloch retire from office, but offer themselves for re-election.

LADIES' INTERNATIONAL READING ROOM.

THE Yokohama Circle of the King's Daughters, having elected their honorary members as a Board of Directors, have set on foot a much needed association that will be known as the Ladies' International Reading Room. In the prospectus that has just been issued we learn that "the Ladies International Reading Room is based on broad principles of social benefits from which narrowness, selfishness, and provincialism shall be excluded. No rigorous rules or disagreeable regulations shall hamper the freedom of the Reading Room." Some 180 subscribers have been obtained, at a fee of \$1 per annum, and the following ladies are office-holders for the year: President, Mrs. Theodore J. Morris; Directors, Mesdames Stuart Eldridge, F. Grösser, J. C. Hubbard, J. F. Lowder, H. Loomis, X. Salabelle, E. Scidmore, and N. F. Smith; hon. sec., Mrs. C. B. Siedman; hon. treas., Mrs. E. Wheeler. Magazines will be the form of literature provided; and the room is rented at the Public Hall.

"EN ROUTE."

MESSEURS. L. LEROY and H. Papillaud, two French journalists, have arrived in Japan on their trip round the world. These gentlemen left Paris about 22 months ago, without a franc in their pockets. At Nice they published a small paper, and soon after started *En Route*, a journal that they issue at the most important places at which they call. Principally in French, *En Route* also contains many columns in Italian, Turkish, Guzerati, Cambodian, and Chinese, for the ninth issue was published in Peking, the first foreign paper every printed in that venerable city. They have over 4,000 subscribers to *En Route*. Messrs. L. Leroy Papillaud will stay in Japan some three or four weeks and intend issuing a number of their journal here, which will be embellished by many wood-cuts and process blocks. Then they will travel home via America.

LUMBER FOR KOBE.

THE American schooner *Prosper*, Captain Johannesen, arrived in port last Saturday with a cargo of lumber. Upon receiving orders from her consignees she departed on Sunday for Kobe where she will be discharged.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN PEARNE.

MR. B. C. HOWARD, the Agent of the O. & O. Steamship Company at Yokohama, informs us that he has received intelligence from Hong-kong that Captain W. G. Pearne, of the O. & O. steamer *Garlic*, died at that port on the 4th

instant. Captain Pearne had been greatly upset by the accident that befel his vessel near Shimonoeki, and it is feared that this preyed on his mind. He was greatly liked in the Eastern ports.

A DIFFERENT VERSION.

It appears says the *N.-C. Daily News* that Mr. Troughton of H.M.S. *Grafton* was not drowned a boat accident after all. He was shooting on the bank of the lake at Sivouch, when he shot a duck, which fell into the lake. He took off his clothes and swam off to get the duck, and it is supposed that he got entangled in the weeds and was drowned. His body had not been recovered after two days' dragging for it.

GERMAN CRUISER IN COLLISION AT NAGASAKI.

JUST as the German cruiser *Prinzess Wilhelm* was leaving Nagasaki harbour on Monday, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, she collided with the steamship *Hyson* which was coming in at the time. The *Prinzess* got some of her boats damaged and some other minor gear carried away, but proceeded upon her way after a few hours' delay. As far as was known up to the time of departure of the *Empress of China*, no damage was done to the other vessel.

FIRE IN NAGASAKI.

ON the 29th ult, 123 houses were destroyed by fire at Hongo, Kaminoura, Nagasaki, and one man was injured. The fire originated in a bath house.

THE "SHIMPO-TO'S" PLATFORM.

The *Shimpo-to* will hold a general meeting of the Party on the 1st November, and according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the subjects to be adopted on that occasion for submission to the Diet next session, will be, revision of the Press Regulations, of the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations, and of the Publication Regulations; the abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations, of the Premonition Law, of the Imperial Ordinance relating to travel to Korea, and of the Special Municipal System; the reduction of Administrative Expenditures; the improvement of the Formosa government; the question of the Formosa garrison; the shortening of the time for the increase of the Navy; the abolition of the house tax in the Registration Tax System; the amendment of the Law of Election for the Lower House of the Diet; the amendment of City, Prefectural, and District Government System; the amendment of the Saké Brewing Tax; of the Tobacco Monopoly Law; of the Business Tax; of the Law for Encouraging Navigation and Shipbuilding; of the Mining Law; of the Industrial and Agricultural Bank Law; and the introduction of projects of law bearing on forestry, on the government of Hokkaido, irrigation, on the customs tariff, on State properties, and so forth. That, it must be confessed, is a pretty extensive platform. If the politicians that set themselves to the task of legislation in Japan can swallow even a small portion of what they bite off, they are very remarkable men.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

Baron Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Peking, is expected to return to Japan at the beginning of next month, and it is supposed that he will be sent to St. Petersburg in place of Baron Nishi, who is now in Tokyo. The *Tokyo Shimpō*, from which we take this forecast, adds that Mr. Komura, formerly Japanese Representative in Söul, and now Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, is likely to succeed Baron Hayashi in Peking, and that Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in London, will probably take Mr. Komura's place at the Foreign Office, unless Count Okuma decides to bring Mr. Hatoyama there, which is not improbable.

The *Nippon Yusen Kaisha* opened a branch office at Bombay on the 1st inst. and the former branch that was in charge of Messrs. Tata Co. has been abolished.

THE MEETING OF THE DIET.

According to the *Yorodeu Choho*, the rescript convening the Diet will be issued about the 11th instant, and the Houses will meet on the 22nd or 23rd of December. The official opening of the 9th session took place on the 25th of December, last year, but on this occasion the ceremony will be two or three days earlier, so as to allow time for passing, before the end of the year, a Bill postponing for one year longer the operation of the Civil Code and the remaining portion of the Commercial Code. These Codes, issued in 1890, were to have become operative from January 1st, 1892, but the Diet, in its 1st session (1891), decided that their operation should be deferred for five years, in order to allow time for thorough revision. Thus, according to that resolution, they ought to go into force from the 1st of next January. But although the greater parts of both Codes have been duly revised, and the revisions passed by the Diet, it is found impossible to complete the remaining portions in time to submit them to the House during the approaching session, and consequently the necessity arises for obtaining the Diet's consent to a further postponement. It is a little difficult to foresee the time at which the whole Codes will be in operation. Assuming that the Diet meets for its 11th session in November, 1897, that the remaining laws are submitted on the opening day, accompanied by a message of urgency, it is just within the bounds of possibility that they may be passed before the end of that year, and may go into force from ~~June 1st~~ 1898. They would then have been a full year in operation before the arrival of the time for abolishing Consular Jurisdiction. But that is a very close calculation. If, as is not improbable, the Diet does not take final action until the closing days of its 11th session, that is to say, February, 1898, then the Civil Code could scarcely be put into force before January 1st, 1899, and there would remain only half a year to test its working before the maturity of the Revised Treaties.

As for the character of the approaching session, an impression gains ground that things will pass quietly. The reasons for such a belief are that no serious question agitates the public mind at present, and the Liberals, having been from the outset favourable to Count Matsukata's entry into the Cabinet, will refrain from attacking his administration. It is true that they opposed Count Okuma's return to power, but Count Okuma being Minister of Foreign Affairs, can be assailed in that sphere only, and just now no pretext for assailing him presents itself. The fact is that the Cabinet could from the first count on the support of the *Shimpo-to*, and by following as closely as possible on the lines of the Ito policy, it hopes to disarm the hostility of the *Yifu-to*. Such is the forecast. But political horizons in all countries are subject to swift changes, and Japan is not exempt from the rule.

COUNT OKUMA AND THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

Count Okuma, in his capacity of President, addressed the Special Administrative Investigation Committee on the 30th ultimo. An epitome of his speech is given by the *Yiji Shimpo*. He said that the main object of administrative adjustment had hitherto been to effect financial economies. The Diet had evinced its desire in that sense in the first session by cutting down expenditures to the extent of six million yen, and the Government had subsequently made efforts in the same direction, but without any marked success. The present Ministry did not propose to make economy a prime aim, or to do anything calculated to impair the efficiency of the administrative machine. The result of the Committee's investigations might go to show a necessity for increased expenditure in some directions. If so, the required increase would be made without hesitation. On the other hand, wherever retrenchment was found to consist with efficiency, it would be resolutely undertaken. Above all, no effort should

be spared by officials of every degree, from the highest to the lowest, to establish friendly relations with the people, to treat them with all consideration, to pay full and speedy attention to their requests, and to avoid all perfunctoriness in the transaction of business. One of the abuses of the time was confusion and duplication of official functions and looseness of the chain of responsibility. The Committee should direct its investigations towards these points, so as to provide every possible facility for the transaction of business, and should also consider the feasibility of abolishing or combining bureaux.

BIRTHDAY BALL IN TOKYO.

The Birthday Ball given by Count and Countess Okuma on Tuesday in the Imperial Hotel was one of the most successful that has been seen in Tokyo. Outside, the large building was illuminated from roof to base with fairy lamps of various colours, producing an effect of great brilliancy and softness. Inside, the decoration was simple but very telling, wreaths of leaves and flowers being wound round the rafters and pillars of the dancing salon. The number of guests exceeded any previous record, and though the whole ground floor of the hotel was utilized for the occasion, it seemed at first scarcely possible that space could be cleared for dancing. Count and Countess Okuma, assisted by Mr. Mitsuhashi and Mr. Yoshida, received the guests, and it was noticeable that His Excellency supported the fatigue of the evening without apparent inconvenience, though the numerous social and official functions that had occupied the day were in themselves sufficient to tax his strength severely. At ten o'clock, their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Arisugawa, Prince and Princess Nashimoto, and Prince Kanin arrived. Dancing commenced almost immediately afterwards, and was kept up until one o'clock, when the Yokohama guests, of whom an exceptionally large number were present, left for Shimbashi, to catch a special train provided for their convenience. Supper was served in five rooms, but so numerous were the guests that a division into three relays became necessary. We need scarcely add that the Japanese, ladies and gentlemen alike, took almost no part in the dancing. That particular phase of Occidental civilization, with all its interesting concomitants, has completely failed to take root in Japan.

THE SAWA FIRM'S DIFFICULTIES.

If information published by the *Chuo* about the Sawa Firm's difficulties be authentic, there would seem to be scarcely any hope of discovering a satisfactory solution. The proprietor of the Firm is reported by our contemporary to have already left Japan. Abandoning the management of the Firm to his farther, he started for America by the *Kinshiu Maru*, that cleared from Yokohama for Portland on the 15th Oct. Before he set out, one of his legal advisers recommended him not to remain in the United States of America, inasmuch as an extradition Treaty exists between that country and Japan, but to proceed at once to Italy. The total amount of the Firm's liabilities, reported at first to be from 300,000 to 400,000 yen, is growing apace as investigations proceed, and according to inquiries carried up to the 27th Oct., the sum is now estimated at more than a million yen. The liabilities are believed to consist chiefly of cheques that the proprietor of the Firm was obliged to issue for the purpose of carrying the accounts of the Nippon Weaving Company of Kiryu, with which the Firm was and still is closely connected. Mr. Mayeda Masana, who is on intimate terms with the proprietor of the Firm, was asked to exert himself on its behalf. Accordingly, he represented to the Premier the critical condition of the Firm and the wide disasters that its ruin would produce in the chief weaving districts of Kwanto. He finally succeeded in obtaining from Count Matsukata a promise that steps would be taken to

induce the Nippon Ginko to accommodate the Firm to the extent of 150,000 yen. But Mr. Mayeda's efforts and the Premier's consideration are apparently destined to prove abortive, owing to dissensions between the Kiryu Company and the Sawa Firm. The sum of 150,000 yen furnished by the Bank of Japan is to be applied to meet the most pressing needs of the Company, but a section of the latter's Directors hold that such an amount cannot effect more than a temporary adjustment of the Company's accounts, and therefore, when the shareholders, suspicious of the real condition of the Company's business, begin to scrutinize its affairs closely, it is conceivable that the Directors may even be prosecuted on a charge of wilfully concealing the true state of affairs. Rather than incur such a risk, the Directors should boldly present an exact statement of their proceedings and place themselves at the mercy of the shareholders. The real and the nominal shareholders are equally indignant, the former because the Directors raised money by an improper use of the power entrusted to them; and the latter, because their names were unwarrantably employed. Quite a number of shares were booked in the Company's list in the names of clerks and shop-boys employed by the Directors, though the employees themselves were originally quite ignorant of the fact. The Directors were induced to take that step with a view to raising money by hypotheccating the shares. But the shares having fallen considerably since the publication of the embarrassment in which the Company is placed, creditors who had advanced money on the shares served notices on the nominal holders, to the latter's intense amazement, the purport of the notices being that the deficit caused by the fall of the shares must be made good as quickly as possible. Not until then did the shop-men become acquainted with the use that had been made of their names. They are said to be so incensed against their employers that they contemplate taking legal action against them on a charge of uttering forged documents. To intensify the complication, Mr. Sawa Kichitaro, father and legal representative of the proprietor of the Firm, refuses to have anything to say as to the affairs of the Company. Under such circumstances, it must prove extremely difficult to reach any satisfactory settlement of the affairs of the Firm and the Company.

PEST IN FORMOSA.

From the appearance of the pest in Taipei on the 28th ult. up to the 1st instant, some 48 cases were reported, four-fifths of the patients being Japanese. Of that number, 15 succumbed to the fell disease. It is said that Kelung and Tamsui are still free from the contagion. At the instance of the Central Sanitary Association, ships coming from Formosa are to be quarantined from the 5th inst. at Moji, Shimonoseki, Nagasaki, Wada-misaki (Kobe), Shimonoseki, and Yokohama. When the new Governor-General of Formosa had proceeded as far as Kobe on his way to the island, a telegram reached him from the Minister of Colonization informing him of the outbreak of the plague, and advising him to postpone his departure. The Governor-General thanked the Minister for his advice but declined to accept it, nor could his mother and wife be persuaded to remain in Japan: they started from Kobe with him on the 18th ultimo. The epidemic has carried away Capt. Arai Sei, a retired officer, who had been staying in Formosa for some time. He was exceptionally well versed in Chinese affairs, and had played a conspicuous part, directly or indirectly, in connexion with the Japan-China War. Several tours had been made by him through China, where he possessed many friends of great influence. It was he that established a commercial school as well as a bazaar in Shanghai, his idea being to educate Japanese students for business purposes in China. The school failed, but it supplied interpreters to the Japanese troops during the war.

THE NEW TREATY BETWEEN
CHINA AND JAPAN.

THE new Treaty between China and Japan secures to the latter Power all the privileges enjoyed by the most favoured Western nation having treaty relations with China. The Treaty is more complete than any of those already existing, inasmuch as it embodies various provisions which, in the case of other countries appear, not in their original treaties with China, but in subsequent conventions. This remark applies to trading passports, and, above all, to the much-vexed question of *likin*. After endless complaints from foreign merchants and long negotiations with the Government in Peking, arrangements were ultimately concluded guaranteeing exports and imports against domestic taxation greater than one-half of the Customs duties. In other words, it was agreed that an article of foreign produce or manufacture might be carried from its port of arrival to any market in the interior of China on payment of a tax equal to one-half the duty levied on it by the Customs; and that an article of Chinese produce and manufacture purchased in the interior of China might be carried to a place of export on payment of one-half the duty leviable on it when leaving China. These provisions as to "commutation taxes" appear in the body of the new Treaty. It is also worthy of note that the Japanese negotiators have been careful to provide against all obscurity as to the duration of the Treaty. The vagueness that disfigured Japan's treaties with Foreign Powers in this respect was responsible for a situation that all must be anxious to avoid in future. The new Treaty is to run for ten years, certain, at the end of which time either of the High-Contracting Parties has the right to demand a revision; but if no such demand be made, nor revision be effected, within six months from the termination of the ten-year period, then the Treaty and Tariffs are to remain in force without alteration for ten years longer. The most note-worthy changes, however, are embodied in the 11th Article. Hitherto, the mercantile privileges secured to foreigners under treaties with China or Japan have been personal, not national. Thus, articles imported or exported by the subjects or citizens of such and such Powers were to receive such and such treatment, the articles being distinguished by the nationality of their exporters and importers, not by the country from or to which they were carried. The new Treaty, however, provides distinctly that "the Tariffs and Tariff Rules shall be applicable to all articles upon importation into China by Japanese subjects *or from Japan*, or upon exportation from China by Japanese subjects *or to Japan*." The words here italicized indicate the new departure. Another innovation is that freedom of im-

portation and exportation is greatly extended, inasmuch as the Treaty provides that all articles not expressly limited or prohibited by the Tariffs and Tariff Rules may be freely imported into and exported from China. As an example of the working of this provision the case of machinery may be instanced. The fact that machines and machinery were omitted in former treaties furnished to the Chinese a pretext for refusing to allow their import. All limitations of that character are now finally precluded. It is further to be noted that the tariff guaranteed to Japan by this Treaty is the Tariff now in force between China and Western Powers. Thus no change can be made in that Tariff unless Japan is a consenting party. On the other hand, Japan recovers complete tariff autonomy *vis-à-vis* China. She also recovers judicial autonomy. In those important respects the Treaty is not reciprocal. As for additional and generally enjoyable privileges secured by the Treaty, they seem to be, first, the non-exclusive character of the schedule of importable and exportable articles, as noted above; secondly, a greatly improved system of Customs drawbacks; and, thirdly, provision for the establishment of bonded warehouses. The drafting of the Treaty is incomparably superior to that of any of its predecessors, and is evidently the work of men familiar with all the difficulties and misunderstandings due to the inexperience or ignorance of previous negotiators.

Not the least important feature of the Treaty is the omission of any reference to the manufacturing privilege secured by the Shimonoseki negotiators. Japan has, in fact, waived that privilege so far as concerns China's right to tax articles manufactured by Japanese subjects within her territory. We have already commented on this subject, and need not again refer to its significance and probable consequences.

THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS"
ON "TOO LATE."

THE Hongkong *Daily Press* has taken pains to convict us of assuming a false position, because, in an article published some time ago, we drew an amused comparison between, first the lurid colours used by certain journalistic artists to paint the picture of approaching submission to Japanese criminal jurisdiction, and, secondly, the extremely limited practical import that the question really has for the foreign community as a whole. We are not a little surprised to find that a temperate and usually discriminating journal like our Hongkong contemporary can be betrayed into such a strange perversion of our obvious meaning. Its criticism of our article conveys the impression that the very small intrusion of penal laws into the life of the average citizen was alleged by us as justifying indifference on his part to their character, and as furnishing a sufficient argument

against the reluctance of the foreign residents to pass under Japanese jurisdiction. Indeed, the *Daily Press*, with all semblance of gravity, proceeds to apply to China's case its own erroneous interpretation of our contention, and asks whether extraterritoriality might safely be abolished in China on the strength of the argument that "police tribunals, jails, and forced labour have no place in the life of a respectable individual." Even assuming that our language had been so curiously clumsy and involved as to warrant our contemporary's flagrant mistranslation of it, surely the *Daily Press* might have reflected that no moderately sane person could be silly enough to assert the proposition thus attributed to us. But, in truth, our language was not obscure at all. We wrote:—"It will not be supposed, of course, that in pointing out the absence of any appreciable connection between criminal procedure and the lives of ordinarily respectable folks, we under-rate the importance of good penal laws and their efficient administration. Were we not persuaded that Japanese criminal codes and Japanese courts have long ceased to offer just ground for complaint, we should certainly oppose the abolition of Consular jurisdiction." In the face of this most explicit provision against misconstruction, why has the *Daily Press* attributed to us the very view that we disclaimed, and why does it descend to mere persiflage by asking a senseless question about the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction in China? A stranger misunderstanding could scarcely be conceived. Our article set out by quoting a wild prediction made by a Kobe journal that the foreign residents, by their apathy, had "sown the wind and were about to reap the whirlwind." "What is this whirlwind," we asked, "that is to play such havoc in our peaceful existences?" And then, having shown how little the average man need be disturbed by penal laws; how satisfactory are the safeguards that will still remain for foreigners; how happily the Japanese themselves live under these laws that are held up as such sources of terror; and having protected ourselves against misconstruction by declaring that, despite all the above considerations, we should oppose the abolition of Consular jurisdiction were we not persuaded that Japanese criminal codes and Japanese criminal courts had long ceased to offer just ground for complaint, we concluded by saying that, under such circumstances, to talk of the foreign community's "reaping whirlwinds" and "working out its own undoing," was to substitute emotion for judgment. Where, in all that, is there a loop-hole large enough to admit the Hongkong journal's charge that we treated the matter with levity? Where is there anything to warrant it in isolating, and presenting as an independent proposition, an argument avowedly put forward for the

sole purpose of showing the want of proportion between, on the one hand, the true relation of criminal laws to the lives of ordinarily respectable folks, and, on the other, the wholesale suffering predicted for foreigners when they pass under Japanese penal codes? We can assure our Hongkong contemporary that with every one of its theses, abstracted from their critical purpose, we heartily agree, but in so far as they are intended to traverse our own views, they are quite irrelevant, since they find no contradiction in anything we have written. Of course the article of the *Daily Press* has been carefully reproduced in Kobe and Yokohama. Its anti-*Japan Mail* tone would have secured that notice for it under any circumstances. We make our opponents a hearty present of it. If they are content with their ally, we should be indeed captious did we begrudge their satisfaction.

"XX" ON SILVER.

A CORRESPONDENT, "XX," after dealing with some points in a communicated article that recently appeared in these columns, asks the *Japan Mail* to "answer one question," namely, why we "fear the free coinage of silver by the United States." Our answer is simply that we do not fear it at all, except in the sense that a partial remedy may serve to defer the permanent cure of a disease. It has seemed to us that to awaken the world to a true appreciation of this great financial problem, any step tending to temporarily assuage the ills inflicted by the demonetization of silver had better be avoided, for until the sense of suffering grows keener and more general, international cooperation to effect a cure can hardly be commanded, and without international cooperation nothing really thorough will be achieved. The practical endorsement of bimetalism by an immense financial power like the United States, must act as a partial palliative, thus postponing a final settlement. Moreover, it would leave untouched one of the most serious features of the trouble, namely, fluctuating exchanges between silver-using and gold-using countries. To that extent we should regret independent action on the part of the United States. But the objections that we have urged of late to Mr. BRYAN'S programme can not for a moment be ascribed to "fear of the free coinage of silver in America." Our protests have been based solely on the question of ratio. In affairs demanding the utmost delicacy of treatment a measure so heroic as the sudden doubling of the gold price of silver for coinage purposes, seems to us to travel far beyond the limits of sound finance. We are persuaded that it would plunge the whole civilized world into disasters, and would so fatally discredit the bimetallic movement in the eyes of the general public as to defer for

many years a satisfactory solution of this great problem.

Incidentally our correspondent ascribes to us the contention that "silver has been, and is, a truer and more stable standard of value than gold." It has not been our intention to maintain that theory, for though advanced, and ably discussed, by writers of note, the demonstration seems to lack conclusiveness. Besides, such an argument would be appropriate to the cause of silver monometallism, rather than to that of gold-and-silver bimetalism. What we have asserted for many years is that the two metals in combination constitute a much more stable source of monetary supply than either of them independently, a fact incontestably proved by reference to figures. We are in agreement with "XX" on all essential points of the bimetallic question; but if, as would appear, he advocates the free coinage of silver in the United States at a ratio of 16 to 1, we emphatically differ from him.

It will not be out of place to refer here to another question recently discussed in our correspondence columns, namely, the question of a composite coin. "Inquirer" opened the discussion by asking why a coin composed of equivalent parts of gold and silver "should not always remain of the same value," since the depreciation of the one metal would be corrected by the appreciation of the other. In stating his proposition, "Inquirer" wrote: "The silver dollar, for the sake of argument, is worth fifty cents; therefore, 412 grains of silver plus 12 grains of gold are worth one gold dollar" (12 grains of gold being the equivalent of one silver dollar). To this, another correspondent, "E.H.H." replied that "Inquirer's" project was fallacious, and assigned these reasons:—

The metals in the supposed coin cannot be measured by one another indifferently, but must be subject to a single unvarying standard. If a gold dollar and a silver dollar had been melted together and minted as one coin twenty-five years ago, before the depreciation of silver began, the value of that coin would then have been two dollars. To-day its value would be only one dollar and fifty cents. The gold remains worth one dollar, as at first. The silver is worth fifty cents. If a mixed dollar had been coined in the same proportions, that dollar would now be worth only seventy-five cents.

Any one considering the above two views must at once ask, "what is a cent?" Both writers use the "cent" as a unit of value without defining what it is, and that want of precision constitutes the real difference between them. In the eyes of "E.H.H." the cent is always the rooth part of a certain weight of gold, and he naturally finds it arithmetically impossible that a fixed weight of gold together with a fixed weight of silver can permanently represent the same number of gold units, whatever fluctuations may take place in the ratio between the two metals. But although "Inquirer," by improperly introducing the term "cents," exposed himself to misinterpretation of that nature the gist of his proposition remains intact. A coin composed of gold and silver can not, of course, have any immutable ex-

pression in terms of either metal alone, unless the ratio between them is fixed and unalterable. But it can have an immutable value in terms of other commodities—that is to say, immutable so far as concerns independence of any change in the ratio between the metals themselves. Suppose, for example, that a gold dollar and a silver dollar, each exchangeable for a lb. of tea, had been melted together and minted as one coin twenty-five years ago, and suppose that independent causes had not interfered in the interim to affect the price of tea, then the composite coin would to-day purchase two lbs. of tea, just as it did a quarter of a century ago, for its gold part would be worth $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. and its silver part worth $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. In a word, the purchasing power of such a coin would be a constant quantity, and we should have a currency not only based on the two metals instead of on one alone, and therefore uninfluenced by fluctuations in their respective production, but also perfectly stable for the purposes of a medium of exchange. When we pass to silver-using countries, where the purchasing power of the white metal in terms of general commodities has not fallen as much as its purchasing power in terms of gold, a composite coin, such as we are considering, would buy more tea to-day, other things being equal, than it would have bought twenty-five years ago. For that reason we pointed out, when discussing the matter in a previous article, that in order to reap the full benefits of a composite coin, all nations must agree to employ it. Some may contend that if international agreement be an essential preliminary, the simplest way would be to fix a ratio between the two metals at once. But that is precisely the difficulty. The monometallists argue that, although a ratio might be fixed by agreement, it could not possibly be maintained in face of the great variations that mark the annual supply of the two metals. No such difficulty would exist were a composite coin in universal use. Fluctuations in the interchangeability of silver and gold would be automatically corrected by the coin itself, so far as its monetary functions were concerned.

SEISMIC WAVE CONTRIBUTIONS.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the contributions received from various sources for the relief of the sufferers by the Seismic Wave of June last, have reached a large figure. The Japan Society in London sent about thirty thousand yen, and the *Nichi Nichi* itself collected something like sixty-five thousand. Adding up the subscriptions from all sources, an aggregate of six hundred thousand yen, approximately, results. Our contemporary calculates that when that total has been distributed among the distressed, they will be found to have received from 140 or 150 yen to 50 or 60 yen each. The unfortunate people, adds the *Nichi Nichi*, are reported to be overwhelmed with gratitude. Raised from misery to comparative prosperity, and provided with means to carry on their occupations, many of them have wept tears of thankfulness for the charity of foreigners.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE
RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In No. 60 of the *Shūkyō*, a Unitarian Organ, appears, both in Japanese and English, the reply of Dr. Clay MacCauley to Dr. Katō Hiroyuki's queries respecting the meaning of certain terms appearing in the *Shūkyō* in its declaration of principles from month to month. Dr. Katō asks (1) What do you mean by the word "rational" in your principle that in Religion, not traditional authority, but rational and scientific truth, is the basis? (2) When you speak of the free study of Religion do you allow me to investigate the question of the existence of God? "I should like to answer Dr. Katō's questions to his entire satisfaction," says Dr. MacCauley, "but I fear that I am unable to do so from the very fact that the character of Unitarianism is such that no one Unitarian can authoritatively declare what may be the beliefs or non-beliefs of any other Unitarian. Unitarians are free associates in religion and have never yet united in making a dogmatic creed or test of denominational fellowship." Dr. MacCauley then proceeds to state that all Unitarians believe in God, but that there are among Unitarians "as many forms of belief in God held as there are theological speculations which have been honoured in the history of human thought;" and that many Unitarians are in association with "the reverent agnosticism of much of modern thought." In reference to the sense in which the word rational is used in the *Shūkyō* statement of principles, Dr. MacCauley says, "The distinction between scientific and rational truth here made is between truth that is capable of demonstration by observation and experiment along with the other methods of science, and truth that lies beyond the range of demonstration and must be accepted as a dictum of the reason or the higher mental intuition. The facts of religious history, for example, come within the range of science, but universal ideas such as of infinity, and of the absolute, of the perfect good, truth, and beauty, and the like, issue from and depend upon the higher operation of the human mind itself."

It is announced in the October number of the *Shūkyō* that the magazine is to be considerably improved from next month. Special attention is to be given to Comparative Religion, Evolution, Philosophy, and Sociology. The number just referred to contains an article by Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo on the character of modern civilization, in which the writer maintains that what is called the modern spirit is quite different to anything that existed in ancient times. It also furnishes an account of the Religious Conference held in Shiba on September 26th, based on the report of the meeting given in the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The meeting was attended by about 50 persons, who belonged principally Dr. to the progressionist sections of the sects they represented. The Buddhists belonged to the *Shin* or Zen Sects. The Shintoists were represented by Mr. Shibata, who it will be remembered was present at the Chicago Religious Conference, and who is a regular contributor to the *Shintō organ*, the *Yui-itsu*, and Mr. Maruyama. More than half of the Christians present belonged to the Kumi-ai body or to the *Nihon Kiristokyo kai*. Only two or three Methodists attended. No meeting of the kind has been held in Japan before. As was only natural, the greatest variety of opinion has been expressed as to its utility and probable effects. The *Shūkyō* approves of the movement, regarding it as a praiseworthy attempt to promote concord among the sects, to remove misunderstandings and to facilitate united efforts in the carrying out of enterprises in regard to which there is no difference of opinion among the various sects. The *Shūkyō* thinks that the union of Buddhism and Christianity cannot be effected, and even if it were the result could not be satisfactory.

We read in the magazine quoted above that not a few young men who have hitherto been dependant on the churches for support while

carrying on evangelistic work, are taking to business. Three causes are assigned for this. (1) The strong feeling throughout the country, since the war, in favour of business pursuits. (2) The difficulty of making a living by preaching in the present impecunious state of many of the churches. (3) Uncertainty as to the future of Christianity in Japan, the very foundations of which appear to be in danger of removal. It seems to be a case of making friends of the mammon of unrighteousness in order to provide for possible future emergencies. The change of occupation, observes the *Shūkyō*, may have been a matter of necessity, but what surprises us is that the Christians to whom we refer have lapsed into immorality, and have discarded the virtues of which they once spoke so highly. The mouths which hitherto have preached total abstinence are now imbibing *sake*, and the men whose voices have been raised against licensed prostitution are to be seen wending their way to brothels. The unclean spirit which once was cast out of them hath taken unto himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they have entered the hearts of these men and dwell there. Against their renunciation of the life of an evangelist we have nothing to say, concludes the *Shūkyō*, but what we feel it our duty to protest against is their descent to the level of brutes.

The *Shinri*, the organ of the German Church, has articles on the following subjects (1) "Japan and Christianity;" (2) "Practical Christianity," by the Rev. H. Minami; (3) "Introduction to Dogmatics," by the Rev. Dr. Christlieb; and (4) "The approach of Buddhism and Christianity to each other."

(1) The first article contends that Christianity alone is worthy of universal adoption in Japan. The writer thinks that the insufficiency of the three ancient creeds of the country has been proved, but expresses dissatisfaction with the type of Christianity most common in this country. According to this organ Christian teachers do not possess an adequate knowledge of Theology, Christian believers lack experience and deep faith, and Christian churches are not properly organised. Christians of sufficient influence to act as an antidote to the worldly spirit of the nation are very scarce. The majority swim with the tide. The late war increased Japan's responsibilities as the leading power in the East, and has given her an opportunity, which she ought not to lose, of becoming a light-bearer to her neighbours.

(2) Mr. Minami accuses the orthodox section of the Christian Church of laying too great stress on dogma, on mere theories. Many orthodox Christians object to the inquirer who comes to them with a number of arguments against Christianity, informing him that his reliance on reason alone is wrong; but they do not seem to remember that the religious theories which they habitually enunciate are all rational deductions, conclusions drawn from certain real or supposed premises. The only way to recommend Christianity to the masses is by showing what practical Christianity really is. Since even in countries where Christianity has been taught for centuries, there is a growing reluctance to admit many of the premises on which Christian teaching rests, it is hardly to be supposed that a Japanese who hears of Christianity for the first time will quietly accept the dogmas which orthodox preachers lay before them. Mr. Minami urges preachers to leave abstruse questions alone and address themselves to answering such questions as:—"What is the meaning of human existence? What is the most powerful influence in man's life? Of what does human happiness consist. Is the value of human life relative or abstract? On what occasions should men sacrifice themselves and on what occasions is it their duty to take steps for the preservation of life, and the like."

On the much-talked-of *rapprochement* of Buddhism and Christianity the *Shinri* observes that while approving of the scheme, even if carried out, it would not result, as many suppose, in the creation of a new religion. Religions are not brought into existence by ecclesi-

astical councils or conferences. They are the creations of individuals. The genius whose individuality is strong enough to impress itself on his contemporaries and who gives doctrines to the world which are worthy of perpetual preservation needs no councils to back him. Whatever friendly conference may take place no new doctrines will result. Mutual edification and enlightenment may be looked for, but nothing beyond.

The *Uchū Shinkyō* 宇宙神教 (Universalist) publishes an article on "Experimental Religion." The writer remarks that Pilate's question, "What is truth?" is frequently asked nowadays by persons who are bewildered by the multiplicity of religious sects and religious teachers which the world contains. In the opinion of the *Uchū Shinkyō* the truth taught by Christ did not by any means silence all the doubts of inquirers. There were many things that he did not know. Though he opened the gates of knowledge, he was not able to satisfy the longings of certain minds. What he did teach was that the deepest truth can only be learnt by experience. Not by the study of Christian records, but by leading a Christian life is the higher plane of Christian thought reached. Christianity is to be regarded rather as a life to be lived than as a fountain of knowledge designed to satisfy the cravings of the intellect. The organ just quoted in an article entitled "Intellectualism and Religion" condemns the self-sufficiency of those who rely on scientific knowledge alone, and urges the cultivation of religious feeling, without which any amount of intellectual development fails to enable a man to live an exemplary life.

Professor Toyama's confession of faith, of which we gave an epitome in our last summary, has evoked criticism in various quarters. The *Shūkyō* is of opinion that Professor Toyama has failed to do justice to a class of individualism that is altogether distinct from the welfare of society as a whole. Many parts of the life of the individual concern that individual only, argues the *Shūkyō*, and have no direct bearing on the life of society. In Professor Toyama's opinion it is the duty of the individual in all things to subject himself to society, and he explains evolution as implying the sacrifice in all cases of the individual to the race. But Herbert Spencer plainly shows that, though in the lower orders of animals there is this subservience of the individual to the species, when we come to the stage of progress which man has reached, we find that the life and welfare of the individual assumes an importance altogether new. If the ultimate effects of actions be considered, there can be no such thing as a collision between altruism and egoism. The relation of the individual to society is such that the welfare of the one must prove eventually that of the other. On the subject of the immortality of the individual soul, the *Shūkyō* thinks that nothing can be decided. Scholars are agreed in thinking that we have no data to go on in attempting to arrive at a conclusion. In the present state of our knowledge it would be unwise to speak dogmatically on this side or the other. In teaching religion to give undue prominence to the doctrine of a future life, to rewards and punishments to be dealt out by gods or divinities (*hotoke*) as evidences of approval or disapproval of the acts of man, the *Shūkyō* deems injurious. There are three subjects which will never lose their importance as long as man's reason remains what it now is. They are Truth, Virtue, and Beauty. Under whatever names these three may be known to the world, the things themselves will never perish. They have developed as man's reason has developed. But they exist apart from his reason. They were discovered and not invented by the mind of man. These three constitute religion, and a knowledge of them is one of the principal factors to be relied on in individual development.

Commenting on the same subject, the *Uchū Shinkyō* observes that Professor Toyama's confession of faith is by no means original. It is a repetition of what has often been said before. The Professor admits that in many instances

the premises on which his conclusions depend are not altogether reliable. Hence too much importance should not be attached to the essay as a whole. The theories in which the Professor believes are very much mixed, some of them being by no means worthy of implicit reliance. Take the uniformity of nature as an example. Now how far has this theory been established? No further than man's limited experience has been able to test it. There are laws of nature of which we know nothing and perhaps never shall know anything. We cannot say of that part of nature that is unknown to us that it is uniform, as it may be the opposite. What the Professor says about external and internal sanction, continues the *Uchū Shinkyō*, seems to us to be fanciful in the extreme. All actions are determined by the individual. There is no such thing as external and internal sanction. Whatever external circumstances or authority may influence the individual in coming to a decision, does not alter the fact that the final decision on the course to be pursued rests with him and with him alone. Hence in reality all actions prior to their taking place are sanctioned by the individuals performing them. The *Uchū Shinkyō* next takes exception to Professor Toyama's remarks on the judgment passed by reason on pleasure, and purposes in its next issue to discuss other topics suggested by the Professor's confession of faith.

The *Nihon-jin*, the *Mujintō* (Buddhist), the *Bukkyō*, the *心海 Shinkai*, the *Dōshikyōiku*, (Christian), the *如是 Nyōse* (Buddhist), the *Kyōku-jiron*, the *Seikyō Shimpō* and the *Nihon Shūkyō* all have articles on Professor Toyama's views. The opinions expressed in these magazines differ little from those we have already given. The different organs are agreed in thinking that there is nothing original about the views championed by Professor Toyama. The *Nihon Shūkyō* says that the essay may be taken as representing the opinions of the majority of the professors of the Imperial University and of scholars generally in Japan and the West. The objection to Professor Toyama's essay on the ground that it is not original the *Nihon Shūkyō* thinks weak, as in the world of philosophy and literature entirely new theories are not to be looked for. Our familiarity with any given views is no argument against them. There is truth in the saying that "what is new is not true." It is not to be supposed, however able a man may be, that he can give to the world an entirely original view on egotism and altruism and kindred subjects.

On the 15th inst. was issued the first number of the *Sendan*, a new Buddhist organ. If the first number is an indication of the standard of excellence to be reached by the *Sendan*, it will hardly be ranked as a first class Buddhist magazine. The new publication objects to playing the rôle of a sectarian organ; it aspires to be the mouth-piece of thoughtful Buddhists of all sects, and intends to discuss a number of out-of-the-way subjects connected with religion. The first number has articles entitled, "A word to Students of the doctrines of the Zen Sect," "Foundlings"; "On Indian Names," by Dr. Inouye Yenryō; "A standard to be followed in the Choice of a Religion." Also the report of a lecture by Dr. Motora Yūjirō on "Loyalty and Filial Piety and the Ethics of Pleasure."

The Roman Catholic organ, the *Koye*, continues its attacks on Buddhism. In the last number certain parts of the life of Shaka Muni are subjected to criticism, the authenticity of the traditional account of his early life being questioned. The *Koye* is publishing the lives of certain Japanese Christian believers of Hideyoshi's time. The paper, for it hardly merits the title of magazine, is poorly edited, and as a literary organ very low in the scale of Christian publications.

The *Kyōrin*, a Shin-tō organ, urges the importance of propagating the Shin-tō faith in Formosa. The natives should be taught to worship *Tenshōkō-daijin* and be informed

of the origin of Japan's greatness. For out and out conservatism the *Kyōrin* has few equals among religious organs. In an article on "Japanese aspiration" in the number now before us, the writer showers scathing ridicule on the applauders of Japan's modern feats of valour and display of enterprise, and reminds his fellow-countrymen of the explorers and adventurers of Hideyoshi's and Ieyasu's time, when Japanese figured conspicuously in Luzon, Siam, and elsewhere. The ambition and projects of modern Japanese appear puny when compared with the brilliant enterprises of their ancestors, concludes the *Kyōrin*.

The *Nyōse*, in an article on which it calls "The Collapse (頓挫) of Christianity," refers to the present state of the Dōshisha as a proof of the slender influence exercised by Christianity over its adherents. The institution, says the *Nyōse*, has been declared independent, but every one who knows the facts of the case is well aware that the establishment has been converted into an arena for the display of faction, discord, and friction (*bunreitsū, fūwa and atsureshi*).

The *Kirisutō Kyō Shimbun* writes in lofty strains respecting the refusal of Christians to convert themselves into mere instruments for the furtherance of State interests. The Christianity in which we believe, says this organ, is designed to bring within the limits of its "Kingdom of heaven" all nations of the earth; and if this conception of its mission be not mistaken, it is superfluous to remark that it never can be exclusively the religion of any particular age, nor the religion of any particular country or race of people. It is impossible that that which is designed for all time, all places, and all nations should be confined to the fixed limits prescribed by the advocates of nationalism, whose voices are heard so loudly in this country at the present time. But while it cannot be thus hampered, its universality enables it to embrace within its fold such single nations as may wish to enter.

The organ from which we have just quoted, speaks regretfully of the decline of evangelistic zeal, as follows:—"It seems to us that the evangelistic spirit is about to become extinct and that carnal influences are about to hold sway over men's minds."

It is most desirable, observes the *Kirisutō Kyō Shimbun* in another place, that the Churches should have men whose Christianity is thorough and whose knowledge of Divinity is thorough. But when both qualities are unattainable the preference should be given to the former.

No 119 of the *Bukkyō* discusses the difficulty of educating Buddhist priests. Regarded from whatever point of view, the undertaking is beset with obstacles, says this organ. Funds are deficient, there is a great dearth of suitable teachers. Candidates for holy orders are not forthcoming in sufficient numbers, and those who offer themselves for training have as a rule not been properly grounded in elementary knowledge. Then the difficulty of making a choice of subjects and finding suitable text books is considerable. Different sects and different temples each have their standard of learning and attainment, and how to cater for each is no easy task.

The *Awoyama Hyōron* publishes one of those earnest protests against the spirit of the age and the worldliness of certain professing Christians with which regular readers of this organ are so familiar. The writer complains that instead of moulding public opinion, Christians are being moulded by it. Some seven or eight years ago the ambition of girls who had graduated at Christian Schools was to become the wives of pastors or evangelists, but now they object to the restraints imposed on them by this kind of life, and prefer to marry men of business or school-teachers, their one object in life being pleasure. The remedy for the alleged spiritual decline from which the Church is suffering, is, according to the *Awoyama Hyōron*, a resurrection of the spirit of Apostolic times.

In the same magazine Mr. Takenouchi Nan-zō writes on the number of illegitimate children

born in Japan. Quoting from statistics covering the period from 1889 to 1893, this writer asserts that the proportion of illegitimate children per every hundred legitimate is over 6.28. The number has steadily increased every year, the rate of increase during the period from 1886-1893 was 2.54 in proportion to each 100 legitimate births. Among illegitimate children, females are largely in excess of males. As regards the locality of birth, *Hokkaidō* heads the list, the proportion of illegitimate births to legitimate ones there reaching 32.43, Osaka follows with 21.47, and Nara Ken is next with 11.85, while Nagano Ken stands at the bottom of the list with an average of 2.18 per cent. for the period under review.

The Greek Church organ, the *Seikyō Shimpō*, refers to the names which it is the fashion to apply to the Japanese Christians belonging to the Greek Church. They are called "Adherents of the old religion" (*Kyūkyō*), "Followers of Nicolai," "Blind followers of the Russian Emperor." There is no foundation in fact, observes this organ, for any of these epithets, as Greek Christians have no political connection with Russia whatever. The *Seikyō Shimpō* complains that hitherto efforts to render the churches independent have failed. Three great wants of the Greek Church are said to be (1) Books written in an attractive manner. (2) Earnestness of purpose in young evangelists. (3) Sunday Schools and Text-books for the same. The Christians belonging to the Greek Church contributed 700 *yen* towards the Seismic Wave Relief Fund.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* supplies its readers with a goodly list of thoughtful articles. Among them are "A Spiritual Counterpart to Material Progress," by Mr. T. Yokoi. "The theory that conscience originated with physical strength," examined by Mr. Onishi Shukun. "Tschu-hi's (朱子) Conception of Human Nature." "The Moral Problem raised by Dr. Katō." "Individual evils considered from a Utilitarian Standpoint." In the first of these articles, the gist of what Mr. Yokoi says is as follows: It is very plain that European civilization has two distinct elements, one being material and the other spiritual. The Japanese who have resided in Western countries are mostly impressed with the former. But there are some who have studied and appreciated the literature and the religion of the West. What is now needed is that the latter class should make their influence felt in Japan. It is very certain that the nation is becoming more and more extensively materialistic, and if nothing is done to turn the tide, there is no saying that a people constituted like the Japanese may not in 20 years' time find life quite unbearable. National instinct may rebel against the deadly oppression of the materialistic yoke to which we are being subjected. We think we foresee a day when all the natural joy which as a nation we have known in the past may be turned to sorrow. The only way to avoid such a misfortune is to provide an antidote for the evils of ultra-materialism, which antidote is furnished by the spiritual elements of the system of civilization which it is our aim to adopt and assimilate.

The *Nihon Shūkyō* is of opinion that the numerous defects of the religions of the present day are to be traced to the deficiencies and imperfections of religious professors. They are lacking in caution, do not practise introspection, need awakening and greater benevolence of feeling.

Dr. Katō, in the pages of the *Taiyō*, has drawn attention to the want of enlightenment shown by religious devotees, as evinced by the readiness with which ridiculous theories concerning the origin of the various disasters from which the country has suffered during the past 12 months have been received, and maintain that all these events may be accounted for in a natural manner without reference to supernatural agency. To this a writer in the *Nihon Shūkyō* replies that he has no objection to the scientific explanations of the calamities in question, but

that at the same time it is desirable to use them for religious and moral purposes. He thinks they are designed to draw men's attention to their negligence in religious matters.

The same organ contains an article entitled "my Views on Religion," by Mr. Shimada Saburō, the gist of which is that the progress of religion must be commensurate with that of society generally. It is more important, says Mr. Shimada, to study the causes of, than to concentrate attention on, the things themselves. All things point to the existence of an invisible agency which has power to choose its line of action. Mr. Shimada says that he is a believer in Christianity in as far as it lays stress upon this truth, and that he has a high opinion of Christian morality. Christian miracles, however, he rejects. Modern science has rendered it impossible to believe in them. With those who say that people who refuse to accept the miracles are no Christians he cannot agree. To him it seems that the existence of natural laws implies a law-giver. Hence the existence of a God seems only a logical inference from what we see in nature. In reference to the immortality of the soul, continues Mr. Shimada, an attempt has been made of late to create a substitute for the old doctrine. It is said that living beings exist on in other forms for ages after the event we call death, that the effects of men's actions and lives are written on the page of history that men live in posterity, and so on. I cannot see much difference between the effects of the old doctrine and those of the new, observes Mr. Shimada. I see no objection to the new teaching provided it can be shown to rest on a thoroughly scientific basis. Speaking of the relation of religion to philosophy, Mr. Shimada says it resembles the relation of the system of arithmetic known of old to the Japanese to the mathematics of the present day, introduced from the West. Religion states what are considered to be facts and gives no adequate explanation thereof. For the latter we must look to philosophy. Religion, concludes Mr. Shimada, seems to me to resemble general laws of health, which it is the duty of every right-minded person to observe. Where the laws are not sufficiently explicit or minute, medical science comes to the rescue. Religion furnishes us with general rules, which need to be supplemented by the experience of every-day life and by information gathered from various sources. To me, concludes this writer, there is something ennobling in high class religious belief. It is important to remember that religion is a life to be lived rather than a theory to be discussed.

The *Nihon Shūhō* publishes an article by Mr. Anezaki Masaharu which compares Christian teaching with the doctrines of the Buddhist Shin Sect. A summary of this article we now give. In regard to origin, Christianity and Buddhism have much in common. They were both founded by single individuals. They both proclaimed a way of salvation and taught how heaven or paradise was to be reached. They both recognised the fact that there was a vast gulf between the unlimited being that governs the universe and limited man, and they devised steps to bridge over this gulf. Shaka and Christ each acted as a medium of communication between God and man. In the old controversy about 自力, *jiriki* (one's own strength) and 他力, *tariki* (strength of another) men went to extremes. Christianity, like the Shin sect, teaches that men are saved not by their own efforts, but by those of another, namely Christ. Thus the sense of both Christianity and Buddhism is one and the same. But the Shin sect is wrong in explaining the *tariki*, or reliance on another to be opposed to *jiriki* or self-reliance: it being plain that both principles are necessary in the scheme of salvation. There is truth in the contention of the advocates of what is called the 佛性教, *Bussai-Kyō*. They allege that by self-examination, self-denial and the practice of virtue a man may convert himself into a Buddha. The heart that discovers the true way is already a Buddha. It is only

in the case of those who have made this discovery that the help of another is really of benefit. Just as in Buddhism it is taught that each individual follower of Shaka may himself become a Buddha by following the prescribed method, so in Christianity it is taught that not Christ alone is the son of God, but that each individual Christian may become a son of God. Man, too, is represented as being made in the image of God. According to Christian doctrine men are not saved alone by the atonement of Christ. The exertions of each individual concerned are necessary to his salvation. Hence, like Buddhism, Christianity proclaims the doctrines of self-reliance and reliance on Divine aid, either that of Christ or the Holy Spirit, side by side, and the two doctrines are of equal rank in both. Since the two religions thus resemble each other, there ought to be nothing to prevent their working in harmony with each other in Japan. In certain quarters the reports which have recently been circulated in reference to the amalgamation of the two religions have been ridiculed and declared to be impossible of realisation as long as there is so much bigotry on both sides, but what is there to hinder two creeds whose teaching is alike from uniting with each other?

FORMOSA ITEMS.

Though convinced of the necessity of prohibiting opium in Formosa, its new rulers were at first obliged to adopt a policy of gradual suppression. They considered it dangerous to put a sudden check on the custom. But subsequent inquiries, according to the *Yomiuri*, have led the Authorities to alter their minds. They are of opinion that the exemption of the natives from malarial fevers, to which Japanese are so susceptible, is mainly due to the use of opium. This discovery has caused even such a pronounced abolitionist as Surgeon-General Baron Ishiguro to doubt the wisdom of entire suppression. When Messrs. Ozaki Yukio, M.P., and Shiba Shiro, M.P., waited on the Minister of Colonization a few days ago, His Excellency referred to this subject, at great length, and told them that, even if suppression be feasible, the Government strongly advocates the prudence of avoiding such a step until the sanitary condition of the island is improved. The *Yiji* says that the Formosan Authorities have appointed Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. and the Okura Firm sole agents for the drug in Formosa.

The Board of Audit is placed in an embarrassing situation with regard to the auditing of the Formosan finances. The establishment of a Branch Office was announced some time ago, but as no funds are set aside in the Budget for the current year for this purpose the Board applied to the Department of Finance to have an appropriation made from the Second Reserve. Meanwhile, repeated inundations have not only exhausted the Reserve but have even cut into the Surplus Revenue. Thus the New Government cannot consent to provide for the establishment of a Branch Office of the Board this year, or even next, and the item has been struck from the Budget for the next fiscal year. The auditing of the finances of the State being the proper function of this Board, it is of course impossible for it to leave untouched the finances of Formosa. The only plan open is to establish a special section within the Board and to supervise the accounts of Formosa from a distance. It is said that the Government may introduce, in the coming session of the Diet, an amendment of the Law, so as to provide for the establishment of a Branch Office of the Board of Audit in Formosa.

Colonel Samejima, the new Head-Councillor of War of the Middle Section, will start for Sendai in a few days to visit Lieut.-General Sakuma, Commandant of the Middle Section, who is now laying ill at Sendai. Thence the Colonel departs for Osaka to take up his new appointment.

THE FORMOSA RAILWAY COMPANY.

It is stated that the Imperial Household Department has purchased ten thousand shares in the Formosan Railway Company, and that eight or nine Chinese residents of the island have also subscribed. The charter provides that the work of construction must be undertaken within three months, and that after 30 years the Government shall be entitled to purchase the lines, paying for the shares the average price commanded by them during the preceding three years.

The prospects of traffic on the Formosan lines are not sufficiently enticing to account for the popularity of the new company's shares, nor is there any Government guarantee of interest on capital invested. But the Company has applied for, and obtained, it is said, certain valuable privileges. These are (1) That all land required for the track itself, the stations, the workshops, the storehouses, &c., shall be given free of cost, wherever State land is available, and shall be obtained for the company at a moderate price when private ownership is concerned. (2) That, within fixed limits of space and time, the company shall be permitted to extract by mining, free of all and every impost, whatever coal it requires for engines, workshops, &c. (3) That the railway now laid between Taipeh and Hiong-san, via Sin-tek, and the military line from Takow to Kagi shall, after the completion of the works of reconstruction and repair now in progress, be handed over to the Company free of charge, together with the rolling stock and all other appurtenances. (4) That places for making bricks, digging earth, manufacturing cement, quarrying stone or mining coal, shall be given to the Company on the terms mentioned in the first article. (5) That within the limits of public convenience, forests for obtaining timber for sleepers or other purposes connected with the line, shall be given to the Company free of charge. (6) That where lines are required for conveying the materials enumerated in Articles (2), (4), and (5), land for constructing such lines or for other necessary purposes, shall be given to the Company on the terms mentioned in the first Article. (7) That all materials required for the construction and working of the lines shall be admitted free of import duty. (8) That not only while the preliminary surveys and the works of construction are in progress, but also after the lines are opened to traffic military protection shall be provided if necessary. (9) That the above facilities and privileges shall be similarly granted to the Company in respect of the Kelung-Gilan railway, the Taipeh-Tamsui railway, the Hongsoa-Hengchun railway, and such other railways as the Company may undertake to construct in proportion as the need of facilities of communication increases in the island. Provided that, prior to the commencement of the work of construction by the Company, it shall be competent for that Government either to undertake itself, or to grant to some other Company, the building of any line in the case of which urgency seems to exist, and which the Company is not prepared to begin at once.

All these concessions render the Company's outlook tolerably hopeful. It does not appear to us, however, that the State is asked to do too much under the circumstances. When Formosa is furnished with railways running round and across the island, its condition will be enormously different from what it is at present.

On the 28th October, a charter was granted to Baron Yasuba and others, projectors of the Formosan Railway Company, the conditions relating to the work of construction to be determined after deliberation by the Governor-General's Council. The estimated capital is 15 million yen, but so popular is the scheme that already that sum has been subscribed thrice over. An understanding between the Governor-General's Office and the Railway Company has been arrived at on some cardinal points, as, for instance, the transfer of the existing Railway in Formosa to the Company; and the method of working it after the completion of the reconstruction operations between Tai-peh and Sin-tek; the hire or sale of the State Railway

between Kelung and Tai-peh, which will have been reconstructed by April next; the free grant of land required for building the trunk line of over 270 miles, and the supply of timber for sleepers; the posting of troops along the various routes; the remission of import duties on materials for railway construction; special privileges to facilitate the obtaining of earth for the work; and the conversion of private land lying along the routes into State land with the object of ceding it to the Company. We read in the *Tokyo Asahi*, that the Company has experienced some embarrassment on account of lack of experts to undertake the laying of railways. The services of Mr. Masuda, one of the chief experts of the Railway Bureau, used to be procurable for the preparation of plans and estimates, and the Company had counted on his assistance in the present case also. But when an application in that sense was made to the Department of Communications, the projectors were told that Mr. Masuda could not be lent as he was constantly required in connection with the Government Railways. The only recourse left for the projectors was to engage foreign experts, a step that their feelings of patriotism rendered repugnant. They therefore represented to the Department of Communications that if they had to construct railways in Formosa with the aid of foreign experts, they would rather give up the project. But the prompt building of lines in Formosa being an affair of paramount importance, the Department of Colonization and the Governor-General exerted their influence on behalf of the Company, and at last the Minister of Communications was obliged to waive his objections, and to assent to the employment of Mr. Masuda. It is said to have been on this account that the issue of a charter was unduly delayed.

We give the above on the authority of the vernacular press, but the alleged attitude of the Company with respect to employing the services of foreigners is altogether too unpractical to be credible. Everybody understands and sympathises with the desire of the Japanese to manage their own affairs without recourse to foreign aid, but there are limits to that kind of patriotism. If the Directors of the Formosa Railway Company objected to employing Western experts on the ground that their services are much more costly than those of Japanese, and that, other things being equal, they preferred to work with people of their own nationality, no criticism need be offered. But they are represented as taking the girlishly sentimental line that rather than construct railways in Formosa with the assistance of foreign experts, their choice would be to abandon the work *in toto*. We do not believe that men like Baron Yasuba could be so wanting in common sense, and we trust, for their own sakes, and for the sakes of their shareholders, that they do not intend to conduct their enterprise on such short-sighted lines. After all, the services of foreign railway experts are simply a marketable commodity like anything else that a man buys when he has need of it. To be consistent, the Directors of the Formosa Railway Company ought not to procure their rails and rolling stock from Europe or America, since these play as important a part in the construction of a railway as do the engineers that survey the route and superintend the works. We suspect that our vernacular contemporaries have greatly exaggerated the position taken by Baron Yasuba and his colleagues. Incidentally we cannot but be struck by the inconvenience that Japan is evidently suffering from want of technical experts. Numbers of fairly competent men have graduated from the University and technical colleges year after year, but in the present brisk state of industrial enterprise, their services are immediately in demand. From every direction we hear the same cry, yet the objection to employing foreigners remains unshaken. It is not a matter of sentiment, in our opinion, but a matter of expense and general convenience. After all, think how the projectors of an enterprise in England would receive the idea of employing French or German experts, supposing that these spoke only their own languages, were entirely strange to English ways, lived a life

markedly different from that of an Englishman, and demanded twice or three times the pay received by Englishmen in similar posts. There is evidently an explicable side to the question of employing Europeans or Americans in Japan.

KOREAN NEWS.

By a very timely coincidence the *Soul Independent*, in a leading article, contains some comments that come as a prompt and direct reply to the charge just preferred against the American missionaries by Japanese newspaper correspondents in *Sōul*. The charge was that the American missionaries are working hand-in-glove with Russia, and are thus contributing to the ultimate overthrow of Korean independence. Ignorant, of course, that any such accusation has been made, the *Independent*, speaking of the annual meeting of the Korea Mission of the Presbyterian Church, North, U.S.A., says:—"The missionaries very properly stand aloof from matters political. . . . The fact that Protestant Missionaries have held aloof from political entanglements and have eliminated the word 干渉 "influence" from their working vocabulary has disarmed suspicion, and to-day the word protestant missionary is a synonym for unostentatious, sympathetic, impartial friendship. And what is of equal value, *unwavering loyalty to the King*." We fear that this claim of complete "aloofness" from politics would be exceedingly difficult to establish. Wittingly or unwittingly, some of the missionaries were unquestionably drawn into the vortex of politics during the stirring events of last spring and autumn. Besides, what does the *Independent* think of Bishop Corfe, who constantly publishes letters on Korean politics, and whose bitter predilection against the Japanese often betrays him into injustice ill-becoming his cloth? Looking at *Sōul* affairs with all the impartiality we can command, it is impossible to be blind to the fact that there exists in the Korean capital a social coterie of which the leading members are the Russian Representative, certain American missionaries, the Secretary of the United States Legation, the editor of the *Independent*, and their wives. If politics are excluded from social intercourse in a place like *Sōul*, the fact is very surprising. Why should they be, indeed? If they are included, then we can not altogether deny the facts from which Japanese correspondents deduce their inferences, though the inferences may possibly be exaggerated. It is plain, too, that ladies play a very large rôle in Korean politics. What Japan wants in *Sōul* is a representative who not only speaks English well and is a sociable, pleasant fellow, but also enjoys the assistance of an English-speaking, clever wife. The Japanese have to emerge from the Oriental camp in *Sōul* and get well into the Occidental.

The precincts of the Finance Department in *Sōul* must present an interesting spectacle every day. When the Department was established, it took over the debts of the Royal Household to various tradesmen in the city. The total indebtedness was \$82,400. Last year, the Department paid one-half of that sum. This year, it is attempting to quiet the creditors by a further installment of one-half of the remainder. But the tradespeople, declining to be satisfied, assemble, day after day, in large numbers outside the Department and clamour for their coin. Their importunity has not yet been successful.

In our last budget of Korean news we reported the robbery of nearly eight thousand yen from the Government Granary in *Sōul*, under circumstances that reflected strongly on the efficiency of the guards. It appears that the Minister of Home Affairs subsequently ventured to address a memorandum of reprimand to the Chief of Police, but the latter, who thinks himself quite as great a personage as the Minister sent back the document with a reply that he did not propose to receive any such communications from the Home Department. He then, to relieve his offended dignity, tendered his resignation twice, but the King would not accept it. It is a pity that Count Inouye could not

remain in *Sōul* to straighten out the chain of official responsibility.

Municipal reform is beginning to be talked of in Korea. Every traveller in that country has told ugly tales of the dreadful condition of the streets and roads, and reformers are turning their eyes in that direction. For the purpose of raising funds, a tax on tobacco stores and wine shops is suggested. There are eleven hundred of the former and four hundred and seventy-five of the latter in *Sōul*. Korean financiers do not seem to have thought, hitherto, of sources of revenue all-important in Western countries, tobacco and alcohol, but doubtless they will soon develop a keener perception of financial possibilities. Meanwhile, the new Governor of *Sōul* has issued a proclamation forbidding the filthy habits that have hitherto made the city so obnoxious, and directing the citizens to take various steps of a sanitary nature. If the provisions of the new regulations be enforced, *Sōul* will be metamorphosed, and there appears to be a possibility that they may be enforced, for the police are authorized to arrest any one violating them. It is noteworthy that the regulations include the rule of the road as observed in the Occident. We mentioned in a recent issue that the office of Governor had been given to Mr. Ye Cha-yun, and that great things were expected from a man so enlightened and possessing so much experience of Western ways. Mr. Ye seems likely not to disappoint these hopes. If he commences his official career by converting *Sōul* into a clean city, he will have achieved a feat big enough to fill a whole record.

CHINESE NEWS.

It appears that the suppression of the Mahomedan rebellion in Kansu is to cost the Imperial Treasury three million taels, in addition to sums already expended in moving troops from distant places to reinforce the local forces.

The projected *éméute* in the Chinchow district of Kuangtung might have proved a serious affair had it not been discovered in time. From documents in the possession of the Second in Command, it appears that he had upwards of eight thousand men at his disposition, that the object of the rising was to overthrow the dynasty, and that the first proceeding was to have been the destruction of a Roman Catholic chapel at Tsanping.

It is believed in Tientsin that Li Hung-chang will be restored to a higher place than ever in Imperial favour. The belief is founded on an impression that a progressive programme for China having received the endorsement of all the Western Potentates by whom Li was received on his recent visit to the Occident, and Li being openly recognised by them as the exponent of such a programme, the Pekin Government will have no choice but to place the control of affairs in his hands. Neither the Pekin Government, however, nor the now powerful conservative party in Pekin see with the opened eyes that Li brings back from his travels, and unless the Foreign Representatives in Pekin are prepared to violate the canons of diplomatic etiquette by interfering in China's domestic affairs, it is difficult to perceive how the influence of the Sovereigns they represent can be exerted in Li's behalf. His expositions of China's comparative helplessness may gain vigour from the object lessons that he received in Europe, but will continue to fall in Pekin on that deafest of all ears, the ears that will not hear.

Some years ago an Imperial edict was issued in China authorizing the construction of a railway from Pekin to Hankow, and the great Viceroy Chang was entrusted with the work. He began at the very beginning. He opened coal and iron mines and established iron and steel foundries. But these enterprises never reached a stage of practical utility, and the Viceroy has handed them over to Shêng, Tao-tai of Tientsin, who has now being appointed Chief Commissioner of Railways in the Chinese Empire. Shêng's appointment has been followed by another Imperial edict authorizing

the construction of a line from Hankow to Canton. Thus the great Western railway of China, now projected, will be some 1,200 miles long, the distance in direct line from Peking to Hankow and from the latter place to Canton being 650 and 500 miles, respectively. The capital is to be supplied partly by the Chinese and partly by Americans through the medium of the Wharton-Barker syndicate, represented in China by Mr. Bash. There has been strong competition among the various Occidental nations for this work, and the United States has won the day chiefly because each of the other competitors preferred American success to the success of a European rival.

THE SCOPE OF AN INQUEST.

There seems to be a pretty generally entertained opinion that the inquest into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Carew has been carried beyond the proper limits of such an inquiry, and that legal experts, appearing to watch the case on behalf of the widow, should not have been allowed to interrogate witnesses. We are unable to share that view. A Coroner's jury may bring in a verdict of murder or other homicide against any one; the Coroner is competent to commit a person to prison for trial, certifying the material evidence to the court, and binding over the proper persons to prosecute or give testimony at the trial. It is also within his discretion to accept bail for a person found guilty of manslaughter. In view of these functions of the jury and the Coroner, it is plain that an inquest differs from a genuine trial in one particular only, namely, that the jury's finding does not carry with it any punitive force. Why, then, should not the Coroner and the jury receive all the assistance that can be rendered by skilled barristers, and why should not a person upon whom the evidence tends to fix suspicion, obtain the assistance of counsel and be granted all the facilities for defence that he or she would enjoy in a court of law? A verdict of guilty rendered by a Coroner's jury is not conclusive, but even though subsequently reversed by a law court, it may inflict a terrible stigma and involve suffering and shame that could have been averted by recourse to the very processes now stigmatized as *ultra vires*. If any critic of the methods adopted at the Carew inquest were placed in the position of Messrs. Lowder and Walford's client, his ideas of the proper scope to be granted to counsel would at once undergo enlargement. After all, the prime object is to get at the truth, and it would be difficult, we think, to point to an inquest where the elucidation of the facts has been more plainly promoted by the action of counsel than in the present case. If barristers are permitted to be present for the purpose of watching the case on behalf of a client, does it not follow incontestably that they must be permitted to put questions to witnesses? Otherwise, their presence becomes a mere farce: they are converted into recorders, and cease to be legal experts. This contention derives still greater strength when we remember that counsel attending an inquest are suffered to cite witnesses on behalf of a client. Who is to question such witnesses intelligently if the barrister, who alone is fully conversant with the points they are summoned to elucidate, be forbidden to interrogate them? Sticklers for an imaginary code of etiquette may urge that the Coroner should be made the universal channel of communication, but such a rule would simply impede progress without conferring any benefit whatever. We ourselves would be pleased to see a still further extension of Mr. Consul Hall's wise liberality, in the shape of permission for counsel to address the jury. Why should they not do so? They are there to prevent suspicion unjustly attaching to a client, and if they can marshal the salient points of the testimony in a clearer and more convincing form by addressing the jury—a feat for which their legal training and experience eminently qualify them—why on earth should they not be allowed to do so?

THE SITUATION IN KOREA.

The Söul correspondent of the *Tokyo Economist* gives a very interesting *exposé* of the situation of affairs in Korea. He commences by translating a leading article from the last issue of the *Korean Independent*; an article commenting on the Korean policy of the fallen Ito Cabinet, and detailing the hopes entertained by the writer about the policy of the new Cabinet in Tokyo. The periodical, as everybody knows, is edited ostensibly by Mr. "Philip Jaisohn," but really by a clique of American Missionaries in Söul. (We quote, but do not endorse.) The article in question betrays the predominating sentiment that these American Missionaries and their Korean fellow-thinkers entertain towards the new Japanese Cabinet, namely a sentiment of fear. It is analogous to the feeling that men secretly conscious of crime experience at the sight of a policeman. Evidence can abundantly be adduced to show the existence of deliberate attempts to create terror of Japan. When, for instance, a certain Japanese diver, engaged in raising a steamship or war-vessel sunk on the coast of Korea, sought to pass a box of dynamite through the Customs at Ninsen, the article was peremptorily excluded; and when Mr. Hara was about to leave Söul for Japan, the Court were thrown into a state of indescribable commotion, every one whispering that the Japanese Minister would suddenly return to Söul, would besiege the Russian Legation, and would carry away the King, who, on hearing this rumour, was so alarmed that he ordered his attendants to provide for him a safe retreat. It is evident, continues the same correspondent, that somebody must be fanning this Japan-phobia sentiment of the Koreans, so as continually to widen the gap between them and the Japanese. Under the circumstances, a brief account of the situation of affairs in the peninsula may be useful. Since the incidents of February and November, Russia has been steadily developing her influence in Korea. The Russian Representative is clever and astute in promoting the interests of his country in the Peninsula. He does not interfere in any way with the appointment or dismissal of Administrative officials, or with changes in the Administrative system, but confines himself to establishing his influence more and more firmly in the Court and in military circles. Other foreigners in Söul, as Americans, French, and English, are so cleverly manipulated by the Russian diplomat that unwittingly they serve as mere tools for promoting the ambitious designs of the Northern Power. The unhappy change that has overtaken American effort and influence is particularly conspicuous. Instead of being agents of evangelization, the Americans have become evil factors for hastening the downfall of Korea. The "English Language Faction" is still able to maintain its ground, simply because it is backed by Americans that constitute a force in Korean politics. Witness how, while detested by conservative Koreans, Phillip Jaisohn still enjoys a certain influence; witness how the late Minister of Education, powerful as he was among the reigning Conservatives, had to resign merely because he incurred the displeasure of these American missionaries. Japan has failed to recognize this power, and her efforts are, therefore, thwarted to a greater or less degree by the Americans. But the more astute Russian Representative, having enlisted the Americans as allies, is able to push forward his designs without difficulty. All these points deserve profound consideration by the Japanese Government in formulating a new Korean policy.

Another conspicuous feature in Korea is the steady economic encroachment of foreigners, as, for instance, the Wiju-Söul Railway project by Frenchmen, the Ninsen-Söul project by Americans, the forestry concessions granted to Russians in northern Korea, and so forth. All these privileges obtained by foreigners from Korea will be practically impossible to revoke, for they are given, not to Governments, but to private persons, and no political change that may overtake Korea can dislodge the latter from their pre-

scriptive rights. Russia steadily pushes her economic interests in Korea. The President of the Russo-Chinese Bank is still staying in Söul, for the purposes, it is rumoured, first, of making advances to Korea on the security of a portion of her territory; secondly, of uniting the still unborn Korean Bank with the Russo-Chinese Bank; and thirdly, of obtaining the privilege of carrying on the coinage operations in the peninsula. In short, Russia is expanding both politically and economically in the Peninsula.

SPANISH RULE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Mr. J. W. Davidson, who recently visited Manila in the interests of the *Hongkong Daily Press* and the *North China Daily News*, has sent to those journals correspondence containing terrible charges against the Spanish Authorities. They are accused of torturing their prisoners in the most merciless manner, employing for the purpose some of the infamous implements with which the history of the Inquisition has made us familiar. The *Daily Press*, while writing in guarded terms, evidently attaches credence to these stories, and suggests that the Japanese Government may possibly interfere diplomatically to put a stop to such inhuman practices. We have not re-produced any of the letters, for we find it impossible to credit their contents. The testimony of eye-witnesses is not forthcoming, and without it no one can be justified in arriving at a conclusion. Indeed for our own part, we are inclined to be very sceptical. The Spaniards are not naturally a cruel people, nor is it likely that they would deliberately resort to methods incapable of ultimate concealment and certain to alienate the sympathies of the civilized world. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that in the first accounts published about the rebellion in the Philippines, the insurgents were represented as having resorted to savage cruelties against the Spanish priests and nuns. Now, the tables are turned, and the Spaniards themselves are placed in the dock. Where does the guilt lie? Our readers will probably agree that judgment must be suspended.

Since writing the above, further correspondence (over the signature of "Alpha") in the *Hongkong Daily Press* confirms Mr. Davidson's assertions. "Alpha" says:—"You will have already heard of the abominable atrocities committed by the authorities to extort confessions from the arrested persons, whether innocent or guilty. Anything that may be written is not severe enough, and it is to be hoped that Europe will raise her voice in protest, as she has done before on the Bulgarian atrocities and more recently with reference to the Armenians and Crete. The Black Hole of Manila surpasses even that of Calcutta and the incident is perfectly true." (It should be noted that the affair of the Manila black hole has been shown to have been free from any element of deliberate cruelty.) "In justice to the Captain-General be it said that, on hearing of it, he was so disgusted and annoyed that he kicked the Lieutenant on duty down the stairs and threatened the Lieut.-Governor with arrest."

The same correspondence—for which we have not space to-day—alleges that the rebellion is very far from being put down, and that matters are daily growing more serious. The rebel stronghold is at Imus in Cavite province. From twenty to thirty thousand men, tolerably armed, are said to be assembled there, and everything seems to depend on the result of the Spaniards' attack upon the place. The Governor-General is reported to have stated that he needs twenty thousand soldiers to quell the insurrection.

THE UNITED STATES ELECTION.

News has been received at the United States Legation in Tokyo, by Reuter's Agency, and the Banks, that Mr. McKinley has been elected. We never, for our own part, entertained any doubt that such would be the case.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

The following appeared in all the Manila papers:—"A most touching scene took place in the village church of Guiguinto (Province of Bulacan) on Sunday last after high mass. The schoolmaster of the village, Eugenio Catanding, solemnly abjured, in the presence of all the inhabitants of the parish, his adhesion to the abominable and nefarious sect of Freemasons, to which he had previously belonged, exhorting at the same time his fellow villagers never to listen to the doctrines of such an unclean sect, but defend always the integrity and honour of our beloved Spain. After concluding this act of abjuration, a heavenly choir of voices chanted the hymn 'Pardon, oh! my God,' and then the zealous and active priest of the village, the Rev. Friar Leocadio Sanchez, delivered a most impressive and fervent address to the assembled parishioners, setting forth the evils of Freemasonry, which he concluded by saying had been introduced by the devil himself."

On Monday, 12th October, 151 unfortunate natives and half-castes were shipped off to Spain en route for Fernando Po by the steamer *Manila*. Not content with condemning these poor wretches to exile—if they should ever be fortunate enough to reach their destination—and confiscating all the property of those having anything to lose, at the last moment they were robbed of even the little their relatives and friends had provided them with for their long and pitiless journey. Amongst them were many well-to-do natives whose only offence is probably the heinous crime of being Masons, and a most distressing scene occurred on the quay previous to their embarking in the tender, when their wives, families, and relatives came to bid them probably their last farewell. These had brought them clothes and what money they could rake together, which the Spanish soldiers and officials under whose escort they were condescending enough to allow them to receive without any objection, but once on board the steamer *Manila* the cupidity of these officials could not resist the temptation of securing ill-gotten gains. The exiles were here stripped naked on deck, minutely examined, and every cent they possessed in money was mercilessly taken from them, amounting altogether to some \$1,200, besides all their clothes except those they stood in. From one man a valuable gold watch and chain was taken, from another his gold rimmed spectacles, both being told that such luxuries would not be required in the place they were going to! The poor wretch from whom the spectacles were taken begged hard for their return on account of his defective eyesight, but his entreaties were of no avail and he merely received a kick for an answer.

These unfortunates will arrive in Spain in winter without any but the scanty tropical clothing they stand in, and it will be only natural if many die off with pulmonary diseases. It may be here mentioned that the Spanish authorities neither provide food nor clothing for the exiles in the places they are deported to, but the unfortunate people are turned loose and made to forage for themselves as best they can. This does not so much matter when exiled to other islands in the Archipelago or to the Carolines or Marianas, where the proverbial hospitality of the native race will always stand them in stead, but in a foreign and sickly place like Fernando Po, with no resources at their disposal, God have pity on them! The Spaniards are openly expressing their hopes that the climate and conditions will soon settle those that don't die on the way or are allowed to drop overboard. This is the treatment such a glorious, magnanimous, and loving mother extends to her children, which the local gagged and servile press is so effusive in praising!

Large amounts of money have been lately collected for the families of the soldiers killed and wounded in action, but it is doubtful if ever the actual sufferers or their relatives will receive any benefit from the same, more espe-

cially the loyal native troops. It is well-known that of the immense quantities of cigars and cigarettes liberally given by the different factories for the use of the army very little if any has been distributed amongst the native troops who have remained loyal.

You will have already heard of the abominable atrocities committed by the authorities to extort confessions from the arrested persons whether innocent or guilty. Anything that may be written is not severe enough and it is to be hoped that Europe will raise her voice in protest, as she has done before on the Bulgarian atrocities and more recently with reference to the Armenians and Crete. The Black Hole of Manila surpasses even that of Calcutta, and the incident is perfectly true. In justice to the Captain-General be it said that on hearing of it he was so disgusted and annoyed that he kicked the Lieutenant on duty down the stairs and threatened the Lieutenant-Governor with arrest.

On 13th October 1,100 more troops arrived from Spain in the steamer *Anto Lopez*, making about 3,000 since the outbreak.

The idea prevalent in Hongkong, according to last papers received, that the rebellion was put down is the very opposite of the truth. Far from this being the case, matters are daily becoming more serious. The inexplicable delay in attacking the rebel stronghold at Imus, in Cavite province, has allowed the natives to assemble there in large force, variously estimated between twenty and thirty thousand, most of whom are armed, many of them with the most modern Mauser rifle, as the wounds inflicted on Spanish soldiers testify. They have thrown up earthworks on the most approved modern principles and strongly entrenched, clearly denoting that they are not devoid of European assistance. It is openly stated that some Spanish officers have gone over to them. Imus is one of the most commanding positions around Manila; from it branch off roads to Manila, Cavite, the villages to west of Cavite, to the province of the Laguna, and, what is far more important, to the hills giving communication to the province of Batangas, which latter communication is evidently being made free use of, as daily skirmishes are taking place between the rebels and the Spanish troops, with very doubtful results for the latter. So far there can be no doubt the rebels have decidedly the advantage, and on the 13th October, near Talisay, in Batangas, and between this and the Laguna district, a very sanguinary battle was fought, in which the Spaniards lost their colonel and two captains killed, one lieutenant severely wounded, besides 80 rank and file killed and 100 made prisoners, and the rebels captured 5,000 rounds of ammunition. As usual, the papers guard an absolute silence on this subject, but from the feeling observable in the *Escolta* it is evident a depression exists, and this morning (15th) at 3 a.m. 500 Spanish soldiers were despatched in all haste by steamers to the Laguna, about the same number of Indian troops being sent yesterday. Away to the east, in the province of Morong, about 25 miles from Manila, some heavy fighting has taken place within the last few days, and yesterday a further outbreak occurred near Bocaue, in Bulacan province, and on the line of railway from Manila to Dagupan, some 14 miles from Manila. A party of rebels 1,000 strong attacked and captured the village of San José, in Nuevo Ecija province, some 60 miles from Manila, also to the north. It is also reported that a steamer has landed a cargo of arms and ammunition on the Pacific coast of Luzon, a thing not at all unlikely and extremely easy to undertake.

Everything now is dependent on Imus. Should the Spaniards meet with a repulse there—a thing not at all unlikely—then matters will be very serious and an immediate general rising may be looked for all round.

Arrests continue to be made, especially of those who have any property to lose, and each day's official *Gazette* publishes orders confiscating some poor unfortunate's property. This will be a fine time for hungry office-seekers and penniless officers for enriching themselves on

the spoils, a golden opportunity that will be taken due advantage of. The cream will go to these people, leaving the skim milk only for the Government. It is said the latter is trying to negotiate a loan of six million dollars with the Banco Espanol Filipino, giving as a guarantee the confiscated property of the rebels!

A few days back, in a night attack in Batangas province, the rebels attacked a Spanish column, but a second column coming up to the latter's assistance, the rebels quietly retired and the two Spanish columns, taking each other for the enemy, kept up firing causing a loss of 19 killed and 42 wounded, before the mistake was found out.

The banqueting and entertaining of the newly arrived officers from Spain are now the order of the day, and some of the speeches herewith enclosed will serve to give you an idea of the Spanish feeling towards the natives, and will enlighten the world somewhat as to the cause of the dissatisfaction resulting in the rebellion. It is idle to compare these natives with the Malay race of Java and the Malay Peninsula or with the native races of India. In intelligence they are quite equal to the Japanese and had they been under English rule for half the period they have been subject to Spain they would unquestionably have made their mark in the world. They are docile and tractable, require only to be ruled with justice, and give very little trouble. They are also fairly honest and had it not been for the examples set them by dishonest rulers, who have for ages made them a target for systematic plunder, thieving would be hardly known. As a proof of this I call attention to the various Igorrote tribes in the mountain districts of North Luzon, still only partly subdued. There, away from baneful Spanish influence and retaining their own faith, thieving is a vice quite unknown.

Many writers wish to attribute the present revolution to the extortions of the Friars. This is not quite right; on the whole their influence has been for good, and although they have no doubt ignored their vows of chastity and poverty, still they have often been the means of preventing greater extortions on the part of the Spanish officials, especially in the provinces, and if they have sometimes sinned against the sixth commandment they are simply mortals like the rest of us and it is unjust to cast the odium of the present state of affairs entirely on them.

A man who has shone high above everything in the present troubles is Governor-General Blanco, of whom Spain or any other nation may justly be proud. To his serenity and calmness Spain at the present moment owes her possession of the islands and the white race probably their lives. Had the wholesale shooting of suspected natives clamoured for by the majority of Spaniards on the first ebullition of excitement taken place, the populace would have turned desperate and a wholesale slaughter of Europeans taken place in retaliation.

Wholesale arrests of prominent natives continue to take place and the province mail steamers just arrived have brought some well-known people, whose only crime is probably the very heinous one in Spanish eyes of having money.

16th October.

The Governor-General returned from Calamba yesterday afternoon, where he has been inspecting the rebel positions, and it is now reported that he requires 20,000 Spanish troops to quell the rebellion. Some severe fighting has taken place in Batangas province around Tuy, Calaca, and Balayan, where bands of natives 2,000 strong have generally succeeded in forcing the troops to retire. The immense estate of Nagsagbu, belonging to Mr. Pedro Roxas, the richest man in the islands, and who was fortunate enough to escape to Singapore, having been confiscated by the Government, was to have been taken possession of by the Judge of Batangas, but the rebels have forestalled him and are in full possession of the place, after driving out the troops on duty, over 70 odd.

Every day balloons are being sent up from the rebel lines on all sides of Manila and are plainly

visible. These are evidently signals for some preconcerted attack.

This morning it is reported 800 men belonging to one of the native regiments have revolted, but so far there seems to be no confirmation of this. That something is wrong, however, is evident from the hurried return of the Governor-General and large reinforcements of Spanish troops sent up via the Laguna.

SOME SPEECHES MADE AT A BANQUET TO NEWLY ARRIVED OFFICERS FROM SPAIN ON 13TH OCTOBER.

Senor D. RAFAEL COMENGA—Gentlemen, in the name of the Spanish Casino, which in the present time does not grudge any sacrifice, I welcome our brave soldiers who are around us and filling us with joy and enthusiasm, full of love for the country, gratifying us like a wave of fresh juvenile blood now running through our veins by magic art. (Great and extraordinary applause.) Welcome then ye who are to be the bulwark and stay of our honour. (Fresh applause, drowning the voice of the speaker.) Ye have just arrived in time; the cannibals are still in the woods, the beast of prey is still hiding in his lair—(bravo)—and the hour has come to exterminate the savages: all ferocious animals should be killed—(hear, hear)—bad weeds must be plucked by the roots. (Great applause.) The object of war is destruction; its civilising virtue works like a burning iron on the ulcer, destroying its corrupt tissues in order to secure a perfect cure. Show no pardon! (Hear, hear.) Destroy! Kill! Pardon is a prerogative only belonging to the king and not to the army, to the city, not to the camp, and believe me from there, from that historic, honoured, and dear old land of Spain which we all love with delirium, no words of peace come against these traitors; on the contrary, rigorous punishment and justice which the voice of the people clamours out shall be severe, and not tempered with mercy. (Frantic applause, several times repeated, entirely drowning the speaker's voice.) Soldiers! you are the arms of Spain. Execute, exterminate if necessary; amputate the vile members to save the body; cut the withered branches which impede the circulation of the sap in order that the tree may burst forth anew with fresh leaves and flowers. (Sr. Panarando: "That is the way to speak." Bravo and great applause.) The variety of uniforms which you see mixed up here will clearly show you how necessary war has been and still is. These you see here in battle array are not military men (speaking of the volunteers) but civilians, who in view of an infamous rebellion, steeped in obscurity, fleeing from the light like infernal animals, have been obliged to shoulder arms and exchange their place of the brette, the office desk for the horse, the pen for the rifle, and all for the glorious flag of Spain, which we have sworn like you to die for rather than see it humiliated. (Great applause and Viva Spain.) We are not playing at soldiers; we are defending the country and our lives. (Frantic applause.) Spain conquered this land, thanks to the incomparable efforts of Juan de Salcedo, the strategy and tactics of Martin de Goiti, and the sound policy of the patriotic Miguel Lopez de Legaspi. From time immemorial after each truce, after each profession of friendship followed a rising. (Voices, "It is true; it is true." Silence, silence.) Our beloved country was able to say to these people, because we have the Divine right and the force of our arms, like the poet said to the Turks:—

Vile slave of vile Constantinople, I will bind thee with my chain and I will crush thee with my might.

(Great applause)—But no, we did not do this. We raised thee to the condition of cavaliers, the sons of those ruffians who came from China, we made their posterity noble and slew the yellow necks of their most deadly enemies. We have made them doctors, lawyers, chemists, engineers, soldiers, and even ministers of religion, and they in return, not troubling themselves to rectify the instincts of their race, bite the hand which cared for them, they rise up against a nation which has enriched them and which has made them pass in three hundred years, in a less period than any other nation, that long voyage which commences in a savage and ends in civilization. (Great and deafening applause.) Tell me now if they have any cause for rising, for having made them human beings out of savages—(Hear, hear.) If some native troops were not dying side by side with us, we might become desperate and abandon the civilizing influence carried on by our fathers. But dying side by side with us they redeem their caste and become worthy of our respect and our love. To these heroes I drink. Soldiers! You belong to a grand nation, not like the rest of them who count their days of glory by the victories they obtain, but by the reverses we suffer. I be heart of every true Spaniard is prouder of the disasters of Sagunto, Nu-ancia, Otumba, Zaragoza, and the 2nd of May, than the taking of Antwerp, the siege of Milan, the battle of Cerinola, and the victory against the Tralalcas. It seems that victory always bows to the flag of red and gold, which without doubt we have placed in our emblem to show that in the hour of need neither gold nor blood has any value for us. (Enthusiastic and frantic applause.) Well, gentlemen, I think we must rectify our history and begin to count our days of glory according to results. If you accept my thoughts, drink with me for the triumph that is near at hand; for the victory we shall gain the day that our valiant troops go out to the campaign led by such brave officials, to whose health I drink and invite you also to drink. (Thundering applause.)

Many other speeches of the same kind were given, but the foregoing serves to give an idea of the whole.

ALPHA.

—Hongkong Daily Press.

Major-General Shioya, who was appointed Commandant at Wei-hai-wei in succession to Lieut.-General Nishi, left Shimbashi Station on Tuesday at noon for his post.

The Tenth Imperial Diet will be convoked about the 25th of December.

TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and His Majesty the Emperor of China, having resolved, in pursuance of the provisions of Article VI. of the Treaty signed at Shimonoseki, on the 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji, corresponding to the 23rd day of the third month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu, to conclude a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, have for that purpose, named as Their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Baron Hayashi Tadasu, Shoshi, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary; and His Majesty the Emperor of China, Chang Ven Hoon, Minister Plenipotentiary, Minister of the Tsung-li-yamen, holding the rank of the President of a Board and Senior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue;

Who, after having communicated to each other their Full Powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:

Art. I.—There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and His Majesty the Emperor of China, and between their respective subjects, who shall enjoy equally in the respective countries of the High Contracting Parties full and entire protection for their persons and property.

Art. II.—It is agreed by the High Contracting Parties that His Majesty the Emperor of Japan may, if he see fit, accredit a Diplomatic Agent to the Court of Peking and His Majesty the Emperor of China may, if he see fit, accredit a Diplomatic Agent to the Court of Tokio.

The Diplomatic Agents thus accredited shall respectively enjoy all the prerogatives, privileges, and immunities accorded by international law to such Agents and they shall also in all respects be entitled to the treatment extended to similar Agents of the most favoured nation.

Their persons, families, suites, establishments, residences, and correspondence shall be held inviolable. They shall be at liberty to select and appoint their own officers, couriers, interpreters, servants, and attendants without any kind of molestation.

Art. III.—His Majesty the Emperor of Japan may appoint Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents to reside at such of the ports, cities, and towns of China which are now or may hereafter be opened to foreign residence and trade, as the interests of the Empire of Japan may require.

These officers shall be treated with due respect by the Chinese Authorities, and they shall enjoy all the attributes, authority, jurisdiction, privileges and immunities which are or may hereafter be extended to similar officers of the nation most favoured in these respects.

His Majesty the Emperor of China may likewise appoint Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents to reside at any or all of those places in Japan where Consular officers of other nations are now or may hereafter be admitted, and, saving in the matter of jurisdiction in respect of Chinese subjects and property in Japan, which is reserved to the Japanese Judicial Courts, they shall enjoy the rights and privileges that are usually accorded to such officers.

Art. IV.—Japanese subjects may, with their families, employes, and servants, frequent, reside, and carry on trade, industries, and manufactures or pursue any other lawful vocations in all the ports, cities, and towns of China, which are now or may hereafter be opened to foreign residence and trade. They are at liberty to proceed to or from any of the open ports with their merchandise and effects and within the localities at those places which have already been or may hereafter be set apart for the use and occupation of foreigners, they are allowed to rent or purchase houses, rent or lease land, and to build churches, cemeteries, and hospitals, enjoying in all respects the same privileges and immunities as are now or may hereafter be granted to the subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

Art. V.—Japanese vessels may touch for the purpose of landing and shipping passengers and merchandise in accordance with the existing Rules and Regulations concerning foreign trade there at all those places in China which are now ports of call, namely, Ngau ching, Tai tung, Hu-kow, Wusueh, Liu-chi-kow, and Woosung, and such other places as may hereafter be made ports of call also. If any vessel should unlawfully enter ports other than open ports and ports of call in China or carry on clandestine trade along the coast or rivers,

the vessel with her cargo shall be subject to confiscation by the Chinese Government.

Art. VI.—Japanese subjects may travel, for their pleasure or for purposes of trade, to all parts of the interior of China, under passports issued by Japanese Consuls and countersigned by the Local Authorities. These passports, if demanded, must be produced for examination in the localities passed through. If the passports be not irregular, the bearers will be allowed to proceed and no opposition shall be offered to their hiring of persons, animals, carts, or vessels for their own conveyance or for the carriage of their personal effects or merchandise. If they be without passports or if they commit any offence against the law, they shall be handed over to the nearest Consul for punishment, but they shall only be subject to necessary restraint and in no case to ill-usage. Such passports shall remain in force for a period of thirteen Chinese months from the date of issue. Any Japanese subject travelling in the interior without a passport shall be liable to a fine not exceeding three hundred Taels. Japanese subjects may, however, without passports go on excursions from any of the ports open to trade, to a distance not exceeding one hundred Chinese li and for a period not exceeding five days. The provisions of this Article do not apply to crews of ships.

Art. VII.—Japanese subjects residing in the open ports of China, may take into their service Chinese subjects and employ them in any lawful capacity without restraint or hindrance from the Chinese Government or Authorities.

Art. VIII.—Japanese subjects may hire whatever boats they please for the conveyance of cargo or passengers and the sum to be paid for such boats shall be settled between the parties themselves, without the interference of the Chinese Government or officers. No limit shall be put upon the number of boats, neither shall a monopoly in respect either of the boats or of the porters or coolies engaged in carrying goods, be granted to any parties. If any smuggling takes place in them the offenders will of course be punished according to law.

Art. IX.—The Tariffs and Tariff Rules now in force between China and the Western Powers shall be applicable to all articles upon importation into China by Japanese subjects or from Japan, or upon exportation from China by Japanese subjects or to Japan. It is clearly understood that all articles the importation or exportation of which is not expressly limited or prohibited by the Tariffs and Tariff Rules existing between China and the Western Powers, may be freely imported into and exported from China, subject only to the payment of the stipulated import or export duties. But in no case shall Japanese subjects be called upon to pay in China other or higher import or export duties than are or may be paid by the subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation, nor shall any article imported into China from Japan or exported from China to Japan, be charged upon such importation or exportation other or higher duties than are now or may hereafter be imposed in China on the like article when imported from or exported to the nation most favoured in those respects.

Art. X.—All articles duly imported into China by Japanese subjects or from Japan shall, while being transported, subject to the existing Regulations, from one open port to another, be wholly exempt from all taxes, imposts, duties, *lekim*, charges, and exactions of every nature and kind whatsoever, irrespective of the nationality of the owner or possessor of the articles, or the nationality of the conveyance or vessel in which the transportation is made.

Article XI.—It shall be at the option of any Japanese subject desiring to convey duly imported articles to an inland market, to clear his goods of all transit duties by payment of a commutation transit tax or duty, equal to one-half of the import duty in respect of dutiable articles, and two and half per-cent. upon the value in respect of duty free articles; and on payment thereof a certificate shall be issued, which shall exempt the goods from all further inland charges whatsoever. It is understood that this Article does not apply to imported opium.

Article XII.—All Chinese goods and produce purchased by Japanese subjects in China elsewhere than at an open port thereof and intended for export abroad, shall in every part of China be freed from all taxes, imposts, duties, *lekim*, charges, and exactions of every nature and kind whatsoever, saving only export duties when exported, upon the payment of a commutation transit tax or duty calculated at the rate mentioned in the last preceding Article substituting export duty for import duty, provided such goods and produce are actually exported to a foreign country within the period of twelve months from the date of the payment of the transit tax; all Chinese goods and

produce purchased by Japanese subjects at the open ports of China and of which export to foreign countries is not prohibited shall be exempt from all internal taxes, imposts, duties, *sekin*, charges, and exactions of every nature and kind whatsoever, saving only export duties upon exportation, and all articles purchased by Japanese subjects in any part of China, may also, for the purposes of export abroad, be transported from open port to open port subject to the existing Rules and Regulations.

Art. XIII.—Merchandise of a *bond fide* foreign origin, in respect of which full import duty shall have been paid, may at any time within three years of the date of importation, be re-exported from China by Japanese subjects to any foreign country, without the payment of any export duty, and the re-exporters shall, in addition, be entitled forthwith to receive from the Chinese Customs drawback certificates for the amount of import duty paid thereon, provided that the merchandise remains intact and unchanged in its original packages. Such drawback certificates shall be immediately redeemable in ready money by the Chinese Customs Authorities at the option of the holders thereof.

Art. XIV.—The Chinese Government consents to the establishment of Bonded Warehouses at the several open ports of China. Regulations on the subject shall be made hereafter.

Art. XV.—Japanese merchant vessels of more than one hundred and fifty tons burden, entering the open ports of China, shall be charged tonnage dues at the rate of four *mace* per registered ton; if of one hundred and fifty tons and under, they shall be charged at the rate of one *mace* per registered ton. But any such vessel taking its departure within forty-eight hours after arrival, without breaking bulk, shall be exempt from the payment of tonnage dues.

Japanese vessels having paid the above specified tonnage dues shall thereafter be exempt from all tonnage dues in all the open ports and ports of call of China, for the period of four months from the date of clearance from the port where the payment of such tonnage dues is made. Japanese vessels shall not, however, be required to pay tonnage dues for the period during which they are actually undergoing repairs in China.

No tonnage dues shall be payable on small vessels and boats employed by Japanese subjects in the conveyance of passengers, baggage, letters, or duty free articles between any of the open ports of China. All small vessels and cargo boats, however, conveying merchandise which is, at the time of such conveyance, subject to duty, shall pay tonnage dues once in four months at the rate of one *mace* per ton.

No fees or charges, other than tonnage dues shall be levied upon Japanese vessels and boats, and it is also understood that such vessels and boats shall not be required to pay other or higher tonnage dues than the vessels and boats of the most favoured nation.

Art. XVI.—Any Japanese merchant vessel arriving at an open port of China, shall be at liberty to engage the services of a pilot to take her into port. In like manner, after she has discharged all legal dues and duties and is ready to take her departure, she shall be allowed to employ a pilot to take her out of port.

Art. XVII.—Japanese merchant vessels compelled on account of injury sustained or any other cause, to seek a place of refuge, shall be permitted to enter any nearest port of China, without being subject to the payment of tonnage dues or duties upon goods landed in order that repairs to the vessel may be effected, provided the goods so landed remain under the supervision of the Customs Authorities. Should any such vessel be stranded or wrecked on the coast of China, the Chinese Authorities shall immediately adopt measures for rescuing the passengers and crew and for securing the vessel and cargo. The persons thus saved shall receive friendly treatment, and, if necessary, shall be furnished with means of conveyance to the nearest Consular station. Should any Chinese merchant vessel be compelled on account of injury sustained or any other cause to seek a place of refuge in the nearest port of Japan, she shall likewise be treated in the same way by the Japanese Authorities.

The Chinese Authorities at the several open ports shall adopt such means as they may judge most proper to prevent the revenue suffering from fraud or smuggling.

Art. XIX.—If any Japanese vessel be plundered by Chinese robbers or pirates, it shall be the duty of the Chinese Authorities to use every endeavour to capture and punish the said robbers or pirates and to recover and restore the stolen property.

Art. XX.—Jurisdiction over the persons and property of Japanese subjects in China, is reserved exclusively to the duly authorized Japanese Authorities, who shall hear and determine all cases

brought against Japanese subjects or property by Japanese subjects or by the subjects or citizens of any other Power, without the intervention of the Chinese Authorities.

Art. XXI.—If the Chinese Authorities or a Chinese subject make any charge of complaint of a civil nature against Japanese subjects or in respect of Japanese property in China, the case shall be heard and decided by the Japanese Authorities.

In like manner all charges and complaints of a civil nature brought by Japanese Authorities or subjects in China against Chinese subjects or in respect of Chinese property, shall be heard and determined by the Chinese Authorities.

Art. XXII.—Japanese subjects charged with the commission of any crimes or offences in China, shall be tried and, if found guilty, punished by the Japanese Authorities according to the laws of Japan.

In like manner Chinese subjects charged with the commission of any crimes or offences against Japanese subjects in China, shall be tried and, if found guilty, punished by the Chinese Authorities according to the laws of China.

Art. XXIII.—Should any Chinese fail to discharge debts incurred to a Japanese subject or should he fraudulently abscond, the Chinese Authorities will do their utmost to effect his arrest, and enforce recovery of the debts. The Japanese Authorities will likewise do their utmost to bring to justice any Japanese subject who fraudulently absconds or fails to discharge debts incurred by him to a Chinese subject.

Art. XXIV.—If Japanese subjects in China, who have committed offences or have failed to discharge debts and fraudulently abscond, should flee to the interior of China or take refuge in houses, occupied by Chinese subjects or on board of Chinese ships, the Chinese Authorities shall, at the request of the Japanese Consul, deliver them to the Japanese Authorities.

In like manner if Chinese subjects in China, who have committed offences or have failed to discharge debts and fraudulently abscond, should take refuge in houses occupied by Japanese subjects in China or on board of Japanese ships in Chinese waters, they shall be delivered up, at the request of the Chinese Authorities made to the Japanese Authorities.

Art. XXV.—The Japanese Government and its subjects are hereby confirmed in all privileges, immunities and advantages conferred on them by the Treaty stipulations between Japan and China which are now in force; and it is hereby expressly stipulated that the Japanese Government and its subjects will be allowed free and equal participation in all privileges, immunities, and advantages that may have been or may be hereafter granted by His Majesty the Emperor of China to the government or subjects of any other nation.

Art. XXVI.—It is agreed that either of the High Contracting Parties, may demand a revision of the Tariffs and of the Commercial Articles of this Treaty, at the end of ten years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications; but if no such demand be made on their side and no such revision be effected within six months after the end of the first ten years, then the Treaty and Tariffs, in their present form, shall remain in force ten years more, reckoned from the end of the preceding ten years, and so it shall be at the end of each successive period of ten years.

Art. XXVII.—The High Contracting Parties will agree upon Rules and Regulations necessary to give full effect to this Treaty. Until such Rules and Regulations are brought into actual operation, the Arrangements, Rules, and Regulations subsisting between China and the Western Powers, so far as they are applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this Treaty, shall be binding between the Contracting Parties.

Art. XXVIII.—The present Treaty is signed in the Japanese, Chinese, and English languages. In order, however, to prevent future discussions, the Plenipotentiaries of the High Contracting Parties have agreed upon that in case of any divergence in the interpretation between the Japanese and Chinese Texts of the Treaty, the difference shall be settled by reference to the English Text.

Art. XXIX.—The present Treaty shall be ratified by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and His Majesty the Emperor of China, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Peking as soon as possible, and not later than three months from the present date.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Peking this 21st day of the 7th month

of the 29th year of Meiji, corresponding to the 11th day of the sixth month of the 22nd year Kuang Hsu.

沈

[L.S.]

Shoshii, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary.

沈

[L.S.]

Minister Plenipotentiary, Minister of the Treasury, Tsung-li-yamen, holding the rank of the President of a Board and Senior Vice President of the Board of Revenue.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You have well spoken when you designate the present campaign waging in the United States as one of the most exciting upon record.

The whole country is delicious; some politicians crying one thing and some another, while the greater part of the people are not even conscious of the real cause of the uproar. The money question, although one of the least of the many questions at stake, is supposed to be the all-important issue, and because of man's cupidity, he can be more easily excited over that than over almost any other. Therefore it is taken as a pretence to divert attention from the real and vital issues of the campaign. If the question of "free silver" were the only one, or the main one, it would matter little which party should win. Even though a mistake be made now in that one point, it would naturally correct itself in a little time. But the glitter of the fifty cent. dollar seems to blind the people to the real and vital questions. For instance, the question of the right of the Federal Government to protect itself, its property, its mails, &c., with or without the aid or consent of the State is a hundredfold more important than the "free silver" question, and yet is almost entirely lost sight of. Even Mr. Bryan has publicly criticized the President's action in sending troops to Chicago to quell a riot when the local government could not, or would not, preserve order, and he has declared that if elected he will never take such action except at the request of the State.

Of late there has been a strong and ever increasing public sentiment in favour of restricting criminal and pauper immigration from European countries; in favour of stricter naturalization laws, and of ballot reform, which are likely to receive but little attention though of such great importance, because of the great ado about "Free Silver."

Last month thousands of children were refused admission into the public schools of New York city because of "lack of room." While in that city, thousands of the public money is annually unlawfully appropriated to support sectarian parochial schools, asylums, &c. These children, whom this wealthy city is unable to educate, are also prevented from learning trades because of the rules of the labour unions. It thus appears that, if possible, the condition of New York city will be worse in the coming generation than it is at present. But not only in New York city, but everywhere, the same fight against our public schools is going on.

These are some of the questions which, when compared with the money question, are about on a par with a bleeding artery compared with a hole in a man's pocket.

And these are the topics upon which debate is not invited, about which it is desirable to keep the people in ignorance, therefore this "Free Silver" cry is raised as a pretence. We await the result of the election on the third of next November not because our greatest fear is that hereafter our salaries may be paid in fifty cent. dollars, but because we believe, and are anxious to see it demonstrated, that there are still loyal and true citizens enough to not only prevent our country falling farther under the influence of Rome, but to redeem it and once more declare our independence.

Yours very truly,

H.W.S.

"THE OUTLOOK IN THE UNITED STATES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The *Japan Mail* has given its readers its views of the political prospects, anticipating the defeat of Mr. Bryan in the presidential race. From

the fact that it has seemed necessary to assess all the monopolies, combines, corporations, insurance companies, banks, trusts and stock boards, in fact all the advocates of the gold standard, to the extent of many millions, it would appear that the silver craze had assumed proportions that engendered alarm in the minds of the Republican campaign managers, alarm that decided them that arguments other and beyond what platform orators and a subsidised press could advance were needed to counteract the logic of the silver advocates and Mr. Bryan's influence, so lightly considered by the *Japan Mail*. All this appears to be a strong indication that the success of Mr. McKinley was not so assured as his managers would have the world believe. It is a cardinal point with political managers to claim everything as favourable to their side, an old device to stimulate confidence in the breasts of the wavering.

I give you the opinions of two friends of mine, one a Republican and the other a Democrat. Both are watching the political campaign, both are considered experts in politics. The Republican writes, "I will venture, but do not bet on my opinion, so here goes. Bryan will be, in my opinion, most overwhelmingly defeated; had the election occurred within a fortnight after the nomination, the result would have been entirely different." The Democrat writes, "I believe Bryan will be elected, the solid south and the solid west will do the business: a large number of people anticipate trouble over the election in the event of Bryan's success. Henry George prophesies that Bryan will carry Ohio and Michigan: these estimates are based upon his own personal observations in those states." Thus the outlook appears to these two gentlemen. Both letters bear the same date, Oct. 7th. The agony will soon be over, and my belief is that W. J. Bryan will be the winner in the race.

Yours, &c.,

X.

October 31st, 1896.

[We are bimetalists. Yet we have never entertained, and do not entertain, the faintest belief that the American people will elect Mr. Bryan. Our faith in their sound common sense and keen business instincts is too strong.—Ed. J.M.]

"THE DOLLAR OF THE FATHERS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the *Japan Mail* of October 23rd is printed a communicated article headed "The Dollar of the Fathers" which is an excellent example of the state of mind that the exigencies of a keenly contested election can produce. The article has a seeming fairness of tone, even aims at being dispassionate, and yet nearly every important statement made in it is coloured by a prejudice that is clearly ineradicable from the minds of a certain class of gold advocates. Not to waste too much of your space, I will note only a few of the misstatements.

1.—The writer says: "The (silver) crisis has been suddenly and unexpectedly precipitated by the party leaders in America," etc. This statement is untrue. Since 1876, there has been hardly a session of Congress in which the silver party has not exerted every means in its power to pass a free coinage bill. During the past twenty years it has invoked, begged, and threatened for this result. Only a monetary Rip van Winkle could declare this crisis sudden and unexpected.

2.—He says "the statistical data essential to a thorough understanding are almost entirely out of reach." This is a most extraordinary remark. The number of scholarly books on this subject, as well as pamphlets, and magazine and newspaper articles on the question of the standards have multiplied almost to a wearisome degree in the past twenty years. The writer has probably not taken the trouble to read the evidence which, if multiplied ten times, would probably not convince men of his calibre.

3.—He quotes the "Fathers" merely to prove that they believed that gold and silver could, under certain conditions, vary in value to each other. Nobody has even questioned this. Neither Locke, Newton, nor any other of the old monetary authorities denied this, yet they did not advocate a monometallic standard. The point is that when one money drives out another it does not prove that the one driven out is the better. For instance, between 1850 and 1860, silver in France almost entirely disappeared from circulation, and was replaced by gold to the great benefit of the world's metallic coin. Yet this displacement did not injure French economic interests, though at the time the change was going on not a few alarmists predicted disaster for France. Other examples might be given of the same kind, but they are unnecessary.

The "Fathers" indeed said many things, and they can be quoted more in favour of a bimetallic than a monometallic standard. Jefferson's words are classic: "I concur with you that the unit must

stand on both metals;" and Hamilton was still more emphatic: "To annul the use of either of the two metals as money is to abridge the quantity of the circulating medium, and is liable to all the objections that arise from a comparison of the benefits of full with the evils of a scant circulation."

4.—He says further: "In 1853 the white metal ceased to be legal tender for more than 5 dollars" (in the United States). This is entirely untrue. The Act of 1853 related only to subsidiary silver coinage and had nothing whatever to do with the standard silver dollar. *Ex uno disce omnes*. If such statements are given only to make out a case, how very poor the case must be. The writer of the article does understand the real functions, purposes, and effects of money. He seems to think that because two metals may vary somewhat to each other in value, one metal alone is better than both. But this is to miss the real point. He confounds an equal weight of gold or silver with the stable value or purchasing power of money. Money is never primarily, but only incidentally, a commodity, and it should not be subject to changes of value like an ordinary commodity, if we can possibly avoid them.

In conclusion, will the *Japan Mail* answer one question? The *Mail* has an honourable record in having been one of the earliest journals to support the cause of silver. Its main contention has been that silver has been and is a truer and more stable standard of value than gold. The disasters that have occurred in the world of Commerce since 1873 must be ascribed not so much to the decline of silver as to the appreciation of gold, and the result of such appreciation has been the augmentation of all debts, national, local, and private, and of all fixed obligations. If the *Mail* still stands by its former doctrine why does it fear the free coinage of silver by the United States? Will not the United States by abandoning the single gold standard turn from a false to a true measure of value? Will she not restore in a measure that parity between the two metals which will tend to stop the vicious movement toward an appreciating gold standard? Will she not step down from a position of very unstable equilibrium to a position of safety and stability, and, by the prosperity that must needs follow such a change, demonstrate to the world the absurdity of the present gold mania with which we see a large party of men afflicted both in Europe and America?

XX.

November 2nd, 1896.

THE DEATH OF MR. W. R. H. CAREW

ADJOURNED INQUEST.

The adjourned inquest into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Walter Raymond Halliwell Carew, who died in the Royal Naval Hospital last Thursday week, was resumed at the British Court on Monday, before J. Carey Hall Esq., Acting Assistant Judge, acting as Coroner. The jury were Messrs. J. K. Trafford, E. Powys, T. Rose, G. Blundell, and E. T. Nicholas.

The Court room was crowded, and upon the Court being opened,

Mr. Litchfield said that he appeared on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Lowder then rose and asked permission for Mr. A. B. Walford to be associated with him on behalf of the widow of the deceased, to ask questions and address the jury if necessary.

The Coroner announced that as Dr. Divers could not get away from his duties in Tokyo until a certain hour, and could not appear in Court until 11 o'clock, he proposed taking the evidence of other witnesses that the jury had asked him to have brought before the Court.

Mr. Litchfield said that the management of the inquest lay entirely in the hands of the Coroner; whether he admitted Counsel to appear or not was entirely at his discretion.

The Coroner said that as they wanted evidence not arguments he proposed to call witnesses before he heard Mr. Lowder's proposition.

Mr. Lowder—Before any further step is taken, I rise to make formal application to recall Mrs. Carew so that she may give a supplemental statement.

The Coroner—You have written to me that you would make this application to the jury.

Mr. Lowder—I did.

Mr. Coroner—Mr. Lowder, gentlemen of the jury, wrote to me officially on the 25th of October that he proposed recalling Mrs. Carew, and I replied that I saw no objection. But since the 27th, when Mr. Lowder and Mr. Walford called on me and gave me a general impression of the nature of the evidence they proposed bringing, I have changed my mind, and I now give it you as my opinion, gentlemen of the Jury, that it would be a waste of

your valuable time to hear that evidence now. I think I shall have your concurrence when I say that there will be no disadvantage to Mrs. Carew if we adopt that procedure. The case so far has tended to throw suspicion on Mrs. Carew, and I think it will be better for her to hear the whole of the case before she makes this statement. Unless Mr. Lowder can convince me of what disadvantage she will be put to, I will call the other evidence first.

Mr. Lowder—My position is simply this, that I did not wish the jury to think that Mrs. Carew postponed her supplementary statement to the end and then made up her story as it went along.

The Coroner—If that is all your ground, then I have no hesitation in calling upon Mr. Buchanan Dunlop, whose presence has been asked for by the jury.

Mr. C. Buchanan Dunlop was sworn.

The Coroner then said that Dr. Wheeler in his evidence had stated that Mr. Buchanan Dunlop had made a certain statement to him in consequence of which he went and saw Miss Jacobs; would witness tell the jury what he knew about this.

Witness—I suppose the best way will be to tell how it came about that I made this communication to Dr. Wheeler. On the morning of the day of Mr. Carew's death, my children's nurse came to me in great distress. She said she had seen Mrs. Carew's nursery-governess, and that she must speak about what that young lady had said. She said she must speak; she would speak. She then said she had met Mrs. Carew's nursery-governess, Miss Jacobs, coming away from Maruya's. Miss Jacobs said: "I must tell Dr. Wheeler of this poison"—I am not quoting her exact words, only such as I remember the general tenor to be. "If I don't speak now it will be on my conscience all my life should Mr. Carew die." This is what my nursery-governess repeated to me and I disabused her from her view. I merely said: "I could not believe such an awful suspicion—I could not believe it. She was, however, so importunate that upon walking up the hill to the funeral of the late Mr. Boag, I decided to warn Dr. Wheeler; to tell him; to warn him. I particularly wished him to go and see Miss Jacobs herself, not knowing anything about the matter myself.

Mr. Niel Gordon Munro, M.B., C.M., Edin., was next sworn.

The Coroner said that Mrs. Carew in her evidence had said:—"He (Mr. Carew) then told me that when I was in England, in 1893, he had been obliged to consult Dr. Munro, and later Dr. Baelz, upon a disease which he did not wish me to mention to Dr. Wheeler. I do not know whether Dr. Munro prescribed for him at that time." Did you prescribe for him at all, Dr. Munro?

Witness—I prescribed for the late Mr. Carew in 1893. It is a long time ago, but I find on making enquiries at the dispensaries that I did not prescribe arsenic for him, and this I have obtained in writing from the chemists. I thought it best to refresh any memory on the point at once. I may add that I have a very strong impression, I can hardly call it recollection, that Mr. Carew told me then that he had occasionally taken arsenic. This was in 1893.

To the Coroner—It is some time ago, and my memory of his words is not vivid in regard to it: it is a strong impression.

To a Juror—I have a distinct impression of the late Mr. Carew saying something about his taking arsenic while I was prescribing for him. He said, I think, that he often took arsenic and that it gave him great relief. The malaria poison that he may have had in his system would have been soothed by the administration of arsenic. Stricture is often aggravated by previous malarial attacks. The treatment of stricture would necessitate drugs other than arsenic.

Mr. Trafford—Did you ever prescribe sugar of lead for the late Mr. Carew?—Not that I recollect.

To Mr. Rose—He never asked me to prescribe sugar of lead or arsenic to him.

To Mr. Litchfield—I understand that the late Mr. Carew consulted Dr. Baelz some time after I had treated him. I treated him for one thing, and I understand that Dr. Baelz treated him for another.

To Mr. Lowder—Malarial poison would affect stricture.

Hayashi Sichichiro, a shopman in Maruya's store, cautioned, deposed—I am a shopman or *banto*, and in the course of last month I sold some arsenic to a foreigner. I sold arsenic on the 19th, 20th, and 21st. I do not recollect very well to whom I sold it on the 19th, but probably it was Mrs. Carew. On that occasion I sold one ounce, in a bottle. On the bottle was a label inscribed "Fowler's solution of arsenic." I also sold a bottle of sugar of lead to the same person. This was on the 19th Oct., and I sold it to a foreign woman. I did not pay particular attention to her appearance,

and do not think I should recognise her. Some conversation took place before I sold the arsenic.

The Coroner—What was the nature of the conversation?—First I asked what she wanted the dangerous poison for, and whether she knew how to use it.

What did the buyer say?—I do not recollect whether she made any reply, so I asked her if it was for external application. I thought it was for external application, seeing that sugar of lead was being bought at the same time.

Was that the only conversation that passed?—The buyer said that the medicines were for external application. I told her to take care in using the poison afterwards. The medicines were not paid for at the time.

Did the buyer bring a doctor's prescription or any paper?—No, she wrote the names of the two medicines at the shop.

Have you that paper?—No, when she paid I tore it up.

When did she pay?—I think on the 20th.

Did you receive the money?—Yes.

Did you meet the buyer of the poisons afterwards?—I can't recollect her face very well, as I am not quite sure.

Look at the lady sitting next to Mr. Lowder (Mrs. Carew)—and see if you recollect.

Witness—I do not remember the face well. The person sitting there has come to my place to buy things before; but I do not recollect her as the person who come on the 19th October.

The Coroner—Are you quite certain that that lady did not come on the 19th?—I cannot say, I think it must have been some one from Mrs. Carew's house.

Was the paper given to you on that occasion signed in any body's name?—I am sure that the words "Mrs. Carew" were written on that paper.

Mr. Nicholas—He has said nothing so far of any other date but the 19th.

Witness—A messenger resembling a boy came and bought some arsenic and a bed-pan. He brought a writing with him. It was in Mrs. Carew's handwriting, I suppose.

To Mr. Rose—On the 19th I sold one-third of an ounce of sugar of lead, and an ounce of arsenic to the lady.

To the Coroner—The boy came on the 20th. He was an employé of Mrs. Carew's. On the 21st Miss Jacobs came and bought some Fowler's solution of arsenic and some sugar of lead. The boy brought some writing on the 20th.

What became of it?—I gave it to the person who settled the account on the 24th.

Was there any writing brought on the 21st?—There was no signature, but the handwriting was the same as that of the day before.

To Mr. Nicholas—On the paper was written "Fowler's Solution of Arsenic."

The Coroner—Was this selling of poisons to Mrs. Carew contrary to the Japanese regulations in regard to Apothecaries?—It was a mistake; I sold them contrary to the regulations. I heard that Mr. Carew had been using this arsenic, and I knew that if foreigners went to foreign chemists they could get the poisons. I was told on the 19th that the buyer of the poisons had been using arsenic.

Mr. Trafford—Had the witness sold arsenic to Mr. Carew before that date?—No, I did not.

To Mr. Nicholas—Previous to the 19th I did not know that he had used arsenic.

To Mr. Rose—No *amah* came to the shop on either of the dates mentioned. There were different persons on the separate days. I do not remember the face of the messenger very well who came on the second day.

To Mr. Nicholas—I heard some time before this that Mr. Carew was continually taking arsenic. He (Mr. Carew) said to someone that he was taking some kind of poison sufficient to kill an ordinary man.

To Mr. Rose—Mr. Carew himself never purchased any poison.

Dr. Divers wished to put a question but was not allowed.

To Mr. Litchfield—I heard from a foreigner that Mr. Carew was taking poison.

How long before the 19th was this?—It is a very old story.

Was it from a foreign woman that you heard it?—A man.

When you sold the poison on the 19th was the chit written in the shop, or was it brought by the woman; or did she simply ask for the medicine, pay for it, and take it away?—I am sure she wrote the paper in the shop.

On the 20th a boy brought a chit, was this the chit?—(Paper shown)—Yes.

Mr. MARUYA,

Please give Bearer

1 Bed pan,

1 Bottle Fowler's Solution of Arsenic,

169, Bluff, E. M. H. CAREW.

20, 10.

Mr. Litchfield—I put it in evidence before the jury.

On the 21st, the woman who came for the medicine then, did she bring a writing with her, or did she write it in the shop?—She brought it with her.

Have you kept that writing?—As she paid with ready money at that time, I tore up the paper and threw it away.

What money did she bring with her, a five-yen note, one-yen note, or what?—I do not recollect very well.

On the 19th, 20th, and 21st, how were the bottles wrapped up—the arsenic only—if they were wrapped up?—There was a label belonging to the firm on the bottle, inscribed "Fowler's solution of arsenic;" then the bottle was wrapped up in paper, the label being inside.

That piece of paper, now shown you, was applied for on the 24th by two women, who came together?—Yes.

They paid for the medicines and obtained the paper?—Yes.

Mr. Rose—Were those bottles sealed on the outside?—Yes, with sealing wax.

The Coroner—On all three occasions?—Yes.

Mr. Rose—Was it labelled poison outside?—No, poison was marked on the bottle, below the covering.

Mr. Lowder—Do you enter the sale of poisons in a book?—We do not; we have the doctor's prescription.

Then your evidence has been given from recollecting, not from entries in your books?—Yes.

May not you be mistaken in supposing that you sold sugar of lead on the 19th?—I am not mistaken.

Might it not have been on the 18th or 17th that you sold it?—I am sure it is the 19th, because I looked up the entry in my book.

But you have just told us that you do not keep books?—Yes, I do register these things up in a book, I mistook the interpreter's meaning.

Do you remember Mrs. Carew coming to your shop on the 17th October?—I do not remember well.

Are you well acquainted with Mrs. Carew's features?—I do not know very well, but I believe the person sitting next you is Mrs. Carew.

Did she purchase some antipyrine on the 17th?—I was not there, so do not know. Some other person may have sold it, I was not there.

How was this person dressed, with whom you had a conversation on the 19th?—I do not recollect very well; but I think either in black clothes or grey clothes.

Did she speak in English?—Yes.

And you replied in English?—Yes.

Had she any child or children with her?—I am pretty sure there were no children.

Did I understand you to say that she did not pay on the 19th, but paid on the 20th?—She paid the amount on the 20th in ready money.

Was it the same lady who bought the medicine on the 19th who paid for it on the 20th?—It was the same person.

And you are not sure that it was Mrs. Carew?—I am not sure.

That which was bought on the 20th was paid for on the 24th?—Yes.

And that which was bought on the 21st was paid for at the time?—Yes.

Who are the two women that came on the 24th and paid for that which was purchased on the 20th?—Miss Jacobs and another, the person sitting next her now.

Both ladies at this point stood up—Miss Jacobs and Miss Christopher, and were identified by witness.

Mr. Lowder—Who was the foreign gentleman that told you that Mr. Carew was in the habit of taking poison in large quantities?—I do not like to say, as the gentleman was kind enough to tell me; but I know him well.

I insist upon your telling—Kobayashi Beika.

And when did Kobayashi Beika give you this information?—About the 25th of last month.

Dr. Baelz, of Tokyo, was then sworn. He deposed—Mr. Carew came up once to consult me, but unfortunately I can not find any notes of it. It must, or might have been, a year ago; I can't say exactly. I generally make notes, but in this case I can't find them. After seeing the prescription that Mr. Lowder has shown me, I recollect that Mr. Carew came up to consult me about a pain in his bladder. There was no arsenic in the prescription. I never saw him afterwards.

To Mr. Trafford—There was no sugar of lead in the prescription.

Dr. E. Divers, of Tokyo was the next witness. On being sworn, he said—My examination of the stomach and other internal organs of the deceased is not yet complete, but is sufficiently complete for the purpose of the inquest, and will be con-

tinued this week in case any further evidence is required. I have found arsenic, more particularly in the liver. I find it difficult to speak about the lead, for fear that what I may say would have an effect on the minds of the jury. I will say that I have met with a substance that promises to be lead. The arsenic that I found in the organs of the deceased is sufficient to account for the death, because the illness, as described by the medical attendant is just such as might be caused by arsenic. The organs sent to me show that deceased was a healthy man, so far as these organs are concerned. I state therefore to this Court that my opinion is that deceased died from the effects of arsenic, and I come now to the question, how that arsenic was received by the deceased. Arsenic is an important medicine, as well as a widely known poison. It will therefore be well for me to state a poison dose and a medicinal dose of arsenic. The largest medicinal dose of arsenic, that is ordinary medicinal white arsenic, is about the 1/15th of a grain. Much less may be used, but I give that approximately as the largest dose that would be prescribed. The ordinary preparation of arsenic for medicinal use is Fowler's Solution and is administered in a dose of eight drops. A poisonous dose, the smallest fatal dose, according to the very widest experience of the effect of this poison, is two grains. In making this statement I am only giving an opinion based on wide experience, in asserting that a smaller dose could not cause death. A poisonous dose of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic is half an ounce. Were it taken under favourable conditions a smaller dose would have effect. The ratio between the medicinal and poisonous dose is one in 30; or on ordinary occasions one in 60. Arsenic is used often with great effect in minute doses for neuralgia, pains in the stomach, heart-burn, and in those cases where the illness seems to be due to malaria. The malaria, more especially of tropical climates, often producing fever, intermittent or non-intermittent, but of an obscure character, is often determined by the medical practitioner by the effect of arsenic in giving relief. Persons who suffer from what is popularly known, or called, "liver," also suffer from stomach trouble; and it would seem natural enough that the deceased may have learnt from some medical man of the effect of arsenic in allaying the symptoms and pain that he occasionally may have experienced.

The difficulty in regard to this proposition is that if the deceased found relief by treating himself for liver in this way, he would not have consulted his medical attendant for this disease. Arsenic also proves useful, more or less, in the treatment of spasmodic diseases, and it is possible that it would prove useful in relieving distress in stricture in the urinary passages. But I know of no medical record of such a practise: it is only supposition. But if it did happen that a medical man, or an expert, had discovered that arsenic gave relief in such a case, I think it highly probable that such a fact would be known, because medical men publish such discoveries in the columns of the medical papers. The fact that such a manner of treatment has not been recorded makes one slow to think that the ailments for which the deceased had been suffering had been treated by his medical practitioner with arsenic. The next matter for consideration, in my connection with the case, has been, supposing that deceased took arsenic habitually, could he have done it for the mere pleasure? For, as is well known, there are medicines of the narcotic class that are taken for their effect upon the imagination and the sensations, and it might be so in the case of arsenic. But, unless we include the case of the Syrian peasants, who take quantities of arsenic to assist their respiration—with that exception I do not know of any recorded case where arsenic would be taken for the mere pleasure. Arsenic, I might state here, will relieve pain, gastric pain, and very probably structural pain. Whether the deceased had been in the habit of taking arsenic habitually, which may account for the presence of arsenic being introduced into the house, or whether it was administered to him by another without his knowledge is another aspect of the case presented to me. Another aspect is: would such use of arsenic account for the reception by the deceased of the arsenic that killed him. Now, arsenic is not a cumulative medicine, and will not collect in the system and so further affect the action of a poisonous dose. That is the experience of the large body of medical practitioners. Arsenic is a medicine that is rapidly eliminated from the system, by the urine principally, by purging, and vomiting. We must therefore turn to the history of the illness itself to study how the arsenic was administered to Mr. Carew. The illness lasted for seven or eight days, the symptoms were not so acute at first, then they varied, became very intense, less so, then again severe, till the tune of death. He was in a state of

collapse when he entered the hospital. The duration of life after a poisonous dose of arsenic has been taken would, in my opinion, be very short, two or three hours: it might be even three or four days. There are cases on record of a longer period; cases that lasted after the acute action of the poison was over and in which death gradually followed from exhaustion. I have therefore concluded from the evidence that I have heard of the medical history of the case that the poison was received by deceased in several doses during his last illness and not in a dose at the commencement. And now comes the question whether this poison was administered by deceased himself or by another person unknown to him. In connection with this part of the subject, I should state that arsenic is not only widely used as a medicine, but is also the most widely used of all poisons. It is much less used in cases of murder by poisoning in England and Europe than it was, owing largely to the Poisons Act, and other measures, causing arsenic to be put up in soot or stained with indigo. Arsenic is a subject that is colourless, odourless, and practically tasteless unless taken in a highly concentrated form. It is a substance that is soluble in aqueous fluid; can be dissolved in fluid containing slight medicaments, hence in solution cannot be perceived. Fowler's solution, is therefore coloured and flavoured with an odour so as to prevent it from being mistaken for water. But the medical doses in which it is administered are so small that the colour and odour are not easily recognised. In this case I looked for arsenic when the stomach was examined. I found it quite fresh when it was opened by me. There was no odour of volatile poison, or of lavender, the odour with which Fowler's solution is usually flavoured. The fact of the want of sensible properties in arsenic has caused it to be a substance most used by persons with intent to kill another. Suicidally arsenic has often been taken, but there is such a painful result produced by the action of the poison upon the stomach that it is very rare indeed that any one would administer a second or a third dose. The effect of taking arsenic is very depressing on the mental and bodily faculties, taking away all inducement to do anything. The dose, in all likelihood, would not be repeated. There is one case on record of a man taking a dose and then three or four days afterwards another. In that case it was proved by the medical practitioner that the first dose was taken on a full stomach and was vomited, with no effect. He then took the other dose a few days afterwards. It is therefore very unlikely that a person who has suffered from the effects of a dose of arsenic would take a second, knowing its effects. As to administering it by misadventure any one accustomed to use it for medical purposes would hardly give it in poisonous doses because of the difference between the medicinal and poisonous dose. As to the medicinal doses of arsenic being one that can be increased by custom, whether one can become habituated to its use, there are persons who have made their living—fire-eaters and arsenic-eaters—who have positively swallowed white arsenic in large doses, having obtained the power of receiving it. Then we know of the Styrian peasants, but I think I am right in saying that medical men find that the dose does not require to be increased, but that the ordinary dose does require to be lessened. In ordinary cases we do not meet with the rapid power of becoming accustomed to the medicine which necessitates larger doses. Therefore it is highly improbable that, beginning with small doses, larger doses would become to be required, and if they were required, that they would act violently as in the case of one unaccustomed to it. Taking into consideration all these matters, I have come to the conclusion that the deceased died from the effects of arsenic, that that arsenic has been administered to the deceased by another person, and that it has been administered to him unknown to himself. This decision is one that I have drawn from the facts I have stated, and has nothing to do with the general evidence of the case.

The inquiry then stood adjourned for an hour. On resuming after dinner,

Hayashi, Mariya's shopman, had his statement translated and read over to him. He said that on the 19th, when he sold the poison to the European lady, he thought that she was Mrs. Carew, as she wrote that name on the paper. When he asked her if the poison was for external application, she said that it was for external use. He had heard that Mr. Carew had been in the habit "using" not "taking" poison for some long time. They entered the sale of poisons in the firm's day-book, and they must have a doctor's prescription before they could sell medicine or poison.

Dr. Divers was then recalled to allow of the Jury or Counsel putting questions to him.

Mr. Rose—I would like to ask Dr. Divers how long the fatal dose of arsenic was taken before death?—I could not give you a very useful opinion,

because I did not see the deceased. I only know what the symptoms were from the medical evidence as reported in the newspapers; and the last day of his life is singularly devoid of details. He seems to have been on that day in a state of collapse, therefore it would not have been on that day that he had any medicine. Further than that I cannot give any opinion.

Mr. Nicholas—Did you notice any traces of lead in the stomach?—As you wish me to say something on that point, I will tell you that I noticed—I was not seeking for it—that the contents of the intestines yielded a slaty black sulphide. After suitable treatment I would have a black compound; sugar of lead would form such a compound; arsenic produces a bright yellow. I am not in the least prepared to say that there was no lead in the stomach, the probabilities are it was the other way. It is probable that half an ounce of sugar of lead would cause death, and the symptoms would be somewhat similar to those of arsenic, but it is not probable, in my opinion, that sugar of lead caused death. It would have been of interest to have told the Court positively, because it would have shown the internal administration of lead, but I am not prepared to speak positively. Lead might have been administered to check hæmorrhage, and hæmorrhage is a known result of arsenical poisoning.

Mr. Rose—You cannot give any idea of how long after taking a fatal dose of arsenic death would be caused?—If a man under medical treatment, deprived of full meals, took a poisonous dose of arsenic, I should expect him to die in from six to twelve hours—that is the usual experience. If a person in full health, after a full meal, were to take solid white arsenic it might require a long period to be fatal in its effects; but if solution of arsenic were given on a relatively empty stomach you might expect the result to be very rapid. As I mentioned in my evidence this morning, I consider that arsenic was continuously administered in poisonous doses—dangerous doses—during the eight days of his illness.

Mr. Litchfield had no question to put.

Mr. Lowder—What quantity of arsenic did you find in the viscera?—That is just a question I cannot answer. I can give you an opinion, but I do not wish my opinion to have too much weight with the jury. I have not yet gone far enough with the analysis to be able to discover it in weighable quantities yet. In any case it would be very small, perhaps $\frac{1}{10}$ part of a grain, perhaps only one twentieth; and $\frac{1}{10}$ in the liver. There was much less in the contents of the bowels, some traces—certainly unweighable quantities—in the stomach. I intended to devote myself to that matter afterwards, but it is too late for this inquest unless it is adjourned. It is not my fault; I have lost no time but have devoted myself to the case day by day, and I cannot possibly be to blame for not being ready. The only thing I can be blamed for is in answering hurriedly, by telegraph, and saying that I could be ready by Friday. I have worked alone and I am responsible for the examination, so that I can swear to my own statements.

Mr. Lowder—Do I understand you to say that the amount of arsenic already discovered is sufficient to cause death?—Yes, but I think you do not understand me. When I find in the liver of a person the tenth part of a grain of arsenic, I should expect certainly that the dose had been many grains. A number of cases are on record in which the amount of arsenic given has been known and the quantity of arsenic found on examination has been known, and there would not be one hundredth part of the arsenic found of the amount known to be taken. Arsenic is often vomited, or passed through the urine, and got rid of in other ways, and the statement I meant to convey was that the arsenic found by me was ample evidence of arsenic having been given in doses sufficient to cause death. That does not prove that death was caused by arsenic: it is only a scientific opinion.

Mr. Lowder—Do you consider it possible could that three one-ounce bottles of Fowler's Solution have been administered in three days?—I should not think so. Nothing is impossible; but I should say that three one-ounce bottles would not be administered in three days.

Mr. Lowder—Do you think that two ounces could have been taken or administered in three days?—Consistent with the existing facts, you mean? That seems to me the same question as before. Of course you understand I distinguish between what is taken and what is offered to a person, between a draught and the quantity swallowed. With an irritable stomach a lot might be thrown up again. If you ask if two ounces were administered, I should say I could not give an opinion. If you ask if it were really drunk out of a vessel into which it had been poured I should say no. I may mention here that Fowler's Solution prepared

by the Japanese is practically of the same strength as that prepared by the British pharmacopœia.

Mr. Lowder—Should you consider it a startling proposition that a person accustomed to take arsenic in the shape of Fowler's Solution could take an ounce bottle in from four to five doses without harm to himself?—Within what time?

Mr. Lowder—I do not state a time.—You mean a quarter of an ounce at a time?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, could he take that dose without harm to himself?—That I cannot deny. It is highly improbable that he would be able to take that quantity, but we have records of men taking three or four grains of solid white arsenic, but then we have also the fact that they take it solid, dry, without drinking and avoiding drink, and it rapidly passes through their bodies, but they are special cases, not known among Western Europeans. I don't wish my statement to have too much value; there are men in large medical practice who are better qualified to give an opinion than I am.

Mr. Lowder—I ask you because the evidence that I intend to bring is that the deceased was in the habit of taking this solution and that he divided an ounce bottle into only four or five doses, and so took the arsenic for a long series of years?—That would be very startling. It might be in accordance with the experience of some medical practitioners, but not with persons that one usually mixes with. I should have wished that Dr. Bætz had been asked some questions on the point. So far as my knowledge of practical work and of reading and studying medical works and medical jurisprudence goes—and I was Lecturer on the subject for some years—such cases are not recognised as occurring among Western Europeans.

Mr. Lowder—Then I take it your answer is not derived from the very latest authorities on the subject?—Yes, from the very latest. Dr. Lauder Brunton, one of the lecturers and physicians at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, who is regarded as the highest authority on the action of medicines, in his enumeration of cases of this kind mentions simply no cases of tolerance of arsenic among Western Europeans. He mentions that there are cases of tolerance, but not known to Western European races. The only cases known are in Syria—that is the stock illustration and has been verified. But there they take the arsenic solid, white, and dry. I have heard of persons taking moderate doses of arsenic, but I shall be astonished to hear of persons taking such large doses of solution of arsenic.

Mr. Lowder—Can you give me a reference to the authority you have cited?—A large volume on Therapeutics. I forget the exact title.

Mr. Lowder—A quarter ounce bottle of solution would contain one grain, would it not?—It would be equivalent to one grain.

Mr. Lowder—I think you told us the least fatal dose was two grains?—Of which we have good records. That is of white arsenic. One grain might produce very distressing symptoms of poisoning by arsenic.

Mr. Lowder—One-quarter ounce bottle would not be equivalent to a fatal dose?—No, not for solid arsenic, but we cannot test these solutions properly, because you cannot kill men for experiment, and effects on animals are of no value.

Mr. Lowder—But the least fatal dose of white arsenic would be two grains?—I should conclude that it would be at least as active in solution, or rather it ought to be more active, because it is in solution. Solid arsenic sticks in the stomach, but when it is in solution the passing into the body should be more rapid.

Mr. Lowder—That is not a fact derived from known cases?—That is my own opinion.

Mr. Lowder—But there have been known cases of poisoning by white arsenic and the least fatal dose is two grains?—Yes.

Dr. Divers' examination being concluded, he asked permission to add a further statement. He said—I should point out, that if evidence showed that there are cases of persons who could swallow one, two, or three grains of arsenic without suffering, those persons would require much larger doses of one ounce, two ounce, or three ounce bottles to produce similar poisoning effects to those suffered by other individuals from taking smaller quantities. But such cases do not usually occur among those we meet. That seems to be the difficulty. We know there are persons who take large doses for respiration, but that does not seem to apply here.

Mr. Joseph Schedel, chemist, sworn, deposed—I am a chemist and druggist in Yokohama, on my own account for about 5 years. From time to time since 1893 I have supplied drugs and chemicals to Mrs. Carew's household. I have the prescriptions with me that I have made up for them. They include five bundles and one chit. I have also a list of all medicines supplied since 1893. Among these prescriptions is one for arsenic. It is a prescription of Dr. Wheeler's, given on Oct. 11th, and is for Fowler's Solution of Arsenic. This

was repeated twice, on the 17th of October and 21st. The orders were signed by "E. M. H. Carew." Before October of this year I had never supplied arsenic in any shape or form to the Carew family. I do not remember who brought the note on the 21st October.

To the Coroner—On the 17th of October I believe a Japanese servant brought the note, but I cannot remember distinctly. [Exhibits put in.]

(Copy)

22876

O. VOLLBEH.

11 X 96

Mitte.

Lig. Fowleri Zp.

(Mrs. CAREW.

E. W.

(Copy)

"Please send one bottle of quinine and refill accompanying bottle.

E. M. H. CAREW."

(Copy)

"Please send me a small bottle of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic, the same as before. I cannot send the empty bottle, as it is broken.

E. M. H. CAREW.

To Mr. Lowder—These were half ounce bottles. To the Coroner—I never supplied the late Mr. Carew with arsenic myself, and have no reason to suppose that he was in the habit of taking arsenic. I have not, in the course of my experience, heard of arsenic being taken externally in cases of stricture.

To Mr. Lowder—The bottle now shown me is the one supplied by me on the 21st. It is addressed to W. R. H. Carew, Esq., and is so addressed in my assistant's handwriting; but it might have been for Mrs. Carew for anything I knew.

Mr. Lowder—Then you can't give any explanation yourself why it is so addressed?—The writing is that of my assistant.

Radical Greer, otherwise known as Hanaya Chiyaki, cautioned, deposed.—I was in the employ of Mrs. Carew at the time of Mr. Carew's death. I went into her employ on the 17th March of this year. I know that Mr. Carew was taken ill either on a Friday or Saturday. I was employed in the dining-room.

Did you ever go into his bedroom?—When letters came I used to take them in.

Did you take any food to him?—I use to take the food in at first, when they had meals together in the bedroom.

When did Mr. and Mrs. Carew stop eating together?—I do not well remember but think four or five days before Mr. Carew died.

After that did you take beef-tea, food, eatables, to Mr. Carew?—Yes, I took some beef-tea.

Anything else?—Some corn-flour; I remember nothing else.

Did you take those by your mistress's orders?—I took them according to Mrs. Carew's orders.

Did you receive them from Mrs. Carew, or get them from the kitchen?—I got them from the kitchen.

Did you in any way assist in nursing Mr. Carew while he was sick?—I was once by the side of Mr. Carew in the morning while Mrs. Carew went to her meal.

During that time did you supply Mr. Carew with any medicine?—The bell rang, and Mr. Carew asked for some soda-water. I put some soda-water into a glass at his request, and placed it by his side.

Did Mr. Carew put anything into the glass beside the soda-water?—There was something in the glass before I put the soda-water in.

Did you ever see Mr. Carew help himself to medicine?—I gave the glass to Mr. Carew and went out of the room.

The interpreter repeated the question to which the witness answered—I do not know.

Mr. Litchfield—Were there any bottles near the bedside at this time?—I did not notice.

Was it your duty, or if not, whose duty was it, to clean the bedroom?—It was another woman's duty, but she was ill and did not clean the room.

To Mr. Rose—I did not go to Maruya for Mrs. Carew for medicine.

You did not fetch any medicine for Mr. Carew?—Yes, I did bring some for him.

How long ago was that?—I do not remember very well, but either on the 18th or 19th October. I received a memorandum from the hands of my master. I do not remember the size of the bottle, but it was small. I do not recollect whether it was one or two bottles. During Mr. Carew's illness, he would not allow the room to be cleaned. He did not approve of it.

Mr. Trafford—Where did you buy the medicine that Mr. Carew asked you to get?—I sent the letter by a jinrikishaman to Maruya.

Then you have never really purchased any medicine yourself for Mr. Carew?—No.

To the Coroner—Mr. Carew was ill for about a week. I remember his dying on the 22nd.

Now during that five or six days before his death, who nursed him?—Mrs. Carew kindly nursed him.

Only Mrs. Carew?—Generally, Mrs. Carew only. Did Mrs. Carew receive no assistance during those six days?—I only know of Mrs. Carew nursing him.

Did you ever assist in nursing Mr. Carew?—Only that once when Mrs. Carew was at breakfast.

Did you ever see Mrs. Carew give her husband medicine?—Mrs. Carew prepared the medicines at the side of Mr. Carew, at the bedside, and I was not present then.

Mr. Lowder—Witness has been talking about Mr. Carew's room, was not the room occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Carew as husband and wife?—It was a common bedroom.

When Mr. Carew told you to purchase the medicine, or sent for a bottle through you, was not Mrs. Carew at church?—She was out of the house, she was not in.

Do you remember if it was on a Sunday?—It may probably have been so.

At what time of day was it when he gave you the order?—It was in the afternoon, four o'clock perhaps.

Had Mrs. Carew taken the children with her that day?—As I did not see the children, probably she did take them.

Prior to the 15th of October did Mr. and Mrs. Carew live on affectionate terms with each other?—They were on very good terms; very good indeed.

Was there any alteration in the terms on which they lived after the 15th October till Mr. Carew's death?—There was no change in the relations. Mrs. Carew was extremely kind.

Do you know of any reason whatever, why Mrs. Carew should administer poison to her husband?—There is no reason that I know of.

Did Mrs. Carew keep her medicine in a little cupboard on the mantel-piece of the room of which you have been speaking?—There were bottles of medicine in there.

Mr. Carew's dressing-room was in the verandah opening from that room?—It was.

Did he keep his medicine on the top of his chest of drawers in a little cupboard?—I did not take any notice.

The Usher of the Court at this period brought in a small fender.

Mr. Lowder to witness—Do you remember whether there were bottles of medicine kept in a cupboard of the sideboard downstairs?—There were bottles scattered about.

I am speaking of medicine bottles?—Yes, there were small medicine bottles scattered about, but how many I do not know.

Do you remember that fender as the one in use in Mrs. Carew's bedroom?—It is.

Mr. Lowder—I should like the fender taken charge of by the Usher.

It was now nearly 5 o'clock, and candles had been lighted in the Court room for some time.

The Coroner said that it rested with the jury whether they should adjourn then, or go on with the inquest.

Mr. Trafford—Can we finish to-night?

The Coroner—Well, I intend calling Ah Why, Mr. Carew's Chinese houseboy, the two shopmen at Maruya's, and I have been told by the police that the *betto* and cook of the Carews could both furnish evidence. Then Mrs. Carew has to be consulted. Did Mr. Lowder intend bringing evidence?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, Mrs. Carew will also be recalled, and her examination will not possibly be finished in less than two or three hours.

The Coroner—With justice to Mrs. Carew we could not finish to-night?

Mr. Lowder—It is quite impossible.

The Coroner—That settles the matter.

Mr. Lowder—I have an application to make. I ask that you should bring before this Coroner's Court, a person of the name of Annie Luke, a British subject, who was in Yokohama on the 29th of October last. I personally have made every endeavour and spent much time in trying to ascertain her whereabouts so that she might be produced this morning. I now apply to you to have such proper measures taken to ascertain the whereabouts of Miss Annie Luke, so that she may be in attendance when we reassemble.

The Coroner—I will do my best. Now gentleman, to-morrow being the birthday of the ruler of the land in which we are at present living, I think that it would be but a suitable mark of respect if we adjourn over that day. We will meet again at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings were resumed at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning, in the Inquest concerning the death of Mr. W. R. H. Carew. J. Carey Hall, Esq., Coroner; Messrs. Trafford, Powys, Rose,

Blundell, and Nicholas were the appeared jury; Mr. H. C. Litchfield for the Crown; Messrs. Lowder and A. B. Walford for the wife of the deceased.

Mr. Lowder said he had a few more questions to ask the *amah*.

Permission being given, he said—Do you remember one night of Mr. Carew's illness, Mrs. Carew leaving the house to go in search of Dr. Wheeler?—I do remember it.

Do you remember it was in the evening?—Yes.

While Mrs. Carew was absent did any one come to the door?—Mrs. Carew said that we might go to bed after she went out. Just after she went away a bell rang. I answered the door.

Who was it?—A woman.

Was it a woman whom you have seen before?—No, I had never seen her before.

Can you give any description of her?—She was rather tall, dressed in black clothes, but I do not remember her face.

Do you remember her hair?—I did not notice.

Was she veiled?—I did not notice owing to the dim light.

What did she say to you?—She asked if Mr. Carew was in.

And then?—I said that Mr. Carew was ill and that Mrs. Carew had gone to fetch Dr. Wheeler.

What did she then say?—She enquired where Mr. Carew's room was.

And what was the answer?—I said that Mr. Carew was upstairs and she then went away without saying a word.

Did this visitor show any signs of distress, was she crying?—I did not see her exhibit any signs of distress. I left the door unlocked, as Mrs. Carew had said that we might go to bed.

Mr. Litchfield—Was this the only occasion on which you saw this woman?—It was the first time that I had seen her, for I do not let visitors in, and therefore see little of them.

Had you ever seen this woman calling at Mr. Carew's house before?—I never saw her.

The evidence of the *amah* was then translated and read over to her. She had some corrections to make. Mr. and Mrs. Carew stopped eating together two or three days before he died. She went to Mr. Carew's bedside one morning, at Mrs. Carew's orders, while Mrs. Carew was at breakfast, but at that time she did not give Mr. Carew anything. On another occasion, when Mrs. Carew was out of the house, Mr. Carew's bell rang and I went upstairs to his room. It was then that I gave him some soda-water in a tumbler, at his request. There was some medicine, or something, in the glass before I poured the soda-water in. I put the glass down at his side, and then left the room. The order Mr. Carew gave me to send to Maruya's was in writing—a chit.

To Mr. Lowder—There was no key or lock to the cabinet in which Mrs. Carew kept her medicines.

To the Coroner—I did not see any medicine bottles on Mr. Carew's chest of drawers. There were bottles scattered about the side-board of the dining-room. The woman who called on the night that Mrs. Carew went for Dr. Wheeler was a little taller than Mrs. Carew. The woman also asked "What has Mrs. Carew gone to do at Dr. Wheeler's."

Mr. Lowder (to the Coroner)—Will you ask what reply witness made?

Witness—I said that as my master was very ill my mistress had gone to fetch the doctor.

The Coroner—Was Mrs. Carew absent from home, at Miyanoshita, towards the end of September?—Yes; she left Yokohama on the 26th.

And returned?—She was absent about four or five days; returning at the beginning of October.

During the time Mrs. Carew was at Miyanoshita, Mr. Carew remained in Yokohama?—He remained at the house.

At what time during those days did he come home to the house; did he keep late or early hours?—Sometimes early, sometimes late.

What were Mr. Carew's hours for returning home when his wife was at home?—I do not remember very well, but I think generally between 5.30 and 6 o'clock.

Now, whenever Mrs. Carew happened to be absent, were his hours any different?—Sometimes he used to come back at 6.30, sometimes at 7.30 o'clock while Mrs. Carew was absent.

Mr. Lowder—May I put a question on that examination?

The Coroner—Certainly.

Mr. Lowder, to witness—Didn't Mr. Carew accompany his wife, when she went to Miyanoshita, that day being a Saturday, and return on the Monday?—Mrs. Carew, Mr. Porch, and the children, and I think Mr. Carew, went on the Saturday, and I think he returned on the Monday.

And then did not Mr. Carew go up to Miyanoshita on the Friday to fetch them?—I do not remember very well; but I believe he went for the children.

Did not Mrs. Carew return on the Friday alone and then Mr. Carew went up to Miyanoshta on the Saturday for the children?—Mrs. Carew came back bringing with her the Chinese boy.

And the next day, did not Mr. Carew go up and fetch the children?—I think it was so; probably on the next day after Mrs. Carew's return he went and fetched the children.

Mr. Lowder, to the Coroner—If this evidence is necessary, Mrs. Carew can supply it.

Ah Kwong, was then called.

Mr. Lowder—I am sorry to trouble your Honour once again in regard to the last witness, but I have it that Mr. Porch went up to Miyanoshta with the family on the Saturday and returned on the Monday with Mr. Carew.

The Coroner—Is it important?

Mr. Lowder—I do not understand the purport of these questions, so do not know.

The Coroner—They were suggested to me by Mr. Litchfield, who is watching the case.

Mr. Lowder—Then it will be important to elicit the whole of the truth of these movements.

The Coroner then put the question to the *amah*. Witness—I think it probable that Mr. Porch did come back with Mr. Carew on Monday.

Ah Kwong, in answer to the Coroner, said—I am the boy employed by the late Mr. Carew. I had to wait at table. I do not know how old I am. He was cautioned to speak the truth.

The Coroner said that he did not expect that this witness could throw much light on the matter, and he proposed dismissing him with the concurrence of the Jury.

The boy said he had never seen Mrs. Carew give her husband any medicine. He was then dismissed.

Kuroyanaki Junsei, the *betto* of Mrs. Carew, said—I have given Mrs. Carew's pony medicine. It was a white powder. I do not know whether it was a poison, on what it was called. I obtained it from Mrs. Carew. I only gave the pony a small amount of the medicine—only a very little.

How long had you been in the habit of giving this white powder to the horse?—For four or five days.

When?—In the spring.

Of this year?—Yes.

Not since?—Not since the spring.

For what purpose did you give the pony the medicine?—The pony had caught cold and I gave it the powder for that.

How did you give it, in water or solid?—I sprinkled it among the fodder.

The Coroner—Those questions were suggested by the statement of Mrs. Carew that she had arsenic given as an emulsion to her pony, and I thought it well to probe the thing to the bottom.

Mr. Lowder—Have you not been using sugar of lead recently, as an external application, for a sprain received by the pony?—I did.

The Coroner—Last month?—It had fever of the leg and I mixed some medicine in water and applied it.

Do you know what kind of medicine it was?—Mrs. Carew told me to bring a bucket of water and she poured some drops into the water.

Was it a fluid medicine?—Yes.

Do you know its name?—No.

What day, last month, was it?—I fancy it may have been the 27th or 28th of last month; I fancy that was the time.

Mr. Rose—Did you only give this medicine once?—I only applied it once, as the pony got better and I did not apply to my mistress for any more.

Only once in October?—I only used it once.

The Coroner—Do you remember the size of the bottle?—It was so thick (indicating with his fingers).

Mr. Lowder—Are you not confusing October with September?—It was more than two weeks ago.

On reading over the evidence, the man thought that probably he applied the liniment in September.

Mr. Trafford—Was it before or after Mr. Carew's death?—Before his death. I think a good deal before, but I can't recollect exactly.

The Coroner called for the two shopmen from Maruya's, but neither were present. He said that as they were not in Court this would conclude the evidence that he had to call. He would now take Mrs. Carew's evidence.

Mr. Lowder said that he must have the two men called, their presence being absolutely necessary. The Coroner—Then I will see that they do attend later on, if that will do.

Mr. Lowder—Very well.

The Coroner—Did I understand you to say on Monday that you would like to address the Jury.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, if necessary.

The Coroner—Do you claim that as a right?

Mr. Lowder—No, as a privilege.

The Coroner—Can you give me any precedent?

Mr. Lowder—I have not looked up any cases. The Coroner—But it would be unusual would it not?

Mr. Lowder—Perhaps it is unusual for Counsel to apply for permission to address a Coroner's jury.

The Coroner—I am not inclined to depart from the usual practice. I shall be obliged if you will elicit and bring forth from Mrs. Carew by questions all the points that you would have introduced in your arguments.

Mr. Lowder—That I will do; it was the knowledge of that that made me say on Monday that Mrs. Carew's supplemental statement would take two or three hours.

The Coroner—Then it is understood that you do not address the jury?

Mr. Lowder—Very well, sir.

The Coroner—I should like to ask Mrs. Carew a question before Mr. Lowder begins his examination. Mrs. Carew, did Dr. Wheeler ever prescribe arsenic for your late husband?—Not that I am aware of.

Then under what circumstances was the first bottle of Fowler's Solution procured from Mr. Schedel on Dr. Wheeler's prescription?—Dr. Wheeler prescribed arsenic for my malarial fever.

When was this?—On the 10th of October last.

Where was it?—At the Boat-house.

Will you state what conversation passed then?—I should like before I do so, to say what conversation I have had with Dr. Wheeler with reference to my malarial fever, a week before.

The Coroner—State it in your own way.

Witness—I have no recollection of the date whatever, but it must have been in the first week of October, that I told Dr. Wheeler I was suffering again from malaria; that the large doses of quinine which I had been taking, and was taking at the time, had lost their effect, and I should like him to prescribe for me again. He thereupon suggested my going on with the arsenic, which he had prescribed for me, and which I had taken regularly for three months in October, November, and December, 1894. During that conversation, I told Dr. Wheeler that I did not think myself that the arsenic agreed with me, although it undoubtedly benefitted the malaria. I cannot remember that very much more was said on that occasion, but on the 10th of October, at the Boat-house, Dr. Wheeler said that he was sorry to hear, or sorry to see, I had not derived much benefit from my visit to Miyanoshta. I am not prepared to state whether the suggestion came from Dr. Wheeler on myself, that he should then and there write me a prescription of the same nature as that which I had taken on previous occasions. He tore a piece of paper off the Regatta programme and wrote the prescription which was produced in Court on Monday. I myself did not take the prescription to the Normal Dispensary as the day on which the prescription was made up was a Sunday, but I quite see how the mistake occurred in Mr. Carew's name being on the label, because I sent my own prescription on the Sunday with a prescription written by Dr. Wheeler for Mr. Carew.

Mr. Lowder—When you came before this Court on the 24th of October, you had come straight from the funeral of your husband?—Yes.

You had not heard the evidence given by Miss Jacobs?—No.

And you were unaware that any suspicion had been directed against yourself in regard to the death of your husband?—At that time I was.

On ascertaining that fact, you instructed me to write to the Coroner to tender you as a witness in order to supplement the evidence you had given?—Yes.

In your evidence on that first day you apparently said, "I remonstrated with him a good deal on his taking arsenic, especially in his present state. He then told me that when I was in England, in 1893, he had been obliged to consult Dr. Munro, and later Dr. Baelz upon a disease which he did not wish me to mention to Dr. Wheeler." Did you mean that he then told you for the first time, or that he reminded you of the fact?—I should have left out the word "then." I should have said that he reminded me that he had been obliged to consult other doctors; the reason he mentioned it was because he was afraid that during his last illness I should mention the fact to Dr. Wheeler.

You stated on that occasion that you had only once sent for arsenic at the request of your husband?—Yes.

And now you find that you were mistaken in giving that answer?—Yes, on the 27th of October, when my husband had a conversation with me and gave me the piece of paper, I remonstrated with him a great deal. In the evening I recollect writing to Maruya's for a bed-pan. I cannot say that I have any recollection whatever of writing for the arsenic, but I know that I must have done so, as my writing is conclusive evidence. The *amah*

brought me on Tuesday night the parcel which was received from Maruya's. She gave it to me as Dr. Wheeler and I were leaving the bedroom, and I told her to put it on the chair in the passage upstairs. The bed-pan was not taken out of its wrapping until the following morning. I am positive that I had no idea that arsenic had come into the house that night, because I had no recollection whatever of ever seeing the bottle which is said to have contained arsenic. I wrote a chit to Maruya shortly after I sent for the bed-pan for a bottle of chlorodyne.

In answer to a question that I put to you last Saturday week, as to the general affectionate relations prevailing between your husband and yourself, you answered:—"We have lately had unpleasant discussions on a certain point, but generally we were on affectionate terms as husband and wife." On what point did you have these unpleasant discussions?—On money matters.

On money matters alone?—Yes.

You have in your own right £500 a year?—Yes.

And have had ever since your marriage?—Yes.

That is partly your own money and partly an allowance made you by your father?—There were £400 of my own, and £100 allowed me by my father.

And this money was remitted to Japan twice yearly?—Yes.

Up till last June in whose name was the remittance made out?—In Mr. Carew's name.

Last June a remittance of £250 arrived as usual?—I have reason to suppose that it did.

Prior to last June how had your husband treated this remittance, what did he do with the proceeds?—He kept the sum at his own account, and up till about a year and a half ago, he would give me money when I required it. But at my suggestion he then opened an account for me at the Chartered Bank, and besides giving me a monthly allowance for household expenses, would on receipt of the half-yearly remittances from England, deposit a sum in my name, varying from 500 to 800 dollars, more or less, as I asked for it. The remainder, it was understood, was to be used by him at his own discretion.

That was till about a year and a half ago?—No, this was the arrangement with the bank. This went on till last June.

Now in June, what conversation took place between you with reference to the remittance that should have arrived by then?—It was in the month of July that I first spoke to him on the matter. I had expressed surprise that the money, which I knew ought to have been sent from England, had not yet arrived. I do not remember his answer at the time, but upon my repeating it, some days after, he told me that the money had come, but that he was then unable to let me have any. I repeatedly had to ask him to explain why he had such an immediate want for that money, but as he could give me no satisfactory answer, I was obliged to make other arrangements respecting the way in which the remittances were sent out from home. I thereupon saw Mr. Dickinson.

Mr. Lowder—He was a friend of the family was he not?—He was.

Witness, resuming—I saw him as to the best way of arranging the matter.

Your object being to have the control of the money in your own hands?—Yes.

Then?—As Mr. Dickinson knew, and always had known, more about my affairs than most people here, he wrote home for me some time during the summer, and subsequently advised me to go and tell Mr. Jackson, of the Hongkong Bank, of my wishes, and to get him to help me in the matter, which he did.

Was that the only controversy you ever had with your husband?—Absolutely.

Did it make any difference in your marital relations?—None whatever.

Your husband had no private fortune of his own?—None.

Recently he expressed to you a wish to purchase a house, did he not?—Yes.

You agreed with him that it would be desirable?—Yes, with the consent that I should first have to get from my father.

Did you write to your father for his consent?—I did and he wrote me to the effect, that he would be willing to let me have £2,000, to invest in house property, provided Mr. Carew could give a satisfactory report of the house, also providing that the title-deeds should be made out in my name. Upon that we entered into negotiations with Mr. Blad, a resident here, for the purchase of a house; with the result that we negotiated to purchase a house for the sum of \$13,000. The bargain has only been relinquished in consequence of the death of my husband.

Your husband was Manager of the Yokohama United Club, was he not?—Yes.

He recently expressed a wish, did he not, to

give up his position at the Club and go into business?—Yes, some eight or nine months ago he first expressed that wish.

And asked you to assist him?—Yes.

What business did he think of entering upon?—At that time he had no special line of business in view. He had repeatedly expressed his wish to me and to others, that he might leave the Club and go into business in Yokohama. Where upon I wrote to England, to an uncle of mine, who is also one of my trustees, and asked him whether I could realise a sum of money which I had in my own right, to enable Mr. Carew to go into business. His reply to me was, that he did not think it advisable to realise any of my money, but that there was no harm in telling me that he had left me money in his will, and that if it would be of any service to enable Mr. Carew to go into any business, and provided that he (my uncle) approved of the investment, he was willing to advance me the money at once.

The Coroner—Pardon me, Mr. Lowder, but is this line of evidence relevant to the case?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

The Coroner—Very well.

Mr. Lowder—What sum of money was to be advanced?—Nothing was settled definitely, but roughly it would be from £8,000 to £10,000. Mr. Carew at once made enquiries, and finally decided that he would like to go into a silk firm here.

The Coroner again interposed.

Mr. Lowder—I will explain why I consider it necessary to introduce this evidence. I am endeavouring to show absence of motive.

The Coroner—Very well.

Witness—Do you wish me, Mr. Lowder, to give the name of the firm?

Mr. Lowder—If there is any doubt as to the truth of your statement, yes. But I don't think the firm would care to have it appear. I will write it on a slip of paper and show it to the Coroner and the Jury.

The Coroner—I don't think that is necessary. Its bearing on the case is very remote.

Mr. Lowder—I take the responsibility for introducing the evidence, whether your Honour sees the relevancy or not.

Mr. Lowder then wrote the name of the firm on a slip of paper and it was handed to the Coroner and the Jury.

Examination continued—But for Mr. Carew's death he would, with your money, have purchased an interest in that firm?—Yes.

To the full amount that your uncle was prepared to advance?—Yes.

You have every reason to believe that everything had been settled?—Yes, so far as I know. As the head of the firm is not in Yokohama, it would have been necessary to write to him on the matter.

His reply had not been received?—Not yet.

But his agent or partners fully approved of the proposition?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—That concludes that line of evidence. You were married?—In the early part of 1896. My parents did not approve of the proposed marriage.

After your marriage, did you and your husband live together on terms of affection?—From the time we were married till the time he died.

Nothing whatever occurred to create dissension between you, except what you have mentioned this morning?—Nothing.

You were always very frank with him, and he with you?—Yes.

On all subjects?—Yes, on all subjects.

Did he soon after his marriage mention to you the name of Annie Luke?—Yes.

Where did she reside relatively to your residence?—In the west of England?

Where did you reside?—In Somersetshire. She lived in Devonshire, I believe.

What did he tell you at that time with reference to her?—At that time, very little, beyond that he had seen a great deal of her. The conversation at the time made so little impression on me that, so far as I can remember, he gave me to understand that he had been amusing himself with her, prior to his meeting me, or marrying me.

Did this arouse any feeling of jealousy in your mind?—None whatever.

And you did not mention her name again until quite recently?—Until quite recently.

He also told you that prior to his marriage he had begotten children that were still alive?—Yes.

For one of those children you provide support, do you not?—Yes.

That did not create any dissension between you or any jealousy in your mind?—None. I should like to explain that the conversation as to the circumstances that Mr. Lowder is now referring to, took place at Singapore and I never knew of this until some four months after my marriage.

Mr. Lowder—I am now about to enter upon

some new evidence, and if it is convenient we might adjourn till after the luncheon hour.

The Coroner—It is not yet quite twelve o'clock and I intend to sit until half-past twelve, with the concurrence of the jury.

Mr. Lowder, to witness—Soon after your marriage did you learn that your husband had been in the habit of taking arsenic?—About nine months after.

Where were you then residing?—At a place called Sungei Ujong, in the Straits Settlements.

Do you know why he took it?—I have no idea. He had suffered from ill-health for a great number of years, which illness obliged him to leave the Straits 15 months after my going there with him.

He was in the Government employment, was he not?—Yes.

And would have been entitled to a pension had he remained another 11 months?—Yes.

He had to leave the Straits in consequence of illness?—Yes.

What that illness, was you do not know?—It was called nervous depression, but his illness had more or less puzzled his medical attendants. But they put it down entirely to the climate, and as he has never suffered, or very rarely so, from the same since he left, I imagine that to be the cause.

Do you know if arsenic had been prescribed for him in the Straits?—Yes, I do.

By whom was it prescribed?—By the head doctor of the Singapore Hospital. I think he was called Dr. Simons.

How much did he use to take at first?—I have no recollection of the prescribed dose, but on his return to Singapore, I should suppose he was taking 4 or 5 drops, three times a day. I have no reason to suppose at that time that he was taking more.

Did he continue to take arsenic from that time?—Periodically from that time until the time of his death. Without it being prescribed for him?—Yes.

Was he willing or unwilling to call in a doctor when he was unwell?—Most unwilling. I think I may safely add, that with the exception of his being obliged to consult Dr. Munro and Dr. Baelz, he has never consulted any doctor since his arrival in Japan without my sending for the doctor myself.

Dr. Wheeler?—Yes.

On the occasion of his last illness, who sent for Dr. Wheeler?—I did. I wrote to him on the morning of the 15th. I am positive that he would not have sent for Dr. Wheeler himself. He said that I was not to send for him, but I was anxious and wrote and asked Dr. Wheeler to see my husband at the Club, which he did.

In reference to medicine, what was his opinion, was he not opposed to it?—No not to medicines. He has frequently told me, and that almost up to the day of his death, that he never had, and never would, believe in doctors. He was in the habit, at various times, of trying a good many patent medicines on his own account.

Shortly before his last illness, for instance, he was taking Mother Seigel's syrup, was he not?—Yes.

You stated in the early part of your evidence this morning that in the Straits you were in the habit of giving your husband doses of arsenic?—Yes, frequently; every day.

And you would measure it out in drops?—Yes, I always used the drops.

Later he has always dosed himself?—Yes. It was only during his illness in the Straits that I was accustomed to give him the arsenic myself.

Later he would use this arsenic without measuring it?—Yes.

He has been in the habit of doing so for a long time?—Yes, and because he has been so much in the habit of taking arsenic as a pic-me-up, he would pour a small quantity out, add water and drink it off.

Did he not generally keep a small bottle on the sideboard in the dining-room?—Yes.

Is this the bottle he kept?—Yes.

There was no label on it?—No. There never has been so far as I know.

Later, at what time of day did he use to take it?—Directly after breakfast. By that I mean after the breakfast he used to take—an egg and milk.

You have made an experiment, have you not, with an ounce bottle, filling it with water, and pouring out the quantity that he used to take?—I have found that an ounce bottle would contain for him about five doses.

On the last occasion you stated that you had found three bottles, two behind the table in your husband's bedroom, and the other in the cupboard where he used to keep his medicine?—Yes.

Are these the two bottles you found behind the bedroom table?—Yes.

Bottles handed in, one labelled "Sugar of Lead,

Z. P. Maruya & Co., pharmaceutical and dispensing chemists, 28, Bentendori, Yokohama, the other "One ounce Fowler's solution of arsenic, Z. P. Maruya," etc.

Are those the two bottles that you discovered after your husband's death behind the small table at his bedside?—Yes.

Now you spoke of another bottle which you found in the cupboard in which your husband kept his medicine, that has a label written on in another hand, "Fowler's solution," underneath "Poison," and no label of Maruya's, is that the bottle?—Yes.

I now hand you a bottle bearing the label "chloral hydrate," with the word, "poison," in Japanese and English, and ask you if you also discovered this bottle in the cupboard where your husband kept his medicines?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I would call attention to the fact that the cork of that bottle bears the same inscription as does the cork in the bottle said to be from Maruya's.

Have you any knowledge of the purchase of that chloral hydrate?—None whatever.

Had you even seen such in the house before?—Never.

Or a similar bottle?—Never.

I will ask you whether this is the prescription which you spoke of this morning as having been sent by you on the 11th of Oct., with the one given to you by Dr. Wheeler on the previous day?—I suppose it is, but I have no recollection.

Mr. Lowder—I will call your Honour's attention to the fact that the prescription is dated the 11th October; that bears out what Mrs. Carew told the jury this morning.

Witness, after referring to the prescription, said—I recollect now that it was given to me by Dr. Wheeler in the bedroom, and I wrote the address on the back.

Mr. Lowder—The date on the prescription that Dr. Wheeler gave you, for yourself, on the 10th, has been put on since?—Yes, probably at the Dispensary.

Mr. Lowder—Nothing hangs on this, I only intend to corroborate every statement made by Mrs. Carew, and it is only reasonable to call attention to this fact.

The Coroner—Quite so.

Mr. Lowder then held up a broken bottle and said—Is this the remains of the bottle sent to you by Mr. Schedel on the 11th Oct.?—That is the original bottle sent me.

It is addressed to your husband?—Yes, but I have explained how that very palpable error had been made.

Is that the bottle with reference to which you wrote to Mr. Schedel on the 17th Oct. to have refilled?—Yes, it was.

Is it the bottle that you wrote to Mr. Schedel on the 20th, to say that it was broken, and you wanted another bottle of the solution in its stead?—Yes.

And is this the bottle you received on the 21st?—Yes.

[All the bottles were put in.]

Will you describe where you kept your medicines?—I keep my medicines in a small bamboo cabinet that stands on the mantelpiece in my bedroom.

Is that the fender [produced] that was immediately below the mantelpiece in your room?—Yes, it is.

And is that stain, the stain caused by your knocking over the bottle of solution that was on the mantelpiece?—Yes, I think the date of this was the 19th; but my recollection is rather vague.

It was shortly after it came?—Yes.

It has been wiped over since?—Yes, by the servants, but has not been touched since you said that it was to be brought into Court.

Mr. Lowder—I should like that stain analyzed if any doubt exists as to it.

You thought no more about the broken bottle till I made inquiries?—That is so.

When was it discovered?—Yesterday morning.

Where was it discovered?—My amah, not the one that has been giving evidence this morning, had to clear up the room and collect the broken glass, so I told her that it was necessary that the bottle should be found. She said she thought she could not find it, having thrown it away a few days previously. The bottle was eventually found in an ash heap at the back of the servants' quarters. This amah's name is Hana Yuasa.

Mr. Trafford called attention to the passage of time.

The Coroner said he was willing to adjourn for an hour.

But Mr. Blundell pointed out that this was too short for business men who had office work to arrange during the recess. An adjournment was accordingly made till 2 o'clock. On reassembly,

Mr. Lowder said—Since the recess this morning, Mrs. Carew—in fact just as we entered the Court—handed me this bottle?—Yes.

The Coroner—This is a bottle?—Yes.
Mr. Lowder—Where did you find it?—I found it in the cupboard where my husband kept his medicine, and during his illness, I was in the habit of giving him doses from it. It is said to be made from the prescription of Dr. Baelz; that is what it is said to be.

The Coroner—I see that it comes from the Normal Dispensary and bears the number 13,934.

Mr. Lowder explained that when Dr. Baelz called on him to produce the prescription he had drawn up for Mr. Carew, he mentioned this No. 13,934, and said that it was his usual prescription for irritation of the bladder. He offered the paper for what it was worth. Probably the original might be in the possession of the Court.

Mrs. Carew—Mr. Hall, the original is not among the papers Mr. Schedel has produced, because Mr. Carew lost the original and had to go to Mr. Schedel and procure a copy of the prescription; this is a copy of it.

Examination continued—Where did you find this bottle?—In the drawer of the cupboard in which my husband kept his medicine.

Where was that situated?—On a chest of drawers in his dressing-room.

Where was that dressing room?—It was the verandah really, leading out of our bedroom, and used by him as a dressing-room; my medicines were kept where I have described. I had several large bottles of medicine in my cupboard that were prescribed for him in his last illness. I kept them there because they were too large for the drawer in which he kept his own medicines.

You wish me to hand this bottle in to the Court, now, because, having smelt it, you believe it contains arsenic?—I believe it does.

Mr. Lowder (to the Coroner)—It is now open to you, sir, to have this bottle and its contents tested. I make no application, but hand it in with that remark.

To Witness—Do you call to mind the 10th of October?—Yes. It was Saturday, the day of the regatta.

It was a very wet afternoon, I believe?—Yes. Do you remember a visitor coming to your house that afternoon?—I do.

At about what time?—About 2 o'clock.

You went to the door yourself, did you not?—No, I was sitting in the dining-room at the time writing, and heard the China-boy say "Arimasen," "no have got." Thinking the China boy was making a mistake, I myself went out of the door.

Whom did you see there?—There was a lady there, who to me was an apparent stranger. When she saw me she came into the hall and said, "Are you Mrs. Carew?" I replied in the affirmative, and she then said that she wished to see Mr. Walter Carew. I said I was very sorry that he was not at home, but that if she would give me her name or card, and tell me the nature of her business, I would tell Mr. Carew. She said that she must and would see him herself. If she could not do so that afternoon, then it must be the following morning. She refused to tell me anything of herself, beyond giving me a card. I at once wrote to Mr. Carew.

Mr. Lowder—Stop one moment. I produce a card marked "M. J." with the letters, in the right hand corner, "A. L." with the date "1888," and ask you if that is the card?—Yes, it is.

Tell me where she produced this from?—From a bag. She took out of the bag a packet of cards and produced this card.

Now, can you describe her?—She was slight and tall, but she was so heavily veiled that I am not prepared to describe her features. The only conversation that took place between us was in the hall. She struck me as being fair rather than dark.

If you were to see her again, could you recognise her?—I should not like to say that I could.

Have you ever seen, to your knowledge, the Annie Luke referred to in the early part of your evidence?—No.

After seeing this lady, you wrote to your husband, did you not?—Yes.

And you found this letter among your husband's papers after his death?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder read the letter, that was as follows:—

Dearest Walter,—A most mysterious (lady) came here just now and asked to see Mr. Walter Carew. I told her you were not in, when she said she would call again early this evening, about 4.30, as she must see you. She would give me no name, nor any reason for her visit. She came about ten minutes ago (2 o'clock) and seemed most distressed at not finding you in. I proposed to let you know and said you be so then. She said "this afternoon or tomorrow morning I must see him." I shall go round to Mrs. Walter's about the tennis cakes at any event. I think it too wet to go down to the Boat-house, but may come if it clears. Will you be back to see "Your Woman in black?"

If not what message shall I tell Rachel to give her. Enclosed is her card.
Saturday.

Yours, EDITH.

Did you go down to the Boat-house that afternoon?—Yes. That was where I saw Dr. Wheeler, and where he gave me the prescription.

Did you meet your husband at the Boat-house?—Yes, I mentioned, before a dozen people there, about the visit of this mysterious lady, and he was subject to very much chaff.

You chaffed him I suppose?—Yes, we all did. He told me that he had received my note, that he had replied to it, and that I must have missed the messenger. He said that he would be back at 4.30. I remained at the Boat-house myself for a couple of hours. I was subsequently given to understand that the lady did not keep her appointment.

The following day, the 11th, was a Sunday, and it was the custom of your house that the governess and children should lunch with you in the middle of the day?—Yes, and we all lunched together, myself, my husband, and my brother. The topic of conversation was the mysterious caller of the previous day.

Was it a serious conversation?—Quite the reverse. At the time I thought that the lady was more or less a myth; that she had no business with my husband, as she had no appointment. This joking about the mysterious lady went on till about the evening of Monday, the 19th.

Mr. Lowder—I wish to complete the story of this mysterious woman in black, and will therefore depart a little from the line, in order to bring in other letters in sequence.

The Coroner—Very good.

Mr. Lowder—I now propose to ask you, whether, after your husband's death, a letter was not found by you among his papers?—Yes.

And you did not know the contents of the letter until after his death?—Not until after his death.

Mr. Lowder—This letter is marked private, bears no date, but on the postage stamp and the two office tags is the date 13th October, and my suggestion is that it was in Mr. Carew's possession on the 13th October.

I must see you, why have you done nothing since you got my two cards, or perhaps she never let you get them. I cannot meet her again, she makes me mad when I think of what I might have done for you. I cannot give you any address; I am living wherever I can find shelter but you can find and help me if you will, as I know you will, for the sake of old times.

Mr. Lowder—Was that the letter you discovered after your husband's death?—Yes.

The Coroner—Gentleman of the jury, I call your attention to the handwriting of the letter.

Mr. Lowder—I am much obliged to your Honour for calling attention to a point that I had omitted. I am assuming that the letter was received on the 13th: did your husband come home to dinner that evening?—No, he dined at the Club.

What time did he come home that night?—I think it was about a quarter to two.

In what state was he?—He was not quite sober.

Was he in the habit of coming home in that state?—No.

On the 16th or 17th, did you receive an envelope containing a letter written in your husband's handwriting, addressed to Miss Annie Luke, Post Office, Yokohama?—I did. I have destroyed the envelope in which the letter was enclosed.

The letter enclosed was in your husband's hand writing?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder read the letter:—

I feel greatly distressed about you, and ever since I got your card last Saturday have been endeavouring to find you. I wish to and will help you if I can only find you. Meet me this evening at 5.30 p.m. on the Bund opposite the Club Hotel.

Wednesday, 14th Oct.

Is the address on the envelope and the letter in your husband's handwriting?—Yes, certainly. They were sent to me anonymously.

On the 19th October, did you receive anonymously another envelope with this piece of patchwork inside?—Yes.

The envelope is addressed to Mrs. Carew, 169, Bluff, and has never been gummed; where was it found?—It was left at the house by a jinnikisha man; I was not present when it came.

Mr. Lowder—I am unable to read the whole of it, as it has been torn up and then pasted together again. It is dated 15/10/96, and was written at the Yokohama United Club. It is in Mr. Carew's handwriting.

Yokohama, United club.
15.10.96.

Dear —

Many thanks for your chit, I am feeling a little better but still need — M. — thanks — ing.
He — to my — talked — not — ut — my being — age of — indic? and ha — — noked me — E all d — except Vichy Water, a — — which I have ordered — sent to the house I b — — Fred \$13.00 for the h — — — nor heard not — Fearfully, etc., etc.

Witness—I recognise this as being in my husband's

band's handwriting, and that the envelope is in, or appears to be in, the same handwriting as that of the letter signed "Annie."

On the 24th of October another letter was delivered anonymously and laid on your doorstep?—Yes.

It is addressed to Mrs. Carew, 169, Bluff. I suggest that the envelope is in the same handwriting as that of the other envelopes, and I further suggest that this letter is in the same handwriting as that of the other letter, but this I leave to the Coroner and the jury to decide.

beware, dare to speak one word of the truth, and you shall never leave Japan alive

The Coroner—Do you think you will finish tonight?

Mr. Lowder—I have not much more to ask Mrs. Carew; it depends upon the cross-examination.

On the first of November, you received, through the post, another letter, that you believe to be in the same handwriting as the previous letter?—Yes, so far as I can tell.

Mr. Lowder—It bears no date, I will read it now:—

I have done what I can for you, true I made you suffer, but I have written to Mr. Hall and to Mr. Lowder, Yokohama will be troubled no more by A.L.

My suggestion is that all these letters are in the same handwriting. On the same first of November, I think, I received and showed to you a letter?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Now, if the Court thinks it necessary, I will interpose for a few moments and be sworn, and will then produce the letter.

The Coroner—Just as you wish. I do not know what this line of evidence is intended to prove. As to your being sworn, I do not think it would lend greater weight with the jury than at present.

Mr. Lowder—I consider that the letter should be put in, and will therefore waive being sworn, and read it now.

Mr. Lowder—I do not know you, probably have never seen you, but I gathered from Saturday's papers that you will be acting on behalf of the wife of the man who was to me the world and more than the world. Dead men tell no tales; no, no dead women either for I am going to join him. Do you know what waiting means for 8 long weary years. I have watched and waited. Watched till I knew he would grow tired of her that silly little fool. And then I came to him. What is the result. We between us electrify Japan. I have never professed to be a good woman, but for the sake of a few lines, I do not see why I should let a silly innocent woman be condemned for what she knows nothing about, and for what she never will know anything about, and for which when you get this no one on this earth could enlighten her. She is a silly fool, otherwise she would not have treated the last two weeks as she has done. By the time you get this I shall be well on my "way" (?) to join him, my twin soul. You may call this what you like, but I think deep down in my heart I write this for the sake of the boy who is so like his father. Let his mother take heed that he enter not into temptation.

I shall write to the Coroner.

29th October.

A.L.

Mr. Lowder—I am now about to ask for the letter received by the Coroner.

The Coroner—Would you like to read it?

Mr. Lowder—I would like to see it; I have never seen it up to the present. (Letter produced and read.)

Hall, Esq.,

The Coroner,

The English Court, No. 171, Yokohama.

Mr. Hall,—I have just finished a letter to Mr. Lowder, so cannot begin this to you in quite the same way. Shall I begin it with the truest and wisest saying on this earth? "Woman is at the bottom of every thing." In this case it is so. For, between us we have bamboozled the lot of you — the chemist — the doctor, and last but not least that fool his wife. I stop here because my last act on earth shall be a merciful one, and as I am going to join him, my twin soul, I will exonerate that little fool from any share in helping us to meet each other. I have done my work well, and am taking good care to escape the lot of you and the law. My letters will not be posted till Sunday morning when I shall be —? The world will call me mad; I am, however, sane enough for what I am going to do I am sane enough to accomplish my end. That as we were divided in life we were not in death. I wonder whether if out of all this community there is one who can sympathise with me who goes out to meet her maker.

29 October

A.L.

Mr. Lowder—The first of these letters is dated the 13th, the next 14th, the letter to your husband is dated the 15th. I will now ask you if you have not given me instructions to make every endeavour to discover the person who passes under the name of Annie Luke?—Yes, certainly.

And I have informed you that so far my efforts have been unsuccessful?—Yes.

On Thursday, the 15th, your husband came home and never left the house again?—No. He came home at 2 o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

What was he complaining of then?—Liver. I wrote to Dr. Wheeler that morning because he was unable that morning to accompany me to the race-course, as was his usual custom. He complained a great deal of pain, and said he thought he was

going to have an attack of liver. I do not think he anticipated a long illness. He has had long attacks of liver, but not these last few years. On Friday, the 16th, he seemed to be rather worse. He walked about the house, but did not go down to office. From Friday till Tuesday night he was unable to retain his food. On Thursday, the 15th, Dr. Wheeler went and saw my husband at the Club, in answer to my letter. I am not certain whether he came to the house on the Friday. I wrote to Dr. Wheeler on the Saturday, as my husband wanted to go down to Kamakura from the Saturday to Monday. Dr. Wheeler wrote at first he might go, but after seeing him on Saturday changed his mind and advised my husband not to go to Kamakura, as he thought it might increase the chill, from which he thought my husband was suffering. On Saturday he could not keep his food down more than five minutes. I attached no importance at first to these symptoms, but on the Sunday I thought that the medicine that Dr. Wheeler had prescribed was not benefitting him at all, and was probably the cause of the sickness from which he was suffering. On the 17th, the Saturday, I went to Maruya's shop in person and purchased a tin of anti-pyrene, which I did not pay for. The *banto*, who appeared on Monday, was the man who served me. On or about the 17th, I received an anonymous letter, but made no mention of it to my husband at the time, because Dr. Wheeler told me that he was to be kept as quiet as possible and he must sleep. On Sunday, the 18th, I went to church in the afternoon, and some time afterwards learnt that during my absence he had sent the *amah* to order some poison from Maruya. On my way back from Church, I called on Dr. Wheeler to tell him that I could not account for what I considered the curious nature of Mr. Carew's illness. Dr. Wheeler was not in his house, so I sent a note round about 6 o'clock in the evening, when Dr. Wheeler came. I think it was on that occasion that Dr. Wheeler told me that the medicine he had ordered for Mr. Carew, was not sufficiently strong to carry off the effects of the illness from which, on the Friday night, or Saturday night, Dr. Wheeler told me that Mr. Carew was suffering. He told me that he considered that it was a slight chill on the liver, seriously aggravated by an excessive use of alcohol, and then told me that his course of treatment would be to enable Mr. Carew to throw off all such effects, and his words to me were, "After this attack, Carew will be in better health than he has been for years." He also told me to try and argue seriously with Mr. Carew as to the very serious effects the use of alcohol was having on his constitution.

On Monday, the 19th, a suggestion has been made that somebody who signed your name, but was not recognised as yourself, ordered a bottle of arsenic and a bottle of sugar of lead, now did you go to Maruya on that date and order those things?—I did not. I have no knowledge that those were ordered. I have never signed a chit "Mrs. Carew;" I always sign chits as the one produced in Court on Monday. I only left the house on the 19th in the very early morning, when I went to the race-course. I returned about half past 7 o'clock. Nearly the whole of the morning was occupied in carrying out the usual Monday duties of the house, which are always carried out by me. I did not leave the house on Monday, after coming back from the racecourse. I do not remember that anything special occurred on the Monday evening as regards Mr. Carew's illness, except that he was very restless. During the middle of the night he himself spoke to me of the girl who calls herself Annie Luke. He expressed to me a very great wish to see her, and, without telling me very much, led me to believe that he had treated her very badly and told me that he must in some way make amends to her. I purposely refrained from telling him that I had in my possession an anonymous letter, as on that Monday he seemed to me not so well, and I did not wish to worry him in any way. But I told him that we would discuss the matter more fully when he was better.

Did you make any objection to his making amends to her?—No. The whole of the conversation, however, did not last more than 10 minutes, because I did not see that a conversation of such a nature could be discussed in a short time. He did not say to me that he had led the person to believe that he would marry her. As I said before, he only led me to believe that in some way he had behaved very badly to her; all of which had occurred previous to our marriage. He did not tell me whether he had met her on the 14th, and I did not ask him. I told him that I knew he had been in correspondence with her, but I did not tell him I had the letters. In the afternoon, when my brother returned from the office, I was called downstairs to see a visitor, and Mr.

Carew, who was then more or less wandering seemed to believe that the lady who had been to see me was Annie Luke. Seeing this, I said to him, "Oh, I have had a visitor, guess who it is?" He immediately replied, "Annie," I said, "Yes she has been here, I have had a long talk with her, I am going to look after her, and I am going to take care of her." This was of course absolutely untrue, and I only said it to pacify him, and I never heard him mention her name again in my presence. My brother was present at the time. On the morning of the 20th I thought he was weak, and we were quite unable to stop the sickness, and at Dr. Wheeler's suggestion—who came at mid-day—I agreed that Dr. Todd should come round and see the patient. I can recollect nothing further that took place at the consultation than I gave in my previous evidence. Towards evening on Tuesday, the 20th, Dr. Wheeler came round again at about half-past six, and as my husband had not been able to sleep, and the sickness had not decreased, he and I gave Mr. Carew a hypodermic injection, which unfortunately had the very reverse of the desired effect. He became very excitable, thought he saw insects and animals crawling over his bed, which alarmed me more or less, so that I decided to go and see Dr. Wheeler himself, as I knew that he was dining out. Dr. Wheeler came about half-past eleven. I had found him at the place where he was dining and gave him my message. He said, "Don't be alarmed, it is the effect of the hypodermic." I did not quite see his argument, and requested him to come round later, which he did at 11.30. I was absent from the house about 40 minutes. This was the only evening during the illness of the deceased that I went out to see the Doctor. Mr. Carew was very importunate that I should send for some arsenic. Very early in the morning, about 4 o'clock, a few hours after Dr. Wheeler had left, the effects of the hypodermic having worn off, Mr. Carew became extremely weak. I called the servants up, and had a fire lighted to get hot water. Dr. Wheeler came on Wednesday morning, and did not seem to think that there was anything at all serious, but as I had never seen such symptoms before, I wrote to Dr. Wheeler at tiffin-time on Wednesday, requesting him to send for Dr. Baelz. It was just about that time that I gave him the sealed parcels that had come from Maruya. I had seen Mr. Parsons earlier in the morning. He inquired after Mr. Carew and said that he thought that it would be a good plan for Dr. Wheeler to call Dr. Baelz in. Dr. Wheeler came in the evening and gave me Dr. Baelz's reply. It was a telegram running:—

Oct. 21st, 1896. Dr. Wheeler. Impossible to-day, would to-morrow evening do? BAEZ.

After seeing Mr. Carew, Dr. Wheeler said, "He is so much better, that I see no occasion to send for Baelz." He said, "I think that in this case, it will be a needless expense; let us wait and see how he is to-morrow, because as he has retained his food since noon yesterday, he is decidedly better." He passed a very restless night, however. I had to call the servants up and applied hot water bottles to his feet and side to keep him warm, and sent off again for Dr. Wheeler, about 5 o'clock in the early morning on Tuesday. During the time Dr. Wheeler was in the room on Wednesday, Mr. Carew was in bed. He had been sitting up before. I considered Dr. Wheeler so casual as to the patient's condition when he came on Thursday morning, at 7 o'clock, that at 8 o'clock I wrote to Mr. Parsons. I told him that I did not wish to be anxious if there was no cause for anxiety, and I told Mr. Parsons that he would probably get the truth out of Dr. Wheeler, as to whether he considered Mr. Carew was seriously ill or not, as I gathered from Dr. Wheeler that there was no cause for any alarm. I told Mr. Parsons to again tell Dr. Wheeler, that I must insist on his sending for Dr. Baelz. I gave Mr. Parsons's reply in my last evidence. Dr. Wheeler returned at half-past eleven. He did not go to the bedside, but said, "I have made arrangements to remove him to the English Hospital, he is only going from bad to worse." I then asked him if he considered Mr. Carew was in a serious condition; he gave me no reply whatever, but walked out of the door. Dr. Wheeler came again at half-past two, bringing a stretcher from the hospital. Mr. Carew had some beef-tea, and corn-flour for tiffin, but he seemed to collapse almost immediately afterwards. He was taken to the hospital by Dr. Wheeler and my brother, about 3 o'clock. I went as far as the Hospital gates, walking by his side. I met Dr. May at the gates, and told him I understood there was a rule prohibiting any lady going into the Hospital, but I hoped that Dr. Todd would allow me to go in that evening to see how Mr. Carew was getting on. Dr. May told me, that he was not in a position to accede to my request, but

promised to write and let me know; either as to how my husband was, or as to whether I could go and see him. It was a very great relief to me, after five days' nursing, to know that my patient was off my hands, and I never for one moment realised, even at the last, that there was any serious danger, and it was a most terrible shock to me to receive Dr. May's communication at half-past five that evening.

Now Mrs. Carew, during your husband's illness did you administer arsenic to him, either by his request, or without him asking you to do so?—Never.

Or sugar of lead?—No.

Did you ever see him take either poisons during his illness?—No.

You spoke, the last time that you were examined, of a piece of paper given by your husband to you, and from which you copied the note you gave Miss Jacobs to take to Maruya's, is that the piece of paper?—Yes. [Paper put in.] The names of the medicines are not in Mr. Carew's handwriting, the writing on the back is in his handwriting.

Mr. Lowder explained that he had suggested in a question put to Mrs. Carew at her first examination, that this paper was all in Mr. Carew handwriting; Mrs. Carew did not intend to adopt that suggestion when giving her answer and he wished to have the impression corrected.

The Coroner said that was certainly the impression that he had gained.

Mr. Lowder—I am trying, in this question, to remove the impression.

The Coroner to Mrs. Carew—Is this in your handwriting?—No. I don't know whose writing it is.

Mr. Lowder—I should like the point cleared up.

The Coroner—The impression left on the minds of the jury by Mrs. Carew's answer was that this paper was in her husband's handwriting.

Mrs. Carew—I was under the impression at the time that Mr. Lowder was referring to my husband giving me the paper.

The Coroner—You now wish to correct the impression?—Yes.

The Coroner (to Mr. Lowder)—What suggestion do you offer?

Mr. Lowder—I make no suggestion at all. I simply wanted it cleared up to your satisfaction that it was only Mr. Carew's handwriting on the back.

The Coroner—Quite so.

Witness—I recognise this piece of paper as belonging to a note having reference to a letter directed to me at Miyanoshta that miscarried. That letter, of which this was the draft, was written, I believe, after my husband's return from Miyanoshta. The writing must therefore have been written after the 2nd of October.

And now, in reference to the sugar of lead used on your pony?—Sugar of lead was purchased in June or July for the purpose of external application, to be dissolved in water and then applied to the pony. It has never been used since that time so far as I know. The liniment to which the *betto* referred this morning was Elliman's Emulsion. On the 26th Sept., I went with my nursery-governess and the two children to Miyanoshta, followed in the evening by Mr. Carew and my brother. The two latter returned to Yokohama on the Monday, the 28th. I had to keep an appointment with Mr. Carew on the Saturday, so returned to Yokohama on the Friday night. Mr. Carew went up to Miyanoshta on the Saturday, my brother and I being left alone. I have never sent Dr. Wheeler's prescriptions to Japanese to make up; Mr. Schedel made them up from a certain date, and I occasionally sent them to North and Rae. On the 20th, my husband was able to walk about but most of the time he was sitting up. He might have gone into the nursery had he so desired.

The Coroner—I have just received a communication from Dr. Divers saying that he is ready to complete the statement he made on Monday. It will take only a few minutes. I propose calling him now.

Dr. Divers then said—I have completed my examination of the internal organs of the late Mr. Carew, and I have to report concerning, firstly, arsenic; secondly as to lead. Arsenic in more or less quantity I have found to be more or less universal in the matter sent to me. In the liver the quantity was one sixth of a grain of oxide of arsenic; smaller quantities in the other organs. In the stomach, when opened and the contents poured out, there were on the surface near the gullet entrance, several minute specks adhering to the stomach wall, of a white pasty substance. Just in the gullet, before it passed into the stomach, two or three little white particles, the whole of this matter

—very minute altogether—consisted of white arsenic. That is to say, consisted of a substance that was not solution of arsenic, but solid arsenic. It is practically impossible to imagine that this white arsenic could have come back from the solution by the chemical action of the stomach. The only conclusion that I can arrive at, under the circumstances, is that solid white arsenic is one of the substances exhibited to the deceased. When this is exhibited and swallowed, causing death, it is usual to find patches of white, pasty matter sticking to the walls of the stomach. Finding these minute specks, was, however, to me, in this case, a surprise. The quantity, as I have said, was so small that I did not get such full and complete evidence of its nature as to make me feel satisfied to speak about it until I had proceeded further and got confirmatory evidence of the general presence of arsenic. That is all about arsenic. As I said at my first examination, it is not likely that sugar of lead killed or contributed to kill the deceased. But as was felt—judiciously felt—by one of gentlemen of the jury, the presence of lead in the internal organs of deceased is important evidence of intent to kill, or not. The intestines which were sent to me unopened, contained nearly a quart of liquid matter—liquid excrement—entirely devoid of the odour of such matter, odourless practically, but of a slate-black colour. These contents of the intestines I have found to contain lead, in small, but distinctly positive, quantity, enough to have coloured the intestinal contents from the well-known blackness of the sulphide of lead. If sugar of lead, or other salts of lead meets in the intestines with sulphur compounds it will be converted into sulphide.

Mr. Lowder—My client is somewhat exhausted by the long strain put upon her this afternoon, and while not making an application that will inconvenience the jury, I should be pleased if an adjournment could be taken now.

The Coroner—Certainly.

A Jurymen—To-morrow is mail-day.

The Coroner—Gentlemen of the jury, while regretting that any of your business engagements should be upset by the discharge of urgent public duties, I think that the seriousness of this case makes it imperative that the Court shall sit to-morrow, mail-day or no mail-day. We will meet at 10 o'clock, however, and then later on I may consider the advisability of an afternoon sitting.

FOURTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Inquest was resumed on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, under the circumstances attending the death of Mr. W. R. H. Carew.

The Coroner—Gentlemen of the jury, Mrs. Carew was giving her evidence yesterday, when her examination was interrupted by Dr. Divers, who had come specially from Tokyo, to continue his statement as to the contents of the viscera of the deceased. Mrs. Carew is now present and the jury can put to her any questions they wish; unless Mr. Lowder has some further questions to put.

Mr. Lowder—No sir, but it has just occurred to me that Mrs. Carew was not sworn yesterday; but I take it that her statement was in continuation of her evidence of a previous day.

The Coroner—Mrs. Carew was sworn at the beginning of the inquest, and that applies to all the evidence she has given.

Mr. Lowder—Thank you.

The Coroner—Have you any further question to ask.

Mr. Lowder—There is just one. Did you not, accompanied by a friend of yours, go to Maruya's recently and endeavour to obtain information there?—I did.

Without finding any information whatever?—That is so.

Mr. Litchfield—I shall not ask any questions.

The Coroner—There is one question that I should like to ask you, Mrs. Carew. Have you any knowledge of the source whence your late husband obtained the arsenic which you say he was in the habit of taking; was it from a foreign or a Japanese store?—I am afraid, Mr. Hall, that I cannot give you any definite information as to that; Mr. Lowder, very possibly, will be able later on, to give you the information.

The Jury had no questions to ask.

Mrs. Carew's statement was then read over to her. She added—I do not wish to say that I have ever seen Mr. Carew take arsenic in the house more than once a day; it was always after breakfast.

The Coroner—Have you any more witnesses to call, Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—If you please, Mr. Dickinson.

Mr. H. V. Dickinson, sworn, said—I am a resident of Yokohama and a friend of the Carew family, and have been so for a very long time.

On what terms did Mr. and Mrs. Carew live together?—On affectionate terms.

You were aware of a money difficulty arising between them in July?—Not then, but at a later date.

At what later date?—Towards the end of August.

After this money difficulty had been settled, did you notice any difference in their marital relations?—No.

They continued to live on the same affectionate terms?—Yes.

Do you remember a conversation with the late Mr. Carew with reference to arsenic?—I recollect, years ago, when they were living at Dzushi, he told me that on one occasion when they were living in the Straits, he had nearly killed himself with an accidental over-dose of arsenic. I recollect this in a general way, I do not remember the details of our conversation.

On the day of Mr. Carew's funeral were you standing at the back entrance to the Club in Water Street?—I was coming up to the Club.

Did you notice a woman there?—Yes.

Was she moving?—No, she was not moving on; she was standing loitering near the Water Street entrance to the Club.

Was she in great distress?—Yes. She seemed to be trying to repress her signs of distress.

Were there tears in her eyes?—She had been crying.

Can you describe her at all?—She was a fairly tall woman, about 5ft. 4in., I should think, and slim. I did not take much notice of her dress.

Was she fair or dark?—More fair than dark.

Have you ever seen her before?—No.

Nor since?—No.

Do you think you could recognise her again if you saw her?—It is possible, but I am not sure.

Mr. Rose—Did Mr. and Mrs. Carew accompany each other to parties, dances, etc.?—In Yokohama? Yes, in Yokohama?—Yes; so far as I know, they were very much taken up with each other.

Mr. Litchfield had no questions to ask.

Mr. Max Kaufmann was then sworn. He said—I am a German subject resident in Yokohama, and was a friend of the late Mr. Carew. I remember playing a game of billiards with him on the evening of Tuesday, 13th October last.

Something struck you as odd in his manner on that occasion, will you describe what it was?—Well, I met him at the Club after dinner, and he seemed in good spirits, just as a man might after a good dinner, or after having a glass or two too much. We had a game of billiards then, which he was perfectly able then to play well enough, and during the game, some how or other, I do not know why, he always repeated and kept repeating a French sentence, saying, "Le moment est arrive ou'il faut faire la chose." He repeated that over and over again, I don't know how many times, but possibly twenty-five.

The Coroner—The meaning of the phrase, gentlemen, is "The moment is come when the thing must be done—or, the time has come and the thing must be done."

Mr. Lowder, to witness—Had in any reference to the game you were playing?—It had no reference whatever to the game we were playing. I did not even know to what he was referring.

Mr. Lowder—I will draw attention to the fact that this sentence, or phrase, was used by deceased on the evening of the 13th of October, the date according to our supposition that deceased received the first letter signed "Annie." (To Mr. Kaufmann)—Do you remember, some time ago, meeting Mr. Carew in the urinal of the Club, when he appeared to be suffering great pain?—Yes.

Did he, at that time; make any remark about his taking arsenic or poison?—He mentioned to me, at that time, that he was in the habit of taking arsenic more than an ordinary man could stand; something to that effect, it might be the average man, or something similar.

Mr. Litchfield had no questions to ask; neither had the jury.

Mr. Porch was next recalled. He said—I recollect, on Sunday, the 11th October, when Mr. and Mrs. Carew, the children, myself, and the nursery governess were lunching together, that we were all laughing and joking with Mr. Carew about the mysterious visitor of the day before. I remember it perfectly well. This joking was carried on for some days. I remember a conversation that took place between Mr. and Mrs. Carew, in their bed-room, on Tuesday, the 20th October.

Will you repeat it to the best of your recollection?

—The conversation was about Annie Luke. Mr. Carew asked Mrs. Carew if she had had a visitor. Mrs. Carew said, "Yes, guess who it is?" Mr. Carew said he could not guess, and Mrs. Carew told him it was Annie Luke. She also added that she knew where she was living, and

that she would do her best to help her. I never heard Mr. Carew refer to Annie Luke again.

Mr. Nicholas—Did you see any of the letters that have been read, before Mr. Carew's death?—Not until after his death.

Mr. Rose—Do you know where she (Annie Luke) lives?—I have no idea.

Do you think she is now in Yokohama?—I could not tell at all.

Mr. Nicholas—You did not see any of these letters till after his death?—No, I did not.

Mr. Lowder—You saw the card referred to marked "M. J." and "A. L." in the corner?—Yes, I saw that on Saturday, the 10th.

Mr. Kobayashi Beika, was then sworn, and examined by Mr. Walford. He deposed—I am a resident of Yokohama, and was acquainted with the late Mr. Carew.

You were in Court, last Monday, and heard a shopman of Maruya's say that you had made a statement to him that you knew that Mr. Carew had been in the habit of taking poison?—That is correct.

After that you came and volunteered a statement to me?—I did.

Was that statement correct?—It was.

Will you repeat it to the Court?—The statement that I made may not be of much value, but it happened in this way. About a year, or perhaps nine months, ago, I was taking tiffin at the Yokohama United Club, and Mr. Carew happened to be at the same table. How the conversation drifted into this channel I do not know, but I happened to tell Mr. Carew that I had taken medicine for what is known as "bucking-you-up," which medicine contained strychnine. Mr. Carew then said, "Oh that is nothing, I take enough poison to kill six men; I am obliged to do so." That is absolutely all I know about it.

Mr. Rose—Do you know if this referred to arsenic?—I do not know; I have only knowledge of the conversation that took place at that time.

Hanaya Asa, cautioned, deposed—I am an *amah* in the employ of Mrs. Carew. I was called to clean up a mess that had been made in the bedroom through a bottle having been broken in the fender. I have forgotten the date.

What did you do with the broken bottle?—The bell-rang and I was told to clear up the mess. I gathered up the fragments of glass and threw them away by the side of a broken lamp shade, near to a small bush.

The day before yesterday, did you receive orders to look for the broken bottle?—I did.

Did you find it in the place where you threw it away?—Yes.

Is that the bottle (exhibit "I" shown)?—It resembles it.

Mr. Lowder—I now wish to give evidence myself. The Usher accordingly administered the oath.

Mr. John Frederic Lowder, sworn, deposed—I recognise the envelope which is marked B2, and the letter that is inside it, as the envelope and letter that were received by me on the 1st of this month. I recollect a conversation that took place between myself and the deceased a long time ago. On seeing me about to enter Brett and Company's shop, he said, "Why do you go to a European drug-store; unless for some particular prescription I always send to the native drug-stores." I don't pretend to give the exact words, but that was the nature of the conversation. I made the acquaintance of Mr. and Mrs. Carew in the year 1890; they joining at Singapore the ship in which I was returning to Japan. From that time I have known them well; I may say, intimately, and I have never known them to be on any but the most affectionate terms.

No questions were but.

Mr. Lowder—I do not know if any witnesses are here from Maruya's?

The Coroner—They were ordered to be here, as you expressed a wish to examine them.

Upon enquiry being made it was reported that neither of the shopmen was present.

Mr. Lowder—It is a matter of importance that they should be present. I will give you an outline of the evidence I wish to obtain. Mrs. Carew on Saturday, Oct. 17th, went the Maruya's and purchased some antipyrine; I wish that statement of hers to be corroborated. And I also wish to ascertain what was supplied on the Sunday, while Mrs. Carew was at Church, on the occasion when Mr. Carew sent an order there for some medicine. I want to ascertain that evidence most particularly.

The Coroner—An adjournment is necessary, not only for an opportunity of hearing these men, but also owing to the new aspect of the case that was developed by Dr. Divers' evidence last evening. I have thought it to be only my duty to ask the Japanese police to make examination and enquiry at the Japanese drug-stores as to what amount of solid arsenic was sold or supplied by them during last month. This they have kindly promised to

do; so an adjournment will be necessary. To-day is mail day, and I wish to consult the convenience of the gentlemen of the jury as far as possible. I propose that we now adjourn till to-morrow afternoon till 2 o'clock. The inquest stands adjourned till that hour, when the evidence of the police and other witnesses will be taken.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Nov. 2.

A great parade has been held in New York, at which upwards of 130,000 business men attended, in favour of Mr. McKinley and sound money. Great enthusiasm was manifested.

The Republicans, while professing the utmost confidence as to the result of the Presidential election, admit the existence of a large doubtful vote.

London, Nov. 4.

Mr. McKinley has been elected President.

London, November 5.

Mr. McKinley's election was a sweeping victory, large majorities being recorded from the Eastern, Northern, Central, and some of the Southern States. A great Republican majority in the next House of Representatives is assured, probably also in the Senate.

The result of the election has produced a favorable impression on the Bourses in London and New York, and on the Continent. The papers of Great Britain and the Continent rejoice at the result.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, Oct. 30, 9.45 a.m.

The *Æolus* has arrived here. She reports that H.M.S. *Plover* is all-well.

Hakodate, Nov. 3.

Her Majesty's ships *Grafton* and *Æolus* have left this port for Yokohama.

Hakodate, Nov. 4.

The *Manajour*, from Vladivostok, has arrived here.

Hakodate, Nov. 6.

The *Mandjour* has left this for Yokohama.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, October 28.

Mr. Bryan is striving his utmost to win the labour vote and his success in this direction at Chicago has depressed stocks to-day.

(Tel. trans.)

Exchange on London at Paris 25.21½
" " " " New York 4.85

London, October 31.

Colonel Liebert and a party of German officers will sail shortly for China to organise the Chinese army.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.21½
Exchange on London at New York ... 4.85½

(Tel. Trans.)

London, Nov. 3.

A Manchester firm has signed a contract to despatch one thousand cotton weaving looms to Japan.

The electoral campaign in the United States was practically closed on Saturday. The managers of both candidates issue confident forecasts of victory, but the general impression is Mr. McKinley will win.

London, Nov. 4.

It is believed in Vienna that the Triple Alliance will not join in the collective action advocated by the French and Russian press against Great Britain on the Egyptian question, but, on the contrary, that the alliance will probably side with Great Britain.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.20

Exchange on London at New York ... 4.86½

(Tel. trans.)

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Oct. 24.

A sensation has been caused in London, a Chinese doctor named San Yat-yen, who it is stated had been concerned in a conspiracy at

Canton to overthrow the dynasty, having been imprisoned since the 11th inst. at the Chinese Legation in London.

It is reported that he was inveigled thither by Chinese, but has managed secretly to inform his friends of his detention.

Detectives are watching the Legation day and night to prevent his clandestine removal to China.

Later.

Lord Salisbury, in a sharp note, has demanded the immediate release of Sun Wen Yat-yen—whose real name is Sun Wen—and he was handed over yesterday afternoon to the Foreign Office.

London, October 30.

The submission of the Matabele Chiefs continues, and it is believed that the fighting is virtually over.

Lord Dufferin, speaking at a banquet in Belfast, stated that the international situation more than ever imposed on Great Britain the necessity of being in a state of perfect preparation to meet all emergencies.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 255.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K Kt 3	1—K to R 3
2—R takes P	2—Anything
3—Q to Kt 6, mate	
	1—K to R 5
2—Q to Q B 3	2—Anything
3—Q to Kt 4, mate	
	1—B to B 6
2—Q to Kt 8	2—K moves
3—Q mates.	

Correct answers from J.D., Shogi, XX., W.D.C., W.H.S., W.D.H., and Omega.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 256.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to B 5	1—Kt takes Q
2—Kt to B 3, mate	1—R takes P ch.
	1—B to Kt 2
2—Kt takes R, mate	
	1—R to K 3
2—Kt takes P, mate	
	etc., etc.
2—Q to Q 4, mate,	

Correct answers from W.D.C., XX., Shogi, J.D., W.H.S., W.D.H., and Omega.

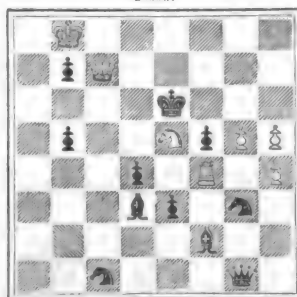
J.S.G.—Delighted to hear from you, and sorry you did not write sooner. We hope that you will be a constant and regular contributor in future.

BUDA-PESTH TOURNEY.

Still no news at the time of writing. But, before we go to press there should be some information as to the result.

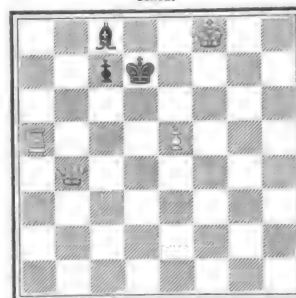
PROBLEM NO. 259.

By J. PILNACEK.



White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM NO. 260. By K. MAKOVSKY.



White to play and mate in two moves.

We take the following interesting games and matter from the *Scotsman*, in which journal Mr. David Forsyth has a splendid Chess-column.

GAME NO. 597.

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. D. M. Crank.	BLACK. D. Forsyth.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—P to Q 3
3—B to B 4 (a)	3—P to K B 4 (b)
4—P to Q 3	4—P to B 5
5—Castles	5—P to K Kt 4
6—Kt to Q B 3	6—B to Kt 5
7—Kt to Q 2	7—P to K R 4
8—Kt to Q 5 (c)	8—P to B 3
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—P to R 5
10—P to B 3	10—P to Kt 6
11—P to K R 3	11—Q to Kt 4 (d)
12—Kt to K 2	12—P to Q 4
13—P takes P	13—B to Q B 4 ch.
14—K to R sq.	14—B takes P
15—Kt to K 4	15—B takes P ch.
16—K takes B	16—P to R 6 ch.
17—K to R sq.	17—P to Kt 7 ch.
18—K to R 2	18—P takes R (Kt) ch.
19—Q takes Kt	19—Q to K 2
20—P takes P	20—Kt takes P
21—B takes Kt	21—R takes B
22—Q takes P	22—R to Kt 2 (e)
23—Q to R 5 ch.	23—K to Q 2
24—Kt takes B ch.	24—Q takes Kt
25—B takes P	25—Q to B 7 ch.
26—K to R 3	26—Q takes P ch. (f)
27—Q takes Q	27—R to K R sq. ch.

Resigns.
(a) An orthodox continuation but considered inferior 3—P to Q 4.
(b) This move is unsatisfactory in this form of the opening. White should continue 4—P to Q 4. P takes K P; 5—Kt takes P, P takes Kt; 6—Q to R 5 ch. with the better game.
(c) A useless move, but the game is not conducted on either side according to approved principles, otherwise such extraordinary positions would not have occurred. It looks more like a game at odds.
(d) Black's first deviation from a pawn play.
(e) Black invites White to check at R 6 as his doing so would entail loss of the Q or mate.
(f) Apparently not foreseen by White. Black could also win here by 26.... R to K R sq.

GAME NO. 598.

TWO BISHOPS OPENING.

WHITE. D. Forsyth.	BLACK. R. Rankin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—B to B 4
3—P to Q Kt 4	3—B takes Kt P
4—B to Kt 2 (a)	4—Q to K 2 (b)
5—P to K B 4	5—P to Q 3
6—Kt to K B 3	6—Kt to Q B 3
7—Castles	7—B to K 3
8—B to Kt 5	8—B to B 4 ch.
9—K to R sq.	9—P to B 3
10—P takes P	10—B P takes P
11—Kt takes P	11—P takes Kt
12—Q to R 5 ch.	12—B to B 2
13—R takes B	13—Q takes R
14—Q takes K P ch.	14—B to K 2
15—Q takes B P	15—R to Q sq.
16—B takes Kt ch.	16—P takes B
17—Q takes B P ch.	17—R to Q 2
18—Kt to B 3	18—B to B 3
19—Kt to Kt 5	19—K to B sq. (c)
20—B to R 3 ch.	20—Kt to K 2
21—Q takes R	21—B takes R
22—Q to Q 8 ch.	22—Q to K sq.
23—B takes Kt ch.	23—K to B 2
24—Kt to Q 6 ch. and wins.	

(a) This move is given as best by Jaenisch in reply to refusing the gambit by 3.... B to Kt 3. An play upon it in the gambit accepted is to be found in the books on openings, and as far as we can learn the move was first played at the Edinburgh Chess Club recently.

(b) The point of the gambit, as compared with Evans, is that White can play P to K R 4 before Kt to K B 3. Black can prevent it by 4.... Q to B 3, but the Queen is not well posted there

We believe the best defence is 4.... P to Q 3; 5—P to B 4, Kt to Q B 3; 6—Kt to K B 3, B to Q B 4, preventing White casting White can then play 7—P to K Kt 3, still threatening to win the K P.

(2) Though an interesting and novel form of game, it has no claim to accuracy. Whether the attack obtained by the gambit compensates for the sacrifice is doubtful, but that is so in all gambits. Results justify the means.

EVANS GAMBIT—STONE-WARE DEFENCE.

The following game was undertaken by two Dundee players with the view of testing the defence to the Evans Gambit which Pillsbury ventured at the Hastings Tournament, viz.:—5..... B to Q 3.

GAME No. 599.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. H. J. Thoms.	BLACK. P. Sandeman.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to Q 3 (a)
6—P to Q 4	6—P to K R 3
7—Castles	7—Q to B 3
8—R to K sq.	8—P to K Kt 4
9—P to K R 3	9—K Kt to K 2
10—B to K 3	10—Kt to K 3
11—P to Q 5	11—Q Kt to K 2
12—B to K B sq. (b)	12—P to Q Kt 3
13—Q Kt to Q 2	13—B to K 2
14—Kt to Kt 3	14—P to Q B 4
15—P to Q R 4	15—B to B 2
16—P to Q R 5	16—P to Q 3
17—P takes P	17—B takes Kt P
18—Q Kt to Q 2 (c)	18—B to B sq.
19—Q to R 4 ch.	19—K to B sq.
20—Kt to B 4	20—B to B 2
21—K R to Kt sq.	21—Kt to Kt 2 (d)
22—Kt to Kt 6	22—B takes Kt
23—R takes B	23—P takes R
24—Q takes R	24—B takes P
25—Q to Kt 7	25—B to Kt 5
26—Kt to R 2	26—P to R 4
27—Q takes P	27—Kt to B 5
28—Q to Kt 2	28—B to B sq.
29—P to Kt 3	29—R to Kt sq.
30—P takes Kt (e)	30—Kt P takes P
31—B to Q 2	31—K to R 2 ch
32—K to R sq.	32—Q to Kt 3
33—Kt to B 3	33—B to Kt 5 (f) and wins.

(a) This is the move which Pillsbury was bold enough to venture at Hastings. It is by no means new, but has been long neglected. Kieseritzky, half a century ago, attempted to establish its validity by playing it against Anderssen and other contemporary masters, but only with occasional success.

(b) Early foreseeing the attack which Black is preparing against the King's position.

(c) White has not made the most of his advantage as first player. He has no attack worth the Pawn he sacrificed, while Black is now out of difficulties.

(d) A fine move preparatory to Black's 24th move B takes P.

(e) It is obvious that Black wished White to capture the Kt and White should not be so ready to do so. White has a bad position, but his destruction was not necessarily immediate.

(f) All very cleverly played. If now 33—B to Kt 2 or K 2, B takes Kt, B takes B; 35—Q to Kt 4.

The following consultation game was played at the Boston Chess Club, in 1892, by William Steinitz against H. N. Stone, assisted by J. F. Barry in the first part of the game and by H. N. Pillsbury in the latter part. It was arranged that the Stone-Ware Defence should be the opening adopted. The notes are by Mr. Steinitz, and appeared in the *New York Tribune*.

GAME No. 600.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Steinitz.	BLACK. Allies.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to Q 3 (a)
6—Castles (b)	6—Kt to B 3
7—P to Q 4	7—Castles
8—R to K sq.	8—P to K R 3 (c)
9—Q Kt to Q 2	9—P takes P
10—P to K 5 (d)	10—P takes P (e)
11—P takes B (f)	11—P takes Kt
12—Q takes P	12—P takes P
13—Q takes P (g)	13—Kt to K sq.
14—Q to K Kt 3	14—P to Q 4 (h)
15—B to Q 3 (i)	15—K to R sq.
16—B to R 3	16—R to K Kt sq.
17—P to R 4	17—Q to B 3
18—Q R to Q Kt sq.	18—B to B 4
19—B takes B	19—Q takes B
20—R takes P	20—Q to Kt 3
21—Q to B 4	21—P to B 3
22—Q to Q R 4	22—R to Q B sq.
23—R to Q 7 (k)	23—Q to B 4
24—R to K B 7	24—Q to Q 6 (l)
25—P to R 5	25—Kt to K 4 (m)
26—R takes Kt (n)	26—P takes R
27—Kt takes P	27—Q to Kt 8 ch. (o)

28—K to R 2
29—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
30—R takes Kt (q)
31—Kt to B 3 ch.
32—Q to K B 4
33—R takes P ch.
34—Q takes P ch.
35—B to Kt 2 ch.
36—B takes R ch.
37—Kt takes R

28—Kt to B 3 (p)
29—Kt to R 2
30—R to B 2 (i)
31—Kt to R sq.
32—R to Kt 2
33—P takes R
34—R to R 2
35—R to Kt 2
36—K to Kt sq.
37—Resigns.

(a) First suggested and practised by Kieseritzky. The idea was taken up a few years ago by Mr. Stone, one of the leaders of the Black party in the present game, in conjunction with the late Mr. Ware, and this peculiar defence has been named after those two players, who have adopted it in hundreds of games against strong opponents, with a large balance of the score in their favour.

(b) The waiting attack which was much in favour with the late Captain Mackenzie.

(c) Messrs. Stone and Ware considered this essential to this defence. We doubt its special ability, and it is evidently contrary to general principles of development.

(d) Ill-considered. P takes P was certainly better.

(e) For the Black Allies, it has now obtained an overwhelming array of Pawns by sacrificing the Piece at once, e.g., 20—B takes P; 21—Kt takes B, Kt takes Kt; 18—R takes Kt, P to Q 4; followed by P takes P, and then, accordingly, P to Q 5 or P to Q 4.

(f) Withdrawing Kt to Kt 3 or to K B sq. would have given the adversaries another good opportunity of sacrificing a piece for Pawns, and the game might have proceeded—22—Kt to B sq., Kt takes P; 23—Kt takes Kt, R takes Kt; 24—R takes B, P to Q 3; 17—R to Kt sq., P to B 3; followed by P to Q 4, &c.

(g) M ch. stronger was 12—B to Q 3, with the probable continuation P to Q Kt 3 for Kt to K sq.; 14—R to K sq., with an excellent attack; 15—Q takes P, R to K sq.; 16—R takes R ch. Q takes R; 17—R to K sq.; 18—Q to Q sq.; 19—Kt to R 4, followed by Kt to B 4, with a powerful attack.

(h) 14—Kt to K 2, which is apparently strong, is hardly as good for White would continue—15—R takes Kt, Q takes R; 16—H to Kt 2, and if 16—Kt to R 3; 17—R to K sq., Q to Q sq.; 18—B to Q 5 and should win.

(i) Best. 13—B takes R P, P takes K B; 16—R takes Kt, Q to B 3 would have lost.

(j) White threatened Kt to Kt 5, which would have been very strong, for instance, in the following line of play:—17—Kt to B 3; 18—Kt to Kt 5, P takes Kt; 19—P takes P, Kt to Kt sq.; 20—P to Kt 6, P takes P; 21—Q takes P, Kt to B 3; 22—P to Kt 2, P to Q 3; 23—R to K 4, R to K sq.; 24—R to R 4 ch., R to Q 5; 25—R to R 7, &c.

(k) 23—R to Q B sq. was hardly satisfactory, on account of 23 Kt to K 4; and if 24 Kt takes Kt, R takes R ch.; 25 B takes R, P takes Kt with a good centre attack. Still worse would be the variation for White 24 R takes R, Kt takes Kt ch.; 25 K to B sq. best; if K to B sq., White mates by Q to Q 4, Kt to K 8; 26—Kt 3, Q to Kt 5; attacking the Rook and threatening mate in two moves.

(l) If Q to Kt 3 instead of White intended to throw the onus of disturbing the position on the opponents by B to Q Kt 2.

(m) This exposes them to a powerful attack. Q to H 5 would, however, have been insufficient to relieve them, as White would keep up pressure by Q to Q 3 eventually in reply to Q takes P.

(n) An interesting sacrifice.

(o) Q to B sq. was better, though even in that case Black would have been tied up by the reply Kt to Kt 6 ch. followed by Q to K 4.

(p) 28—Q takes P might have led to a "firework" termination, thus:—29—Q to K Kt 4, Kt to B 3; 30—Kt to Kt 6 ch., K to R 2; 31—Q to H 5, Q takes B; 32—Kt to B 8, dbi. ch., K to R sq.; 33—Q to R 8 ch., Kt takes Q; 34—Kt to Kt 6 mate.

(q) The adverse game becomes dissipated after this effective move.

(r) There was no real remedy. If 30—P takes R; 31—Q to Q 7 ch., R to Kt 2; 32—Q takes R and wins. The rest explains itself.

GAME No. 601.

Notes by GUNSSON.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Maroczy.	BLACK. Rev. T. C. Chatto.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Q Kt to B 3	3—K Kt to B 3
4—P to K 5	4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to B 4	5—P to Q R 3
6—P to Q R 3	6—P to Q B 4
7—P takes P	7—B takes P
8—Q to Kt 4	8—Castles
9—B to Q 3	9—P to B 4
10—Q to R 3	10—Kt to Q B 3
11—P to K Kt 4	11—Kt to Q 5

This move is not necessary.

Black could also have played B takes Kt, followed by Kt to B 4. This would perhaps have been better still on the last move.

12—K Kt to K 2	12—P to K Kt 3
13—Kt takes Kt	13—B takes Kt
14—Kt to K 2	14—B to R 2
15—P takes P	15—K P takes P
16—Q to Kt 3	16—Kt to B 4
17—P to K R 4	17—Kt to K 5
18—B takes Kt	18—Q P takes B
19—P to R 5	19—Kt to Kt 2
20—B to Q 2	20—B to Q 3
21—Castles Q R	21—Q to K sq.
22—B to Kt 4	22—R to R sq.
23—Q to Kt 5	23—B to Kt 3
24—P takes P	24—P to R 3
25—Q to B 6 (ch.)	25—K to Kt sq.
26—R to Q 6	26—B to K 6 (ch.)
27—K to Kt sq.	27—B to Q B 5
28—K R to Q sq.	28—Resigns.

If Q to B 5 instead, White plays 24—B to K 7.

White conducted the game with overpowering strength; he took admirable advantage of the position at every turn. Black cannot do anything to prevent R to Q B.

GOOD WORDS BY PILLSBURY.

In an article contributed to the *New York World*, Pillsbury expresses his conviction that there is no study so beneficial to youth as the study of chess. "It is primarily of benefit in inducing the habit of fixing the attention upon a given situation, and bringing the mind to work upon the question of the proper action to be taken—action and reflection thus going hand in hand. Also, like poetry and music, it stimulates the imagination; and it teaches steadfastness and intrepidity in the face of impending danger and loss. With all this it contains in practice the element of competition—the splendid element which, in every manly nature, redeems toil and makes labour light."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Nov. 20th.
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 21st.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 23rd.
From America	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 24th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 16th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 23rd.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 25th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 3rd.

1 Capta left San Francisco on November 3rd. 2 Deris (with English mail) left Hongkong on November 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

For Hongkong, via Shanghai	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 8th.
For America	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 23rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 23rd.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Nov. 23rd.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 24th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 25th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 27th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Prosper, American schooner, 505, R. Johannesen, 31st October.—Port Townsend 12th September, Lumber.—R. Isaacs & Bros.

Wakamou Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Tibballs, 31st October.—Otaru via ports, 28th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 1st November.—Hongkong via ports, 23rd October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Tenick, 1st November.—Nagasaki 29th October, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, De la Perrelle, 1st November.—Liverpool via ports, 30th August, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, S. Muramatsu, 1st November.—Hakodate 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Picciola, German steamer, 870, Hassan, 1st November.—Zabu, Sugar.—Chinese.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 1st November.—Yokkaichi 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Yoshizawa, 1st November.—Shimonoseki 29th October, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, J. F. Allen, 3rd November.—Seattle, Wash., 14th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 3rd November.—Otaru via ports, 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 3rd November.—Kobe 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 2,795, T. Leigh, 4th November.—London via ports, 5th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mistley Hall, British ship, 1,772, A. G. Parker, 4th November.—New York 31st May, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 4th November.—Yokkaichi 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, de Maubeuge, 4th November.—Marseilles 27th September, Hongkong 26th October, Shanghai 30th and Kobe 3rd November, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 5th November.—Hongkong via ports, 28th October, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, O. Davey, 5th November.—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Progress, German steamer, 746, Brandt, 5th November.—Iloilo, Sugar.—Chinese.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 5th November.—Yokkaichi 4th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 6th November.—Hongkong via ports, 27th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Antenor, British steamer, 1,560, Jackson, 6th November.—London via ports, and Kobe 5th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 6th November.—Shanghai via ports, 31st October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 6th November.—San Francisco 17th October, via Honolulu 25th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Knight of St. John, British steamer, 2,347, A. J. Billett, 7th November.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 31st October.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,297, J. Watson, 31st October.—Portland, Oregon, via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, 31st October.—Shinagawa, Sealing Gear.—Japanese.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Duhalateau, 1st November.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, Truebridge, 1st November.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Prosper, American schooner, 505, R. Johannesen, 1st November.—Kobe, Lumber.—R. Isaacs & Bros.

Teonkai, British steamer, 3,016, G. W. Long, 1st November.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 2nd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 3rd November.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

J. B. Walker, American ship, 2,103, Wallace, 3rd November.—Cebu, Philippine Islands, Ballast.—Captain.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Tibbals, 3rd November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 3rd November.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, S. Muramatsu, 4th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, C. Young, 4th November.—Melbourne via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benworlich, British steamer, 2,164, John H. Clark, 5th November.—New York via ports, General.—Corney & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 5th November.—Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Picciola, German steamer, 870, Hassan, 6th November.—Newchwang, Ballast.—Captain.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 6th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 6th November.—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Misses Birnsting (2), Misses Lowler (2), Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Hon. J. F. Price, Messrs. L. C. W. Phillips, C. Thwaites, and J. Harris in cabin; 3 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. H. L. Bruce, Mr. R. Rowlen, and Mrs. J. R. Rowlen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Japan*, from Shanghai:—Mr. Japilland, Mr. Leroy, Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt, and Mr. Moth in cabin. From Kobe:—Mr. C. H. Faison in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Messrs. Louis Roudon, Y. Sakamoto, Ali Cohen, G. Gaggino, Pinelli, Denys Larrieu, B. Robert, Cottin, H. Foukoute, Schoeninger and family (3), R. Pfister, M. Dannenberg, G. Shebury and 2 children, K. Yoda, H. Soin, and Gielen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Reid,

Mrs. Howell, Mrs. Moncfort, Messrs. Leonard Black, J. Leiria, A. E. Wilson, A. M. Collom, A. C. Byer, Chun Chin Put, Rev. T. Sandeman, Mrs. T. Sandeman and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Horne and infant, Miss R. MacKenzie, Messrs. P. Abdullah, U. J. Mahomed, J. A. M. de Jesus, Duke Alcock, P. M. Sweeney, W. W. Fegen, E. W. Fairley, H. J. Rothwell, J. W. Copmann, Miss and Miss Gorham, Miss Gardiner, Miss J. W. Cummings, Captain Eden, Messrs. K. Katsuyama, George Flood, John Flood, J. R. Hunt, Hooper, Howe, and Sargent in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 297 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. W. A. Thornton, Mr. Wong Tuk San, Mr. G. Hankinson, Mr. John Whitehead, Mr. J. W. Adams, Mrs. J. E. S. Mason, Mrs. E. L. Conan and servant, Mrs. Paul G. Fielder, Mr. and Mrs. Orth, and Mr. E. J. Abbott in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. J. C. Howe in cabin; Messrs. W. G. Piersdorfs and Geo. P. Eckert in European steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. T. Smith, Lieutenant Kato, General Kuroki, Mr. and Mrs. Mori, Messrs. S. Suga, M. Hamawaki, I. Honda, and James Hands in cabin; Mr. Cheng, Mr. C. Sueim, Mr. and Mrs. Uyeda, Mrs. Nakata and family, Mrs. I. Kiume, Mrs. I. Uyeda, Mr. S. Usami, and Mr. Nakata in second class, and 36 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from San Francisco:—Mr. M. Dankwerts, Mrs. Dankwerts, Mr. K. Ito, Mr. D. B. Fearing, Mrs. Fearing and maid, Mr. Barbour Lathrop, Mr. F. R. Leloir, Mr. C. Röhl, Mr. Antonio de Silva e Souza, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. Jas. Tschetian, Mr. H. Lyall, Rev. E. R. Woodman, Mr. H. Delacamp, Mrs. Delacamp and infant, Miss Delacamp and maid, Mr. W. R. Townsend, Mrs. Townsend, Mr. A. C. Leloir, Mr. P. McManus, Mr. A. J. Curtiss, Mrs. Curtiss, Mrs. M. I. Leach, and Miss F. Willis in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. H. A. Held and Mrs. H. McCarthy in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. M. F. Wheeler, Mrs. L. F. Watson, Dr. C. E. Reed, Mrs. Reed, Mr. A. B. Falkinburg, Miss Helen Truss, Mrs. W. G. Pearne, child and nurse, and Mr. L. H. Rogers in cabin. From Honolulu to Yokohama:—Mr. A. C. Newcombe, Mrs. S. W. Innes, Mr. M. C. Nason, and Mr. S. Mack in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Daphne*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Cecil N. Barker, Mr. J. Lawese, Miss J. Ranesen, Miss E. Bullock, and Mrs. Jas. Wallace in cabin, and 2 European and 9 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. H. Foin, Mr. Maurice Alix, Mr. and Mrs. Sale and 2 children, Miss Hardwick, Messrs. L. Van Nicrop, H. Pollak, J. Vidal, Davenport, J. Kuln, M. Ebrahimjee, Mrs. and Miss Vidal, Miss Cora Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. da Costa and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Zilliacus and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. P. Sachse, 3 children and governess, Mr. and Mrs. A. Busby, Commander W. Falenhort, Messrs. C. Schiencke, Abraham, S. O. Nakano, Mrs. Nakano, Messrs. T. J. Jarkman, Cuertlimal, E. David, T. Futaki, Major and Mrs. C. W. Dark, Mrs. Abromowitz, Messrs. J. H. Johnson, Pierre Botsay, L. Chaf-fanjon, L. Gay, H. Margerie, J. Watanabe, Rev. and Mrs. Wier and 2 children, Miss Isabel Gon-sales, Mr. A. Cheong, and Mr. Yan Phon Lie in cabin; 4 seamen and 3 Indians in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Mrs. J. C. Avell, Mr. and Mrs. G. How, Messrs. Angela Tani, F. S. Goodison, Pocklington, R. Ide, S. Ijima, I. Sugiyama, Count Inouye, and Baron and Baroness Mori in cabin; Mrs. Hiro-uchi, Mr. T. Hirouchi, Mrs. Ide, Mrs. Ide, Mr. R. Ishikawa, Mrs. Taki Matsukawa, Mr. K. Suyehiro, and Mr. J. Honda in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Mr. S. Yamagata in second class, For Nagasaki:—Messrs. H. Takeda, E. A. Morphy, and S. Asakura in cabin; Mr. A. Smith in second class. For Shanghai:—Mrs. Alfred Hogg and Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Lavers in cabin; 38 passengers in steerage in all.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. P. Anderson, Mrs. J. P. Anderson, Mr. E. S. Ali Cohen, Mr. E. F. Fenollosa, Mrs. E. F. Fenollosa, Mr. George Flood, Dr. A. de Flesch (Austro-Hungarian Consul), Captain Houston, U.S.N., Mr. G. M. Merrivale, Mrs. G. M. Merrivale, Rev. T. Sandeman, Mrs. Sandeman and infant, Mr. A. Spitzel, Mr. A. Spitzel, Jun., Mr. E. A. Stevens, and Mr. A. E. Wilson in cabin.

CARGOS.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 368 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 134 bales.

Per British steamer *Altmore*, for Portland, Or.:—

	TEA.			
	CANADA, AND WEST.	CHICAGO AND NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	TOTAL.
Hongkong.....	—	90	128	218
Ilyogo.....	—	401	—	401
Yokohama.....	—	1,016	—	1,016
Total.....	—	1,507	128	1,635

Per British steamer *Olympia*, for Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.:—

	TEA.			
	CANADA, AND WEST.	CHICAGO AND NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	TOTAL.
Shanghai.....	673	2,319	817	3,189
Ilyogo.....	—	2,319	1,584	4,170
Yokohama.....	2,681	2,532	1,320	6,533
Hongkong.....	—	—	66	66
Foochow.....	3,857	—	1,044	4,901
Total.....	7,213	7,180	4,803	19,618

	SILK.			
	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	—	TOTAL.
Shanghai.....	89	—	—	89
Hongkong.....	190	—	—	190
Yokohama.....	1,356	—	—	1,356
Total.....	1,635	—	—	1,635

Tea..... 12 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement..... \$11 Gold per ton.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Treasure, \$3,000.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.			
	CANADA, AND WEST.	CHICAGO AND NEW YORK.	PACIFIC.	TOTAL.
Hongkong.....	—	8	154	162
Calcutta.....	30	—	31	61
Amoy.....	376	394	4,668	5,438
Foochow.....	601	497	830	2,311
Shanghai.....	3,663	1,650	2,105	7,573
Colombo.....	—	—	590	590
Kobe.....	1,765	305	346	2,416
Yokohama.....	2,635	909	—	3,544
Total.....	9,070	3,755	8,017	22,015

	SILK.			
	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	—	TOTAL.
Hongkong and Canton.....	35	—	—	35
Shanghai.....	435	—	—	435
Yokohama.....	860	—	—	860
Total.....	1,330	—	—	1,330

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 27th October at 1.56 p.m. Arrived at Amoy the 28th at 1.12 p.m. and left the 29th at 7.05 a.m. Arrived at Shanghai the 31st at 9.17 a.m. and left at 5.14 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 2nd November at 2.58 a.m. and left the 3rd at 1.32 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 4th at 4.44 a.m., and left the 7th at 6.05 a.m.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 30th October at 4.30 p.m.; had strong N.W. winds and mixed sea to Nagasaki; thence to Kobe light variable breeze and clear. Left Kobe the 5th November at noon; experienced strong N.E. winds to Oshima at 8 p.m.; thence to Omai-saki fresh gale from same direction and light variable winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th November at 3.25 p.m.

The British steamer *Belgie*, Captain Rinder, reports:—Left San Francisco the 17th October, and left Honolulu the 25th. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th November. Passage, from San Francisco, 19 days, 15 hours, and 51 min.; from Honolulu, 11 days, 16 hours, and 1 min.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No sign at present of anything satisfactory. After a month of absolute stagnation, holders are getting uneasy, and find the present state of things monotonous. Quotations for Grey Yarn and Shittings withdrawn; all others quite nominal, as not a single transaction is recorded for the past week. Tight money, and financial stringency appear to be having a good innings.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shittings—8 1/2 yds, 38 1/2 inches.....	—
Grey Shittings—9 yds, 38 1/2 inches.....	—
I. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 34 inches.....	\$1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shittings—12 yds, 44 inches.....	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches.....	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches.....	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches.....	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 1/2 inches.....	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches.....	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.5 to 3 lb, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches.....	1.65 to 1.95

Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.	
	PER YARD.
Flannel.....	\$0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium.....	0.30 to 0.32
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common.....	0.25 to 0.27
Mousseline de laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 & 56 inches.....	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—President, 51 & 56 inches.....	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 51 & 56 inches.....	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb.....	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.	
	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Singles.....	—
Nos. 18/22, Singles.....	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles.....	—
Nos. 32, Doubles.....	—
Nos. 42, Doubles.....	—
Nos. 3/60, Plain.....	—
Nos. 2/80, Plain.....	—
Nos. 2/100, Plain.....	—
Nos. 2/60, Gassed.....	—
Nos. 2/80, Gassed.....	—
Nos. 2/100, Gassed.....	—

METALS.

Quotations unchanged; but stronger news from the home side has forced buyers into the market, and a fair amount of stock has been moved.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch.....	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted.....	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron.....	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets.....	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted.....	5.00 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box.....	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	1.70 to 1.75

KEROSENE.

Steady market with good deliveries. Holders are firm at the moment, but prices appear capable of some slight reduction.

American.....	\$2.27 1/2 to 2.30
Russian.....	2.35 to 2.40
Langkat.....	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Arrivals exceed sales and prices are down again. White—Small business with quotations in favour of buyers.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao.....	\$4.50 to 4.60
Brown Manila.....	5.40 to 5.50
Brown Daitong.....	3.90 to 4.00
Brown Canton.....	3.80 to 4.65
White Java and Penang.....	6.90 to 7.00
White Refined.....	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Holdings met buyers as to price, and a large business resulted, almost entirely for the United States trade. Re-reels have indeed advanced in price, owing to the competition for them. Trade for Europe slack, with little done. Market generally closes quiet but with no weakness so far. Stock 20,000 piculs!

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.....	Nom. \$850 to 860
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.....	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	Nom. 830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	Nom. 810 to 820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	Nom. 780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 1.....	740 to 745
Kakedas—No. 1.....	730 to 735
Kakedas—No. 2.....	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—

WASTE SILK.

At last the turn has come, and about 3,000 piculs good quality Noshi and Kibiso have found buyers at advancing rates. Nothing done yet this season in Pierced Cocoons. Stock (all descriptions) is 13,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshu, Best.....	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good.....	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best.....	140 to 150
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	120 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	100 to 110

Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.....	20 to 25

TEA.

Demand has fallen light during the week and stock increases again, being now 3,500 piculs. Holders reported firm *pro tem*, especially for the lower grades.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choice.....	\$16 to \$27
Choice.....	24 to 25
Finest.....	22 to 23
Fine.....	20 to 21
Good Medium.....	18 to 19
Medium.....	16 to 17
Good Common.....	14 to 15
Common.....	—

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated but very slightly, and closes a fraction lower.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/1 1/2
— Bills on demand.....	2/1 1/2
— 4 months' sight.....	2/1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/1 1/2 to 2
— 6 months' sight.....	2/2 1/2 to 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.67
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2.72 1/2 to 3
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1/2 % p.
— Private 10 days' sight.....	1/2 % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	72
— Private 10 days' sight.....	73
On India—Bank sight.....	173
— Private 30 days' sight.....	176
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	51 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight.....	53 1/2 to 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.16 to 7
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2.21 1/2
Bar Silver (London).....	29 1/2



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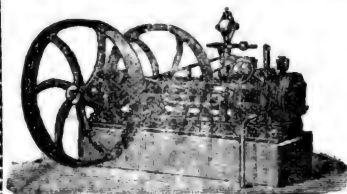
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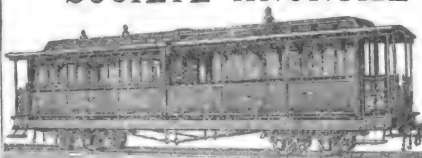
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YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 14TH, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 14TH, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BARON IWASAKI YANOSUKE is the new President of the Bank of Japan.

THE Tenth Imperial Diet will be convoked in Tokyo on the 22nd of December.

THE autumn athletic meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club passed off most suc-

cessfully on Saturday. The attendance was very large.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, ex-Minister of Education, will start for Europe on the 30th inst.

REAR-ADMIRAL OXLEY is now visiting Yokohama with his flagship the *Grafton*.

COUNT ITAGAKI who has been staying at Oiso, returned to the capital on Monday.

RUMOUR says that Viscount Aoki, Minister to Germany, has sent in his resignation.

THE Right Hon. J. Chamberlain has been elected Lord Rector of Glasgow University.

THE Black Death is still prevalent in Formosa and extra sanitary precautions are being taken.

BARON KUSUMOTO will, in all probability, take the late Baron Kawada's seat in the House of Peers.

ADMIRAL DE BEAUMONT, of the French Asiatic Squadron, has left for home by the French mail steamer.

MR. JOHN CAREY HALL has left Yokohama for Kobe to take charge of H.B.M. Consulate at the latter port.

HEAVY snowfalls are reported from Hokkaido and from many of the mountain districts in Central Japan.

MARQUIS ITO is now visiting Kyoto and Osaka; Count Inouye is touring through the Shimono-seki districts.

THE Bachelor's Association of Yokohama gave their first ball this season at the Public Hall on Monday evening.

CAPT. CRAWFORD read an essay on Railroads in the Holy Land before the last meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society.

OWING to an entire absence of wind last Saturday, the final races of the Yokohama Sailing Club had to be postponed for a week.

THE Chrysanthemum Garden-party on Wednesday in Tokyo was the largest function of its kind for many years. The day was brilliantly fine.

THE Committee of the General Hospital, Yokohama, report a good balance in hand of a thousand dollars, at the end of the financial year.

LIEUT.-GENERAL OKU, the new Commandant of the First Army Division, arrived in the capital on Sunday last to take up his new appointment.

CAPTAIN MARITT, of the Norfolk Regiment, has been captured by brigands at Smyrna, and a ransom of ten thousand pounds is demanded.

THE Revised Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Holland and Japan reached the Foreign Department on Friday. It will be ratified soon.

SPAIN is issuing an internal five per cent. loan of four hundred million pesetas (£16,000,000 sterling), to defray the war expenses in Cuba and the Philippines.

THE *Himeji Maru*, of the N.Y.K., bound to London, ran on to the Bombay Reef of the Paracels on Nov. 3rd. Assistance has gone to her from Hongkong.

MRS. CAREW has been arrested on the charge of murdering her husband, and during the week the preliminary inquiry before the magistrate has taken place in the British Court.

MR. SHIBUSAWA, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, has sent round a notification

to all the Chambers of Commerce to send delegates to Tokyo to an extraordinary meeting of the Chamber, which is to be opened on the 19th inst.

THE Japanese man-of-war *Chinyen* left Kobe for Yokosuka on the 12th, and the *Amaki* left Yokosuka for Tateyama the same day.

THE Foreign Department will establish next year Japanese Legations in Hawaii, Peru, Brazil, and Siam; and Japanese Consulates at Chicago, Sydney, Antwerp, and Newchwang.

OWING to the sudden illness of his father, Dr. de Fleisch, Austro-Hungarian Consul, has gone home, and the business of the Consulate will be discharged by the Belgian Consul during his absence.

A MEETING of the Railway Conference will be held about the end of this month. During the absence of General Kawakami, the President, General Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, will preside.

THE Chinese Consulate General was reopened in Yokohama on Tuesday. The new Consul-General, accompanied by Mr. McIvor, of the U.S. Consulate-General, has paid his official calls in Yokohama.

THE Reformed Mining Regulations that are to be laid before the next session of the Diet by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, having been completed, will be submitted to the Legislative Bureau.

SINCE Mr. McKinley's election many factories are working overtime, and the mills reopened are giving employment to one hundred thousand men. There is a greatly increased demand for woollens and clothing.

THE Right Rev. Mandell Creighton, Bishop of Peterborough, has been translated to the Bishopric of London, in place of the Right Hon. and Right Rev. Frederick Temple, the present Archbishop of Canterbury.

DURING the month of October, at Yokohama and Kobe, exports amounted to yen 11,980,000 and imports yen 14,050,000, an increase of yen 2,070,000 in imports. Exported bullion amounted to yen 1,170,000 and imported to yen 660,000, an increase of yen 510,000 in exports.

THE situation, so far as importers are concerned, is still very dreary. Merchants complain of tightness of money and inability to take up consignments, consequently godowns are filling at an accelerated rate. Yarns and Grey Goods are absolutely dead, and only a feeble enquiry is made for Woollens and Fancy Cottons. At the beginning of the week a few parcels of Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns changed hands, but this demand quickly "petered out." Some activity is anticipated in the near future for Metals, though at present the market is quiet and unchanged. Quotations for Kerosene may be expected to fall next week, in sympathy with the lowering of the Kobe market, and buyers have consequently held aloof this week. A small business has been done in Brown Sugars, the large arrivals depressing prices. White Sugar is very quiet at nominal quotations. Trade in Raw Silk has dwindled very rapidly these past few days, and ere long holders must lower their expectations if they wish to clear any of the large stock now pressing so heavily upon their hands. In Waste Silk a little "boom" has been experienced, a large business being done. In Tea nothing worthy of note has occurred, the stock now being very small. Exchange has not altered much during the week, falling a point at the close.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The sudden death of the late Baron Kawada, President of the Nippon Ginko, has evoked strong expressions of regret from the vernacular press, journals of all shades of opinion concurring in eulogizing his ability and service. But the appointment of Baron Iwasaki as the deceased's successor is not regarded with universal satisfaction, especially by the Opposition papers. The Liberal organ, indeed, only hints its disapproval, but the *Chuo* opens its leading columns to an economist who is strongly dissatisfied with Baron Iwasaki's nomination. This writer marshals three reasons which, according to his thinking, disqualify Baron Iwasaki for the most important post in the banking system of Japan. In the first place, the Baron is essentially a man of enterprise, and so long as he directs the affairs of the Mitsubishi Firm and is connected with multifarious business, the public can not believe that he will act with strict fairness and integrity as Manager of the Bank of Japan. In the second place, he is inseparably connected with Counts Matsukata, Okuma, and Goto, and that connection may easily prove an obstacle to his administration as a banker. It is true that such a danger might be avoided were the Baron possessed of inflexible firmness and integrity, but the writer doubts whether he is well endowed with those qualities.

The *Shogyo* thinks Baron Iwasaki entirely fitted to succeed to the late Baron Kawada, his wealth, position, and experience constituting ample qualifications for the post. The difficulties now awaiting solution by the President of the Nippon Ginko are of a more arduous character than those that the late Baron Kawada had to encounter when he was first appointed; for, whereas currency troubles still agitate the monetary and economic spheres, as was the case in the time of the late President, the sudden development that Japan's economical affairs have experienced since the termination of the War, require most delicate and cautious procedure on the part of the director of the country's chief financial institution. On the other hand, the mere fact that Baron Iwasaki has accepted this arduous post, although his wealth and position enable him to enjoy a life of ease and luxury, shows that he expects to acquit himself with credit and success.

Several vernacular papers report that as the new President cannot devote his whole time to the Nippon Ginko, a Vice-President will be appointed to assist him, so that he may be required to direct the main affairs of the Bank only. As candidates for this important subordinate post, the names of Mr. Yamamoto, Chief of the Business Department of the Bank; Mr. Sonoda, President of the Specie Bank; and, lastly, Mr. Matsuo, a high official of the Department of Finance, are mentioned.

Another topic that has produced a far more heated controversy between the organs of the Government and of the Opposition is the alleged unsuitability of Count Hijikata for his present post. We shall refer to the matter at greater length in a future issue, but we may mention here that the accusations appeared originally in an *Osaka* periodical, the editor of which is supposed to be patronized by Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. Our readers must be aware how repeatedly such papers as the *Kokumin*, the *Nippon*, and so forth have penned diatribes against the Minister of the Imperial Household Department, charging him with subservience to Marquis Ito. They seek to persuade the public that one of the main-springs of Marquis Ito's influence is the partiality of the Household Department towards him, and that the connection between the two ought to be completely severed. The present campaign is simply a renewed manifestation of that deeply rooted prejudice on the part of the anti-Ito papers. The *Nichi Nichi* takes the lead in contradicting the charges against the Minister of

the Household and Marquis Ito, and, in common with the *Tokyo Shimbun* and the *Chuo*, charges the *Osaka* periodical and its *Tokyo* supporter, the *Nippon*, with gross disrespect toward the Imperial Court, inasmuch as they represent the Sovereign in the light of a mere puppet in the hands of Count Hijikata. The *Nippon* and its allies, however, maintain that their intention is simply to purge the Household Department of corruption and abuses, and that their attacks against the Minister of the Department, far from reflecting in any way on the Emperor, are dictated by motives of genuine loyalty. The Imperial Court and the Household Department, they say, are distinct and must never be confounded.

The *Fiji* continues to draw the attention of the public to the advisability of increasing the *sake* tax. Our contemporary holds that an addition of 10 *yen* to the rate per *koku* would not inconvenience either producers or consumers to any serious extent. In point of fact, as the extra impost would come from the pockets of consumers, the producers would not be concerned at all so long as due facilities were given in the method of paying the tax. Further, the proposed increase means nothing more than that the price of *sake* would be raised 1 *sen* per *go* (one third of a pint, approximately), a change not at all likely to cause any diminution of consumption. In another article, the same journal advises the Authorities, as a means of protecting the interests of brewers, to abolish the system of domestic brewing. The brewing of *sake* in the houses of wealthy farmers, though a traditional custom of ancient standing, is at present a distinct abuse, for the object of the practice is to furnish *sake* to the servants and dependants of the family. It would of course be a deprivation to these persons did their masters cease to supply them with *sake gratis*, but inasmuch as the home-brewed stuff is always known as *dakushu* (turbid *sake*), they would be satisfied were the tax on the latter reduced, a change advocated by the *Fiji* in a third article.

A point raised by the *Matnichi* in connection with the alleged corruption in the Railway Bureau and prevalence of a vicious habit of gambling among its experts, has evoked an article from the *Nippon*, over the signature of Mr. Miyake Yujiro. The writer argues that if the Government wish to correct these abuses, they must, first of all, impose restraints upon the propensity of Ministers of State to the same practice. The only hope lies in Count Kabayama, the Home-Minister. If that statesman resolves to exert himself for the discontinuance of the habit, he may succeed. In this context Mr. Miyake wishes to go a step further, by introducing a higher standard of morality in the Imperial Household Department, which, being the fountain head of official virtue, must be kept pure and must serve as a perfect model.

The *Shogyo* has a timely article about the anxiety caused by the enormous excess of imports this year, an excess amounting to as much as 50 million *yen*, approximately, up to the end of September. Our contemporary is astonished to learn that the Authorities are contemplating an artificial remedy with the view of checking this commercial tendency and providing against the import of commodities that minister to people's luxurious habits. The remedy is to make the Specie Bank forbear to sell bills payable abroad to import merchants of Yokohama, and to adopt a similar course on the other side in the case of foreign merchants intending to export goods to Japan. If that really be the remedy contemplated by the Authorities, the *Shogyo* has no choice but to condemn it, not only as inefficacious but also as calculated to inflict positive injury on the country. Those that advocate any such measure must be ignorant of the real causes responsible for the present disturbance of the balance of trade. They do not seem to apprehend clearly that the rise in the market prices of commodities in Japan constitutes a potent factor in encouraging imports and that so long as that factor continues to be operative,

imports must exceed exports, whatever artificial measures be devised to check the tendency. The rise in the market prices of commodities has considerably affected the export trade also, for whereas imports, during the first months of the year, show an increase of 35 million *yen* as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, exports showed a diminution of no less than 22 millions. The *Shogyo* condemns the scheme attributed to the Government as liable to inflict positive harm on the country, since it would cripple the business of the Specie Bank and inflict loss on consumers of foreign goods. Suppose that the Bank, abandoning its original programme to extend its scope of business abroad, be obliged to refuse banking facilities to foreign merchants who wish to ship goods to Japan, would they give up the idea of shipping? By no means. They would, in that case, ask foreign banks to finance the transactions refused by the Specie Bank, even though a higher rate of exchange were charged by the foreign institutions. In other words, the Specie Bank would be superseded by foreign banks in business between Japan and foreign countries, while consumers in Japan would be obliged to pay out of their own pockets the additional charge that foreign merchants would have to pay to foreign bankers. Altogether, therefore, the remedy attributed to the Authorities deserves condemnation only.

The *Fiji* writes in an appreciative strain about the concessions that Japan has obtained from China in return for relinquishing the free-manufacture clause in the Shimonoseki Treaty. These concessions have been distinctly set forth in a protocol to the new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and China. The *Fiji* is specially gratified by the provisions relating exclusively to Japanese settlements in various open ports of China. Some hold that the matter being already covered by the most-favoured-nation clause, the concession on this point does not amount to much. The *Fiji* traverses that idea, and observes that, though in theory such may be the case, in practice there are only two or three large Powers that enjoy any such privilege, all the others having failed to profit by it. Therefore, the concession must be considered a positive and valuable gain to Japan. Further, if it be remembered that China had originally no intention of giving any recompense whatever for the renunciation of the free-manufacture clause by Japan, and if it be also remembered that the matter was carried through in a comparatively short space of time, the Authorities deserve to be emphatically commended.

The *Yomiuri* offers some suggestions for the consideration of the Administrative Reform Committee, especially on the two points of maintaining unity in officialdom and opening the door to men of ability from among the public at large. In order to attain the first object, the Cabinet must work in cordial amity; a distinct line of demarcation must be drawn between Executive and Administrative officials, the former moving with the Cabinet; the latter not meddling in any State affairs outside their direct functions, and being therefore forbidden to combine official duties with legislative business as members of Parliament. In pursuance of this view, the *Yomiuri* opposes the scheme of holding members of Parliament qualified for Administrative posts, a rumour to that effect having been lately circulated. Such a plan would end in making the Diet subservient to the Government. With regard to the nomination of Local Governors, this same paper makes three suggestions; namely, that men identified with any political party must not be allowed to become Governors; that Governors should be considered executive officials and be changed on every occasion of a change of Cabinet; and that, irrespective of party connection, any men of ability should be eligible. The *Yomiuri* urges the last point as the most important.

Mr. Suzuki Jyubi, M.P., one of this most in-

fluential members of the Liberal Party, writing in the last number of the *To-ko*, discusses the present Premier from three different points of view, namely, as a statesman in a limited sense; as a statesman in a general sense; and as a statesman of far-sighted and comprehensive ability. Mr. Suzuki thinks that the Premier, in the period immediately prior to his nomination, gave materials for testing his capacity in all those respects. His announcement that the financial policy of the empire should be reduced in scope furnished the first test; his declaration that the administration must be radically remodelled furnished the second; and his message conveyed to Marquis Ito through Viscount Takashima, when an extraordinary Cabinet Council was held in the ex-Premier's residence at Isarago, just on the eve of the resignation of the Ito Cabinet, that he, Count Matsukata, did not recognize political parties, furnished the third test. Gauged by these three tests, the doings of the Premier since his nomination show that he has forfeited his qualifications for all three characters. He has forfeited his title to statesmanship in a limited sense, because he failed to see that Japan's economy had already developed to an extraordinary degree and that the spirit of enterprise shown since the termination of the war is a proof of that fact. Again, if Count Matsukata really pronounced in favour of drastic administrative reforms, thus posing as a statesman in the general sense of the term, then his action just prior to being gazetted Premier must have dispelled the flattering delusion. For did he not, on that occasion, of his own accord, seek the help of the *Genkun*, the interference of "wire-pullers," and so forth, and patch up a Cabinet in reference to the views of this old statesman or of that. As to his claim to statesmanship of far-sighted and comprehensive ability, it is vitiated by the official interference that he sanctioned at the time of the general elections when he formerly presided over the Cabinet, and by his present relations with the *Shimpo-to*. All these things, according to Mr. Suzuki, show that the Premier can not even claim consistency of view. But it must be confessed that Mr. Suzuki's argument proves, above all things, his own incapacity to rise above the level of a special pleader.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

KOTOBUKICHO POLICE STATION.

AN unpretentious though extremely neat and commodious police-station built on the bungalow plan, has just been opened at Kotobukicho, Yokohama, and placed in charge of Inspector Kawada, a genial and large-minded police official. The station-house has been built partly from Municipal funds, partly by the generous subscriptions of prominent native merchants of the town, Mr. Otani Kahei and others; who, finding the town treasury to be too short of funds to permit of the erection of a first-class station, handsomely came forward and put up the requisite sum. The station stands on the corner of two streets, not far from Yoshihama-bashi, near the creek that runs along by Motomachi, and the front or public office commands a wide view of four thoroughfares. Branching off from this office on one side are sleeping and dining rooms for the accommodation of the sergeants and constables, opposite to which are four cells. These cells are set apart, one for drunkards and other folk detained for the night; one for women; and two for men. They are lofty apartments, wide, and speedily ventilated, far and away superior to the accommodation provided in the Kaga-cho, or Settlement police station, and much neater, higher, and broader than many a station-cell in England. The doors are of the ordinary police-pattern, with spy-hole and aperture for admitting food. On the other side of the bungalow is a visitor's room; inspector's private room; detective's rooms; examination room; and a spacious lecture room where the constables and sergeants gather for instruction. The building covers 263 *tsubo*. Inspection Kawada has three inspectors under him and 56 sergeants and

constables. To give an idea of the extent of his district—in parts one of the poorest in the town—we may mention that its population exceeds 40,000 persons, including that troublesome quarter, the Yoshiwara. Yet for all that his staff is only 59 all told! Fancy such a tiny staff in Europe having to control such a large population. Inspector Kawada, who speaks English fluently, will have much to do with foreigners who may be arrested from time to time and have to wait in the cells until morning before the Consular authorities step in and deal with their cases. They will, we feel sure, receive most generous treatment at his hands. On the fifth instant when the Station was opened, Governor Nakano, Mr. Yoshida, Chief of Police of the Ken, and other officials visited the establishment and deservedly complimented the Inspector-in-charge.

THE PARADISE FISH OF JAPAN.

We take the following from the *Literary Digest*—

The paradise fish of Japan, which builds a nest for its eggs from glutinous bubbles, is now brought to this country and can, according to the *San Francisco Examiner*, be bought at a low price of any fancier in that city. We quote the following description of its habits from *The Scientific American*—

"The habits of these creatures are remarkably interesting, and unlike goldfish they will breed in an aquarium or even in a glass globe. They produce three or four broods of young annually, so that the owner is likely to be able to make money by disposing of the increase.

"The nests they make are very odd indeed, being composed entirely of air-bubbles. When the time for mating arrives the male fish undergoes a striking change in his appearance. Ordinarily he is of a dull, silvery color, but now he exhibits stripes of red, blue, and green, with streaks of brightest orange on the ventral fins. Such is the costume in which he goes a-wooing.

"Later on the female proceeds to construct the family nest at the surface of the water. Swallowing air, she ejects it in the shape of bubbles, which are held and made permanent by glutinous capsules from a secretion in her mouth. Having got together in this way a sufficient mass of bubbles, she proceeds to lay.

"At this stage the female paradise fish seems always to be seized with a strange desire to gobble her own eggs. This she would inevitably do but for the watchfulness of the male, who prevents her, taking the eggs in his mouth and ejecting them beneath the mass of bubbles, to which they rise and find a resting-place among them. Sometimes he will conduct his mate under the nest, so that the eggs as they are laid may ascend to it. When laying is finished he keeps guard over the nest, attacking the female if she comes near. Meanwhile, he busies himself in the making of fresh bubbles to take the place of those which chance to burst.

"This performance is kept up for five days, at the end of which the young are hatched out. They can not swim, but cling like little tadpoles to the bubbles. If one falls to the bottom, as happens now and then, the papa fish takes it in his mouth and disgorges it among the bubbles again. His watchfulness is continued until the little fishes are able to take care of themselves.

"They grow fast in a glass globe or aquarium, attaining a length of three or four inches. They thrive best on chopped angle worms, but raw beef cut fine will serve as a substitute. Apparently they are exclusively carnivorous. Care must be taken not to expose them to cold, which quickly kills them."

A STRANGE CLASSIFICATION.

A BOOKING-CLERK on the Burmese railway, says the *Perak Pioneer*, was recently at his wit's ends as to the goods classifications of a couple of jugglers' snakes. The reptiles were tendered for dispatch up-country and after much diligent search the clerk brought the vermin under "dogs" and booked them accordingly, but the Railway Company have since pointed out that performing snakes may travel under the "perishable articles" classification. This reminds one of the Chinese clerk on the Tientsin line who entered up the charge for a dog as that for one-and-a-half-pieces pig. But still quaintest is the case of the Yokohama resident who, in 1881, despatched a mermaid to America under the description of a "breeding ram."

YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROCEEDINGS.

We have before us the first number of the Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce's Proceedings, published last month. It is a carefully compiled repository of business in-

formation about Yokohama and contains 68 pages. The contents are subdivided into 15 headings, viz., Report of the work undertaken by the Chamber; its proceedings; inquiries that the Government has put to it; commercial, industrial, and economic topics, and so forth. As a proof of the thoroughness of compilation we may mention that the journal contains the outlines of the Monetary System Investigation Committee's Report; "Comparison between Yokohama and Kobe as a commercial outlet," by Mr. Kuwada; "A word to Yokohama People," by the *Kokumin*; translation of the *Japan Mail's* article regarding the Yokohama Situation problem; a speech delivered by Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, before the Hakata Chamber of Commerce; and numerous notes either directly or indirectly relating to Yokohama. So far as we can judge, all this matter has appeared in the dailies or periodicals, with the exception of the news of purely local interest. Indeed this is but right, for the chief use of a journal of the kind is to present to its subscribers, namely, the members of the Chamber, in a convenient manner information needed for purposes of reference. It is edited by Mr. H. Iida, late Professor in the Commercial School and now Chief Secretary of the Chamber

THE ARREST OF A CHINESE IN LONDON.

IN reference to the Reuter's telegram describing the illegal arrest of Dr. Sun Yat Sin, by the officials of the Chinese Legation in London, a fuller account appears in Hongkong papers. The telegram there says:—A sensation has been caused in London by a Chinese doctor called Sun Yat Sin, who it is stated has been concerned in a conspiracy in Canton to overthrow the dynasty. It appears that he has been imprisoned since the 11th instant in the Chinese Legation in London. It is reported that he was inveigled thither by the Chinese, and that he has managed to secretly inform his friends of his detention. Detectives are watching the Legation day and night to prevent his clandestine removal to China. Lord Salisbury, in a sharp note, demanded the immediate release of Dr. Sun Yat Sin, whose real name is Sun Wen. In the afternoon, an official of the Chinese Legation handed Dr. Sun Wen over to the Foreign Office, reserving the question of diplomatic rights. The *China Mail* says Dr. Sun Yat Sin was born in Honolulu, his parents having emigrated from the Heungshan district, near Macao. At an early age he came to China, and received the first part of his medical education at Dr. Kerr's Hospital, Canton, and afterwards came to Hongkong and studied at the Hongkong College of Medicine. He afterwards went to Tientsin, and while there addressed a long letter to Li Hung-chang advocating the necessity of reform in China. Returning to Macao, he opened a shop for the sale of foreign drugs, after which he went to Canton and established himself as a doctor. When the unsuccessful attempt at rebellion took place in October, 1895, Dr. Sun Yat Sin was still at Canton. He next came to Hongkong and remained here for about ten days, disappearing afterwards. A short time ago he was reported to be in New York. He is recognised as a very smart Chinaman, and is honestly endeavouring to effect reforms in China.

NIPPON MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

THE Nippon Marine Insurance Company, Limited, of Osaka, has published its balance sheet and statement of account for the term from the 22nd April to the 31st August, 1896, from which we gather that it has assets of \$3,028,160.095. The profit made during the year was \$24,887.481 which it proposes to divide as follows:—transfer to reserve \$1,500; and to special reserve, \$23,000; and to carry to new account \$387.487.

"EN ROUTE."

MONS. L. LEROY and Papillaud, the two French Journalists whose arrival we chronicled last week, have overcome the initial difficulties connected with an edition of *En Route in Japan*. They will bring out a Japan edition in a few weeks, with illustrations by Ogawa, the famous Tokyo photographer.

THE SHIMPO-TO AND THE GOVERNMENT.

The *Shimpo-to* held an extraordinary meeting on the 1st instant, Baron Kusumoto in the chair. It will be remembered that, in a recent issue, we published a translation of the Party's reported programme—a programme of very wide scope. Since then, the document has been reduced to reasonable dimensions by the Party's Standing Committee. Its latest form is this:—

- (1) To establish the reality of Responsible Cabinets.
- (2) To amend the country's foreign policy in the sense of developing the national prestige and interests.
- (3) To adopt the military expansion to the resources of the country.
- (4) To make the development of education, commerce and industry a prime object for the sake of increasing the national strength.
- (5) To secure fuller freedom of speech and public meeting.
- (6) To proceed resolutely with administrative reforms and the elimination of superfluous documents in the conduct of official business.
- (7) To regulate the public finances and bring the revenue and expenditures into equilibrium.

The above headings were embodied in a resolution for submission to the meeting, and the meeting was informed that steps having been taken to lay the document before the Government, the latter had declared their policy to be in general agreement with it. Nevertheless, the resolution was accompanied by the formula constantly affected by the *Shimpo-to*, namely, that if the Administration's acts were found culpable, the Party would be true to its responsibility and would resolutely attack those in power. Truly there is a great deal of farce in all this. The *Shimpo-to* are unquestionably supporters of the Cabinet, and yet they perpetually try to persuade the public that they are watching the Ministers as if they had not the smallest confidence in them. If that is their idea of the way to introduce the party-government system, they cannot have given the matter very serious thought. If a Cabinet is to owe its acquisition and tenure of power to party influence, it must have the genuine support of some party. Did the people at large take their cue from the *Shimpo-to*, they would regard the present Ministers of State as exceedingly slippery, untrustworthy personages, requiring to be carefully scrutinized and rigorously held in the path of well-doing. To say nothing of the silly arrogance of the language employed in the *Shimpo-to's* resolution, their method's are excellently calculated to defeat the prime object they have in view. However, no one present at the meeting took that view of the matter. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

In the afternoon, the regular meeting of the Party was held, and after various reports had been read, the draft of a Representation to the Government was adopted. The Representation will be submitted to the Diet next session. It recommends that legislative action be taken for the protection of labourers; for the regulation of factories; for improving the relations between land-owners and tenants and for encouraging agriculture.

The *Shimpo-to* have also issued a manifesto. It runs as follows:—

It goes without saying that the responsibility of assisting the Sovereign devolves upon the Ministers of State under a Constitutional Monarchy. The Imperial Constitution is explicit on the subject. Nevertheless, to properly conduct administrative affairs and discharge that responsibility fully in practice, it is necessary that the Cabinet should obtain the support of a majority in the Diet. To attempt to dispense with that support is to be thwarted and checked in the work of administration and to fail in the full discharge of the responsibility of assisting the Sovereign. A Cabinet that does not succeed in obtaining the support of a majority in the Diet, has to choose one of three courses: the first is to adopt the views of the majority; the second, to dissolve the House; the third, to resign office. If after dissolution of the Diet the Cabinet still finds itself opposed by a majority in the new Diet, there then remain only two courses to be chosen between, namely, to adopt the views of the majority or to resign. To

act as the Ito Cabinet acted, namely, dissolve the Diet, and then, though still opposed by a majority in the new Diet, to remain in office, is to violate the true principle of constitutional government and to disregard the dictates of political morality. To sum up, the way to discharge the responsibility of assisting the Sovereign, is to obtain the support of a majority in the Diet. If, unfortunately, that support can not be obtained, then one of three courses, adoption, dissolution, or resignation must be chosen. If such choice be made, then the reality of responsible Cabinets is achieved. The Matsukata Cabinet now in power has declared that it will endeavour to secure the support of the Diet; that it will seek to realize the advantages of co-operation between rulers and ruled, and that it will spare no pains to discharge its administrative responsibilities towards the Sovereign. That is to carry into practice the reality of responsible Cabinets, and with such principles our Party's policy is in unison.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS.

Mr. "Ishiu" in Osaka and Mr. "Sawakichi," the proprietors of the Sawa Firm, are the largest insolvent persons in Japan. The case of the former celebrated speculator is the brightest of the two, for his assets are estimated as sufficient to cover his liabilities, which now amount to over 2½ million yen. Mr. "Ishiu" took side with the "Bulls" in the latter part of last year and during the spring of this, and by engrossing the shares of the Sangu Railway Company and cornering rice, succeeded in realizing an immense fortune. But good fortune did not last. While hesitating in disposing of his rice and shares, lest by so doing he might accelerate the fall of the market, both rice and shares entered on the downward path, so that his loss totalled over one million yen. So long as this big speculator was swimming with the tide his credit was extremely good, and he became indebted to various banks in Osaka and Kyoto to the tune of over four millions. A portion of this debt he cleared off by selling rice at more or less loss, but there remains a sum of over 2½ million yen still owing to the banks. However, as these creditors advanced money on shares of various railways and other companies and also on 55,000 *koku* of rice, they had no particular misgiving as to the result of the transaction. In the meantime, economic troubles broke out in Osaka and money became tight especially after two or three banks had collapsed. Some of the creditors of Mr. Ishiu were therefore obliged to press for repayment. The situation became more critical every day, especially as he had to pay over 20,000 yen per mensem in interest. He then disclosed his situation to his creditors and asked them to sell him up if they thought that necessary. The creditors held a secret meeting and ascertained that even at the low quotations then reigning in the stock market, Mr. Ishiu's shares would leave a surplus of about 140,000 yen to the good, and to sell him up might cause serious harm and loss. They decided therefore to hold his shares on mortgage and to sell them off as the market permitted, and in that way to settle the business. The wisdom of this resolution has been borne out by events, for the market that had fallen to a very low level has since risen, so that after they have liquidated all his liabilities, his property, including house and land, is estimated at over 400,000 yen.

The insolvency of the Sawa Firm endangers the existence of the Nippon Weaving Company. The Company held an extraordinary meeting of shareholders in the latter part of last month, to discuss the steps that should be taken at this crisis. The meeting was held behind closed doors, but the *Chuo* has succeeded in obtaining particulars of the proceedings. The chairman declared to the 140 shareholders assembled, that he had discovered a deficiency amounting to no less than 145,360 yen in the books of the Company that a sum of about 58,000 yen had been used in defrauding shareholders by declaring three unearned dividends; and that a sum of about 83,000 yen represented the shares that had actually been subscribed for, and subsequently been used by the Directors in raising money from the banks. Nothing was known as to the exact whereabouts of the ficti-

tious shares. A careful examination of the ledgers, proceeded the chairman, made it clear that the Company stood as creditor to the Sawa Firm to the extent of 117,000 yen. The Sawa Firm had formerly furnished accommodation in the sum of 100,000 yen, but from July last their relations underwent a sudden change and the Firm became indebted to the Company. Moreover, the Company endorsed notes of hand issued by the Firm to the extent of more than 45,000 yen, and as the Firm had been declared insolvent, the Company must now redeem those notes. The Company's loans to the Firm totalled about 163,300 yen. Asked by certain shareholders whether this was all the loss that the Company had incurred in consequence of the imprudence of the Directors, the Chairman, who was himself an auditor, did not give any satisfactory reply. In fact he confessed that only a few days ago two sums, one of 2,500, and the other of 5,000 yen, were discovered missing, the books of the Company giving us clue whatever. It was moved that an adjusting committee should be elected to make a thorough overhaul of actual conditions. The motion was unanimously adopted and a committee of nine was forthwith elected. The future of the Company is still doubtful—whether it will be wound up and dissolved, or whether it will continue in business. The chairman's opinion was that, in order to make good the losses of the Company, shareholders will have to furnish money at the rate of 20 yen per share. The shareholders of Kiryu wished to maintain the Company's business as before, for they argued that more than 600 girls now employed by the Company are all first rate weavers and that were they disengaged it would be impossible to get weavers unless 3,000 girls were newly enlisted.

PRINCE KONOYE ON THE PEERS.

Prince Konoye, President of the House of Peers, has been interviewed by a representative of the *Mainichi*, to whom he spoke about the Peers of Japan in an unreserved manner. Certain special views, observed His Highness, induced him to undertake the task of presiding over the Nobles' School for Boys, an institution that constitutes only a very small part of the scheme of national education in this country. To be more explicit, Prince Konoye said that the mental condition of the Peers was so pitiable that he could not contemplate it without feeling intense dissatisfaction. To speak but the truth, the Peers of to-day were an incarnation of stupidity, meanness, and arrogance; the first especially characterizing Feudal Peers, the second, Court Peers, and the last, Peers of modern creation. All may probably be aware how best to avail themselves of the advantages accruing from their position, but not one is aware of the responsibility and obligations devolving upon them in return. When His Highness returned home from Germany, he was so struck with indignation at what he considered the contemptible aspect of the Peers, that he drew up a memorial on the subject and read it before the Peers' Club. The members turned deaf ears to his earnest remonstrances, and even stigmatized him as a "titled *soshi*." He therefore gave up the hope of bringing about a reformation among the elders and resolved to turn his attention to the rising generation of Nobles. This was his reason for presiding over the affairs of Noble's School for Boys.

THE CONVOCAION OF THE DIET.

On the 7th instant an Imperial Rescript was issued convening the Diet for the 22nd of December. As the Lower House will not have to elect a President and a Vice-Presidents on this occasion, the business of organizing the sections and electing the standing committees will alone have to be concluded before the official opening. Thus the latter will probably take place on the 24th. But as the Houses usually rise on the 25th for the New Year's recess, it may be taken for granted that the real work of the session will not commence until the 11th of January.

THE TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN & GERMANY AND THE QUESTION OF PATENTS.

The views held by Japan and Germany about trade-marks, designs, patent-rights, and so forth as contemplated by the revised Treaty now awaiting ratification by the Sovereigns of the two Powers, are somewhat conflicting, according to the vernacular press. It, observes the *Kokumin*, the construction put by Japan upon the provisions of the revised Treaty be not endorsed by Germany, the effect upon the former's commerce and industry will be very great. Hence it behoves Japanese merchants and producers to be on their guard from this very day. Convinced of the gravity of the issue, the *Kokumin* caused inquiries to be specially prosecuted in Yokohama, and succeeded in obtaining more or less clear information on the points in dispute between the two Governments. The Japanese Authorities are said to maintain that, since German goods thus far imported into Japan have become, as it were, public property, therefore Japan cannot extend to them the same protection as she undertakes, by the new Treaty, to extend to articles of subsequent invention, on account of which special application is made by the inventors. Consequently, imitations hitherto made and sold in Japan will have to be tolerated as before. This contention of the Japanese Authorities applies only to imitations, and these are not numerous at present. In fact, the so-called German imitations now produced by either Japanese or aliens in Japan are, in 8 or 9 cases out of 10, more properly counterfeits, and it would prove very difficult to nicely discriminate between imitations and counterfeits. For instance, beer, condensed milk, iron goods, bearing various brands or trade marks, now imported into Yokohama, are, in great part, counterfeits, and this must be much more the case in Kobe, where the import of such miscellaneous goods is far more abundant than in Yokohama. It is said that the names of the manufacturers of these counterfeits and the places where they are produced, are clearly known to the Japanese merchants transacting business in such goods. Even if the trouble about articles thus far imported into Japan be settled without difficulty, the effect that the revised Treaty—supposing that Japan is obliged to abandon her own interpretation of the provisions in question—will exercise upon the future development of Japanese commerce and industry can not fail to be far reaching. Germany, it ought to be remembered, aims not merely at replacing England in the markets of the Far East, but also at constituting herself a great producing centre for the world. She therefore seeks to compete with Japan in supplying goods to the Orient, and, content with a small margin of profit, employs the newest machines and processes. Thus she will enter into resolute competition with the so-called imitations and will endeavour to divert to herself any custom now possessed by Japan in China and elsewhere. Judging from the fact that many resident merchants now living in the treaty ports contemplate starting one kind of industry or another in the interior so soon as the new Treaties go into force, it is evident that keen rivalry and competition between foreign and Japanese capital must soon develop itself. The Japanese should spare no pains to equip themselves for the struggle. As the provisions in the new Treaty relating to patents, &c., are to go into operation from the day of the ratification, applications for patents by Japanese have suddenly increased to a large extent.

A word may be added in elucidation of the above subject. The privileges as to patents, trade-marks, and designs, secured to German subjects by the Revised Treaties, must, of course, be granted in compliance with Japanese law already in force. The 2nd Article of the Patent Regulations, issued on December 18th, 1888, provides that "patents can not be granted for articles that have been in public use prior to the application for a patent." Hence, if it appears that an article for which a German subject seeks to obtain a patent under the provisions of the

Revised Treaty, has already been in public use in Japan, the desired patent can not be granted. In the case of trade marks, a similar consideration suggests itself. The 2nd Article of the Trade Marks Regulations provides that a trade mark can not be registered if it "closely resembles one already in use by another person for a similar purpose." That appears to cover the case of articles hitherto manufactured in Japan, and offered for sale with imitations of foreign trade marks affixed. We are speaking now of the mere letter of the law. There is also a moral aspect of the question. It can hardly be supposed that the Japanese authorities will consent to sanction any course calculated to encourage counterfeiting, or to exclude from the home market articles of superior quality in order that their place may be taken by inferior imitations. Moreover, in considering the practical nature of the privileges secured by the Revised Treaty, and in applying to them the limitations of Japanese law, the fact that the latter was enacted solely for domestic purposes and without any regard to the international protection of patents, trade marks, and designs, must not be lost sight of. In short, there is evidently a great deal to be considered before a just and generally beneficial conclusion can be reached.

DIFFICULTY IN CONNEXION WITH THE JAPAN-GERMANY TREATY REVISION.

An alleged difficulty in connexion with the Japan-Germany Treaty Revision is made a topic of discussion by several Tokyo journals. The point in question is the jurisdiction relating to the enforcement of the Law of Patents, Trade Marks, and so forth, it being generally understood that the new Treaty contains no provisions on that subject. In order to make the matter plain to our readers before submitting to them the comments of the vernacular press, we may explain that, according to Germany's revised Treaty, German subjects become entitled to protection for their patents, trade marks, and so forth, as provided by Japanese law for Japanese subjects, from the date of the exchange of ratifications. Every law must, of course, contain punitive clauses relating to infractions, and thus the question naturally arises, under what jurisdiction are German subjects to be punished in the event of their violating Japanese patents, trade marks, or designs. Strange to say—we now quote vernacular newspapers—no definite arrangement is included in the Treaty with respect to that question. The omission is variously criticized, the Tokyo journals being guided by their political bias in attempting to fix the responsibility. Those that side with the new Government generally attribute the blunder to the negligence of the late Cabinet and its German Representative, Viscount Aoki, while those opposed to the present Ministry hold the Viscount alone responsible. The latter view seems to be the more generally entertained, inasmuch as even the *Nippon*, which is partial to the Matsukata Cabinet, writes strongly against the Japanese Representative, in Berlin, and alleges that, in charging him with the task of revising the German Treaty, the Tokyo Government instructed him to take the new Anglo-Japanese Treaty as a basis, with liberty to make more or less concessions according to circumstances. But owing to either his misconception or his oversight, the Viscount concluded a Treaty containing no provision whatever as to jurisdiction in the matter of patents, designs, and so forth, thus exposing himself to the charge either of incompetence, or of acting in excess of his powers. From either point of view, it is exceedingly risky to suffer a diplomat of that kind to remain in such an important position, and the new Government, if faithful to the policy it has announced, must take a decisive measure with regard to him.

The *Asahi* alleges that the omission was first discovered after Mr. Komura's appointment as Vice-Minister of the Foreign Office, in succession to Mr. Hara, now Japanese Minister in Soul,

and that when, after a prolonged interchange of telegrams between the Foreign Office and Viscount Aoki, the latter had to approach the German Government on the subject, he received a flat refusal, the German Foreign Minister telling him that the Treaty having been already concluded, and passed by the German Diet, no amendment was now possible. As to conceding jurisdiction to Japanese Courts, that was quite out of the question whether theoretically or practically. The press concludes that Japan must choose between, first submitting to German Consular jurisdiction in matters of patents, designs, and so forth, till the new Treaty actually goes into force; secondly, making a division of jurisdiction, so that questions relating to loss and damage shall be decided by Consular Courts, and those relating to punitive provisions, by Japanese Courts; or thirdly, setting the whole Treaty aside, and commencing negotiations anew. The *Asahi* says that the Representatives of the two Powers signed and sealed the drafts on the 8th of last April, and that the ratification of the Emperor of Japan was obtained on August 26th. The problem will tax the ability of the new Foreign Minister to the utmost.

We (*Japan Mail*) have reason to think that the vernacular newspapers are not fully informed as to the details of this matter, but they are doubtless right about the main fact, namely, that although, under the terms of the revised Treaty with Germany, the privileges accorded by Japanese laws relating to patents, trade marks, and so forth, are to be extended to German subjects immediately after the exchange of ratifications, no provision with reference to jurisdiction has been inserted in the Treaty, nor has any independent arrangement been made on the subject. The Japanese Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, &c., of course contain punitive clauses. For example, any one imitating a patented invention, or employing or selling it, is liable to major confinement for not less than one month and not more than one year, or to a fine of not less than 20 yen and not more than 200. Again, persons fraudulently obtaining patent rights, or applying to unpatented articles patent marks, are liable to major confinement for not less than 15 days and not more than 6 months, or to a fine of not less than 10 yen and not more than 100. There can be no question that every one enjoying the privileges of a law is bound to obey its prohibitions, and that means of compelling obedience must be employable against him. But suppose that, in the interval between the exchange of the ratifications of the German Revised Treaty and the date (1899) when Japan recovers judicial autonomy, during which interval German subjects will be entitled to claim for their patents, trade marks, &c., all the protection afforded by Japanese laws—suppose that in that interval a German is guilty of one of the infractions prohibited by the Japanese laws, how is he to be punished or restrained? Japanese tribunals cannot assume jurisdiction over him, and the German Consular Courts are not competent to do so unless special powers are delegated to them by the German Government. From a practical point of view, we cannot think that the question has any serious importance. The Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, &c., came into force 8 years ago. There has not been, so far as we know, a single instance of an attempt on the part of a German subject to violate their provisions, though any foreigner might have violated them with impunity, his offence not being judiciable by Japanese Courts nor falling within the purview of a Consular Court. There is, therefore, little reason to apprehend anything of the kind in the two years and a half that remain before Japan's recovery of judicial autonomy, and even if infractions do occur, their punishment or restraint might be deferred without much inconvenience or hardship. Still that is a somewhat happy-go-lucky view of the matter—a consolation for, but not a justification of, the negotiators' failure to make such an obviously necessary provision. It appears to us that the responsibility rests with Germany just as much as with Japan. If the German Government secures certain privileges for its subjects by treaty, it is bound to provide

means for guarding against the abuse of those privileges. German officials are about the last people on whose part we should have anticipated an omission of the kind.

THE LATE BARON KAWADA.

Baron Kawada, whose decease has just been announced, was only in his sixty-first year. He was a native of Tosa, and during the greater part of his career he devoted himself to mercantile, marine, and mining enterprises, in co-operation with the late Mr. Iwasaki Yataro, founder of the Mitsu Bishi firm. He seems to have been uniformly successful, and his business and financial capacities were so fully recognised that, in 1889, the Government appointed him President of the Bank of Japan. In the following year he was nominated a member of the House of Peers, and in consideration of the distinguished financial services rendered by him during the war with China, he was raised to the peerage, in 1895, with the title of Baron. There can be no question that his country owes him a great debt of gratitude for his work as a financier.

BARON KAWADA'S SERVICES.

The *Nichi Nichi* has a very appreciative article upon the services rendered to Japan by the late Baron Kawada, President of the Nippon Ginko. Apart from the conspicuous aid given by him during the China-Japan War, he wrought a complete revolution in the banking methods of this country. The old policy of placing the agricultural interest above all others in the State was gradually abandoned under his discreet supervision, and commerce and industry were given a fair chance to develop, so that the nation's attention was drawn to more varied and profitable channels of investment. Long prior to Baron Kawada's being installed at the head of the Bank of Japan, Count Matsukata realised the pressing necessity of affording greater facilities to Japanese merchants engaged in foreign trade, and he advised the Nippon Ginko to advance a loan of 10 million yen to the Yokohama Specie Bank, at the low interest of 2 per cent. per annum, so that the merchants at that port might obtain the financial backing so necessary in conducting transactions with foreign countries. Mr. Tomita Ginnosuke, the then President of the Nippon Ginko, thought that the advancing of such a large sum at so low a rate would not be conducive to the interests of the Bank which was, after all, a business concern, and had but a capital of 30 million yen. Count Matsukata pressed the point; Mr. Tomita resigned, and was succeeded by the late Baron, who was in thorough accord with the policy of the Finance Minister. He held that as Japan based its national economy on agriculture, the country was exceedingly liable to experience a financial panic whenever the rice crop failed. Under such circumstances a fixed, definite economic policy was out of the question and the development of other national resources entirely precluded. Baron Kawada, arguing on this hypothesis, urged that the old agricultural policy be changed and steps taken towards encouraging industry and commerce. He thereupon advanced 10 million yen to the Specie Bank. From that day on to the time of his death Baron Kawada pursued this policy consistently, and already the beneficial results of his changes are noticeable.

In 1890 a panic of small dimensions broke out in Japan, due to the failure of the rice crop and the excess of imports over exports. Chiefly owing to the judicious and prompt help of the President of the Bank of Japan, the nation was saved on that occasion from still greater calamity. Even when the Specie Reserves fell from 60 million yen to less than 40 millions, he extended help to the Mitsui and the 1st National Bank, while at the same time he maintained the value of the hypotheated stocks and bonds, thus affording a considerable boon to merchants and manufacturers. Moreover, he took steps to help the silk men out of their difficulty. Another of his aims was to unify the currency system and regulate the rate of interest. To attain the former he extended every possible help to the

National Banks in the matter of redeeming their notes, while he increased the number of branch offices of the Nippon Ginko in various important districts. Formerly, Bankers used to act as mere exchange-brokers between the Bank of Japan and the general public, advancing the money they obtained cheaply from the Nippon Ginko at a slightly higher rate to their customers. Such dealings have practically gone out of fashion now, and the tone of banking business has reached a more elevated level. Both phenomena increase, to no small extent, the credit of the late Baron. The economic reverses sustained by Japan this year are far more serious than those experienced in 1890; for while the failure of the rice crop is in about the same proportion, the excess of imports over exports totalled only 20 millions in 1890 and the stock of unsold silk about 15,000 bales. This year more than 30,000 bales were recently waiting purchasers, while the excess of imports amounted to over 50 million. This business stagnation, combined with seismic troubles and vast inundations, make a record year for Japan. Yet no perceptible economic trouble approaching that experienced in 1890 has so far been felt. The *Nichi Nichi* attributes this stability to the increase of the national wealth; combined with the effects of the late financier's policy in encouraging the development of Japan's commerce and industry. He was not contented with making the Nippon Ginko a central mechanism for this country, but aspired to raise it to the position of the central banking institution of the East. The nation keenly deploras his untimely cutting down at the height of a useful career.

BARON KAWADA'S SUCCESSOR.

The *Fiji Shimpō* thinks that a President of the Bank of Japan, in succession to the late Baron Kawada, will be chosen from among the following gentlemen, the names being given in the order of probability:—Viscount Watanabe, formerly Minister of State for Finance; Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Specie Bank; Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the First National Bank; Mr. Shoda Heigoro, Manager of the Mitsubishi Kwaisha; and Mr. Hara Rokuro, Chairman of the Imperial Commercial and Agricultural Society. Count Inouye, Messrs. Kawashima Jun, Ninomura Risuke and Morioka Shoji are also spoken of, but, on the whole, it is thought that Viscount Watanabe would be best adapted to the circumstances of the time.

CURRENT NEWS.

Cholera has spread considerably in Tokyo since the 20th ult., the cases totalling 84 up to the 30th ult. The symptoms are said to be very acute, and the proportion of mortality equally serious. The Governor of Tokyo asked Dr. Kitazato, on the 30th, to take charge of the Cholera Hospital at Hongo, a request that the Doctor decided to accede to at once. The Doctor, accompanied by an assistant, is now treating patients and injecting the blood-serum that he discovered to be so efficacious last year in combatting this epidemic. The renowned bacteriologist has effected a considerable improvement in the process, and it is therefore believed that he will be able to combat the epidemic with success.

Marquis Ito returned to Tokyo to be present at the Emperor's Birthday celebration. Some say that His Excellency, accompanied by Baron Suyematsu, his son-in-law, will shortly undertake a tour through Europe and America. Marquis Saionji will start on a similar journey about the end of this month.

The site of the Imperial Iron Foundry has been chosen at Yedamitsu, Oga District, Fukuoka. According to the original project, it was to extend over only 100,000 *tsubo* of land, but subsequently this was considered insufficient.

The Government intends to lay a submarine cable between Kyushiu and Shikoku. The cable will be laid under the Saga Sea and will connect Iyo and Buzen, a distance of 23 nautical miles. Exclusive of the travelling expense of experts, the expenses are estimated at about 43,000 yen.

RAILWAY NEWS.

In pursuance of the resolution to double the Tokaido Trunk Line, the work is now being carried out on the Kanagawa-Kozu and Iwabuchi-Shizuoka sections. The Atsuta-Nagoya section will also be taken in hand shortly. The steep gradient of the Tarai-Nagaoka section being highly inconvenient, the Railway Authorities have decided to abandon the present track in favour of a route offering greater topographical facilities. The gradient, now 1 in 40, is to be reduced to 1 in 100, surveys for the purpose being nearly completed. Another tunnel on the left of that passing through Osakayama on the Otani-Bamba section, is also in course of construction. The building of an iron bridge over the Kakegawa on the Kyoto-Mukomachi section has been started, and the Mokomachi Station is to be reconstructed. The Osaka and Kobe Stations also require alterations; the former must be enlarged to three times its present size, and the latter wants special arrangements by which the trains from the Government and the Sanyo roads can effect a direct junction without the passengers being obliged to alight, as at present.

Of the nine lines that the Government originally determined to construct, the Kyoto-Matsuru and the Takata-Wakayama roads, having been left to private enterprise, only seven remain to be built by the State. Of the O-U line, the Aomori-Ikarigasaki section (35 miles) has already been opened for traffic. The tunnelling at Yatategote and Itayetoge is the most serious work on the O-U road, but the boring is now in process at both places. Hitherto the highest gradient on Japanese railways has been 1 in 40, but that at Itaya is said to be 1 in 30.

On the Tsuruga-Fukui section of the Hoku-riku Line, 13 tunnels had to be constructed before it was opened for traffic in July last. At present the tunnelling of the Ushidani and Kurikara passes on the Fukui-Daishoji section, is going on, the former being about eighth parts complete, but the latter having been started only a short time ago. It was originally contemplated to finish the construction of this line during the present year, but unexpected difficulties have been encountered, so that the Authorities will be obliged to ask for an additional appropriation of over 2 million yen in the next session of the Diet. The completion of the line will be delayed by one year.

The difficulty of constructing the Central Line, that is to say, the line starting from Hachioji and reaching Nagoya via Kofu and Shimono-suwa, is expected to be not only unprecedented in Japan, but even comparable with the most arduous enterprises of the kind in any country. Still, the line is essential, not merely from a military standpoint, but also for promoting the prosperity of Kai and other places adjacent to the contemplated route. Between Hachioji and Kofu, a distance of about 45 miles, the district is extremely hilly, and tunnels must be constructed at more than 10 places, the longest being over 3 miles. Work will be started shortly on the Hachioji-Kobotoke section. The Shinoi line, a branch of this railway, will be finished by the next fiscal year.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE.

The policy of the present Cabinet with regard to private railway enterprise has not been publicly declared, but, according to the vernacular press, although charters will be granted, as far as possible, to railways of national importance, or railways apparently destined to be the beginnings of national routes, or railways promising a large return for a small outlay, rigorous inquiries will invariably be instituted into the capacity of applicants to discharge their obligations, and whenever the result of such investigations is not completely satisfactory, the application will be rejected. Judging by that standard, it is expected that among the lines for which charters have been sought but not yet granted—lines involving a total capital of four hundred million yen—not more than one fourth will obtain sanction.

TROUBLE AT THE NARA HIGH SCHOOL.

The Nara High School, supported by the American Board Mission, has suffered from the same trouble that overtook the Doshisha. About ten years ago, the school commenced a somewhat checkered existence, until in 1893, the number of students had diminished to fourteen. Mr. Kawamura Kyuen, a graduate of the Sapporo Agricultural College, then became Director, and, as a step towards making the institution more prosperous, a resolution was adopted to change it into an ordinary High School under the supervision of the Local Authorities. One of the most radical alterations that this remodeling involved was the elimination of regular religious teaching in the school; an unavoidable change, of course. To meet the need thus created, those interested in the Christian influence that the School was originally intended to exercise, resolved to start a Young Men's Christian Association in Nara, where the doctrines of Christianity might be taught to youths. The change in the character of the School was hailed with much satisfaction by the citizens of Nara and its vicinity, for that town had no institution where middle-class instruction could be obtained. Mr. Kawamura enjoyed special facilities for persuading the people of the district to send their boys to the School, since he held, at the same time, the post of overseer of the Local Experimental Farm and advisory agricultural expert to the Local Office. Whenever he happened to make an official tour through the provinces, he could scarcely fail to exert his influence towards promoting the prosperity of the school. Thus the attendance steadily increased, so that within the short lapse of only two years, the number of students rose to about 200, the institution thus becoming the largest of its kind in Japan, after the Doshisha itself. This rapid increase of pupils called for enlarged accommodation. An appeal was accordingly made to eminent philanthropists in America, and, of course, the evident prosperity enjoyed by the school added much force to the appeal, so that a fund of about 20,000 yen was collected. The school buildings were forthwith reconstructed, and everything seemed to be going on excellently. Meanwhile, the Board of Trustees began to feel some misgivings as to whether the school was fulfilling its true mission, and they certainly seem to have had cause for their anxiety, seeing that the school, though in practice a purely secular institution, was supported by the American Mission Board to the extent of about 3,000 yen per annum. It is true that lectures were regularly delivered at the Young Men's Christian Association every Saturday, and that some 30 pupils made a habit of attending, the Director and two or three others also, who were Christians, being invariably present. But the number of converts was quite insignificant, only four or five being enrolled in the course of two years. The Trustees doubtless felt much dissatisfaction about this exceedingly slow attainment of the real purpose of the school. Under such circumstances, a small incident often suffices to precipitate a crisis. The students, in the course of a recent excursion, visited a shrine dedicated to the "Tutelary God" of the District, and all the lads, as well as their teachers, uncovered their heads and paid respect to the shrine in the usual Japanese fashion. The Trustees thereupon asked for a distinct explanation of an act that they considered pure idolatry, and difficulties at once occurred between them and the Director. The latter, learning that the Trustees contemplated his dismissal, tendered his resignation, in conjunction with six others, out of the total staff of nine, and they were at once relieved from service. The pupils were much incensed when they heard of the affair. They memorialized the Trustees, urging the retention of the Director and the teachers, but the Trustees rejected the petition, whereat the lads broke out into open insubordination, smashed the windows of the school and broke the furniture in broad daylight. It was only after the help of the police had been obtained that

the riotous youths could be compelled to desist from their work of destruction.

We (*Japan Mail*) do not, of course, vouch for the absolute accuracy of these statements: we have taken them from the vernacular press, and from the information of one that was directly involved in the trouble. The Trustees doubtless have much to say in justification of their proceedings. This fact stands out clearly, however, namely, that another educational institution supported by a foreign mission board has followed in the wake of the Doshisha and failed of its original purpose. To our own thinking, the root of the trouble is traceable to the conflict of views between foreign orthodox believers and Japanese Christians, the latter maintaining that Christianity, to be prosperous in Japan, must be adapted to the circumstances of the country, and the former not readily acquiescing in that opinion. Many Japanese thinkers consider it erroneous to establish a secular institution of such a kind as the Nara School in Japan. If a foreign mission board is prepared to spend money in Japan for the purpose of giving education and propagating Christian doctrine at the same time, the best plan, these Japanese hold, is to establish a *bona fide* religious school and be content with a small number of students only; whereas, if there be an inclination to take a more liberal course and to maintain a purely secular institution, the supporters of the institution must exercise great patience, and not take much thought about the number of converts. A secular school conducted in a truly Christian spirit, though it might not succeed in winning many converts in a short space of time, could not fail to instill, little by little, the beneficent doctrines of the Nazarene's creed, and to turn out really useful men. Witness how the majority of the Doshisha graduates, though not all Christian converts, are noted for their industry and for conduct superior to that of students in other schools or colleges.

ECONOMIC TOPICS.

Baron Iwasaki, who purchased the Sado and Ikuno mines and the Smelting-works at Osaka for 1,730,000 yen, paid over, a few days ago, in Government Bonds, a sum of 1,577,000 yen, the remainder being covered by other securities deposited at the time of bidding. The plant and fixtures of the mines and works were purchased for something like 800,000 yen. The Mitsubishi Firm, as a result of this new acquisition, has decided to reestablish a special mining department, and to appoint Mr. Nambu Kyugo, hitherto chief expert of the Takashima Colliery, as director.

The Osaka Silk Spinning Mill has decided to dissolve. The Mill was established last year, and called in the security deposit of one yen per share, amounting to 20,000. Now recent economic troubles in Osaka and the extraordinary tightness in the market left no choice but dissolution. The opinions of the directors were endorsed by the shareholders, who find they have incurred a loss of 23 yen per yen share in the venture.

The *Yiji's* correspondent writing from Osaka, under date 30th ult., says that a small sum seems sufficient to tide over the present economic trouble. In fact, up to the time of writing, the loan asked from the Nippon Ginko is only 400,000 yen or so. This is owing to the creditor banks deeming it prudent not to urge other banks to make immediate repayment. The President of the Nippon Ginko has gone to Osaka, but it is not yet clear what step he will take in this matter.

The vernacular papers report that pecuniary trouble has occurred among certain wholesale dealers in foreign liquors in Tokyo, especially the Kansendo (Takiguchi Tojiro), of Kayabacho, and the Ibe Firm, of Bakurocho. These used to transact business on notes of hand which the Commercial Bank usually discounted. But since the insolvency of the Sawa Firm and the precautions consequently observed by banks in the matter of discounting bills, the Commercial Bank has declined to accept the paper of the

two merchants, and this has at once interrupted their business operations. The Kansendo, unable to satisfy the demands of its creditors, has placed its affairs in the latter's hands, delivering over all its property. Its liabilities and assets are estimated at about 100,000 yen each. This insolvency of one of the greatest wholesale dealers in foreign liquors in Tokyo has produced a species of panic in Tokyo and Yokohama in this line of business.

The last act of the late President of the Nippon Ginko was to help the Osaka Bankers out of their financial difficulty. Although, among the original seven applicants, the First National Bank subsequently declined to hold with the rest in this money affair, and was dismissed on that account from the Osaka Bankers' Union, the Nippon Ginko consented to make an advance as originally promised by Mr. Kawakami, and the fact was definitely announced on the 9th inst. Tranquillity will therefore be restored in the Osaka market in consequence of the liberal policy of the late Baron Kawada.

The Special Committee appointed by the shareholders of the Nippon Weaving Company to investigate the state of the Company's affairs in Kiryu have discovered another new liability of the Company amounting to 10,000 yen. In other respects the result of the Committee's investigation tallies with the statement recently formulated by the Directors of the Company. The Committee, according to the *Yiji*, are anxious to keep the Company in existence, for the loss sustained by this, the greatest weaving company in Japan, is attributable to want of skill on the part of the weavers and also to the irregular management of the Directors. The latter defect can be easily provided against in future, and as for the weavers, they have now developed so much ability that the fabrics turned out by the Company's looms are steadily gaining favour in the market. Even at present, despite the general depression that prevails in Kiryu in consequence of the troubles that have overtaken the Sawa Firm and the Company, the latter's manufactures are sold to the extent of over 6,000 yen, whenever a market is held there, namely, six times a month. In ordinary times, therefore, it must be very easy to effect sales amounting to 10,000 yen on the occasion of a market, or 60,000 yen a month, and a profit of at least ten per cent. must be realized on these transactions, it would evidently be unwise to abandon a business that has been brought to such a condition. The Company's debts aggregate 250,000 yen, which amount will have to be made good by the shareholders.

COMPETITION FOR THE SUPPLY OF RAILWAY MATERIAL.

We read in the *Chuo* that very keen competition recently took place in connection with the supply of certain material for the Railway Bureau. The articles to be furnished were passenger carriages and goods waggons to the number of 850 in all. Tenders were invited from foreign and Japanese firms, and were sent in on the 5th instant. But as none of them was within the official figure, fresh tenders were invited, the result, as ascertained on the 6th instant, being:—

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	£43,300 18s. 2d.
Messrs. Sale & Co.	£43,522 — —
Mr. Isono	£48,067 — —

That was certainly very close bidding. Our contemporary says that since the system of competitive tenders was inaugurated at the Railway Bureau a great saving of money has been effected.

COUNTLESS OKUMA'S RECEPTIONS.

We are asked to state that Countess Okuma will receive, for the present, on Fridays, in the second and fourth week of every month, commencing on the 13th instant, between the hours of 3 and 5.30 in the afternoon.

NEW RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN THE VICINITY OF TOKYO.

The Tsuchiura and Sumidagawa lines of the Nippon Railway have been nearly completed and will be open for traffic about the middle of next month. The former starts from Miwa in the Minami Toshima-gun suburb of Tokyo, and reaches Tsuchiura via Kaganei and Totte, a distance of 60 miles; the latter is laid between the Tabata Station on the Nippon Railway and Minami Senju, a distance of three miles. The Sumidagawa line passing through the streets of Senju requires a large number of bridges, as many as 14, three of which are constructed at sites included in the scheme of the Tokyo City improvement, and are therefore of a special style, introduced for the first time in Japanese railways. This short line is intended chiefly to facilitate goods traffic, the central depot at the Akawagahara terminus being limited in space and totally unfit for the handling of goods on an extensive scale. Consequently, the Company has constructed a new depot, covering 100,000 *tsudo* (8 acres approximately), at Minami Senju, which will subsequently be used as a centre for collecting goods before despatching them to their respective destinations. A canal, measuring 400 yards by 60, has been excavated from the Station to the river Sumida, so that junks plying in Tokyo Bay will be able to come direct to the Station.

The most noteworthy feature in the Tsuchiura line is the abundance of bridges. Setting out from the terminus at Minowa, the traveller finds, at a little distance from the Senju Bridge, a massive iron structure, with a total span of 1,600 ft., crossing the river Sumida. It is said that the design of this iron bridge is an engineering novelty in Japan. Proceeding farther the line crosses bridges over the rivers, Ayase, Nakagawa, and Yedo, and before reaching Tsuchiura several other bridges are found. This line is intended to carry both passengers and goods, prominent among the latter being coal extracted in Iwaki Province. The mineral is not of good quality, but the gradual rise in the market price of fuel of all kinds in Tokyo owing to an extraordinary increase in the number of factories, renders it probable that the importation of cheap Iwaki coal will be welcomed by the citizens.

Incidental mention may be made of two items of railway news, one relating to Hokkaido and the other to the vexed problem of the Sôul-Fusan Railway. According to the original programme for the northern island, the three lines from Kamikawa as centre to Soya and to Nemuro, and from the latter to Abashiri, were to be constructed in 6 years, the total length of the three being 560 miles. But the Government has now decided to extend the work to 12 years. As for the Sôul-Fusan line, its prospects, recently so gloomy, are said to be now quite hopeful.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Count Okuma, in his speech to the Administrative Investigation Special Committee, pointed out that the Council's functions would extend to recommending the establishment of new Departments, Bureaux or Sections, or the abolition or amalgamation of those already existing, should such measures seem calculated to promote administrative convenience. The *Tokyo Shimpô* says that, as outlined by His Excellency's remarks, the following questions will be debated by the Committee:—

- 1.—Whether Administrative Vice-Ministers of State should be appointed.
- 2.—Whether the office of Chief of Metropolitan Police should be abolished.
- 3.—Whether the Railway Council should be preserved or abolished.
- 4.—Whether the Colonization Department should be preserved or abolished.
- 5.—Whether amendment of the Law of Examination of Officials should be undertaken.
- 6.—Whether Secretaries and Councillors should be abolished.

THE ALLEGED POLICE OUTRAGE IN KOBE.

We observe that a paragraph published by the *Yorodsu Chôhō* on the 5th instant has received much attention from our local contemporaries. The paragraph refers to an act of brutality said to have been perpetrated by four Kobe constables who, having arrested a girl of 18 on suspicion of leading a life of unlicensed ill-fame, subjected her at the close of her magisterial examination to cruel and humiliating treatment, and then released her at the dead of night. Presumably the story comes from the girl or her friends. It sounds very improbable, for the constables supposed to have behaved with such gratuitous and mischievous cruelty, must have known perfectly well that the act could at any moment be brought home to them, and the knowledge ought to have restrained them, even supposing that their sense of duty and manhood were entirely inactive. Certainly all must agree with the comment of our local English contemporaries that either the story should be officially contradicted, or, if the facts be correct, the constables should be severely punished. But it surprises us to read in the *Japan Gazette* these words:—

But assuming the story to be false, as we must without further corroboration, we are confronted with the fact that a paper published in the metropolis of Japan, and having a large circulation, prints the statement as if it were a common occurrence. We do not suppose that under the new Treaty many foreigners will find themselves in the hands of the police. But some of them will, even as some find themselves before a Consul, and, if we are to take the average Japanese opinion on the subject, such prisoners will be liable to have barbarities practised on them that could never have been contemplated when the Treaty was negotiated. The prospect is unpleasant enough in anticipating the clumsy administering of new codes by unskilled judges, but if to this we must add the torture of suspects and prisoners, there is still more reason to regard the future with apprehension.

It will be observed that our contemporary, while avowedly unable to believe so strange a tale without further corroboration, is nevertheless much perturbed by the fact that it is "printed as if it were a common occurrence" by "a newspaper published in the metropolis of Japan and having a large circulation;" and further proceeds to infer from the attitude of the *Yorodsu Chôhō* that, according to "the average Japanese opinion on the subject, prisoners are liable to have barbarities practised on them." All this sensational writing on the part of the *Japan Gazette* is attributable to that very common source of foreign error, ignorance of the Japanese language, and inability to read a vernacular newspaper. So far from being "printed as if it were a common occurrence," the paragraph in the *Yorodsu Chôhō* is entitled "*Kikwai no Yunsa*" (extraordinary policemen), and closes with the words *Kikwai shigoku to wa Korera wo iu nari* (talk of the acme of what is extraordinary, this is a case in point). It thus appears that the *Japan Gazette* regards as an expression of "average Japanese opinion," a statement headed "extraordinary" and dismissed as "the acme of what is extraordinary" by the Japanese journal that publishes it. Shall we be deemed hypercritical if we suggest that before deducing the habits of Japanese thought from the methods of a vernacular journal, the *Japan Gazette* should make some attempt to obtain information about those methods, so as to avoid the somewhat unfortunate error of describing them in a light diametrically opposite of the truth? Suppose that the *Japan Gazette*, having entitled one of its pieces of intelligence "extraordinary," and designated it as "the acme of what is extraordinary," found itself declared by a Japanese newspaper to have "printed the intelligence as if it were a common occurrence," would not our contemporary feel justified in denouncing Japanese untruthfulness and unfairness in pretty strong language? If the Kobe tale has any foundation in fact, the four constables merit a sound flogging; but that is not the question here. What concerns us is the *Japan Gazette's* attempt to create a prejudice against Japanese police methods, and to inspire alarm about the terrors of submission to Japanese jurisdiction, by a totally false rendering of a vernacular journal's attitude. The fact is again forced upon our attention that the natural ob-

jection of the foreign residents to lose the privileges of their own national jurisdiction is brought into perpetual ridicule by advocates so giddy and reckless as the *Japan Gazette*.

BACHELORS' BALL IN YOKOHAMA.

The Bachelors Dance Association of Yokohama gave the first of their usual series of balls for the season in the Public Hall on Monday, the 10th instant. The decorations, though not profuse, were very effective; the floor was in capital order; the number of guests was just sufficient to ensure spirited dancing without overcrowding, and the arrangements as to refreshments, supper, and so forth were quite beyond criticism. Dancing was kept up until past two o'clock to the music of the Town Band. The following was the programme, to which were added two extras:—

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1.—Waltz. | 9.—Polka. |
| 2.—Waltz. | 10.—Lancers. |
| 3.—Lancers. | 11.—Waltz. |
| 4.—Waltz. | 12.—Caledonians. |
| 5.—In the Bar. | 13.—Waltz. |
| 6.—Waltz. | 14.—Schottische. |
| 7.—Polka. | 15.—Waltz. |
| 8.—Waltz. | 16.—Waltz. |

RUMOURD ABOLITION OF THREE DEPARTMENTS.

From the *Mainichi Shimbun*, which must now be credited with access to excellent sources of information, we learn that it is in contemplation to abolish no less than three of the present Departments of State. The first is the Department of Education, which would be replaced by an Educational Bureau in the Home Department. The second is the Department of Justice, whose functions would be discharged by a bureau in the Cabinet. And the third is the Department of Colonization, among the duties of which there is none that might not be delegated to Governors-General in Formosa and Hokkaido. What amount of economy would be effected by these changes, we are not told.

THE POPULATION OF JAPAN.

The *Official Gazette* contains a statement of the population of Japan at the close of last year:—

Number of Habitations	7,935,969
Total Population	42,279,620
Males	21,345,750
Females	20,924,870
Nobles (<i>Kwasoku</i>)	4,162
Former Samurai (<i>Shisoku</i>)	2,050,145
Commoners (<i>Heimin</i>)	40,216,314
Foundlings	4,242
Unregistered (in prison)	1,319

Compared with the preceding year, these figures show increases of 51,700 houses and 457,405 persons.

THE BANK OF JAPAN UNDER BARON IWASAKI.

The *Fiji Shimpô* says that there will be no change in the policy of the Bank of Japan under the presidency of Baron Iwasaki. His appointment is expected only to have the effect of improving the Bank's relations with the business world, and enhancing its credit abroad, for the Iwasaki family in well known in foreign countries. We consider this forecast very reasonable in view of Baron Iwasaki's career.

THE "HIMEJI MARU" ASHORE.

The Yokohama Agency of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have informed us that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Himeji Maru*, Captain Tipple, hence for London, on October 17th, went ashore on the eastern end of the Bombay Reef, Paracels Islands, about the 3rd of November. The steamer *Siegfried*, with gear and coolies, and an European Superintendent from the Hongkong Dock, left Hongkong on Sunday to render assistance.

THE CASSINI CONVENTION.

THE so-called "Cassini Convention" has now gone the round of the local English press in the various Settlements in China and Japan, and we find, to our astonishment, that its authenticity is everywhere accepted without cavil. For our own part, our chief sentiment with regard to it is one of speculation as to the means employed for manufacturing these bogus documents and securing their solemn insertion in the columns of the leading Shanghai journal. Were the world a hundred years younger, there might be warrant for imagining that some Russo-phobe agency was secretly working to persuade the Chinese people that they are in imminent danger of being handed over, bag and baggage, to the tender mercies of the great Northern Bear. Such an agency might be credited with exercising its ingenuity in British interests—did Englishmen resort to any methods of the kind, which they don't—or it might be supposed to aim at rousing national ire against the temporizing, disloyal, and suicidal policy of the Manchu Dynasty. But these hypotheses need not concern us. The "Convention" itself is a more interesting study. Many months ago a "secret treaty," said to have been just concluded between Russia and China, was given to the public by the same journal. We ventured, at the time, to characterise the document as a clumsy hoax, and, of course, our opinion was vehemently traversed by sensational journalists. Yet we venture now to apply the same term to this "Cassini Convention," and we base our opinion on evidence furnished by the document itself. In the first place, we find, omitting minute details, that the Siberian Railway is to be carried southward via Aiyun, Tsitsihar, Petune, Kirin, and Hunch'un to Vladivostock. In other words, an extensive portion of Russia's main line of communications with her Far Eastern possessions is to pass through Chinese territory. There is nothing inherently improbable in that choice of route. On the contrary, it has long been supposed that some such deflection of the Siberian road would be acceptable to Russia from engineering and economical reasons alike. But of course the districts traversed by the line must be either neutralized or permanently secured to Russia. One or other of those courses is essential. Russia could not possibly accept the risks inseparable from the programme attributed to her, namely, leaving her railway communications at the mercy of a Power capable of becoming hostile to her at any moment. Yet, so far from permanently neutralizing or securing the territory, she is actually represented as promising to sell this loop of her railway to China, after the expiration of 30 years, should the latter Power desire to purchase it. Is that credible? Doubtless some critics will assert

that Russia does not foresee the least probability of China's desiring to buy the line at the expiration of 30 years. But are they prepared to go the length of alleging that a great Power like Russia has deliberately entered into an agreement on the chance that circumstances may relieve her from the obligation of observing it? Passing over the promise that, in the event of China's finding it inconvenient to extend her Tientsin-Shanhaikuan Railway to Mukden and Kirin, Russia shall be permitted to undertake the work—a totally meaningless promise as it stands, since no limit of time is fixed—we come to the condition that, inasmuch as the lines to be built by Russia in Chinese territory "will pass, for the greater part, through barren and sparsely inhabited districts where it will be difficult for the Chinese Authorities to grant the necessary protection and aid," therefore "Russia shall be allowed to place special battalions of horse and foot soldiers at the various important points of the railway." Is it conceivable that the Pekin Government has made such a concession, and made it, not to avert any imminent danger or soften any sinister menace, but simply out of gratitude for past favours? The Convention is supposed to have been signed at the end of September. The service in avowed consideration of which it was signed had been rendered in March, 1895. Thus, after an interval of 18 months, China, in recognition of assistance that enabled her to save a portion of her territory from Japan's grasp, authorizes what is virtually a military occupation of the same territory by Russia. That is not China's way. Under the most favourable conditions it is immensely difficult to exact any concessions from her, and we can not for one instant imagine that the pressure of imponderable gratitude could ever have induced her to give herself away so completely. Besides, has she not in Manchuria ample forces of her own to guard a line of railway against local outrages? An open confession of inability to discharge such a task, is the last thing to be expected from a Government like the Chinese, nor can we attribute to Russian diplomacy the clumsiness of exacting such an acknowledgment. All these considerations, however, fade into insignificance when compared with the pledges that China is supposed to have given with respect to Chiao-chow, Port Arthur, and Talien. The "Convention" puts her in the position of having engaged to allow Russia to use these three places as bases of military operations, should exigencies dictate that course, or should Russia find herself likely to be involved in war. The exact language of the document is:—"China consents to allow Russia temporarily to concentrate her land and naval forces within the said ports, in order the better to enable Russia to attack the enemy or to guard her own position." Without

pausing to comment on the extraordinary language employed to describe and explain these engagements, we have only to observe that China is represented as publicly and deliberately violating the rules of neutrality by pledging herself to grant to one of the Treaty Powers exceptional and important facilities for belligerent purposes against any of the others. The Chinese Government is perfectly cognizant of the grave responsibilities attaching to unjustifiable discrimination of that kind; and even supposing the Chinese Government to be grossly careless of precipitating serious complications, we may safely say that Russia is not prepared to be a party to such recklessness. The first characteristics of Russian diplomacy are inexhaustible patience and unlimited precaution against needless friction. If the CZAR'S Ministers had any idea of embarking upon the course here attributed to them, they would never have embodied their schemes in a convention. Even an exchange of diplomatic notes would have been eschewed, for to make such aims the object of direct negotiation and the subject of documentary agreement would be the surest method of impeding their accomplishment. Should it be a fact that Russia contemplates making use of Chinese territory and Chinese fortified ports for belligerent purposes, pledging herself, at the same time, to protect those ports against foreign encroachment, the world will hear nothing of such purposes through the channel of treaties or conventions, and were not the reasoning faculties of many observers perturbed by a mania of Russo-phobism, the diplomacy of St. Petersburg would never be suspected of such gross and wasteful blundering as this so-called "Convention" implies.

Before dismissing the subject, we invite our readers attention to the following paragraph as a specimen of drafting:—

9.—Russia has never possessed a seaport in Asia which is free from ice and open all the year round. If, therefore, there should suddenly arise military operations in the continent it will naturally be difficult for the Russian Eastern Seas and Pacific fleets to move about freely and at pleasure. As China is well aware of this, she is willing to lease temporarily to Russia the port of Kiaochow [Chiao-chow] in the province of Shantung, the period of such lease being limited to fifteen years. At the end of the period China shall buy all the barracks, godowns, machine shops, and docks built there by Russia [during her occupation of the said port]. But, should there be no danger of military operations, Russia shall not enter immediately into possession of the said port or hold the important points dominating the port, in order to obviate the chance of exciting jealousy and suspicion of other Powers. With reference to the amount of rent and the way it is to be paid, this shall form the subject of consideration in a protocol at some future date.

It will be observed that, in the first place, China declares her willingness to lease Chiao-chow to Russia for 15 years; that she allows Russia to build there barracks, godowns, machine-shops, and docks, and that she undertakes to buy all these at the close of the fixed period of occupation. At the same time, she stipulates that, except in the event of military operations becoming imminent, Russia shall not

enter into possession of the port, or hold the strategical positions dominating it. What is Russia to do then? When is her fifteen years' term of occupation to commence? Is she to build barracks, docks, and so forth without entering into possession of the place where they stand, or is she to defer these works of construction until the war, for whose purposes alone they would be required, has already become a visible danger? Fancy Count CASSINI putting his name to such a prattle of babyish diplomacy? And fancy him, on behalf of the SOVEREIGN of all the Russias, attaching his signature to the Ostrich-like clause that, though Russia and China enter into a solemn compact to do certain things the very announcement of which must at once excite the jealousy and suspicion of all Western Powers, a semblance of delay is to be made before doing the things so that the chance of exciting that suspicion and jealousy may be obviated! Are we not justified in dubbing this so-called "CASSINI Convention" a hoax as clumsy as was its predecessor, the "secret treaty" of last spring?

HABEAS CORPUS.

WE observe that the old question of *habeas corpus* has again been brought up in Kobe, in connection with the case of a Chinaman who, having been discovered, when landing from the steamer *Doric*, to be in secret possession of opium and opium-smoking apparatus, was arrested, handed over to the Kobe police, examined before the magistrate the following day, remanded for public trial, and finally condemned, seven weeks later, to a term of imprisonment with hard labour. These are the facts so far as they have been published. On the strength of them a Kobe English journal alleges that in Japan "the right of bail is virtually denied," and that "the principle of the *Habeas Corpus* Act has been deliberately and purposely set aside by those responsible for the laws adopted for the governance of Japan, since she has set herself the task of identifying herself with the form, regardless of the spirit, of Western jurisprudence." It would seem that the writer of this last sentence laboured under some mental excitement too acute to consist with coherency of expression, for though he explicitly charges Japan with the intention of adopting the form only, and rejecting the spirit, of Western jurisprudence, he could not possibly be so silly in his lucid moments as to advance such an accusation. For the rest, the whole story and the comments evoked by it are characteristic of the blundering, slipshod methods too often followed by critics of things Japanese; methods so flagrantly prejudiced that whatever assistance the cause of reform might derive from the criticism itself is marred by the mood of the critic. In the

case of the Kobe Chinaman, one fact alone is seized: the man remained in prison for seven weeks before being finally brought up for trial. Did any special circumstances intervene to cause his detention? Did he make any attempt to recover his liberty upon bail? If he did, for what reasons was he unsuccessful? These are the first questions that would suggest themselves to any thoughtful person in considering the affair from the point of view of criminal procedure, and without distinct replies to them, he would never dream of offering any criticism. We ourselves are not in possession of any information to supplement that of our Kobe contemporary, but we gather indirectly from the published account that some difficulty of jurisdiction intervened, and if that be so, the delay becomes easy to understand. However, without attempting to discuss this particular case exhaustively, let us refer briefly to the general allegations that "the right of bail is virtually denied in Japan," and that "the principle of the *habeas corpus* has been deliberately and purposely set aside" by the framers of Japanese laws.

What is the *habeas corpus*? It is a remedy for the violation of personal liberty. In old times, a common abuse of power was the detention of freemen in prison without any criminal charge being duly preferred against them. To guard against that abuse the writ of *habeas corpus* was introduced. It enables persons held in custody to obtain speedy access to a court of law, there to be remanded, admitted to bail, or discharged, in accordance with the view taken by the court. In England the Habeas Corpus Act is a special statute. Like many other laws of the United Kingdom, it had its origin in special circumstances. The absence of any independent law or ordinance in Japan of similar import has been frequently misconstrued as an evidence that the principle of *habeas corpus* does not exist here. But, of course, whether certain provisions be embodied in a separate statute, or included in a general code, the practical result may be precisely the same. What we have to see, then, is whether and how far the principle of *habeas corpus* finds expression in the Japanese Code of Civil Procedure. In the 73rd Article, it is laid down that any one accused of a crime must be brought up for judicial examination within 48 hours from the time of his arrest, and, after examination, must be either set at liberty or duly remanded. The 85th Article provides that, except in the case of *mise au secret*, an accused person is authorized to receive, in the presence of an official, visits from his parents, relatives, friends, or legal adviser. And the 150th Article provides that, on the demand of a person awaiting trial, a judge may order that he be provisionally set at liberty, under written engagement to present himself when required, and on furnish-

ing bail. There we have a series of enactments apparently ample to guarantee an accused person, first, against being held in custody without a proper hearing of his case; secondly, against being secluded from those that are ready to assist him; and thirdly, against detention in prison if the nature of his crime admit of bail. So far, then, as the principle of the *habeas corpus* is concerned, it certainly finds expression in the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure. Just as a writ of *habeas corpus* compels a man's jailers in England to conduct him, within a specified period, before a law court, where, if not again remanded, he may procure temporary release upon bail, so the 150th Article of the Japanese Code of Criminal Procedure entitles an accused person to obtain liberty upon bail, subject, of course, to the judge's decision. Nothing could be farther from the truth, therefore, than to say that in Japan "the right of bail is virtually denied," and that "the principle of the *habeas corpus* has been deliberately and purposely set aside" by the framers of Japanese laws. But whether the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure are so drafted as to preclude all abuses of the kind under consideration, we are not prepared to say. That there have been some abuses under its operation is beyond doubt, and we ourselves have direct cognisance of an assertion made by the most prominent among its drafters, namely, that however excellent the intention of the law, its execution appeared to require fuller safeguards. The amended Code, which will be submitted to the Diet next session, is expected to be more satisfactory. But in the meanwhile the laws now actually in force certainly do not justify criticisms so sweeping as those referred to above. We have examined the matter here because of its interest for foreigners soon to come under Japanese jurisdiction, and because it seems a pity that the manufacture of ill-founded prejudices should be suffered to proceed unchecked.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

ON Wednesday the *Official Gazette* announced the appointment of Baron IWASAKI YANOSUKE as President of the Bank of Japan, in succession to the late Baron KAWADA. We confess that the news takes us rather by surprise. Not that there can be any manner of doubt as to Baron IWASAKI'S qualifications. On the contrary, it would be impossible, we believe, to find a Japanese who by long and successful management of great commercial, industrial, and banking enterprises, and by skilful handling of large financial problems, has proved himself more thoroughly competent to discharge the onerous functions of such a post. Baron IWASAKI, had any disposition for leisure and luxury swayed him, might have lived in opulence beyond the

reach of all business cares. After the death of his elder brother, Mr. IWASAKI YATARO, he found himself one of the richest men in Japan, with everything to suggest a life of idleness and pleasure. But the responsibilities of wealth evidently presented themselves to him in a different light. He seems to have worked as industriously and as indefatigably as a man works who has his daily bread to earn, and instead of abandoning to paid *employés* the direction of his large interests, he has always held the threads in his own hands. It is precisely for that reason that we are surprised at his consent to become President of the Bank of Japan. There did not appear to be room in his life for such an access of duties. But the Bank is very fortunate to get him. His insight is keen; his methods are liberal; his sense of business probity is of the finest type, and with persons deserving of confidence his manner of dealing is magnanimous in the extreme. Hence it is a matter for public congratulation, as well as for rejoicing on the part of the Bank's shareholders, that Baron IWASAKI consents to enter upon such a charge; but still to foreign observers there is much novelty in the idea that one of the country's greatest millionaires should become President even of its principal bank. Fancy the head of the house of ROTHSCHILD or of the BARINGS in their palmy days, accepting the post of President of the Bank of England! The event is interesting as an evidence not only that the plutocrats of modern Japan have no idea of provoking unpopularity by displays of idleness, but also that the relations between the MATSUKATA Cabinet and the leaders in business circles are very intimate. Baron IWASAKI's eldest daughter is married to one of Count MATSUKATA's sons, and his sister is the wife of Mr. KATO, now Japanese Representative in London, who was Count OKUMA's right-hand man in 1888-9, and who is certainly one of the very ablest among the younger generation of officials. These family ties must count for something, but the credit that Count MATSUKATA enjoys in commercial and financial circles counts for much more. It is true that he does not stand alone in that respect: Count INOUE has equally faithful supporters—the Mitsui family, Mr. MASUDA KO, Mr. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI, Mr. SONODA KOKICHI, and other prominent merchants and bankers. But there is no rivalry between Count INOUE and Count MATSUKATA. They have never differed materially in financial policy, and the friends of the one are not in any sense opponents of the other. It is a wholesome sign that the Administration should find itself in close touch with the commercial and industrial classes.

THE CAREW INQUEST.

MR. CONSUL HALL is to be congratulated on his remarkably able summing up at the close of the CAREW inquest in his capacity of Coroner. Seldom has a more lucid and powerfully marshalled *résumé* of evidence been submitted to a jury in any case. On the other hand, Mr. HALL could scarcely have been more explicit in the indications he afforded. He practically directed the Jury to attribute the crime of murder to Mrs. CAREW. He brushed away, as unworthy of serious attention, the main theory set up by Mrs. CAREW's counsel—the theory that Mr. CAREW's life having been suddenly disturbed by the re-appearance of a lady who had the power to destroy his domestic happiness, the unfortunate man made away with himself—and he bade the Jury accept as proved the facts that Mr. CAREW had been poisoned by another; that Mrs. CAREW alone had administered medicines to him during the process of poisoning, and that quantities of the poison from the effects of which he died, had been procured by her from the time immediately preceding his sickness until shortly before his death. Had the Jury adopted the Coroner's view, their verdict must at least have indicated that very grave suspicion attached to Mrs. CAREW. But it would appear that they shrank from publicly fixing on the lady any stigma not fully warranted by the testimony. After deliberation, lasting an hour and twenty-five minutes, they found that Mr. CAREW had died from the effects of arsenic, but that there was no "direct evidence" to show by whom the poison had been administered. The qualifying adjective "direct" deserves to be carefully noted. We believe it to be a fact that testimony directly establishing the administration of poison with criminal intent is scarcely ever procurable. In the very nature of things such evidence must be almost impossible to obtain. But, on the other hand, its absence has never been held to exculpate an accused person, or to prevent law courts from pronouncing a verdict of guilty. Under favourable circumstances the act of giving poison can always be managed so as to elude direct observation by third parties, and when the Jury in the CAREW case declared their inability to formulate a conclusive verdict in the absence of "direct evidence," they placed on record a contention that reads very strangely in the context of previous convictions. We do not by any means desire to be interpreted as alleging that justice was defeated by the verdict. That is a question not properly offering itself for discussion at present, since the case may still be carried before another tribunal. But we conceive that the Jury assumed an irrational position when they based their finding on the want of "direct evidence," and that if they were not convinced sufficiently to follow

the Coroner's instruction, they should have alleged the inadequacy, not the indirectness, of the testimony. Apart from that question, the case has afforded another illustration of the defective character of English law in that it allows such inquiries to be held in public. The finding of a coroner's jury has no conclusive force: it is at best a preliminary to judicial procedure. Hence the machinery of a coroner's court lacks many things essential to the complete administration of justice. None the less, an inquest may develop phases permanently injurious to the reputation of some person who is not prepared at the moment, and possibly has not the opportunity, to vindicate himself. European nations reputed to hold the first rank in jurisprudence, fully recognise these points, and carefully guard against publicity in the conduct of all such preliminary investigations. England, unfortunately, has not yet followed their example, and probably if her legislators proposed to do so, they would have difficulty in overcoming the respectable old prejudice against secrecy in any shape or form; a prejudice which, though founded on the idea that right can be best vindicated in the open, sometimes conduces to the infliction of grievous wrong. Indeed the blindness of conservatism has been illustrated strikingly enough in connection with this very inquest, for journalists have actually contended that all questions coming from Counsel engaged to watch the proceedings should have been put through either the Coroner or the Jury. Why should they? For no discernible reason except that a vast deal of valuable time could thus have been wasted. The prime object of such an inquiry is to elicit the truth, and the assistance of barristers can scarcely fail to promote that end. It is within the Coroner's competence to check any line of examination that may seem incorrect, and the power thus vested in him should be ample to prevent undue licence, without recourse to the cumbrous expedient of making him the sole mouth-piece for everybody.

MIXED COINS.

"E.H.H.," whose letter appears in our correspondence columns, advances some arguments that touch the very root of the bimetallic problem. We have asserted that, if equivalent quantities of gold and silver were melted together and minted into one coin, the resulting medium of exchange would possess a purchasing power permanently independent of fluctuations in the relative value of the metals composing it. That is our general proposition. Its practical truth depends in part on the universality of the coin's employment, but for the purposes of the present discussion that factor may be left out of consideration. As a concrete illustration of our

position, we said that, had the two equivalent parts of such a coin been each exchangeable for a pound of tea, twenty-five years ago, then the composite coin would be still exchangeable to-day for 2 lbs. of tea,—if independent causes affecting the price of tea in the interim were eliminated from the account,—since the appreciation of the gold would counteract the depreciation of the silver. "E.H.H." thereupon asks whether we mean to say that the purchasing power of gold has increased to that extent, and denies that any such change of price has occurred. It appears to us that our meaning ought to have been clear without the explanation now demanded of us. When we spoke of buying pounds and half pounds of tea, we simply had recourse to quantities lending themselves easily to the statement of a ratio. That gold was exactly 50 per cent. cheaper, and silver exactly 50 per cent. dearer, in terms of general commodities, 25 years ago, than the two metals are to-day, we do not for a moment pretend to assert. But we do intend to assert that gold is now much dearer, in terms of general commodities, and silver much cheaper, than was the case before the demonetization of the latter metal. Precisely how much, no statistician can undertake to determine, because many factors independent of the adoption of gold monometallism are more or less responsible for the change, and the influence of those independent factors varies in the case of different commodities. Beyond all doubt, however, there has been a virtually universal fall in the gold price of commodities, one result of which is that to repay a gold debt contracted in 1870, a producer must now devote about twice the quantity of produce that would have sufficed to discharge the debt at the time it was incurred. That, indeed, is one of the strong arguments advanced by bimetalists. It has been expounded with special clearness by Mr. FREWEN, and even the monometallists themselves do not venture to deny that the additional demand created for gold since it was deprived of the assistance of silver in discharging the functions of a medium of exchange, must of necessity have enhanced its value. But "E.H.H.," if we read him aright, does deny it. He is "at a loss to understand upon what theory we hold that a certain fixed amount of gold will buy more of any article now than it would a quarter of a century ago, assuming, as we do, that independent causes had not interfered in the interim to affect the price." Of course he is aware that a bushel of wheat, for example—we refer to that because "E.H.H." himself takes flour as a case in point—cost 2½ sovereigns 29 years ago and can now be brought for 1½ sovereigns. If he intends to attribute the whole of that change, and of other similar changes in almost every line of commodities, to causes operating independently of the demoneti-

zation of silver, he goes back to one of the first principles of the bimetalists, and will pardon us if we decline to follow him into a discussion that has been exhausted and re-exhausted time and time again already. But a word may be said about his proposition, "nor can I discover any reason why two coins—gold and silver—melted together and restamped should be supposed to possess different qualities of purchasing power from those of the same coins in the original form;—unless, indeed, a fixed ratio of gold and silver had been established and recognised." There is here a confusion of ideas for which we can not think that anything previously written by ourselves is responsible. Of course the mere act of melting together two coins and restamping the combination could not in any way alter their qualities of purchasing power. But when the act signifies the remonetization of silver, and its consequent elevation from the paltry rôle of a subsidiary coin to the rank of legal tender, there can not be much question that a very distinct change would be effected in the quality of its purchasing power. Moreover, does not our correspondent perceive that such a union of the two metals would be a practical fixing of the ratio between them, since the proportions in which they are combined would be, in fact, an expression of that ratio? It is further to be noted that, without some such device, bimetalism can scarcely become a practical reality. Silver may be remonetized, and its free coinage permitted everywhere, but so long as two separate tokens of exchange are employed, their contemporaneous use in any country would depend upon the absolute fixity of the ratio between them. The first symptoms of a change in that ratio would mean the expulsion of the more valuable token from circulation, and when we consider the multitude of vicissitudes to which the ratio must be exposed, no hope of its permanent fixity could be entertained. The limits of variation would probably be too small to entail serious inconvenience, as was the case during the long eras prior to the demonetization of the white metal. Still there would be variation, and in these times when success or failure in business lies within a very narrow margin, the smallest divergence from the ratio of minting values would at once be reflected in international commerce. Bimetalism, under such conditions, must simply mean that each nation, according to its own financial convenience, would drift into either gold or silver monometallism, and though the resulting condition would be a vast improvement as compared with the present state of affairs, there would still be ground for dissatisfaction. If, however, the unit of value were a composite coin, such as we have been considering—in other words, if the simultaneous use of both metals were compulsory in all transactions of exchange—and if the same composite coin were

used by every nation in the civilized world, we should at last attain a monetary system as near perfection as it seems possible to get at present.

PERFORMANCE BY THE TOKYO M. AND D.A.A.

"A Lesson in Love," Chelnam's three-act comedy, was the piece chosen by the Tokyo Musical and Dramatic Amateur Association for the performances on the 6th and 7th instant, in aid of the sufferers by the recent inundations. It is not a play well suited for amateur acting, the "situations" being few, and the main line of incident not marked with sufficient clearness to excite keen interest. But many considerations that would not be imperative were the appliances of a fully equipped theatre and the aid of a large corps of actors and actresses available, limit the range of choice in a place like Tokyo, and it must be confessed that the inappropriateness of the piece was almost concealed by the excellence of the acting in this instance. The scene is laid at a sea-side boarding house, among the inmates of which are a serene spinster, *Miss Winterberry* (Miss F. von Fallot); her assiduous admirer, an inquisitive, mischief-making old bachelor, *Mr. Babbiebrook* (Mr. L. van der Polder); her pretty niece, *Miss Edith Leslie* (Miss F. V. Denning); a charming widow, *Mrs. Sutherland* (Madame la Baronne d'Anethan); a retired officer of Dragoons, *Captain Freeman* (Mr. J. Conder), and a man in search of a wife, *Mr. Orlando Middemarch* (Mr. H. G. Parlett). The plot turns entirely upon the vicissitudes of love and the very checkered aspect its progress assumes when an officer who has come home from India to marry, enlists, as his ally in the business of wife finding, a lady who has loved him for years and with whom he himself is unwittingly in love; when an aunt, determined to get a husband for herself, develops intentions towards every one seeking the hand of her niece; and when a man making matrimony his vocation, seeks to win every marriageable dame he comes across. The chief rôle fell to Madame la Baronne d'Anethan. Her talents as an actress had already been recognised, but she attained a higher level than ever as *Mrs. Sutherland*. That great study must have been required for such a perfect rendering could not be doubted, but there was no apparent evidence of study throughout. Every change of mood—the hardly concealed disappointment of unrequited affection; the loyal devotion of a true-hearted woman, who, for the sake of the man she loves, does not shrink from assisting to immolate her own hopes; the resourceful intrigue of the quick-witted leader of society, and the latent coquetry of the much-courted widow—all these phases of character were rendered with most natural fidelity, and in the scene where *Captain Freeman* at length discovers the real loadstone of his love, and offers his heart to the woman on whose assistance he has hitherto relied to obtain the hand of another, the contrast between the suitor's profound earnestness and the lady's wayward resolve to punish his previous blindness by imitating it herself when he for the first time sees distinctly, was quite as effective a bit of acting as we have seen upon any stage in the East. A voice easy of modulation and great power of facial expression are gifts the possession of which contributes materially to the excellence of Madame la Baronne's performances. They appeal to eye and ear alike, and are happily free from every symptom of the mechanicalness so difficult to banish from memorized phrases and the dull routine of rehearsals. *Miss von Fallot* as *Anastasia Winterberry* was delightful. This lady is imbued with the true spirit of histrionic unselfishness: she never hesitates to sacrifice the freshness of youth to the exigencies of a rôle. Her "make up" as the many-wintered *Anastasia* wanted nothing essential to that most unsympathetic *ensemble*, the juvenile spinster, dressing to attract and dressed to repel. Her simpering affectation, her meet-you-much-more-than-half-way displays of tentative fond-

ness, her tender *abandon* at the first symptom of reciprocity, and her hysterical fury when her rosy hopes are suddenly replaced by the bitterest of female torments, the *spectra infuria formæ*, were beautifully realistic and moved the audience to perpetual merriment. A little attention to elocution would add greatly to her effectiveness on the stage, for she does not always succeed in making herself audible, and we doubt whether many of the hearers appreciated the skill of her acting when, at the close of the piece, she abandoned her affections and in an outburst of desperate frankness, fell back upon Mr. *Babblebrook's* perennial offer of marriage, if he were "fool enough to repeat it." Possibly it was owing to a defect of management that this telling scene took place at the back of the stage, but, at any rate, *Anastasia's* words were lost. *Edith Leslie's* delicious freshness formed a capital foil to her aunt's faded charms. Her part, though comparatively insignificant, demands no little exercise of skill, for the repeated acts of actionless presence that it requires would be effectually marred by the slightest display of *gaucherie*. *Edith*, however, personated the gentle *ingenue* with entire freedom from solecism or suggestion of self-consciousness, and nothing could have been prettier or more natural than her unconscious betrayals of the predilection that she has begun to entertain for *Middlemark*, and of the tendency she feels to snub the frigid *Freeman*. That so much could be made of a rôle so thinly outlined by the writer of the play must have been a most agreeable surprise to the audience, and, indeed, no scene seemed to afford more genuine enjoyment than *Captain Freeman's* bungling attempts to contrive some sort of "declaration" in the presence of a young lady so artlessly attractive and, at the same time, so sweetly deterrent. *Captain Freeman's* part may fairly be described as the most trying in the play, for without sufficient colour to justify any salience of style, it nevertheless requires subtle variations of mood, an extremely difficult combination of cavalry nonchalance and social timidity, and occasional displays of strong emotion. Mr. Conder was very satisfactory in this perplexing rôle. His conception of it seemed fit the plot excellently, and his rendering was sustained uniformly without any semblance of effort. A full measure of success was achieved by Mr. H. G. Parlett, also, as *Middlemark*. He invested the character with many happy mannerisms, and the contrast between his nervous alertness and *Captain Freeman's* ponderous helplessness was excellently conceived. Mr. Parlett had appeared upon the Tokyo stage only once previously in an important rôle, but the public will now hope to see him as often as possible. *Babblebrook*, the fussy old eavesdropper and scandal monger, found a most energetic and quaint representative in Mr. van der Polder, but the rôle scarcely enabled him to do justice to the talent that he has often shown on other occasions. Every congratulation must be offered on the subject of the scenery. Its arrangement evinced excellent taste, especially the seascape in the second act, a really pretty bit of art which won hearty encomiums. For all this part of the affair, contriving, decorating and painting, Mr. Conder is to be chiefly thanked, and when we remember that the major portion of the non-apparent work also fell upon his shoulders, it becomes difficult to over-praise his services. Owing to his forethought the performance on the first night was saved from collapse, for the electric light failed shortly before the curtain rose, and had not special provision of candles and lamps been made against such an emergency—an emergency to which every Tokyo resident depending upon the Asakusa electric source has of late been only too liable—it is difficult to conceive what could have been done. The stage-manager, Dr. Clay MacCauley, must be heartily congratulated on the results of his labours, and Miss Mair, who played several pieces on the piano in the intervals between the acts, contributed not a little to the general success. Seating accommodation for 400 people had been provided, and the hall was nearly full on the first night, but on the second

the attendance naturally fell off, though His Imperial Highness Prince Kanin and several Japanese ladies and gentlemen of high rank were present. On both occasions, the audience showed thorough appreciation. All the good points elicited warm applause, and several bouquets were presented to the actresses. After the close of the performance on the second evening, the actors and actresses and all concerned in getting up the play were entertained at supper by the Belgian Minister and Madame la Baronne d'Anethan, to whose interest and support the Society is largely indebted.

THE NEW TARIFF.

It is anticipated, writes the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, that the negotiations for the revision of the five remaining treaties—namely, those with Austria-Hungary, Spain, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland—will be concluded before the end of February next. It will then be possible for the Japanese Government to give notice of the enforcement of the new Tariff, which, according to the Treaties, is to go into operation six months after the work of revision is completed. If that calculation prove correct, the Tariff will become operative from the beginning of September next year. Of course, some legislation will be necessary with respect to articles not included in the Tariff schedule, but the *Yomiuri* learns that a Bill in that sense has been prepared and will be submitted to the Diet next session. We confess that we are a little sceptical about the *Yomiuri's* forecast. It will surprise us greatly if three and a half months suffice to dispose of the five Treaties still awaiting revision.

THE REV. JOHN ROSS AND BISHOP GUILLON.

Some time ago we alluded to certain grave charges preferred by Dr. Ross against the Roman Catholic Bishop of Mukden. Dr. Ross, writing in the *United Presbyterian Missionary Record*, a Scotch magazine of very limited circulation, accused Monseigneur Guillon of practising the most appalling barbarities upon the persons of renegades from the Roman Catholic faith or converts to the Protestant. He alleged that the Archbishop had in his compound a stone pillar for the purpose of suspending men by their queues, and he described, with full detail, the case of an unfortunate Chinaman named Pung, who, having been dragged to the Bishop's residence by a rope tied round his neck, was hung up by his queue from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and was beaten on the mouth by the Bishop himself at intervals. That Dr. Ross believed all this to have happened, there can be no doubt, for he applied, it appears, to the British Consul at Newchwang, and procured the arrest and incarceration of some Chinese subjects said to have been actors in seizing Pung and dragging him away. The story found its way into a Shanghai journal, and our readers may remember that we characterized it at the time as a cruel libel, so obviously extravagant as to carry its own refutation. The Roman Catholic Missionaries, however, being naturally unwilling to leave such falsehoods unrefuted, induced Count du Chaylard, Consul General for France at Tientsin, to visit Mukden for the purpose of conducting an investigation, and the result is said to have been that the accused men were liberated, and that the British Consul at Newchwang made a personal apology to Monseigneur Guillon, and acknowledged that he had been sadly misled. Meanwhile, no retraction has come from Dr. Ross, who, however, when interrogated during a recent visit to Shanghai, wrote to one of the papers there, declining to give fuller details, on the ground that "the whole matter of Roman Catholic persecution of our converts in Manchuria is referred to Pekin." Considering how very full Dr. Ross details had already been, we can not appreciate the reasons of his sudden reticence, especially as, in the very same letter, he declared that all those hav-

ing "well authenticated cases in different parts of the empire should publish them." We fear that Dr. Ross has brought lasting shame upon his cloth, and that his accusations will do much to injure the cause he undoubtedly has at heart.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE ON THE EARTH.

One of the theories advanced by seismologists in Japan to account for earth tremors, at any rate, if not in some degree for earthquakes, is that the varying pressure of the atmosphere cannot fail to produce some effect upon the stability of a globe delicately suspended in space, as the earth is. It is a pretty and almost self-evident theory, and our readers will be interested to know that it has been elaborated by Mr. Henry Harries in an article written for *Longman's Magazine*. The facts are easily comprehended that in times of tempest the barometer may stand at heights varying by several inches at different places in the same hour, and in the same place at intervals of a few hours, and that tremendous weights are thereby rapidly shifted on the earth's surface, but it is not so easy to realize Mr. Harries' calculation that an inch fall of the barometer in Great Britain corresponds to a decrease of pressure of 108 billion tons over the whole country. He proceeds as follows:—

There are good reasons for believing that the earth—"this too, too solid earth," as many of us suppose it to be—feels these enormous changes of weight, and responds to them much in the same way as an orange would respond to the pressure and the withdrawal of a finger. It must be remembered that the surface of the globe is dotted all over with moving cyclones and anti-cyclones differing in weight to the extent of many hundreds of thousands of millions of tons, so that the idea that the earth's outer crust is about as unstable as a jelly is not so absurd as it might appear at first sight. Prof. G. H. Darwin, after some careful experiments conducted at Cambridge, has calculated that even if the earth were so solid as to have the rigidity of glass, it would still mean that with a barometric range of only two inches we should be at least three or four inches nearer the centre of the earth when the mercury is at its highest than when it touches its lowest point. The experiments of the late Dr. von Rebeur Paschwitz strongly confirm Professor Darwin's conclusions, for they show that even when the barometer rises such a short distance as $\frac{1}{4}$ part of an inch there is a perceptible deflection of the plumb-line. In the determination of the geographical position of places observers have been puzzled at the discrepancies in the results obtained at different periods, but it now seems to be recognized that they must be largely attributed to the tilting of the ground in one direction or another, according to the disposition of atmospheric pressure, and that this is sufficient to introduce a difference of several miles in the results. It is true we are not conscious of this sinking and elevating process; it takes place at such a very imperceptible rate, perhaps occasionally two or three inches in twenty-four hours, but delicate and carefully balanced astronomical and seismological instruments tell us very clearly that the ground is never at perfect rest; it has, in fact, been likened to a jelly. Whether the variations of barometric pressure contribute directly to the production of earth tremors and earthquakes has not been definitely determined, although the connection is more than suspected. Thus in Japan, where the barometric fluctuations are more frequent and of greater extent in winter than in summer, earthquakes are fully twice as numerous in the former as in the latter.

It is probably easier to understand that water would be influenced by changes in the weight of the superincumbent air. Our tide-tables predict the height of the tide every day, but under normal barometric conditions the actual height being regulated by circumstances, so that corrections are necessary according as the barometer is above or below the average. In the *Official Channel Pilot*, published by the Admiralty, it is said of Dover Harbour that "it is on record that during equinoctial spring tides with a high barometer and a strong north-easterly wind, the tide at high water has receded 4½ feet below the datum of low water ordinary springs." Under the great anticyclone of January 1887, the Mediterranean at Anthes was lowered about a foot, M. Faye attributing this to the exceptionally high pressure. Curiously enough, inland lakes were similarly depressed at this time, Constance being lower than at any time during three quarters of a century previously, the result being that lacustrine habitations were laid bare, and nephrite axes and other ancient objects were brought to light.

The most interesting and important feature of the meteorology of the North Atlantic Ocean is the great anticyclone which lies over the Horse latitudes practically all the year round. No doubt this permanent area of high atmospheric pressure accounts for the saucer-like depression of the surface of the ocean known as the Sargasso Sea, a region where large quantities of so-called gulf-weed accumulate, very little of the fucus escaping into higher levels. One of the derelict ships about which so much has been heard of late in and out of Parliament was the schooner *Fannie E. Wolston*, abandoned off Cape Hatteras on October 15, 1891. Drifting down into the Sargasso Sea, the helpless wanderer simply moved hither and thither within this shallow depression for more than three years before she finally disappeared.

KOREAN NEWS.

From the tone of the *Söul Independent* we begin to find truth in the allegation of Japanese journalistic correspondents that the one journal of Korea is emphatically pro-Russian. The *Independent*, tabulating the advantages that have accrued to Korea from the Mission to Russia on the occasion of the Coronation, gives prominence to the fact that the Ambassador obtained the sanction of the Russian Government to the employment of Russian officers to instruct the Korean army. Is that really an advantage to Korea? We think that the editor of the *Independent* has not given this question his full consideration. We may add here that the first installment of these instructors reached Söul in company with the Ambassador. It consisted of Colonel D. Putiata, two other officers, and ten non-commissioned officers. Colonel Putiata, we read, spent several years in Pekin as Russian Agent. Lieutenant Kusmin of the Russian Army has also arrived in Söul, where he will serve as assistant to Colonel Strelbitsky, Russia's Military Agent.

Mr. Min Yung-chul, Governor of Whang-hai in Korea, is reported to be a very staunch conservative. He approves of torture and has devised a new kind of rattle for beating prisoners. It is a stick having shards of china attached to it by glue. A few blows reduce a man's body to a shocking condition. That is one of the clumsiest devices on record.

The *Independent* emphatically denies that there is any anti-Russian spirit in Korea. It defends the King's flight to the Russian Legation by saying that his Majesty was "in danger of losing his throne, and perhaps his life." At whose hands, we wonder. It is a pity that the *Independent* cannot see its way to being more explicit.

Hong Chong-wo, who murdered Kin Ok-kyun in Shanghai, has been promoted from the position of Secretary of the Royal Household Department to that of Master of Ceremonies. That is one of the sublimest burlesques on record. A foul assassin discharging the functions of master of the ceremonies at a King's court! No wonder that the Monarch of Korea has to hide for his life in foreign legations. To round off the savage comedy, Yi Se-chik, who attempted to kill Pak Yong-ho in Tokyo three years ago, succeeds his more successful master in the post of Secretary of the Royal Household Department. The King of Korea ought to import a hangman to be Groom of the Chamber.

Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop is now in Söul, where she is the guest of Mr. McLeavy Brown. She is compiling a book on Korea.

Speaking of Mr. McLeavy Brown, we observe that he has had the honour of being the first foreign recipient of a Korean decoration. It was not within our knowledge that such a thing as a Korean decoration existed.

Mr. W. C. Hillier, who, after 30 years' service in the Far East, leaves his Consul-Generalship in Söul in obedience to the advice of oculists, has received a magnificent "myriad-men's" umbrella of red satin from the Chinese residents of the city. The umbrella has the names of the donors embroidered in gold.

CHINESE NEWS.

The Viceroy of Chihli is said to have given his approval to a scheme for the establishment of an iron and steel foundry at Tientsin. Coal as well as iron are easily procurable by rail. The enterprise is to be in Chinese hands.

It is said that a ten-mile railway is to be built between the new foreign settlement at Hangchow and a place westward of it, called Tsak'ou. The main purpose of the line is the transport of silk from the producing districts.

We reported in a recent issue that Taotai Sheng had been appointed Chief Commissioner of Railways in China, with instructions to carry out the building of the Pekin-Hankow and Hankow-Canton lines, a total length of nearly 1,200 miles. It now appears that Sheng has merely obtained permission to start the railway by recourse to private enterprise.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says that a cloth mill is about to be started in Tientsin.

The following are the dimensions, &c., of the two Armstrong cruisers, for which Messrs. Buchheister & Co. recently obtained a contract—the cruisers that are to form the basis of China's new navy:—

Length over all.....	424 feet.
between-perpendiculars..	390 feet.
Breadth extreme.....	46 feet 8 inches.
Depth, moulded.....	30 feet 8 inches.
Draft, mean.....	16 feet 9 inches.
Displacement, about.....	4,300 tons.
Speed 24 knots forced draught.	
Speed 22 knots natural draught.	

Their armament is to be as follows:—

2—8" Q. F. Guns.	
10—4.7" Q. F. Guns.	
16—3 pdr. Guns.	
6—3 pdr. Guns.	
5—3 Torpedo tubes.	

Ships ready for trial within 18 months.
Price for each vessel £35,659.

TROUBLE WITH ABORIGINES IN SOUTH FORMOSA.

It will be remembered that reference was recently made in these columns to disturbances caused by a section of the aborigines in the south of Formosa near Hienchun. Out of eighteen tribes, two betrayed a spirit of insubordination, the proximate cause of their uneasiness being an epidemic which they attributed to the presence of a line of telegraph in their territory. Major Hashimoto, who commands the Hienchun garrison, having failed to effect an amicable settlement, and having been advised by the chiefs of the remaining 16 tribes to resort to strong measures, despatched a force of 180 men against the insurgents. The expedition set out on the 18th of October, and intelligence has been received that the two tribes, after a loss of 18 men killed and many wounded, made act of submission on the 20th instant. Twenty men, who had taken part in the murder of a Japanese, were arrested, and the head, sword, and rifle of the murdered man, together with 190 yen that had been in his possession, were recovered. On the 22nd ultimo the expedition proceeded against another band of insurgents who had attacked a temple, and, taking them by surprise, killed 8, putting the rest to flight. The Japanese had one man killed on this occasion. On the following day, this remnant of the insurgents tendered their submission, and the Japanese expeditionary force was withdrawn, the prisoners being handed over to the gendarmes.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, October 2nd.

At this writing we are still more than a month from our national election day. In times not very far distant, we could read the signs so accurately as to tell in most years of presidential election who was to occupy the White House and receive \$50,000 a year for public service. Then, the different States had their elections in October, and as the State elections went, so was the national choice pretty sure to follow. Now, however, with increasing uniformity in most things—showing the steady consolidation of this people, living under forty-five state governments, into a true nation—only three or four states hold their elections in October. The others have ordained that the state executive and some other officers should be chosen on the same day with the President of the nation. So, despite the oracles and prognostications of party managers and journals, the question is still uncertain as to whether white or yellow shall prevail in our coinage, and as to whether the tendency to a stronger Central Government or to an enlargement of State right shall follow. For the first time since the war, all issues springing out of slavery or the conflict of 1861-65 have been dropped. They are not only dead, but so deeply buried as to make resurrection an impossibility. For the first time, also, a former Confederate General, a man from out of the States formerly

in secession, has been nominated for the national executive office. Never before were there so many candidates in the field. Though uncertainty has often been great and vast before, the cool and level-headed man is prepared to say that uncertainty was never greater than it is to-day. This I write, though my own conviction is that William McKinley and Garret Hobart will be the officers elected to sit in the Presidential Chair and on the Senate's platform.

However the election may go, it is not only a phenomenon of American optimism, but a fact based on law and custom, that the majority of voters will be pleased with the result. True, it is possible that, through our system of state electors who form the electoral college, there may not be, nationally speaking, an absolutely correct expression in majority of the popular vote. There are some who believe that the electoral college is an antiquated and obsolete institution which, like so many other things borrowed from Europe, will not work well in the American republic. As long ago as the late 50's, when but a lad, I heard a powerful plea by the eloquent Theodore Tilton for the immediate abolition of the electoral college. However, it is more than probable that State jealousy and conservatism will still maintain in each state a body of gentlemen chosen as electors who will go through the form of merely ratifying the results at the polls. It is not probable that during this century an amendment to the Constitution of the United States will be made abolishing this institution which our fathers ordained, but which Martin Van Buren (more than any other one man) practically annulled by introducing the national nominating conventions, and the beginnings of the modern processes of caucus and "practical" administration of voting which some call "manipulation," "dictation" "trading," and by other more or less inexact terms. Curiously enough, the Democrats, who lay emphasis on the State as contrasted with the National rights and powers, while also and therefore encouraging local liberty and cultivating to excess the purely popular element, will oppose the proposition. Although they would like above all things to have in all cases a purely popular vote, counted by noses and the number of ballots cast, they will in all probability fiercely oppose the abolition of the electoral college; because, probably more than any other one feature in our Government by checks and balance, it represents in phenomena and majesty, if not in actual potency, the various State governments—the very ribs and vertebrae of the body politic. This year, indeed, is the year of crisis for the Democratic party. Instead of a "solid south," we have the old unity, and as the populists say, tyranny, of the Democratic party broken. And this not by Republicans but by the Populists, who declare that they and they alone are the true Democrats holding to the ancient principles. In the North, the Democrats are divided between those in favour of free silver and those who believe in gold as the one standard and as the only true representative of sound money. Although they have nominated as their standard-bearers, Senator Palmer and General S. Buckner, it is quite within the bounds of possibility that a majority of "gold Democrats" will vote for McKinley and Hobart. It is they who, with the Republicans, have kept up the \$100,000,000 gold reserve in the Treasury and have persistently agitated and personally worked and even sacrificed for the maintenance of American credit abroad.

Despite the disturbance to business and the excitement of political agitation, Americans enjoy a Presidential campaign. They are still very far from being ready to believe that a monarchical establishment, with its tremendous expense, to say nothing of the ideas and principles involved, would be any improvement. Americans understand themselves pretty well. They know also that immediately after the elections, in ordinary times, everything settles down at once and the ordinary grooves are quickly polished into smoothness by the undisturbed run of activities. So will it be in the case of the election of those candidates who represent conservative ideas in harmony with other countries of high civilization. In the other

case (so opponents predict), there will be a distressing financial panic, which will disturb the social and commercial equilibrium for some months. However, we shall see.

Apart from politics, it is evident that the more intellectual part of the country cherish no sad forebodings. The publishers and the student-world give themselves little trouble. Looking over the announcements of the publishing houses for the coming season, one is surprised to find a larger prospective product of books than ever before known in the history of the country. The day is past when in the United States books are considered luxuries. On the contrary, they are necessities. People will have them. Never before were prices lower. One can go into almost any book store in city, town and village, and see stacks of fiction and standard works, for sale, unbound, at from three to ten cents apiece. The print and the paper are good, and one wonders how they can be produced at such prices. The bound books run from fifteen to thirty-five cents. Yet, in addition to the stock already on the market and the constant making of already stereotyped works, nearly one thousand new books or new editions are now advertised. Among these, we notice nearly a dozen, all told, which in fact or in fiction deal with the Pilgrims or Puritans, who in Holland or in England, mewed their mighty strength "before swooping upon New England to make it their home. There they created that "distinctive America," to whose ideal, despite occasional protest and temporary reaction, all parts of the nation are steadily conforming. We as Americans are every year steadily moulting the peculiarities of the Puritans while more and more understanding and actualizing the ideals of the tolerant and sound-minded Pilgrims. One also notices a further contingent of books on Japan and China. Mostly they are not of a very serious character. Even Dr. W. A. P. Martin's "A Cycle of Cathay," is rather a book of personal reminiscences than a mine for information or an epitome of philosophy. The books on Japan treat rather of phases of sea-port life, at least for the most part, while Korea still remain comparatively unexploited. Both theology and fiction are still in demand. Works of travel, exploration and adventure are increasingly numerous and every department of science seems to be represented.

Out of the thousands of books which leave the press, fresh and fascinating during the autumn, winter and spring of 1896-97—each one having about it the uncertainty, mystery, and fascination of the unknown—how many will be heard of or read a century from now? Many will die the very year they are born. Only a few will float over the century mark which divides the 19th from the 20th. Nevertheless, it is a good sign to see publishers so sanguine. While our free public libraries still multiply, and every part of the country, including even South and East, becomes increasingly leavened with literature, we may believe education to be "the cheap defence of nations."

The other indications of faith in the stability of things American, are seen in the colleges and universities. Almost every one of these reports an increased number of applicants over figures of last year. Over a thousand have knocked at the door of Harvard, and out of the crowd numbering many more, this number have been admitted. Yale takes in not many less. The raising of the standard of admission in most of the colleges enables them to get a choice company of students. Out of the thousand or so that have applied, Cornell University has up to this date admitted 550, of whom several score are young women, four of the latter studying law. The favourite courses in Cornell are law and electric engineering. I notice among the new professors two or three who have been brought over from England. The Cornell University Exploring Expedition in Greenland has returned in high spirits. Its members are flushed with their success in discovering new glaciers and mountains, and in adding very considerably to the topographic, geological, and botanical knowledge which we already possess of that alluring part of the North American continent.

One thing Professor Tarr and his assistants have established, and that is, that the glaciers of Greenland have no connection with those on the main North American continent.

The new Korean Minister in Washington need not be lonely, for beside his wife and son there are in the city a colony of eight or ten Korean students, and at Roanoke College, Salem, Va., are two or three more; while in San Francisco and the parts of the United States it is quite probable that there are now all told about 100 natives of the once Hermit Nation.—W.E.G.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Chicago, October 5th, 1896.

From the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific this country is a political caldron. From the day the monetary issue was squarely defined by the Democratic convention at Chicago the intensity has not for a day diminished. It can be compared to no campaign since that preceding Lincoln's first election and the war, and hardly even to that. For that was a political issue, this an economic one, which involves not only liberties, but bread and butter. The business condition, by universal consent, has been more difficult in the United States during the whole of 1896 than it was even during the panic of 1893. Failures have continued at a high rate, some of them very significant, since they were not the result of poor business, but purely of lessened volume of money. Concerns that were formerly able to get cash on thirty days for their goods could now only get long time paper, the discounts and bank squeezes on which ate up the legitimate profits of the business.

Our position is simply that money, which ought to be only the servant of industry, has become its master. Some years ago we had no money question here, for our various forms of cash were chiefly occupied in performing their proper function of circulating in business and productive channels. Now, however, owing to a succession of monetary retirement and contraction by legislative action, to a long line of extralegal acts by the Secretaries of the Treasury, to the discrediting of our silver money, and to a determined effort by the national banks of the country to establish the false position that the control of the monetary system is not a function of the sovereign, but of banking—from all these causes, on top of the failures and distress which the falling prices of our leading products, wheat, cotton, and everything that we must sell in competition with silver-using countries, and consequently lower our price with every new fall in silver exchange—we have come to a position where all forms of money, and particularly gold, increase in value at a faster rate while lying idle in vaults than by going out to be used for industrial purposes. Money speculating and interest mongering, those two illegitimate monetary transactions wherein money is both sides of the deal, which together make up that bugbear we call the state of the money market, have become so dominant that the legitimate functions, the exchange of money for labour or goods, are suffering.

The political alignments that have resulted are remarkable. Not long ago the only discussion was as to whether the United States should take the lead in restoring free coinage of silver or should wait for an international agreement. No one spoke for a single gold standard. McKinley, the Republican nominee, has always been personally a bimetalist, and voted that way on every occasion while he was in Congress. His backers did everything they could at the nominating convention to keep the money question from becoming the issue. You will remember in Japan that a few months ago the *Cleveland World*, a paper owned and controlled by Mr. M. A. Hanna, McKinley's backer and the manager of the present Republican campaign, sent its editor, Mr. R. P. Porter, to gather materials for a high protective tariff against Japanese manufactures. But the action of the Democrats and the insistence of the eastern monetary centre have relegated

the tariff to the rear, and Mr. Porter's articles were hardly read even by the people of his own party. Instead we have orators going up and down declaring that gold is the only stable thing we have, which in view of the function of money to be the measure of all other things, is somewhat illogical. A sufficient comment on this, as well as on the causes of our distress, is found in the fact that, although we have paid in interest and principal over four billions on our national debt since the war, and its principal is now barely a third of what it was then, it will take a good deal more of all our standard products to pay off the rest than it would have then done to pay the whole. With the monetary stability you have had in Japan, barring the inflation period just following the Satsuma rebellion, you can perhaps hardly appreciate the results of this.

The plain facts of this phase of the issue are that it takes notoriously far more commodities to buy the gold in a dollar now than it did even a short while ago, and this is ruining all our producers, to the unjust advantage of the creditor classes, who thus receive not only the properly earned interest of their bonds, but the improper and unearned increment which is measured by the fall of prices, and which is the difference between prosperity and bankruptcy to the farmer and manufacturer alike. It is this that has shut up our mills, and although Major McKinley has taken for his slogan, "It is better to open the mills than the mints," the veriest tyro in economics, who has not personal interests to serve or is not blindly following his party organization, knows that no tariff increase, which is all McKinley offers, can open or keep open mills while an appreciation of the money standard, with equivalent fall of prices, continues. This phase of the campaign has therefore become a fight between interests, of those on the one side who seek to increase the value of the dollar in which they must be paid—for such a question as that all debts of the country shall not be paid rigidly according to their terms has not yet appeared in any part of the campaign—and of those on the other side who declare it unjust that they shall be forced to surrender more property to discharge debts than the debts were worth when they were contracted.

Closely allied with this contest of interests, wherein the bondholder stands against the producer and developer, the former seeking to get back more than he gave, the latter willing to repay what he borrowed, but asking not to have the ability to do this unjustly taken away from him and his independence destroyed, there stands a desire of the national banks of the country to control the money. Their direct object, openly avowed, is that the Government shall go out of the money business entirely, except as a guarantor of the note issues of the banks; that gold, the one thing that never fluctuates, as they say, shall be the single standard; that this gold money shall then be stored in the vaults of the issuing banks as reserve, and the entire currency of the country be supplied by note issues of the banks themselves, at their own will to inflate or contract "according to the needs of the country," on the security of their stock of gold, government bonds, the capital stock of the banks themselves, and the guarantee of the government. Such a proposition would hardly seem credible were it not an actual fact. It is supported by such arguments as that, since bankers understand money better than other people, they should be allowed to control our money. I do not know a country better able to weigh and appreciate the value of this argument than Japan, after her highly interesting experience with the national banking system she borrowed from us. And it is a curious coincidence that just as we are solving these questions of banks and money over here, you should pass through a cabinet crisis that hinges upon the return to office of two statesmen so intimately associated with the development of sound and stable national finance in your own country, as Counts Okuma and Matsukata. We have watched these changes with deep interest on this side, and though an understanding of the workings of Japanese politics is still not as full as it might and ought to be, still the changes

have been watched with a feeling that, in them all, Japan is successfully solving her constitutional and parliamentary problems.

One more phase I must touch on in brief, for this will be the only letter I can get to you before the election will have taken place, and I wish to give as clear an understanding as possible of the nature of the forces that are demanding the restoration of free coinage of silver on this side. That such action would have an enormous effect upon all Oriental interests I know is well recognized on your side of the Pacific, and I can only account for the failure which I see from advices I receive to take steps to meet the results of Bryan's success and the consequent wiping out of the exchange difference between America and Asia totally, and Europe and Asia at least partially, to a lack of appreciating the seriousness of the troubles which in this country demand the relief which can be obtained in but one way, the lessening or destruction of the present disparity between gold and silver. Whatever effect might otherwise result, if the United States ceases to rest her whole financial system on gold, and again admits silver, the present exchange rates must go up. Yet I have only seen in your papers what seem to be but a few unheeded calls not to risk holding on to such stocks of goods as silk, on which a ruinous loss would be suffered if the exchange premium were wiped out. I was most gratified during my recent trip through Japan to find the conservatism in matters likely to be thus affected, and the preference for investments deriving support from internal development rather than the protection of the gold premium, but I can not think you realize the imminence of a restoration of silver here.

Under the protective tariff policy that has been maintained here, we have so long been restricted to home markets that the workings of foreign trade and exchange have been little understood. To voters in ignorance that foreign trade is not an exchange of money but an exchange of prices, and that a fall in silver exchange lowers gold prices and sends the trade meanwhile to the silver using countries, it has been possible to use such arguments as that we want to use money that will go all over the world, and that a gold dollar has never been worth less than a hundred cents—as if it could be when the mint law says it is a hundred cents. But the influence that the fall of silver exchange has had in depressing the prices of our wheat, cotton, and similar products in order to equate with Argentine and Indian silver prices, is becoming well recognized. It is becoming understood that silver countries have thus a hundred per cent. protection in competing with us, which getting again on to a par of exchange with them will relieve us from. And further, that if we were to remonetize silver, universal bimetalism must follow almost immediately, because, until it did, the United States would have the same advantage against Europe that the silver countries now have against us all, a condition that with our enormous productive capacity Europe could not allow to exist for a month.

I have gone thus much into the details of this campaign because of the deep interest which must exist on your side of the Pacific concerning events likely to affect silver exchanges. And the question here is not simply political nor a craze. It is economic, and a fight solely to restore prices, in both foreign and domestic matters. There is no question of repudiation, all our debts will be paid in full and in terms, unless the fall of prices continues so that we can not get enough even by selling everything at or below cost, to pay these bonds. Our railroad receiverships and farm foreclosures have been telling the tale, and the issue is vital to the core. We must stop the contraction in our volume of money at home, and must cut down or wipe out the disparity in foreign silver exchanges. This is the whole issue.

WILLIAM EDMOND GATES.

Lieut.-General Oku, the new Commandant of the First Army Division, proceeded to the Palace on Wednesday at one o'clock and had an audience with the Emperor.

ALLEGED CONVENTION BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA.

It is alleged by the *North-China Daily News* that a convention has been concluded between Russia and China, and our contemporary publishes a translation of it. The date of the signing is not mentioned, but can be pretty closely inferred from the fact that Count Cassini, who left Peking on the 30th of September, is said to have deferred his departure for three days in order to have the Convention concluded. The translation runs as follows:—

A SPECIAL CONVENTION BETWEEN CHINA AND RUSSIA.

His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China having received the various benefits arising from the loyal support of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia at the close of the late war between China and Japan, and being desirous that the communications between the frontier territories of their respective empires and the international commerce of the two countries be managed to their mutual advantage, has commanded the mutual settlement of certain matters in order the better to consolidate the basis of friendship between the two empires. In this connection, therefore, H.I.M. the Emperor of China has specially appointed the Imperial High Commissioners the Princes and Great Officers of the Crown composing the Imperial Chinese Ministry of War, with plenipotentiary powers, to confer and agree upon certain matters, at Peking, with His Excellency Count Cassini, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of H.I.M. the Emperor of Russia to the Court of China, concerning the connecting of the railway system of the Three Eastern Provinces [Fengtien, Kirin, and Heilung-chiang] with that of the Imperial Russian railway in the province of Siberia, with the object of facilitating the transport of goods between the two empires and of strengthening the frontier defences and sea coasts. And, furthermore, to agree upon certain special privileges to be conceded by China to Russia as a response to the loyal aid given by Russia in the retrocession of Liaotung and its dependencies.

1.—Owing to the fact that the Russian Great Siberian Railway is on the point of completion, China consents to allow Russia to prolong her railway into Chinese territories (a) from the Russian port of Vladivostok into the Chinese city of Hunchun in the province of Kirin, from thence northwestwards to the provincial capital of Kirin, and (b) from a railway station of some city in Siberia to the Chinese town of Aiyun in Heilung-chiang province, from thence southwestwards to the provincial capital of Tsitsihar, and from thence to the town of Petuné, in Kirin province, and from thence southeastwards to the provincial capital of Kirin.

2.—All railways built by Russia into the Chinese provinces of Heilungchiang and Kirin shall be built at the sole expense of Russia and the regulations and building thereof shall be solely on the Russian system, with which China has nothing to do, and the entire control shall be in the hands of Russia for the space of thirty years. At the end of the said period China shall be allowed to prepare the necessary funds wherewith, after proper estimation of the value of the said railways, she shall redeem them, the rolling stock, machine shops, and buildings connected therewith. But as to how China will at that date redeem these railways shall be left for future consideration.

3.—China is now in the possession of a railway which she intends to extend from Shanhaikuan into the provincial capital of Fengtien, namely, Moukden (Shengking), and from Moukden to the provincial capital of Kirin. If China should hereafter find it inconvenient to build this road she shall allow Russia to provide the funds to build the railway from the city of Kirin, on behalf of China, the redemption of which road shall be permissible to China at the end of ten years. With reference to the route to be taken by this railway, Russia shall follow the surveys already made by China in connection therewith, from Kirin to Moukden, Newchwang, etc.

4.—The railway to be built by China beginning from Shanhaikuan, in Fengtien, to Newchwang, to Kaiping, to Chinchow, to Lushunk'ou [Port Arthur], and to Talienwan, and their dependencies, shall follow the Russian Railway regulations in order to facilitate the commercial intercourse between the respective Empires.

5.—With reference to the railways to be built by Russia into Chinese territory, the routes along which the said roads shall pass must be protected, as usual, by the local, civil, and military officials of the country. They shall, moreover, afford all facilities and aid to the civil and military officials of Russia at the various railway stations, together

with all the Russian artisans and labourers connected therewith. But owing to the fact that the said railways will pass for the greater part through barren and sparsely inhabited territory in which it will be difficult for the Chinese authorities to be always able to grant the necessary protection and aid, Russia shall be allowed to place special battalions of horse and foot soldiers at the various important points of the railway property.

6.—With reference to the Customs duties to be collected on goods exported from and imported into the respective countries by the said railways, they shall follow the regulations provided by the Treaty of Commerce between China and Russia, ratified in the 1st year of the reign of Tung Chih, 4th day, 2nd moon [20th February 1862 O.S.], regulating the overland transit of goods between the two empires.

7.—There has always been in existence a rule prohibiting the exploitation of the mines in Heilungchiang and Kirin provinces and in the Ch'ang-pai mountains [Long White Mountain range]. After the ratification of this treaty, Russians and subjects of the Chinese empire shall be permitted hereafter to exploit and open any of the mines therein mentioned; but before doing so they shall be required first to petition the Chinese local authorities on the subject who, on the other hand, shall grant the necessary commissions (*huchao*) in accordance with the mining regulations in force in China Proper.

8.—Although there exists certain battalions of foreign-drilled troops (*Lianchun*) in the Three Eastern Provinces, yet the greater portion of the local territorial army corps thereof still follow the ancient regulation of the empire. Should, therefore, China in the future require to reform in accordance with the Western system the whole army organisation of the said provinces, she shall be permitted to engage from Russia qualified military officers for that purpose and the rules for the guidance of this arrangement shall be in accordance with those obtaining in the Liankiang provinces in regard to the German military officers now engaged there.

9.—Russia has never possessed a seaport in Asia which is free from ice and open all the year round. If, therefore, there should suddenly arise military operations in the continent it will naturally be difficult for the Russian Eastern Seas and Pacific fleets to move about freely and at pleasure. As China is well aware of this, she is willing to lease temporarily to Russia the port of Kiaoshou [Chiaochow] in the province of Shantung, the period of such lease being limited to fifteen years. At the end of the period China shall buy all the barracks, godowns, machine shops, and docks built there by Russia [during her occupation of the said port]. But, should there be no danger of military operations, Russia shall not enter immediately into possession of the said port or hold the important points dominating the port, in order to obviate the chance of exciting jealousy and suspicions of other Powers. With reference to the amount of rent and the way it is to be paid, this shall form the subject of consideration in a protocol at some future date.

10.—As the Liaotung ports of Lushunk'ou [Port Arthur] and Talienwan and their dependencies are important strategical points, it shall be incumbent upon China to properly fortify them with all haste, and to repair all their fortifications, etc., in order to provide against future dangers; Russia shall therefore lend all necessary assistance in helping to protect these two ports and shall not permit any Foreign Power to encroach upon them. China, on her part, also binds herself never to cede them to another country; but, if in future the exigencies of the case require it and Russia should find herself suddenly involved in a war, China consents to allow Russia temporarily to concentrate her land and naval forces within the said ports in order the better to enable Russia to attack the enemy or to guard her own position.

11.—If, however, there be no dangers of military operations in which Russia is engaged China shall have entire control over the administration of the said ports of Lushunk'ou and Talienwan, nor shall Russia interfere in any way therein. But as regards the building of the railways in the Three Eastern Provinces and the exploitation and opening of the mines therein, they shall be permitted to be proceeded with immediately after the ratification of this Convention and at the pleasure of the people concerned therein. With reference to the civil and military officers of Russia and Russian merchants and traders travelling [in any part of the territories herein mentioned], wherever they shall go, they shall be given all the privileges of protection and facilities within the power of the local authorities, nor shall these officials be allowed to put obstructions in the way or delay the journeys of the Russian officers and subjects here mentioned.

12.—After this Convention shall have received the respective signatures of their Imperial Majes-

ties [the Emperors of China and of Russia], the articles included therein shall go into immediate force, and, with the exception of the clauses regarding Port Arthur, Talienwan, and Kiaochow, shall be notified to the various local authorities of the two Empires. As to the place for the exchange of ratifications, it shall be left to be decided at some future time, but the exchange shall take place within the space of six months.

It has, furthermore, been agreed upon between the respective Plenipotentiaries of the High Contracting Powers to make this Convention out in three languages, namely, Chinese, Russian, and French; one copy of each language to be held by the respective High Contracting Parties, after the signing and sealing thereof. And it has, furthermore, been shown, upon comparison, that the contents of the documents as given in the three languages aforesaid tally with each other in all respects; but in case of dispute in the future the wording of the French copy shall be deemed the correct version.

If the above be authentic, its importance can scarcely be over-rated. We refrain from comment, however, remembering that from the same source came the bogus "secret treaty" of last spring.

FORMOSA AFFAIRS.

The following letter, from "An Old Correspondent," appears in the *North China Daily News* of the 28th ult. :—

THE SPECIAL JUDICIAL COMMISSION

instituted to try all prisoners charged with participating in the late Hoonim outbreak, and which has been in session for the past eight weeks at Chang-hwa, concluded its labours on the 30th inst. There were altogether 421 persons arrested. Of these, however, only 72 were detained by the Public Prosecutor for further proceedings, and eventually of these only 58 were brought to trial, the remainder being released at once. Of these 58 but 14 were convicted and sentenced respectively as follows : 2 to death, 3 to imprisonment for life, 4 for eleven years, 1 for ten years, 2 for nine years, 1 for five years, and one for three years. As at present advised, this is supposed to include all the punishments it is proposed to mete out for the Hoonim-Taulak émeute.

THE PRESENT POSITION.

With reference to the present condition of affairs, there can be no doubt that the line of demarcation between those who are what may be called professional brigands, or rebels, and the people whom the former have forced to join them, either by their threats or other violent measures, is daily becoming more apparent. The Japanese have not been slow to take advantage of this favourable condition and are giving every encouragement to the lawfully-disposed to come back to their homes, and resume their former peaceful avocations. It is stated that several villages have thus become re-populated, and that the inhabitants have combined amongst themselves to offer their former rebellious comrades strenuous resistance, refusing to afford them supplies or any help whatever. As a result of this the main band of robbers has been broken up into small groups, or sections, and we hear that they are suffering considerably from the lack of provisions which the villagers on the plainlands decline to give them.

SUPPRESSION OF BRIGANDAGE.

From time to time as the calls of hunger become more pressing they make raids on the hamlets nearest to the hills where the robbers' strongholds are situated, and besides seizing what money or provisions they can get hold of, have taken to the old brigand device of carrying off one or two wealthy individuals whom they retain until ransomed by their friends. This latter, while it has intensified the terror of the people, has simultaneously set up and increased the bitterest feeling, and at present the greatest antagonism exists between these and their *ci-devant* associates. These villages are making constant applications to the government to have resident gendarmes and policemen stationed in their various hamlets. Many native volunteers also have come forward and are pressing the military either to allow them to enlist in the regular army or help them to form corps to be drilled and commanded by Japanese officers temporarily "seconded" for that purposes. I have not heard whether the authorities are going to accept either or any of these proposals, but there is one thing certain, and that is that a much more friendly state of feeling now exists between the Chinese and the conquerors, and that there would seem to be no likelihood of any further mistake being made between the innocent and the guilty on the part of the Japanese soldiery in as far as the plain-

land habitations, at any rate, are concerned. The Chief of the Formosa Home Department, who had been sent on, special mission from Taipei to Hoonim to see after the distribution of the Relief Fund granted by the Imperial Bounty and Government, has returned, reporting that most of the refugees have come back to their homes, and very gladly accepted the benevolent and substantial overtures with which they were met, and altogether it is hoped that in a comparatively short time matters will have assumed such a condition as may permit of life, in these regions, once more resuming that harmony which is no less essential for social than commercial prosperity.

19th October.

RECEPTION ON BOARD THE JAPANESE CABLE-STEAMER "OKINAWA MARU."

In response to invitations issued by Lieut.-General Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, and Director of the Formosa Telegraph Construction Section, a large party of officials and others, civil and military, including Baron Suzuki, Vice-Minister of Communications, and the Governor of Kanagawa, recently proceeded on board the *Okinawa Maru*. The guests were received on arrival on board by General Kodama, assisted by Captain Kataoka, the commander of the ship.

The *Okinawa Maru* is a handsome, roomy vessel, constructed with all the latest improvements, and classed 100 A1. at Lloyds. She is fitted with the most recent machinery and everything requisite for cable-laying, lifting, and repairing, and has three cable tanks of large carrying capacity.

The ship was built and fitted by Messrs. Lobnitz & Co., of Renfrew, Glasgow, under the immediate inspection of Captain A. R. Brown. We take the following details from the ship's Register :—

Length from bow to stern post.....	300 feet.
Breadth, moulded	40 feet.
Depth	21½ feet.
Tonnage under deck	1,938 tons.
Tonnage of deck house	99 tons.
Tonnage of Light and air spaces.....	71 tons.
Gross tonnage	2,108
Less Engine and Boiler space	922 tons.
Less Crew space	121 tons.
(Act 1894).....	24 tons.
	1,067

Nett Register tonnage 1,041

The *Okinawa Maru* is a twin screw steamer with triple expansion engines, which, with a steam pressure of 175 lbs., and a speed of 12 knots, show 2,300 indicated horse-power.

In addition to the cabin accommodation for the Captain, Officers, and Electrical staff which is all on deck, there are several roomy cabins comfortably fitted up, on either side of the saloon, which is a handsome room, neatly fitted and upholstered in dark brown morocco leather.

After the party had completely inspected the ship, and the various machinery connected with cable work, as also the engine room with all its details, they expressed unqualified satisfaction and appreciation of the vessel and everything belonging to her.

Full justice was done to an excellent cold collation which had been laid out in the Saloon during the inspection of the parts of the ship, and with the aid of several steam launches, the party landed and returned to Tokyo by rail.

The following particulars, taken from the *Electrical Review*, may interest our readers :—

A few months ago the Japanese Government, as represented by their Glasgow Consul (Mr. A. R. Brown), entrusted Messrs. Johnson & Phillips with the construction of a combined picking-up and paying out gear, together with outfit and stores, for their new submarine cable laying vessel, of which the following is a description :—

The gear is very compact, and has been constructed principally of steel, so as to combine strength with lightness, the weight, all told, being only about 21 tons.

Although specified to pick up under a strain of 23 tons at 175 lbs. pressure, the gear, on official

trial, showed itself equal to a much greater power. Compared with the gear by the same makers fitted on the *John Pender, Great Northern, Chiltern, Electra, Magneta, Recorder, Relay, Cita de Milano*, and many other steamers, it is equally powerful as the three first named, and twice as powerful as the others, while at the same time it is infinitely more compact and lighter than any that have gone before.

The gear stands on a strong steel girder bed on the main deck, and the drums, &c., project through a hatch in the spar deck, and this is fitted with covers, which form the driving platform from the machine. The gear has overhung drums, 6 feet 3 inches diameter X 2 feet 6 inches wide, internally geared, and running loose on a fixed shaft carried on two steel frames, and is arranged for four speeds. The motive power consists of one vertical compound engine, having cylinders 12 inches and 24 inches diameter, by 14-inch stroke, capable of developing 265 h.p., without the use of the condenser, in conjunction with which it will, however, generally be used. The engine is fitted with link motion reversing gear, and also with automatic bye-pass valve, for admitting high pressure steam to low pressure cylinder for starting. The crank-shaft is geared to the first motion shaft of the machine by means of double helical bevil gear. When it is desired to pay out without steam power, the only moving portion of the machine is the drum, which is readily controlled by the brake. To enable the drum to revolve independently of any other part of the gearing, provision had to be made for sliding the drum pinions out of gear, and as it was essential to keep the drums close up to the frames, these pinions have been arranged to draw through the frames. This has been effected in a very neat manner by the makers, two large holes being cut in the frame plates, and a large pocket casting fitting into these, carrying bearings each side of the frames, so that the pinions which gear into drums run between two bearings, the arms of the drum being set back to allow for this outer bearing, and this arrangement ensures a very substantial job. These pinions are put into and out of gear by means of a combination of handwheels, screws, and bellcrank levers. All wheels are arranged to draw out of gear when necessary, so that only the particular set required needs to be in gear.

The brake straps are of steel plate, fitted with elm blocks. The lower parts of the straps have large cast-iron eyes attached to them, and these are kept in position by means of a shaft 3½ inches diameter, which passes through both frames.

The braking power is applied by means of right and left-hand screws working in nuts attached to the upper parts of the straps, the screws being actuated by means of hand-wheels from the starting platform, and when the straps grip the brake drum the pull is transmitted to the machine frames (through the before-mentioned eyes and shaft), and thus to the deck of the vessel. A water service is provided for the brakes, the water being distributed by means of a small Worthington pump.

Each drum is provided with two "knives" for flensing the cable on the drums to suit either an inside or outside lead, as the case may be.

Bow Gear.—There are three sheaves at the bows 51 inches diameter by 11 inches wide, the two outer once being V-section and the middle one U-section. These sheaves are of steel, with gun-metal bushes, and they are arranged to run loose on a steel shaft fixed in blocks carried on four steel girders, which are built into the ship for a distance of several feet, being connected to the beams and to the steel deck, thus ensuring a very substantial job. Each sheave is provided with a cast-iron "whisker" or guard at each side to prevent the cable from coming off. The two outer whiskers carry davits with a cross-bar for convenience in launching mushrooms, grapnels, &c. The side plating of the ship is carried out to meet these castings, thus giving the bows a very neat appearance.

Stern Gear.—This has but one sheave, which is 38½ inches diameter by 11½ inches wide, and is fitted with gun-metal lines to run loose on a shaft fixed on blocks carried by rolled girders. These girders are attached to the deck by means of special castings, which also serve to secure the necessary stopper hoods.

The cable machine is placed just aft of the foremast, and between it and the bow sheaves are placed the two dynamometers (one for each drum) for the purpose of registering the strains that come upon the cables or grapnel ropes. To effect this, a set of leads consisting of A-frames and sheaves is placed at a certain distance on each side of the dynamometer, so that when a strain comes upon a cable or rope the moving part of the dynamometer is raised, the distance raised being the measure of the strain according to the weight of the moving part.

Dynamometers.—The dynamometers are of Messrs. Johnson and Phillips's improved design,

consisting of cast-iron foot-step with steel cylinders, on which a large cast-iron sleeve slides, and to this sleeve the sheave is attached, and also two side rods, which carry a cross-head some distance above. To the cross-head is attached a piston rod with piston, which works on the outside of the steel cylinder, which is filled with oil, and the piston being a loose fit, this acts as a dash pot to steady the movement. The top of the steel cylinder is, of course, fitted with a packed gland.

REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 17th October.

Last night the steamer *Isla de Luzon* anchored, bringing 1,900 more troops from Spain, making over 5,000 since the commencement of the rebellion. The troops were landed without their arms, and less display was fortunately observed on this occasion, the Governor-General having expressed a wish that no further triumphal arches be erected and that the troops be marched straight off to their respective barracks. This order gave great dissatisfaction in certain quarters, especially amongst the rowdy element in the Volunteers. The shopkeepers had also agreed not to close on this occasion, having already shown sufficient patriotism by closing and making a holiday on the occasion of each of the other landings, but at the last moment, fearing excesses on the part of the rowdy element, they were obliged to close, stopping all business for the rest of the day.

The *Comercio*, hitherto considered as one of our most serious and formal papers, in welcoming the new troops concludes as follows:—"Welcome to the two new battalions of Cazadores, to whom we send our most sincere and enthusiastic salute, in which is included our desire that when victory accompanies them, as most undoubtedly it will, the Catholic God will protect valour, chivalry, and patriotism, the fundamental principles and backbone of the glorious nation of which to-day and for ever we feel ourselves proud." Many good Catholics will probably ask "Who is the Catholic God?" it being hitherto accepted amongst Christians of every denomination that only one God is the father of all, by whatever road he is approached. The *Comercio*, however, wishes to have a special one of its own now.

One of the first acts of the Governor-General after returning from the Laguna district was to suspend all further military banquets as being very much out of place at the present moment, especially when speakers make themselves ridiculous by holding forth in speeches like that of Mr. Rafael Comenga, reported in my last advice. Consequently, the banquet organised by the naval officers to-night will not take place. The Press have also been forbidden to report such inflammatory speeches in future.

A native corporal with two soldiers carrying provisions was met a few days back in the Anloague Street by two of the new Spanish soldiers recently arrived, who turned round on the natives calling them traitors and other filthy epithets of which alone the Spanish language is capable. The plucky native corporal at once took up his rifle and with the butt end brought one of the Spaniards to the ground, who cried on all the saints in Heaven for mercy, whilst the other took to his heels by the nearest cut to barracks. Hearing the row, up came the police; the corporal explained how he had been insulted whilst on duty, but nevertheless they wanted to arrest him. The corporal in an instant slipped a cartridge in his rifle and pointing at the police told them to come on; he was on service and in the execution of his duty in a place where martial law had been established and the first man that moved a hand he would shoot down. This plucky behaviour of the native corporal so impressed the police that they too made themselves scarce, leaving corporal and soldiers to pursue their way in peace. This occurred in the public street. Imagine therefore what occurs privately inside barracks. It is a marvel how the native troops have remained so loyal from the treatment they receive. For instance, just now they are supposed to receive 20 cents a day pay, out

of which they have to find themselves in everything, yet I have it on undoubted authority from the soldiers themselves that they are only receiving 10 cents per day, the rest undoubtedly finding its way into the pockets of the officers.

Notwithstanding official reports to the contrary, the insurrection is spreading, and should the Spaniards meet with a reverse when Imus, the present stronghold of the insurgents, is attacked, a general rising may be looked for. The Spaniards themselves estimate fully 100,000 insurgents under arms in the provinces of Batangas and Cavite. The Spaniards claim a victory over them at a place called Nasagbu, in Batangas, the estate of the celebrated P. P. Roxas, stating that 124 rebels were killed and only two Spaniards, but this must be taken with a good deal of reserve. At the present moment a victory was necessary for political reasons, and Nasagbu being unfortified, and moreover on the coast and within reach of the gunboats it was signalled out for attack. Even if the victory is as said it no way alters the position of matters, but probably if one figure were taken off the rebel loss and added to the Spanish loss it would be nearer the exact truth.

A hopeful sign for the pacification of the islands is the departure for Spain of the Segundo Cabo or Lieutenant Governor, who leaves in the *Antonto Lopez*, sailing on 21st instant, officially announced in the papers as on sick leave, but in reality sent off under arrest by the Captain-General, who in this action has shown another excellent political move in the face of tremendous opposition and extreme unpopularity with a certain section of the community. This Segundo Cabo belongs to the Archbishop's party who are for wholesale slaughter and destruction regardless of the consequences, and is the man who in the very first encounter shot down right and left every native visible, even hauling them out of their homes and butchering them in cold blood, and who was also implicated in the tragedy of the "Black Hole" of Manila.

The Captain-General shortly after his return last week issued an order prohibiting the Volunteers from making arrests and confining their attention to sentry duty and the protection of Manila in case of attack. Such scandalous abuses were being committed by these bands of ruffians on the pretext of looking for suspected persons that it was high time their almost autocratic powers were cut short. It will not be surprising should the Captain-General dissolve them altogether (if they do not fall out themselves) when the next lot of troops arrive from Spain. Although there are some very respectable inhabitants in this Corps, by far the greater part of them are composed of loafers and itinerant Spaniards whose only object for enlisting was loot, and so far they have made hay while the sun shone, entering defenceless homes at night, violating women and children, arresting and even shooting the husbands on futile pretences, and laying their hands on everything they could get hold of. I know of one case where they heartlessly set fire to a house where two helpless old women were, burning them to death, in the suburb of Sampaloc.

The General prohibited the Volunteers mustering with arms to receive the last soldiers, as these continued triumphal ovations are becoming too much and interfering with trade and business unnecessarily, but egged on by the priests they turned up without arms and, mixed with a motley throng of priests and rowdies, preceded the troops through the streets, calling for cheers for the Segundo Cabo and Archbishop and ignoring the Governor-General. However, the latter need fear nothing; his strictly correct and impartial attitude only calls for praise from all decent people except fanatics, and history will do him justice. Certainly his clear head and calm judgment have saved the Spaniards all through the islands their heads. If the wholesale shooting and slaughtering had been attempted with so few troops here the country would have risen *en masse* and annihilated them.

To give an idea of what the Volunteers' intentions were, one of them was asked to kindly settle a long standing debt. His reply was that he had joined the Volunteers in order to be able to clear off his debts by what he could make.

The following order appears in the *Official Gazette of Manila*, 20th October, 1896:—

General Government of the Philippines, Political Section.

The grave events which have taken place in some of these provinces, by which ill advised crowds have taken up arms against our institutions, can now be considered as dominated, the insurrectional movement being now localized within a very small area.

Whilst those events were being fomented by acts of violence on the part of the seditious, it became necessary to adopt extreme and rigorous measures without taking into account justifications or other matters whatsoever which might hamper their rapid and energetic suppression, but taking in view that the insurrection is suffocated in almost all the provinces of Luzon, it has become necessary, for high political reasons and government, to change the system of correction, adopting in its place one more temperate and moderate and above all conciliatory. Only by such means can be obtained on the one side just and exemplary punishment, and on the other and much more important side the re-establishment of tranquillity in the towns, which amongst other things, they have lost for fear of ill judged punishments; that there may be initiated a movement of attraction towards the cause of our country on the part of those who might otherwise feel inclined to favour the rebellion with indifference or other motives.

"By virtue of this order you will therefore take most especial care not to order any imprisonments which are not thoroughly justified by some grave complication in the actual events or do not serve to investigate the cause of these. Furthermore, you will inculcate a feeling of security in the minds of your people that no unjustified oppression will be dictated, and that the policy of the Government is to give the utmost indulgence with respect to all those who, without having actively and gravely intervened in the rebellion, show a sincere repentance or a loyal adhesion, and finally you will put in practice every available means in your power in order that the villagers return to the normal life in every way and that the tranquillity and morale of which they are so much in need be established in them.

"God preserve you many years.

"BLANCO.

"Manila, 11th October, 1896.

"To the heads of Provinces and Districts and Military Commanders of the Flying Columns."

October 22nd.

News has come to hand of heavy fighting at Montalban, a town in Manila province about 12 miles north of the city, 1,000 insurgents attacked the town and drove off the garrison, taking possession of the barracks of the Civil Guard; these were subsequently reinforced by a column from San Mateo, but they were also driven off. Losses are not given; therefore it is supposed they are heavier than they care to admit.

ALPHA.

—Hongkong Daily Press.

THE MAILS FROM JAPAN.

The following letter appears in the *Manchester Guardian* of Oct. and:—

Sir,—The letters that left Yokohama by the steamship *Empress of China* on the 21st August last were only delivered in Manchester on the afternoon of the 22nd September, whereas I, a passenger by the *Empress of China*, arrived in Manchester on the night of the 18th September, although I stayed over one night at Toronto, spent six hours at Niagara, and remained three days in New York. I crossed the Atlantic by the steamship *Campania*, which sailed from New York on the 12th September; but had I travelled by the steamship *Teutonic*, that left New York on the 9th September, as some of my fellow-passengers by the *Empress of China* did, I should have reached Manchester by the 16th September—say twenty-six days from Yokohama.

The letters by the *Empress of China* reached Montreal soon after midnight of the 7th September, and of course could easily have come on by the steamship *Teutonic*. What became of them after leaving Montreal is, I think, a question that all merchants doing business with Japan have a right to ask. The delay is a reflection on the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company, and would seem to indicate a want of proper arrangements between them and the postal authorities. The Canadian Pacific Railroad route is a wonderfully speedy and extremely comfortable one for passengers from Japan, but the foregoing experience shows that letters are unaccountably, and it seems to me unnecessarily, delayed; and in this respect the San Francisco route would appear to be far ahead of the Vancouver one, in spite of the fact that nearly all the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's and the Occidental and Oriental Company's steamers now call at Honolulu homeward bound. My friends here tell me that similar delays occur in nearly every delivery of Japan mails via Vancouver, and, not only that, but that letters from Shanghai reach England five to six days ahead of those from Japan by the Canadian Pacific Company's steamers, the explanation of this being found in the fact that a bag is made up at the post-office in Shanghai marked "Via Vancouver and New York." The Japanese postal authorities, I understand, refuse to make up a bag so marked, contending that their duty is simply to mark all the mail-bags from Japan for European "Via Vancouver," leaving the responsibility

for their proper transmission after that on the shoulders of the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company. I hope the whole matter wants looking into, and I feel sure Sir, that you will earn the thanks of all concerned by taking it up and using the influence of your valuable paper to bring about a better state of thing.—Yours, &c.,

JAMES P. MOLLISON, of Messrs Mollison and Co., Yokohama, Japan.
54, Princess-street, Manchester, 29th September.

The *Manchester Guardian* comments on the above as follows:—

The considerable shortening of the time occupied in exchanging mail communications with Japan which has been effected since the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway makes it the more desirable, in the interest of all concerned, that the mail service by that route should be brought as near perfection as possible. A correspondent, whose letter we publish in another column, calls attention to delays which apparently occur at Montreal. He points out that had he himself come straight through without breaking his journey, he could, by travelling by way of New York from Montreal, have accomplished the whole journey from Yokohama to Manchester in the remarkably short space of twenty-six days. As the mails carried by the Canadian Pacific Railway to Montreal, were brought by the same vessel and train to Montreal as our correspondent travelled by, but did not arrive in Manchester until the afternoon of September 22, or thirty-two days after leaving Yokohama, there was apparently a delay of six days after the mail-bags reached Montreal. We hesitate to believe that a careful comparison of dates from some time past would prove, as our correspondent suggests, that the San Francisco route would, as a rule, prove quicker than the Vancouver route; but, pending the establishment of a quick Atlantic mail service direct from Canada, it seems desirable, in the interest of the Dominion and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, that every effort should be made to prevent delay at Montreal. The statements of our correspondent might well receive the attention of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

JAPANESE AND CALIFORNIAN TRADE.

Among the passengers by the last American mail for Japan, came Mr. W. R. Townsend, as Special Commissioner to this country from the San Francisco Bureau of Foreign Commerce, an organization closely connected with the Board of Trade, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Manufacturers' and Producers' Association. Mr. Townsend, who comes to Japan thoroughly well introduced, will remain here some considerable time before going on to China, and the scope of his mission is clearly indicated in the following extract from the *San Francisco Examiner*:—

About two months ago the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, and the Manufacturers' and Producers' Association, named a committee to consider ways and means for developing the foreign commerce of San Francisco. The committee consisted of William M. Bunker, W. L. Merry, Frank L. Brown, W. F. Bowers, J. A. Folger, Charles H. Haswell, Jr., M. P. Jones, Charles C. Nichols, A. L. Scott, H. A. Williams, Clinton E. Worden.

The committee organized itself into the San Francisco Bureau of Foreign Commerce, and elected William M. Bunker, Chairman, and W. L. Merry, Secretary, and then issued an address, consisting in part as follows:—

This is not a pioneer movement. On the contrary, all the leading commercial centres of the United States have promptly responded to the new demand for new fields, and are already sending representatives to China, Australia, and Central and South America. These commercial embassies have been favourably received and confident reports have been returned.

If San Francisco is to maintain its commercial rank and position among the great cities of the United States and meet the demands of foreign commerce, we must enlarge the boundaries of our trade and boldly face the keen competition in business. To accomplish these ends and purposes financial aid, the sinews of commerce as well as war, must be secured. It has been decided that a fund of \$15,000 be raised. The amount must be subscribed, subscriptions to be paid quarterly, the money to be disbursed by the committee working under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, and the Manufacturers' and Producers' Association.

Representatives are to be sent from this city to foreign ports, from which, in the judgment of the committee, the best results may be secured in the development and extension of our commerce.

After several meetings and after a searching inquiry into our foreign trade relations, the bureau decided to send a special representative to Japan, and selected as that representative W. R. Townsend. Mr. Townsend has had a wide, varied and successful commercial experience, and is admirably adapted for his mission to the Orient. He goes to Japan to inquire into the trade possibilities of that country, and will regularly report to the Bureau of Foreign Commerce, and his reports will be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, and the Manufacturers' and Producers' Association, in order that the members of these organizations may obtain the guiding information of which they stand in need.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE TACOMA MAIL SERVICE NUISANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As is well known for three or four times now in succession (not to go further back), mail matter *via* Tacoma has come straggling in from one to three weeks after that by the succeeding San Francisco steamer. For example, *Harper's Weekly*, of Sept. 12th, did not come to hand till after two later San Francisco mails had arrived. It would seem that the Post Office officials think only of the departure of the steamers and take no thought of the time of their probable arrival. Is there no way of abating this nuisance? It is becoming intolerable. G.

November 9th, 1896.

NOTHING NEW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—After Mr. Bryan had been nominated and was returning from his notorious Chicago convention with flying colours, it was said that his election as President of the United States was a foregone conclusion—because he represented the people and voiced the sentiments of the down-trodden labourers and the honest farmers; that, in short, the masses would vote for Bryan regardless of party lines, over against the classes, the capitalists and plutocrats, that represented but a small number of votes. Now that McKinley has been elected by a sweeping majority, what do we hear? Its old, old story of bribery and fraud. Even before the election had taken place, but seeing the pending defeat, one of your correspondents wrote:—"From the fact that it had seemed necessary to assess all the monopolies, combines, corporations, insurance companies, banks, trusts, and stock boards, in fact all the advocates of the gold standard to the extent of many millions, it would appear that the silver craze had assumed proportions that engendered alarm in the minds of the Republican campaign managers, alarm that decided them that arguments other and beyond what platform orators and a subsidised press could advance were needed to counteract the logic of silver advocates and Mr. Bryan's influence, so lightly considered by the *Japan Mail*."

In the above, your correspondent "X" says things that he must know are not true. To say that "all monopolies" &c., &c., and "all advocates of the Gold Standard" were assessed, is as false as it is senseless. There are silver "combines," "corporations" &c., who according to "X" were all assessed in order to "counteract the logic of Silver advocates." How else than by bribery can money counteract logic? There is nothing new or original in "X's" insinuation. It is the old calamity howl of defeated "sand lot agitators." We Americans understand this very well. The great mass of the American people—by which we mean the common people, including the labourers and the honest farmer with his "ten acres and a cow"—are known to be honest and cannot be bought. Moreover, it was not alone dishonest silver dollar propositions that turned them away from Bryan, but the anarchistic tendencies of the Chicago platform which Bryan defended, and in so doing "made votes" for McKinley. A distinguished Republican, when asked if he would not deliver several speeches, thought it was quite unnecessary since Mr. Bryan had delivered some very eloquent speeches in favour of McKinley. I hope, however, "X" will not insinuate that Bryan had also been bribed.

Yours, &c., HONEST DOLLAR.

Tokyo, November 6th, 1896.

JAPANESE WANT OF COURTESY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly afford me a short space in the columns your newspaper in order that I may mention of an injustice I have for some time been subjected to. I think it is well known that in Europe and America professional men are treated with courtesy while in the proper pursuit of their respective callings, although, so far, this custom seems to be otherwise in Japan. In following my vocation as an artist I have necessarily been forced to often go into various parts of the country. Any person painting scenes of this country would, no doubt, be obliged to do the same. But while on my way and in those parts engaged

quietly painting, I think it an almost unpardonable sin that Japanese should have been rude to me in any way, or have annoyed me, and the more so because this race is endowed with such high artistic qualities. Many times I have been obliged to deter from continuing a sketch, and frequently on my journeys and on the ground I have met with very uncivil treatment, although I have always paid the charges demanded, sometimes very high, been polite, and also been quite able to converse with the natives in their own language. In the most highly civilized countries of Europe artists maintain, I may say, almost undue privileges outside of the question as to simple politeness the profession being well looked upon. However, it appears to me as being extremely discourteous for Japanese to be any longer rude to a foreigner simply because he is such. Any like occurrence must be highly disconcerting. I think the authorities, who have power, might endeavour to put a stop to any rudeness coming from the people, for it is quite within their power to do so. Thanking you for the insertion of these lines,

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

E. W. BROOKE.

Yokohama, November 9th, 1896.

MIXED COINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your leading article in this day's paper contains the following statement:—

Suppose that a gold dollar and a silver dollar, each exchangeable for a lb. of tea, had been melted together and minted as one coin twenty-five years ago, and suppose that independent causes had not interfered in the interim to affect the price of tea, then the composite coin would to day purchase two lbs. of tea, just as it did a quarter of a century ago, for its gold part would be worth 1½ lbs. and its silver part worth ½ lb.

It is evident that you are speaking of the use of the supposed coin in Western communities, since you immediately after refer to what would be the case "when we pass to silver-using countries." Your selection of tea as the commodity for illustration might be mistaken by some readers, but for the assurance that you are not considering the state of things in the East. It may perhaps be more convenient to take a Western product, such as flour. Let us suppose that a gold dollar and a silver dollar, twenty-five years ago, were each worth a peck of flour. The gold dollar, by virtue of the gold of which it was made, purchased one peck. Do you mean to say that the same quantity of gold would now purchase one peck and a half? No such change of price has occurred, and certainly it would make no difference in the value of the gold, whether it stood alone or was combined with silver. I am at a loss to understand upon what theory you hold that a certain fixed amount of gold will buy more of any article now than it would a quarter of a century ago, assuming, as you do, that "independent causes had not interfered in the interim to affect the price" of the article. Nor can I discover any reason why two coins, gold and silver, melted together and re-stamped, should be supposed to possess different qualities of purchasing power from those of the same coins in their original form;—unless, indeed, a fixed ratio of gold and silver had been established and recognized. But if this were done, there would be no *raison d'être* of any kind for the mixed coin.

Yours truly,

E.H.H.

November 6th, 1896.

THE NARA SCHOOL TROUBLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your article on the Nara School trouble contains several erroneous statements which should not be left uncorrected.

1.—The Nara School was founded and is maintained by the American Episcopal Mission and not by the American Board.

2.—No Christian, or any other religious services, have ever been held in the School since its foundation in 1888, therefore when it was converted into a Middle School (Chu-Gakko) as far as any religious teaching was concerned no alterations whatsoever were made. The main aim of the School has been to give a pure and moral education to its students, and leave the question, a momentous question indeed, of the choice of a religion to their later and more mature consideration and decision. No coercion has ever been exercised and no allurements displayed. The causes for the dismissal of either a teacher or a student were purely moral, and were enforced always without any partiality on account of the religious creed of the offender. The moral conduct

of its students always has been a model, and all people of Yamato know this fact very well.

Mr. Kawamura endeavours to attribute the causes of the recent troubles and his dismissal to religious matters; but the truth is, the causes are financial and not religious; and his most bitter opponents are Japanese trustees—two of them not Christians—and not foreigners in charge of the spiritual work. As the writer of this letter was one of the three founders of the school—two others being Mr. Tamaki, President, and Mr. Ido, Treasurer—he knows the real causes of these unhappy occurrences since their beginning, that is since the coming of Kawamura. Soon after the school was turned into a Chu-Gakko and the number of students increased rapidly, Kawamura erroneously claimed the whole success for himself and began doing things which could not be tolerated. The first was the procuring from the Nara Ken the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Inspector of Rice-fields, with a salary of 15 yen attached to it. He used to be absent from the school for several days consecutively, on the plea that he was persuading the farmers to send their boys to our school, and instead of turning this money to the School exchequer, whence he received a salary of 65 yen per month, he pocketed the Government money. The writer had a consultation with Messrs. Tamaki and Ido about it, but we thought it best not to disturb matters now that the school was so successfully progressing. Last year (Oct. 4th) the writer went to America to solicit funds for a new building and other urgent purposes. Very soon, it seems, Kawamura took everything into his own hands, and usurped the offices of president and treasurer. Last summer, both Messrs. Ido and Tamaki, who had been the real founders of the school and liberally supported it from their own means, resigned. Mr. Ido wrote the writer of this letter a pathetic note, bitterly complaining against Kawamura, saying the school cannot last very long under such management. Mr. Ido did not write me at that time, but I heard afterwards that Kawamura had expended 900 yen of the school without consulting any of the trustees.

From the above facts it will be seen that the Nara school trouble is not a repetition of the Doshisha case. Here the struggle is between two men who founded the school in 1888 and have contributed immense time and labour and money towards its prosperity, and an irresponsible *parvenu* utterly mistaking the value of his services to the school or his ability as an educator, who has tried by sheer rowdiness to overawe those two noble men who have valiantly withstood his destruction-begging despotism. The writer who cherishes towards that school intense love, and its present troubles cause him unbearable pain and anguish of the spirit, sympathises fully and unequivocally on the side of Messrs. Ido and Tamaki, and thinks Kawamura's conduct since his connection with the school utterly undeserving of the sympathy of a just man.

ISAAC DOOMAN.

November 12th, 1896.

[Our account of the affair was avowedly taken from vernacular newspapers, and our comments were based on the information furnished by them.—*Ed., 7 M.*]

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The annual meeting of subscribers to the Yokohama General Hospital took place at the Chamber of Commerce building on Thursday. There were present, Mr. A. O. Gay, Chairman, Rev. E. C. Irvine, Messrs. J. H. Brooke and A. J. Wilkin.

The Chairman presented the following report:—

The last annual meeting was held on November 6th, 1895. The accounts for the year ending September 30th, are now submitted, showing a balance of cash on hand at that time of \$1,024.70. The receipts were larger than for the previous year, owing to the liberal subscriptions, while the expenses have been less, as in the absence of earthquakes and damaging storms there were no important repairs to make.

On the 6th of April a general meeting took place to consider Dr. Mécure's proposal to erect new hospital buildings upon condition of holding the premises for fifteen years. After some discussion, Dr. Mécure's proposition was adopted by a very large vote.

An agreement was then made and signed by the Committee and Dr. Mécure in terms of the understanding. Work was commenced immediately by removing the old main building and a new one has since been erected in its place, which was ready for occupancy on the 29th of September. A new kitchen has since been added, the old one being taken away and other buildings are still in process of being removed.

The hospital, built on the plans submitted at the meeting held in April, affords better and more convenient accommodation than the previous one did even in its better days, and Dr. Mécure deserves great credit for what he has thus far accomplished.

Further improvements are yet to be made. A face wall of stone is to be placed along the front, on the main road, and also on the street on the East side of the lot; this street to be made three feet wider than it is now as it can be done without inconvenience or damage to the property, while it will give easier access to the main gateway which will be on that side.

A separate building is to be erected to accommodate a few female patients to meet a requirement which is often felt.

When all the work in contemplation is completed the community of Yokohama will be better provided with hospital accommodation than it has been heretofore.

Doctor Neil Gordon Munro is associated with Dr. Mécure in the care of the sick.

Resident physicians are now at liberty to take their patients

to the hospital and attend them there upon reasonable terms for accommodation for such patients.

November 22nd, 1896.

SETTLEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM OCT. 1ST TO SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1896.

To Balance from last account	\$ 83.95
To Subscriptions collected	8,055.00
To Receipts at the Infectious Wards	347.50
To Interest on Bank account	9.30
	\$2,495.75

DISBURSEMENTS.

By paid for Charity patients sent to the General Hospital	535.00
By paid for medicines for outside patients	16.85
By paid for advertising meetings	18.00
By paid for F. G. Woodruff for collecting Subscriptions	25.00
By paid for T. H. Box for recording agreement with Dr. Mécure	20.00
By paid for a Stamp	78
	999.60

INFECTIOUS DISEASE WARDS.

By paid Caretaker, Wages account, and Bundry expenses	667.98
By paid for medicines	49.40
By paid C. M. Smith's funeral expenses	65.00
By paid fire insurance premium	37.61
By paid Drs. Wheeler and Eldridge's fees	80.00
	874.99

By Balance to new account	1,470.51
	1,024.70

E. & O. E.

Audited by O. Kait and J. T. GRIFFIN.

A. O. GAY, Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, November and, 1896.

THE DEATH OF MR. W. R. H. CAREW.

FIFTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS—VERDICT.

Proceedings were resumed at 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon in the British Court before J. Carey Hall, Esq., Coroner, and a Jury, in the inquest into the death of Mr. W. R. H. Carew, who died on the 22nd ult. at the British Naval Hospital.

The Coroner stated, on the Court resuming, that the police had reported, that although their search may not have been exhaustive, they could find no traces whatever of any white arsenic being sold to foreigners last month.

Evidence was then lead.

Yamada Masakichi, cautioned, deposed—I am in the employ of Maruya's.

Do you recognise the lady (Mrs. Carew) standing by my side?—I do not recognise her.

Have you brought the books of Maruya's with you, the day book?—I have not.

Can you tell me from your recollection whether anything was bought at your shop by Mrs. Carew on the 17th October last?—I do not recollect.

Do you recollect if anything, and if so what, was purchased on the account of Mr. and Mrs. Carew on the 18th of last month?—I did not sell anything myself, some other person may have sold it.

Mr. Lowder said he should like to have the first assistant of Maruya's that had appeared recalled to produce his books, because we have had it in evidence that Mr. Carew once sent there for some medicine, while Mrs. Carew was absent from the house, and I should like to know what that medicine was.

The Coroner—I told Maruya that they would be required to attend to-day.

Mr. Lowder—It is of paramount importance that I should get answers to these questions.

The Coroner—What questions?

Mr. Lowder—Whether, on the 17th October, Mrs. Carew went to Maruya's and purchased anti-pyrene, and what medicines were supplied on the 18th, when, during Mrs. Carew's temporary absence, Mr. Carew gave the *amah* an order to send down to Maruya's.

The Coroner—Of course I shall consider any application for adjournment if you think it necessary to obtain this evidence, but I may as well remind you that the first witness from Maruya's when asked if he could identify Mrs. Carew as the lady who called and purchased the poison on the 17th, said he thought it might be her, he thought it might probably be her, but he could not identify her. That answers your first question.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, but the other one is, whether, on the 18th, they sold anything, and if so what, to Mr. Carew, that Sunday, when he sent the order for something through the Eurasian *amah*. This was while Mrs. Carew was absent at Church. I want to know what that something was?

The Coroner referred to the notes of evidence and said that Maruya's boy had said—I do not know that lady, I did not sell any anti-pyrene on the 17th as I was not present.

Mr. Lowder—I am not referring to the 17th, but to the 18th October.

The Coroner—Well, if the evidence is necessary we will have the shopman called.

The shopman was accordingly called for over the telephone, meanwhile

Mr. Edward Owen, of the P. & O. Company,

was sworn. He said—I am employed in the office of the P. & O. Company at Yokohama. I remember the deceased, Mr. Carew, coming into my office on the 13th October last. I was well acquainted with deceased. This was about half-past two in the afternoon.

What did he say to you?—He asked me whether a lady had come into the office on that day. He described her as being tall, and wearing a veil. He said she was dressed in a dark dress. I told him that no such lady had been in the office. Mr. Carew described the lady as being fair.

What occurred after that?—He told me that she had been seen outside the office gates by Mrs. Carew.

And then?—Then he told me that he had received two cards, the first card he said had initials on it—I don't remember what the initials were. The second card also had initials on it, with 1888 on it.

Printed or written?—Written.

Yes?—He said that he had received the first and the second, and the second gave him a clue to this person.

He came in search of this person?—Yes.

Did he produce the card?—No, he tried to find it in his pocket, but could not find it. He told me that these cards were from a lady who had been at his house and asked to see him. He said that he was not at home at the time, and she saw Mrs. Carew who told her that her husband was out, and that she would tell him about the visit.

Did he add anything?—He was greatly mystified as to who this person could be, and told me that he thought it was possibly the lady to whom he had been engaged in England.

Engaged to be married?—Yes.

Did he search any passenger lists in your office?—No.

Mr. Trafford—In the course of your duties, after this conversation which you have referred to, did you book a passage for a lady resembling the lady who was described to you?—I have no recollection of having done so.

Mr. Litchfield—Do you remember any such lady arriving before that date?—No, I do not recollect.

Mr. Lowder—I wish to ask Mrs. Carew one or two questions more.

The Coroner—Very good.

Mr. Lowder—You wish to supplement the evidence you have already given?—I do.

With reference to the letter which you received on the 19th October—which I called a patchwork the other day—you wish to make a statement?—I do.

Will you give your reason?—Because since the letter passed from my possession into your hands, and since reading the report that has been printed in the papers, I have been able to identify the chit as one written by Mr. Carew to myself, and which was received by me on the 15th October. Early on the morning of the 15th, I wrote to Dr. Wheeler to the effect that I wished him to call at the office and see Mr. Carew, because Mr. Carew himself had declined to speak to Dr. Wheeler about his illness. About 10 o'clock that morning, I wrote to Mr. Carew, and a messenger brought back this chit, which should read as follows:—

Dearest Edith—Many thanks for your chit. I am feeling a little better, but still very seedy. Many thanks for sending old Wheeler. He came to my office and talked a lot of rot about my being on the verge of jaundice and knocked me off all drink except Vichy Water, a dozen of which I have ordered to be sent to the house. I have offered \$13,000 down for the house.

Witness—I cannot recollect now the words of the following sentence, but the last one should be Fearfully busy over the lotteries.

Witness—I tore the chit up after reading it and put it in my waste paper basket. On the 19th I received this piece of paper in this condition, and in this envelope. At that time, and as I had received a letter from Mr. Carew addressed to Miss Annie Luke in an envelope written in the same hand-writing as the one now produced, I jumped to the conclusion, that this letter was sent to me with the same object as the first one sent, to cause jealousy. In the state in which it was then received it did not produce any impression in my mind, as I had not remembered or in any way connected it with the chit sent to me on the 15th. Who took the pieces from the basket and who sent them to me, I have no idea.

Will you state what brought to your mind the fact that you had been under a misapprehension in regard to this letter, and when?—It was yesterday; the letter had been in Mr. Lowder's possession for some days, and until I saw it more clearly produced in the newspaper, I never recognised what I now know to be a fact that I received that letter myself.

Mr. George Kircher, Usher of the Court, was then sworn. He deposed, in answer to the Coroner—I received instructions from you on the 3rd

inst. to make every enquiry as to the whereabouts of Annie Luke. I made these enquiries and could find no trace of her whereabouts, nor could I find anybody who knew her, or had seen her.

Mr. Rose—Would it not be as well to call in an expert to consider the handwriting of these letters?

The Coroner—If the jury consider it necessary, but I would suggest that it is a point that had better be postponed until another occasion.

Mr. Trafford—Don't you think, sir, that that is a point that should be left to the jury itself?

The Coroner—I think so too. You can all examine the letters. You are all acquainted with different handwritings, being practical business men, but for my own part I am of opinion that for the purposes of your decision in this case, these letters have but a remote bearing on the case.

Mr. Rose—My own impression was that an expert would have to be called in; that it was indispensable in the decision of the case.

The Coroner—I am ready to abide by the decision of the majority of the jury in the matter. If, after making careful examination of them you think it necessary, then I will adjourn the inquiry for such testimony to be obtained. I would ask you, Mr. Rose, to examine the first letter and the last. The first professes to have come from the person known as Annie Luke, and the other is dated the 29th, and is in the same handwriting as the two letters received by Mr. Lowder and myself. From examining those two letters you ought to be able to form a good opinion whether those two letters were from the same hand. I also remind you that there is no more relation between the envelope and the letter it contains than there is between a bottle and the cork with which it is stoppered.

Mr. Rose (after examining the papers and letters)—I do not press for an expert.

Mr. Lowder—I would remind that jurymen that in addition to examining the first and last letter, he must also examine them all, in order to see whether they have been written by the same hand.

The Coroner—It is my wish that he should do so. My Blundell—My intention was to ask for all the letters at the end of the enquiry.

The Coroner—The witness from Maruya's has not yet come: is the evidence regarding the 18th of importance to your case.

Mr. Lowder—In my opinion it is very important.

The Coroner—Very well. I should be sorry to exclude one jot or tittle of evidence that may be of benefit to your client.

Mr. Lowder—Your honour just observed that there was no more relation between an envelope and the contents, or paper that it contained, than there is between a bottle and its cork. I agree with you in the abstract, but I think in justice to my client I should remind the jury that Mrs. Carew has sworn on her oath as to these envelopes and their contents.

The Coroner—Quite so. Although, gentlemen of the jury, there is no necessary connection between an envelope and the letter or paper that it contains, you have it before you on the oath of the witness, namely, Mrs. Carew, that these particular letters were inside the particular envelopes that have been shown you; and it is my bounden duty to give due weight to whatever Mrs. Carew has said about those letters and their envelopes.

Mr. Lowder—Thank you.

The Coroner—Now, gentlemen of the jury, after you have taken sufficient time, I will be guided by the majority as to the advisability of calling in an expert to judge upon the handwriting of those letters.

Mr. Trafford—Who would you call in this case? The Coroner—That I would leave to the jury. There are five letters upon which you can form an unbiased judgment, and if you consider their writing as doubtful, I will adjourn the inquest and call in an expert.

Mr. Lowder—The Jury should also examine the envelope in which the first letter came.

The Coroner—Thank you. Quite so; then there are six exhibits for you, gentlemen, to examine.

Hayashi, now recalled, said—I have brought a book with me.

Can you tell me if, on the 17th October, Mrs. Carew purchased some anti-pyrene at your shop?—I did not see it.

Will you look up your book?—There is no entry in the book on that date.

Is there any entry against the name of Carew on the 18th?—This is a cash-book, and there is no name in it.

But I am not saying that these things were paid for?—No names are written in this book; it is a cash-book, but the name may be in another book.—(Laughter.)

Well, will you tell us if, on the 24th, any money was paid on behalf of the Carew family?—There is an entry of money being paid for a bed-pan,

85 cents; after that is, Fowler's Solution of Arsenic, 25 cents.

And after that, is there any mention of chlorodyne?—There is not.

Mr. Lowder—Evidently the book that I require has not been brought; and I will not detain the court any longer.

Witness, to Mr. Trafford—I was in the shop on the 19th.

Mr. Trafford, to the interpreter—Does he remember any lady purchasing Fowler's Solution on that day?—As I gave in my evidence on the former occasion, I sold a poison to a lady then.

There were no further witnesses present and the taking of evidence concluded.

The Coroner—Now, gentlemen of the jury, I am prepared to take your opinion regarding the advisability of calling in an expert for passing judgment upon the letters. Those of you who are of opinion that such a course is advisable and desire an expert to be called, will please hold up your hands.

Mr. Rose, alone of the five jurymen, held up his hand.

The Coroner—There is thus a majority of four against one. If the point had been important I should have felt inclined to even accede to the wishes of the one, but as in my opinion these letters have such a remote bearing upon the case, and it is in the interests of all, most especially of Mrs. Carew, that this enquiry, which has already been so unduly prolonged, should be finished, I accede to the wish of the majority. This has been a very difficult and complicated case, and I have been very much impressed with the great care and attention that you have displayed, gentlemen of the jury, all through the case. The question now is, are you ready to consider your verdict, or would you like an adjournment in order to look over the evidence, to consider it more carefully and at length. If you are prepared to go on with the case to-night I am willing to co-operate with you and proceed to sum up. Are you prepared to go on, or would you like an interval to further consider the evidence? Those of you who are prepared will please signify the same by holding up your hands.

Mr. Trafford—If you, sir, are prepared to go on, I think we are.

The Coroner—Is that the opinion of you all? The Jury gave a general consent.

The Coroner—Well, gentlemen, then I will proceed to sum up. This is an important and difficult case, and I am much pleased with the care and intelligence with which you, gentlemen of the jury, have followed the evidence. You will remember that when this enquiry was opened on the Saturday, three medical men had been examined in the forenoon at the Royal Naval Hospital, they were Dr. Wheeler, the deceased's medical attendant, and the two doctors at the Naval Hospital who had conducted the *post mortem* examination. The result of the evidence given by the three medical men was to make clear the fact that the deceased had not died from natural causes. The facts then given made it essential that an expert should be called in to make a chemical and analytical examination of the contents of the viscera of the deceased gentleman, and this examination you ordered me to have carried out. I at once placed the matter in the hands of Dr. Divers, of Tokyo. In the afternoon of that day three other witnesses were examined. They were Miss Jacobs, the nursery governess of Mrs. Carew's; Mr. Porch, Mrs. Carew's brother; and Mrs. Carew herself. The evidence given that afternoon all tended to show that medicine, that arsenic, had been procured from Maruya's by Mrs. Carew's orders. The testimony of Miss Jacobs on this point was clear and unshaken in the brief cross-examination to which she was subjected. Her demeanour was that of an unwilling but truthful witness; and her evidence on every material point remains unshaken. The evidence also pointed to the fact that throughout the week or eight days illness of deceased, his wife, Mrs. Carew, was in sole charge of the nursing by day as well as by night, and received no assistance in the nursing; and that on her own admission she knew that her husband was taking arsenic, yet never considered it of sufficient importance to call her husband's medical attendant's attention to the fact. Gentlemen, you will perceive the gravity of that admission supposing it was afterwards proven that death did result from the arsenic that had been taken. We come now to the second day of the inquest, when other evidence was given, namely the keystone of the whole case—Dr. Divers' evidence. It is hardly necessary for me to read over the clear, and explicit, and forcible terms in which Dr. Divers showed to your satisfaction—must have convinced you—that death resulted from arsenical poisoning. That simplified your duty very much, because it reduces the issue to practically one point, namely who administered the arsenic? Now there are two

possible suppositions at least: one that the deceased administered the arsenic himself: the other that it was administered or was given to him by some one else. If he himself took the fatal dose he must have done so intentionally or unintentionally. If in the first case, it would be a case of suicide, if not, then death would have been due to misadventure. Now for the supposition that he deliberately committed suicide by taking arsenic: there is hardly a jot or tittle of evidence to support it. The supposition, I think, may be safely dismissed. The explanation which Mrs. Carew's evidence on the first day was calculated to suggest, was that the deceased, being in the habit of taking arsenic—of medicinally dosing himself with arsenic—and having in spite of her remonstrances insisted on being supplied with it; and she having found the bottle which she had given to him sealed in paper—the inference intended to be drawn was that he had overdosed himself and had died from the effects of that overdose. Now, with regard to that supposition, Dr. Divers gave some very clear and convincing evidence. From the state of the viscera and the scientific conclusions he drew, he considered it decidedly and distinctly improbable that deceased had himself administered the arsenic from which he died. Arsenic, he showed, was not a cumulative medicine—that is, it is not a medicine which, if taken in small medicinal doses, remains in the system and at last produces the effects of a poisonous dose—that it goes on accumulating until it becomes fatal. On the contrary, arsenic is a medicine that is soon passed through the body and is quickly eliminated from the system. The evidence of the viscera indicated clearly to Dr. Divers that not one dose but a repetition of doses had been given to the deceased. Then, against the supposition that the deceased overdosed himself, was the fact of the great difference in the medicinal and a fatal dose of arsenic—a proportion of 1 to 30. That is, a man accustomed to take arsenic medicinally would have to give himself a dose thirty times the size of the medicinal dose to produce death. An attempt was made to shake Dr. Divers' evidence by cross-examination on that point with regard to the tolerance of arsenic by persons habituated to the use of it; but it seems to me that his evidence was quite unshaken on that point. He laid it down that the idea of a 2 grain dose having been taken by a Western stomach and tolerated was unknown to science. The case of the Stryian peasants was exceptional and by itself; and the evidence seems to negative the supposition that the deceased administered arsenic to himself either intentionally or unintentionally. Then if he did not administer it himself some other hand must have given him the poison. Who can that be? Naturally and inevitably, suspicion will fall on the nurse, upon his wife, Mrs. Carew, who was in sole charge of his nursing, without any assistance, except sending up occasionally a drink of milk, or beef-tea, or something by one or other of the servants. Now, if it was not Mrs. Carew, it may have been someone outside, and that introduces the mention of Annie Luke. The case which the able Counsel for Mrs. Carew has been endeavouring to make out, I take to be this: that on or about the 10th October last, a woman named Annie Luke, with whom Mr. Carew, had previous relations in England or elsewhere, came to Yokohama, and during the course of Mr. Carew's illness, in an interval in which Mrs. Carew was not at the bedside of her husband, found entrance to the deceased's room and administered the poison. If that is not the implication, then I fail to see what the object of all this evidence as to Annie Luke can be. Now, gentlemen, Annie Luke has been seen, according to the testimony of Mrs. Carew on the day of the regatta, the 10th of October. Mrs. Carew swears that a woman, dressed in black, and wearing a veil, called, desiring to see Mr. Carew, and finding that he was not at home she made an appointment for 4.30 that afternoon, and stated that if she did not come then she would come next morning. She did not keep that appointment. That is the sole clear statement as to the appearance in the flesh of Annie Luke. No doubt the *amah* testified that on one occasion during Mrs. Carew's absence from her husband's bedside, a woman called and enquired after Mr. Carew and asked where his bedroom was. She could give us no particulars as it was dark. That may have been Annie Luke, or it may have been a neighbour coming kindly to enquire. What is certain is that Mrs. Carew mentioned about a woman in black on the 10th. This woman, who is called Annie Luke, comes if not into appearance, into hearing, on the 10th, and she disappears and as mysteriously as she appeared, on the 29th after writing a couple of letters—one to Mr. Lowder and one to myself. The most diligent search to find any evi-

dence of her corporeal presence; where she stayed or of her whereabouts during her twenty days' stay in Yokohama, has been ineffectual. Gentlemen, I take upon myself the responsibility of saying that, in considering your verdict, you need not complicate your minds much as to the share which such a person as Annie Luke may have taken in this tragedy. It remains then for you to consider the evidence of Mrs. Carew herself. She admits that on the 20th—after at first denying it—that she sent an order to Maruya's for a bed-pan and a bottle of Fowler's Solution. She does not deny the fact testified by Miss Jacobs, that on the 21st she procured another ounce bottle from Maruya's. Her own handwriting is in evidence to show you that on the 17th and 21st she likewise procured half ounce bottles from Schedel of the Normal Dispensary. In her first evidence she admits having given the arsenic to her husband sealed up in paper. She denies, of course, even having administered arsenic to him as a medicine during his illness. It will be for you, gentlemen, to consider the possibilities of the case. In coming to a conclusion as to the cause of Mr. Carew's death, as to how it was he was poisoned by arsenic, you will consider these various theories—the theory of suicide, intentional or by misadventure, and the theory of homicide by Annie Luke or by Mrs. Carew. It will be your duty, gentlemen—I lay it down as a simple canon of sound reasoning upon this as upon other subjects—to choose the hypothesis to form that conclusion which at the same time is the simplest of all and which fully accounts for all the known facts of the case. The salient facts of the case I may recall briefly in applying that canon of reasoning. Mr. and Mrs. Carew were married in 1889—seven years ago. They lived on happy terms of conjugal affection till quite recently, when by Mrs. Carew's own confession unpleasant discussions arose on a certain point. That point was money matters. In July last—but I had better read Mrs. Carew's evidence as supplying, or assuming to supply what her Counsel, Mr. Lowder, considered was wanting, namely an explicable motive. [The Coroner here read extracts relating to the monetary discussions, relative to the remittances from England; Mrs. Carew's half-yearly allowances and private means.] Resuming, he said—The unpleasant discussions arose in July last. The 10th of last month was regatta day, a very inclement, rainy day, as some of you may remember. On that day two contemporaneous facts make their appearance in the story. One is the mentioning by Mrs. Carew at the Boat-house to her husband, in the presence of other people, of a certain mysterious lady in black, who was afterwards fully particularised as Annie Luke. The second important fact on that day was the obtaining by Mrs. Carew from Dr. Wheeler of an order for arsenic for her own malarial fever. On the 11th October, Mrs. Carew procures from the Normal Dispensary, on that prescription of Dr. Wheeler's a half-ounce bottle of arsenic; on the 15th of October, four days afterwards, Mr. Carew is confined to his house, not to leave it again, except after a week's interval to die. On the 17th, two days afterward, Mrs. Carew procures a second half ounce bottle of arsenic from the Normal Dispensary. On the 19th, Mr. Carew's illness increases in gravity, the symptoms increase in seriousness. On the 19th a bottle is procured from Maruya's for Mrs. Carew by a person whom Maruya's shopman, Hayashi Shichihiro, could not distinctly identify as Mrs. Carew, and who signed the name "Mrs. Carew." The same person called on the 20th and paid for the medicines and obtained the writing on which she had written them on the 19th. On the 20th, the day following, another ounce bottle of arsenic is procured on Mrs. Carew's written order, by Mrs. Carew's own messenger, Miss Jacobs; and likewise on the day preceding his death a third half-ounce bottle was procured from the Normal Dispensary. On the following day, at five o'clock, Mr. Carew died. Those are the main facts upon which you are to draw your own intelligent inferences in order to bring in your verdict. If you reject the supposition of suicide or death by misadventure, if you reject the story of Annie Luke as largely imaginary, suppositional, impalpable, intangible, and unverifiable, you are necessarily driven to the conclusion that arsenic must in some way have been administered by Mrs. Carew. If you come to the conclusion—if the evidence seems to point—that Mrs. Carew's hand was the hand that administered the poison, you are bound by your duty and your oath to find out and determine in your own minds whether it was administered with intent to kill. That is to say your verdict must either be manslaughter—that is to say culpable negligence—or it must be wilful murder. On the side of the negligence there are these considerations to be taken into account. Mr. Carew had, I believe, undoubtedly

taken arsenic medicinally. That was explicitly testified to by Mrs. Carew herself, who said it was prescribed by a doctor in the Straits Settlements, Dr. Simons, and that she administered arsenic herself to him medicinally, so that both Mr. and Mrs. Carew were not unacquainted with the previous administration of arsenic. In support of the statement that he had previously taken arsenic medicinally, we have the testimony of Mr. Dickinson, who declares that some years ago, at Dzushi, Mr. Carew told him that some years previously in the Straits Settlements, he had nearly killed himself by an overdose of arsenic. Then there is the statement of Dr. Munro that the impression was made on his mind that Mr. Carew on one occasion told him that he took arsenic. If you think that this previous administration, or previous taking, of arsenic by Mr. Carew was sufficient to relieve Mrs. Carew from due vigilance during her nursing mission at her husband's bedside, you may come to the conclusion that there was an absence of intent to kill. But while I present these two considerations of the favourable side of the case, it is also my duty to put to you the facts that seem to point in an opposite direction, the facts that seem to point to intention on the part of Mrs. Carew. These are, first of all, the nature of the poison employed. Arsenic, as Dr. Divers told us, is colourless, tasteless, odourless, and very hard to detect by the person to whom it is administered. It is a poison that is and has been frequently chosen for the purpose of poisoning persons. Another fact that seems to indicate intention is the frequency with which the doses of arsenic were procured—no less than six separate times between the 11th and 21st. The third indication that seems to imply intention on the part of whoever administered the arsenic, is the presence of sugar of lead in the intestines of the deceased. It has not even been suggested that the deceased ever administered sugar of lead to himself, and Dr. Divers has explained to you that the fact of sugar of lead having been administered concurrently with arsenic, would be to stop the hæmorrhage, the bleeding of the intestines, which arsenic tends to produce. These are three indications. There is a fourth indication. That is the fact of Mrs. Carew's reticence—silence, her complete silence on the subject of the arsenic being taken to the deceased's medical attendant during those days of his illness and suffering. Gentlemen of the jury, you will now consider your verdict.

The jury retired and were absent just one hour and twenty-five minutes. They left the Court while the room was still illumined by the last rays of the afternoon sun. On their return they found the Court room shrouded in pitchy darkness save for one or two points of light at the reporters' desk and the barrister's table, where some candles had been placed. The room was crowded to the fullest extent.

The Coroner—Gentlemen of the jury, are you agreed upon your verdict?

Mr. Blandell (the foreman)—We have agreed. Our verdict is as follows:—"We find that Walter Raymond Hollowell Carew died on the 22nd of October, 1896, at the Royal Naval Hospital, Yokohama, from the effects of arsenic, but by whom this poison was administered there is no direct evidence to show."

The Coroner—Your verdict, gentlemen of the jury, is an open verdict.

The jury having attached their signatures (with the necessary red wafers) to the verdict,

The Coroner said—Gentlemen, you are thanked and discharged.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before JAMES TROUP, Esq., Assistant-Judge.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 11th.

ARREST OF MRS. CAREW.

At 11.15 o'clock this morning the Court convened in accordance with summons. There were present Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor; Messrs. J. F. Lowder and A. B. Walford, barristers-at-law; Messrs. R. D. Robison and J. D. Hutchison, and Mrs. Carew.

The Usher read out the formal announcement: Mr. Chas. Henry Litchfield, Her Britannic Majesty's Crown Prosecutor for Japan *versus* Edith May Carew: charge, murder.

On His Honour taking his seat on the Bench, Mr. Litchfield said—I appear under instructions from Her Majesty's Government to ask for the arrest of Mrs. Edith May Carew for the murder of her husband. I have laid before your Honour this morning a deposition sworn to on oath which you doubtless have now before you.

His Honour—Just one moment Mr. Litchfield. Mr. Lowder—I appear, in company with my learned friend Mr. Walford, for the defence.

His Honour—Have you seen the summons, Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, I have seen it.

His Honour—There is a mistake in your client's name, is there not? It is incorrect I believe, what should it be?

Mrs. Carew—Hallowell.

Mr. Lowder—The name of my client is incorrect as it appears in the summons. The name Hallowell should be inserted after the word May.

His Honour—Quite so, then I purpose to amend the summons by inserting the name in that manner.

Mr. Litchfield (resuming)—I have nothing further to ask this morning than to make an application for a remand until to-morrow, and for the issue of subpoenas for the presence in Court of certain witnesses to give evidence on the matter in question.

His Honour—Mr. Litchfield has applied for a remand until to-morrow morning and the issue of subpoenas for certain witnesses; have you, Mr. Lowder, anything to say to that?

Mr. Lowder—Of course I cannot oppose the application, but I ask for time in which to make an application to the Judge whether bail will be accepted, with which I am prepared.

His Honour—Such an application is generally made in Chambers. The Judge, I understand, is in attendance, and I will adjourn the proceedings for a short time in order to allow of your making your application to him. Till then there is a short remand—till you have had time to apply.

Mr. Lowder—As your Honour pleases.

Mr. Lowder and Mr. Litchfield then left the Court for the Judge's Chambers, the rest of the parties remaining in Court. At a quarter to twelve o'clock proceedings were resumed.

His Honour—It having been certified to me by the Judge that bail shall be accepted, in addition to accused herself, in two responsible sureties, nothing remains to be done this morning than to fix the time or duration of adjournment. Have you, Mr. Lowder, those two responsible sureties present?

Mr. Lowder—I now tender as sureties Mr. J. D. Hutchison and Mr. R. D. Robison as substantial British merchants residing in Yokohama.

His Honour—The Court is satisfied with the sureties offered. The Clerk of the Court will make out the bonds and see that they are executed in due form. You applied, Mr. Litchfield, for a remand, for what length of time?

Mr. Litchfield—Till to-morrow morning at half-past ten.

His Honour—Would not to suit better?

Mr. Litchfield—I am quite willing.

His Honour—I wish to consult the convenience of all parties, and I think to o'clock will give us a longer day.

Mr. Litchfield—Very well.

His Honour—Then Mr. Hutchison and Mr. Robison will now enter into the bonds before the proper officer of the Court. The Court is adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

An application made by the Press as to the amount of the bail, met with the reply from the Clerk of the Court—The press is not concerned with anything that does not occur in public Court.

THURSDAY, November 12th.

THE DEATH OF MR. CAREW.—PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

The preliminary examination of Mrs. Edith May Hollowell Carew on the charge of murdering her husband, the late Walter Raymond Hollowell Carew, was called on at 10 o'clock this morning.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the Crown Prosecutor, conducted the proceedings on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. Mr. Lowder and Mr. A. B. Walford appeared for the defence. Mrs. Carew sat between her Counsel. The Court was crowded all day.

Mr. Litchfield opened by saying—I do not propose addressing your Honour at this stage of the proceedings, but will call witnesses in support of the charge I have made.

Howard James McCleary Todd, sworn, deposed—I am a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, and Staff-Surgeon in the Royal Navy. On Tuesday, the 20th of October last, I was asked by Dr. Wheeler to hold a consultation with him over the late Mr. Carew.

Were you acquainted with him?—I knew Mr. Carew very slightly; simply by sight as it were, to nod to and say "How d'ye do." I saw him at his house.

Was he in bed when you saw him?—Yes.

Dr. Wheeler was present, I presume?—Yes, Dr. Wheeler was present.

In what condition did you find the patient?—He was complaining of excessive vomiting, and he was suffering from debility caused by the vomiting.

Did you examine him carefully?—Yes, carefully.

Before you examined him, did you learn what treatment Dr. Wheeler was pursuing?—While I was examining the patient I asked Dr. Wheeler what his treatment was, and he told me.

What opinion did you form as to the complaint Mr. Carew was suffering from?—I considered that he was suffering from derangement of the stomach due to liver affection.

Did you hold a *post mortem* on the body of the patient afterwards?—I did.

You were assisted then by Dr. May?—Yes, I was; Dr. May is surgeon at the Hospital.

Was Dr. Wheeler present?—He was present at the latter part of the examination.

Will you tell us the result of the *post mortem* and the conclusions you formed?—Could I have the statement made by me at the inquest read over; it would be exactly the same.

His Honour—I have no evidence before me, yet. Mr. Litchfield—Could you not give us the result shortly?—Yes.

What did you find?—The only lesions were a contracted liver and inflammation of the bladder. The stomach and intestines were not examined as they were at once sealed up for further examination.

What did you do with the stomach and intestines?—They were put in glass jars; and then I reported the case to the Consul, that I could not give a certificate of death.

Were the glass jars sealed?—Yes.

What did you do with them?—They were sent down in charge of a responsible person to the Consulate; they were in a sealed box.

Who was the responsible person?—One of the attendants. I can give you his name latter on.

A foreigner, not a Japanese?—I can not tell until I make further inquiries.

From your examination of the body of deceased could you state the cause of death?—No. I came down and told the Consul that I could not give a certificate as to the cause of death.

Do you mean by that answer that you could find no symptoms sufficient to cause death?—There were no lesions sufficiently grave to cause death.

Did you examine the body externally?—Yes.

Did you find any marks externally?—None.

No eruptions?—None.

Could you find from your examination if he was a man given to alcohol?—I think he was given to alcohol.

Extensive?—Not extensively. By that I mean he consumed more alcohol than was good for him.

Mr. Lowder—Does inflammation of the bladder cause acute pain?—As a rule, yes.

Mr. Litchfield, in re-examination—Was the inflammation of the bladder that you observed sufficient to cause pain, was it extensive or slight?—I think it was sufficient to cause pain.

His Honour—You may be required to come again Dr. Todd; if so, will you do so when called by messenger?

Dr. Todd—I will, sir.

Edwin Wheeler, M.D. of Queen's University, Ireland, and Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edin., also L.R.C.P., Edin., was then sworn.

Mr. Litchfield—Are you practising in Yokohama?—Yes.

Have been for many years?—For twenty-three years.

Did you know the late Mr. Carew?—Yes, he was my patient, and I may say that I knew him intimately.

Did you attend him frequently or otherwise?—I attended him frequently.

How would you characterise Mr. Carew, as a healthy man or an invalid?—He was a healthy man, perhaps given to good living and to taking too much, on occasions only.

During your attendance upon him, prior to October last, what were his complaints, what did he suffer from?—Principally of liver.

Did you prescribe accordingly?—I prescribed for liver complaint accordingly.

What did you prescribe, the usual liver medicine or something stronger?—Tonic for the liver, that was all.

In October last, when were you first called in?—On Thursday the fifteenth. That is, I received a note from Mrs. Carew to go in and see her husband at the office.

Did you see him at the Club?—Yes. At the office at the Club.

He was Manager and Secretary of the Club, I believe?—Yes.

Did you examine him, and what did you conclude he was suffering from then?—I told him, "You are over-stimulating a bit too much; you will have to drop that and go on a diet, and you can't do that very well unless you go home and remain at home two or three days at least." I also told him to order and send up to the house a dozen of Vichy Water, and to drink nothing but that and milk.

Did he complain to you then of feeling ill or of any trouble?—He said he felt weak and out of sorts, and said that he thought his old liver was bothering him. His own words were, "my old liver is bothering me."

Did the symptoms you observed correspond with that?—Yes.

He looked as if he was going to have a bilious attack?—Yes, he looked muddy, and the white of his eye had a yellow tinge. To make him be careful, I remarked, if you don't look out you will have jaundice.

During the time you knew Mr. Carew, had he told you of his habits of life, or did he leave you to discover and judge of them yourself?—I was allowed by him to judge of his habits myself; he only said once that he had had liver bad in Australia, and again about his having to be carried on board his steamer when he was invalided home; and also that he had to leave the Straits Settlements as he could not remain there. At the time I thought he must have suffered from malaria there, as he talked of living in the jungle and having taken very large doses of quinine there.

Did he say anything else about the remedies he had been taking?—No, that was about the only thing he told me of what he had been taking.

He didn't say he had taken arsenic?—No. Prescribed or otherwise?—He never mentioned the subject to me.

You say that you recommended him to go home on the 15th; when did you see your patient, Mr. Carew, again?—On Friday, the next day, the sixteenth.

What was his condition that day?—Much the same, only that he was very sleepy and drowsy.

That would be a liver symptom, would it not?—Yes, that is what I concluded it to be. He was drowsy until Tuesday morning.

Did you prescribe medicine for him?—I told him to go on with the diet; and on the Saturday I prescribed some podophyllin for his liver.

In pill or draught?—In drops; I think I gave it to him on sugar.

You saw him on the Saturday; what was his condition then, was he worse or better?—He was certainly no worse. He remained in about the same condition. He had a little more irritability of the stomach, possibly, on Saturday.

Was he walking about during this time?—He was up and down, sometimes in an arm-chair, and sometimes in bed. He was able to walk about and go into the dressing-room.

You say put him on diet; did you knock him off all his food?—He had soup and toast, beef-tea, and a slop diet generally.

That he did not like?—That is so.

Did you see him again on Sunday, the 18th?—Yes.

Was there any change in the patient by that time?—He was getting restless and talked about going to Kamakura. I did not think that he was in a condition to do so.

Did he complain at this time of inflammation or irritation of the bladder?—He never complained to me of that.

Did you have any means of knowing that he was suffering from irritation of the bladder?—I had no means, whatever.

On Monday, the 19th, did you see the patient again?—I did.

Did you find any change in him?—He was still drowsy and irritable, and perhaps there was a little more stomach irritation.

Did this irritation produce vomiting?—Yes, mostly of a dark green bilious looking nature.

Was that of such a character as you would have expected in an ordinary bilious attack?—I concluded that it was due to bile.

It did not surprise you?—No, it did not. I ordered continued mustard-plasters over the stomach in order to give relief.

Do you know if the plasters were applied?—Oh, yes.

Did you change his diet?—I ordered him another purgative, and the diet remained the same. It was with difficulty that we could get him to take food.

In fact he did not like it?—Yes.

Did you expect by this time relief to the patient by the treatment you had adopted?—On Monday night I thought the continued irritability of the stomach to be very strange. On the Tuesday morning, I asked Mrs. Carew if she had any objection to my calling in Dr. Todd to consult with me, and have a look at him, as the case puzzled me. In the afternoon, Dr. Todd went round with me; I think you have the result of that consultation in Dr. Todd's evidence.

His Honour—I have Dr. Todd's account of it.

Mr. Litchfield—On Wednesday you saw him again?—Yes.

On your usual round or specially?—I paid my usual visit that day. I found him not so well, he had

not passed a good night, though I had given him a hypodermic on Tuesday night. I also tried to get him to take a little bromide of potash in a mixture, but he complained of everything hurting his throat. On that Tuesday night, I saw him about 11 o'clock. I had been out to dinner, and Mrs. Carew came round in a *finricksha* and asked me to see her husband again.

His Honour—Called at your house?—No the house where I was dining at, No. 118, Bluff. She said her husband was not so well; that he was slightly off his head. I told her that that might be the effect of the hypodermic which I had given him. I went round a little before 11 o'clock and saw him then. By that time he was much quieter.

Mr. Litchfield—Did he complain of anything, or of his head?—He complained of excessive thirst and soreness of the throat. Did he say anything about his breathing at that time?—No, not at that time.

Mr. Lowder—I beg pardon, when was this?

Witness—Tuesday night.

Mr. Litchfield—How did you find him next morning?—Not so well. He had passed a restless night; he had been muttering in his sleep.

This was what you were told, was it by the patient?—He told me this himself. He said he had not had a good night.

About the muttering?—Mrs. Carew told me that, also that any sleep that he had had was very disturbed. I told her that this might be due to the hypodermic that he had had the night before.

Did you find him suffering from diarrhoea on Wednesday morning?—Yes, I found him suffering from what I thought was acute diarrhoea.

Did you examine the motion?—Yes. It was a dark greenish black liquid.

Would that be accounted for by the purgative you have told us you administered?—Some of it, but not all; one or two motions would be accounted for by that.

Could you account in any way at this time for the symptoms you observed?—No.

You were still puzzled?—Still puzzled.

On the 21st did you telegraph up for Dr. Baelz?—At midday on the 21st, at Mrs. Carew's request, I telegraphed to Dr. Baelz.

His Honour—Was this request in writing?—Yes, she wrote me a chit, asking me to telegraph to Dr. Baelz.

Mr. Litchfield—Have you got the chit?—No. About 5 o'clock I got an answer from Dr. Baelz, and this telegram [put in] running—"Impossible to-day, would to-morrow evening do? Baelz"—I took up to Mrs. Carew.

His Honour said, in regard to exhibits, he proposed to keep the same letters as were put on them at the Inquest.

Mr. Litchfield—After receiving that telegram did you go up to Mrs. Carew's house?—Yes. After receiving it I went up to the house shortly before dinner time. I told her Dr. Baelz could not come down, but would to-morrow do? I said, "I think we had better go up and see the patient, then you can make up your mind as to what we had better do." The patient seemed to all of us considerably better at dinner-time.

His Honour—When you saw him?—Yes, when we went upstairs. In fact, so much so that he asked me wouldn't I let him have a brandy and soda, as his throat was so dry and constricted.

Mr. Litchfield—Was he out of bed when you saw him?—He was sitting up in bed, and moving about from one side to the other.

Was he physically weak or strong?—He was able to get up and move about.

Did he get up?—He did not get up out of bed, but rose on his elbow in bed and talked.

Did you order a bedpan for him?—No.

Was one used for him?—Yes, one was used for him I know. I saw a zinc bed-pan on the Wednesday, because the diarrhoea was getting rather excessive on that day.

Can you remember when you first saw the bed pan, on the morning or the evening of Wednesday?—The evening, I think; because Mrs. Carew said, "I have got a bed-pan and it will save him getting-up," or words to that effect.

Did you let him have his brandy and soda?—I allow him to have a little, with a quarter of a grain of cocaine in it. I gave Mrs. Carew three tablets.

Mr. Lowder (interposing)—Would you say whether you ordered milk also?—At that time I ordered the brandy and soda alone, as he was having milk in his diet; milk and soda was part of his diet, with some light beef-tea. This diet I had changed on Tuesday.

Dr. Wheeler at this point said that he thought it would simplify matters if the Court would take the statement that he had made at the inquest as his evidence regarding the case. He had signed that statement, which was entirely unbiased, and had been given directly after Mr. Carew's death.

This, to his mind, would be a better course than to continue answering questions.

His Honour—It is not open for me to copy from the depositions taken at the inquest.

Dr. Wheeler—All I meant to suggest was that that statement was true and correct, and I thought that this system of question and answer was not sufficiently accurate to enable me give a connected narrative.

His Honour—It is not open for me to copy from the depositions given at the inquest. Will you give us, in a narrative form from this time, your history of the affair. We have got to the evening of the 21st, at dinner time, when you had received a telegram from Dr. Baelz.

Mr. Litchfield—Up to this time, Wednesday, who had been attending to the patient; nursing, him, etc.?—Mrs. Carew principally. I saw the small China-boy taking in things; I also saw an *amah* about the room, and of course his brother-in-law, Mr. Porch, was in and out.

What was the condition of the bed-room, that is to say the arrangement of tables, drawers, by the bed side, etc.; did you take any particular notice?—The head of the bed was next to the wall, near to his dressing-room. I think there was a small table near the right hand side of the bed. There was nothing odd or noticeable about the room beyond an ordinary bedroom; with the usual things, chairs, etc., about.

Did you notice any bottles on the table by the bed side?—Yes, I think there were two tables, one alongside the bed, and another near the door leading into the dressing-room. There was a bottle on the table containing some bromide of potash that I had ordered, and also a bottle containing a solution of hydrate of chloral, and also a small bottle of tincture of podophyllin, and also a bottle containing a preparation of opium and belladonna. This was for external application. A teaspoonful was sprinkled over a sponge piline and placed over his stomach, over the region where he complained of pain.

Did you notice a small cabinet over the mantel piece? There was a little bric-a-brac thing there; the usual bamboo thing you usually see out here in the East. I do not distinctly remember its shape. Was there any bottles in it?—I do not know. You cannot answer that question?—No, I could not.

His Honour—You did not observe bottles in the cabinet?—No, I did not really take any notice.

Mr. Litchfield—Now will you give us the further history of the affair and the conclusions at which you arrived.

Dr. Wheeler—Again I ask your Honour whether it would not be better to take my statement delivered at the inquest. It is a truthful statement, given at a time immediately after the affair, and is entirely unbiased and uninfluenced by any public opinion since expressed upon the matter.

His Honour—You do not mean to suggest that you may be biased now?

Dr. Wheeler—Such a length of time has elapsed since the evidence was given that there may be some discrepancy between what I may say now and what I said then. When a man has got over his 50th year, and especially if he has lived in the East, his memory is not such that he can go back to events that occurred even half a month before with any degree of accuracy.

Mr. Litchfield—Do you not wish to confirm your previous statement?

Dr. Wheeler—Yes, of course I do, but I thought it would save time, and beside be more accurate, if my statement at the inquest was taken.

His Honour—Mr. Litchfield will put such questions to you as will help you to remember your previous statement. I am afraid I can't copy the evidence given at the inquest.

Dr. Wheeler—Of course I am willing to answer any question.

His Honour—Then I think we had better proceed with the questioning.

Dr. Wheeler—You see, sir, there has been so much backing and filling, first Wednesday then Tuesday being referred to, that my story is not now a consecutive narrative.

His Honour—I understand, but I think we had better proceed with the questions.

Mr. Litchfield—You wish to confirm your former statement?

Dr. Wheeler—Certainly. I signed it then as a truthful narrative of the case.

Mr. Litchfield (to Mr. Lowder)—Have you any objection to Dr. Wheeler seeing his depositions at the inquest? I know that it is unusual.

Mr. Lowder—I should certainly object.

Mr. Litchfield—Now, Doctor, we will proceed. We have got as far as the evening preceding the Thursday, when, I presume, you saw your patient?

Witness—On Thursday morning I received a letter from Mrs. Carew; I think the time must

have been about half past six. I went round and saw the patient about 7 o'clock.

In what condition did you find him?—Decidedly worse.

That is to say, he was weaker than before?—Yes, a little weaker, and he had had no proper rest on the night of the Wednesday. When I went in he was muttering a little, and when I spoke he woke up and answered me clearly. I gave him, seeing that he had had no sleep, some of the solution of hydrate of chloral in milk and soda—15 grains—to give him some rest, knowing that was what he required. I told Mrs. Carew, "He wants proper rest; he has had no rest last night." I said I would come back after Mr. Boag's funeral; and then left. I had made up my mind to see if I could not get Dr. Todd to take him into the Hospital, as I did not like the symptoms at all.

What were the symptoms you did not like the look of?—He was a good deal debilitated and weak; he was in a half-sleep that was not sleep. He could be wakened up when you spoke and would then answer questions.

While you were at Mr. Boag's funeral a communication was made to you, I believe?—Yes.

How soon after that communication was made to you, did you go to the house of your patient, Mr. Carew?—I had first to go and interview the nursery governess—the communication was such that I went round to see the governess, who was at Mr. Lowder's house with the children.

His Honour—Wait one moment, this is new evidence. What nursery governess was this?—Mrs. Carew's. I was about to say her name, Miss Jacobs. She made a statement to me.

His Honour—One moment, we may take that statement or communication, now—

Mr. Lowder—I object to that communication being given in evidence, on the ground that it was not made in the presence of the accused.

His Honour—Have you anything to say to that, Mr. Litchfield?

Mr. Litchfield—Oh, no.

Witness resuming—I then went to see Dr. Todd, who, unfortunately, was out of town that day, but I saw Dr. May. He told me that he could not take the responsibility on his own shoulders of admitting Mr. Carew into the Hospital. Then I drove down to the British Consulate here, and had an interview with the Consul, urging him to use his influence to get Mr. Carew admitted at once into the hospital.

Mr. Lowder—I would explain that my objection to the witness telling the Court what manner of communication was made to him by the governess will not continue if the statement was subsequently made to Mrs. Carew; if he told the accused what statement Miss Jacobs then made to him. I have no objection to the evidence being obtained in that way.

His Honour—I do not think the question was put by Mr. Litchfield.

Mr. Litchfield—No, I did not put it.

Dr. Wheeler—I have been relating how the time actually elapsed.

His Honour—Very well.

Witness—The Consul said he would go at once, and left in a *jinricksha* directly. He went up to the Hospital at once, a few minutes before eleven o'clock. I then went up to the house of Mr. Carew to see the patient again, and found him still worse.

Did you see Mr. Porch at the time of this visit? I met him on the hill as I went up. I said to him, "You go along to the house, as your brother-in-law is getting arsenic in some form, I fear." I further told him that I did not know who was giving the arsenic to him, or whether he was taking it himself; and that I would go to the Hospital and get the stretcher.

His Honour—Mr. Litchfield, do you wish to elicit this evidence?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes. I wish to find out whether or not Dr. Wheeler received certain information, and whether, acting on this, he saw Mr. Porch and gave him some instructions.

Witness—I told him (Mr. Porch) to go up into the room and see that Mr. Carew got nothing but a little milk and soda, and that from himself.

On this same Thursday was the patient admitted to the Hospital?—Yes, after a little delay. I brought the stretcher to Mr. Carew's house a little after two o'clock. He was admitted into the Hospital a few minutes before three o'clock.

When you went to Mr. Carew's house, was Mr. Porch there?—Yes.

Had he been there all the time and followed your instructions?—That I don't know. He was there in the room. I walked alongside the ambulance to the Hospital, and Mr. Porch and Mrs. Carew walked along with me. Mr. Porch was admitted into the hospital, and was allowed to enter the ward with the patient. He accompanied Dr. May and myself into the room.

You heard that the patient died that afternoon, and were afterwards present at the *post mortem*?—Yes.

Did you see Mrs. Carew again, on the evening of Thursday?—Yes. I had a letter from her. I had been out to dinner and went round to see her about 11 o'clock.

Did she make any communication to you?—Yes. She said, "Oh, Doctor, there is a thing I ought to have told you before. You know Walter suffered from a stricture and he has been in the habit of taking arsenic for it, and just a few days ago he asked me to send down to Mariya's and get a bottle of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic and some sugar of lead." I felt a little annoyed, certainly, and all I said was, "It would have simplified matters if you had done so."

His Honour—Done what?—Told me. I said, I think, "It's a pity," or words to that effect. Then she said, "I can't find the bottle; I think they were in that drawer, but I can't find them." I told her not to bother looking for them now, and I went downstairs and off home.

Mr. Litchfield—In your opinion, are arsenic and sugar of lead appropriate remedies for stricture?—I have never heard that they were used direct; they might have been used for something that aggravated stricture. Sugar of lead may be used externally or as an injection in the form of a lotion. They might be used for another disease or affection that might aggravate the stricture somewhat.

Mr. Litchfield—I presume you refer to malaria?—Yes, to malarial fever.

Arsenic is often given in cases of malarial fever?—Yes. Arsenic is a nerve tonic and an anti-periodic, and as an anti-periodic it is used for malarial fever.

In such a case what is the dose that is usually administered?—Generally it is given in the form of solution, say Fowler's Solution, in doses of 5 drops in a little water after meals. That is the ordinary dose; but that dose has been increased on some occasions.

According to your experience?—Yes, that dose may be increased to possibly 10 drops in water after meals; but during the time a patient is taking the larger dose he is generally under the eye of his medical man.

I presume you are acquainted with Fowler's Solution of Arsenic; now how much arsenic is there in an ounce bottle?—Four grains of arsenite of potash are contained in such a bottle; 4 grains to the ounce. It is of a reddish colour. That is caused by the compound tincture of lavender that is put in it to give it a reddish colour and also to give it the lavender smell.

At this time, it being 12.30 o'clock, an adjournment was taken for lunch. On the Court reassembling,

Mr. Litchfield said—Before the adjournment, Dr. Wheeler, you described to us the qualities of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic; can you state, in your opinion, how much larger doses can be taken in safety—you have given us the usual medicinal doses?—Well, I have stated that it has been given up to the amount of 10 minims, medicinally. Some authorities have given more in cases of epilepsy, but the patient has always been watched every day during the time he was taking those large doses.

Do you know how Fowler's Solution is usually procured? Do the druggists here make it up from prescription or is it imported wholesale from England?—It may be made here or it may be imported.

You do not know how it is usually done?—No, I do not. It can be made up here according to the Pharmacopoeia.

On or about the 10th of October, did you prescribe Fowler's Solution of Arsenic to Mrs. Carew?—That was on the day of the regatta. Yes, I prescribed for her Fowler's Solution of Arsenic. I tore a piece off the back of the Regatta programme and wrote, "Liq. Fowler ½ oz." [Exhibit put in and identified.] This is the prescription: the solution was to be taken, 4 or 5 drops after meals.

It was not addressed to anybody?—No, not addressed to anybody.

Is this a prescription for Mr. Carew?—Yes.

It is for some podophyllin digitalis, I think?—Yes. [Exhibit put in, as were also two orders for Vichy water.]

I gather that you had been prescribing for Mr. Carew before the 15th, and for liver?—Yes, on the 10th.

On that occasion did you attend him at his house or at the Club; did he send for you, or did Mrs. Carew ask you to see him?—I am not distinct about it, but I think it may have been at the Club. He said that his old liver was troubling him, and I said that I would give him some powders.

A bundle of prescriptions from the Normal Dispensary were here handed to Dr. Wheeler, and

after examining them he said—There are two prescriptions for Mrs. Carew, two for the children, and one early in October for some lotion for Mr. Carew when he got some dust in his eye. He complained of his eye, and I turned the lid up and said I will give him a lotion that he might apply for a day or two. This was on the 7th of October. All these were prior to the last sickness. [Exhibits put in.] On the 28th August there is a prescription for Mr. Carew, calomel and podophyllin.

Mr. Lowder, in cross examination—Isn't conjunctivitis a symptom of arsenical poison?—It is when it is in both eyes.

You said that you were not quite sure where you made up the prescription for Mr. Carew marked beta?—I think it was on a Sunday, in the house. Yes, it came back; it was in the house on a Sunday where I wrote that prescription. Taking the day into consideration, I now have that impression. He was always at home on Sunday, or out sailing.

His Honour—It was at his house?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—And now, will you remember whether or not Mrs. Carew called you in?—I prescribed for Mrs. Carew that day; some anti-pyrene for neuralgia.

Was it not for Mrs. Carew's brother?—He was sick also, having slight influenza catarrh.

But my real question was, was it not Mrs. Carew who called you in to see her husband that day?—I called to see Mr. Porch, I think.

I suggest that Mrs. Carew wrote and asked you to come to the house that day?—Yes, I had a note from her, but it asked me to call and see her brother.

I suppose that the fact that the prescription for Fowler's Solution which you gave to Mrs. Carew on the 10th October bore no address was an oversight?—It was an oversight that there was no address on the prescription; the date was there.

Do you remember Mr. Dickinson standing next to Mrs. Carew on the boat-house verandah that afternoon; and that you went over to her and remarked that she was not looking any better for her visit to the country?—I said, "Your trip to Mivanoshita has done you no good?" She said: "No; beastly weather, raining all the time."

Then did you not say that you would prescribe some arsenic for her?—She said, "I wish you would give me the arsenic drops you gave me before"—when they were staying at No. 57, Bluff. She said that the quinine I had been giving her was doing her no good, would I give her the arsenic again. I said, "Certainly, I will write it out now."

His Honour—When did you prescribe arsenic to Mrs. Carew before?—Possibly it may have been in 1893 or 1894. I have prescribed arsenic for her on three different occasions.

Mr. Lowder—Now, Dr. Wheeler, when you visited Mrs. Carew on the evening of the 22nd, you said Mrs. Carew made a communication to you?—Yes.

Now, do you remember you used the phrase "a few days ago"?—Yes.

Did you mean when you made that statement that it was an accurate reproduction of her words? We know that she sent for arsenic on the 21st, so I ask whether, in using the phrase "a few days ago," you may not be wrong?—That is only an expression. She may have said Tuesday, but I only recollect the general conversation.

You did not mean then to use her own words?—No, I could not recollect her exact words. I was given to understand that the thing had occurred a few days ago. It did not refer to an exact date, only a general idea.

Do you recollect Mr. Parsons coming to you on Thursday morning, the 22nd ult., with a message from Mrs. Carew, requesting you to call in Dr. Baelz at once?—Before Mr. Boag's funeral, at 20 minutes before nine o'clock, Mr. Parsons came and said to me, "What about Carew?" I said, "He is very low this morning?" and he said, "What about getting Baelz down?" I answered, "Certainly, if you can get him down, but he can't get down till evening. There is time enough for you to go down and see Mrs. Carew before the funeral starts; I wish Mr. Carew to be kept quiet, as a little after seven I gave him some hydrate of chloral, and as he is a little delirious from want of sleep, tell Mrs. Carew not to worry, and not to answer him if he speaks—to let him sleep, as that is what he required."

On Tuesday, the 20th, when you spoke to Mrs. Carew about bringing in Dr. Todd and obtaining another opinion on the case, did she not readily approve?—Oh, yes. She said, "Do, bring him along."

Do you remember on the occasion when Dr. Todd came in that he recommended you to take away a bottle of the patient's urine?—I did so.

Did you discover any traces of arsenic in it?—

I did not test for arsenic. The only thing abnormal was a slight trace of albumen present.

Arsenic passes off in the urine?—Principally by the urine; but all the excretory organs pass it off. But principally by the urine?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield, re-examining—But you had no knowledge that Mr. Carew was taking arsenic or any suspicion of it?—None whatever.

And you would not find it unless you specially tested for it?—Yes, and then it would require a most delicate hand to find it. You would require the laboratory of a chemist to find it properly.

Percival Marshall May, M.R.C.S. Eng., and L.R.C.P. Lond., Surgeon in the Royal Navy, sworn, deposed:—

You are at present stationed at the Naval Hospital at Yokohama?—Yes.

Do you remember Mr. Carew being brought to the Hospital on the afternoon of Thursday, the 22nd October?—Perfectly. It was a little time before three o'clock.

When brought to the Hospital he was removed to his room?—He was taken straight from the ambulance and placed in the bed without changing the blanket in which he came.

Had you known Mr. Carew before this?—Only in his business capacity as Secretary of the Club.

What was his condition when admitted into the Hospital?—He was in a more or less state of collapse. His pulse was feeble, rapid, and running; his extremities were cold and clammy. He complained of great difficulty of retaining his breath and had to be propped up to enable him to breathe. He was very restless and tossing from side to side on the bed, and complained of a great pain shooting from the front of the chest to the shoulders behind. He expressed it as a terrible pain. Was he conscious?—Quite conscious. He lapsed into muttering delirium for a few minutes, just at times; then he would come round again and would understand when spoken to.

Did you form any idea of the complaint from which he was suffering?—I had no time to form a diagnosis of what he was suffering from.

You administered stimulants?—Yes.

In what shape?—Brandy, put into the mouth and hypodermically, and ether hypodermically.

Did you find his skin cold?—His limbs were fairly warm when brought in, as he had been well wrapped up.

In fact, he was, in your opinion, a dying man when he came to the Hospital?—Yes; all we could do was to administer stimulants.

He died that afternoon?—He died about twenty minutes or a quarter to five, so far as I can remember.

You assisted Dr. Todd at the *post mortem* examination?—Yes.

Do you agree with Dr. Todd's results?—Yes, I agree with his opinion.

Could you say that he was a comparatively healthy man from the result of the *post mortem*?—Yes, a fairly healthy man. I should like to state further that in addition to the above symptoms, the deceased complained of great constriction, dryness, of the throat—difficulty in swallowing.

Mr. Lowder had no questions to ask.

Mr. Litchfield—It is now 4 o'clock, and as my next witness will take some time, I think it will be convenient to adjourn.

His Honour—Then we will sit at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Litchfield—Does your Honour propose to sit on Saturday morning? Because if so it will be convenient that the Japanese witnesses whose presence I have asked for, should be requested to attend on Saturday morning.

His Honour—Yes, I purpose sitting on Saturday morning and I will call the Japanese witnesses for that day. The Court now adjourns till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, November 13th.

The preliminary examination of Mrs. Edith May Hallowell Carew on the charge of murdering her husband, the late Walter Raymond Hallowell Carew, was resumed at 10 o'clock this morning.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the Crown Prosecutor, conducted the proceedings on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. Mr. Lowder and Mr. Walford appeared for the defence. Mrs. Carew sat next her Counsel. The Court was not so crowded as on the previous day.

Miss Mary Esther Jacob, nursery governess, of No. 2, Bluff, sworn was examined by Mr. Litchfield. Are you a British subject?—Yes.

Previous to the 21st of October last, were you in the service of Mr. and Mrs. Carew as their nursery governess?—Yes.

When did you first enter that service?—On the thirteenth of May, this year.

Did you come out from England?—Yes, to enter their service. I reached Yokohama on the 13th May this year.

In what part of England were you living before you left England?—Somersetshire.

During your service with Mr. and Mrs. Carew were you comfortable in the house, or otherwise?—Yes, comfortable.

You know that Mr. Carew was ill in the latter part of October?—Yes.

Did you lend any assistance in nursing him?—Only on one occasion had I anything to do with him.

Your duty was solely with the children, and you were not asked to assist with the nursing?—No, not at all.

On the 21st of October did Mrs. Carew ask you to take a message for her to the Settlement?—She gave me a small piece of paper, an open chit: it was not covered up at all.

Anything beside?—Another chit, a folded piece of paper, to take to Brett's; another to Schedel's. They were folded and turned down at the corner.

His Honour—The open one was for whom?—For Maruya's. She also gave me a third one to Moss's the furniture shop; and a book to go to Currow's.

Mr. Litchfield—Did she give you any instructions as to the open chit?—Yes. I read it in the room, and I asked her if I had to sign my name.

His Honour—What, to sign the chit?—No, no; at the place, Maruya's. It was not addressed, but inside was written "Mr. Maruya, please give bearer."

Mr. Litchfield—In whose handwriting was this chit?—In Mrs. Carew's.

Did it bear any address at all?—It was an open piece of paper, with "Mr. Maruya" written inside.

His Honour—The words were?—I cannot remember the exact words. But I think it ran

"Will Mr. Maruya give the bearer one bottle of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic, and one bottle of sugar of lead." I believe these were the words, but I am not positive.

Mr. Litchfield—Did Mrs. Carew give you any money to pay for these things?—She gave me 5 dollars and said she wanted change.

Did you take the stores, in delivering these messages, on their way down-town and go into Maruya's last?—Yes.

When you got to Maruya, what did you purchase from him?—Two little bottles, labelled. One had "Sugar of lead" on it; the other "Fowler's Solution of Arsenic."

Did you read the labels in the shop?—The man gave them to me open; he did not put them into any paper at all. I put them into my little bag.

Did you pay for them?—Yes.

When you went on this errand, were you alone or had you the children with you?—The two children were with me in a jinrikisha.

Did the man in Maruya's say anything to you when you bought the medicine?—Yes. He asked me, "why did you buy so plenty deadly poison?"

Had you ever been in his shop before?—No. I think I have never been in the shop before.

His Honour—Can you say so positively?—I have never been in the shop before alone. I might have gone there with Mrs. Carew when I first came out, but I do not recollect having done so.

Mr. Litchfield—You did not go to the shop on the 19th October?—No.

On this 21st, having put these bottles into your bag, did you go homewards?—Yes.

On your way home did you get anything from Schedel?—Yes. As I went down the street, the youngest assistant there—I do not know his name—who was standing on the steps, beckoned to me. He asked me to take a little bottle; it was in paper, sealed up.

Did you take it?—Yes.

Put it in your bag with the other bottles?—Yes. And take it up to the house?—Yes.

About what time did you get back to the house?—I should think it was half-past eleven or a quarter to twelve.

When you got back to the house, what did you do with the bottles?—Mrs. Carew was on the steps to meet us; the children, Mrs. Carew, and I went all together into the dining-room.

Well, when you got into the dining-room what did you do?—I gave the three bottles to Mrs. Carew.

Did you see what Mrs. Carew did with two of them?—I know that she put two of them on the little writing-table near the window.

Which two were those?—Maruya's.

And the third bottle, do you know what she did with it?—No. I noticed the two, but I don't know what she did with the third.

After Mr. Carew's death did you go to Maruya's store again?—Yes.

With your friend, Miss Christoffel?—Yes. On the Friday night, the 23rd.

Why did you go there?—I went to try and get that piece of paper that I had taken to Maruya's.

Did you get it?—No, I could not get it. But when the man was looking for it, he found another piece, which he said—

Mr. Lowder—No conversation; please.

Mr. Litchfield—I did not ask for it.

His Honour—Quite so.

Mr. Litchfield—The man gave you another piece of paper?—Yes. He showed it to us.

Is this the paper you got from Maruya?—Yes.

His Honour—You said he showed it to you?—Yes. Did he not give it to you?—Yes. He let us have it.

Did you take it away?—My friend, Fraulein Christoffel, took it away with her.

Mr. Litchfield then read the paper:—

Mr. MARUYA,

Please give Hearer

1 Bed pan,

1 Bottle Fowler's Solution of Arsenic,

169, Bluff, E. M. H. CAREW.

30, 10.

Mr. Litchfield—When you got back to the house, on the 21st, did you say anything to Mrs. Carew about what Maruya's man had said to you?—No.

Did you make a statement—I can't tell you the words you said—on the subject to Mr. Porch?—Yes, that same day, after tiffin.

Why were you anxious to get back the paper that your took to Maruya's on the 21st?—Because Mrs. Carew on the night of Mr. Carew's death, denied having written the piece of paper that I took. She said it was in Mr. Carew's handwriting. She denied it both to me and Mr. Porch, saying Mr. Carew had written it. I did not hear her deny it to Mr. Porch.

His Honour—Oh, well, that cannot be given as evidence.

Mr. Litchfield—Did she say anything further on that occasion?—Yes.

What was it?—She said that Mr. Carew had taken his own life, and that she had a letter in her possession in which she said he had said so; that he was going to do it, or had done so.

Mr. Lowder, interposing—Or had done so?—No, he could not have written that after he was dead.

Mr. Litchfield—Intended to do so?—I don't remember the exact words, but that is what I understood.

Mr. Lowder—The witness added at first, "or had done so," and then corrected herself by saying that "he could not have written that after he was dead." I should like that to be taken on your Honour's notes.

Mr. Litchfield—You have told us that you were asked to assist once in the nursing, when was that?—On the night of Wednesday, the 21st, when I was having my dinner. Mrs. Carew was at her dinner.

What were you asked to do?—I was asked to see if Mr. Carew would take a glass of brandy and soda, with cocaine in it.

That is, Mrs. Carew told you that there was brandy and soda and cocaine?—Yes.

Did you take the glass to Mr. Carew?—Yes.

Did he drink it?—No.

What did you do with the glass?—I took it downstairs again.

Did you tell Mrs. Carew what he said?—Yes. I told her that Mr. Carew would not drink—would not have it—that he said that he "had taken a whole chemist's shop that day."

Do you know whether he did drink that glass of brandy and soda?—Yes. Mrs. Carew took it to him; she stirred it up and took it to him.

Your duty with the children took you a good deal out of the house to give them fresh air and exercise?—Yes.

Do you remember Tuesday, the 19th of October, last?—Yes. I went out on that morning. With the children?—With one child.

Where did you go to?—We went to the Post Office to meet Mrs. Carew by appointment. She had taken her little boy, Ben, down town.

Did you meet Mrs. Carew?—Yes. I remember Ben running across the road, this side of the road, to meet me. Marjorie was not feeling very well, and Mrs. Carew took her back in a *kuruma*. Ben and I then walked back. We changed the children, Mrs. Carew saying that she was going to take a *kuruma*; she took the little girl, and I the little boy.

Had either of you a *kuruma* that morning?—Not then. I walked down and back. Mrs. Carew said that she had left her *jinricksha* at the chemist's to follow her, but she did not know where the man had gone.

Where did you go too, with Ben?—I went straight to the Post Office, to ask if a mail had come in.

After that?—I went back again as fast as I could, as the mail was in, to see if any letters were awaiting me at the house. The men at the Post

Office had told me that the mail was being delivered.

You were expecting letters by the mail?—Yes. Did you receive any?—I had two.

After that, on the 19th, how were you occupied in the afternoon?—I believe we went to the Bluff Gardens in the afternoon.

On the morning of the 20th, the following day, were you out with the children?—Yes.

What time did you start?—I believe we all went to meet my friend at the Convent at ten o'clock that morning.

His Honour—May I ask who that friend was?—Fraulein Christoffel. I believe it was at ten that morning that I met her.

Mr. Litchfield—You were great friends, I believe?—Yes.

Do you know if Mrs. Carew was out of the house that morning, or whether she stayed at home?—I think she was at home; I am not sure, but I think she was at home.

To His Honour—I don't know whether she was or not.

Mr. Litchfield—You went back to the house, I presume, to lunch and the children's dinner?—Yes.

What did you do in the afternoon of the 20th?—Mrs. Carew sent me down town, I believe, to cash a cheque for her. Ben rode down on Mr. Fearon's bicycle, I remember.

You mean by that that Mr. Fearon was working the "bike," and Ben sat in front?—Yes, Ben sat in front.

Did you cash the cheque?—Yes. Ben was waiting in the Bank when Marjorie and I arrived.

What Bank was it?—The Hongkong and Shanghai.

After cashing the cheque, what did you do?—I went straight back home. Mrs. Carew was sitting by the nursery window, as Marjorie and I came through the garden. She told me through the window that Ben had run into his father's room. I left Marjorie in the garden, and the *amah* took them—the children—out again for a walk.

When did you leave Mrs. Carew's service?—On Saturday, the 24th October.

Before leaving Mrs. Carew's service, had you, for reasons of your own, looked at the waste-paper basket?—Yes.

Where was this waste-paper basket kept?—In the dining-room.

Why did you look there?—I expected to find letters of my own there.

What letters of your own?—From home.

Letters that you had received?—Letters that I had not received.

Did you find any letters there?—I never found any of my own there.

You found fragments of letters there?—Yes.

What did you do with the fragments of letters you found?—I gave them to my friend.

They were fragments of other people's letters?—Yes.

What did you do with those fragments?—I gave them to my friend.

Your friend?—Fraulein Christoffel.

Did she stitch them together for you?—Yes.

When did you find these?—The first time I ever went to the basket must have been on the 23rd or 24th September.

Did you find them all at the same time?—No.

His Honour—Do you mean all the letters?—No, all the fragments. I found all the fragments of the first letter on the 23rd or 24th September.

That is what you mean?—Yes, the fragments of the first letter.

Mr. Litchfield—And the rest?—After my return from Miyanoshta.

That being?—The first Monday in October.

When you returned from Miyanoshta?—Yes. Are these the fragments?

Mr. Lowder—I object.

Mr. Litchfield—I don't intend to put them in, I wish to identify the fragments. I cannot put them in now as they are not addressed to anybody.

Mr. Lowder—I cannot see how you can do that. Until you can have them identified properly, I must object to their being put in.

Mr. Litchfield, to witness—Is this the envelope that contained the fragments of letters that you gave to Miss Christoffel?

Mr. Lowder—I object to that.

His Honour (to witness)—Can you identify any of these papers?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—My objection to these fragments being introduced is this: Miss Jacob says that she looked into the waste-paper basket and took from thence some fragments which she gave to her friend, Miss Christoffel, these Miss Christoffel afterwards stitched together, and I contend that Miss Jacob cannot now say that she can identify these fragments in their present form. I say that without further evidence it is impossible for these fragments to be identified properly and satisfactorily.

His Honour—I do not see the point of your objection.

Mr. Lowder—You don't see that it follows?

His Honour—I take it that it does not. I do not see why the witness cannot recognize some of the fragments.

Mr. Lowder—In their present state?

His Honour—If she can recognise some of the fragments I do not see any objection.

Mr. Litchfield was about to put the question again to witness.

When His Honour suggested that the question had better be put in a different form. (To witness)

—Do you recognise any of these pieces of paper as being among the fragments that you took from the waste-paper basket?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—Can you recognise any of these pieces of paper as being among those fragments of which you have spoken, and if so, how?—This (pointing to one) for certain.

Mr. Litchfield—That is one.

Mr. Lowder—I understood that the witness pointed to one piece of that stitched letter.

Witness—But I can identify them all.

His Honour—Well, we will mark that piece.

Mr. Litchfield—But I can't put them in now, the letters are not addressed to anybody. I only wish to identify the fragments.

His Honour—If they are not put in and marked, what is the use of identifying them. If you do not put them in there is no use in identifying them.

Mr. Litchfield—I intend to use them in the course of this enquiry. I want to know how many pieces of paper she found; what she found; what she did with them; to whom she gave those pieces of paper; and what that person did with them. That is very simple, and I am entitled to obtain the evidence.

His Honour—If she can identify these fragments, you are entitled to make use of the evidence; but such evidence must go on the record. But unless we have the exhibits put in and marked there can be no trace of them on the record.

Mr. Litchfield—I don't think that I can put them just now without raising a serious objection. What I want to find out is what witness found in the basket, and what she did with the fragments. I am afraid she can't identify them further than that.

His Honour—If you keep the fragments out now until further identification, then you will find it necessary to call this witness again.

Mr. Litchfield—Yes. Well, I will put the question in another way. (To witness)—You said that you gave all the fragments that you found to Miss Christoffel?—Yes.

Did you see them after she had stitched them together?

Mr. Lowder—I would suggest that Miss Christoffel is a better witness as to what she did with the fragments she is supposed to have received. I contend that such evidence from the present witness is not circumstantial and is not admissible.

Mr. Litchfield—She might have seen them stitched together.

Mr. Lowder—If she saw them stitched together, she might answer. But I do not think it can be proper evidence from this witness.

Mr. Litchfield—Very well. (To the witness)—Were you present when Miss Christoffel handed me some letters?—Yes.

Were the letters she handed to me in this condition when they were handed to me by Miss Christoffel?—Yes.

Do you remember the date?—No.

His Honour—Do you say you do not remember?—I am thinking: it was on a Sunday.

Mr. Litchfield—What month?—This month.

The first Sunday of this month?—Yes, I think so. It was not last Sunday.

Some other Sunday in November?—Yes, not last Sunday, but the Sunday before.

These are all the questions I have to ask you, Miss Jacob; do you wish to make a statement to the magistrate?—No.

The depositions were then read over to witness.

Mr. Lowder—Before this witness signs her evidence, I wish to put some questions based on an exhibit handed in at the inquest. Is this one of the letters, or are these any of the fragments taken by you from the waste paper basket and handed by you to your friend (the letter of Mr. Carew to his wife that has been pasted roughly together)?—No.

How do you know?—I have never seen it before. Do you recognise the handwriting on this envelope [envelope accompanying the pasted letter]?—No.

It is not like any handwriting you have ever seen before?—No.

Mr. Litchfield—Did you read, so far as you could, any of the fragments before they were stitched together?—No, not all of them. I read some of them at first.

Can you recognise the handwriting of the letter

just shown you?—I do not. I don't know whose handwriting it is. I don't think I have ever seen it before.

To His Honour—I don't recognise that handwriting. I heard of this letter at the inquest.

His Honour—Have you looked at it?—Yes. I never remember having seen any handwriting like that before.

Mr. Lowder—I would ask her: Do you know Mr. Carew's handwriting?—No, I have never seen any so far as I am aware of.

Then for all you know to the contrary, the fragments pasted on that piece of paper, may have been among the fragments that you handed to your friend, although you have never seen them to your knowledge?—I think not.

To His Honour—I feel sure they were not. Witness then signed her depositions, and the Court adjourned till 2 o'clock.

Miss Elisa Christoffel, sworn, was examined by Mr. Litchfield. She said—I am here as a nurse, and am living at No. 6, Bund.

Of what nationality are you?—I am Swiss.

You have told us that you are employed as a nurse at No. 6 Bund, to Mrs. Dunlop's children, I believe?—Yes.

How long have you been here?—I arrived in Yokohama on the last day of November, 1894.

You have been a great friend of Miss Jacob's I believe?—I have.

She has confided to you from time to time, what troubles she has had?—She and I have been in the habit of telling everything to one another.

Did Miss Jacob give you any fragments of paper?—Yes, she did.

Recently?—Not exactly recently, but I do not know the dates; I do not keep any dates. It was a little while ago, once in September, then again in October, but I do not exactly remember the dates.

She did not give them to you all at the same time?—Not at the same time.

Were they in order or in disorder when she brought them to you?—They were in disorder.

Did you stitch the fragments together, making sense of the pieces as well as you could?—Yes, I did.

Did you preserve all the fragments, or did you destroy any of them?—I preserved all of them.

Would you recognise your work—the fragments—again if you saw it?—Certainly I should.

In the presence of Miss Jacob you handed some papers to me on a Sunday in November did you not?—It was on the 8th of November, in the evening.

To His Honour—They were not fragments then; they were in the form of letters now, as I had stitched them together.

Mr. Litchfield (handing up a packet)—Are these them?—Yes, they are.

His Honour—Are you putting them in?

Mr. Litchfield—Mr. Lowder has asked to see them first, and there will be a little delay.

To Witness—Do you recognise this paper as one of them?—Yes.

What about this mark on the paper?—That mark was made, or put on the paper by Mr. Dunlop, when I gave the letters to him to identify the writing.

To His Honour—This is one of the letters that I stitched together. [Letter put in.]

Mr. Litchfield—Can you tell me by looking at them, in what order they came?—They did not come all together.

Do you recognise this as one?—Yes, I do. [Letter put in.]

And is this another?—Yes, that is another. [Letter handed in.]

In answer to Mr. Lowder, Mr. Litchfield said he proposed putting in all the stitched letters.

His Honour (to witness)—Do you know in what order you received them?—I do not quite understand. When I received them from Miss Jacob, they were in pieces, all mixed up, and at different times, of course.

Mr. Litchfield then presented other papers, all in a stitched condition, that witness identified as they were handed to her. Some were in pencil, others in ink. Mr. Litchfield said he thought that one was in Mrs. Carew's handwriting, but there was no internal evidence as to the order in which they were received. He merely handed them up one by one to the witness for identification, and this was the only order that could be maintained in regard to them. (To witness)—There is one in a different handwriting to the others, is there not?—Yes, I saw it when Miss Jacob brought it to me.

Have you any more pieces of paper that you received from Miss Jacob?—Yes, but they are no longer in pieces, they are now sewn in the form of letters. I sewed them together.

Have you got them with you?—No, I have not.

You have not shown them to me, I believe?—No, you have never seen them. I have never shown them to you.

Are they in the same handwriting as the bulk—as the rest?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I object, unless the letters are produced.

Mr. Litchfield—Well, we will produce them. (To witness)—Can you produce them?—I could run round and produce them.

I wish you would. I have one more question. After the death of Mr. Carew, did you accompany Miss Jacob to Maruya's store?—Yes, I did.

You received from Maruya's store a piece of paper that has been produced in evidence?—Yes, this is the paper. I recognise it as the order that my friend, Miss Jacob, and I got from Maruya.

To His Honour—It was given to her in my presence.

How long shall you be fetching these letters?—About five minutes.

Mr. Lowder said he should prefer to have the witness produce these letters before he began his cross-examination and also before any other witness was called.

Mr. Litchfield—Well, shall we adjourn till Monday?

Mr. Lowder—Oh, no, I am prepared to go on in ten minutes or a quarter-of-an hour, but I wish these letters produced before we go further.

His Honour—Then the Court will adjourn for ten minutes.

On the Court reassembling, Miss Christoffel again entered the box.

Mr. Litchfield—Have you now brought the remains?—There they are (handing some papers to Counsel). They are the remains of the letters.

Is this all you ever had?—Yes, all.

You received these from Miss Jacob?—Yes. Mr. Dunlop saw the pieces before I sewed them together.

They were in pieces at first?—Yes; then I sewed them together.

Is this another?—Yes, that is another; and this another, and the small piece is another. [Letters put in.]

Have you read those fragments, I presume you had to, in order to put them together?—I had to read them in order to put them together.

Exhibits R. and R. 2,—the original pasted letter—were then handed to the witness and Mr. Litchfield said—

Were the fragments pasted together in this letter among the fragments given you by Miss Jacob?—No, never.

You have never seen it before?—No never, except at the inquest and in this Court.

Do you know anything about the handwriting on the envelope?—No, nothing; I have never seen it before.

To the Bench—I only knew of this letter when in Court, and when it was handed to my friend Miss Jacob.

Mr. Lowder, cross-examining—You were present during the inquest?—Yes, but not every day; twice or thrice, but not every day.

Were you called as a witness?—No, I came with my friend Miss Jacob.

In what part of the Court-room did you sit?—At the back, in the second or third seat, not always in the same.

And was that letter and that letter handed to you to where you were sitting?—No, I saw it from there, when it was produced here.

To the Bench—The letter was produced about here.

Mr. Lowder—Do you mean me to understand, that, sitting right behind on the back benches, you could see a letter and envelope that was only produced at this table?—I can recognise the one that was pasted on the paper, but I do not say anything about the envelope. I have very good sight, and saw the letter when it was held up to be shown.

You are willing to pledge your oath, that the letter now shown you is identical with the paper that was produced in Court during the inquest while you were sitting on the back benches?—I can only say that I saw the letter; I cannot swear to it.

His Honour—I must remind you that you are on your oath now, and that all you have said is binding on you.

Witness—Oh, yes! I understand that, and that is why I said that I could not swear to the letter and envelope just now.

Mr. Lowder—What kind of pen do you write with, a broad or a fine pen?—I generally write with a quill.

Sometimes with steel pens?—Yes.

Do you prefer a fine or a broad one, or a narrow?—I like, I prefer, soft pens. I never have any thought whether it is broad or narrow.

You do a good dealing of writing, I presume?—Not exactly, sir. I am neglecting all my friends by not writing them letters from Japan at all.

How often did Miss Jacob bring you fragments

of paper to piece together?—I can not say for sure, sir.

Try and remember?—I can't tell for sure.

Was the first occasion on the 21st or 22nd Sept. last?—It might be about the 24th or 25th, but I don't know, I never keep dates. The one I gave to-day I had to get from Mrs. Dunlop.

Miss Jacob said it was about the 23rd or 24th?—I can't remember when it was, I can't tell dates.

And when was the last occasion?—I can't tell. But try to refresh your memory?—That would take a long time, even if I had a calendar and went back day by day.

I will give you a calendar?—But it will take a long time.

It does not matter how long it takes, you are here to answer my questions. Here is a calendar, now, do you remember on what date Mr. Carew died?—It was on a Thursday.

Do you remember the date?—It must have been on the 22nd.

Was the last occasion on which you received fragments from Miss Jacob to piece together either after the 22nd October or before?—They all came into my possession before the late Mr. Carew's death.

Can you now tell me the last occasion?—It would take me all night to remember back.

To the Bench—I would have to remember and go back to all my occupations day by day, to remember such a thing. It would take me a whole night's work to go back day by day, to know when I saw my friend, when I went to see her, on she came and saw me.

Mr. Lowder—Well then, tell me how fix this date about the 23rd Sept.?—Because I went out one evening before my friend went away, and she told me on that occasion about the fragments of letters. She talked about them on that occasion when I went up to see her at No. 169.

To the Bench—That was Mr. Carew's house.

Mr. Lowder—Did you tell her that you knew how to piece letters together, have you ever done this before?—No, sir, I never did. This is the first time in my life that I ever did this kind of work.

When you saw Miss Jacob on that occasion, at No. 169, Bluff, did you not set to work together to piece the letter?—No, I did the work alone, at No. 6, the Bund. I was alone.

Did Miss Jacob give you any reason for getting you to stitch these papers together?—Yes, sir. In fact, I advised her to collect those pieces.

When?—When she told me that she had seen them in the waste-paper basket.

Why did you give her that advice?—Because I thought that it would be useful to her one day, if it should come out that men were paying visits there at that house not exactly in the form of house-friends. I was afraid my friend's character might in such a case, perhaps, have to suffer.

So you thought that it would be useful to Miss Jacob and not to Mrs. Carew?—Yes, useful to Miss Jacob should it be known by the husband or outsiders that those visits were being paid.

Now, from the 23rd, 24th, or 25th September, prior to Mr. Carew's death, can you tell me whether these fragments were given to you on ten, twelve, or twenty occasions?—I believe they were brought to me by Miss Jacob on four occasions.

Oh, I thought we might get at it somehow. (To the Bench)—I wish to test this witness's handwriting, and I will ask her to take a seat and write at my dictation.

His Honour—Certainly.

Witness was then furnished with a quill pen, and Mr. Lowder dictated to her several passages from the letters purporting to be written by "Annie Luke;" also several particular phrases, figures, and initials, and then the following sentence—"I was a witness of the execution at Horse-monger Lane this morning. I went there with the intention of observing the crowd gathered to behold it, and I had excellent opportunities of doing so at intervals that occurred all through the night, and which occurred continuously from daybreak until after the spectacle was over. This might not have occurred to your friend, and when we meet I will explain to you more fully, why this thought occurred to me.—Annie. Lowder, Esq., Wright's Hotel."

Mr. Lowder (to witness)—Now will you show me what you have written. [Papers handed to Counsel.] I should like to hand them to the Bench. I should like, if possible, for this writing to be examined by an expert in Tokyo. I will undertake to have it brought back in exactly the same condition as it is, when handed to me.

His Honour—Do you wish me to initial it?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, earmark it. I should also like to know, sir, whether you will let we have some exhibits that were put in by me at the Corner's Inquest, but not put in to-day, even or referred to by my learned friend, in order that I can have them sent to the expert to whom I propose to

send this specimen of handwriting. I refer to exhibits P., S., and S.2, at the inquest.

His Honour—I think that it would be better if the expert came to the Court and examined them here.

Mr. Lowder—But they are not in Court. I offered them at the inquest, and I think I could uplift them as my personal property. I presume that they belong to me, as my learned friend does not want them, and has not referred to them. If necessary, I will give my personal guarantee that they shall come back intact. It would be of very much convenience to me if they were sent to Tokyo.

His Honour—They were put in by you?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, they were put in by me at the inquest.

His Honour—And you claim them as your property?

Mr. Lowder—As a privilege. I put them in, and as Counsel for the accused I think I have a right to them, as my learned friend on the other side has not brought them in on behalf of the prosecution. I consider them to be my property, and ask that they be given back, but I do not put it quite so strongly as that. If they are not required for the prosecution, I ask for them as Counsel for accused in this case.

His Honour—As these proceedings have really arisen from the inquest, I think that the Crown Prosecutor ought to have something to remark upon the application.

Mr. Litchfield—I do not think it advisable that any exhibits should be removed from the Court. They can be examined here in Court, at any time, and for any length of time, and I think that that would be enough.

His Honour—The Assistant-Judge of this Court sits as Coroner, and I think, Mr. Lowder, that you are setting up a distinction that is not recognised in this Court in the matter of Coroner, Inquest, and Magistrate.

Mr. Lowder—But you are not sitting now as Coroner.

His Honour—If I took your view of the matter, I should allow them to go out of my control, but I am averse to such removal.

Mr. Lowder—Of course I bow to you, Honour's suggestion, and concur. I simply asked for leave to have the exhibits as a matter of personal convenience.

His Honour—Then they had better be examined here.

Mr. Lowder had no further questions to put to the witness.

Witness before signing her depositions, said—I wish it to be understood that I took the paper away from Maruya's. The shopmen put it into my hands. I took it away to No. 6, Bund, and kept it there, and it never went on the Bluff. I went to Maruya's with my friend, Miss Jacob, to help her in the talking, as the boys did not seem to understand her.

His Honour—The Court will now adjourn till 10 o'clock, to-morrow.

Mr. Lowder—Does your Honour intend to sit in the afternoon?

His Honour—Not if it can be avoided.

Mr. Lowder—I should rather wish that it would be avoided, myself.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Nov. 10.

Since Mr. McKinley's election many factories are working overtime, and the mills reopened are giving employment to one hundred thousand men. There is a greatly increased demand for wool and cotton.

London, November, 3.

Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, speaking at Acton, advised the German press not to overstrain British forbearance by continued attacks based on the erroneous assumption of an irreconcilable rivalry between Great Britain and Russia.

(“SPECIAL” TELEGRAM TO “JAPAN MAIL.”)

Hakodate, November 8.

The first snow fell here last night.

Hakodate, November 9.

H.M.S. *Plover* arrived here yesterday.

Much snow has fallen since Saturday night.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, November 6.

The situation at Constantinople is again

growing worse owing to the tardiness of European diplomatic action. The tension in Crete is also increasing owing to the delay in the execution of the promised reforms. The Christian members of the Council are discontented.

London, Nov. 9.

The revival of business in America consequent on the election of Mr. McKinley, is remarkably widespread. Mills and factories that have been idle for some time are reopening.

Exchange. (Tel. trans.)

Exchange on London at Paris 25.21½

Exchange on London at Paris 4.85½

London, November 12.

It is reported that the Transvaal Government has decided to claim £1,000,000 from the Chartered Company, as an indemnity for Dr. Jameson's raid.

The Press rejoice at the settlement of the Venezuelan question. [The telegram announcing the settlement of the Venezuelan question is missing.]

The Porte has officially published a scheme of reforms for the whole Empire, and also orders the Valis (Governors-General) to execute the same forthwith.

The Venezuelan treaty between Great Britain and the United States of America comprises an agreement for the arbitration of farther disputes.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Nov. 2.

A parade of 130,000 business men has been held in New York in favour of McKinley and sound money. There is immense enthusiasm amongst the Republicans, who, while professing the utmost confidence, admit the existence of a large doubtful vote.

Serious floods have taken place in France. The Right Rev. Mandell Creighton, Bishop of Peterborough, has been translated to the Bishopric of London, in place of the Right Hon. and Right Rev. Frederick Temple, the present Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain has been elected Lord Rector of Glasgow University.

November 3.

Spain is issuing an internal five per cent. loan of four hundred million pesetas (£16,000,000 sterling), to defray the war expenses in Cuba and the Philippines.

November 4.

It is believed in Vienna that the Triple Alliance will not join in collective action, as advocated by the French and Russia Press, against Great Britain on the Egyptian Question, but, on the contrary, the Triple Alliance will probably side with Great Britain.

Nov. 5.

Major McKinley has had a sweeping victory in the Presidential election. There were enormous majorities in his favour in the Eastern, Northern, Central, and some of the Southern states. The majority in New York was three hundred thousand—the largest on record.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Nagoya, Nov. 13.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu leaves here for Kyoto to-morrow morning.

Kobe, Nov. 13.

Marquis Ito arrived at Maiko last evening. He will stay there for two weeks.

The Austrian man-of-war *Panther* put into this port from Nagasaki this morning.

Sendai, Nov. 13.

Mr. Hadano, President of the Hakodate Court of Appeal, arrived here on Wednesday evening. He left to-day to take up his new appointment.

Bakan, Nov. 13.

The rice market has risen, and in consequence the prices of all articles of food and clothing have been increased.

Sapporo, Nov. 13.

Lieut.-General Nagayama, Commandant of the Seventh Army Division, returned here to-day from Tokyo.

Moji, Nov. 13.

Six hundred and thirty Formosa time-expired soldiers arrived at this port from Formosa to-day.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 257.

WHITE.

1—K to B 6
2—Q to Q R 8 ch.
3—Kt to Kt 5, mate

BLACK.

1—P takes Kt
2—K takes B

if 2—K to Q 5

3—B to K 5, mate

1—K to Q 5

2—B to K 5 ch.

2—K to Q 4

3—Q to Q 6, mate

1—K to B 3

2—B to K 5

2—P takes Kt

3—Q to Q 8, mate

if 2—P takes P

3—Q to Q 6, mate.

Correct answers from Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.d.H., E.J.K., and Omega.

XX.—Your Key-move will not do. If Black plays 1—B to B 4 there is no mate. Some of these problems are deep, and the true solution by no means lies upon the surface.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 258.

WHITE.

1—B to Q B 6
2—Q to Kt 8, mate

BLACK.

1—P takes B

1—P to R 5

2—Kt to Kt 4, mate

cum multis aliis.

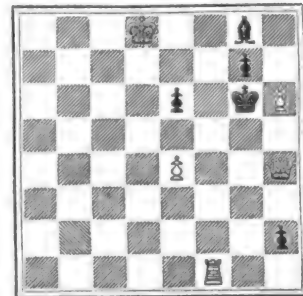
Correct answers from XX., J.D., W.H.S., W.d.H., E.J.K., Shogi, and Omega.

W.D.C.—Better luck next time!

PROBLEM NO. 261.

By CHOCOLATE.

BLACK.



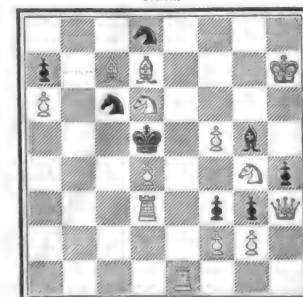
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM NO. 262.

By PALUZIE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

BUDA-PESTH.

This contest seems to have been shorn of some of its glory as per the following clipping:—

Steinitz had entered the tournament on the condition that Lasker would also be found in the ring. The latter, however, could not be induced

to play, as he thought that he would require all his powers in the forthcoming match with Steinitz. To a reporter of a German paper Lasker is alleged to have said that he requires a couple of months' rest before he can play in an important contest. As he had almost exhausted his strength in the Nuremberg congress he could not think of playing again in Budapest, the more so as he will have to prepare himself for his match with Steinitz. The latter, on the other hand, was of the opinion that the Budapest tourney would be excellent practice for the match. Still, as Lasker would not play, the veteran also declined to enter, as he meant to be on exactly even terms with Lasker when beginning the bout in Moscow.

Appended are the scores of all the competitors up to the end of the eighth round.

PLAYERS.	WON.	LOST.
Albin.....	4	2½
Charousek.....	5	2½
Janowski.....	4	2½
Marco.....	1	4
Maroczy.....	3½	3
Noa.....	2½	5½
Pillsbury.....	5½	1½
Von Popiel.....	1	7
Schlechter.....	3	3½
Tarrasch.....	2½	4
Tschigorin.....	5	2½
Walbrodt.....	4	2½
Winawer.....	6	2

GAME No. 602.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Ruy Lopez.	Dr. Lovegrove.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—P to Q 3
5—P to Q 4	5—B to Q 2
6—Kt to B 3	6—P takes P
7—Kt takes P	7—B to K 2
8—Kt takes Kt	8—P takes Kt
9—B to Q 3	9—P to Q 4
10—P to K 5	10—Kt to Kt 5
11—Q to K 2	11—K B to B 4
12—Q B to B 4	12—P to K R 4
13—Kt to R 4	13—B to K 2
14—P to Q B 4	14—R to Q Kt sq.
15—Q R to Q sq.	15—B to K 4
16—B to Q 2	16—B takes B
17—R takes B	17—Q to Kt 4
18—P takes P	18—Q to B 5
19—P to K Kt 3	19—Q takes Kt
20—P to K 6	20—B to B sq.
21—P takes P dis. ch.	21—K takes P
22—R to K sq.	22—R to B sq.
23—B to R 7	23—Q to Kt 5
24—P to Q 6	24—Resigns.

Pope Leo XIII. and Li Hing-chang are both devotees of chess, and are reputed to be strong players.

GAME No. 603.

"A SPURT BY SHOWALTER."
(Comments by Reichen in the Philadelphia Times.)

WHITE.	BLACK.
Showalter.	Albin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to K Kt 3

Lasker usually plays K Kt to B 3, and in the home circle A. K. makes the same illustrious move.

3—B to Q 3	3—B to Kt 2
4—P to Q B 3	4—Kt to Q 2
5—Kt to K 2	5—P to K 4
6—P to K B 4	6—Q checks.

Loss of time and of the game presently.

7—P in	7—Q to R 6
8—Kt home	8—Q to K 3
9—Kt to B 3	9—P to K R 3
10—Castles	10—P takes B P
11—B takes P	11—P to K Kt 4
12—B to Q 2	12—Kt to K 2
13—Kt to R 3	13—Kt to Q Kt 3
14—Kt to Kt 5	14—K to Q sq.
15—B takes P	15—P takes B
16—Kt takes Kt P, and Black stops moving.	

Black Bishop preaches as under, in the last issue of the *China Mail*.

"One object of a Chess column is:—

That those may play who never played before
And those who always played may play the more,
and for the first of these purposes I should like to combat two popular fallacies concerning the subject. The first is that chess is a mere game, undervaluing of the serious attention it demands. This is not so, Chess is less a game than an in-

tellectual pastime and a sovereign remedy for the worrying cares and anxieties that harass the business men of to-day. It is generally admitted that the cure for muscular weariness is the use of the same muscles in some different manner, and the same rule will apply to the brain.

"Now all worry and anxiety, reduced to its elements, consists of a strain upon the powers of imagination and foresight, and it is exactly these faculties for which Chess furnishes a bracing and stimulating exercise. At the chequered board, black care vanishes, ousted by her fairer sisters Providence and Adaptation, and in the mimic war, with the painless problems it sets the jaded mind, is found the completest relief for the cares that beset the day."

CORRESPONDENCE-CHESS.

GAME No. 604.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
E. P. Sharp.	W. M. Brooke.
Reading.	London.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P takes P
8—Q to Kt 3	8—Q to B 3
9—P to K 5	9—Q to Kt 3
10—Kt takes P	10—Kt to K 2
11—Kt to K 2	11—P to Q Kt 4
12—B to Q 3	12—Q to K 3
13—Q to Kt 2	13—P to K B 3
14—Kt to B 4	14—Q to B 2
15—B takes Kt P	15—R to Q Kt sq.
16—Q to K 2	16—B to Kt 2
17—B to B 4	17—Q to B sq.
18—B to Kt 2	18—K to Q sq.
19—K R to Q sq.	19—K to B sq.
20—Kt to K 6	20—Q to K sq.
21—Kt takes Kt P	21—Q to Kt 3
22—P takes P	22—Kt to B 4
23—Kt takes Kt	23—Q takes Kt
24—P to B 7	24—R to Q sq.
25—Q to K 8	25—B to Kt 5
26—R takes Q P	26—Resigns.

GAME No. 605.

MUZIO GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
W. M. Brooke.	E. P. Sharp.
London.	Reading.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Castles	5—P takes Kt
6—Q takes P	6—Q to B 3
7—P to K 5	7—Q takes P
8—P to Q 3	8—B to R 3
9—B to Q 2	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—B to B 3	10—Q to B 4 ch.
11—K to R sq.	11—P to B 3
12—B to Q 5	12—K Kt to K 2
13—Q to R 5 ch.	13—K to Q sq.
14—B takes P	14—R to K Kt sq.
15—Kt to Q B 3	15—R to Kt 3
16—Kt to K 4	16—Q takes P
17—R to B 2	17—Q takes Q P
18—R to Q sq.	18—Q to Kt 4
19—P to Q R 4	19—Q takes R P
20—Kt to Q B 5	20—Q to Kt 4
21—Kt to K 6 ch.	21—Resigns.

We take the following from the *Literary Digest*.

DINORAUR THE UNCONQUERED.

The great Oriental Chess-champion, Dinoraur, is coming to this Land of the Setting Sun from Araby the Blest. Dinoraur is not only champion, but for years, since he has perfected his system, he has not lost a game. He has a great talisman, "Hisdinor," and a lesser one, "Tabakamuf," to ward off evil positions, and his late great success over his only would-be rival, Catztrayn, was so pronounced that he was considered by all the Orient to be the great and only champion. All hail, great Dinoraur! The scrubby champions of the West crawl but as worms in the sunshine of thy glorious presence!—*The Times, Philadelphia*.

TARRASCH AND MAROCZY.

After Budapest; after Lasker and Steinitz; after Pillsbury and any player who thinks that he can down the American—we may expect a battle royal between the German Doctor and the young Hungarian. The Magyar is of the opinion that he can not be beaten, and backs his opinion by a good-sized wager. The Teuton accepts the deft, and M. Maroczy will have to get his chess-head in good condition to save himself, inasmuch as Tarrasch has, by the terms of the agreement, to beat him only one game.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Nov. 21st.
From Hongkong.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 14th.
From Europe, via.....	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Nov. 16th.
From Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 21st.
From Hongkong.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 21st.
From America.....	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 21st.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 23rd.
From Europe, via.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 25th.
From Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 3rd.

* *Coptic* left San Francisco on November 3rd. † *Doris* left Nagasaki on November 18th. ‡ *Salasia* (with French mail) left Shanghai on November 13th. § *Phena* left Kobe on November 13th. ¶ *China* left Hongkong on November 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shang- hai.....	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 25th.
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Nov. 18th.
For Victoria, H.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 25th.
For Hongkong.....	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 22nd.
For Hongkong.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 23rd.
For America.....	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 24th.
For Portland.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 25th.
For Europe, via Hong- kong.....	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 27th.
For Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Humber (1), British store-ship, Commander Frank W. Wyley, 7th November.—Hakodate 5th November, Fleet-stores.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Yoshizawa, 7th November.—Yokkaichi 6th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Grafton (36), British cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 8th November.—Hakodate 6th November.

Aolus (8), British cruiser, Captain Groome, 8th November.—Hakodate 6th November.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 8th November.—Nagasaki 5th November, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Gerda, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, 8th November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 8th November.—Nagasaki 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 8th November.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 17th October, Mails and General.—Doddwell, Catill & Co.

Tohai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, D. Ono, 8th November.—Yokkaichi 7th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andruoff, 9th November.—Hakodate 6th November.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, Mathias, 9th November.—New York via ports, and Kobe 7th November, General.—Frazar & Co.

Hupsh, British steamer, 1,847, T. Quail, 9th November.—Kobe 7th November, General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Kong Wai, British steamer, 1,115, Unsworth, 9th November.—Hongkong, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, S. Muramatsu, 9th November.—Kobe 7th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, McGilvrey, 10th November.—London via ports, and Kobe 8th November, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 10th November.—Handa and Yokkaichi 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 11th November.—Otaru via ports, 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumbawa, British barque, 1,065, Carl Rehberg, 11th November.—Caleta Buena 16th August, Nitrate of Soda.—Takata & Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, K. Ito, 11th November.—Seattle, Wash., 17th October, Lumber.—Merchants in Osaka.

Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, J. S. Hogg, 12th November.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 11th November, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Brown, 12th November.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 11th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 12th November.—Kobe 11th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 12th November.—Handa and Yokkaichi 11th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, J. W. Ekstrand, 13th November.—Shanghai via ports, 7th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Freia, Norwegian steamer, 2,125, Trovik, 13th November.—Iloilo, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 13th November.—Hongkong 7th November, Sugar and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, 13th November.—Kobe 12th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Tibbals, 13th November.—Otaru via ports, 10th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 7th November.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 564, Nakajima, 7th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 8th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 8th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Carl, German ship, 1,932, Hashagon, 8th November.—Astoria, Oregon, Ballast.—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 8th November.—Guam, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Yoshizawa, 8th November.—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, O. Davey, 8th November.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Firebrand (4), British gunboat, Lieut.-Commander G. Tufnell, 9th November.—Nagasaki.

Linnet (5), British gunboat, Captain B. C. Sparks, 9th November.—Nagasaki.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, De La Perrelle, 9th November.—London via ports, and Manila, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Mike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, P. Gowing, 9th November.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 9th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 9th November.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 2,795, T. Leigh, 10th November.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Progress, German steamer, 746, Brandt, 10th November.—Moji, Ballast.—Captain.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 10th November.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Kannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Yasuno, 10th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 10th November.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Brady, 10th November.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 11th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Antenor, British steamer, 1,560, Jackson, 11th November.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Ono, 12th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, Cottier, 12th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kang Wai, British steamer, 1,115, Unsworth, 13th November.—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Humber (1), British store-ship, Commander Frank W. Wyley, 12th November.—Hongkong, Fleet stores.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 13th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 13th November.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gerda, German steamer, 2,052, Ehlers, 14th November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, McGilvray, 14th November.—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. W. K. A-bill, Miss Ethel W. A-bill, Master Paul G. A-bill, and Rev. and Mrs. D. C. Planette in cabin; 5 Japanese in steerage. For Kobe:—Mr. H. S. Flood in cabin. For Shanghai:—Rev. and Mrs. Frank Garrett, Dr. Daisy Macklin, the Misses Mary Kelly, Lydia J. Kay, Mary McLenaghan, Mary Waterman, Gertrude C. Walter, Mamie Pasmore, Mona Hall, Margaret E. Smith, Rose Palmer, and Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Houlding and 4 children in cabin. For Hongkong:—100 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. W. Thompson, Mrs. Gibson, Lieut. P. W. Day, Rev. H. Loomis, Rev. S. H. Moffet, Rev. G. L. Gifford, Messrs. E. V. Thorn, H. S. B. Brindley, G. Matsuda, Okubo, J. Campbell, Jun., S. Yanagi, J. Guggenheim, and M. Kato in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Takayanagi and child, Mr. and Mrs. Kitazato, Mr. and Mrs. Yamada, Mr. and Mrs. Katsumoto and child, Mr. and Mrs. Kuwabara, Mr. and Mrs. N. Aoki, Master and Miss Aoki, Messrs. Kubota, Yenyu, and Shibata in second class, and 138 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Taiyuan*, from Hongkong:—Mr. W. J. Robinson in cabin; one Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. S. Bradstreet, Mr. H. Busse, Mr. D. E. Dismukes, Count Finckenstein, Dr. W. H. Furness, Mr. Geo. W. Hooper, Rev. J. C. Howe, Mr. A. M. Howe, Mr. H. M. Hiller, Miss J. E. Lowber, Miss Lowber, Mr. O. Oppenheimer, Mr. O. A. Poole, Mr. W. T. Richards, Mr. F. Ronge, and Mr. O. Suzuki in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. M. E. Paul, Madame S. German, Mr. H. J. Owen, Mrs. E. F. Willcomb, Mrs. McCormick, Miss McCormick, Mr. C. S. Taylor, Mr. J. T. Smith, Mr. C. J. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. H. Delacamp, infant and amah, Mr. H. J. Rothwell, Mr. Alfred A. Loureiro, Mr. Wm. Crichton, Mr. E. A. Sargent, and Mr. E. W. Tilden in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Lyall, Mr. F. Kingsell and servant, Captain Samoiloff, Captain Kniasoff, and Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Reid in cabin; one European, 9 Chinese and child in steerage.

Per British steamer *Japan*, for London via ports:—Mr. R. C. Pterbridge and Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hewett in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Mr. Carl Michelan, Mr. A. Fisher, Mrs. Ishimoto, Mr. Y. Ishimoto, and Mr. W. Gorham in cabin; Mr. T. Maruyama, Mrs. Takeshima, Master Takeshima, and Mr. O. Kutsugake in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Tsylika Bruno and Mrs. E. L. Conan in cabin; Messrs. Navrotsky Nicolas, Sen Chu Nang, James Conner, and J. Burns in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr. R. H. R. Buder, Mr. and Mrs. Findlay and child, and Mr. S. Nomura in cabin; Mr. A. K. Henning and Mr. John H. Herring in second class, and 57 passengers in steerage in all.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	BOSTON	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	1,812	674	1,571	—	—	4,057
Hyogo	157	—	—	—	—	157
Yokohama	837	—	—	—	—	837
Hongkong	808	—	—	—	10	818
Amoy	—	6,153	1,256	—	—	7,409
Total	3,614	6,827	2,827	—	10	13,278

	SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	BOSTON	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	27	—	—	—	27
Hongkong	—	133	—	—	—	133
Yokohama	—	304	—	—	—	304
Total	—	464	—	—	—	464

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 485 bales; Waste Silk, 244 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Tacoma*, Captain Whistler, reports:—Left Victoria, B.C., at midnight, October 17th, crossed the 180th Meridian on 27th lat. 49 50 N. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th November at a.m. From October 20th until November 6th a succession of south-westerly gales and heavy weather was met with; November 3rd lat. 41.32 N., long. 151.59 E. passed and spoke the Co.'s steamer *Olympia*, all well.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Cam, British steamer, 1,630, H. N. Shaw, 9th November.—New York via ports, and Kobe 7th November, General.—Fiazar & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, de Maubenge, 4th November.—Marseilles 27th September, Hongkong 26th October, Shanghai 30th, and Kobe 3rd November, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Freia, Norwegian steamer, 2,125, Trovik, 13th November.—Iloilo, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hupah, British steamer, 1,847, T. Quail, 9th November.—Kobe 7th November, General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, J. S. Hogg, 12th November.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 11th November, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Knight of St. John, British steamer, 2,347, A. J. Billett, 7th November.—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 13th November.—Hongkong 7th November, Sugar and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Brown, 12th November.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 11th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

SAILING VESSELS.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 6th October.—North Pacific, Outer Skins.—Captain.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Funcke, 17th September.—North Pacific, Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Mistley Hall, British ship, 1,772, A. G. Parker, 4th November.—New York 31st May, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Pointer, American schooner, 40, Snow, 8th October.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 9th October.—North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.

Sumbawa, British barque, 1,065, Carl Rehberg, 11th November.—Caleta Buena, 16th August, Nitrate of Soda.—Takata & Co.

Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 26th May.—Sydney, via South Sea Islands, 24th May.—Captain and Owner.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Aeolus (8), British cruiser, Captain Groome, 8th November.—Hakodate 6th November.

Grafton (36), British cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 8th November.—Hakodate 6th November.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andruif, 9th November.—Hakodate 6th November.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Furukawa, 26th October.—Yokosuka 26th October.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 15th October.—Hakodate 13th October.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Still a most dreary situation. Nothing done in Grey Goods and Yarn, and the godowns of Importers are filling up. Fancy Cottons and Woollens also show a very poor business. A few Turkey Reds and Victoria Lawns are all that has been moved this week.

COTTON PICK GOODS.

	PER POUND.
Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds. 39 inches	—
Grey Shirts—6 1/2 yds. 45 inches	—
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds. 32 inches	\$1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirts—12 yds. 44 inches	1.95 to 2.00
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 32 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER POUND.
Valvets—Black, 35 yards, 32 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb. 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.474
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	—
Medium	0.30 to 0.384
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	—
Common	0.25 to 0.374

Mousseline de laine—Crape, 2 1/2 yards, 31 inches.....	0.15	10.0	22
Cloths—Pilots, 5 1/2 @ 56 inches.....	0.15	10.0	50
Cloths—Presidents, 5 1/2 @ 56 inches.....	0.60	10.0	50
Cloths—Union, 5 1/2 @ 56 inches.....	0.40	10.0	70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.....	0.60	10.0	75

COTTON YARNS.			
			PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles.....	—	—	—
Nos. 28/32, Singles.....	—	—	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles.....	—	—	—
Nos. 32, Doubles.....	—	—	—
Nos. 42, Doubles.....	—	—	—
Nos. 2/60, Plain.....	—	—	—
Nos. 2/80, Plain.....	—	—	—
Nos. 2/100, Plain.....	—	—	—
Nos. 2/60, Gassed.....	—	—	—
Nos. 2/80, Gassed.....	—	—	—
Nos. 2/100, Gassed.....	—	—	—

MARKETS.
Quiet and unchanged, but supplies from home are reduced, and we may see more activity ere long.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 1/2 inch.....	3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 2 inch.....	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted.....	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron.....	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets.....	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted.....	5.00 to 6.00
Iron Plates, per box.....	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3.....	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

KEROSENE.
Market quiet. Quotations unchanged but nominal. It is expected by buyers that prices here will decline shortly, as they have already done so in Kobe.

American.....	Nom. \$2.27 1/2 to 2.30
Russian.....	Nom. 2.35 to 2.40
Langkat.....	—

SUGAR.
Brown—Small business and large arrivals have depressed prices. White—Very quiet, prices nominal.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao.....	\$4.40 to 4.50
Brown Manila.....	5.20 to 5.30
Brown Datong.....	3.80 to 3.90
Brown Canton.....	3.80 to 4.00
White Java and Penang.....	6.80 to 7.00
White Refined.....	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Trade has dwindled to small proportions these last few days. Prices as yet unchanged; but the large stock begins to press heavily on holders, and they will probably soon make some concessions to keep moving.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom. \$850 to 860
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	Nom. 830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	Nom. 810 to 820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	Nom. 780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 13/16, 14/17 den.	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 1.....	740 to 745
Kakedas—No. 1.....	730 to 735
Kakedas—No. 2.....	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—

WASTE SILK.

Quite a boom here. Plenty of buyers at quotations and a large business doing. Tendency upwards.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	95 to 100
Noshi—Shimab, Best.....	75 to 80
Noshi—Shimab, Good.....	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best.....	140 to 150
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds.....	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.....	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

Small business, but stocks show a further shrinkage, and holders are firm at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest.....	Nom.
Choice.....	\$26 to \$27
Finest.....	24 to 25
Fine.....	22 to 23
Good Medium.....	20 to 21
Medium.....	18 to 19
Good Common.....	16 to 17
Common.....	14 to 15

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fallen a point since last week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/8
— — Bills on demand.....	2/1 1/8
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/1 1/8
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2/1 1/8
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/2 1/8
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.07 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.73
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1/2 % P.
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	1/2 % D.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	72 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight.....	Nominal.
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	51 1/2
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	51 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.16
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.21 1/2
Bar Silver (London).....	29 1/2

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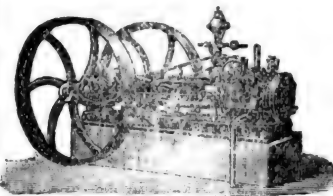
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 21.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 21ST, 1896.

月三年五十二陰曆 月三第百四第千一第 Vol. XXVI.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 21ST, 1896.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE new President of the Royal Academy is Mr. E. J. Poynter.

SLIGHT shocks of earthquakes have been frequent this week in the central provinces.

THE South Australian House of Assembly has passed the Coloured Races Restriction Bill.

PRINCE ARISUGAWA has been appointed to the command of the Japanese Standing Squadron.

THERE have been six suicides in the foreign communities of Yokohama and Kobe during the past fifteen months.

MR. NISHI, Minister to Russia, who is reported to have resigned the post, will, it is said, be appointed a Privy Councillor.

MR. NOMURA TATSUTARO, a railway expert in the Communications Department, having been

ordered to Europe, will leave Japan within a short time in company with Mr. Inudzuka Katsutaro, Director of the Department.

THE Chinese Government have commenced the construction of a large dock at Port Arthur, and experts have been appointed.

THE Niger Company is preparing a large military expedition for which thirty-five British officers have been engaged.

MR. GINBAYASHI TSUNAO, President of the Hokuyetsu Railway Company, died suddenly on the 13th inst. at Niigata, Echigo.

SEVERAL newspapers have been suspended during the week for printing libellous attacks on the Minister of the Imperial Household.

THE resignation of Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, not having been accepted, he will continue in office.

MR. DE WENDRICH, Russian Consul at Kobe, committed suicide there on Monday, by shooting himself in the mouth as he lay in bed.

BARON HAYASHI, Minister to China, being due at Kobe about the 22nd inst., the people of the port are preparing to tender him a welcome.

MARQUIS SAIGO, Minister of the Navy, paid a visit to Rear-Admiral Oxley, on board H.M.S. *Grafton*, on Tuesday, in Yokohama harbour.

THE Korean Government has prohibited the sale of beans and grain to Japanese traders; they allege that the export of these cereals will cause suffering to the peasantry.

COUNT AND COUNTESS OKUMA gave a very enjoyable garden-party at Waseda, Tokyo, on Tuesday, which was largely attended by the foreign community.

THE Assistant-Judge of H.B.M. Court for Japan has committed Mrs. Carew to take her trial before a Judge and Jury on the charge of wilful murder of her husband.

THE charge made by Mr. Masujima for his legal services to the Tokyo Municipal Assembly in regard to the Iron-pipe Scandal case is causing heated controversies in Tokyo.

MR. SUDO TOKIICHIRO, one of the chief members of the *Shimpo-to*, has withdrawn from the Party. Mr. Taguchi, the well-known economist, is expected to take a similar step shortly.

A VERY severe thunderstorm was experienced in Yokohama and Tokyo in the small hours of Tuesday morning, but beyond interfering with the electric lights no damage was done.

THE Minister of Finance has issued Redemption Public Loan Bonds to the amount of yen 2,015,000. The face value of the Bond is yen 100 yen and it is issued at yen 98 38.

SIXTY-TWO members of the House of Representatives are promoters of several newly projected companies, and ninety-one others are shareholders or officials of public companies.

PRINCE PAK (Boku Eiko) who at one time intended living with H.R.H. Prince Wi-hwa at Kanagawa, has recently removed to Tokyo, having hired No. 17, Hikawa-cho, Azabu.

THE Queensland Parliament has passed an urgent Bill to assist the Queensland National Bank, which has lost its entire capital. The liabilities exceed the assets by £2,500,000.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, the late Minister of Education, will leave Yokohama on the 29th inst. for

France. He proposes staying at Marseilles until February next year, and will then proceed to England. He may return home *via* America.

THE sum of yen 52,000, expenditures for the prevention of epidemics, having been allowed to the Home Department, the amount was drawn from the Finance Department on Monday.

A TREATY of peace has been signed between Italy and Abyssinia. The prisoners held by King Menelik are to be released. Italy recognizes the absolute independence of Ethiopia.

By a strange irony of fate, three hundred and fifty fire engines have been burned in a conflagration that has destroyed the premises of Messrs. Shand, Mason and Co., the Fire-engine Manufacturers.

THE Budget for all the Departments for the thirtieth fiscal year will be printed about the beginning of December. The estimated total of the Budget is two hundred and forty million yen.

In a debate on Armenia in the French Chamber, M. Hanotaux stated that the Powers were agreed on common action, which must not impair the integrity of Turkey. The visit of the Czar, he said, had led to a clear exchange of views between the Powers.

THE Turkish Ambassador in Paris has informed M. Hanotaux that the Sultan has agreed to eight reforms, in which are included the release of innocent prisoners, the protection of peaceable Armenians, the prevention of acts of violence, the granting of relief to the chief sufferers, and reparation to damaged Catholic convents.

LORD LONSDALE, speaking at Whitehaven, said that President Kruger had asked the assistance of the Emperor William at the time of Dr. Jameson's raid into the Transvaal but his Majesty had declined the request. He, Lord Lonsdale, had the Kaiser's authority to state that his telegram to President Kruger meant nothing antagonistic to England or the English.

THE Import trade cannot be reported as improved in any direction, and again there have been no sales of Yarns, Shirtings, Fancy Cottons, or Woollens. At the present time there is a larger stock of unsold Piece-goods lying in the godowns of Yokohama than has ever been the case at any period since the port was opened, due of course to heavy importations upon an existing large stock and the small sales of the last few months. There is but little doing in Metals, though no change is reported in prices. Holders are doubtless overstocked, especially with Bar Iron, several thousand tons of which are in godown awaiting purchasers. These latter are not entirely without wants, but appear to be hanging back for a drop before dealing. Wire Nails and Tin Plates have moved off fairly at late figures. There have been no sales of Kerosene, but former purchases are taken up promptly, while the absence of business makes prices nominal. In the Sugar trade, China and Manila sorts have been depressed through heavy arrivals, but Formosa kinds have been largely taken at a slight reduction in price. Very little doing in Whites. The Silk trade is very quiet, and prices nominal. There has been a fair amount of business in Waste, but the orders on hand appear to be nearly all filled. In the Tea trade a good business has been done considering the time of year and the stock now on the market. Rates of exchange advanced early in the week, and have remained steady to the close.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Politically and journalistically the week has been the most eventful since the new ministry came into power. On Oct. 25th, the *Twenty-sixth Century* published, for the second time, a severe attack on the Minister of the Imperial Household, and on the 9th inst. the article was reproduced in full by the *Nippon*, which added commendatory notes of its own. The Opposition papers, vigilantly watching for any plausible pretext to open fire against the Government, did not fail to avail themselves of this opportunity to the utmost, and, led by the *Nichi Nichi*, which at once entered the arena, armed with minute rebutting information, as well as by the *Chuo* and the *Tokyo Shimbu*, they accused the Osaka periodical and the Tokyo journal of gross disrespect to the Imperial Court. At the same time, the Ministry were charged with unpardonable negligence in the discharge of their duties, since they suffered such writing to pass unchecked. Naturally the *Nippon*, and others, as the *Tokyo Asahi* and the *Kokumin* tried to repel the accusation of disrespect, but before this wordy warfare had proceeded far, pressure understood to have been brought to bear on the Ministry by the Household Department, resulted in the suppression of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the suspension of the *Nippon*. The Press Censor's notice to that effect was issued on the 14th inst.

This procedure threw political and journalistic circles into a state of unusual ferment, and provoked a heated discussion in newspaper columns, some of the pro-government papers not hesitating to accuse the Ministry of vacillation, and of breaking the promise embodied in the Premier's speech to the Local Governors. Rarely indeed has such a battle been fought by the two sections of the Tokyo press. It is true that the Opposition papers are numerically much inferior to their adversaries, being only three in number, or, more properly, four, if we include a comparatively insignificant sheet, the *Yiyu*. Moreover, of these three the authorized organ of the Liberals does not devote as much energy to the affair as do the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Chuo*, especially the former, which fights the battle with desperate and, in some respects, admirable skill against the combined strength of the pro-Government papers. These latter, however, have had their ranks thinned by the suspension of the *Nippon* and the *Kokumin*, two of the most unscrupulous fighters, but the *Mainichi*, the *Yomiuri*, the *Tokyo Asahi*, and several others maintain the campaign energetically. The *Yiji* plays a strictly neutral rôle, not discussing the affair at all, and the *Yoroku*, though avowedly independent, is inclined to take the side of the Government.

But the ferment into which the *Shimpo-to* have been suddenly thrown is perhaps more noteworthy. The *Young Shimpo-to*, a not unimportant section of the great Party, have decided to oppose the Ministry uncompromisingly, while the *Shimpo-to* Club, an organization consisting of politicians that have no seats in the Diet and are therefore somewhat less hampered than their colleagues of the Lower House, have resolved that as the Cabinet, in contravention of its original announcement, has "trampled freedom of speech under foot," they disapprove of the Government's procedure. Nothing definite is yet heard as to the attitude of the *Shimpo-to* proper and of the Liberals and the National Unionists.

We entertained a suspicion, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, that as a long time had intervened between the appearance of the offensive article in the *Twenty-sixth Century* and in the *Nippon*, and the administrative steps taken against the two publications, a tacit understanding must have existed between the Ministry themselves and the scribblers that penned the grossly disrespectful diatribe. At any rate, led astray by their wire-pullers and by their anxiety not to impair the friendship of the *Shimpo-to*, the Ministry suffered the offensive article to be distributed and sold with impunity throughout the

country. Can they escape from the charge of neglect of duty? It is now widely understood that the Osaka periodical and the *Nippon* were instigated by an official sitting very close to the Ministerial chairs, and if that official be so devoid of conscience as not to resign of his own accord, the Ministry must compel him to do so. Of course the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet is referred to.

This affair seems to be causing some uneasiness to the Ministry. On Thursday the Premier, the Ministers of Home and Foreign Affairs, of the Navy, and of War, held a long conference, in the sequel of a representation that the Premier had submitted to the Emperor. The *Yomiuri* learns that the Ministers decided to take some resolute step, but what it was we do not learn. It is to be observed, however, that the strong measures adopted in the case of the Osaka periodical and to the *Nippon* have not been very successful. Nobody appears to be entirely satisfied, not even the Household Department.

The *Chuo* does not wonder at any want of promptitude on the part of the Ministry, for the present Cabinet is like a two-headed serpent. One head, representing Count Okuma, desires to go one way, and the other, representing Count Kabayama, moves in the opposite direction. In another article the same paper asks the Cabinet why, if the statements published by the Osaka periodical are a true account of the state of affairs existing in the Court, the Premier does not proceed to apply an efficient remedy. It refers also to the intimate connection subsisting between the *Twenty-sixth Century*, the *Nippon*, and Mr. Takahashi, the Chief-Secretary of the Cabinet, and it maintains that the Ministry must draw a distinct line of demarcation between themselves and those having relations with publications that disturb public tranquillity.

The *Tokyo Shimbu* is surprised to learn that, bewildered by conflicting opinions in connection with the Household Department affair, the Premier submitted the matter to the judgment of the Emperor before taking any Administrative step against the two publications. If so, if the Premier was really unable to bring the opinions of the Ministers into line, then he has forfeited his title to be head of the Cabinet, and should ask the Emperor to relieve him from a task beyond the scope of his ability. The Liberal organ has also much to say about the alleged understanding between Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and the two offending publications. It argues that if the Ministry are really resolved to punish any action calculated to bring the Court into disrespect, then they must take decisive steps in the case of that official.

The *Yomiuri* is sincerely sorry to see the Cabinet betrayed into action inconsistent with its platform, for, in its opinion, there existed no necessity for recourse to the old arbitrary method of administrative interference in press affairs. The matter might have been satisfactorily dealt with by criminal procedure. From the point of view of public opinion or of the Ministerial platform, the application of the suppression and suspension clauses of the Press Law was a grave error and deserves strong condemnation. If administrative measures were really needed to restrain the two periodicals, why were there no measures taken before any clamour had been raised by the Opposition papers? The *Yomiuri* itself refrained from alluding to the article in the Osaka periodical, because it feared to furnish to the Opposition a plausible pretext for the Opposition attacking the Cabinet, and it earnestly hopes that, before the Diet opens, the Ministry will make ample amends for the gross blunder it has now committed.

The *Mainichi* has many things to say about the affair. Not placing any ready confidence in the utterances of the Osaka magazine, and entertaining scruples against making Court matters a topic of public discussion, it took no notice of the Osaka periodical's article. However, the mere fact that the character of the Household Minister has afforded so much material for discussion shows that his

armour of virtue cannot be without vulnerable points. As to the contention that an attack on the Home Minister constitutes disrespect to the Court and the Sovereign, the *Mainichi* finds it entirely absurd, for if such an argument were valid, would not an attack on any Minister of State amount to disrespect towards the Sovereign as the repository of whose confidence the Minister holds his portfolio? The *Mainichi* equally regrets the vacillation and weakness of the Ministry, for an extraordinary measure adopted towards two publications long after they had inserted the offending article shows that the Cabinet's action was taken under pressure, and not under conscientious conviction. Our contemporary hopes that the Ministry will repent of their error, and will introduce in the next session of the Diet an amended Press law with the obnoxious clauses rescinded *in toto*.

The Opposition's plan of campaign, writes the *Kokumin*, though mean and contemptible, was nevertheless cleverly conceived. The Cabinet fell into the snare, and were obliged by intimidation to adopt a harsh measure against the two publications. It has been a very shameful discomfiture for the Matsukata Cabinet. What the Ministry must do at this juncture is to thoroughly remodel the Household Department and eliminate every recalcitrant element from the Cabinet.

This article appeared in the *Kokumin's* issue of the 17th instant, and the next day it was suspended on the usual ground of disturbing public tranquillity. We must note, also, that in its issue on the day of suspension, our contemporary went a step farther, and urged that the Ministry must advise the Emperor to remove the Household Minister from his present post, and, in the event of their advice being rejected, they must tender their own resignations; for to beat a lame retreat and to suffer the Household Minister to retain his post would amount to an admission that the Ministry had been worsted in the dispute by Count Hijikata. Rather resign in a body and manfully retire from officialdom, with the resolution to dispel, by the support of the people, the cloud that obscures the discernment of the Sovereign. The *Kokumin* then proceeded to criticize Count Hijikata as brazen-faced, and to aver that unless the Household Department were thoroughly remodelled, no administrative reform could be effected. Possibly the *Kokumin* provoked administrative interference still more acutely in a note alleging that Count Hijikata was dissuaded from resigning by the Vice-Minister of the Household, the Chiefs of the Record Bureau and of the Board of Ceremonies, and by Barons Ito and Suematsu. It adds that the Count originally promised the Premier to resign, but changed his mind in deference to the remonstrances of the above persons, who said that to retire on such trivial grounds would compromise the dignity of the Court, and that to present a *Shintai-ukagai* (a document asking for instructions about resignation) would be sufficient, which advice the Count followed, to the utter surprise and indignation of the Premier and other influential Ministers of State.

The *Tokyo Asahi* criticises in violent language the attitude that the Household Minister now assumes. It accuses him of meddling with the Administration of the State and improperly wielding sway under the ægis of the Emperor, thus inviting public hostility to the Court. Flattered by the magnanimity of the Emperor who, of his unbounded graciousness, dispensed with the necessity of resignation, the Count seems to have determined to remain calmly in his present post. Can such a man be called a really loyal subject? In another article the *Asahi* dilates upon this charge, accuses the Household Minister of having overstepped his competence under the influence of personal indignation, and declares that his action amounts to having intimidated the Cabinet by taking advantage of the privilege he derives from his easy access to the Emperor.

The pro-Government papers are bent on in-

ducing the Household Minister to arraign the Editors of the two publications before a Law Court. Though the original article, writes the *Yomiuri*, may not constitute the crime of disrespect to the Court, it assuredly amounts to the offence of disrespect to the Household Minister. Therefore so long as he suffers the Editors of the two publications to go unpunished, and so long as he does not take steps to clear himself of the accusations preferred against him, the public will be entitled to stigmatize him as a shameless person, entirely disqualified to have access to the Imperial Court. The pretext that to take legal proceedings against the Editors would place the Court in an embarrassing situation, is entirely flimsy, for if the Household Minister is so deeply solicitous of avoiding everything in the slightest degree likely to impair the dignity of the Court, he should himself retire and put an end finally to the scandal. In short, he must choose between the alternatives of instituting legal proceedings to clear his character, or withdrawing from his present position.

The *Mainichi* also argues that the administrative measure taken against the two publications does not in the least dispel the deep sense of anxiety that the public entertain about the Court after reading the article in question. Therefore, the Household Minister is bound to refute the charges brought against him, and to ease the nation's mind.

The *Nichi Nichi* can not understand why the Ministry should not adopt a duly apologetic procedure towards the Sovereign, in view of the consideration that this affair, which must have subjected the august mind to much anxiety, is understood to have originated with a subordinate of the Cabinet, and because, as a result of the Cabinet's remissness in the discharge of its duty it has suffered the slanderous article to be disseminated far and wide. As to the accusation preferred against the Household Minister that he has overstepped the limit of his official competence, the *Nichi Nichi* replies that the Minister was obliged to call the attention of the Cabinet to the affair because the latter failed to take proper notice of it.

The *Tokyo Asahi* would like to know whether there is even one disloyal subject throughout the Empire, and declares that the nation will unanimously deny the existence of such a man. Yet the *Nichi Nichi* accuses some of its fellow nationals of disrespect to the Court. Such a paper deserves condemnation as a public enemy.

The *Chuo* and the *Nichi Nichi* unite in charging the Ministry with improper procedure. The former paper's accusation is based on information furnished by the *Yomiuri* that, on the occasion of an extraordinary Cabinet meeting, held on the 13th inst. to discuss the Household Department affair, Messrs. Takahashi, the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Komuchi, Chief of the Legislative Bureau, were allowed to take part in the debate. The *Chuo* condemns this as an act of gross impropriety on the part of the Cabinet, and denounces it as totally opposed to the spirit of maintaining order and discipline in officialdom. The *Nichi Nichi's* charge is of a graver description. It amounts to questioning the competence of the present Ministry. Our contemporary relies upon statements made by the *Tokyo Asahi* and other journals that the Ministry were obliged, against their will, to take an extraordinary administrative step against the two publications, merely in consequence of the Household Minister's threats. In other words, nine Ministers of State were forced by one official to adopt a line of action really repugnant to them. Can such a Cabinet be considered competent to discharge the grave functions of State?

The pro-Government papers and those opposed to them make a shuttle-cock of the contention that Court affairs have been dragged into the mire of political squabbles. When the former accuse the latter of exaggerating the personal affairs of the Household Minister into matters having relations to the Imperial Court,

the latter reply that the publication of the article in question in an obscure Osaka periodical at first, and its subsequent reproduction in the *Nippon*, were really dictated by a plot to bring about the resignation of Count Hijikata, and to enlist the Household Department in the ranks of the present Ministry.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

X SHOOTING OF MRS. COCKERILL'S SECOND HUSBAND.

THE circumstances under which the late Mr. John A. Cockerill's widow was re-married, and the story of her second husband's probably fatal wounding by a pistol shot, have been given a prominence in the New York press which would not have been accorded but for the Colonel's former conspicuous position in journalism. The main facts of the case are these:—Two months after Colonel Cockerill's death at Cairo, Mrs. Cockerill was married to Walter Lenau, a young clerk in a silk importing house of New York. He was twenty-seven years old, the lady's age being forty. The wedding was a very sudden affair, and was wholly unexpected by the friends of both parties, who were united during an excursion to Hoboken, in the office of a Justice of the Peace of that town. It is related that during the ceremony the bride directed the Justice to omit the word "obey" from the customary formula, it having been agreed between Mr. Lenau and herself that this particular promise should not be exacted. Soon after the marriage, Mrs. Lenau, who was Colonel Cockerill's sole legatee, purchased a fine house for \$10,000, in Englewood, New Jersey, where the couple dwelt in extreme retirement until October 18th, on the afternoon of which day Mrs. Lenau startled the neighbourhood by running into the street, screaming that her husband had shot himself, and calling loudly for doctors:—"twenty doctors, if necessary," was her cry. Medical attendance was quickly at hand, but little hope was given that the injured man's life could be saved. The newspapers intimate that suicide was suspected, but no evidence whatever in this direction has been produced. Nothing could be learned from Mr. Lenau, who was incapable of speech. Mrs. Lenau stated that her husband was in excellent health and spirits on the day in question, and that after an early dinner he occupied himself with cleaning his revolver. She noticed that he handled the weapon carelessly, pointing the muzzle toward his body, and urged him to be more cautious. The moment after she spoke, there was a report, and her husband fell. The idea of suicide, she declared, was not to be thought of. He had no troubles or anxieties, and was living most happily, as was she likewise. The *New York World*, of which Colonel Cockerill was once managing editor, says that "the shooting was the subject of much speculation among some of that gentleman's friends," but vouchsafes no explanation of this mysterious remark.

MISSIONS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

A CROWDED meeting was held on 29th September at Exeter Hall, under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society, for the purpose of bidding God-speed to the missionaries about to proceed to their stations in Egypt, Palestine, Ceylon, China, Japan, and British Columbia. Sir John Kennaway, the President of the Society, occupied the chair. Short speeches were delivered by Bishop Fyson (Japan), the Rev. J. S. Collins (South China), who are returning to their stations, and also by Mr. S. Painter (Japan), the Rev. W. R. Gray (Japan), who are going out for the first time. The following is a complete list of the missionaries going to China and Japan. South China:—Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Collins, Miss K. Power returning to their stations, Rev. Dr. S. Syngé, Mr. T. Woods, Miss Mary Harmer, M.D., Miss M. G. Harmer, Miss E. M. K. Thomas, all of whom are going out for the first time. Mid-China:—Rev. C. J. F. and Mrs. Symons (returning to their station), Rev. C. E. Bousfield, Rev. E. Thompson, Dr. W. Squibbs, Mr. W. Andrews, Miss I. K. S. Acheson, Miss A. M. Barker, Miss L. S. Digby, Miss M. C. Gilmor, Miss J. Grant,

Miss E. Green, and Miss M. Turnbull, all of whom are going out for the first time. Japan:—Rt. Rev. Bishop and Mrs. Fyson, Miss A. M. Tapson (returning to their stations), Rev. W. R. Gray, Mr. F. E. Hamond, Mr. S. Painter, Miss E. Bryant, Miss A. P. Carr, Miss B. Notidge, and Miss A. H. Wright, all of whom are going out for the first time.

EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR PAINTINGS.

WE are requested to call attention to an exhibition of water-colour paintings, by Japanese artists, to take place in the Uyeno, Bijutsu Kan, or Art Gallery, from the 20th inst. till December 4th. There will be 300 exhibits by twenty six artists, including pictures by the well-known painters Koyama, Asai, Matsui, Kume, Wada, Gosedo, &c. The object of the exhibition is to aid in the rebuilding of Professor Iwamoto's Meiji Jo-Gakko, or Girls' School, destroyed by fire in February of the present year. This Girls' School was among the earliest established, and has been one of the most successful of the many Girls' Schools in Tokyo. Unlike many others, it has not been aided by missionary or benevolent funds. It has been largely the unaided work of Prof. Iwamoto, and his estimable but lamented wife, Mrs. Kaishi Iwamoto, whose death was hastened by the conflagration that destroyed their large and substantial School-building situated in Shimo Rokubanchō, Tokyo, on February 5th of the present year. It is proposed to issue 300 tickets at 2 yen each, each ticket entitling its holders to one of the paintings. The number of the painting will be noted on the ticket, but will not be delivered until the close of the exhibition.

THE "HIMEJI MARU."

WE are informed by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha that news from the south in regard to the Company's steamship *Himeji Maru*, recently reported as having gone ashore, is that the steamer *Seigfried* returned to Hongkong on the 15th inst. with 140 firemen and seamen—and it is supposed some cargo—from the stranded vessel. The *Seigfried* left Hongkong for the scene of the wreck on the 17th to try to save cargo. Surveyors report that there will be little chance of saving the ship if the weather turns bad, which is not unlikely in such an exposed position. Captain Tipple and his officers, with a part of the crew, are standing by the wreck.

DR. L. BUSSE.

MANY of our readers will learn with pleasure that Dr. L. Busse, who has been for six years a Professor in the Imperial Japanese University, has been promoted to the chair of Psychology in Rostock University. Considering the fact that Professor Busse has reached this distinguished post without passing through the intermediate grade of "Extraordinary Professor," his academical career must be pronounced decidedly successful and honorable.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

FROM the *Comercio* we learn that a conspiracy was discovered at Jolo (Sooloo) in the 68th Regiment of native troops on the 18th October, and nine men were shot. On the 29th October, a hundred persons convicted of connection with the rebellion were shipped from Manila by the steamer *Isla de Luzon* for the African colonies.

THE CHINESE SCANDAL.

WONG KAI-KWAI, the late Treasurer of the Chinese Guild at Yokohama, has been arrested at Nagasaki—whither he proceeded on the P. & O. steamer *Ancona*—on a charge of embezzling some \$1,500 of the funds of the Guild. He will be brought before the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho on arrival here.

HER MAJESTY'S SYMPATHY.

THE Queen has telegraphed through the Admiralty the expression of Her Majesty's grief on hearing of the sad accident which had befallen Captain Lang and three seamen of H.M.S. *Narcissus* through the capsizing of a boat in Northern waters recently.

WRECK OF THE LUZON.

THE steamer *Luzon*, an old China coaster, formerly the *Conquest*, has been run down and sunk by the steamer *Santander* off Point Santiago in the Philippines. Her crew were saved, but the Chinese passengers were all drowned.

THE MINISTER OF THE IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD AND HIS CALUMNIATORS.

The *Nijurokuseki* (Twenty-sixth Century), a periodical of some influence in Osaka, recently published a violent attack upon Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, accusing him of arbitrary conduct, servility to Marquis Ito, and so forth. The periodical entertains a grudge against the Count, for, having previously penned a similarly calumnious article against him, it was suspended, and arraigned before the Osaka Local Court on a charge of libel. No sooner was it relieved from the ban of suspension than it renewed its hostile utterances, being evidently incensed to the point of blind rancour. Still the matter would probably have been consigned to oblivion, had not the *Nippon* quoted the article in full, and recommended it to the perusal of its subscribers, inserting between the lines commendatory notes of its own. The Household Department thereupon forwarded a letter to the *Nippon*, denouncing the article as a gross misrepresentation, and demanding that it be withdrawn. The *Nichi Nichi* next came forward as the champion of Count Hijikata, and while charging the editors of the original journal and the *Nippon* with calumny, traversed the article paragraph by paragraph, on the strength of information obtained from the Household Department and other quarters. Both the original article and the refutation of the *Nichi Nichi* being of very great length, we are necessarily obliged to confine ourselves here to such portions as appear specially interesting.

The first allegation is that the Minister of the Household is strangely partial to Marquis Ito, and is always ready to assist the latter to obtain audience of the Emperor, whereas his assistance in that sense can not be procured by other notables without considerable difficulty, and even when they are received in audience, they receive warning beforehand not to speak on any political topic. This discrimination extends even to the Princess-Parent of the Emperor and other Imperial relatives, and it is added that when, during Marquis Ito's tenure of power, a Peer submitted a memorial to the Throne, the Minister of the Household used to behave with such arbitrariness that no memorial was allowed to reach His Majesty unless it had been previously examined and approved by the Premier. In answer to the above, the *Nichi Nichi* says that the editors of the two publications (the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon*), betray gross ignorance of Court procedure. They do not seem to know that not only Marquis Ito, but also Marquises Saigo and Yamagata, and Counts Kuroda and Inouye enjoy the privilege of special treatment at Court, and are therefore usually admitted to audience whenever they visit the Palace whether to tender the compliments of the season or for any other purpose. Counts Goto, Oki, and Okuma rarely took the trouble to attend at Court, and therefore they were not received in audience by His Majesty. Further, Marquis Ito's connection with the Court, alike as Minister President, as Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and as a member of the Imperial Finance Council, extended over a long period with but brief interruption, and it is, therefore, natural that His Excellency should have had occasion to wait on the Emperor far more frequently than others. As to the implied charge that the Marquis enjoys, or has enjoyed, a special privilege of being consulted on political affairs, such an allegation is obviously absurd, for it amounts to saying that His Majesty declines to place confidence in the Cabinet of the day. Only on extraordinary occasions, as, for instance, during the recent interregnum between the Ito Cabinet and its successor, are the opinions of non-Cabinet statesmen listened to by the Emperor. The editors seem to believe that every statesman or notable received in audience should be allowed to speak freely on political topics. They do not seem to perceive what serious evils must result from such an irregular practice. Moreover, they evidently imagine that ladies connected by blood with the Imperial Family should also

be allowed to discuss important affairs of State. Nothing could be more imprudent and dangerous. It must not be supposed, however, that the channel of communication with the Sovereign is blocked to such of His Majesty's subjects as may wish to submit their views on one topic or another. A Peer, for example, is entitled to memorialize the Throne, and when a memorial is submitted by any noble, it is handed to His Majesty in its original sealed condition by the Grand Chamberlain. According to the nature of the contents, it may be given, in the first place, to the Minister of the Household, or to the Minister of the Department directly connected with the subject discussed in the memorial. But it need not pass through any such channels. When Viscount Tani memorialized the Throne in connection with the dismissal of the late Baron Ozawa from his position in the Department of War, the document, though couched in very strong language, was sent to the then Minister of War; and when, in the latter part of 1887, Count Goto wished to submit his political views orally to the Sovereign, the Minister of the Household declined to convey the Count's request to the Throne—a refusal strictly within his official competence—but told him to embody them in the form of a memorial. The Count did so, and the document was sent through the Minister President of the day. Therefore the allegation that the Minister of the Household opens memorials addressed to the Throne, or that he used to convey them to the Emperor only after Marquis Ito had read them and pronounced their contents unobjectionable, is an audacious fabrication. The culpability of the two editors goes beyond mere falsehood. They distinctly aver that the Emperor is ignorant of all such clandestine practices on the part of the Minister of the Household. In other words, they represent the Emperor as easily gulled. The *Nichi Nichi* learns, and states with all due deference to His Majesty, that the Emperor's faculty of discernment is so keen, and his information about affairs in general so accurate, that not infrequently the Court, the Household Department and even newspapers are forestalled by him in obtaining intelligence, and at times the Minister of the Household, and even Count Matsukata, the Premier, are embarrassed by a question from His Majesty.

The Osaka periodical further alleges that the *Official Gazette*, the *Tokyo Nichi Nichi*, and the *Japan Daily Mail* are the only papers presented in full for His Majesty's perusal, and that from other papers only cuttings not objected to by the Authorities, are shown. Even in the case of the proceedings of the Imperial Diet, refutations used to be appended to portions not favourable to the Government, when Marquis Ito so directed. To this the *Nichi Nichi* answers that many more papers are submitted to the Emperor's perusal, and that whereas, formerly, paragraphs of an immoral character were pasted over, that practice has been discontinued, the whole sheet being handed up without interference. The papers honoured by the perusal of the Emperor and the Empress are these:—

FOR THE EMPEROR.

Mainichi.
Yiji.
Hochi.
Nippon.
11 local papers.
Nichi Nichi.
Japan Mail.
Official Gazette.

FOR THE EMPRESS.

Nichi Nichi.
Mainichi.
Hochi.
Yiji.
Nippon.
Kokumin.
Chuo.
Tokyo Shimbun.

As to the discussions in the two Houses of the Diet, the Emperor is in the habit of sending Marquis Tokudaiji, the Grand Chamberlain, Prince Iwakura, a Chamberlain, and others to the Houses while the Diet is in session. Hence His Majesty is informed about the general drift of the debates before the printed proceedings are submitted for his perusal next morning. The idea that explanatory notes are interpolated on every topic that reflects on the credit of the Government is altogether preposterous.

The *Twenty-sixth Century* further alleges that by way of rewards for distinguished services rendered during the war, Count Hijikata suggested to His Majesty the advisability of making a grant

of 100,000 yen to Marquis Ito, and that the Marquis, in return, advised a donation of 50,000 yen to Count Hijikata. As to that, the *Nichi Nichi* answers that the grant of 100,000 yen to Marquis Ito is a fact (a grant to a Marquis not holding the Grand Cordon of the Chrysanthemum is said to be from 30,000 to 50,000 yen), but that the grant to Count Hijikata was 20,000 yen, the same sum being given to Count Mutsu also. All the rewards were originally recommended by the Chief of the Central Staff, who privately represented the facts to the Emperor, and obtained His Majesty's approval. Not until then did the matter come within Count Hijikata's sphere of duties.

Another charge made by the *Twenty-sixth Century* and endorsed by the *Nippon*, is that the Minister of the Household, by improper procedure, obtained possession of certain Government land forming part of the Imperial Forest Preserves, in the village of Hijikata, Totomi, the birthplace of the Count's ancestors. He obtained the land by lending his influence to Mr. Dogura, the "Forest King" of Japan, who was thus enabled to become the owner of a sacred forest situated at same distance from the Great Shrine of Ise. Lastly, the Minister is accused of having declined to construct a small library for the Emperor because it involved an outlay of 5,000 yen. All those allegations are emphatically denied by the *Nichi Nichi*, and the denials are accompanied by explanations that appear entirely satisfactory. But the *Twenty-sixth Century* does not stop at that. It goes so far as to connect the names of Count Hijikata and Marquis Ito with a Court scandal about a maid of honour, and it endeavours to prove that the two statesmen exerted their influence in the appointment of the Court ladies. The *Nichi Nichi* replies that the appointment of Court ladies is among the official duties devolving upon the Grand Steward of the Empress, but that in practice they are generally chosen by some of the Imperial relatives living in Kyoto. The idea that Count Hijikata and Marquis Ito ever took any part in the selection of these ladies is absurd in the extreme. The concluding accusations preferred against Count Hijikata are that he neglects the preservation and repair of the Imperial Mausolea, and that he surrounds himself with worn-out and incompetent officials, just the type of men constituting the Senate in the last days of its existence. These accusations are accompanied by a catalogue of shortcomings and disqualifications alleged against several principal Court officials.

The above extraordinary articles have evoked indignant criticism from the *Tokyo Shimbun* and the *Chuo*, as well as from the *Nichi Nichi*. The editors of the Osaka periodical and of the *Nippon* are charged with gross disrespect to the Court. The *Chuo* learns, though it declines to believe, that Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Messrs. Uyemura Masahisa and Kuga Minoru, the latter being the editor of the *Nippon*, are secretly connected with the Osaka periodical, and that, acting in combination with a certain official in the Household Department, they undertook to publish these exaggerated reports, with the view of bringing about the resignation of Count Hijikata, whose presence in the Household Department they erroneously suppose to be conducive to the strength of Marquis Ito, and therefore, detrimental to the interests of the present Ministry. It goes with saying that the crushing criticism of the *Nichi Nichi* has elicited a rejoinder from the *Nippon*, which avers that the Household Department being entirely distinct from the Court, an attack made on the former does not constitute any disrespect to the latter. Besides, the *Nippon* claims that its object is to purge the Department of abuses or blemishes, and that it is actuated by motives of pure loyalty.

In the sequel of repeated deliberations the Cabinet has at last decided to adopt resolute measures in the case of the *Twenty-sixth Century*, the magazine that published a gross calumny against the Minister of the Imperial Household, and in the case of the *Nippon*, which reproduced the slanders, inserting between the lines commendatory notes of its own.

The Osaka periodical has been suppressed, and the somewhat less guilty *Nippon* has incurred the penalty of suspension. So far as we remember, the punishment meted out to the Osaka periodical is the gravest hitherto inflicted on any publication during the past decade. It is to be greatly feared that the action of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and of the *Nippon* must have seriously injured the interests of Japanese journalism at large, for the present Ministry were reputed to be very leniently disposed towards the press and to be contemplating the elimination of the suspension clause, whereas they may now conscientiously hesitate to decide that the press is sufficiently improved in tone to warrant the removal of the checks placed upon its utterances by law. Even if they be persuaded to regard the conduct of these two offending publications in the light of a temporary aberration, and even if they persist in their original resolution of rescinding the suspension clause and substituting a provision relating to fines, as certain Tokyo journals have stated, the more conservative members of the House of Peers, if we may judge from the attitude they have persistently assumed towards the press emancipation measure, may think themselves justified in opposing any such measure though it have the approval of the Government and of the House of Representatives.

This affair of the Minister of the Household has evidently created considerable disturbance in the political world. On Friday last, an extraordinary Cabinet Council was convoked about the matter, and next day the Premier and Ministers of State were busy interchanging calls. The Premier and the Home Minister held a conference on Saturday, from about half-past 2 p.m. to 5, and on the same day the Minister and the Vice-Minister of the Household did not leave their office till dusk. On either Friday or Saturday, the Premier had a long talk with the Minister of the Household at the latter's office; the Minister of Justice called on the Premier at his private residence, and Viscount Takashima called on Count Okuma, all in connection, it is said, with the unsavoury business. On Saturday, the Premier and the other Ministers of State intended to be present at the funeral of the late President of the Nippon Ginko, but most of them excused themselves on the plea of urgent official business requiring immediate attention. The Premier, the Ministers of Home Affairs, Justice, and of the Navy, held a deliberation at the Premier's official residence from 1.00 p.m. A News Agency reports that the opinion of those present was divided, the Premier and the Minister of Justice being inclined to leniency, and the Ministers of Home Affairs and of the Navy maintaining that positive steps must be adopted. The Premier pointed out that as the writer of the article evidently did not entertain any malice prepense, and as it was not calculated to affect in any directed manner the interest or dignity of the Court, a sufficient remedy, in his opinion, would be to indicate the portions conflicting with actual facts, and to cause them to be withdrawn. The Minister of Justice, in a speech of some length, supported the view of the Premier. But the Home Minister declared that, as utterances of the kind were extremely liable to lead public sentiment astray, control must be exercised to the full extent sanctioned by law. The Press censors recognized the necessity of imposing restraints upon such writing, and he therefore urged, regardless of any criticism that might be evoked from political parties, that decisive measures be adopted. The Minister of the Navy seconded the view of Count Kabayama. Count Okuma joined the deliberation a few hours afterwards, but did not express any opinion of his own, and the meeting failed to come to any definite conclusion. Ultimately, however, the strong-policy view found favour, as we have seen.

We take the following on the above topic from the *Yiji* and the *Yomiuri*. When the article attacking Viscount Hijikata first appeared in the *Twenty-sixth Century*, the Authorities thought that the language employed was undoubtedly slanderous, but as it was directed only against

the Minister of the Household and a few other officials, and did not seem to imply any malicious attack upon the Court, the Ministry, who came into power with a resolve to impose as little restraint as possible on freedom of speech, did not attach much importance to the incident, but concluded that it would suffice to order the withdrawal of the portions conflicting with fact. In the Household Department also, no particular notice was taken of the article so long as it was confined to the pages of the *Twenty-sixth Century*. But this attitude of indifference was immediately changed when the *Nippon* reproduced the article in full in its issue of the 9th inst. At once the *Nichi Nichi* undertook the task of refutation, and the Household Authorities applied to the Premier to have suitable steps taken with respect to the magazine and the newspaper alike. The Department seems to have gone so far as to indicate that should the Cabinet decline to take up the matter, there would be no alternative except an appeal to the judgment of the Emperor himself. This occasioned the convoking of an extraordinary Cabinet Council on the 13th inst. According to the version of the *Yomiuri*, which vouches for the authenticity of its information, Marquis Saigo opened the debate by observing that, as the article in question not only grossly slandered the Minister of the Imperial Household, but also involved the dignity of the Court, due administrative process must be taken against the periodical and the daily newspaper. Counts Okuma and Kabayama opposed this, and declared that if the article was open to a charge of disrespect towards the Court or calumny of the Household Minister, legal proceedings must be taken, instead of having recourse to administrative process. Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of State for Justice, could not agree with the contention of the Home and Foreign Ministers, for, in his opinion, the statements contained in the article did not constitute the crime of disrespect towards the Imperial Court, and even if the charge of slandering the Household Minister could be sustained, an appeal to the law on that ground would involve much embarrassment for the Imperial Court, since the defendants would be at liberty to plead justification, and to adduce evidence supporting their accusations. Hence the Minister of Justice indirectly supported the motion of Marquis Saigo. Viscount Nomura, Minister of Communications approved the view taken by Marquis Saigo and Mr. Kiyoura. He maintained that although the Ministry were inclined to abolish the power of suspension, and although they actually contemplated introducing an amendment of the Press Law in that sense in the coming session of the Diet, there was no reason to relinquish the penalty of suspension altogether so long as the law remained unamended, and when, as in the case under consideration, an incident occurred justifying the infliction of the penalty. Therefore he urged that the Osaka periodical be suppressed and the *Nippon* suspended. Counts Okuma and Kabayama insisted on the unwisdom of taking such a step, their view being that it was contrary to the spirit of the Cabinet's policy, as announced in the Premier's Speech to the Local Governors. Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, and Mr. Komuchi, Chief of the Legislative Bureau, who also were summoned to take part in the debate, supported the contention of the two Counts and opposed the idea of resorting to administrative measures. Mr. Kiyoura incidentally suggested that the suppression and suspension provision of the Press Law should be suffered to exist, for the purpose of dealing with writings disrespectful to the Imperial Court, and he further maintained that so long as the Press Law remained unaltered, there would be nothing improper in putting its provisions into effect. The debate was hot and protracted, but at last Marquis Saigo's proposal was carried by the majority. The Osaka periodical was therefore suppressed and the *Nippon* suspended. The *Yiji* informs us that when the question was brought seriously to public notice, a section of officialdom that harbour unfriendly feelings towards the Household Department, or rather towards its Minister, and also the *Shimpo-to* politicians

argued strongly that the Ministry must stick to the promise of liberty of the press proclaimed by the Premier, and must not acquiesce in the demand of the Household Department, whatever pressure be brought to bear. Thus the Ministry were placed in a difficult situation, Count Matsukata, desiring to settle the affair in a quiet way, would doubtless have preferred that the Household Minister should resign rather than that summary treatment be extended to the two offending journals. It is true the Minister of the Household submitted a document formally soliciting instruction as to whether he ought to resign, but the document was returned to him through the medium of the Grand Chamberlain, and the two publications alone had to suffer for the affair. The Household Department, however, is said to be still dissatisfied, apparently thinking that the punishment inflicted on the offending journals is too lenient; and it need scarcely be said that the anti-Household Department section are even more strongly chagrined about what they consider an unjust action on the part of the Authorities. It is apprehended that the agitation created by this trouble may make itself felt one day or other in an unexpected quarter. Rumour alleges that the Household Minister has decided not to take legal proceedings against the two journals. The *Shimpo-to* is reported to be in a state of considerable ferment. The young *Shimpo-to*, that is to say, a club organized by junior politicians identified with the Party, held an extraordinary meeting on Monday morning, and passed a resolution that as the present Ministry, in violation of the promise made in the Premier's speech, have trampled on freedom of speech, therefore the young *Shimpo-to* must stoutly oppose them. Another *Shimpo-to* association, organized by advanced politicians not possessing seats in the Diet, also convoked a meeting on Tuesday evening, but adjourned without coming to any definite conclusion.

The *Chuo* reports that Mr. Takahashi will be dismissed from the Government service, but this seems to us to be hardly possible.

COUNT HIJIKATA.

It is rumoured in Tokyo that Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, has tendered his resignation. We find difficulty in supposing that the step can be more than formal. The Minister's name having been brought into undue prominence by slanderous publications, and the Cabinet having been obliged to adopt very decisive measures in consequence, His Excellency, *more Japonico*, may have held himself under a sentimental obligation to tender his resignation. If he really means to go out of office in consequence of the wild and unscrupulous attacks made upon him by the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon*, he will merely be doing what his enemies desired to compass when they undertook to slander him.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The Government and the *Shimpo-to* are likely to lose the aid of the well-known economist, Mr. Taguchi, M.P. Mr. Taguchi, it must be remembered, has sketched out a special financial programme of his own—lately reproduced in our columns—the rejection of which by the Government has obliged him and his fellow-thinkers to leave the Government's side. "The other day," writes the *Yomiuri*, "Mr. Taguchi called on the Premier to ascertain his views on this pet financial scheme. The Premier is said to have referred to the subject but did not make any definite statement. Mr. Taguchi next called on Count Okuma, but has not succeeded in seeing him. The *Shimpo-to's* views on Mr. Taguchi's programme are unsettled. To speak the truth, most of the members are unversed in the programme and have not yet deliberated upon it." On the appearance of this note in the *Yomiuri*, Mr. Taguchi sent a letter to that paper. The letter says that he is opposed to the Army expansion programme, to the Tobacco Monopoly, to the Census Regis-

tration Tax, to the Saving Banks' Regulations, to the Industrial and Agrico-Industrial Banks, to the Mixed *Satt* Tax, and so forth; and that a politician who is so far opposed to the Government's measures cannot possibly be regarded as friendly to it. Certainly some of the measures failed to find approval in last year's platform of the *Shimpo-to*, but as Mr. Taguchi alone is responsible for the opposition, the *Shimpo-to* cannot with decency alter its position. He is therefore obliged to assume a position of isolation. It ought to be added that an earnest discussion is said to have arisen between Mr. Taguchi and Mr. Kudo Kokan, on the occasion of the last meeting of the Standing Committee of the *Shimpo-to*, held in the latter part of October, as to the position that the *Shimpo-to* should adopt toward the new Government. Mr. Taguchi did not attend the extraordinary general meeting of the Party held early this month.

Even the *Chuo* admits that such leading men of Kumamoto extraction as Barons Yasuba, Fujimura, Yamada, and Yoneda, Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of Justice, and so forth, have held repeated councils concerning the advisability of extending help to the Ministry in power. If they persist in this opinion and proceed to win over their fellow provincials, the National Unionist Party is in danger of a split.

Viscount Tani has come from his retreat in Tosa and is calling on one Cabinet Minister after another. The *Nippon*, and politicians who endorse its views, were earnest in recommending the Viscount for the portfolio of Education or of Agriculture and Commerce. Hence the virulence with which the *Nippon* criticizes the present holders of the portfolios of these Departments.

ECONOMIC NEWS.

The financial troubles in Osaka are far from being settled, and the stock market is suffering from unusual depression. The shares of the Naikan Railway, for example, which especially after amalgamation with the Hankai Railway, occupied a high place in public favour, being quoted at 41 *yen*, though only 5 *yen* had been paid up, have now fallen to 25 *yen*, though 7½ *yen* have been paid up. A "potential share" of the Kii Railway, upon which one *yen* security had been paid, commanded, at one time, a price of above 10 *yen*, but after 5 *yen* more had been called in the quotation fell to less than 4 *yen*, or 33 per cent. below the amount actually subscribed. In a similar way, a share of the Chugoku Railway Company, upon which 13½ *yen* had already been called in, stands as low as 6 *yen*, a share of the Omi Railway Company, upon which 5 *yen* have been paid, is quoted at 2 *yen*, and a share of the Kiwa Railway, upon which the same sum has been paid, is quoted at 2.20 *yen*. Even at those figures far below the actual amount of subscription, persons desiring to sell their shares can not easily find purchasers. It is not precisely known how far those now owning these shares have incurred loss since the extraordinary fall in the stock market, but a considerable sum must have been "dropped," especially by owners of "potential shares."

The *Shogyo* gives some interesting information relating to the connexion of members of Parliament with railway and other business enterprises recently projected, or about to be projected. It has discovered that 62 members are projectors of companies which have not yet obtained charters, and that 91 others are either Directors or shareholders of companies already engaged in business. The capital of the companies with which these 153 members are connected, aggregates about two and a quarter million *yen*. There is, of course, nothing strange in such a state of affairs, though some Japanese seem thoughtless enough to question the capacity of these members for impartial legislation.

As an example of the feverish desire prevailing in Japan for the construction of railways,

we may note that, in Chiba Prefecture, there are no less than 36 railway Companies, two of which have opened their lines for traffic, six others have obtained charters, and the remaining 28 are awaiting official sanction. It is said that the Railway Council is at a loss what course to pursue in the case of more than 300 applications submitted from various parts of the country, for in addition to the fact that several different applications have been made for one and the same road, the Authorities have not yet reached any definite decision as to the routes for railway construction in several localities.

The flood that visited the Kei-Han districts in August last resulted in a considerable accumulation of silt at the mouth of the Osaka Harbour, and ships that call there are now subjected to unusual inconvenience, being obliged to anchor a long distance away from the city. The Osaka Shippers Union estimates that the loss resulting from this aggregated over 40,000 *yen* in lighterage, towage, and so forth during the three months of August, September, and October. The Osaka Chamber of Commerce has taken the matter up and has represented to the Local Office the necessity of immediate dredging operations.

Another economic complication is reported from Osaka. In May of last year, the Nippon Copper Company was started in that city with a capital of 300,000 *yen*, one-half of which has been already called in. Plant was purchased, fixed in place, and set working. It appears, however, that Mr. Hirose Tan, President of the Company, did not make cash payments to the merchants that sold the machinery to the Company, but appropriated the money to his own private uses, and gave promissory notes to the merchants. These notes were discounted by the Sumitomo Bank, the amount thus obtained being 76,000 *yen*. The notes matured on the 10th inst., but as the President had no money to meet them, he applied to the Bank for a renewal. The Bank peremptorily refused, and he thereupon absconded. The merchants who sold the machinery to the Company reposed so much confidence in the President, that they had consented to endorse the promissory notes, and being consequently obliged to make good the sum due to the Bank, they obtained an order of distraint on the property of the Company. Mr. Okamoto Kisaburo, one of the creditors, holds machines worth 15,000 *yen* that he has made for the Company, and has also been obliged to pay 6,000 *yen* on account of his endorsement. The defaulting President has been guilty of another piece of sharp practice also. Availing himself of the credit he enjoyed as President of a different company, he issued a promissory note, in his capacity of President, for a sum of 15,000 *yen*, putting the proceeds into his own pocket. He is further indebted to the extent of 30,000 *yen* to other creditors. It appears that he perpetrated all these fraudulent acts to make good losses incurred on the stock exchange. Fifteen thousand *yen*, however, he invested in land in Formosa, and a further amount was devoted to purchasing a tract in the vicinity of Osaka.

The Liquidating Committee of the Sawa Firm have concluded their work. They have found, after thorough researches, that the Firm is indebted to the extent of 1,249,000 *yen*, and that its assets amount to 544,536 *yen*. A few days ago, the committee summoned all the creditors of the Firm, and after laying before them the exact state of affairs asked them to be satisfied for the present with the sum that the Firm had in hand, postponing the payment of the remaining debts to some future occasion, when the Firm would be in a position to redeem all its obligations. The creditors consented without raising any serious objection, and thus the Firm has escaped bankruptcy, but how it is to keep up its business we are not told.

Straw braid is one of the staple exports that have lately shown a sudden development, as may be seen from the following Customs returns:—1892, 155,162 *yen*; 1893, 378,349 *yen*; 1894, 743,399 *yen*; 1895, 1,387,643 *yen*; 1896

(up to September), 1,255,867 *yen*. The braid is made chiefly in Kasaka, Bitchu; Oita, and a few other places. It is in contemplation to convene a grand meeting of straw-braid manufacturers and merchants in Kasaka, for the purpose of organizing a guild and taking various steps calculated to promote the prosperity of this industry. The projectors are of opinion that if manufacturers and merchants unite cordially to push the export of the commodity by their combined efforts, it will be possible to find a market abroad for from three to five million *yen* worth.

UNIFICATION OF GOVERNMENT BONDS.

The *Oriental Economist* is in favour of unifying Japanese Government Bonds to facilitate the investment of foreign capital. Japanese Government Bonds recently placed on the regular list of the London Stock Exchange are Redemption Bonds issued subsequent to 1892, amounting to some 60 million *yen*. Though the date of redemption lies in the remote future, foreign capitalists are naturally prejudiced against War Bonds. It is, therefore, not to the advantage of this country to differentiate between its bonds, when endeavouring to attract the investment of foreign capital. Indeed, the multiplicity of Government Bonds now constitutes a grave obstacle to the sale even of Redemption Bonds abroad. Though regularly quoted, Redemption Bonds are in great part held in Japan, and consequently when a foreign capitalist wishes to invest his money in Japanese Government Bonds of a specified description, he has to go to the trouble of depending upon a third party. Suppose a London merchant wants to buy in Japan Redemption Bonds of 1892 to the extent of 100,000 *yen*. The broker who receives such an order would find it difficult to effect the purchase by time bargain. Suppose, however, that the foreign capitalist does not specify the date of the issue of the Bonds he wishes to buy, but only gives an order to purchase Redemption Bonds? In that case his broker would be able to obtain various Bonds to any large amount. Hence arises the necessity of unifying Government Bonds. At present there are ten different kinds of Bonds, totalling, in the fiscal year 1896-1897, 376,800,000 *yen*. But of these ten kinds of Bonds, Foreign Loan Bonds are already in the hands of foreign capitalists. The new Loan Bonds were redeemed in October last, while the old Loan Bonds and the Civil War Bonds, totalling this year a little over 17 million *yen*, are to be reduced to seven millions during next year. These may be excluded from the project, as not suitable for sale to foreigners. Therefore, there remain only six varieties, namely, Pension Bonds, Navy Bonds, Redemption, Railway, War, and Public Undertakings Loan Bonds. In 1901 these six Bonds will reach their climax and total 499,340,000 *yen*. The total sum of 494,740,000 *yen* obtained by subtracting from the above figure 4,600,000 *yen*, representing the Foreign and Old Bonds, may be set down as the whole amount of Bonds that might be fairly offered to foreign capitalists. Though differing in the original purposes for which they were issued, the Government is bound to redeem them all equally, whether the loan was applied for military objects, or for matters of a more peaceful character. Such redemption has become more trustworthy since the Supreme Legislative Office was inaugurated, as every new outlay contemplated by the Executive must obtain that office's approval. The multiplicity of denominations simply embarrasses foreigners intending to invest in Japanese Bonds, and they will be at a loss to choose, say between the Redemption Bonds and the Public Undertakings Bonds. The *Economist* suggests that all the bond issues be called the Imperial Japanese 5 per cent. Bonds, for, thus unified, foreigners intending to invest money in Japanese Bonds would be saved from needless perplexity. The unification would greatly facilitate the entry of foreign capital into Japan.

PROTOCOL TO THE COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

As the text of Japan's new Commercial Treaty with China contains nothing relating to the former's abandonment of the manufacturing privilege secured by the Shimonoseki Treaty, it was at first supposed that the Shimonoseki Treaty, would hold after all, and that articles manufactured in China by Japanese or other foreigners would rank with imported goods, and would consequently be free from any special taxation. But a protocol has now been published, in which the Japanese Government distinctly concedes China's right to tax articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China, provided only that such tax shall not differ from, or exceed, the impost paid by Chinese manufacturers. Thus Japan has explicitly renounced that particular privilege. Had she not done so, a nice question might possibly have arisen. It might have been claimed that Japan's failure to avail herself of all the provisions of the Shimonoseki Treaty did not disqualify other Powers from taking everything that the Treaty gave, such action being based on their most-favoured-nation right. But the protocol just concluded in Peking virtually abrogates the free-manufacture clause of the Shimonoseki Treaty, and disposes finally of any question in that sense. As for the compensation obtained by Japan, namely, special sites for Japanese settlements in Shanghai, Tientsin, Amoy, and Hankow, it is evidently viewed by the Japanese with much satisfaction. Until quite recently, the only Powers having settlements of their own at Chinese open ports were England and France. Germany made a new departure last year by applying for and obtaining a site for herself in Tientsin—the success of her demand being attributed by many persons to the service she had rendered to China in assisting to drive Japan out of Liaotung. But Japan will now stand on the same level as these Great Powers in the matter of settlements. There can be no doubt that her position will be greatly improved in Chinese eyes, and that her commercial opportunities will be increased.

The following is a translation of the Protocol to the Commercial Treaty between China and Japan, as published in the *Official Gazette* of the 11th instant:—

Art. I.—It is hereby agreed that special Japanese settlements shall be formed at the places newly opened to commerce, and that affairs relating to roads and police shall be under the control of the Japanese Consul.

Art. II.—Regulations with respect to steamers or ships owned or chartered by Japanese subjects at Suchow, Hangchow, and Shanghai shall be determined after conference with Japan, on the basis of the Provisional Regulations for the conduct of business by foreign merchants at those places, issued by the Shanghai Customs on August 3rd of the 22nd year of Kwangsu.

Art. III.—The Government of Japan concedes the right of the Chinese Government to impose upon articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China such a tax as may seem expedient, provided that the said tax shall not differ from, or exceed, the tax paid by Chinese subjects; and provided that the Chinese Government shall, when the Japanese Government so desires, immediately provide sites for the formation of special Japanese Settlements in Shanghai, Tientsin, Amoy, and Hankow.

Art. IV.—Instructions shall be issued in Sunfu, in Shantung, that no Chinese troops shall approach, or take possession of any position, within 5 Japanese *ri*, that is to say, about 40 Chinese *li*, of the limits of any positions held by Japanese forces in accordance with treaty stipulations.

The above Protocol shall be drawn up in the Chinese and Japanese languages, and after comparison, the two copies shall be signed and sealed, each side taking one of the copies.

(Here follow the signatures of Baron Hayashi and the three Chinese Plenipotentiaries.)

(Dated) 19th day of 10th month, 29th year of Meiji.

13th day of 9th month, 22nd year of Kwangsu.

THE POLICE.

We observe that the *Kobe Herald* has fallen into the error committed by two of its Yokohama contemporaries—or, to speak more correctly, has adopted their error. Referring to the alleged ill-treatment of a woman by four policemen, as related in the columns of the *Yorotsu Choho*, our Kobe contemporary says that its own special inquiries have failed to elicit anything contradictory of the *Yorotsu Choho's* story, and then adds:—

The authenticity of our own information, we observe (from the *Japan Herald*), is borne out by the fact that the metropolitan newspaper which narrated the case did so "without manifesting the slightest concern, indignation or surprise,—as though such an occurrence was one of the most ordinary character." We have here revealed a pretty state of things.

It has been shown in these columns that the alleged absence of "the slightest concern, indignation, or surprise" on the part of the *Yorotsu Choho* is in reality an absence of knowledge on the part of the *Japan Herald* and the *Japan Gazette*, for the *Yorotsu Choho* headed its paragraph "Extraordinary Policemen," and closed it with the words, "talk of the acme of what is extraordinary, this is a case in point." So far, then, from failing to exhibit the slightest concern, indignation, or surprise, the *Yorotsu Choho* did in fact exhibit most marked surprise. Hence the "fact" in which the *Kobe Herald* finds confirmation of "the authenticity of its own information" turns out to be not a fact at all but a flagrant falsehood. It is worth noting here that the two Yokohama journals which so grossly misinterpreted the *Yorotsu Choho* and misled their readers, have not made the slightest attempt to correct their blunder. They know now that they were mistaken, egregiously mistaken, yet they do not take the trouble to correct the false impression produced by their mistake. It is one thing for four Japanese policemen to be guilty of a brutal abuse of power—policemen commit crimes of that nature sometimes—but it is another and totally different thing that Japanese public opinion, as represented by a vernacular newspaper, should consider such occurrences to be "of the most ordinary character." Two Yokohama English journals have maligned Japanese public opinion on the strength of their own defective rendering of a vernacular newspaper's article, and they have not either the courage or the honesty to withdraw their libel though they are now well aware of their its total falseness.

This incident is curious in several respects. The *Kobe Herald*, for example, thinks that "the publicity given to the matter of the alleged outrage of the 29th of Oct. by vernacular journals precludes the idea that it is wholly baseless," and adds that "Japanese editors would surely not dare to lend their papers to the dissemination of such incriminating details were they not quite sure of their ground." Suppose that we apply this canon of inference to the case of the two Yokohama journals referred to above. Are we permitted to conclude that because they gave publicity to a flagrantly false version of an event, their falsehood can not have been entirely baseless? Are we permitted to conclude that the editors were quite sure of their ground since they lent their papers to the dissemination of such a libellous inference? On the contrary, it is plain that they were grossly careless, if not absolutely reckless, for had they addressed the most trivial inquiry to their translators, they would have discovered their blunder. But, of course, it will be held an unpardonable crime to hold foreign journalists to the rules imposed by them on this Japanese *confrères*.

What the *Yorotsu Choho* itself now says is this:—

As already pointed out by the *Japan Mail*, the very manner in which we gave publicity to the case should have taught the *Japan Gazette* and its congeners that it was wholly out of the common, a flagrant breach of the law, and discussed in our columns not because it was significant of inefficient legal procedure, but by reason of the extraordinary outrage therein set forth.

All this, however, does not touch the alleged outrage, which, moreover, is now supplemented by the *Kobe Herald*. Inquiries undertaken by that journal are said to have shown that the

police make a habit of behaving with great brutality towards women arrested on suspicion of a certain offence. Should it prove that these charges are well founded, the newspapers concerned in bringing them to light will deserve public gratitude. We ourselves find it difficult to believe that such outrages are perpetrated, but without full investigation we do not venture to express any definite opinion.

THE ATTEMPT TO UNIFY BUD- DHISM IN JAPAN.

It has been well said that however insignificant, from an arithmetical point of view, be the progress made by Christianity in Japan, the introduction of the foreign creed and the advent of its vigorous propagandists have at any rate had the effect of rousing Buddhism from the *dolce-far-niente* mood into which it had fallen owing to long centuries of undisturbed existence. To this it may be added that Buddhists were not slow to recognise the great disadvantages under which Christianity laboured owing to constant friction among its numerous sects. They decided to consolidate the strength of their own faith by constructing a creed to which all their sects could conscientiously subscribe, and with that object they appointed, some years ago, a compilation committee. But when the result of the latter's labours came to be examined, it was found that four doctrines deemed essential by a branch of the Nichiren Sect had been omitted from the new creed. A strong protest was at once lodged by the aggrieved sect, but the committee urged that the doctrines in question were much too abusive of other sects to be given a place in a general declaration of belief. The strange part of the matter is that the upholders of the eliminated doctrines decided to appeal to the law. They brought an action against the committee, and great excitement prevailed at the Tokyo Local Court on the 10th of November, when the case came up for hearing. Barristers of eminence are retained by both sides, and the public watch with curiosity to see how the judges of a law court will decide a question lying apparently so far beyond their legitimate purview. As yet the legal process has not advanced beyond its preliminary stages, and its further hearing has been postponed until the end of November.

THE LAST SPEECH OF BARON KAWADA.

An interview that a representative of the *Osaka Asahi* had with the late President of the Nippon Ginko on the 4th inst., a few hours before he was suddenly taken ill, elicited the last utterance that he made on economic subjects. People said, he observed, that the Nippon Ginko had lately abandoned the liberal policy it previously pursued and substituted another having a restrictive tendency. That was an erroneous idea, for the Nippon Ginko's policy had undergone no change whatever. Born as he was in such a remote place as Tosa, the Baron disclaimed any particularly deep acquaintance with the principles that are supposed to govern a scientific financial policy. But he did know that in whatever situation one was placed, one must guard with jealous care the credit attaching to it. Much more was this important in economic matters where men relied mainly on credit. The Nippon Ginko regulated its business in strict conformity with principles of credit. When Mr. Kawakami, the late manager of the Nippon Ginko, behaved in an arbitrary manner at the Osaka Branch, he subsequently had to atone for his acts by resignation. Mr. Kawakami took these arbitrary steps in the capacity of a Manager of the Bank, and therefore, to defend the credit of the Bank, the Baron thought it obligatory to implement the promise made by its manager. Baron Kawada knew well the necessity for adopting certain remedial measures in connection with the present critical condition of the Osaka market, but he did not approve the methods pursued

by Mr. Kawakami. The Osaka merchants, he further observed, had not kept in view the necessity of guarding their credit. They were prone to abuse the confidence based on that credit. Osaka, though a trading centre since the time of Hideyoshi, and therefore familiar with trading customs and the credit system, instead of following the systematic methods pursued by English business-men, was too fond of imitating the irregular methods in vogue in America. Did the bankers of Osaka in pursuing their business take into due consideration the balance between supply and demand? To his mind they did not seem particularly careful in regard to this essential principle in business. They were given to speculate and enter into business far beyond the capacity of their resources. But when once they encountered a reverse and things became critical, they bowed their heads to the Nippon Ginko and implored its help. Then by forecasting the inclination of the Bank, they tried their hands again at speculation in stocks or rice. He could never consent to extend help to such a set of business men; their doings were calculated to abuse the credit of the nation and create economic troubles. Impelled by the enthusiasm that necessarily follows a victorious war, the people had become feverishly excited and started one enterprise after another. As to the wisdom of granting licenses to such enterprises, the Baron maintained silence, since the matter did not come within his province, but so long as he presided over the affairs of the Bank of Japan he was resolved not to countenance any project calculated to disturb the economic tranquillity of the country.

CURRENT NEWS.

A singular event is recorded by the vernacular press. It appears that a Parisian banker, now visiting Japan, recently invited Messrs. Okura, Yokoyama, and several other noted business men of Tokyo to the Kwagetsuro, Shimbashi. About a dozen *dansesuses* of the locality were summoned to brighten the entertainment, and everything was going with the pleasant *abandon* characteristic of such an affair, when suddenly the sound of a gun was heard from some place behind the room where the party were assembled. Pellets of shot struck the *shoji* and two of the *geisha* were slightly injured. The entertainment was at once abandoned, and after enjoining the landlord of the house to report the matter to the Police Station, the guests and host left the restaurant. The Kyobashi police immediately instituted strict inquiries, and soon succeeded in eliciting the facts. It appears that a merchant living at the rear of the Kwagetsu restaurant has a profligate son. The father, incensed at the continued dissipation of the youth, forbade him to leave the house, and contrived means to confine him in the second storey so that he might have leisure to repent. The sounds of music and dancing recalling delights in which he could no longer participate, seem to have upset the youth's moral equilibrium. He conceived the idea of putting an end to the pleasure of others since he could not himself enjoy it. Unfortunately, a gun of some kind—the vernacular press says a rifle, but a fowling-piece seems more probable—was kept in the room, and having loaded it with small shot the young rascal fired in the direction of the room whence the noise of revelry proceeded. He is now in prison, awaiting trial.

Constable Yoshitomi, of the Kanda Police Office, received a mortal wound in the discharge of his duty on the 14th instant. As he was going his rounds at about 2 a.m., he saw a young man of suspicious appearance carrying a large bundle, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Kanda Miyojin. He stopped the man and told him to come to the Kanda Office. The man had no choice at first but to acquiesce. He had proceeded only a few steps, however, when he extracted a revolver from his bundle, and fired at the constable, striking him in the lung. Yoshitomi, being an adept in the art of *jiujitsu*, grasped the man by the wrist, threw him with force against the stump of

a tree growing close by, and, before he could recover his feet, bestrode him and attempted to bind him with a cord which constables always carry. The man struggled hard to free himself, and managed to discharge his pistol again, the bullet, this time, striking a button of the policeman's uniform and glancing off. The constable's wound was now beginning to paralyse him, and he had no strength to bind the ruffian, but fortunately, at this critical moment, two policemen on duty a short distance off, hearing the sound of a fire-arm, ran up and aided their wounded comrade who, though almost unconscious, still grasped the hair of the burglar with desperate strength. Yoshitomi was carried to the nearest doctor's, but little hope is entertained of his recovery. The criminal proved to be a mechanic of Hokkaido, who had arrived in Tokyo only a few days previously, after having broken into a watch-maker's shop at Yokosuka. The revolver he carried had been stolen from the Gendarmes Station at Yokohama when he was on his way to the capital.

Marquis Sho, the former Prince of Liuchu, has arrived in Tokyo from his native place, where he has had his residence since the incorporation of Liuchu into the Local System of Japan. He was accompanied by the Marchioness, and their son, Baron Sho, and had a retinue of some twenty attendants. As soon as the party reached Kyoto, the ladies changed their coiffures and costume into pure Japanese fashion.

The *Tokyo Economist* seeks to show how far the recent rise in the market prices of commodities has conferred benefit on land-owners. It commences by quoting the following table from the Monetary System Investigation Committee's Report:—

	Average prices of commodities in Tokyo. (standard of comparison.)	Average prices of commodities in Osaka. (standard of comparison.)	Average for both Cities.
1873	100	100	100
1874	104	108	106
1875	107	106	106
1876	107	104	105
1877	107	107	107
1878	105	113	109
1879	105	117	111
1880	98	114	106
1881	95	105	100
1882	95	108	101
1883	96	121	108
1884	99	129	114
1885	104	135	119
1886	101	129	115
1887	104	130	117
1888	118	131	119
1889	114	136	125
1890	119	147	133
1891	118	145	131
1892	122	141	131
1893	123	—	—

It is seen from the above that, during the given twenty years, the price of commodities in Tokyo and Osaka rose more than 30 per cent.; in other words, the purchasing power of money fell to that extent. Hence a land-owner having to pay taxes amounting to 100 yen in 1873, was able to effect the payment in 1892 with thirty per cent. less commodities, which is equivalent to saying that his land tax was reduced by 30 per cent. in two decades. In other words, what was originally a tax of 26 per cent., actually fell to 1.75 per cent. Consequently, if the Government desire to keep the rate uniform, it must now raise the tax to 3.25 per cent., a step which the *Keisai Zasshi* deems quite proper, especially since, owing to the development of material civilization, increase of population, and so forth, land-owners are now reaping unusual benefits in several respects.

The vernaculars papers report that the Korean Local Officials at Chhang-won and Masan, in Kyong-sang-do, have issued proclamations interdicting the export of grain and beans. It is added that when Japanese merchants, engaged in the business of export, seek to remonstrate with the Local Officials on account of this arbitrary measure, they are denied admission by Korean soldiers posted at the gates of the offices. The officials aver that if the export of grain and beans be left unchecked, the poorer classes will

be precluded from enjoying the benefits otherwise resulting from the unusually good harvest of the present year, and will be obliged to pay for their food as much as they have to pay in years of dearth. They have proclaimed that Koreans detected selling grain to foreigners will be punished and the grain confiscated. This order has already been enforced. The Japanese Merchants' Union in Fusan has reported the matter to the Japanese Consul in that place, and the latter has opened negotiations with the Korean Authorities.

CONTEMPORARY ECONOMIC ABILITY.

The *Tokyo Economist* has a very interesting comment regarding the economic ability displayed by contemporary Japanese. Marquis Ito, it says, thoroughly understands the principles of national economy and can discern the bearings of all questions of interest and disadvantage, profit and loss. He is not a statesman that is influenced by any bias. He is, however, a man addicted to the "smiles all round" policy, and is liable to blindly adopt the prejudice of others; therefore his economic policy can never be depended upon. Count Inouye understands both the scientific and practical features of political economy, and is endowed with a courage that enables him to carry out his resolutions. His weakness lies in his disposition to easily become tired. Count Okuma is comprehensive, but withal liable to fall into error. One of his most striking characteristics, it may be noted, is though he make a mistake, he will not swerve or fear the defeat looming ahead. Count Matsukata is apt to go astray; but his long experience of financial matters and his long struggle with financial troubles, have convinced him of the absolute necessity of following a regular system. When once spare room is seen in the State's finances, he is sure to deflect from his proper orbit. Mr. Shibusawa, from his long experience, has acquired the courage that rises about illusions. But it is not possible for the public to put faith in all that he says or does. Mr. Masuda Takashi has succeeded in penetrating into the core of things, but his influence is still comparatively weak. The Economists identified with the Mitsubishi are on the rising curve of influence. They are very shrewd in discerning the drift of affairs, and that is probably due to the acuteness of Mr. Shoda. They should, however, be on their guard against impulses that may lead them into hazardous speculations. Mr. Sonoda, of the Specie Bank, unlike his late fellow clansman, is a shrewd man both in theory and practice. Satsuma's economies are excellently exemplified in Count Kuroda's doings in Hokkaido and in Mr. Mayeda's management of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Though ardent patriots, they rarely succeeded in effecting much, simply because they did not thoroughly digest the principles of political economy. Among journalists there is, or rather was, Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro. Though possessing a knowledge not particularly deep, his shrewd sense saved him from falling into grave errors. But Mr. Fukuchi is no longer connected with journalism, and Mr. Fukuzawa stands alone as its representative. Mr. Fukuzawa's acquirements are not profound, but his career has enabled him to perceive that a moderate policy is most advantageous in everything. His economics are permeated with this guiding principle. At one time he up held the doctrine of protection and once advocated a fallacious currency system. But these principles have long since been abandoned. Here the *Keisai's* comment ends. We might quote what Viscount Watanabe, the late Minister of Finance, has said of Mr. Taguchi himself, the editor of the *Keisai*, as an economist. "His ideas are too scientific for a practical economist and too practical for a genuine economic thinker."

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

PUBLIC attention is beginning to turn with evident interest to the question of the monopoly of leaf tobacco, as contemplated by the Japanese Government. Several of the vernacular journals have approached the subject, but it must be confessed that their writings do not indicate much insight or research. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, for example, recently asserted, on the alleged authority of Mr. F. M. JONAS, an English tobacco expert of acknowledged competence, that a Government monopoly, if well designed and properly carried out, could not fail to stimulate the tobacco industry, thus benefiting the Treasury, the producers, and the country at large. Such a proposition is secured against adverse criticism by the large hypothesis involved—"if well designed and ably carried out"—but, as we read on, we find that the *Nichi Nichi's* conception of a "well designed and ably carried out" system does not bear close scrutiny. For example, our contemporary observes that since growers would be sure of selling their produce, the Government being bound to take it, a great stimulus must be given to production, so that a considerable surplus would remain for export after supplying the home demand. Simultaneously with this forecast, we are told that the price must be kept low, in order to ensure a market abroad, and thus we have producers stimulated, on the one hand, by the prospect of a certain sale, and deterred, on the other, by the necessity of selling cheap. Further, it is argued by the *Kobe Chronicle*—though we cannot discover whether that journal is originally responsible for the theory—that when the new Treaties come into force, "the importation of foreign tobacco into Japan is bound to be checked, since there will be an import duty of 35 per cent. on tobacco;" and, again, that, "if the price of the home product remains where it now is, the duty will mean a great displacing of imported tobacco by home growths." Arithmetic seems to have been entirely neglected in formulating these statements. The consumption of tobacco in Japan may be put at about eight hundred thousand piculs, or a hundred and seven million lbs. (av.) yearly. That seems to us a sufficiently liberal estimate. The consumption in the United Kingdom is fifty-six million lbs., and the double of that quantity approximately, should suffice for Japan. Now the Government proposes to raise an annual revenue of ten million *yen* from the monopoly. Therefore, as we showed in a recent article, the Government, under the proposed system, will be obliged to sell the tobacco at 17 *yen* per picul over cost price. Hence, if we take the average price paid to the producer as 8 *yen*, it follows that Japanese leaf tobacco would pass into the manufacturer's hand at 25 *yen* per picul. But

there are several varieties of foreign tobacco that can be profitably laid down in Japan at about 12 *yen* a picul, and they are of a nature qualified to compete with the home-grown leaf. These tobaccos, after paying an import duty of 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, could be sold for 16 or 17 *yen*, against 25 *yen* for the Japanese leaf. Thus the duty fixed by the new tariff, so far from checking the import of foreign tobacco, will enable the latter to compete at ruinously low rates with the home product. We are not acquainted with the motives that induced the experts of the Finance Department to choose 35 per cent. *ad valorem* as a proper import duty. Presumably their idea was to subject the foreign leaf and the home leaf to equal taxes, and, indeed, we have heard it stated that the tax to be levied on home-grown tobacco under the monopoly system is assessed at 35 per cent. Obviously, if that be so, and if the average price of Japanese leaf tobacco be some 8 *yen* a picul, then, to raise a revenue of ten million *yen*, a consumption of about 3 million piculs annually must be contemplated, or 7 times the consumption of the United Kingdom. Moreover, the idea of an *ad valorem* duty on tobacco is thoroughly faulty. Such a duty could not be imposed efficiently without having in the Custom Houses a staff of experts qualified to appraise the innumerable varieties of foreign tobacco. Japan does not possess so much as a solitary expert of that nature. We are disposed to think that the import duty of 35 per cent. *ad valorem* was fixed without due reflection. England levies a specific duty of 3s. 2d. on every lb. of leaf tobacco entering her ports, and there are no discernible reasons why Japan should not do the same: that is to say, why she should not double or treble her proposed impost, and place it on the practicable basis of a specific duty instead of the wholly impracticable one of an *ad-valorem*. Concerning the tobacco monopoly, as mapped out in the Bill passed by the Diet last session, we have already spoken in terms of the strongest disapproval, and we may now add that we believe the scheme to be impossible. The Government would enter the market as a helpless quyer. Unqualified to appraise the leaf that must nevertheless be bought, the officials would be at the mercy of the producers. They have not, and can not procure, experts to assist them, and even if they had experts, the task awaiting the latter would be hopeless. It does not appear that any idea has been formed of the magnitude of the work to be commenced on January 1st, 1898. There will be 1,600,000 piculs (two years' supply) of tobacco to be taken over by the Government. Such a quantity, packed and baled for the English market, in bales of 2 piculs each, would require 85 steamers, each of 3,000 tons, to carry it away. Or, if the bales—Higo standard, of 70 catties each—were placed side by

side, they would extend to a distance of 830 miles. A staff of one hundred competent experts would have to work for 230 days consecutively to properly examine and assess such a huge quantity. Meanwhile, the tobacco trade would be virtually suspended. Can these things have been considered by the framers of the system. We have also shown that, under this plan, the Government's initial outlay would be about 14 million *yen*, and that the yearly cost of working, including interest on capital, loss by damage and dead stock, &c., would be 3½ millions. Thus, to raise a revenue of 10 millions, the tobacco must be sold at a profit of 13½ million *yen*, or 17 *yen* per picul, supposing the consumption to be eight hundred thousand piculs. In other words, the price of the leaf would be more than trebled for manufacturers, and, at the same time, the Government would incur immense risks and responsibilities. Such figures alone should be prohibitive, even though the other reasons adduced above did not exist. We do not wish to be understood, however, as altogether condemning such a source of raising revenue; the method alone is in question. There is nothing that we can see to prevent the Government from adopting the plan followed in England, namely, passing the tobacco through State warehouses and levying a tax on it *en route*. The details of such a scheme have been elaborately worked out by Mr. F. M. JONAS, the English expert referred to above. We need not reproduce them here. It will suffice to set forth their salient differences. First, under Mr. JONAS' system, the Treasury is not obliged to invest any capital over and above the cost of building warehouses: the 13 million *yen* that would have to be paid out for the purchase of the leaf under the monopoly system is entirely dispensed with. Secondly, no official experts are required: the routine of placing the tobacco in the State warehouses, issuing warrants against it and ultimately removing it, is purely mechanical. Every transaction has to go through a duly regulated channel and is accompanied by proper vouchers, the services of experts, whenever needed, being provided by the dealers themselves. Thirdly, full precaution is taken against leakage of revenue—a danger of large proportions under the monopoly plan, as we showed in a recent article—the tobacco never leaving the Government's hands until it goes into the factory, and remaining, even there, under the surveillance of excise officers. Fourthly, the total yearly cost involved in collecting a revenue of 10 million *yen* is only half a million *yen*, against 3½ millions under the monopoly system. Fifthly, no interference with the tobacco trade takes place: it goes on precisely as usual. Sixthly, the Government is saved from all risks: a certain and trustworthy source of revenue is provided,

capable of being raised or lowered according to public needs.

It appears to us that no room for hesitation exists between two schemes so radically different in every important feature.

GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

RECENT telegrams from Europe have placed us in possession of the fact that the German press has of late shown marked hostility to England, and that the bitter animosity of its tone has aroused in Great Britain a reciprocal feeling of deep umbrage. We do not suppose that the *Hamburger Nachrichten* can be taken as a type of German journalism: it is generally regarded as Prince BISMARCK'S organ. Be that as it may, however, one of its latest articles contains a degree of unreasoning anger that does not stop at the grossest perversion of fact. Here is a condensed translation of the article, which we quote from the *Literary Digest*:—

Everything that has happened lately in Asia Minor and in the Far East is only only a prelude to the great struggle to be fought between Russia and England. While the Northern Colossus has shoved his advance guards near the gates of India, and is working ceaselessly on the road necessary for the transportation of troops, England nervously prepares for the defence. England wants Arabia, Syria, and Armenia to attack the Russians on their march to India, she wants Crete to hold the Russian fleet stationed in the Black Sea in check, she wants the island of Quelpart as a basis of defence against the fleet of Vladivostock. But England does not act as a "firebug" in Turkey solely to obtain new possessions. She hopes that a European war will bring about what she hoped to realize by setting Japan and China by the ears—a revival of her influence in the Far East. This will also lead England to intrigue in Korea. Russia's Siberian railroad is progressing, and Russian troops will soon be easily transported to Vladivostock; but until this railroad is finished, Russia wants peace. That is the reason England brought about the war between China and Japan. England thought it would be easy to get Japan to part with the isle of Quelpart and Port Hamilton, if Japan were allowed to take possession of Korea. In a similar manner England now wishes to put Greece in possession of Crete; in this case the Suda Bay will be made a British naval station. That England did not obtain the fruits of her villainous policy in the Far East may be regarded as an instance of the justice of divine Providence. It is her custom to set the Powers against each other, and to make off with the body. May she be defeated in her aim to bring on a general conflagration! The English, Danish, and Greek courts lately endeavoured to bring about an understanding between England and Russia, but that is impossible. Fire and water would sooner unite than these two. Turkey, therefore, is safe as far as Russia is concerned. Turkey acts at present as a buffer-state of Russia. The vitality of Turkey is often underrated. In reality her strength, based upon Moslem fanaticism, is great in a war against England. Turkey wants only money to be formidable, and Russia can give her all the cash she needs. Turkey is a strong sword in the hands of Russia, and the Czar would have to go insane to break this sword. There is a rumour that England intends to do a trick similar to the bombardment of Alexandria in 1882. The Cretan fortresses Candia, Khanea, and Retimo and their ports are to be occupied by British forces, and a British protectorate is to be declared over Crete. This seems to be the reason why the Turkish troops in Crete have been concentrated in those fortresses. But England had better look out. Russia and France will not stand such things now.

So far as the field of European policy is concerned, this German journal need not be refuted here. But could there possibly be wilder or grosser falsehoods than the assertions that Great Britain "set China and Japan by the ears" and that she "brought about the war between them," because she thought that "it would be easy to get Japan to part with the isle of Quelpart and Port Hamilton if Japan were allowed to take possession of Korea?" As a matter of fact, England's efforts,

for years previously to the war, had been devoted to endeavouring to keep the peace between Japan and China. We know, and our knowledge on this particular point is absolutely indisputable, that the uniformly maintained attitude of British Diplomats in the Far East with regard to Korea and Japan's grievances there, was that, if the two Eastern empires came to blows about the Peninsula, Russia alone would benefit by the issue. Not only British diplomats, but British publicists also invariably took that line. Witness the writings of the Honourable Mr. CURZON, of Mr. HENRY NORMAN, and of innumerable essayists in English magazines and newspapers. Moreover, no one having any knowledge, however superficial, of the course of events during the period while Japan's relations with China were growing dangerously strained, can be unaware that Great Britain's rôle was that of mediator, and that she exerted every effort, short of armed intervention, to avert a final rupture. Is it credible that the editor of the *Hamburger Nachrichten* is ignorant of all these things? If, not being ignorant of them, he has yet written in the strain quoted above, no words are sufficiently strong to denounce his malevolent duplicité. If he is ignorant of them, then it follows that he has undertaken to discuss a grave international problem without the slightest preliminary effort to acquaint himself with essential particulars. Between the two alternatives he has to choose, and whichever he selects, the credit of the journal he controls is reduced to a sorry plight. As to England's alleged hankering after Quelpart and Port Hamilton, and her defeated hope of inducing Japan to cede these places to her in the event of the latter Power's acquiring Korea, the simple answer is that if England wanted either Port Hamilton or Quelpart, she would take it without any of the intriguing attributed to her by the German journal. The proof is that she did take Port Hamilton in 1885, without any previous reference whatever to either China, Japan, or Korea, and if she gave it up a year later, she did so because the contingency that might have made its tenure useful had passed out of sight, not because any objections worth considering were raised against her continued occupation. We should be sorry to think that any English journal, however wanting in self-respect or under whatever dictation it acted, could be induced to play the contemptible part taken by the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, or to attack in terms so flagrantly prejudiced a nation for which Englishmen in general entertain sentiments of respect and amity. It is to be feared, however, that no friendship, however sincere, can long survive the present attitude of the German press towards Great Britain.

A COMPOSITE COIN.

IN reply to our correspondent "E.H.H.," we would point out, as he himself of course perceives, that any attempt to establish uniformity or divergence between, on the one hand, the depreciation of a particular commodity in terms of gold, and, on the other, the appreciation of gold in terms of silver, can not be of much use, and may be very misleading. It was never our intention to suggest such an investigation. We referred to the case of wheat because "E.H.H." chose it himself in a previous letter, and, in a manner, challenged us to show that its gold price had undergone any such alteration during the past 25 years as has the gold price of silver. Except for the immediate purposes of answering our correspondent, we attach little general importance to figures dealing with a particular staple only. Further, it is unnecessary, we hope, to rebut the implication that we selected years of maximum or minimum quotations. We made no selection of any kind. Consulting MCCULLOCH'S Dictionary of 1871, we found that "the average price of British wheat for the week ended April 24th, 1869, the only year mentioned in the book, was 45s. 5d. per quarter," and consulting the London *Economist* of October 3rd, 1896, we found that the "Gazette Average" on Sept. 26th was 24s. We took these figures without even examining the records for intervening dates. Had we been seeking figures favourable to our own point of view, we could have taken the price ruling on August 29th, 1896, when the quotation was 22s. 4d. per quarter. As to "E.H.H.'s" figures they are difficult to follow. He says that the average price of wheat in 1862 was about 79 cents a bushel, and that the average 36 years ago was "almost identically 86½ cents." But in the *American Almanack*, a universally recognised authority, we find that the minimum price of wheat in 1862 was 130 cents per bushel, and the maximum, 155 cents. How an average of 79 cents can be obtained from those quotations, we do not see. Again, going back 36 years, to 1860, we learn, from the same authority, that the minimum price was 135 cents and the maximum 170 cents. Yet "E.H.H." takes the average as 86½ cents. As long as our statistical authorities differ so enormously from those employed by our correspondent, reference to figures can not affect our mutual deductions. Passing, however, from concrete examples to the abstract principle underlying this argument, we find that "E.H.H.," by implication, attributes to us the proposition that "the purchasing power of gold, with regard to wheat, has steadily decreased (increased, our correspondent of course means to say) with the appreciation of gold in relation to silver." We should indeed be rash to assume any such position, and

rasher still to claim that "every decline in silver must necessarily be accompanied by a decline in the price of wheat." The price of wheat, or of any other commodity, may, within a given period, be so largely influenced by factors entirely independent of the ratio between gold and silver as to remain, for a time, unaffected by a change in that ratio. All that we claim, all that bimetallicists claim, is that a general depression of gold prices has been caused by the demonetization of silver. The curve of descent may have showed great variations at different periods, but it has been, on the whole, a downward curve.

With regard to the question of a composite coin, "E.H.H." seems to think that, in advocating such a system, we ignore the difficulty of introducing it, as compared with the difficulty of internationally fixing a ratio between gold and silver, and that, failing the composite plan, we deprecate the ratio resource. By no means. We see very plainly, and have distinctly stated, that to induce all countries to adopt a common medium of exchange would be a most arduous undertaking; and since, during the past sixteen years, we have steadily advocated international agreement in the matter of a ratio, it should not be necessary to repeat now that we are fully sensible of the advantages attending that expedient. But the fixing of a ratio by international agreement would not, in our opinion, be a radical remedy. If a uniform system of coinage be essential—as every financier admits that it is—for the smooth and convenient conduct of commerce between the different parts of the same country, then it is impossible to deny the larger proposition that a uniform system is essential for any group of different countries trading together. "E.H.H." himself admits it, for he speaks of "a universal system of coinage" being "a welcome addition," yet he still declines to concede the advisability of a composite coin. We wrote that the union of the two metals would be a practical fixing of the ratio between them, and would obviate the danger incidental to employing them separately, namely, the expulsion of the more valuable token from circulation. "E.H.H." does not see that. He thinks that "if the silver pieces were rated at an unchangeable value" (he means, of course, an unchangeable gold price), "they would do their work as well as any combination that could be invented," and he refers to the melting pot as the inevitable dissolver of any union that opposed the withdrawal of either metal on account of its superior value. Why the melting pot? To what use would the components of the composite coin be applicable after separation in the crucible? The reason, the only reason, that the more valuable of two coins disappears from circulation is that the obvious interest of every one having a payment to make is to make it in the over-valued

metal, which thus comes to be the sole, or virtually the sole, currency of the country. But under the system of composite coins, payments could not be made indiscriminately in either gold or silver: the composite coin would be the only legal tender. "E.H.H." appears to have overlooked that vital point. So far as we can perceive, a uniform currency for the whole civilized world would necessitate recourse to a composite coin. That any one should maintain the competence of either gold or silver separately to discharge such a function, is a hypothesis scarcely worth consideration. Meanwhile, half a loaf is better than no bread. As a step towards a universally uniform coinage, a universally fixed ratio between the metals used in the present system of different coins would be most desirable, apart from many other reasons in favour of such a reform.

THE HEBREWS.

I.

NATIONS, like individuals, have their birth and growth; they reach the acme of their prosperity; they decline, they die and disappear, and are only known to have existed by the crumbling monuments and fragmentary records that they have left behind. Not so with the Hebrew race, which does not decay and refuses to die. It has passed through an ordeal of suffering, perhaps greater than that endured by any other race, but still it survives, the same strong, unbroken race that it was thousands of years ago. Unless we except China, Judaism is the one vestige of the remote past that has entirely defied decay or dissolution. Mightier peoples than Israel have appeared on the great stage of humanity, but they have vanished like the shadowy figures of a phantasmagoria. On their ruins other peoples have arisen, or conquest and admixture have so modified them that beyond a few centuries no man can trace his ancestry. There is a solemn grandeur in the tremendous sweep of vision that the Hebrew takes of the course of time. He has seen all the ancient world-wide monarchies arise, flourish, and fall. Old ages, empires and systems have perished and left him behind, and new civilizations, empires and systems have sprung up to find him here before them, and likely to remain when they too have gone. He dwells under all stars, drinks of all streams, speaks all languages, enlists under every flag. Ancient as history, he possesses an indestructible youth. Threatened in all lands and times with destruction, like the Burning Bush he flourishes unconsumed in fire, a burning lamp shining on amid convulsions and tempests, an ethnological miracle, an undying witness of the truth of revelation, and a perpetual reminder of the future glories of our race.

The Hebrew is descended in the line of Isaac, from Abraham, who must not be pictured as a solitary traveller with his wallet and scrip, but as a mighty nomad sheik, at the head of an encampment of 1,300 tents, the father of nations. Lord Beaconsfield, stung by insinuations aimed at his pedigree, told the noble lord that "the sons of the Crusaders are by the side of the sons of Levi muddy-blooded barbarians." The Englishman, though he might trace his ancestry back to the Roman

period or to a Saxon thane, is but of yesterday in comparison with the Hebrew. The descendants of the Patriarchs prefer to be called Hebrews, or Israelites, to being called Jews, which last word is suggestive of old clo' and Shylock.

It has been supposed that the ten tribes, which were carried away into captivity before Judah, are concealed in some unknown region of the earth, but history finds no trace of them as now existing in any part of the world, and there is nothing in the Bible to make us believe that they anywhere have a distinct separate existence. A large proportion never went into exile, for only 27,280 captives were carried away by Sargon, this second deportation being apparently much larger than the first under Pul and Tiglath-pileser; and if only ten times as many were destroyed in the siege and previous wars, what became of the rest of Israel, whose warriors in the time of David numbered 1,100,000, which implies a population of several millions? The captives themselves were not allowed to settle in one district and therefore could not keep up an organized community. Besides, we know that many Israelites—from Asher and Manassah and Zebulon—came back with Judah, and a reunion of the divided Kingdoms took place in the celebration of the Passover (2 Chronicles xxx., xxxi., and xxxiv. 8,9). Moreover, the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel, Hosea and Micah declared that Judah and Israel would return together. And in the offerings made by the returned exiles at the Feast of Dedication, 12 he-goats were offered for a sin-offering for all Israel according to the number of the tribes. Many of the two kingdoms chose not to return. These are spoken of as dispersed among the people in all the provinces (Esther 3:8). And from the descendants of these it doubtless was that devout men out of every nation under heaven came to the Passover, and were present at the Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Spirit. After the Return, because of the numerical superiority of the tribe of Judah, Jews became the common name for all Israelites. From all which we infer that after the restoration the old distinction between Judah and Israel was lost, and that the ten tribes, as a distinct nation having ceased to exist, all Israelites once more became one people, recognizing themselves as the descendants of the twelve ancient tribes.

Dr. Pressel divides the modern Jews into three great classes according to the countries over which they are dispersed. "The first class, inhabiting the interior of Africa, Arabia, India, and China, occupies the lowest stage of civilization. Though greatly superior to their Gentile neighbours, they are semi-barbarous and ignorant of their own literature, history, and religion, with which they mix up various heathen rites. The second and most numerous class is in Northern Africa, Egypt, Palestine, Persia, Asia Minor, European Turkey, Poland, Russia, and parts of Austria. It embraces the bigoted, strictly orthodox, and Talmudical Jews, including the sect of the Chasidim (the Zealots of Josephus) to the number of about one million, and the small but interesting party of the Karaites, who reject all rabbinical traditions. The vast majority of these Jews are extremely ignorant of all but Jewish learning. Socially they stand very low. They are to be regarded as the only proper exponents of what the Talmud really is. The third class is re-

presented by the Jews of Central and Western Europe and of the United States. These mingle with their Gentile neighbours, and indeed in some respects are their superiors. Religiously they belong to the party known as 'reforming,' who attempt to eliminate the old Talmudical element from their religion and to adapt it to Western civilization. Consciously or unconsciously, Western Judaism is rapidly drifting into Unitarianism or Deism."

This division must not be imagined to be fixed like the boundary lines between the states of Europe. Both in America and Europe are three parties: one, consisting of those that are conservative of old forms and habits in synagogue, education, and worship; another, of those that in education, synagogue, and worship conform to the highest ideas prevalent in their respective countries; and a third, of those that propose to drop all the externals of Judaism and retain only a pure Deism. The editor of the *Jewish Messenger* of New York says:—"Our Judaism, perhaps, is more hereditary than personal, and we slip into the doctrines and customs of our fathers, too ignorant to criticize, and too stolid to condemn. We are so comfortable in our Judaism, that we are fearful to investigate whether it is divinely inspired or not. We sedulously walk in the beaten path, more from a selfish feeling of safety than anything else, and worship tradition with its hundred heads simply because it is a labour to think." But a writer in *Blackwood* shows that rationalism is threatening, nay, now working, a revolution among the Jews. No people have hitherto been more steadfast to their traditions than the Hebrews. But they evidently are giving way to modern thought and sloughing off the petrified, crystallized opinions of ages. The Talmud up to this century has been the supreme authority, the oracle of the Hebrew world. But the Jewish reformers have cast down this hitherto supreme standard, as effectively as the Protestants did that of papal infallibility. With it have gone down all its minute and almost infinitesimal prescriptions of forms for all matters of worship, morals, and manners. They educate their children in the common schools, mingle freely with Gentiles in the legislature and in politics generally, and advocate the change of their Sabbath to the Christian Sunday as a matter of expediency. It is an interesting question how far this change may favour the final Christianization of Judaism.

The distinction has been claimed for the Hebrew that, unlike all other races, his blood is untainted. But Dr. Neubauer, himself a Hebrew, speaking before the Anthropological section of the British Association a few years ago, contended that the Hebrews, unlike the Gypsies, are not perfectly pure; that the Israelites of old were descendants of a mixed race that had crossed the breed in Egypt; that from the time of the Second Temple intermixture took place with converts; that Jews intermarried with non-Semitic tribes, and that under the Roman empire conversions became so frequent that laws had to be passed against those who would be circumcised. A Jew, he said, was not particular as to the nation his wife belonged to, if only she professed his religion. We may, therefore, safely conclude that the Hebrews, like other races, are not of pure and unmixed blood.

Strangely hated has been the Hebrew. From the time of the Pharaoh of the Oppression till the other day in Russia he has been scattered, spoiled, a byword, a hissing, and an execration in the earth. When the Hebrews were restored from Babylon, foreign nations often controlled their destinies. Their worst calamities commenced with the Roman war A.D. 66. Before that they had been banished from Rome A.D. 21, massacred in Alexandria A.D. 42, and in a tumult with the Romans in A.D. 50, 30,000 were killed. But in this war town after town was taken and sacked, and multitudes slain. Jerusalem was invested and captured, 1,100,000 perished, and an immense multitude was led into slavery; and 60 years later another revolt took place and 580,000 were slain. While Christianity was under the ban the Jews, who sympathized with the Roman rulers in their oppression of Christians, flourished. But at the conversion of Constantine they began again to suffer. The code of Justinian debarred them from civil rights. After the rise of the papal power their afflictions were augmented. The era of the Crusades was a time of still deeper gloom. The Crusaders seizing a Jew by the beard would plunge his sword into his breast crying, "Hierosolyma est perdita"—Jerusalem is destroyed. This became a toast at their banquets, and was contracted into H.E.P., and thus pronounced as one word, from which sprang, perhaps, the cry "Hep, hep, hep, hurrah!" They have been expelled from most of the countries of Europe, and have suffered many forms of oppression, depredation, pillage, torture, outlawry, starvation, and massacre. The streets of many cities were deluged with their blood; they were burnt alive by thousands; their sufferings, in short, beggar description. Why this cruelty and hatred? Why the false charges trumped up against them from time to time? Was it because of their religion? Or their usury and extortion? Or that they might be despoiled of their possessions? Whatever the cause, extortion, and massacre, and banishment continued until 200 years ago, when toleration began to be extended to them, and during this century their just rights have been largely yielded to them. Surely we may hope that out of affliction, so protracted and severe, much good will come:—

Wine oozes from the trodden grape.
Iron's blistered into steel.

II.

In an unjustifiable attack upon the persecuted Jews in Russia, Goldwin Smith has called them "a parasitic race." If what he says of them is true in that particular country, it would be equally true of them everywhere. What is there in the character of the Jew to excite this onslaught upon him? He is ambitious of getting on in the world, it is true; but is not the Anglo-Saxon or the Anglo-American tarred with the same brush? We are told that his love of ducats is excessive; but do not the descendants of Covenanters and Puritans race hard and in as crooked a way after the dollar as any Hebrew? And "if he succeeds better than most is it not because he is temperate, industrious, and frugal in an unusual degree? Has he not learned to exercise that self-respect and self-control which constitute the first condition of success in any form of human enterprise?" If he is sharp and hard, what else could be expected of him after the cruel oppression of centuries? Good has

come of this oppression, but not unmixed good. But how seldom do we find him justly arraigned before Courts of Law!

So far from being a parasite, he is the very embodiment of self-help. He is not fond of hard manual labour, but you find him occupying all positions, from the princely merchant or banker to the muleteer or itinerant clothes-monger. He is neither a drunkard nor a beggar. Thrifty and keen-witted in prosperity or adversity, he is under obligations to nobody. He provides for his family, his sick and his poor. Mr. Smith says that he is found "inserting" himself into this or that nationality for purposes of gain. We wonder if this is true of no other nation! For what purposes do merchants of England, America, France, Germany and Italy come to Japan? If the Jew is selfish and sordid, so are we. If we apply the lash to them for sins of covetousness, it will not be amiss for us to prepare ourselves for a similar chastisement.

The Hebrew is certainly an interesting study for many reasons. Physically he is said to be peculiar. Dr. Shultz, of St. Petersburg, says that while the average height of other races is 66.15 inches, that of the Jews is 64.46, while in general the width of the body, when the arms are extended, exceeds the height by about 8 inches, with the Jews this measurement often falls one inch below the height. The Hebrew is not as prolific as some other races, but as to longevity the results are largely in his favour. The average duration of the life of well-to-do Hebrews is 10 years longer than that of Gentiles; and this is due to their superior hygienic habits, and to the sturdy constitution transmitted by ancestors who also observed strict sanitary precautions. Immunity from disease is a characteristic of the race. Dr. Mapother, of Dublin, in his lectures on Public Health, says:—"The striking immunity of the Whitechapel Jews in the last as well as all former epidemics (cholera) was due to their timely distribution of animal food, and to their excellent hygienic observances, which have made the longevity of this race one-third greater than that of most European peoples." Dr. Hough says:—"They have had in recent times so very marked an immunity from plague that it was the motive of odious persecutions." Tschudi, in speaking of the plague of 1346, says that this malady did not affect the Jews of any country. Frascati mentions the fact that the Jews escaped completely the epidemic of typhus in 1505. This is true also of a similar epidemic in 1824. These statements of medical authorities have been compiled by Dr. Maurice Davis, who says that "Jews suffer little from intermittent fevers, convulsions, mesenteric wasting of children, and inflammations of the respiratory organs. On the other hand, they suffer frequently from non-inflammatory skin diseases, internal stomach affections, and ruptures. Jewish children are free from certain hereditary diseases and from scrofula. The Jews commit suicide much less frequently than other religionists." Than others they have fewer illegitimate children. James Parton says of them that "they are probably at the present hour the chastest seven millions of people under the sun." The family feeling among them is very strong, which assures to aged and infirm parents, to infants, to children, the utmost solicitude. Their charity is unsurpassed. They do not forget that their sacred scriptures hold up as the consummation of iniquity the

conduct of those who "drive away the ass of the fatherless, who slay the widow and stranger, and murder the fatherless;" that the old Testament declares that "cursed be he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless, and widow," and requires all the people to say Amen; and that it represents Job as uttering in his calamities:—"If I have eaten a morsel myself alone, and the fatherless have not eaten thereof; . . . then let my arm fall from my shoulder-blade, and my arm be broken from the bone." They have orphanages, asylums, refuges, and mutual help societies, and all this is done in no parsimonious way, but on the most liberal scale. Baron Hirsch's devotion of three millions sterling of his fortune to the relief of his persecuted brethren in Russia is a magnificent illustration of what is done every day by Hebrews in very humble circumstances. Educationally, too, they rank very high. "In almost every country they have equal advantages with Christians, and are found in more than equal proportion among the most educated and educating classes of to-day." In Berlin, where the Jews are but five per cent. of the population, they are 30 per cent. of the students; this is true also of Austria. In the whole of the German Empire, where the proportion of Jews is only one in seventy-five, in all the higher institutions of learning the proportion of Jews is one in ten. In Germany they already hold seventy professorial chairs in the universities; and all agree that the tide of Jewish influence in education and learning is still rising." It is only a little while, say 30 years, since the Jew was first admitted to practice at the bar of England, yet he has already reached the front ranks. Sir George Jessel held a seat in the foremost files of English judges as Master of the Rolls. The control of the world's finances is largely in their hands, and in addition to the money-power they control to a large extent the Press of Europe. They are the leaders of progressive and democratic journalism in the Teutonic States. Out of 23 liberal and progressive papers of the Berlin daily press there are only two that are not in one way or another under Jewish control. In Dresden at a representative gathering of the press, 29 out of 43 were Jews. In Austria the same thing appears, for out of 340 authors 225 are Jews. We should not therefore wonder when we are told that Jewish pens lead public opinion through a good part of Europe. Wealthy families of Hebrews are intermarried with the aristocracies of Europe, their richly dowered daughters being given in marriage to the haughtiest members of the nobility. Hebrews take high office in Europe and America. They are acceptable candidates for legislative assemblies of Italy, Austria, Germany, France, and England. In the English House of Commons they have representation out of all proportion to their share of the population, for while they are only one in 800 of the population, recently they held 9 out of its 658 seats. Lord Beaconsfield blew the Hebrew horn thus:—"There is no race that has so delighted, fascinated, elevated, and enobled Europe as the Jewish." "Who," he asks, "are the great composers who hereafter will take rank with Homer, with Sophocles, with Praxiteles or with Phidias? They are the descendants of those Arabian tribes who conquered Canaan, and who by the favour of the Most High have done more with less means than even the Athenians. When the Russian, the French-

man, and the Anglo-Saxon amid applause of theaters yield themselves to the full spell of a Mozart, a Meyerbeer, or a Mendelssohn, it seems difficult to comprehend how those races can reconcile it to their hearts to persecute a Jew."

Here then is a people without a country and without a king, scattered among all the nations but distinct as any, by their observance of the Mosaic institutes a true nation, animated by a common national hope and inspiration that tropical suns cannot consume, nor the frosts of the North chill; with national characteristics that nothing can obliterate: for neither spoliation, nor exile, nor massacre can break their proud spirit, or bend the iron sinew in their neck. Far mightier, far greater, nations have existed, measured themselves against this mysterious race, and passed away. For Israel, though tenacious and patient in the highest degree, has been as an anvil on which they have been broken (Jeremiah 50: 23; 51: 19-25), and still survives a race with capacity to rise to the highest place and to do the greatest things.

To this race, Paul tell us, "pertained the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises, whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever." This race has as its crowning distinction that it was God's chosen people, unto which in due time should come the Son of God. If they were guilty in His crucifixion of the most stupendous crime that can be laid to the charge of the human race, it may be said in extenuation that "they did it ignorantly in unbelief." To this remarkable people we are debtors. "We are debtors" indeed "both to the Jew and the Greek." We owe somewhat to all the ancient nations that aimed at the empire of the world, but chiefly to the Greeks, the Romans, and the Israelites. Those three most highly gifted races of antiquity have supplied us with the loftiest ideals of thought and conduct. To the Romans we owe much as regards forms of government and systems of law. To the Greeks we are indebted for a teaching and an inspiration powerful still in philosophy, science, and art. But we owe far more to the Jew than to the Greek or Roman, because what he has given to us has a far more powerful bearing upon the world of thought, feeling and conduct, than science and art and all the arrangements of State. The most powerful factor and agency in the destinies of men and nations is the religious feeling. From this race we have received the sacred Scriptures of which they had been the custodians for long ages, for unto them had been committed the oracles of God. Our Saviour was a Jew, born of a Jewish maiden, reared in a Jewish home. The Jew bore witness to the one true God, to the Divinity of the Holy Scriptures of the Old Testament, to the existence of the unseen eternal world, to the doctrine of sacrifice as a principle of the Divine government, and to the truth of the final judgment. There is a fable of a Roman who, swimming to save his life, saved his MSS. from destruction by carrying them in his teeth. But the Jew, swimming through seas of blood, carried with him his sacred writings and the religious sentiment, for which the world is to-day his debtor. "Salvation is of the Jews." Matthew Arnold in his "Culture and Anarchy," is fond of quoting God's word

to Zechariah (9:13): "I have raised up thy sons, O Zion, against thy sons, O Greece!" And Israel raised up by God for this end is more epoch-making and powerful in the sphere of religion, than Greece in philosophy and art. For the Semitic spirit stands for all that is spiritual in our nature, which as over against the æstheticism of Greece—Israel against Hellas—is of incomparably greater value in the education and up-lifting of the world. It ill becomes us, therefore, while we behold the Church of Christ standing before us in all the grandeur of her proportions, to forget that her foundations were laid by Jewish hands.

Space is left for only a glance at the question, For what is the Hebrew race reserved? If these few millions—variously estimated from 6 to 10—a mere drop in the ocean of humanity, with culture, education, wealth, energy and practical ability out of all proportion to their numbers, have been able to impress themselves upon every department of life, and that too at so small a remove in time from a period of disability and bondage, what may we expect of them in the years to come? By pure tests of intellect they will take the first place the world over in law and medicine, in science and education, in music, on the stage, and in finance. A recent writer has put his judgment on record thus:—"The rapid rise of the Jewish element is a fact which may be observed all over Europe, and if this rapid upward movement continues, the Israelites a century hence will be the masters of Europe." Heine has well said that the Jews, who decline to practise any form of idolatry, and have followed after a Law during more than 3,000 years, are "the people of the spirit," and not even their worship of wealth can destroy the passion or the hope with which their teachers are still inspired. It seems clear that as Almighty God works up His mighty forces of light, heat, magnetism, electricity, in His secret laboratories, so the God of all grace is pleased to prepare the mighty potencies of His Kingdom of redemption, and that He is thus qualifying Israel to take its rightful place among the nations of the world, and possibly restore to them the Holy Land. One would think that a secret exultation must spring up in the heart of every Hebrew when reminded of Beaconsfield's boast that one-half of Europe worships a Jew and the other half a Jewess; how much more when he comes to know that a Prince of David's line has wrought out the redemption of the human race, and that the process of reducing the whole world to His sway is now rapidly going on. One wonders that he does not hasten to claim Him for his Messiah, who has established a new order of things, dimly prophesied by Hebrew seers of ancient time, an order of things that required for its inauguration and establishment energy, wisdom, and resources nothing short of divine. But the veil is on the Hebrew's heart. When that veil drops, as drop we are sure it will, he will "kiss the Son," David's son and David's Lord. Jew and Gentile shall be gathered into one fold under one Shepherd, and the effect of this wonderful conversion will be, to both Jew and Gentile, as Paul tells us, "life from the dead." G.M.M.

THE COMPOSITE COIN.

A correspondent, "T.S.T.," sends us an interesting letter on the subject of a composite coin. He has taken much pains to demonstrate that our position is entirely false, and, being convinced of the success of his demonstrations, he draws from our supposed discomfiture a general inference unfavourable to the soundness of the bimetallic cause. It will not surprise "T.S.T." to learn that we do not agree with him. He appears to have failed to grasp the fundamental point of our proposition, namely, that if a composite coin came into universal use as the only medium of exchange, there would no longer be such things as gold prices or silver prices, independently: there would be only prices expressed in terms of the two metals compounded in a fixed proportion to represent the unit of value. It would almost seem as though "T.S.T." had become so accustomed to regard "price" solely as the number of gold tokens or silver tokens for which an article is exchangeable, that he cannot easily conceive it as a number of gold-silver tokens. Hence he is betrayed into charging us with uttering a puerile platitude, namely, that "the purchasing power of a certain coin will remain the same unless something occurs to make it purchase more or less." We are not sensible of having written anything that warrants such a construction. The case is very simple. Owing to the arbitrary divorce of the two precious metals from their old union as monetary tokens, one of them has been degraded almost to the rank of a mere commodity, while the other has been raised to a fictitious value by the excessive duties imposed upon it. To re-unite them and make them share in discharging functions for which one alone is inadequate, is the remedy proposed by bimetalists. But, in our opinion, if that remedy is to be thoroughly effectual, the separate existence of the two metals in the coinage of the world—of course there is no question here of subsidiary coins—must be terminated. Otherwise, the different facilities enjoyed by different nations for procuring one metal or the other, would perpetuate the distinction of gold-using and silver-using countries, and so long as that distinction exists, fluctuations of exchange are inevitable. Hence we arrive at a composite coin as the final resource. With a coin of that kind as the world's unit of value, there would be no such thing as "gold prices" or "silver prices;" there would be gold-silver prices only. "T.S.T.'s" "second" and "third" suppositions consequently cease to be significant. Of course there are conceivable circumstances under which no metal, or combination of metals, would serve for coinage purposes. But with such remote contingencies we need not concern ourselves, more than we need now pause to rebut our correspondent's accusation of "carelessness in the use of the term price," since it is not to our carelessness but to his own misapprehension that the confusion is due. If he insists on taking our composite coin to pieces, and discussing the fragments independently, whereas their perpetual union and interdependence for coinage purposes is the basis of our whole scheme, his conclusions naturally diverge from ours. Perhaps we should add that we entirely differ from our correspondent's interpretation of the general conclusion deduced by both monometallists and bimetalists from the experience of the past 20 years, namely, that "a single standard has been steadier than a double one would have been." To discuss that question in full would take us far afield, but we cannot suffer to pass without challenge a statement so opposed to our own rendering of the bimetalists' case a statement which, if accurate, would be equivalent to announcing that the doctrine of bimetalism had been totally abandoned.

Count Kuroda having recovered from his illness, proceeded to the Imperial Palace on Wednesday at nine o'clock and had audience with H.M. the Emperor, staying till eleven o'clock. Afterwards he visited Count Matsukata, at his official residence, Nagatacho.

GARDEN PARTY AT WASEDA.

Their Excellencies Count and Countess Okuma gave a garden party on Tuesday afternoon at their suburban residence in the Waseda district of Tokyo. Count Okuma's proverbial good fortune in the matter of weather did not forsake him on this occasion, for though rain poured in torrents throughout the afternoon of Monday and until the small hours of Tuesday morning, a fine sunshiny and calm day succeeded, so that the beautiful garden at Waseda, now aflame with autumnal tints, looked all the brighter and fresher for the storm that had so recently passed over it. About six hundred guests were present, including His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu, Their Excellencies Count Matsukata, Viscount Nomura, Viscount and Viscountess Hijikata, Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, Marquis Saigo, Marquis and Marchioness Hachisuka, Baron and Baroness Sanuomiya, nearly all the Foreign Representatives, and a great number of other notables, naval, military, official, and civilian. Refreshments were served at four o'clock in spacious booths of bamboo and trellis-work, and it must be confessed that owing partly to the very extensive character of the accommodation, and partly to the great taste that had been employed in harmonizing these constructions with their surroundings of conservatory and rockery, this, the least romantic feature of social gatherings in modern times, acquired quite an interesting and picturesque character. Everything was in duplicate: receptions in foreign and Japanese style; costumes of the East and the West; refreshments European and Japanese, and music Occidental and Oriental. His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa would have attended, but it happened that the official announcement of his promotion to the chief command of the Navy having been made that very day, involved some ceremonies which detained him. Only a few Yokohama residents were present, but the foreign community of Tokyo was largely represented. The display of day fireworks was exceptionally fine, and the orchids and chrysanthemums, of which Count Okuma has an extensive collection, elicited universal admiration. The party broke up at half-past four.

THE PEST.

The plague appears to be spreading apace in Taipeh. Between the 28th ultimo and the 12th instant, 150 cases have been reported, 37 of them ending fatally. On the 12th inst., a private soldier and a boy of the Taipeh garrison were attacked by the disease, and considerable alarm was caused among the troops. According to a letter that reached the *Yomiuri* from Taipeh, under date of the 5th inst., the malady first appeared within the castle premises, that is to say, the most important and relatively the most healthy quarter of the town. Subsequently, the disease spread from the castle and invaded the Chinese streets. The cause of the outbreak is shrouded in mystery, but some aver that the sewerage work undertaken a short time ago and not yet complete must have engendered the trouble, the smell emitted from the excavations being exceedingly offensive. Be that as it may, the Authorities are now hurrying up the completion of the work, and at the same time the utmost pains are taken to clean the streets and dwelling places. The outbreak of the disease has seriously affected the trade of the place, general goods' shops and restaurants suffering principally. Lime and carbolic acid alone are in large demand. The supply of Formosan lime has been exhausted and the price of carbolic acid has been doubled. Loud complaints are heard about the insufficiency of the medical force in Formosa, where, even in ordinary times, the inhabitants are obliged to seek the help of doctors far more frequently than in Japan. Taipeh now presents a very dreary appearance. From Kelung also one pest patient has been reported.

THE PEKIN CLUB.

The extraordinary story of the Pekin Club incident has again come before the public, and as the facts are now stated by a French newspaper, the *Messager de Chine*, which undertakes to defend the action of Count Cassini and Mr. Gérard, we may, perhaps, accept the version as correct. It runs thus:—

The Pekin Club has always been considered a Diplomatic club, because every one belonging to a legation is a member by right. The members of the Customs Service may also belong to it, but they must submit to the formality of ballot. The quasi-official nature of this point of reunion was a thing so well understood that its president up to now has always been the *doyen* of the Diplomatic body. However, last year the choice of the Club, instead of falling on Count Cassini, Minister of Russia, who was *doyen* at the time, fell upon Colonel Deaby, Minister of the United States.

Justly annoyed at a proceeding for which there was no precedent, and which was widely considered to be the result of a secret arrangement at the diplomatic victories of our ally, Count Cassini resigned; at the same time M. Gérard, chivalrously taking the part of the representative of the nation which is our friend, followed his example and took with him almost the whole staff of the legation.

The matter would certainly have remained there, but for the recent occurrence of a little incident which has been maliciously exaggerated. M. Gérard, being obliged to consult the back number of a paper, and having always considered the Club as a centre of news and information at the disposal of the staff of the legations went to the Club at about half-past eight in the morning to look through the file.

The Committee of the Club was informed of this and wrote, we are told, a letter on the subject.

Englishmen will scarcely think it necessary to comment on the above. Their idea of a club is that it is a social institution where all the members meet on an equal footing and enjoy equal rights. As to the inference drawn from the fact that every one belonging to a legation is a member by right, the same might be said of the Tokyo Club, where *Chefs de Mission* and Secretaries of Legation are admitted *ex officio*. But to no one has the idea ever occurred that the Tokyo Club is a Diplomatic Club. Nothing, we think, is to be more heartily deprecated than a tendency to drag politics into the intercourse of every-day life. If the *Messager de Chine's* account of the action taken by Count Cassini and M. Gérard be accurate, we are unable to detect the smallest justification for their conduct. But such men are not deliberately guilty of gross solecisms. Probably the story has another side, not yet exposed to the public. Meanwhile, it invites attention once more to that now anachronistic institution, the *Doyen* of the Diplomatic Corps. If the Diplomatic Corps in Pekin preserved any remnant of its old traditions, if it maintained a vestige of the solidarity that once made it so powerful for the peaceful accomplishment of great ends, there would be sound sense and plain utility in the position of *Doyen*. But what could be more anomalous than that a body of officials who work constantly to defeat each other aims and injure each other's interests, should accord the privileges of seniority and leadership to one of their number?

SINGULAR LIES.

Some American newspapers appear to be provided, just now, with correspondents in Japan who forward information manufactured out of whole cloth. Recently the American public were informed that the town of Kobe had been wiped out by a conflagration, but Kobe stands to this day unharmed by any such catastrophe. A later tale represented Japan in the clutches of such a terrible famine that the Japanese Government had issued permission to destitute parents to sell their daughters. The fabricator of this villainous lie went on to detail the provisions of a law said to have been enacted on the subject, and gave the prices for which girls were selling, with various other details equally false. The only way of accounting for this extraordinary series of falsehoods is that their concoctor confounded Japan with a province of China, where the sale of girls is said to have been resorted to recently by parents reduced to the verge of starvation. Even that hypothesis, however, does not cover the correspondent's deliberate inventions about the details of the so-called law.

KOREAN NEWS.

A singular item of intelligence from Sôul is that a Japanese girl named Kogawa (?), while galloping her horse in Kyo-dong, knocked down and seriously injured a boy of ten. Do Japanese girls gallop horses through the streets of the Korean capital?

Another site has to be selected for the grave of the late Queen of Korea. A hundred thousand dollars had been expended preparing the site originally chosen. But the Royal geomancers pronounce it an unlucky spot.

The King of Korea, in an edict relating chiefly to the removal of the remains of the late Queen and the ancestral portraits to the Kyeng Won Palace, remarks in a casual manner, "We must also remove to the new Palace. Therefore, let the work of construction of the buildings be hastened as much as possible." His Majesty does not appreciate the fine frankness of classing himself with the bones of a dead lady and the portraits of his ancestors. He probably forgets, also, that, having remained so long in the Russian Legation, his departure from it will be a kind of political cataclysm.

The new Governor of Sôul is leading a tumultuous life at present. Recently, obeying the sentiments of reform inculcated during his residence in the United States, he ordered that all houses and booths built on the public thoroughfares should be torn down. The owners protesting, he pleaded the inexorability of the law. Now he is followed, wherever he goes, by some fifty petitioners crying, "Let the law go to rest; we don't want our houses pulled down."

The Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Sôul and Mrs. Kato held a reception on the evening of the Emperor's birthday. There was a fine display of fire-works, somewhat marred by a high wind.

The recent robbery from the Government granary in Sôul has resulted in a sentence of 40 strokes of the bamboo for the Chief of the Granary Division, and dismissal for the Chusa. Apparently the Chief, after getting his beating, goes back to his exalted position.

The farce of submitting and refusing resignations continues to be played with animation in Sôul. The Prince Minister, the Minister of the Home Department, and a Privy Councillor were the latest to go through the performance.

CHINA NEWS.

In China, the pawnbroker's shop is an institution possessing, in some respects, an almost official character. A first-class shop pays a registration fee of several thousand taels and has a capital of 30,000 Tls. or upwards. It is the only legally recognised institution of the kind, and in return for such recognition it is compelled to take in any sum that the Mandarins desire to deposit with it, at a good round rate of interest. Thus the first-class pawn-shops hold large funds, the interest on which is applied to support public colleges, to pay pensions, and so forth. In these shops the limit of the period for redeeming an article is 18 months. There are also second-class and third-class pawn shops, in which the redemption period is limited to 16 months and 6 months, respectively. In the first and second-class institutions the rates of interest are 2 per cent. *per mensem*; in the third-class, 3 per cent. Third-class pawn-shops are supposed to be run by exiled convicts, and that is the status officially accorded to their owners; but to be catalogued with convicts does not deter a Chinaman from undertaking a profitable business. Since the first-class shop alone pays a registration fee, there is, of course, a strong disposition to evade that obligation by working with a capital nominally less than 30,000 Tls. In the English, French, and American settlements at Shanghai, forty-six so-called "second-class" pawn-shops are now officially considered to fall within the category of "first-class." Their owners have been summoned before the Chinese magistrate, and the principal of them has been temporarily suspended. It is possible that as these institutions are within the foreign settlements where the authority of

Chinese officialdom is a negative quantity, some curious complications may occur.

The mission of commercial men sent to China from Lyons last spring, have just returned to Chungking after a journey through the mountains and gorges in the regions of the upper Yangtse. They penetrated as far as Sungpao, and the impression produced upon them by the grandeur of the scenery was most vivid. But of the practical results of their extended travels no estimate can yet be formed.

The anti-foot-binding movement, inaugurated by the missionaries in China, is distinctly gaining ground. Many women have pledged themselves not to bind their children's feet, and some have unbound their own, though the latter procedure is of little value, a foot that has been bound for years being incapable either of recovering its original shape, or of performing much useful service when deprived of the support of the bandages.

The Chinese are generally supposed to be particularly law-abiding, peaceful people, but, in point of fact, no men will fight more fiercely to save their pockets. An illustration is furnished by recent events in the province of Kwangsi. The inhabitants of a certain district in that province had for many years refused to pay more than three-fifths of the taxes due by them, namely, 16,500 taels in money and 7,200 piculs of rice. Recently a new Governor determined to deal with these defiant folk. He ordered the district magistrate to collect the annual tax and the arrears. No sooner did the magistrate make the attempt than he and his assistants were attacked and driven back to the Yamên. They took steps to arrest the ringleaders of the mob, but that night the prison was broken open and its inmates released. All this involved the death of many subordinate officials. Then followed the despatch of troops and the capture and decapitation of several of the most prominent rioters. Not a few others are "wanted" for a similar fate. Of course the people had to make act of submission. They buried their dead and promised to make good their arrears of taxation. Little note is taken of such occurrences in China: they are lost in the immensity of the country and in the multitude of its population. Did they happen in the Occident or in Japan, the whole world would hear of them.

The "Grand Old Man" of China, whose return to Peking was expected to be the signal for his restitution to power and honour, is now in the hands of the Board of Punishments, awaiting the infliction of a penalty. It appears that some one suggested to him the pleasure of a little trip into the Palace Park, which lies in the immediate vicinity of his lodging in Peking. He innocently adopted the suggestion, and was carried through an unfrequented part of the Park in his court chair, the keepers and eunuchs bowing obsequiously to him as he passed. The next day, he received an official intimation that he had been guilty of a breach of etiquette, and was to be "handed over" for punishment. The incident is said to have led to a sharp dispute between the Emperor and the Empress Dowager, who has always been Li's warm patroness. It has also evoked some thoughtless remarks from local foreign journals, which regard Li's treatment as an insult to the Crowned Heads and Potentates by whom he was received on his recent tour, and go even so far as to suggest that a protest should be lodged by the Foreign Representatives in Peking, as if foreign interference in such a matter could be justified on any pretext.

One of the big Krupp guns mounted in the Dieng-nong-sang fort, opposite to Kwangtow on the Min River, burst during practice on the 17th of October, killing three men and wounding eleven others, of whom two have since died. It does not appear that the fault lay with the gun. The Chinese officer in command was to blame for experimenting with native powder and shot.

From an Imperial Decree recently published in Peking it appears that the estates originally granted to the lineal descendants of the Sage Confucius to support their ducal rank, measured

2,308 acres, and were in the provinces of Kiangsu and Shantung. But, in the course of centuries, the usurpations of local officials reduced these estates to nothing, and left the "sacred" family destitute. In 1868, the Emperor magnanimously ordered that 125 acres of the purloined property should be restored, and now finally it has been decreed that the Duke of Yen shall receive a yearly sum equivalent to the produce of the original estates.

ACCIDENT AT THE SHOREIKAI.

An event that might have had serious results occurred on Saturday evening in the hall of the Shoreikai where the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Society gave its recent performance. It was desired to obtain photographs of the amateur actors and actresses in costume, and grouped as they had actually been in some of the scenes. Professor Burton kindly promised to take the photographs. The work had to be done by flash light, the hall being too dark for other methods, and everything was arranged by Mr. Kondo, Professor Burton's photographic assistant, who, having always proved himself trustworthy and competent, was left to settle the preliminaries up to the time of exposure. Two flash lamps were used, one to be manipulated by the Professor himself, the other by Mr. Kondo. Before the amateurs had appeared upon the stage, a trial photograph was taken. The lamps worked perfectly and an excellent negative was obtained. The next exposure was made in exactly the same manner, the actors and actresses being then in position, but on this occasion Mr. Kondo's lamp—or, to speak more accurately, the lamp at which he happened to be stationed, for he and Professor Burton had made no discrimination—exploded with an almost deafening noise, and several of the fragments struck Mr. Kondo, cutting him severely about the mouth and hands, or burying themselves in his right arm and shoulder. Miss von Fallot, also, received a few pellets of tin that made flesh wounds on one of her hands, but happily—and remarkably—nobody else was touched. Mr. Kondo was taken to one of the dressing rooms, where the ladies most kindly bathed and bandaged his wounds. Dr. Majima was soon upon the scene, and under his directions Mr. Kondo was conducted to the Tokyo Hospital, accompanied by Professor Burton, who remained until everything possible had been done for the injured man's comfort. We are glad to be able to say that the wounds are found to be trifling, and with the exception of a possibility that the first joint of the right-hand thumb may have to be amputated, Mr. Kondo will be none the worse. As to the cause of the accident, we are not in a position to speak. It may have been adulterated magnesium, or it may have been one of many other things. Perhaps when Mr. Kondo describes exactly how he mixed the flash powder, an explanation may suggest itself. Nothing is stranger than the very limited area of the explosion's operation. Professor Burton was standing within four feet of Mr. Kondo, yet the latter received the whole charge.

BUDDHIST SCANDALS.

Within the past two or three years Buddhism in Japan has been discredited by scandals of a more or less serious character, justifying the constant criticisms of the vernacular press that until the chief representatives of the faith become really self-respecting in their lives, they can not hope to win the respect of others. A fresh example of these scandals is furnished at one of the most celebrated temples in Japan, the Western Hongwan-ji of Kyoto. It is alleged that the chief manager of the temple's affairs has been guilty of peculation and grossly arbitrary acts, and a strong agitation for his dismissal has been set on foot.

Count Kabayama, Home Minister, who went to his villa at Takata for shooting on Tuesday evening, is said to have returned to Tokyo on Wednesday evening.

OPENING CEREMONY OF THE KABUKIZA THEATRICAL CO., LTD.

We imagine that to very few among our readers is the name "Kabukiza" unfamiliar. By foreign residents and tourists alike this, the chief theatre of Tokyo, has been visited frequently and the admiration evoked by the histrionic displays seen there have been recorded time and again in books and essays. Hitherto the performances given there has been conducted under the management and at the risk of a few individuals, but since the fortunate ending of the war with China the generally prevalent tendency to form business companies on joint-stock lines has made itself felt in the theatrical world, as elsewhere, and has resulted in the organization of the *Kabukiza Kabushiki Kaisha*, or Joint-stock Kabukiza Company, the chief promoter being Mr. Minagawa. The Company held its opening ceremony in the Kabukiza on the 10th instant, the stockholders and their friends being alone invited, a wise limitation, for had not such limits been imposed uncomfortable crowding must have resulted. At half-past one in the afternoon the ceremony commenced with an opening speech from Mr. Minagawa, President of the Company, who spoke briefly but with considerable eloquence. He noted that this new departure in the theatrical domain was one evidence of the expansive spirit that had been developed in the nation owing to the war with China; that the progress of art, to which histrionic performances conspicuously belong, was a measure of national civilization; that the Company had been established in the interests of such progress, and that, by bringing the management of the stage and all its concerns under the control of the joint-stock system, it was hoped not only that public interest would be broadened and accentuated, but also that improvements, the lack of which had hitherto tended to check histrionic development, would be successfully introduced. After his speech, which was delivered in the front of the stage, the curtain rising disclosed to view a wide scene beautifully decorated with peonies and bamboos, emblematic of peace and longevity. Here Danjuro, assisted by several of his pupils performed a dance which, like all Japanese dances, was devoid of meaning to persons unacquainted with the history and sentiments of the people among whom the spirit of such displays has been educated through the course of centuries. The central idea of this dance, the *Kodakara Samba*, is based upon harmony, peace, and absence of change, and it constantly serves as a species of congratulatory prelude on public occasions, being, in fact, one of the various grades of *Sambaso*. The literal meaning of the term *Kodakara* is "the treasures of children," and innumerable canons dictated by an artistic instinct not easily appreciated by outsiders, have to be rigidly observed by the dancers. Danjuro, of course, was inimitable. Though of small stature and slender frame, the great actor seemed to fill the wide stage upon which he danced, and throughout the whole performance the audience remained wrapt in breathless attention, showing a spell-bound appreciation of these stately and graceful motions of hands and feet that harmonized so excellently with the spirit of tranquillity, symmetry, and unity permeating the scene. "The Two Kagekiyo" and the "Adachigahara" were subsequently given. We have not space for any detailed account of the drama, familiar to every Japanese, in which Kagekiyo, the famous Heike warrior, is the hero. It must suffice to say that Kagekiyo's rôle was taken by Danjuro, with all his wonted skill. In the tragedy of Adachigahara the heroine is Sodehagi, whose lover being a rebel and her father in the Imperialist forces, she suffers such grief that her eye-sight is destroyed by constant weeping. She, also, was personated by Danjuro, and so forcible was the representation that there were very few dry eyes in the audience. It is to be hoped that the formation of this company will inaugurate a new era for the Japanese stage, by putting an end to the financial abuses that have hitherto tended to check its development.

THE LATE MR. G. DE WENNDRICH.

The news of Mr. G. de Wendrich's unhappy death has caused much sorrow in Tokyo, where, during several years' residence at the Russian Legation, the deceased made numerous friends. Mr. G. de Wendrich was a man of exceptionally fine physique and gentle disposition. Nothing less likely could have been conceived than that he should take his own life. But who can measure the point where existence may become an intolerable tragedy for any of us? In this case no rumours suggesting even the remotest chance of such a catastrophe seem to have reached Tokyo. It was known, indeed, that Mr. de Wendrich suffered from asthma, and possibly the malady may have become too distressing to make life endurable. But such an explanation appears wretchedly insufficient where there is question of a young man, otherwise endowed with splendid strength and without any blot on his official career. We can only wait, hoping to learn that the act was prompted by temporary aberration rather than the result of insupportable suffering. The past fifteen months constitute a very black era in the history of Settlement life in Japan. Five suicides by men who, under ordinary circumstances, should have had a long vista of usefulness and happiness before them, and the mysterious death of another whose fate seems likely to involve the saddest consequences of all, make a record for which Yokohama and Kobe can show no precedent.

The *Kobe Herald*, in announcing the sad event, said that it took place at about 8.30 a.m. on Monday morning. The report was heard by the unfortunate gentleman's servants who, on going to the room and discovering what had happened, at once summoned assistance. Mr. E. H. Gill, a friend of the deceased, was the first to arrive, we believe. Life appeared to be extinct then. Dr. Thornicraft reached the house a minute or two later, but nothing could be done. The deceased gentleman left a note for Mr. Gill, who messaged with him. In this note he asked Mr. Gill to say good-bye for him to his friends. His affairs, we understand, were left in perfect order, having, it would seem, been brought up to date with a view to death. When discovered on Monday morning he was lying in bed, undressed, as though asleep. Mr. de Wendrich was planning to go home in the latter part of next year, and had told his friends that he should spend the summer on the hills, leaving for Russia in the autumn. He passed the greater part of last summer on Rokko-san, where he interested himself in the work of cutting paths around the hillsides, work which was as useful as it was unselfish.

TROUBLE AT THE NISHI HONGWAN TEMPLE.

The dissatisfaction that the so-called "Reform party" among the Hongwan priests entertain towards Mr. Atsumi, Presiding Manager of the Temple, and his subordinates, has spread to the students of the Hongwan Buddhist College, and has resulted in the expulsion of 100, out of some 130, of the youths. The cause of the Reformers' complaint is alleged misappropriation of educational funds by the Authorities of the Temple. Early this year, the Lord Abbot of the Temple invited several thousand believers to the hall of the Temple, and personally addressed them on the necessity of raising a fund for encouraging and carrying on education and propaganda. His proposal was that five *sen* per head should be levied per mensem during the next decade from the parishioners of the Sect, his estimate being that 600,000 out of the total of one million persons might be counted on to pay that sum. In 10 years a fund of 3,600,000 *yen* might thus be raised, and that amount would serve the purpose in view. This programme was at last carried into effect from July, and already a considerable sum has flowed into the treasury of the Hongwan Temple. Messrs. Kiyozawa and Inaba, graduates of the Imperial University, whither they had been sent by the Hongwan-ji, and several others, also of Hongwan extraction,

now serving as teachers at High Schools in one district or other, saw reason to suspect that the Presiding Manager and his subordinates were misappropriating the proceeds of these subscriptions, by using them for architectural and other purposes. In order to ventilate these suspicions, they started a special periodical in Kyoto with Mr. Kiyozawa as editor. One of the higher secretaries of the Temple took the part of the "Reformists," and personally urged Mr. Atsumi to resign his post, but Mr. Atsumi's answer was to dismiss the Secretary. The agitation proving congenial to the ardent youths of the Sect, 100 students of the college took it up, and, on the 4th inst., forwarded a notice to the Director that, as they had some questions to address to the Educational Authorities of the Temple, they should, for the present, absent themselves from school. The Director and teachers of the College tried to dissuade them from such a reckless proceeding, but this only added fuel to the fire, and finally, on the 11th instant, the Director of the College had no choice but to expel these 100 students. The recalcitrant young priests are now living in a body at a temple in Kyoto and are deliberating what steps they must take next.

"PAST AND FUTURE OF FORMOSA."

The Rev. W. Campbell, already well known as the author of several interesting works on Formosa, has just published a most timely brochure containing a brief but excellent description of the island, a succinct epitome of its history, and a capital map, this last being among the most severely felt wants of the time. The little volume is a reprint from *The Scottish Geographical Magazine* for August. It is brightly written and full of interest from cover to cover. Mr. Campbell is well qualified for the task he has set himself, for his residence in Formosa seems to date from a quarter of a century back. His account of the island's topography suggests the justice of the exclamation wrung from its first Portuguese visitors in the 16th century *Ilha Formosa*! The long range of mountains bisecting it from north to south attains a height of nearly 13,000 feet, and on the north-east coast are to be seen the steepest sea cliffs in the world, "lofty masses, rising some 7,000 feet sheer from the water's edge and wooded to the summit." Takow, the author thinks, will ultimately become the head-quarters of the export and import trade, for at Takow alone do good harbour potentialities exist, a natural lagoon, about seven miles long with an average breadth of half a mile, and divided from the sea by a narrow spit of coral. Easy processes of widening the entrance and dredging out some sandbanks within would convert the place into a splendid harbour. Half-a-dozen years ago the Chinese entertained the project, but it remained still a project when the time came for them to leave the island. Mr. Campbell's estimate of Formosa's resources is this:—

It is safe to say that Formosa is an exceedingly rich island, because the alluvial plains of the west, far stretching and well watered, offer simply illimitable opportunities for raising sugar-cane, rice, sweet potatoes, ground-nuts, indigo, ginger, turmeric, and such like. Moreover, its present fruit production is sufficient to show what abundant increase would follow the introduction of any kind of general and systematic method of cultivation. Large beautiful pine-apples can be had almost for the lifting, and probably not more palatable and wholesome fruit could be found anywhere than the Sable-luo-skinned oranges, or those juicy and delicious little *pumelos* from Bantan. During 1894 twenty-one million pounds of tea, and over forty thousand hundredweights of camphor, were shipped from Formosa. It has been ascertained that rich coalfields exist, not only in the north—where they have long been worked in European style—but in the A-li-kang region, twelve days' journey farther south. The petroleum wells at Toa-kho-ham, and the sulphur deposits near Tamsui, could also be turned to great account; while it was owing to the recent war that negotiations were broken off between the Government of Formosa and the representatives of a Chinese syndicate for conceding exclusive right to work the gold mines in the island. In short, the wealth of this still undeveloped country may be seen on considering that, during 1895, trade to the value of four and a million pounds sterling passed through the ten or twelve European houses doing business there.

He is full of confidence that these resources will be rapidly developed under Japanese rule, and we share his opinion.

ARTIZANS AND APPRENTICES.

Now that the technical education of apprentices is becoming more and more important, Mr. Teshima Seichi, Director of the Tokyo Technical College, sends to the *Kokumin no Tomo* some timely remarks as to the question whether artizans earn sufficient to educate their sons and brothers. He finds it impossible to draw any hard and fast line between the artizans of today and their predecessors in regard to the amount of wages they receive, but he thinks that it is undoubted that the former are enjoying better pay, taken as a whole, than did their predecessors, and that their household life is more comfortable. The main thing in domestic economy among artizans is the price of rice, this bears an intimate relation to the standard of living. Comparing general wages now earned by artizans and those received in the Keio era, that is, a little over three decades ago, Mr. Teshima obtains the following comparative table:—

Daily wages.	Price of Rice.	Rice purchasable per day's wages.
Keio... 4 momme. 8 go per 100 momme. 4 sho 7 go + 1896... 56 sen..... 8 sho 5 go		per one yen... 4 sho 6 go +

The purchasing power of a day's wages 30 years ago was a little greater than its power to day, but other factors have to be taken into consideration. In the first place, work was very irregular in the olden days, and mechanics were liable to be thrown out of work for days together. They often did not find anything like continuous employment. Those that worked for more than 20 days in a month were lucky: if they worked for more they were considered fools; but now-a-days the case is entirely different. Artizans consider it their duty to continue in regular employment for 25 days per month, and therefore their earnings must be far greater than in the olden days. Coupled with this, another factor must be taken into consideration, namely, the relative cheapening of many articles of daily necessity. For instance, clothing, fabrics, porcelain, and so forth. The artizans of to-day must therefore enjoy far greater prosperity than their predecessors of 30 years ago. But though they earn more, they do not spend their earnings in a more profitable manner. In fact, they seem to spend more on luxuries and superfluities than is consistent with their station. Mr. Teshima points to the striking increase in cheap theatres and cheap *yose* in Tokyo since the Restoration, whose best customers are artizans. The artizan class, he concludes, are far better off at present than they were three decades ago, and it is strange, under the circumstances, that the technical education of apprentices should be so neglected. The fact is that while artizans themselves do not appreciate the benefits of education, the Authorities also fail to provide sufficient facilities for artizans to educate their sons, brothers, and apprentices.

We (*Japan Mail*) can not reconcile Mr. Teshima's statement about cheapened clothing, fabrics, and so forth, seeing that, in the twenty-one year period 1873 to 1893, the average price of commodities in Tokyo and Osaka rose more than 30 per cent.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION AGAINST NEWSPAPERS.

On the 18th instant, the *Kokumin Shimbu* was suspended for publishing matter calculated to disturb the public peace. The *Kokumin*, true to its old tendencies, had associated itself strongly with the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon* in the affair of the Household Department.

On the 17th instant, the *Niju-shichi-hachi Shimbu* of Osaka was suppressed for having republished in full the *Twenty-sixth Century's* article against the Household Department, although distinctly warned not to do so.

On the 16th instant, the *Shimotsuke Shimbu* was suspended for the same offence as that alleged against the *Kokumin*.

MEDIA OF EXCHANGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

We take these interesting paragraphs from *Bradstreet's*:—

The following table sets forth in detail the amounts of the different kinds of money coined or issued in the Treasury and in circulation on October 1:—

	General stock, coined or issued.	In Treasury.	Amount in circulation Oct. 1, 1896.
Gold coin.....	\$600,544,217	\$121,723,737	\$478,771,490
Standard silver dollars	437,202,141	380,688,063	56,513,178
Subsidiary silver	75,354,781	15,126,483	60,228,298
Gold certificates	40,388,519	1,591,000	38,797,519
Silver certificates	364,476,504	20,945,030	354,431,474
Treasury notes, Act July 22, 1890	121,004,183	46,040,303	81,963,880
United States notes.....	316,681,016	96,133,716	249,547,300
Current certificates, Act June 8, 1872.....	34,715,000	410,000	34,305,000
National bank notes	331,639,357	12,834,194	320,805,163
Total	\$4,157,945,845	\$675,613,556	\$4,383,302,289

As compared with the corresponding date last year there was an increase of over \$8,800,000 in the amount of gold coin in circulation, while the standard silver dollars show an increase of a little less than \$1,500,000. Silver certificates show an increase of nearly \$14,000,000, United States notes show an increase of nearly \$9,200,000, and national bank notes show an increase of nearly \$14,000,000. On the other hand, the subsidiary silver in circulation shows a decrease of nearly \$1,200,000, gold certificates show a decrease of over \$11,900,000, and Treasury notes one of over \$18,000,000, while currency certificates show a decrease of over \$18,000,000.

The total volume of money in circulation on October 1 amounted to \$4,383,302,289, which represents a decrease of over \$3,200,000 as compared with the corresponding date last year. The population of the United States, on the 1st inst., is estimated by the Treasury experts at 71,774,000. On the basis of these figures the circulation per capital is put them at \$22.05. This represents an increase of 57c. for the month, but a decrease of 52c. as compared with the corresponding date last year.

It may be of interest to note that, if the American figures held for Japan, this country should have a circulation of some 1,660 million *yen*, taking her population at 42 millions and calculating the gold dollar as 1.8 *yen*. But her actual circulation of all kinds can not exceed 370 million *yen*, and probably falls far short of that figure, for in speaking of 370 millions we include the total coinage put into circulation since 1870—namely 225 millions—whereas there can be no doubt that a considerable portion of it has left the country. It will at all events be safe to say that Japan's media of exchange have to be three times as active as those of America.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS IN A THUNDER-STORM.

Those that had not retired to rest when the thunderstorm of Monday night swept over Tokyo and Yokohama, between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m., had an opportunity of observing, with considerable accuracy, the effect of such a phenomenon on the electric lighting apparatus. Exactly in proportion as the storm approached, its influence upon the electric lights became more and more perceptible. At first they merely paled for a few seconds; then, when the rattle of the thunder became louder, and the intervals between the peals and the flashes grew briefer, the lights sunk to scarcely perceptible points, and finally, when the storm burst right overhead, they went out altogether, refusing to do any more duty for several hours. To be exposed to incidents of that kind does not enhance the merits of electricity for lighting purposes, and to be suddenly plunged into darkness does not lessen the terrors of a thunderstorm at night for people who find such things terrible.

RECEPTIONS AT THE BELGIAN LEGATION.

We are asked to say that Madame la Baronne d'Anethan will commence her receptions from next Saturday afternoon, and will continue to be at home on succeeding Saturdays until further notice.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentments or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

"THE TACOMA MAIL SERVICE NUISANCE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—For the enlightenment of your correspondent, who, under the above heading, addressed to you a letter on the 9th inst., we beg sufficient space in the next issue of your journal to bring to his notice the fact that some cause other than that implied by his remark—"It would seem that the Post Office officials think only of the departure of steamers and take no thought of the time of their probable arrival," must be sought in explanation of his experience of the slow delivery here of mail matter *via* Tacoma.

A comparison of the "runs" during the past six months made by the steamers from San Francisco with those made by the steamers of the N.P. S.S. Co. from Tacoma to this port, gives an almost identical time by each route.

"G's" complaint being without precedent, we were not prepared with the figures from which we have arrived at the above result, and were, consequently, unable to point out the inaccuracy of his remark at once.

We shall be pleased to receive from "G." details of the circumstances which have caused him to term a "nuisance" a mail service fully recognised by both the U.S. and H.I.J.M.'s Postal Departments, and appreciated, we believe, by the general public.

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of these lines,

We remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,
Agents, N.P. S.S. Co.

Yokohama, November 14th, 1896.

THE COMPOSITE COIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your argument in regard to the supposed composite coin seems to me so typical of much that is said in favour of a change of the standard of value now in use by the greater part of the civilized world to a supposedly better one, that I venture to ask you indulgence of a little analysis of it.

You have given us an abstract statement under the form of a concrete illustration. The former, separated, consists of two parts: (1) "The purchasing power" of the "composite coin" would be a constant quantity "provided (2) that independent causes had not interfered" . . . to affect "prices." [You wrote the prices of tea, but I have made it general.] The meaning of the first part of this statement must depend on the meaning given to the second, and to get at this, we must ask, what are these *prices*, that in the case supposed are not affected by independent causes? Are they prices in gold, or in silver, or in the composite coin? I suppose you were not thinking of copper, or iron, or wampum, or any other standard of value not mentioned at all in your discussion. Let us take each supposition in turn.

First supposition:—"The purchasing power of the composite coin will remain stable unless prices as measured by this coin vary from some cause independent of the relative purchasing power of the gold and silver which compose it." That is to say, the composite coin is treated as one simple thing, and the gold and silver which compose it are left out of the account. For the moment, there are no such things as gold prices, or silver prices, but only prices in composite coin. The only factor in the case is the relative value, or exchange rate, of this coin upon one side, and commodities in general upon the other. The proposition then comes to mean that so long as nothing occurs to disturb this relative value, the purchasing power of the coin will not change. Its purchasing power, that is say, will remain the same unless something occurs to make it purchase either more or less. In this form, the proposition is indeed quite indisputable, but does not seem to be the valuable economic truth we are in search of.

Second supposition:—"The purchasing power of the composite coin will not change unless gold prices vary from independent causes." This is obviously untrue. Gold prices, and hence the purchasing power of the gold in the composite coin, might remain unchanged by any cause whatever, and yet if silver prices varied the purchasing power of the composite coin must change with them. If the gold and silver dollars which make up the composite coin would each at the beginning buy say a bushel of wheat, and

later the silver dollar would buy only half a bushel, while the wheat value of the gold remained unchanged, then the composite coin could buy only a bushel and a half. Third supposition:—"The purchasing power of the composite coin will remain unchanged unless silver prices vary from independent causes." This also is untrue, in the same way and for the same reason, *mutatis mutandis*, as the second supposition.

Unless then I am wrong in my reasoning, your abstract proposition is either devoid of all practical meaning, or else it is plainly untrue. And the reason is, it seems to me, that you have inadvertently used the word "price" as if it meant something else than the rate of exchange between some one definite thing which we agree for the time to regard as the standard of value and the thing or things for which it is exchanged, as if there were such a thing as "price" which is neither gold price, nor silver price, nor price in any particular medium of exchange.

And now for the particular illustration out of which I have endeavored to abstract your general proposition. You say: "Suppose . . . that a gold dollar and a silver dollar, each exchangeable for a lb. of tea, had been melted together and minted as one coin twenty-five years ago, and suppose that independent causes had not interfered in the interim to affect the price of tea, then the composite coin would to-day purchase two lbs. of tea . . . for its gold part would be worth $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. and its silver part worth $\frac{1}{2}$ lb."

To make this statement true, I am tempted to leave out the dates;—"now," and twenty-five years ago," it would then be a hypothetical statement:—"If the relative value of gold and silver so changed that the gold in the composite coin would buy $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of tea, and the silver $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., the purchasing power of the coin would remain unchanged." This is obviously true, but totally unimportant unless it could be shown that the probability is that the variation in purchasing power of gold and silver would be of such a nature that depreciation in the one would always be exactly offset by appreciation in the other. But the case is quite the contrary, for out of all possible variations, those in which appreciation and depreciation would not offset one another are immensely more numerous.

The only alternative, then, is to take your dates as you put them down. In that case, your illustrative case is plainly untrue. "Now" (November, 1896), the purchasing power of the silver and gold dollars is at a ratio of about 1 to 2, and it is quite impossible that the silver dollar should purchase $\frac{1}{2}$ and the gold dollar $\frac{1}{2}$ of anything.

I have written on this matter at length because of the moral. And the moral it appears to me, is this. If so keen a controversialist as the editor of the *Japan Mail* is led, in arguing abstractly for bi-metalism, by carelessness in the use of a single term, to lay down confidently propositions which are either meaningless or obviously false, the attempt to bring about bi-metalism on *a priori* grounds must be a perilous one, and most of those who are attempting it had far better let it alone.

Before closing, may I add a word upon the truth which seems to be behind your statements, and which I conceive to be this; that a joint standard, if it could be adopted and maintained, would probably be more stable than a single standard. I say *probably* only, for it is quite possible that gold for instance might remain comparatively stable, while silver fluctuated greatly. Then the single gold standard would be more stable than the double standard. Some economists maintain that that has actually been the case during the last 20 years; that gold, measured by the price of labour, which they maintain to be the proper measure, has been relatively stable, while silver has fluctuated greatly. Others, using *commodities* instead of labour as the measure, maintain that silver has been steady and gold changeable. The point to notice here is that *both* these opposing schools agree that the experience of the last 20 years has shown a *single standard to have been steadier than a double one* would have been, they disagree as to which the steady one is. We can at the best then only maintain abstractly that in the long run the double standard, if maintained, would *probably* be steadier.

If this were all, I suppose most of us would be bi-metalists. All standards of value, we know, are more or less unstable and imperfect. Modern discovery and invention, constantly increasing the production, now of one precious metal, now of the other, seem to have brought in a new element of uncertainty. And so, more than ever, we all want the best possible standard, the greatest attainable certainty in an uncertain world. In one direction, bi-metalism seems to offer greater certainty. But consider also the uncertainties that attend it. It must depend upon international agreement, and

all experience teaches us that international agreements are uncertain things. Then, supposing an agreement made and faithfully observed, there is the further uncertainty whether any combination of Governments, even with the best will in the world, can maintain the double standard. As to that, assertions are as positive upon one side as upon the other. If *certainly* is what we want, then surely "better endure the evils that we have than fly to others that we know not of."

One consideration more. The progress of science and discovery has so vastly increased the production of *both* the precious metals that it seems to me at least that under present conditions a double standard would very probably be a *constantly falling* standard, while gold, whose production has doubled within a few years, may easily, if maintained as standard by the principal nations of the world, cease even apparently to appreciate, nay even decline in value. Bi-metalism in a remedy only for an *appreciating* standard. If, as is not impossible, the tide should turn the other way, bi-metalism would make matters many times worse. If some of us think we have been beaten with whips in an era of falling prices, an era of rising prices might make us feel that we had been beaten with scorpions.

Very truly yours,

November 14th, 1896.

T. S. T.

MIXED COINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—When I first addressed you with regard to the employment of "mixed coins" I certainly had no idea of probing the "first principles of the bi-metalists," or of advancing any deeper proposition than that the use of gold and silver united in a single token would have no practical result, in the absence of an international recognition of fixed ratio. If I had thought of seriously opening "a discussion that has been exhausted time and time again," I should not have been satisfied with suppositions examples, nor with any but exact figures; and I should have avoided reference to a product which is, in fact, subject to fluctuations apart from its actual value. In other words, I should have endeavored to write with much more care and precision. Since, however, you have taken wheat as an illustration of the theory that the depreciation of silver is balanced by the appreciation of gold, you will allow me to submit one or two facts bearing upon this point. You state that "a bushel of wheat cost $2\frac{1}{2}$ sovereigns 29 years ago, and can now be bought for $1\frac{1}{2}$ sovereigns." For "bushel" you intended to say "quarter." I presume, the price of the bushel having been, 29 years ago, about one-eighth of the sum you name. Looking at this statement, one is led to inquire why you selected the period of 29 years. For ordinary comparisons, it would seem more natural to use round numbers, and speak of what was the case 25 years, or 30 years, ago. The explanation seems to be that the price of wheat was at its very highest range just 29 years ago, and that you found an extreme example in the exceptional year 1867. If I am wrong in this assumption you will of course correct me, but meanwhile it would appear that the change in the purchasing power of gold cannot be accurately estimated by comparing an abnormally high price, several years back, with the price now ruling; especially as the latest current quotations are considerably in advance of that which you give, being nearer $1\frac{1}{2}$ than $1\frac{1}{2}$ sovereign per quarter. If I be permitted to take such years as suit my purpose, I can easily show that in a lapse of 29 years—from 1862 to 1891—the price of wheat actually increased; the average in 1862 having been about 79 cents a bushel, while in 1891 it was about \$1.00. In 1889, also, it was higher than in 1860. Moreover, the very latest price in America, last month, for wheat sold to England—86 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents—was almost identical with the average of 36 years previous. It is hardly possible, in face of such figures, to hold that the purchasing power of gold, with regard to wheat, has steadily decreased (increased?) with the appreciation of gold in relation to silver, or with the depreciation of silver in relation to gold. If this were strictly true, it would follow that every decline in silver must necessarily be accompanied by a decline in the price of wheat, whereas recent circumstances have shown how entirely independent wheat may be of silver fluctuations. In July last, silver was worth 69 cents an ounce, and wheat worth 61 cents a pound (bushel?). Since then silver has fallen to 65 cents (in Oct.) and wheat has risen to 86 cents. There have, indeed, been periods in every year since 1859, with nine exceptions—that is to say, in 27 out of 36 years—when wheat has been lower than it is at

this moment. Yet silver never began to touch the extreme limit of depreciation until 1893.

It is not my desire, as I have said, to enter the broad field of bi-metallic discussion, and under no circumstances would I venture to contend against one, who, like the Editor of the *Japan Mail*, has studied the subject profoundly from every point of view, and who consequently has resources at command with which the casual observer cannot pretend to compete. No person, I may add can be more thoroughly convinced than I of the expediency of establishing a fixed ratio by universal agreement. The only question I have wished to examine is the incidental one of the practicability of mixed coins. In spite of all that has been said, it still appears to me that such coins would be useless until after the adoption of an undeviating ratio. You, Mr. Editor, assert that the "union of the two metals would be a practical fixing of the ratio between them," and would obviate the great danger that arises from the employment of gold and silver separately—that of "expulsion of the more valuable token from circulation." But if it were proved advantageous to withdraw either metal, on account of its superior value, the circumstance of its being united with the other in a composite coin would be no hindrance. The melting pot can be made available both ways. What is chiefly needed is a plan by which silver can be safely restored to its former usefulness as a medium of exchange. The experiments of the United States have not succeeded. They have cost the Government enormous sums, and have thrown the national finances into confusion. The only hope seems to be in a general agreement that silver money shall stand at a fixed and permanent proportion of value to gold money. It may be hard to win the unanimous consent of European countries to this arrangement, but it would be infinitely harder to bring about the adoption of an identical system of currency by the whole world. The common ratio could be accepted without upsetting the existing system of any nation, and if it were once subscribed to, the essential reform would be accomplished. Is it worth while to speculate upon what may be done toward "practically" fixing the ratio by a scheme which would encounter opposition far and wide, when we have before us the simpler proposition to fix it positively and absolutely by the consent of civilized governments. Let us get the ratio first, and the universal system of coinage may be a welcome addition afterward. But even should the universal system be accepted, and should its use be made compulsory everywhere, to the exclusion of all other tokens, I still fail to see what purpose could be served—(parity once established)—by composite coins, that would not be equally well served by coins of one metal only. It may be that they would be open to no objection; but if the silver pieces were rated at an unchangeable value, they would be as fully entitled to confidence, and would to their work just as well, as any combination that could be invented.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

E. H. H.

November 15, 1896.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before JAMES TROUP, Esq., Assistant-Judge.
SATURDAY, November 14th.

THE DEATH OF MR. CAREW.—PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

The preliminary examination of Mrs. Edith May Hallowell Carew on the charge of murdering her husband, the late Walter Raymond Hallowell Carew, was resumed for the third day at 10 o'clock this morning.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the Crown Prosecutor, conducted the proceedings on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. Mr. Lowder and Mr. Walford appeared for the defence. Mrs. Carew sat next her Counsel. The Court was again crowded.

Hayashi Shichiro, a shopman from Maruya's, was called, but did not answer.

Mr. Litchfield—Is any other Japanese waiting? The Usher—No, none are present.

Mr. Litchfield—Then I will take Ah Kwong, the Chinese boy.

Ah Kwong entered the box. He said that he was living at the Convent. He knew Japanese, and Mr. Wileman was called in to interpret.

His Honour (to the Interpreter)—You will have to use the easiest colloquial, not high-flown Japanese.

Mr. Wileman—Very well, sir.

Ah Kwong then said—I live at the Ladies' Church on the Bluff.

His Honour—I understand that to be the Convent.

Mr. Litchfield—Can the witness understand you, Mr. Wileman?

Mr. Wileman—He seems to, so far.

Mr. Litchfield—How old are you?—Twelve.

Mr. Lowder—I would remind your Honour, that the Witness has not been sworn.

Mr. Wileman—Then I will caution him now.

Witness said he understood he was to speak the truth.

Mr. Litchfield—He is living at the Convent, I understand, does he profess any religion?

Witness did not understand the purport of the question.

Mr. Lowder—May I apply that there should be a proper Chinese interpreter procured to examine this witness, as I do not think that he understands Japanese sufficiently.

Mr. Litchfield—What language does he speak?

Mr. Lowder—I believe he comes from Hong-kong.

His Honour (to the Interpreter)—Ask him if he speaks Chinese?

Mr. Wileman—He says he comes from Canton, that is where his home is.

His Honour—Does he speak Chinese?

Witness—Yes.

His Honour—He added something else.

Mr. Wileman—That he does not understand Japanese very well.

Mr. Litchfield—But he seems to be speaking it very well now.

Mr. Wileman—Yes, very well, so far.

His Honour—How long has he been in Japan?

Witness—Not quite a year and a half.

His Honour—I see a Chinese woman who came with him, ask him what kind of language he speaks to the Chinese woman?

Witness—I speak to her in Chinese.

His Honour—It is hardly to be expected that a boy should be able to understand Japanese well after a residence of a year and a half. He would be a clever boy if he does. Mr. Litchfield, can you not procure a Chinese interpreter?

Mr. Litchfield—I might in course of time. Let the boy stand by for the present. Are any of the Japanese witnesses present.

The Usher—No, none at present?

His Honour—Have you any other witnesses present?

Mr. Litchfield—Not at present, I had made arrangements for the Japanese witnesses to be called this morning, but they are not here. I am afraid I shall have to ask for a remand.

His Honour—The men from Maruya's ought to be here. I have received a communication from the Kencho informing me that they were summoned to appear this morning. I will send over and inquire why they have not come. In the meantime, the Court will adjourn for a quarter of an hour.

Mr. Litchfield—Very well, we will wait a few minutes.

The Court resumed at a quarter to eleven.

Mr. C. D. Moss, Chief Clerk, reported, on His Honour taking his seat—I handed some exhibits, marked Epsilon to Phi, to Mr. Walford on his application. They were handed to him in the sealed envelope, and I opened it in his presence. On the exhibits being returned to me I could not find the first one—Epsilon.

His Honour—The exhibits, Epsilon to Phi, were in an envelope, a closed envelope, not a strictly sealed envelope?

Mr. Moss—It was closed by me.

His Honour—And when the envelope was returned to you?

Mr. Moss—I examined the exhibits with the list and failed to find the first.

His Honour—Epsilon is missing?

Mr. Moss—Yes.

His Honour—Let me look at them. Mr. Walford, what have you to say about this?

Mr. Walford—I received the exhibits from Mr. Moss in a closed envelope. That envelope was opened by Mr. Moss, with my consent, and he took the exhibits out. I did not look at the lettering of the exhibits, and am unable to say whether this particular paper—the one that is said to be missing—was one of them or not. When Mr. Moss reported the absence of the exhibit, after I handed the envelope back to him, I made a search but was unable to find it.

His Honour—You say that you did not look at the lettering of the exhibits?

Mr. Walford—I did not look at the lettering of them. Therefore I am unable to say whether that particular exhibit was inside the envelope when handed to me. I have since made a search, and an enquiry of the two persons sitting next to me, with the result that I have not found the exhibit.

His Honour—Were they out of your hands?

Mr. Walford—They were spread out on this desk.

His Honour—Mr. Moss, are you perfectly cer-

tain that Epsilon was in this envelope when you opened it before Mr. Walford?

Mr. Moss—I am certain that it was there. I made the mark on the exhibit yesterday and placed it in the envelope, which was closed almost immediately.

His Honour—Are you sure it was there when you put the exhibits in the envelope yesterday?

Mr. Moss—I am morally certain it was there. It was put in immediately after it was marked as an exhibit, within a second afterwards.

His Honour—You closed the envelope?—With-

in a second of the marking of the outside.

His Honour—Were the exhibits, Mr. Lowder,

in your hands?

Mr. Lowder—I handled one or two of them.

His Honour—Did you notice Epsilon?

Mr. Lowder—No.

His Honour—Did you examine the lettering of the exhibits?

Mr. Lowder—No.

His Honour—You did not notice it at all?

His Honour—The exhibit Epsilon was a full sized piece of note-paper, was it not?

Mr. Litchfield—I have not got it. I think it was the one I put in first. I think it would be a large piece of note-paper.

His Honour—Not the size of a half sheet?

Mr. Litchfield—No, of full size note-paper.

His Honour—Will the Usher see that no person leaves the Court without first obtaining the permission of the Court.

To Mr. Walford—Were the exhibits handled by your client?

Mr. Walford—Yes, they were handled by my client.

Mr. Litchfield—I am under the impression that I saw Epsilon this morning, on the table, but I would not like to say that I am sure about it.

Mr. Walford—Was it among the others?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes, but I should not like to say so positively.

His Honour—We will now go on with the witnesses.

Hayashi Shichiro, cautioned, examined by His Honour.

What is your occupation?—I am an employé.

Of whom?—An apothecary named Kyo Riunosuke.

Mr. Litchfield—Is Maruya's store in Bentendori, an apothecary's and a book-seller's combined?—Yes.

Do they also sell fancy articles, articles of toilette?—Yes.

Does your duty lay in the drug-store or in that and the book-store combined?—With the drugs only.

Do you remember supplying any medicine to a foreign lady on the 19th October last?—I do.

Did you supply any arsenic?—Yes, as I deposed before, I sold arsenic.

Anything besides arsenic?—Yes, sugar of lead.

Do you know who the lady was?—I do not remember.

Do you remember if she came alone, or was accompanied by anybody?—I think, probably, she came alone.

How came you to sell the arsenic, did she ask for it, or did she produce any writing?—She spoke, and produced a writing afterwards. She applied for it verbally, afterwards producing the writing.

What was on the writing, do you remember?—“Fowler's Solution of Arsenic, 1 oz.”

His Honour—In English?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—Anything else?—Yes, and “Sugar of Lead.”

Was any name written on the paper?—Yes, “Mrs. Carew.”

Was the person who came on the 19th like Mrs. Carew—the lady sitting here?—I saw the woman, but I do not recollect whether she was Mrs. Carew.

To His Honour—I can not recollect her face. I do not recognise her (Mrs. Carew) as the person who came on the 19th.

Mr. Litchfield—Can you recollect how this person was dressed?—In black clothes; in black looking clothes, or something resembling grey or mouse-colour.

What height was she, tall or short?—She was of ordinary stature, she was not particularly small—she was ordinary.

Of slight figure?—She was not a fat person; not stout.

And as to complexion and hair—did you notice?—I do not well recollect the complexion, or the colour of her hair.

Had you ever seen her before, on a previous occasion?—I saw her for the first time then. I might have seen her before, but I do not remember well.

You mean that that was the first time that you took particular notice of her?—Yes. I do not particularly remember the face.

Did you sell any more arsenic in October, on the 20th?—Yes, I did sell some.

Who was that sold to?—I sold it to a messenger who brought a writing—a note—from Mrs. Carew.

To the Bench—It was a male messenger.

Mr. Litchfield—(showing note)—Is that the note he brought?—Yes. [Exhibit put in.]

Mr. Litchfield—It reads—“Mr. Maruya, please give bearer one bed-pan, one bottle Fowler's Solution of Arsenic; E. M. H. Carew, 169, Bluff, 20.10”—folded and addressed to “Mr. Maruya, Bentendori.”

Witness—This Japanese character on the note reads Masa; it is part of the name of Yamada, who gave evidence here at the inquest.

Mr. Litchfield—Was that character put on the note at the shop when it was brought; or when was it written?—Yamada wrote it.

His Honour—Did you see Yamada write it?—No.

Do you know Yamada's writing?—Yes.

Do you recognise it as Yamada Masakichi's handwriting?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—What size bottle did he give the messenger?—A one ounce bottle of arsenic.

Yamada gave the arsenic and the bed-pan to the messenger.

His Honour—Did you see Yamada give to the messenger this Fowler's Solution of Arsenic and the bed-pan?—Yes, I saw him give them to the messenger.

Mr. Litchfield—On the 21st of October did you supply more arsenic, and if so, to whom?—I did.

Did you sell to that woman anything besides arsenic, at that time?—I also sold sugar of lead to her.

When she came to the shop she brought a piece of paper, did she not?—She did.

What size piece of paper?—About the third of a half-sheet of small note-paper.

Was this piece of paper signed?—It was not signed.

Is that the woman—(Miss Jacob stood up)—the person who came on the 21st?—Yes. The handwriting in which this note was written was the same as that which wrote the order for the bed-pan.

Can you say whether this piece of paper was in the same handwriting as that sent on the 19th?—I am not sure about the note of the 19th. I do not remember what the writing was like on the 19th, but the note on the 21st was in the same hand as that in which “bed-pan” was written.

To His Honour—I do not know whose handwriting it was on the 19th.

Mr. Litchfield—Do you recognise the writing of the 19th as the same as that of the 20th and 21st?—I do not recollect.

Did you know that this Fowler's Solution of Arsenic was a dangerous preparation, dangerous to life?—Yes.

Before selling it, did you warn any of these three people—the purchasers—of its character?—I did.

Which did you warn, the woman who came the first time, the messenger who came the second time, or the woman who came the third time?—I warned the person who came the first time, and the person who came the third time.

Have you your sale-book with you?—Yes.

What is the first entry in it, the date of it?—From August the 6th of this year.

His Honour—What is this book?—A book we enter sales in when people do not pay for goods at the time they purchase them: the credit book.

Mr. Litchfield—You have another book?—Yes, the cash-book.

When does that go back to?—The 12th of August.

Are all sales of drugs sold at Maruya's store entered in those books day by day?—Yes.

Can you tell me then, how much arsenic, if any, has been supplied by you during the months of August, September, and October—to anybody. Are there any entries in that book beside the three sales already alluded to?—No.

Can you say whether you have supplied Fowler's Solution of Arsenic, during this year, to any foreigners in any considerable quantities?—I have. I have sold it to Owston, the birdstuffer and skin-preserver.

That would be white arsenic, would it not?—Yes.

Any other sale to foreigners?—No. I sold it twice to Owston, but to no other foreigner.

Mr. Lowder, in cross-examination—Have you any entry, on the 17th October, of the sale of antipyrine?—I have not. That enquiry was made at the inquest, and I can not find any entry though I have looked up the books for that date.

Do you remember Mrs. Carew coming in person and purchasing some antipyrine?—I do not remember. How much did she buy?

A small tin, about two inches square?—It is not in the register.

His Honour—The question was, did he remem-

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A small tin, about two inches square?—It is not in the register.

His Honour—The question was, did he remem-

ber?—I did not sell any antipyrine to Mrs. Carew on the 17th October. There is an entry in the register that I sold antipyrine on the 8th October.

Mr. Lowder—To Mrs. Carew?—The name Carew is on the register, but I did not sell it myself.

Have you any entry in Mrs. Carew's name on the 18th of last month—or Mr. Carew I don't mind which—of a sale of anything?—There is an entry on that date.

His Honour—A sale of what?—Sugar of lead and chlorodyne.

In the name of Carew?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—Who paid for it?—I do not recollect.

Who came for it?—A boy, who brought a note from Carew—whether Mr. or Mrs. Carew, I do not know.

Have you not that writing?—The person who came to pay, took it away.

Who was that person?—A woman.

Do you know her?—No.

When was it paid for, on what date?—On the 20th, I feel sure; but I could tell if I could see the register, which I have not brought with me.

Was it the same woman who came on the 19th and purchased sugar of lead and arsenic?—Yes, the same.

Mr. Litchfield (to the Interpreter)—Will you ask him this question: Although he cannot recognise the person who paid on the 20th for the purchases made on the 18th and 19th, did she not resemble Mrs. Carew in appearance?—I cannot say.

Can't you say, whether she was of the same height same figure, same or similar complexion as Mrs. Carew?—No, I can not say that I recognise the woman as being the same as Mrs. Carew.

His Honour—He says that he is an employé of Kyo Ryonosuke, is Kyo Ryonosuke the same as Maruya?—They are different persons.

Well, is he employed at Maruya's shop?—Yes, I am an employé of the Maruya firm.

But you said that you were employed by Kyo Ryonosuke?—Yes, so I am; Kyo Ryonosuke is the chemist there, and is employed by the Maruya firm: I am his employé.

The depositions were then read over to the witness and signed.

Mr. Litchfield—That is the only witness I have this morning.

His Honour—The gentlemen within the rails—[Counsel, journalists, Messrs. Hutchison, Robison, and Porch]—will remain in their seats; the public will retire from the Court.

The members of the press and Counsel were requested to make search among their papers for the missing exhibit, but they reported non-success. They were then at liberty to retire. The other gentlemen present also reported that they could not find the missing paper, and retired.

His Honour—The Court stands adjourned till Monday at 10 o'clock.

Mrs. Carew remained behind to be examined in regard to the missing exhibit, and a female searcher was sent for. We learn that the paper was eventually found in the cuff of Mrs. Carew's dress. She was then remanded till Monday, on bail.

MONDAY, November 16th.

THE ALLEGED MURDER OF MR. CAREW.

MR. WALFORD RETIRES FROM THE CASE.

The Court resumed at ten minutes past ten o'clock this morning. Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the Crown Prosecutor, occupied his usual position at the Barristers' table, next to him being Messrs. Lowder and Walford, for the defence. The accused, Mrs. Edith May Hallowell Carew, sat behind Counsel in a seat adjoining the prisoner's box. Messrs. Hutchison and Robison occupied the old reporters' box. The Court was crowded.

His Honour, on taking his seat, announced that after the Court had been cleared of the public on Saturday, a search was made for the missing exhibit Epsilon, and on its not being found among the papers on the Barristers' table or elsewhere, he had had the accused searched by a woman searcher in the employment of the Court. This searcher had afterwards reported that the missing exhibit was found in the cuff of the dress of the accused. She had then delivered exhibit Epsilon to the Court, and it had since been replaced with the records of the Court.

Mr. Walford—The matter, sir, to which you have just referred is one about which I feel very strongly, and in which the Clerk of the Court and myself might have been seriously compromised. I therefore find it impossible to act any longer for the accused in this case. Had I been engaged alone in the case, I should naturally have hesitated before retiring; but I am glad to think that the defence remains in the hands of my able and learned friend, and I know that the interests of the accused will in no way suffer.

Mr. Walford then bowed to the Bench and left the Court.

Harry Vansittart Dickinson, a clerk in the employ of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was then sworn and examined by Mr. Litchfield.

Are you a British subject, resident in Yokohama?—Yes.

Have been resident here for some years, I believe?—Yes.

In the month of October last were you staying on a visit at a house on the Bluff?—Yes. I was staying at No. 160, Bluff on a visit.

From about the 26th of September till the 12th October, was it not?—I forget the exact date, but it was in the last days of September till the 13th October.

You are a friend of Mrs. Carew's, I believe?—Yes.

And had for some time been on friendly terms with Mr. Carew?—I had always been on friendly terms with Mr. Carew, with one exception.

That exception led to a quarrel between you and Mr. Carew, did it not?—That exception was a quarrel with Mr. Carew some years ago, that has long since been made up.

While you were staying on the Bluff were you in correspondence with Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Frequently?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield asked for the production of the Epsilon series of exhibits.

His Honour—I ought to explain, Mr. Litchfield, that in the lettering of these exhibits one letter has been dropped; there is no letter Psi in the series; you will bear that in mind.

Mr. Litchfield, to witness—Is this letter Epsilon, in your hand-writing?—Yes.

Was it addressed by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Just turn to the last page of that exhibit. There you will find written:—"I have been thinking much about your probably having to meet this woman. I wish for your sake you could refuse to, but have come to think that you cannot well do so. Do you know anything against her? If not, you should meet her, I think. It would bring you endless bullying refusing, and I want that to be avoided if possible. If you refuse, refuse on the ground that he has insulted you before others, and you do not wish for a repetition. Refuse first on those grounds, and after that on account of his relation to her. That is to say, if you refuse at all." Was that letter written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Was this letter—exhibit Ro—addressed to you?—I understand that this letter was picked up in Mrs. Carew's waste-paper basket, so that this particular letter was not addressed by Mrs. Carew to me, but I recollect receiving a letter of very similar import, but I do not recollect the wording. I recollect the main questions in the letter. I recollect being asked that question.

To His Honour—My letter was in reply to the question then put, but I do not recollect receiving this letter.

Mr. Litchfield—Do you know the woman referred to in your letter, part of which I have just read?—I never knew her.

Was it Annie Luke?—No.

I do not wish for her name to be given, unless you like to do so, but do you know who she is?—I have since heard of her, heard about her, and who she was.

Did you never send any letters that you received from Mrs. Carew back to her?—I never did.

Now, as to exhibit Zeta, is that in your hand-writing?—Yes.

It was also written to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Amongst other things you say, "Never mind my coming in to dinner. I shall not feel hurt if I am left out of your parties, nothing he can do will hurt my feelings now. It is worse for you than me to hear all his abuse. I am only afraid that he will say something rude to me before others and I cannot sit quietly under that. Only you would be treated worse than ever if we come to an open row again." Had Mrs. Carew been complaining to you of her husband's ill-treatment?—Yes. She told me of her husband's ill-treatment of her.

Then further on you say:—"I tear the half sheet off, I jot down points re your will. Are you coming to the Bank to-morrow?" and then there is the Postscript. "I would go and see Litchfield some time before he gets into a busy season. Tear all this up when you have taken a note of it, the notes re the will, I mean. Of course you destroy letters." Did you write that?—Yes.

Was this letter, exhibit Eta, written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

You there say in part, "It will be necessary to be quite in accord with each other on broad questions. We must be able to answer alike."—Was that written by you?—Yes, quite so.

Those remarks did not refer to these present proceedings, magisterial or otherwise?—No. To entirely different matters.

They were written some time ago?—Yes; some long time ago; some time before these things happened.

Then you go on to say, "I know nothing of the legal proceedings; you can say of course that I recommended going to a lawyer in case your husband proved too difficult to manage about the money. Nothing more. Your note with the cap has disturbed me very much. It makes me mad to think of what you are subjected to, and of what you may be subjected to. Please be so careful not to drive him into any violent acts. He shall be punished, but that would be but a small compensation for any harm done you. You must tell L. about last night"—that L. refers to Litchfield, I presume?—Yes.

"And say that you really cannot see when you may be compelled to leave him for fear of personal violence."—Him, I presume, is Mr. Carew, and not Litchfield?—Yes, Mr. Carew.

"Ask his advice as to what you should do if you should ever get frightened, it will cause him to hurry up with the case any way. It is quite clear to me now—at all risks, at all hazards, Divorce. You must not mind your poor brother's and father's feelings over the scandal. Your personal safety is of more importance to us all than any scandals, and then you have your children. If you succeed in proving the necessity for divorce you will have no trouble in convincing the Court of the unfitness of your husband to have the care of the children. You will then always have the comfortable feeling of having done rightly by the two little beings for whose lives you are responsible. Now and always I will help you in all things if you want me, and I know you do, and be with you while I may. Keep up your heart, my dear one, and do not give in under his cruelty and coarseness. If you are ever offered personal violence you must appeal to your brother and servants for immediate help, and to your lawyer for further guidance. Send for me whenever you may need me. Burn all this when you have read and learnt the early part." Did you write that?—Yes.

Mr. Litchfield—Exhibit Iota, is that written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Exhibit Kappa, was that written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

In that you say:—"I should think you might ask for the letter. I should do so without hesitation. Ask L. if you like, but I should go and do it. I think I will come up as arranged to the house. If I see the usual signal, I could also look in after tiffin perhaps, though I am not certain re this. I should go and ask for the letter, however, taking care that no strangers are near you." Do you know what letter that refers to?—It was a letter that Mrs. Carew told me she knew to have been addressed by her husband to somebody care of the Post Office.

Exhibit Lambda, is that a letter written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Exhibit Mu, was that written by you to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Now in this pencil note exhibit, Omicron, you say, "I will send you the 'Play Actress'; but in a P.S. add, 'I will give you the 'Play Actress' when I see you.' This is a novel, is it not?—Yes, it is a novel.

Did you show the "Play Actress" to Mrs. Carew?—I believe I did. I got it out of the Library at the Club for her, but I cannot recollect whether I gave it to her or sent it.

To His Honour—I am not sure which I did.

Mr. Litchfield—The only purpose of the question is for fixing something else.

To Witness—The book is in the Library of the Club?—Yes.

It was taken out by you about the 28th September and returned on the 9th October?—I can't recollect the date on which I took it out.

Somewhere about that time, the end of Oct.?—Yes.

Have you read the novel?—Yes.

The heading of one of the early chapters is the "Lass in black," is it not?—I am not sure.

You are not sure?—I could not tell you, it is so long since I read it.

You can't remember that heading?—I have no recollection of it.

Exhibit Mu, did you write that?—Yes, I wrote that to Mrs. Carew, it is in my handwriting.

Mr. Litchfield—The exhibits I shall now show you I have not yet read, and I do not know if anything attaches to them. [After reading the papers, Mr. Litchfield said to witness]—Is that (Sigma) in your handwriting, and was it written to Mrs. Carew? Do you remember that note?—Yes, I wrote that note.

Mr. Litchfield—Did you write—"Grown tired of you is good, but not to my thinking strong enough

However, you will know best what you write. I call his treatment of — brutal. Ask Litchfield on Monday, if in the event of your getting away with or without his consent, if he can force you to return to him and if you find that he has such a power, then I should tell L. the real state of affairs, how it is impossible for you really to live with him as a wife, and your real wishes on the subject?—Yes, I wrote that?

His Honour—Did you write all these letters?—Yes, I wrote all those notes to Mrs. Carew.

Did you write Exhibit Epsilon to Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

And Exhibit Phi?—Yes.

Exhibit Ki?—That is in my own handwriting, and was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Carew.

Mr. Lowder had no questions to put, and the witness signed the depositions.

Reginald Colomore Porch, of no present occupation, was then sworn. Examined by Mr. Litchfield, he deposed.

Are you the brother of Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

How long have you been in Yokohama?—Since March the 21st.

During that time have you been residing with Mr. and Mrs. Carew at 169, Bluff?—Yes.

You remember Mr. Carew's illness?—Yes.

Do you remember the day he died?—Yes.

Do you remember, as you were going up to tiffin that day, meeting Dr. Wheeler?—Yes.

Did he give you any instructions as to the care of Mr. Carew?—Yes.

What were they?—He told me to remain in the house till he came with a stretcher to take Mr. Carew to hospital.

Did he give you any instructions in regard to Mr. Carew's diet?—I do not remember him giving me any such instructions.

You remained in the house until Dr. Wheeler returned. Did you remain in Mr. Carew's room all that time?—Yes. I had tiffin downstairs, and then remained in Mr. Carew's room from one o'clock till nearly three.

His Honour—When was your tiffin?—From half-past twelve till one.

Mr. Litchfield—Do you know if Mr. Carew had any tiffin that day, beef-tea or anything?—I don't think he did; he may have had some beef-tea.

Mr. Lowder had no questions to ask.

His Honour—Mr. Litchfield, what is the course you now propose to take in regard to witnesses?

Mr. Litchfield—I have arranged for Mr. Schedel to appear at 2 o'clock; the *amah*, I understand, can not appear to-day; and if I can get a proper interpreter we will have the China boy, Ah Kwong called. To-morrow I have asked Dr. Divers. I have written asking whether he can come down; if he can then we will have his evidence.

His Honour—Very well; the Court will adjourn till 2 o'clock.

On resuming after tiffin.

Joseph Schedel was called. He said he was a chemist residing in Yokohama, at No. 77-A.

Mr. Litchfield—Are you a German subject?—Yes, sir.

Carrying on business as a druggist at No. 77-A, Yokohama?—Yes.

From time to time have you supplied drugs to the Carew family?—Yes, sir. Since 1893, I have supplied the Carew family with medicines.

Was the document now handed to you, exhibit Ca, received at your store, and how does it read?—"Mitte, liq. Fowleri, 4 or 5 drops after meals, E.W."

Was that supplied?—Yes.

How much was it?—Half an ounce; a $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. bottle.

To whom?—To Mrs. Carew.

The date of this was?—The date was put on by my assistant, Mr. Vollbehri, and is 11.10.96.

This is exhibit Cb., did you receive this?—Yes, I received this. I remember it quite well.

On what date?—The 17th October, 1896.

It reads, "Normal Dispensary, please send one bottle of quinine; please refill accompanying bottle E. M. H. Carew, 169, Bluff, 17.10.96."?—It is Liq. Fowleri, the same as the original prescription in the hand-writing of Dr. Wheeler. There is a chit accompanying this prescription now that shows that it had been sent to Mrs. Carew's house.

Mr. Litchfield—I believe his chit is signed in Japanese.

Mr. Wileman, the Court Interpreter—The characters, I regret to say, I cannot make out.

His Honour—The termination is ski.

Mr. Wileman—It might be, I am not prepared to swear it.

Witness—It is a receipt for medicine sent out and is drawn up in my own handwriting.

Mr. Wileman—I have inquired of the office writer, and he says that the characters are the cursive form of the square character, and that the final letter is *yu*—short for mail or *Yubin*.

The word would be *Konoyu*. The top word might be *Kita*.

Mr. Litchfield (to witness)—Can you identify this chit as being sent to your store?—Yes, and it was supplied to Mrs. Carew. It reads, "Please send a small bottle of Fowler's Solution, I cannot send the empty bottle as it was broken." This was supplied on the 20th October, 1896.

It was a half-oz. bottle?—Yes, a half-oz. bottle of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic.

Have you searched the bundle of prescriptions which you handed in to the Coroner's Inquest?—Yes, then; at present, no.

And did you find whether you had supplied arsenic to the Carew family on any other but the three occasions you have just testified to?—I have not supplied any other arsenic to them.

Mr. Litchfield—What is the date of this series?—It begins with the 27th February, 1895, and ends with 7th October, 1896.

Is this another series?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—What are those dates?—26th January, 1896, and ending with 26th June, 1896.

Mr. Lowder—It occurs to me that those two series overlap.

Mr. Litchfield—Possibly, I have merely taken the prescriptions from them, the first, second, and last; but all are open for examination.

Mr. Litchfield—Is this another series from your store?—Yes, sir. From the 31st July, 1896, up to 11th September, 1896.

These, another series, are prescriptions for Mr. Carew?—Yes. There are no special dates, but all belong to the year 1893, except that the chits from Mr. Carew himself are signed and dated.

There is also a series for October, 1896?—Yes. A list of all the prescriptions supplied from July 4th, 1893, to 22nd October, 1896, written by the book-keeper at the Normal Dispensary to the Carew family was also put in. Witness said—

This is an exact copy from the entries in my ledger of prescriptions and medicines—the sales. Mr. Lowder had no questions to ask.

Ah Kwong, the small China-boy was now called. Kwong How Chong, Interpreter at the Chinese Consulate, was cautioned and then gave an affirmation to give a correct interpretation of the boy's evidence.

His Honour—The boy has given his name and says he is 12 years of age, and lives at the Convent, is that correct?

The Interpreter—Yes, sir.

His Honour—Will you now caution the witness? This was done.

Mr. Litchfield—How long have you been in Yokohama?—Not quite a year and a half yet.

During that time have you been in the service of Mr. and Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

His Honour—During the whole of the time you have been in Yokohama?—I entered the service of Mrs. Carew in May, of last year—the fifth Chinese month.

Mr. Litchfield—When did you leave that service?—This month.

What day this month?—I can not remember the date.

Did you while in that service, have rooms at Mrs. Carew's house; did you live in the servants' quarters there, or where?—I lived in the servants' quarters, along with the Japanese at 169, Bluff.

Can you give me the names of the Japanese servants who were there during the time you were in Mrs. Carew's service?—One was named Kit-chung.

What was he?—A steward.

His Honour—A house-boy?—A steward.

Mr. Litchfield—Anybody else?—No, no other.

Do you mean that there were no other servants employed by Mrs. Carew, or do you mean that was the only servant living in the servants' quarters?—That was the only one who lived with me.

What other servants were there in Mrs. Carew's employ?—Rachel.

Anybody else?—Asa, a female.

Anybody else?—Yasunobu, another female, and a boy named Yasuda.

Any more?—There was a betto named Jimbeisan. Now, what were your duties?—I was a table-boy, and also had to open doors.

Do you remember when Mr. Carew was ill, in October last month?—I do not remember the date, but it was some time last month.

During that time did you carry the meals from the kitchen to Mr. Carew's room upstairs?—Yes.

What kind of things did you carry, soups or drinks?—Soup and bread.

Did you have anything to do with giving medicine to Mr. Carew?—No, I had nothing to do with that.

Do you remember the day Mr. Carew died?—He died on the 22nd day of last month.

Can you remember whether you carried any food from the kitchen to Mr. Carew on that day—the

day he died?—He was in the Hospital by that time.

Deceased went to the Hospital between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, before that time did you carry any meals upstairs to Mr. Carew?—I do not remember.

Do you know whether or not Mr. Carew had anything to eat or drink on that day?—I do not know.

Where were you all that day, upstairs or downstairs?—Downstairs.

Did you not go upstairs at all?—I went upstairs once during the day he was removed to the hospital.

What did you go upstairs to do at the time?—A lady visitor came in.

Was Mrs. Carew upstairs with her husband at that time?—Several other visitors went upstairs, the Doctor and others; I can't remember who they were.

What time in the morning was this?—About 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Was Mr. Carew taken off to the Hospital shortly after that time?—Soon after the arrival of the doctor, Mr. Carew was taken to the Hospital.

But what I want to know is this, was it shortly after this lady called that Mr. Carew was taken to the Hospital?—Before Mr. Carew was removed to the Hospital the lady visitor came.

Did the lady visitor go upstairs?—No.

Who did she ask to see, Mr. or Mrs. Carew?—She asked for Mr. Carew.

What did the lady look like—had you ever seen her before?—Yes, I have seen her before.

How many times?—Three or four times.

Do you remember the first time you saw her?—I could not remember.

She called at the house?—Yes, several times.

At any time did she go indoors?—She went indoors.

On each time did she ask to see Mr. Carew?—

Two or three times she asked to see Mrs. Carew.

Mr. Lowder did not cross-examine.

His Honour—Have you any other Japanese witnesses?

Mr. Litchfield—I have to make an application for an adjournment until Wednesday at 11 o'clock, as I have found that Dr. Divers can not get down here until after 2 o'clock to-morrow, and I have no other witness at present.

Mr. Litchfield—There is the Eurasian half-caste Rachel Greer, but she is not able to appear. I understand, she may be able to come on Wednesday.

His Honour—There was another man from Maruya's present on Saturday.

Mr. Litchfield—Possibly, I may call him too.

His Honour—Have you anything to say Mr. Lowder; does such an adjournment suit you?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—Then the Court stands adjourned till Wednesday at 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 19TH, 1896.

The Court resumed at 11 o'clock this morning and continued the magisterial enquiry into the charge preferred by the Crown Prosecutor against Mrs. Edith May Hollowell Carew, of the murder of her husband. Mr. Litchfield again appeared for the Crown; Mr. Lowder for the defence, Dr. Stuart Eldridge sitting next to Mr. Lowder to tender medical advice. The accused occupied a seat near the dock. The Court filled very rapidly, a large number of spectators standing in the passage way.

Dr. Edward Divers, Professor of Chemistry in the Imperial University, Tokyo, was sworn.

Mr. Litchfield—You are a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Tokyo?—Yes.

How long have you resided in Japan?—About twenty-three years.

Before coming to Japan did you hold any medical appointments in England?—Yes.

Of what nature?—For many years before coming to Japan, I was a Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, in the Queen's Hospital Medical School, Birmingham.

Then?—Lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence in the Medical School of the Middlesex Hospital, for four years. Before these appointments, I had been, all my adult life, connected with Medical Schools.

On Saturday, the 24th of October last, did you receive in Tokyo a box under seal?—Yes. It was sealed by the Naval Hospital's (Yokohama) seal, once, and a British Consular seal in three places.

His Honour—Did you observe whether it was the Consular or Court seal?—I did not distinguish; it was the Royal Arms.

To the Bench—Included in the sealing was an envelope bearing the words, "Arthur Hyde Lay." That was how it was signed. That may perhaps throw light on the sealing.

Mr. Litchfield—From whom did you receive the

box?—From Mr. Rentiers, of the British Consulate, Yokohama.

Were the seals unbroken when you received the box?—Yes.

Did you open the box, and if so what were the contents thereof?—I opened the box on the morning of the 26th, finding three bottles—large jars or bottles. The bottles were sealed, the sealing-wax stamped.

What impression did the sealing wax bear, if any?—It was quite untouched.

But what impression was there?—The British seal, Court or Consular, I can't say.

His Honour—Or Hospital?—That I can't say, I did not observe. The seals were on the mouth of the jars. I have no recollection of the seal; it was a regular seal, but whether Hospital, Court, or Consulate I can't say.

With the Royal Arms?—That I can't say. It was a regular large seal of the same size as the seals on the box.

Mr. Litchfield—Did you open the jars on Monday, the 26th?—Yes. I opened one or two, not all of them, that day. I can't be certain whether I opened all three that day; but, I think, I opened the third on the 27th.

To the Bench—I did not open the third bottle on the 26th, that I am now certain.

Mr. Litchfield—What were the contents of the jars that you first opened?—In the one, the stomach with a portion of the gullet. In the second was the liver, and one kidney.

And in the third?—It was easy from the outside to see: in the third was almost all the intestinal canal, and adhering to the upper part of the canal, was a portion of the pancreas—I can't give you a common name, as sweetbread is hardly applicable. Also in the jar a quantity of bloody fluid.

Had these been part, or portions, of a human male body?—Yes. Pardon, I can't say whether male or female—portions of a human body.

Did you submit the contents of these jars to chemical analysis?—Yes.

In the stomach, what did you find?—In the stomach, which, of course, was duly tied when I received it, about half a pint—I measured it—about half a pint of fluid, somewhat thickened, only by solid matter. This fluid matter was free from special odour.

Fresh in condition?—This fluid was without putrefactive or any medicinal odour. After the fluid was poured out, I saw on the wall of the stomach near the fundus, near the dependent part—in life dependent part—not far from the gullet opening, a number, perhaps eight, minute specks, circular specks, of whitish pasty matter. Just within the gullet, two little minute angular particles of apparently the same substance. Ultimately it proved to be the same substance. I found nothing else in the stomach.

To His Honour—I should like to ask if I am to only answer the questions, or to go further in my replies. I ask this for instruction. I have been telling you about the stomach. Have I to testify further and tell you how I found what was in it?

His Honour—Mr. Litchfield will put to you the questions that he thinks will bring out the information he requires.

Dr. Divers—All I wish to know is whether I have to go further than that. I do not wish to testify further than you desire.

Mr. Litchfield—What did these white particles and specks, on chemical analysis, prove to be?—White arsenic.

As to the fluid contents, what chemical appearances did they present, if any?—They were analyzed. They were grey in colour, otherwise, as previously described, they showed nothing beyond what I have already told you. By the chemical analysis minute quantities of arsenic and of lead were found—very minute.

His Honour—You are still at the stomach?—Yes. Minute quantities of arsenic were found there.

Is that in the fluid contents of the stomach?—In the stomach by two chemical analysis I find arsenic, once in the specks, and once in the contents.

In the fluid?—Yes. May I add, to make the matter clear, the spots and specks adhered to the walls of the stomach, the fluid contents naturally washed, or moved, about.

Mr. Litchfield—On examination of the liver what did you find?—In appearance, nothing.

Was it healthy?—Yes, healthy in appearance.

His Honour—Healthy, did you say?—Yes, healthy, but small. Healthy for my purpose; not noticeably unhealthy. Chemical analysis lead to the discovery of arsenic and lead. The quantity of arsenic, expressed as white arsenic, was one-sixth of a grain.

Mr. Litchfield—Did you examine the bladder and one kidney of the deceased?—I did not ex-

amine the kidney. I did examine the contents of the bowels, and the bloody fluid outside the bowels, which I expect contained pancreatic fluid. I found arsenic and lead in both cases—in both fluids—the contents of the bowels and in the bloody fluid; though minute in quantity, it was most marked in the contents of the bowels. The arsenic was minute in quantity.

Could you form any opinion, from appearances, as to the form in which arsenic had been taken into the intestines or bowels of the deceased?—Only as regards the specks and spots of whitish matter in the stomach; and lead, I may add, I suppose. What I find and what has been administered are two different things. But the appearance of the stomach and *duodenum* pointed to the administration of the arsenic, not largely in the solid form—not largely as white arsenic—pointed to, I have said. For there was no inflammation of the stomach or *duodenum*. What I have said is an indication only: it is quite consistent with the administration of arsenic in solution, judging from history,—or in either form, either as white arsenic or in solution.

Chemically, Dr. Divers, arsenic is used in medicine, I believe?—Yes, it is used in medicine.

You know Fowler's Solution of Arsenic?—Yes. How much arsenic in an ounce bottle of Fowler's Solution, ought there to be?—Four grains of white arsenic.

According to the British Pharmacopœia, I presume?—Yes, British, Japanese, and all Pharmacopœias so far as I know; with an insignificant difference. The ounce is 437½ grains; the solution of arsenic is sometimes made as a 1 per cent. solution, that is, 4 grains in 400, or 1 in 100: a little less than the ounce.

What is the usual medicinal dose of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic?—Solution, from 4 to 10 drops.

In what quantity would the administration of Fowler's Solution become dangerous to human life?—In larger doses than 10 drops continued; I am speaking of ordinary cases.

What is the smallest fatal dose of white arsenic?—The smallest dose of which there is satisfactory record is that of two grains.

Suppose arsenic is taken by a man under a medical diet of "slops" would the action of the arsenic be different to that of a man on his ordinary or full diet?—In the case of white arsenic? Well, I think we will speak first of solution. The effect upon a comparatively empty stomach would be more rapid—I am speaking of a man on medical diet—the arsenic in solution would be more rapid than in the case of a full dieted person. In the case of white arsenic the difference would be still greater—the white arsenic probably passing through the alimentary canal unabsorbed.

As to the quantity of arsenic required in such a case, it would be less than in the case of a man on full diet?—I cannot give a valuable opinion, I think, yes.

To His Honour—I think it would have to be larger in the case of a man on full diet, in order to be fatal, than to a person on a slop diet.

Mr. Litchfield—As to rapidity of its action?—The arsenic might escape absorption on a full diet.

What are the chemical effects of arsenic taken in considerable—large—quantities, on the mental and bodily faculties of a human being?—Extraordinarily depressing; there is excessive depression of body and mind. I do not know whether I am to include pain in the answer?

Mr. Litchfield made no reply to the question, but put another—In your opinion what quantity—the lowest quantity—would be required to produce this extreme mental and bodily depression?—A categorical answer to that question is impossible: it would depend on so many circumstances.

To His Honour—It would vary according to circumstances, but from 25 drops to a quarter of an ounce of solution, upon an ordinary person.

Mr. Litchfield—What are the symptoms,—can you explain them to us, Dr. Divers—usually produced by taking dangerous doses of arsenic?—There is the excessive vomiting within a few hours, and later excessive diarrhoea—excessive purging. Pains in the epigastric region—the stomach region—and in the abdomen, so excruciating as to be entitled, indiscribable. Marked throat symptoms; these being dryness and thirst; painful sense of constriction—tightness to the throat, and great distress in swallowing. Besides these are the extraordinary depression of the vital faculties; of the heart and circulatory system, and later of the respiratory system; of the voluntary muscular system; of the mental faculties. In two days, or so, before or later, strangury, that is, pain in passing water—great pain in the urinary passages. Another very general symptom is cramps, in the lower limbs more especially. These are the symptoms of poisoning with solid white arsenic, more particularly on full stomach, or with solution of arsenic. The more marked symptoms

are those of collapse; those of extreme weakness. Great variety has been observed in the symptoms of arsenical poisoning.

From your examination of the organs sent you, and from the appearance that they presented and the result of your analysis, could you form—did you form—any opinion as to the cause of death of the person to whom they belonged?—I suppose I should say a negative opinion.

His Honour repeated Mr. Litchfield's question—Could you form any opinion as to the cause of death from your examination of the organs sent you?—Well, I did form an opinion, but it was a negative opinion. The parts presented nothing remarkable.

His Honour—You say you formed a negative opinion?—The parts presented nothing remarkable, therefore negatively death by arsenic I found; there being no disease therefore negatively death by arsenic I found.

Mr. Lowder did not cross examine the witness.

Mr. Litchfield—It is now nearly half-past twelve o'clock and I will ask for an adjournment until 2 o'clock, when the Eurasian *amah* Rachel Greer, can appear, I understand.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

Kanaye Chiaki, otherwise known as Rachel Greer, was called.

Mr. Litchfield said he understood the witness was in a rather bad state of health, and asked that a chair be provided for her.

Mr. Wileman then cautioned her.

To the Bench she said—I am a servant, living at 169, Bluff.

Mr. Litchfield—Were you in the employ of Mr. and Mrs. Carew from the month of March till the 22nd October this year?—Yes.

Are you still in the employ of Mrs. Carew?—Yes.

Do you remember the day that Mr. Carew died, the 22nd October last?—Yes, I do.

How long before that had Mr. Carew been confined to his room upstairs?—I do not remember the day exactly, but I think six or seven days.

During that time who was in attendance on Mr. Carew—during the time he was confined to his bedroom?

The Interpreter—Witness inquires, Mr. Litchfield, do you mean as regards food?

Mr. Litchfield—I mean in regard to nursing and food?—Mrs. Carew nursed him.

What food did Mr. Carew receive during the time he was upstairs?—At first he ate the same as all the others; afterwards he ate beef-tea and corn-flour.

At first, during that time, did Mrs. Carew and Mr. Carew partake of food together upstairs—You have drawn a distinction between first and then afterwards?—There was a table brought into the room at first at which Mrs. Carew and Mrs. Carew's brother had their meals. Mr. Carew had his at a little table by the side of the bed.

Was that little table the same little table on which Mr. Carew's medicines were kept?—There was no medicine on it at first.

The Interpreter—She now says she is not quite sure about the tables.

Mr. Litchfield—When was medicine first put upon that table by the bedside, on the little table you have spoken of?—I do not know whether it was the same table or a different table. There were several tables in the house, and I am not sure about the one that was used.

Did you ever see any medicines on any tables by the bedside?—The medicines were all on the table by the side of Mr. Carew's bedside, close to his pillow: on a small table.

And before Mr. Carew was supplied with his meals from time to time, were these bottles of medicine cleared from that table, or was a new table brought up to serve meals upon?—The medicines were always by the side of Mr. Carew, and I think it was on another table that the food was placed.

Were you waiting on Mr. Carew at meal-times, after Mr. and Mrs. Carew ceased to have meals together?—I was told to take beef-tea and corn-flour from the kitchen, and I took it and gave it to my master.

Can you say during that time how many times you brought food—beef-tea and corn-flour—to Mr. Carew?—Many times; I don't know how many.

Did you take some every day?—Sometimes three times in a day, and sometimes once; the Chinese boy took it when I did not take it.

Do you remember taking any beef-tea and corn-flour to him on the day he died?—I don't recollect well, but I think I took it once in the morning.

By the morning, do you mean tiffin-time or early morning?—I do not remember the hour very well; but I think it was before twelve o'clock.

Do you know where Mr. Carew used to keep his medicines, his stock of medicines, not those on the small table of which you have spoken, but others?—There was a foreign chest of drawers

upon which stood a small Japanese chest of drawers—cabinet—with a mirror, and in the drawers of this Japanese cabinet Mr. Carew used to keep a lot of medicines before he was ill.

These medicines, were they in small bottles or large bottles?—They were generally small bottles; the drawer was small.

These small bottles, were they full or empty?—They were mostly used; the corks had been opened.

Do you know if these bottles were refilled from time to time?

Witness—Do you want to know whether my master refilled them?

Mr. Litchfield—I want to know if you knew whether they were refilled?—I never went to open the drawers frequently, but if I wanted a stud I would go there.

Did your master ever send you to the cabinet for medicine?—No.

Was this chest of drawers in your master's dressing-room or in the bedroom?—In the place where he changed his clothes.

I believe Mr. Carew, on one occasion during his illness, told you to go, or told you to send to, Maruya's for medicine, did he not?—Mr. Carew gave me, on one occasion, a memorandum, and I gave it to a *kurumaya* to take to Maruya's.

Do you remember what day that was?—It was on the 17th or 19th, when Mrs. Carew was not at home; I think probably the 18th.

Was the *kurumaya* whom you sent, in the employ of Mr. Carew, or was he a stray man from the station at the top of the hill?—He was an outside *kurumaya*.

Did that man bring anything back to the house from Maruya's?—He brought back a bottle.

One?—I don't remember well, whether it was one or two.

I suppose you can't remember whether there was one or two parcels, whether two bottles were in one parcel, or not—can you tell me?—I do not remember very well whether he brought back one parcel or two parcels.

Did you give the parcel, or whatever it was that the man brought back, to Mr. Carew?—Yes.

You took it upstairs to him in the room?—I took it to the room and gave it into his hands.

What did Mr. Carew do with it?—I don't know, as I went out of the room.

Was that the only occasion that you were ordered to send to Maruya's for medicine or anything, from Mr. Carew?—I received writing from him only once.

Did you ever, on any other occasion, buy medicine from any other druggist for Mr. Carew?—I do not remember.

Can you speak English at all?—I can't understand it very well. I can understand something of what is said—ordinary, little, everyday things I understand.

Can you write English at all—that is English characters?—I can write my own name, but not much else.

English numerals?—I can write them a little.

Mr. Lowder—When you took cornflour and beef-tea to your master during his illness, from whom did you receive it?—Sometimes I made it myself; sometimes I got it from the cook, who made it. I made it when the cook was not there.

Did you ever receive it, beef tea or cornflour, from the hands of Mrs. Carew?—I never did.

Witness then signed her depositions.

Mr. Litchfield—That is all the witnesses that I have to call, your Honour.

Mr. Lowder—I call no evidence, sir.

His Honour—Do you wish to address the Court?

Mr. Litchfield—Upon the evidence I have laid before your honour, I ask that the case may be laid before a jury. The evidence, as in all such cases, is essentially circumstantial, but I think I have led sufficient to prove a *prima facie* case, and therefore sufficient to justify you, sir, in committing the accused, and thus enable the case to come before a jury. The medical evidence, I submit, pointed to the fact that the deceased came by his death by arsenic or some other kind of poison. The evidence furthermore showed that arsenic in considerable quantities was admitted into the house shortly before the death of the late Mr. Carew. Part of the evidence further traced that arsenic into the hands of Mrs. Carew, and showed that Mrs. Carew was the chief nurse during the last and fatal illness of her husband. It is further shown, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, that the accused led one person to believe that serious differences, if not irreconcilable differences, existed between herself and her late husband. These are the broad facts of the case, and I ask you to commit her for trial on that.

His Honour—I am of opinion that the evidence is such as ought to be placed before a jury. I am not sure if, at the beginning of the case, when it was

first called, the charge was sent to the accused. I will ask the Clerk of the Court to read the charge.

Mr. C. D. Moss (Chief Clerk) then read the following charge:—

In Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan, Kanagawa. The 11th day of November, 1896.

Henry Charles Litchfield, Barrister-at-law and Her Britannic Majesty's Crown Prosecutor in Japan, of Yokohama, Japan, on oath charges that he hath just cause to believe and suspect that on the twenty-second day of October in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety six Edith May [fall well] Carew did wilfully feloniously and of her malice aforethought kill and murder one Walter R. H. Carew contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided and against the peace of Our Lady the Queen Her Crown and Dignity.

HENRY C. LITCHFIELD,
H.B.M. Crown Prosecutor for Japan.

Sworn at Yokohama aforesaid this eleventh day of November, 1896 before me
JAMES TROUP, Assist.-Judge

His Honour—There was a mistake in the charge as first drawn, but that has been rectified by the word *Hallowell* being placed between May and Carew. I must now ask her Counsel, whether he desires, in accordance with the rules of our Court, that the whole of the depositions be read over to the Accused. With your consent I purpose to dispense with that; as she has heard them read over to the witnesses.

Mr. Lowder—I am quite willing to waive it.

His Honour then cautioned accused in the usual form—that she was not obliged to make any statement now unless she wished; that she had nothing to hope from any promise that may have been held out to her, nor need fear any threat that might have been made to her to make a statement as to her guilt, but if she had anything to say it would be taken down in writing and could be used against her on her trial.

Accused—I have no statement to make.

His Honour—I will take that down and you will sign it.

Mr. Lowder—The accused wishes to add the word "now"—I have no statement to make now.

His Honour—Yes, that may be added.

His Honour—I have already expressed my opinion that the evidence is such, that it is sufficient to put accused upon her trial before a jury. I therefore commit you, Edith May Hallowell Carew, into custody to await your trial until you are delivered by due course of law.

The accused then resumed her seat.

His Honour—As the accused is represented by Counsel I need only add that she is entitled to a copy of the evidence that has been given in this Court. Will Mr. Dickinson and Miss Jacobs be good enough to come forward to enter into recognizances to appear at the trial.

Mr. Dickinson was alone present.

His Honour—Before the Court rises, I wish to say, with regard to persons summoned to serve on juries, that the Court will in future accept no excuses from persons who do not put in an appearance when summoned. No excuse will be valid save that of serious sickness or the like. Mere forgetfulness of the times set for appearance, or variations of watches, will not be treated as valid excuses, nor penalties be remitted on those grounds. I hope the gentlemen of the press will give my remarks publicity.

Mr. Dickinson then entered into his own recognizances of \$100 to appear at the trial to give evidence.

His Honour instructed the Usher to bring Miss Jacobs before the Court on her appearance.

Mr. Lowder—I am not at present instructed to ask for bail, but I will ask that accused may—of course in proper custody—be allowed to return to her home to get such articles as she may require to-night.

His Honour—You ask for bail before the Judge?

Mr. Lowder—I am not prepared at the moment with bail.

His Honour—Instructions such as you wish shall be given.

The Court then rose.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, November 16.

A treaty of peace has been signed between Italy and Abyssinia. The prisoners held by King Menelik are to be released. Italy recognizes the absolute independence of Ethiopia.

The Niger Company is preparing a large military expedition for which thirty-five British officers have been engaged.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Hakodate, Nov. 19.

Yesterday at 11.30 a.m. a sharp earthquake occurred here, but no damage has been reported. Last night a fire broke out, which was not suppressed until five houses had been destroyed.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, Nov. 14.

The South Australia House of Assembly has passed the Coloured Races Restriction Bill.

Lord Lonsdale, speaking at Whitehaven, said that President Kruger had asked the assistance of the Emperor William at the time of Dr. Jameson's raid into the Transvaal but his Majesty had declined the request. He, Lord Lonsdale, had the Kaiser's authority to state that his telegram to President Kruger meant nothing antagonistic to England or the English.

The Queensland Parliament has passed an urgent Bill to assist the Queensland National Bank, which has lost its entire capital. The liabilities exceed the assets by £2,500,000.

Exchange.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.23½
Exchange on London at New York 4.86

(Tel. trans.)

London, November 17.

The treaty of peace between Italy and Abyssinia was undoubtedly due to Russo-French influence. King Menelik wired both to H.M. the Czar and President Faure the moment the treaty was signed.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, November 7.

In a debate on Armenia in the French Chamber, M. Hanotaux stated that the Powers were agreed on common action, which must not impair the integrity of Turkey. The visit of the Czar, he said, had led to a clear exchange of views between the Powers.

The brigands who had captured Captain Marriott have released him, the Turks having paid his ransom.

Mr. E. J. Poynter has been elected President of the Royal Academy.

London, November 9.

The Earl of Selborne, Parliamentary Secretary to the Colonial Office, speaking at Edinburgh, stated that before the meeting of Parliament the Venezuela Question would be satisfactorily settled.

Prince Bismarck continuing his revelations in the *Hamburger Nachrichten* attributes Germany's refusal to renew the Secret Treaty with Russia to English influences.

Messrs. Shand, Mason & Co.'s Fire Engine Factory was burned on Saturday, and three hundred and fifty engines were destroyed.

The Turkish Ambassador in Paris has informed M. Hanotaux that the Sultan has agreed to eight reforms, in which are included the release of innocent prisoners, the protection of peaceable Armenians, the prevention of acts of violence, the granting of relief to the chief sufferers, and reparation to damaged Catholic convents.

London, November 11.

Lord Salisbury, speaking at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in the Guildhall, stated that he had many advisers as to a method whereby to induce the Great Powers to adopt our policy, and alluded to the favourite advice of Mr. Courtney and Mr. Morley, which was a pretty and almost idyllic conception of the conditions of international policy. He said that he could see no cause for abandoning the policy hitherto pursued or for relinquishing a single acre of land we at present occupy. He was glad that the nation now understood that isolated action with regard to Turkey was impossible, and that the European concert seems to be at present better fitted to cope with the question than ever before. He said that the Sultan alone can ameliorate the lot of Christians and Mussulmans. He eulogised Lord Cromer and Sir H. H. Kitchener, saying that the latter's performance would challenge comparison with any in our annals. He announced that the Venezuelan Question was settled in conformity with the suggestion by

America to apply the principle of civil law, whereby the validity of the title would be admitted after a certain lapse of time.

The *Novosti* reports that during the late war China offered Formosa to England, but that Lord Rosebery declined to accept it.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Sendai, Nov. 10.
The new colours for the Second Regiment of Cavalry arrived here to-day by a sub-lieutenant.

Komatsu, Nov. 19.
H.I.H. Prince Komatsu came here last night. This morning he went to Arashiyama.

Kagoshima, Nov. 18.
Count Sano, President of the Red Cross Society, arrived here yesterday.

Yamaguchi, Nov. 19.
Baron Arichi, Vice-Admiral of the Navy, left for Hagi to-day.

Matsuyama, Nov. 19.
Major Hiyai, belonging to the Twelfth Regiment at Marugame, who was appointed *attaché* to the Forty-fourth Regiment, arrived here to-day.

Moji, Nov. 19.
Major Marukami and seventy-five Formosa troops left here to-day for Formosa by the *Chihaya Maru*.

Nagasaki, November 19.
The British man-of-war *Immortalité* put into this from Korea to-day. The Russian man-of-war *Bobre* put into this port to-day from Korea.

Nemuro, November 18.
The *Harima Maru* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, on her way to Shari, Kitami Province, damaged her engines and returned here escorted by the *Gembu Maru*. To-morrow she will return to Hakodate towed by the *Shinagawa Maru*.

Nara, November 19.
Marquis Ito met Marquis Yamagata at the Kikusuiro last night.

Hiroshima, November 19.
Lieut.-General Nishi arrived here to-day from Ujina.

Hakodate, November 19.
A fire broke out at Ebisu-cho at 6 p.m. yesterday and many houses were destroyed.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 259.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—Kt to Kt 6 | 1—Kt (B 8) to K 7 |
| 2—R takes Q P | 2—Kt takes R |
| 3—Kt to B 4, mate | |
| | 1—Kt (Kt 6) to K 7 |
| 2—R takes Q P | 2—Q to R 7 |
| 3—Kt to B 8, mate | |
| | 1—K to Q 4 |
| 2—R to K 4 | 2—K takes R |
| 3—Q takes P, mate. | |

Correct answers from Shogi, J.D., W.H.S., and Omega.

XX.—Your Key-move will not do. R to Q 4 is a very good try but it breaks down in the following variant. Let Black reply 1—Kt to Kt 5, 2—Kt to Kt 6, 2—Q takes P and you cannot mate next move!

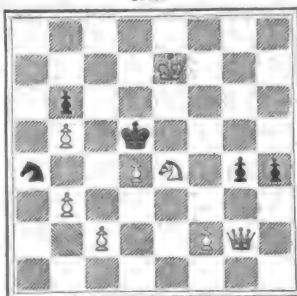
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 260.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—Q to Kt 8 | 1—B moves |
| 2—Q to K 8, mate | |
| | 1—P moves |
| 2—Q to Q 6, mate | |
| | 1—K to B 3 |
| 2—Q to Kt 5, mate | |
| | 1—K to K 3 |
| 2—Q takes B, mate, | |
| etc., etc. | |

Correct answers from XX., W.D.C., W.H.S., Shogi, J.D., and Omega.

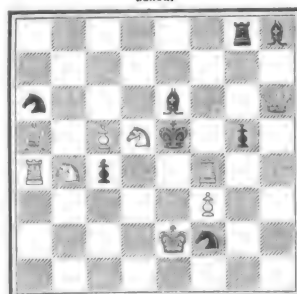
Problem No. 257.—Correct solution also received from W.H.S. which, we regret to say, was omitted last week.

PROBLEM No. 263. By NEMO.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 264. By Rev. J. JESPERSEN.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in two moves.

BUDA-PESTH TOURNAMENT.

This came to an end a month ago. It seems to have been a much smaller affair than was hoped or expected by some of the European and American players. We give the result.

Charousek and Tschigorin a tie; Pillsbury, third prize; Janowski and Schlechter, fourth and fifth, and Walbrodt and Winawer six and seventh prizes. Tarrasch was awarded a special prize for the best score against the prize-winners.

Charousek and Tschigorin had each 8½ games to their credit; Pillsbury, 7½; Janowski and Schlechter, 7 each; Walbrodt and Winawer, 6½ each; Tarrasch, 6; Albin and Maroczy, 5 each; Marco, 4½; Noa, 4, and Van Popiel, 2.

A telegram in the American papers brought by the O. & O. steamer *Coptic* says that at Budapest, on October 28th, the fourth game of the tie match between Charousek and Tschigorin for the first prize at the international chess masters' tournament was played. Tschigorin had the move. The opening was a two knights' defence, Charousek was beaten after forty-six moves. Tschigorin therefore takes first and Charousek second prize. In the third game, played on October 27th, Charousek won, Queen's gambit declined, after sixty-one moves.

CORRESPONDENCE-CHESS.

GAME No. 606.

Another fine game, in which the winner shows resource in difficulty:—

FRENCH DEFENCE.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| WHITE.
Mr. Henderson. | BLACK.
Mr. Elliott. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 3 |
| 2—P to Q 4 | 2—P to Q 4 |
| 3—Kt to Q B 3 | 3—Kt to K B 3 |
| 4—B to K Kt 5 | 4—B to K 2 |
| 5—P to K 5 | 5—Kt to Q 2 |
| 6—P takes B | 6—Q takes B |
| 7—Kt to Kt 5 | 7—Kt to Kt 3 |
| 8—P to Q B 3 | 8—P to Q R 3 |
| 9—Kt to Q R 3 | 9—P to Q B 4 |
| 10—Kt to Q B 2 | 10—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 11—P to K B 4 | 11—B to Q 2 |
| 12—Kt to B 3 | 12—P to B 5 |
| 13—B to K 2 | 13—Kt to Q R 5 |
| 14—R to Q Kt sq. | 14—P to Q Kt 4 |
| 15—Castles | 15—R to Q B sq. |
| 16—Q to K sq. | 16—Kt to Kt sq. |
| 17—B to Q sq. | 17—R to B 2 |
| 18—Kt to K 3 | 18—Kt to Kt 3 |

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 19—B to B 2 (a) | 19—B to B 3 |
| 20—Q to Kt 3 (b) | 20—P to Kt 3 (c) |
| 21—P to B 5 | 21—Kt P takes P |
| 22—B takes P (d) | 22—P to B 3 (e) |
| 23—Kt to R 4 | 23—Q to Kt 4 |
| 24—Kt to Kt 4 | 24—Kt to Q sq. (f) |
| 25—Q to R 3 (g) | 25—P takes B |
| 26—Kt takes B P | 26—P to K R 4 |
| 27—Kt to B 6 | 27—Kt (Kt sq.) to Q 2 |
| 28—Kt to Q 6 | 28—Kt takes Kt |
| 29—R takes Kt | 29—K R to R 2 |
| 30—Q R to K B sq. | 30—B to Q 2 |
| 31—P to K 6 | 31—P takes P |
| 32—R takes P | 32—B takes R |
| 33—Q takes B | 33—Q to K 2 (h) |
| 34—Q to Kt 8 ch. | 34—R to Q 2 |
| 35—Kt to B 7 | 35—Q to K 6 ch. |
| 36—K to R sq. | 36—R takes Kt |
| 37—R takes R ch. | 37—K to B 3 |
| 38—R to B 6 ch. | 38—K to Kt 2 |
| 39—R takes Kt ch. (i) | 39—K takes R |
| 40—P to K R 3 | 40—Q to B 8 ch. |
| 41—K to R 2 | 41—Q takes Kt P |
| 42—Q to Kt 8 ch. | 42—K to R 4 (j) |
| 43—Q takes R ch. | 43—K to R 5 |
| 44—Q to Q 6 | 44—Q takes B P |
| 45—Q takes R P ch. | 45—Q to R 4 |
| 46—Q to Q B 6 | 46—Q to Q sq. |
| 47—Q to Q R 6 ch. | 47—K to Kt 5 |
| 48—P to R 3 ch. | 48—K to Kt 6 |
| 49—Q takes P ch. | 49—K takes P |
| 50—Q to B 6 | 50—Q to Kt sq. ch. |
| 51—R to Kt sq. | 51—Q to Kt 8 ch. |
| 52—K to R 2 | 52—Q to K 5 (k) |
| 53—Resigns. | |

- (a) The commencement of a fine attacking combination.
(b) This seems stronger than P to B 5.
(c) Better than P to B 4, to which the reply would be as—B takes P, with a strong attack if Bishop were capt. ed.
(d) Very good. If the Bishop is taken Kt takes P wins without difficulty.
(e) Kt takes P is also threatened, besides Kt to Kt 5.
(f) To protect the Rook in the event of P takes R or P to K 6.
(g) Presumably to liberate the Knight without allowing Black to exchange; but White should here have treated the Bishop. From this out Black gradually realises the upper hand, but the remainder of the game is full of interesting positions.
(h) The only move.
(i) White's attack having gone, he plays cleverly for a draw.
(j) Any attempt to save the piece would result in a draw at the best.
(k) White cannot save the Q P, and Black Pawn must Queen.

STEINITZ AND LASKER.

These masters were to meet for their duel in Moscow at the beginning of this month and we presume the contest is in progress now. We ought to have some news ere long.

W. H. K. POLLOCK.

News reaches us of the death of this bright young player. Born at Cheltenham, England, in 1859 he had for the last few years resided in Canada where he edited numerous Chess columns and occasionally astonished the Chess world with some of his brilliant play. He was in the Hastings Congress but only succeeded in securing £6.10.0 "Consolation money."

GAME No. 607.

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| WHITE.
H. E. Elliott. | BLACK.
C. T. Friend. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—P to Q 4 | 3—P takes P |
| 4—Kt takes P | 4—B to B 4 |
| 5—B to K 3 | 5—Q to B 3 |
| 6—P to Q B 3 | 6—Kt to K 2 |
| 7—B to Q Kt 5 | 7—Kt takes Kt (a) |
| 8—P takes Kt | 8—B to Kt 5 ch. (b) |
| 9—Kt to B 3 | 9—Q to K Kt 3 |
| 10—Castles | 10—B takes Kt |
| 11—P takes B | 11—Q takes K P (b) |
| 12—R to K sq. (c) | 12—Q to B 4 (d) |
| 13—B to Q 3 | 13—Q to B 3 |
| 14—Q to R 5! | 14—P to K R 3 |
| 15—P to Q 5 | 15—Castles (e) |
| 16—B to Q B 5! (f) | 16—R to K sq. |
| 17—P to Q 6! | 17—P takes P |
| 18—B to Q 4 | 18—Q to Kt 4 |
| 19—Q to B 3 | 19—R to B sq. (g) |
| 20—R to K 4 | 20—Kt to Kt 3 (h) |
| 21—B takes P ch. | 21—K takes B |
| 22—R takes R, and Black resigns. | |

- (a) Making White's centre; castles is the right play.
(b) A very imprudent capture, which subjects Black to a harassing attack.
(c) Threatening 13—B to K Kt 5.
(d) If 13—Q to Q 4, 14—P to Q B 4, 15—P to Kt 5, 16—P to K 5, 17—Q to R 5 ch, 18—Q to R 5 ch, 19—R takes Kt, and wins.
(e) Black's best defence seems to be:—
16—Q to B 2
17—R takes Kt ch
18—R to K sq. ch
19—Q takes Q ch
20—R to B 4 ch
(f) This is no better.
(g) White's powerful B's are moved with excellent judgment.
(h) 19—P to Q 4 was useless because of 20—R to K 5.

(b) A slip, of which White takes instant advantage. If so—K to B 3, and B to Q 4 wins.
The game was lost in the opening by Black, but White's grip of the attack from the 12th move calls for commendation.
(a) The recognized Kt to Kt is much better, although it results in a tedious defence; but that is the natural outcome of the opening.
(b) With both the adverse wings broken White should have no trouble in winning.
(c) The simpler and better course was B takes B, followed by P to K 4.
(d) Owing to White's leniency the second player has slipped out of his opening trouble.
(e) The end game is pretty managed pawn play, in which Black's advantage of a P plus, is nullified.

COMING EVENTS.

Berlin has resolved to hold an international tournament in 1898; and Tschigorin speaks of a project of an international tournament in Russia between first class prize winners of all countries, and to be confined to 10, or, at the utmost, 12 competitors, but a two-round contest; and Pillsbury has similar ideas about a New York tournament.—*Field*.

GAME NO. 608.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE.	BLACK.
W. Crane, jun.	G. W. Hall.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to KB 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—Kt takes P
5—P to Q 4	5—B to K 2
6—Q to K 2 (a)	6—Kt to Q 3
7—B takes Kt	7—Kt takes B (b)
8—P takes P	8—Kt to Kt 2
9—Kt to Q 4 (c)	9—Castles
10—Kt to Q B 3	10—Kt to B 4
11—Kt to B 5	11—P to Q 4
12—Kt takes B ch.	12—Q takes Kt
13—B to K 3	13—Kt to K 3
14—Q R to Q sq.	14—P to Q R 4 (d)
15—Q to R 5	15—P to Kt 3 (e)
16—Q to B 3 (f)	16—P to B 3
17—B to R 6	17—Kt to Kt 2
18—P takes P	18—R takes P? (g)
19—Kt takes P	19—P takes Kt
20—Q takes P ch.	20—Q to K 3
21—Q takes R and wins.	

(a) This continuation is thought by Lasker and other experts to be the most difficult to defend of all the Lopez attacks.
(b) If 7. Q P takes Kt, & P. takes P—Kt to B 4, & R to Q sq.—B to Q 4, & P to K 6—P takes P, & Kt to K 5—Kt to Q 3, & Q to R 5 ch—K to B sq., & R takes Kt and wins.
(c) A new-fashioned attack is 9. P to Q 4—Castles, & B to Kt 3—P to Q 4, & P takes P—P takes P. This was played by Porger v. Lasker at Nuremberg.
(d) A thin threat to win the exchange. 14. P to B 3 at once was more businesslike.
(e) Creating an unnecessary "hole." We like P to B 3.
(f) Reserving R 6 for the B.
(g) A fatal oversight which loses R and a P for Kt. He should have recaptured with Q, having a fairly and good game.

SAM WELLER ON CHESS.

(With sincere apologies to the shade of Charles Dickens.)

"Sammy," said Mr. Weller, "vot's chess?"
"Vell!" ejaculated Sam, "the innocence an' youth a-budded on to a bald 'ed is a beautiful an' a touchin' sight."

"Don't be rude, Sammy, my boy. Respec' your elders, as the Catechism says."

"All right, old 'un, 'I've a taste for the antique,' as the lodgin' 'ouse boarder said ven the landlady asked him if he was a enjoyin' of the nine-year-old chicken."

"That will do, Sammy. Vot I want to know is, vot's chess?"

"'I'm a comin' to it,' as the hungry fox said ven it caught sight of the lame duck. Chess, my rewered relic, is one o' them things you fights mortal shy on if you valties peace o' mind and such like 'ousehold comforts."

"Samivell," examined Mr. Weller, starting from his seat in evident alarm; "Samivell, you don't mean for to an' say as 'ow it's a widdler?"

"Widdler, no, nor yet a shepherd," laughed Sam.

"Vell, vot on earth is it?" said Mr. Weller testily.
"Now just keep cool, an' you'll be all right," as the monkey said ven he was a-puttin' of the kitten into the kitchen oven. Chess, as I was a-goin' to observe ven you kep' a-interruptin' of me is a thing in vich you starts off simple an' unsuspectin' like an' then finds you've a-took on a lot more than ever you thought for."

"That 'ere description, Sammy applies uncommon vell to widders."

"How you keep a-harpin' on widders. Chess 'as nothin' at all to do with 'em. It's a game, vot you plays on a board with Kings an' Queens, an' Pawns an' things. Some big swells can play it with a 'ankercher a-tied over their eyes."

"Do you take me for a Juggins, Sammy?" said Mr. Weller, in a hurt kind of tone; "'ow could they see to play with a 'ankercher over their eyes?"

"I'm not a-gammomin' of you," replied Sam, "they plays it from mem'ry."

"Vell, vell, vot you say may be true," said Mr. Weller, evidently only half convinced, and consequently disposed to be captious. "But, after all, Sammy, isn't it a-flyin' in the face o' Providence, this 'ankercher work? Vot's the use o' 'avin' eyes if they're to be a-banded up? It ain't Christian, Sammy, my boy, it ain't Christian."

"That's as it may be," said Sam oracularly.
"The fact is, they does it to make the game pop'lar. They thinks 'the end justifies the means,' as the small boy said ven he was a-diggin' into the jam pot with the shoe horn."

"Still, Sammy, it's a kind o' a-standin' on their 'eds ven they'd be heaps more comfortable on their feet. Vudn't the game be just as pop'lar if they played it with their eyes open, and the tackle a frontin' of 'em?"

"I don't know," said Sam. "You see, this blindfold business is out o' the common and you goes to look at it same as performin' fleas or any other instructin' an' improvin' sight. Ven you gets there a very haffable party with a bald 'ed vot they calls the Seccert'ry, sidles up an' asks you if you vudn't like to fine the club, an' ses he thinks your 'ed's somethink like Morphy's, with a touch o' Blackburne about the whiskers, vich he says was two great players, an' he wheedles an' fusses—"

"Ah," interrupted Mr. Weller, with a sigh, "that's 'ow the widders comes over us, Sammy."

"Speak for yourself," replied Sam; dily, "don't go for to 'sociate me with 'em."

"Don't boast, Sammy, my boy, don't boast, 'You never know vot's afore you,' as the fallin' star said ven it landed in the mortal pit."

"It seems to me," said Sam, somewhat impatiently, "that 'we're sort o' gettin' no forrader, as the hen said ven she was a sittin' on the pot egg. Now, vot is it you're a-drivin' at about this 'ere chess?"

"I was a-wonderin', Sammy, vether it was a game vere a man like me vud be at 'ome at. Vot do you say, Sammy, my boy? 'I'll be guided by you,' as the drunken man said to the airy railins."

"You might 'ave a shot at it," said Sam.

"There's all sorts of players, an' you'd 'av to play amazin' bad to be worse than some o' 'em."

"Vell," said Mr. Weller, in a tone of relief "that's a troublesome subject disposed on," as the cannibal king said ven he'd a-eaten of his mother-in-law. But I hope you're right concernin' the widders, Sammy. Don't laugh, my boy don't laugh. You may know a main lot about chess, Sammy. I gives in to you there, but ven it comes to widders, Sammy, and at this point there was a ring of pathos in Mr. Weller's voice, "ven it comes to widders, Sammy, you've a lot to learn, my boy, a lot to learn."

And here, apparently overcome by his feelings, Mr. Weller subsided into contemplative silence.

H. T. BLAND.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 21st.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 1st.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 23rd.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 25th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 28th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. M. Co.	Wednesday, Dec. 2nd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 3rd.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 29th.

* China left Hongkong on November 12th. † City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 12th. The English mail is on board the steamer Hiroshima Maru.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 21st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 22nd.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 23rd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 24th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 25th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 27th.
For Europe, via Shang-hai	per N. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 4th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 5th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 14th November,—Hongkong via ports, 6th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 14th November,—Hongkong via ports, 5th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, Brady, 14th November,—Kobe 13th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 15th November,—San Francisco 26th October, via Honolulu 3rd November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Salasie, French steamer, 3,400, A. Paul, 15th November,—Marseilles 11th October, Hongkong 8th November, Shanghai 11th, and Kobe 14th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. S. Barstow, 15th November,—Nagasaki 12th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aswanly, British steamer, James Murray, 16th November,—Kobe 14th November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 16th November,—Nagasaki 13th November, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Aden, British steamer, 1,517, R. E. L. Hill, 16th November,—London via ports, and Kobe 15th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, K. Kori, 16th November,—Yokkaichi 15th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,666, Yamamoto, 17th November,—Otaru via ports, 14th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, W. Giese, 17th November,—Kobe 16th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 17th November,—Kobe 16th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Plover (6), British gunboat, Lieut.-Commander De Huey, 18th November,—Hakodate 15th November.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 19th November,—San Francisco 3rd November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Agapanthus, British steamer, 2,866, R. J. C. Tod, 19th November,—London via ports, Kobe 17th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 564, Nakajima, 19th November,—Nagasaki 16th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledi, British steamer, Fairclough, 20th November,—London via ports, 8th September, General.—Cornes & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, Thomson, 20th November,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 20th November,—Kobe 18th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sonoma, American barque, 998, W. Landgreen, 20th November,—Portland, Oregon, 3rd August, General.—M. G. Sheveleff & Co., Vladivostok.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 20th November,—Shanghai via ports, 13th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chusan, German steamer, 719, T. Anderson, 20th November,—Manila, General.—Browne & Co.

Kannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Yasuno, 20th November,—Otaru via ports, 16th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, F. Davies, 20th November,—London via ports, and Hongkong 13th November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 20th November,—Yokkaichi 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ihai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 14th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, K. Kori, 14th November,—Hakata and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, de Mauberge, 15th November,—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Konoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, K. Iio, 15th November,—Kobe, Lumber.—Osaka Merchants.

Aeolus (8), British cruiser, Captain Groome, 16th November,—Kobe.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 16th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 16th November,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Furukawa, 16th November,—Shanghai.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, P. Gowing, 16th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Tibbals, 16th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 17th November,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, Ekstrand,

17th November.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,827, W. Brady, 17th November.—Seattle, Wash., via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Brown, 17th November.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Tennick, 16th November.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.
Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 17th November.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Hyson, British steamer, 2,880, J. S. Hogg, 18th November.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, K. Kuri, 18th November.—Hakodate and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Freia, Norwegian steamer, 2,125, Trovik, 19th November.—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,109, W. Giese, 19th November.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, Cottier, 19th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Toyoi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 19th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Asanuly, British steamer, 2,293, James Murray, 20th November.—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 21st November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mrs. Lam K. Sum and Miss A. Thomas in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports.—Mr. H. Hennessey, Mr. De Luze, Mrs. McDonald, Mr. R. de Villard, Master de Villard, Mr. C. W. Wrightson, Mr. E. Forbes, Dr. F. F. Epsague, Mr. K. S. Torii, Mr. C. Narahara, Mrs. de Villard, Mr. F. H. Loring, Mrs. Wrightson, Mr. J. Davenport, and Mr. E. Kellman in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. L. E. Clayton, Mr. J. Samson, Mrs. Thiel and child, Mr. A. Sheffield, Mrs. Buchheister, Mr. C. L. de la Cerna, Mr. Quan Moon, Mr. J. Jones, Mr. E. J. Houle, Mr. Buchheister, Mr. H. Geslien, and Mr. D. W. Loring in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Leland F. James, U.S.N., Mrs. S. M. Jarvis, Mrs. S. A. Jarvis, Mr. C. Grunwaldt, Mrs. Grunwaldt, Mr. E. W. Brown, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Leon Renant, and Miss J. Clery in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. Sidney Swan in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Dalton in cabin. For Hongkong:—Messrs. Norman McDonald, Henry McDonald, L. Ferguson, and E. D. W. Fahee in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salasia*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Ruegg, Messrs. Verons, Drumbrack, Colton, Coltingham, Ishida, and de Cuers de Pogolin and five children in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. T. Takagi, Mr. D. H. Blake, Mrs. D. H. Blake, Mr. S. Shikata, Mr. J. Kono, Mr. G. A. Taylor, Captain A. E. Bouguin, Mrs. A. E. Bouguin, and Mr. S. Arakawa in cabin; Rev. W. C. Grainger in steerage. For Kobe:—Mr. H. L. Baggallay and Mrs. H. L. Baggallay in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss L. R. Jenkins and child, Miss E. Inven, Miss Addie Sloan, Mrs. P. McCormick, Mr. W. S. Jackson, and Mrs. W. S. Jackson in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. W. K. McKibben and child in cabin; Mr. J. Martins in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Professor J. C. Ballagh, Rev. A. V. Byron, Messrs. R. Yamada, C. N. Croese, and H. Beithell in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. T. Yoshida, Miss Kawada, Mr. and Mrs. M. Nishiwo, Messrs. S. Shimura, J. Murao, M. Ridley, and Ah On Sang in second class, and 38 Japanese, 5 Europeans, and 7 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco:—Mr. A. C. Byer, Mr. and Mrs. O. Buchheister, Mr. L. E. Clayton, Mr. G. J. Campbell, Mr. C. L. Delacamp, Lieut. W. P. Day, U.S.N., Mr. E. Forbes, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. H. Geslien, Mr. Lee Coon, Mr. E. J. House, Mr. H. D. Humphries, Hon. R. W. Irwin, Miss Irwin, Mr. J. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. S. Koya, Mr. D. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. D. Loring, Miss Loring, Mr. Quang Moui, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mr. J. Samson, Mr.

A. Sheffield, Mr. and Mrs. J. Stemme, Mr. H. B. Simon, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Smith, Miss Marcia Smith, Mrs. Thiele and child, and Mrs. E. Welchman in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. G. Stafford Northcote, Miss C. A. Sutro, Mrs. J. C. Hubbard, two children, maid, and native servant, Mrs. L. L. Reamey, Master Reamey, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Loring, Mr. R. R. Read, Mr. E. W. Maitland, Mr. Lu Hein Sang and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Chang and child, Mr. Chang Tso Fan and native servant, Mr. V. Q. Ng and native servant, Mr. One Shu Lun and native servant, Mr. Chas. Rogers, and Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Lyndon and amah in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Mr. D. Lartien, Colonel Sartorius, Messrs. Otto H. Miller, Geo. B. Pettengill, Paul Kleinwort, E. Kellmann, McGill, John Faickney, Aboddy Powers, H. J. Holm, A. S. Hay, G. Thomas, L. Goetschell, J. W. Adams, Mrs. and Miss Hunt, Mrs. W. Balfour Kinnear, Mrs. C. S. Moore, Sister Marcienne, Sister Pauline, Sister Francois de Salis, Sister Adeline, Mr. L. Maitland, Misses Kelley and Macklin, Messrs. R. Finch and servant, Michelau, Bien, Courandy, S. Cumoodin, E. David, Sellier, A. C. Newcombe, J. Shekury and infant, Mano, Hayashi, F. Doi, K. Takenouchi, T. Kikuchi, T. Oka, Sh. Kawakami, T. Nagasawa, K. Yagi, T. Okamura, Dr. H. Ito, Mr. Lam Tze Un, and Rev. and Mrs. Garret in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai:—Madame Victoria Ferry, Mr. L. F. James, and Mr. Bruce in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. M. Yamawaki in cabin; Mr. M. Larsen, Mrs. Sugano, Mr. Mariano Jacobo, and Mr. S. Omori in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Viscount Y. Yamao, Viscountess Yamao, Mr. T. Matsuo, and Mrs. J. A. B. Sohre in cabin; Mr. M. Yamato and Mr. T. Bahasaki in second class. For Kobe:—Miss M. C. Bongen, Miss D. Gorrie, Mr. H. Miyabe, Mr. and Mrs. Porter Chandler, and Mr. H. Kobayashi in cabin; Mr. T. Nagata, Mr. Lin Ching Chi, and Mrs. Kondo and 3 children in second class. For Vladivostok:—Mr. and Mrs. K. Nakamura and child in cabin; 59 passengers in steerage in all.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. A. Held, Mrs. M. R. Norris, Mr. A. M. Hankinson, Mr. H. Hennessey, Dr. Sprague, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wrightson, Mrs. J. K. Robison, Mr. G. A. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, and Mr. B. Roth in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 774 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 356 bales.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco:—

	SHANGHAI	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	OTTAWA	VENICE	CITIES	TOTAL
Shanghai	555	823	—	—	—	—	1,378
Hyogo	90	839	651	322	—	—	1,902
Yokohama	2,234	—	—	—	—	—	2,234
Hongkong	998	—	—	—	—	—	998
Amoy	—	3,044	542	—	—	—	3,586
Total	3,877	3,883	2,016	322	—	—	10,098

	SHANGHAI	HONGKONG	YOKOHAMA	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	412	—	412
Hongkong	—	145	—	145
Yokohama	—	971	—	971
Total	—	1,528	—	1,528

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Doric*, Captain H. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 5th November, Amoy the 6th, Shanghai the 9th, Nagasaki the 11th, and Kobe the 13th. Arrived at Yokohama the 14th November. Had fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain I. Sealby, reports:—Left San Francisco the 3rd November at 1.33 p.m.; thence to port, strong variable winds, accompanied by frequent squalls, and moderate to high seas. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th November at 6.20 a.m. Passage, 14 days, 23 hours, 19 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain R. Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 13th November at 6.40 p.m.; had light north-easterly breeze and partially clear weather, but hazy inclined. On approaching Woosung Bar, found steamer (name unknown, it being dark) showing signals of distress, having grounded in taking the bar, "7.15 p.m. anchored at Woosung." On the 14th weighed anchor and proceeded, with light, to moderate easterly and south-east winds, cloudy but fair weather; on approaching Goto Islands wind veered into N.E. quarter and increasing to a fresh breeze with gloomy and unsettled weather

and threatening rain up to arrival at Nagasaki, the 15th, at 9.15 p.m. After arrival at Nagasaki set in with heavy rain which continued until noon on the 16th. Left Nagasaki the 16th at 5 p.m.; had moderate N.W. winds and clear weather, after showing Iwo-shima wind veered to northward and gradually increased to a hard gale with rapidly increasing sea and threatening, unsettled weather, which continued up to approaching Rokuren, arriving at Shimonoseki the 17th at 10 a.m. Left Shimonoseki the same day at 3 p.m.; had light north-easterly winds through whole of Inland Sea accompanied with fine, clear weather, arriving at Kobe the 18th at 12.30 p.m. after some delay at Quarantine Station. Left Kobe the 19th at noon; had light to moderate N.E. winds and fine, clear weather; passed Oshima at 7.54 p.m.; thence to Rock Island, which was passed the 20th at 9.50 a.m., had moderate N.E. winds and continued fine, clear weather; thence to arrival at Yokohama the 20th at p.m., had fresh N.E. winds and fine, clear weather. Saw nothing of importance during the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No change in the doleful situation of Grey Varns and Shintings. No sales to report this week. The same applies to Fancy Cottons and Woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shintings—84 in., 38 yds., 30 inches	—
Grey Shintings—90 in., 38 yds., 45 inches	—
T. Cloth—7 1/2 yds., 24 yards, 32 inches	\$1.75 to 1.95
Indigo Shintings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENES.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—Capes, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 to 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Cloths—Unions, 54 to 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER POUND.
Nos. 16 to 24, Singles	\$36
Nos. 28 to 32, Singles	—
Nos. 38 to 42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles	—
Nos. 42, Doubles	—
Nos. 160, Plain	—
Nos. 280, Plain	—
Nos. 2100, Plain	—
Nos. 2100, Gassed	\$75
Nos. 280, Gassed	—
Nos. 2100, Gassed	—

METALS.

No change in prices and but little doing. Importers appear to be overstocked with Bars. Goods said to contain at least 3,000 tons, and buyers hope for a reduction in price before they operate again. Wire Nails have moved fairly, the U.S. make being again in favour. Fair sales also of Tin Plates.

	PER POUND.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 4 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 2 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

KEROSENE.

No sales, but deliveries of former purchases continue on a fair scale. Prices remain unchanged and nominal. Holders fairly strong, but dealers on the watch for a turn in their favour.

American	Nom. \$2.27 1/2 to 2.30
Russian	Nom. 2.35 to 2.40
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Heavy arrivals have again depressed prices in China and Manila sorts. Formosa—Considerable sales at lower rates, Takao bringing \$4.20 and Tai-wan-foo \$4. White—Something doing, but not much, at last prices.

	PER POUND.
Brown Takao	4.20
Brown Manila	5.20 to 5.30
Brown Daitong	3.80 to 3.90
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.75
White Hainan	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS. RAW SILK.

Market very quiet, with small transactions, and all quotations more or less nominal. Holders will have to take less money if they want to keep moving.

QUOTATIONS.

Reatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	\$850 to \$860
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 14, 10/14 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 11/16 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 14, 13/16, 14/17 den.	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 11/16 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 24, 11/16 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/16 deniers	—
Kakadas—Katra	750 to 760
Kakadas—No. 1	740 to 745
Kakadas—No. 14	730 to 735
Kakadas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakadas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

Fair business continues at full rates, but there are signs that buyers have executed most of their pressing orders.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Bushu, Good	120 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 22½

TEA.

Good business at full rates and small stocks.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$16 to \$27
Choice	24 to 25
Finest	22 to 23
Vine	20 to 21
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Rates of exchange advanced slightly early in the week, and have remained unaltered to the close.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/2 to 2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/2½ to 2½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68½
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.73½ to 4
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1/10 p.
— — Private 10 days' sight	2/10 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
— — Private 10 days' sight	73½
On India—Bank sight	72½
— — Private 30 days' sight	Nominal.
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51½
— — Private 4 months' sight	53½ to 54
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.23
Bar Silver (London)	29½

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 16th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong report the following opening quotations in the share market this morning:—H. & S. Banks 182 per cent. premium Buyers; Hongkong Lands \$76 Buyers; China Fires \$102.50 Buyers; H. & W. Docks 218 per cent. premium Sales; H. & K. Wharfs \$58.50 Sellers; Douglass \$55.50 Buyers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$33 Sales; Pujongs \$12.75 Sales; Rauba \$10 Buyers; Balmorals \$1.75 Sellers; National Banks \$27.50 Nominal; Indo Chinas \$42 Sellers; Straits \$27.50 Nominal; Unions \$235 Nominal, and Traders \$76 Sellers.

Locally Grand Hotels are wanted at \$200 and Breweries at \$250, whilst Club Hotels and Oriental Hotels are offered at \$60 and \$140 ex dividend respectively.

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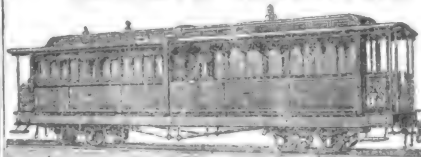
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 28TH, 1896.

MARRIAGE.

At the residence of the officiating clergyman, 15, Tanikiji, Tokyo, on Wednesday evening, 25th., by the Rev. John W. Wadman, assisted by the Rev. B. W. Waters, of Osaka, the Rev. CHARLES A. TAGUE, of Hiroshima, to Miss GRACE LUCKER, of Rochester, N.Y., formerly of Fukuoka. (Kobe Papers please copy).

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A VERY violent rain-storm prevailed in Yokohama on Thursday night.

MR. N. J. JORDAN has been gazetted British Consul-General at Söul.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE was present at the Imperial University sports on Saturday.

IN Fukuoka Ken, the number of applications for new railways now total fifty-nine.

MR. HARAGUCHI, Superintendent Engineer of the Railway Bureau, sent in his resignation

recently, but it will not be accepted by the Authorities.

SIR EDMUND FREMANTLE, K.C.B., has attained to the full rank of Admiral of the Fleet.

ANOTHER frustrated political plot is reported from Korea, but the particulars are not yet to hand.

THE Tokyo Rice Exchange is not working smoothly, and in consequence the market is almost at a standstill.

H.I.H. THE EMPEROR visited Yokosuka on Wednesday and inspected the late Chinese battleship, *Chinyen*.

SMALL-POX is very rife in Kobe. One foreigner has succumbed, and the Kobe Club has been temporarily closed.

ALL hope of saving the *Himji Maru*, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, now on the Paracels reef, has been abandoned.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, the ex-minister of State for Education, leaves for Europe on Sunday by the French mail-steamer *Salasia*.

ON Saturday the Y. C. and A. C. defeated the Navy at Association football. On Wednesday the Navy beat the Shore at Rugby football.

THE last sailing race of the season took place on Saturday, when 17 boats entered. The *Albatross* won Mr. Lowder's consolation prize.

THE entertainment arranged at the Public Hall on Wednesday by the Yokohama Circle of the King's Daughters, was a pronounced success.

RUSSIA has rejected the proposal made by France to establish International control of Turkish finance on similar lines to the Egyptian question.

A FRENCH creole of Yokohama shot his wife, a Eurasian, during the course of a quarrel on Monday. He is now awaiting trial at the French Consulate.

A TELEGRAM from Lyons, dated the 18th inst., states that the rice crop in Italy is very bad, and that a petition to the Government to reduce the import duties will be made.

THE total expenditure for repairing the damage done by floods and storms in nearly all the prefectures has reached yen 8,000,000, which will be allotted in the Budget for the thirtieth fiscal year.

THE profits of the Sangu Railway Company from the 1st inst. up to the 10th, were yen 2,963 and those of the Sobu Railway Company yen 6,378 respectively.

THURSDAY was Thanksgiving Day and was duly celebrated by the American residents, mostly around the dinner-table, when turkey and cranberry sauce was the chief item on the bills of fare.

AT a meeting of the Tokyo Ikai (Tokyo Medical Association), at Sakamoto cho, Nihonbashi, on Sunday last, Dr. Hasegawa Tai was chosen President and Dr. Takamatsu Ryoun, Vice-President.

BARON HAYASHI, Minister to China, arrived at Shimbashi Station on Tuesday at 3.20 p.m. He proceeded direct to the Department of Foreign Affairs. It is said that he looked in very good health when he alighted at Shimbashi.

THE decision of the Venezuela Arbitration Court is not expected before the end of the year, hence the German Press regard the Venezuela settlement as an admission on the part of Great Britain

of the right of the United States to supersede any American Republic in the case of a dispute with European Powers.

CAPT. DAVIES, of the *Radnorshire*, rescued ten Chinese junkmen from a water-logged and sinking junk, on his recent voyage from Hongkong to Amoy.

A QUESTION as to the jurisdiction of the Consular-General Court of the U.S., in Yokohama, in the matter of granting judicial separation and alimony, was argued before Mr. N. W. McIvor on Wednesday. He has reserved judgment.

IN a debate in the Reichstag upon duelling in the German Army, the Minister for War, amidst protests, strongly defended the practice of duelling, as the honour of officers demands the right of self-defence, notably against insults by civilians.

BARON MATSUDAIRA MASANAO, Governor of Kumamoto Ken, being appointed Vice-Minister of the Home Department, the vacancy in Kumamoto will be filled by Mr. Chiba, Governor of Miyagi Ken, who will be succeeded by Mr. Anraku, Secretary of Kumamoto Ken.

THE Representatives of the United States and China came to Yokohama on Friday afternoon and visited Rear-Admiral Oxley on the British man-of-war *Grafton*, his flag-ship. The usual salute was fired as each Minister took his departure.

THE trial of the pyx took place at the Osaka Mint on Saturday, when five yen worth of gold coin, some twenty *sen* and 10 *sen* pieces of silver and five *sen* pieces of nickel were tested in the presence of Baron Tajiri, Vice-Minister of the Finance Department.

DURING a debate on the Foreign Estimates in the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, being asked to define the relations between France and Russia, declared that it was not expedient to supplement the precise statements of the Czar and President Faure regarding the *entente*, the existence of which was undeniable. Referring to Egypt, M. Hanotaux declared that France abandons none of her claims and she was now not alone, having a friendly nation who supports her.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade, only a few sales of Textiles having taken place, and these have been retail in quantity. There is no doubt, however, that before long buyers of Yarn and Piece Goods must be forced into the market from sheer necessity to fill wants, though they may at first do only a hand-to-mouth business; and in regard to the immense amount of piece goods at present in godowns in Yokohama it must be remembered that stocks in Japanese hands are now at the lowest possible ebb. Nothing to report in the Metal trade—heavy stock, values unchanged. The Kerosene trade is quiet, dealers waiting for a reduction before proceeding to take more Oil. A shipment of Langkat has arrived at Kobe, and it is stated that arrangements are now complete for a constant supply of this Oil to Japan. The Sugar market is quiet, and the small business done has been on the basis of a reduction in value. A dull week is reported in the Silk trade, prices having a downward tendency in the face of a heavy and accumulating stock. There has been a spurt in the Waste business, over 6,000 piculs having passed the scales. The Tea trade has not been great, but this is probably due to the absence of desirable leaf, as there appears to be rather a good demand for the time of year. However, for the parcels taken full rates have been paid. Exchange has again continued steady.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Household Department affair continues to absorb the attention of the vernacular press. Among thirty-three leading articles that have appeared in the principal Tokyo papers during the week, no less than twenty-five are either directly or indirectly, devoted to this matter. These twenty-five articles may be subdivided, for the sake of convenience, into those concerned with the question whether the original article published by the Osaka periodical constituted the offence of lese-majesty; those that urge the Government to thoroughly remodel the organization of the Cabinet and also of the Household Department; and those that charge the Cabinet with having violated in practice the promises it enunciated on coming into power.

The *Nippon* and the *Tokyo Shimbun* are conspicuous among papers of the first subdivision. The former took up the question immediately on being released from the sentence of suspension, and discussed it with unabated energy and vehemence. The arguments of the chauvinist journal provoked equally energetic rejoinders from the *Tokyo Shimbun*, until, at last, the latter brought upon itself a sentence of suspension. The articles are of considerable length, especially that of the *Nippon*, for nearly the whole of six or seven pages of its last Sunday's issue were occupied solely by this subject. We need not trouble our readers by reproducing the angry wrangling of the two journals, but will confine ourselves here to the apparently new phases of this ill-advised controversy.

The *Nippon* searches the history of Japan for a defence of its procedure, and by a curious process of reasoning, quotes first, the career of Somo Kumei, who, in the latter days of the Tokugawa Regency, boldly attacked the Tokyo Administration for neglecting the care of the Imperial Mausolea; and secondly, the conduct of the senior statesmen of the present time who also, at a somewhat later era, charged the Regency with arbitrary conduct and with disregard for the Imperial Court's interest and dignity. These attacks delivered against the Regency which, according to the *Nippon*, enjoyed the favour and confidence of the Court, did not constitute the offence of lese-majesty. Any act really constituting that heinous offence must be severely dealt with, according to the laws of the realm, but the very fact that the Household Department contented itself with having the obnoxious publications subjected to administrative measures is a convincing proof that they were not thought to have perpetrated an offence so serious. The *Nippon*, with extraordinary pertinacity, then reverts once more to the alleged misdeeds of the Household Minister, declares that he appropriates only 10,000 yen annually for the repair and preservation of about 200 Imperial tombs, which are thus left in a state of comparative neglect; asserts that, in consequence of perfunctoriness in the discharge of his duties, he was the means of exposing the Emperor to great danger when His Majesty crossed the railway last summer en route for the Riding School; affirms that he abused his power and interfered in administrative affairs in the matter of the recent suspensions and suppressions of publications, and so forth and so on.

The *Tokyo Shimbun's* article is equally lengthy and is full of heavily leaded passages which Japanese journalists use freely when discussing important topics. It replies that the comparison between the Tokugawa Regency and the Household Department is entirely out of place; argues that the reason why the present Cabinet, after pledging itself not to interfere with political discussions by recourse to suspension or suppression, had no choice but to take that step in the present case, was precisely because the incriminating article was held to constitute the offence of lese-majesty; and declares that to represent the present Cabinet as having been compelled, contrary to its will and in obedience

to pressure from the Household Department, to take administrative measures against the press, is an insult to the Ministry and especially to the Home Minister, since it amounts to representing the Cabinet as mere tools of the Household Department. It further contends that to persist in slandering the Household Minister after he has been enjoined by the Emperor not to resign, is to call in question the propriety of the Sovereign's judgment. As to the alleged neglect in the matter of preserving the Imperial mausolea, the *Tokyo Shimbun* asks its opponent whether it wishes to have them tricked out with gaudy decoration like that employed in the case of temples, and defends the Household Minister in the Riding School incident by declaring that the affair was a pure accident which could not possibly have been provided against by any care on the part of the Household. Lastly, the Liberal organ asks the Cabinet whether the significant dilatoriness of its procedure in the case of the Osaka periodical, was not due to dread lest any summary measures adopted against the press might alienate the sentiment of the *Shimpo* to; whether, in other words, the Cabinet was not betrayed into attaching undue importance to its own political interests at the expense of the Imperial Court's dignity, which it suffered to be injured with impunity. This article of the *Tokyo Shimbun* fell under the displeasure of the Press Censors, and the paper was suspended on the 24th inst., that is, on the very day when the *Nichi Nichi* was permitted to reappear after having been under the ban for three days. As to the *Nippon's* allegation that the Household Department appropriates only 10,000 yen annually for the preservation of Imperial mausolea, the Department has sent it a note that the statement is incorrect and must be withdrawn.

The *Nippon's* persistence has evoked indignant protest from the *Chuo*, which avers that the *Nippon* has now exceeded all its previous disrespectful utterances, for it has even called in question the propriety of the Home Minister's action towards it and the *Twenty-sixth Century*, inasmuch as it represents the Minister as having been forced by a certain section of the public to abuse his official power. Can the Government simulate any semblance of consistency when it suffers such doings to go unchecked?

The *Mainichi's* opinion about the subject is tolerably moderate. It argues that when the Matsukata Cabinet decided—erroneously it is true—to admit a foreign element into its composition, it must have been prepared to assimilate that element and to make it keep step with the general movement. The Ministry, however, have not taken this comprehensive and magnanimous course, but, by regarding these unsympathetic colleagues in the light of *Banshoku Daijin*, have simply driven them more and more into a divergent route. No such persons ought ever to have been admitted into the Cabinet if they were to be treated in such a stand-off and discourteous manner. The only alternatives open to the Cabinet at this juncture are either to win the goodwill of these *Banshoku Daijin*, or, if that judicious and far more statesmanlike policy be found unfeasible, to cast them out from the Ministry.

The *Yomiuri*, the *Kokumin*, and the *Mainichi* urge strongly the necessity of taking firm measures towards what they insultingly designate the *Banshoku Daijin* in the Cabinet, that is to say, the Ministers who, though intrinsically devoid of power and merely allowed to mess with their colleagues, nevertheless exert considerable influence in the conduct of administrative affairs, owing to their connections with the statesmen recently in power. The Ministers of whom these papers write in such disrespectful terms are Viscounts Enomoto and Nomura, Marquis Hachisuka, and Mr. Kiyoura. The *Yomiuri* regrets to see the Ministry so lacking in strength and spirit as to be unable to deal summarily with the *Banshoku Daijin*, and declares that, so long as that foreign element is suffered to sit at the same table with the real

leaders of the Cabinet, the latter will be prevented from taking proper measures should a question of importance present itself for discussion and settlement. In another article the same paper argues that, if the Matsukata Cabinet desires to establish thorough homogeneity in its ranks, and also to establish itself on a firm basis, the *Banshoku Daijin* must either be limited to a wholly subordinate rôle, or be driven out of the Government. The *Kokumin* is particularly bold in this respect, for it does not scruple to assert that if the "mess-together Ministers"—a term which we believe to be of Korean origin—go a step further in their obstructive policy, they may begin to hold secret meetings with the Ito Party, and it may become necessary to shadow them with detectives. Should things reach such a pass, nothing could be more ignominious to the Cabinet, and it ought, therefore, to eliminate the foreign element at once.

The pro-Government papers are still strongly prejudiced against Count Hijikata, and earnestly desire to have him replaced by some *persona grata* to themselves, as Viscount Tani or Prince Konoye. Apart from the vehement *Nippon*, the *Kokumin* expresses this sentiment strongly, and the *Mainichi* in a guarded tone. The Matsukata Cabinet's doings, writes the *Kokumin*, with reference to the Household Minister's affair, were too timid; they were even ignoble. Not satisfied with suppressing and suspending publications, the Ministry dismissed the Vice-Minister, and the Chief of the Peace Preservation Bureau of the Home Office. These steps were dictated by the awe with which the Ministry regards the Court. Now what step is the Household Minister about to take so as to proclaim his respect for the Court, since it was his want of virtue that compelled the editor of the *Twenty-sixth Century* to indite a strong article against him? Is it not he that has dragged this Court affair into the field of party quarrels by asking a certain class of journals to uphold his cause? The Household Minister must not sit complacently with folded hands, after having placed the Cabinet in such a discreditable predicament. The *Mainichi's* article simply says that if more decided measures be not taken to settle the present trouble, another agitation may break out. It refers also to the close relations existing between the Household Department and the men of Tosa extraction, or the latter's intimates. The Minister and the Vice-Minister of the Household, and the Chief of the Imperial Estates Bureau, are all Tosa men.

The *Yiji* offers, in this context, a judicious and timely suggestion for the consideration of the Government and of the public in general. Some hold, observes that independent paper, that the Household Minister must resign, not because the attack made against him by the Osaka periodical was necessarily well founded, but because the incident proves his armour of virtue to be anything but invulnerable. Such a contention must be regarded as devoid of sanity. The article in question neither exhibits any want of respect towards the Court on the part of the writer, nor carries any particular weight as an attack upon the Household Minister. It is simply the utterance of an impertinent youth, and if anybody's character may be impaired on the strength of such a writer's declamations, no one can be secure. To contend that a Minister must resign on such a flimsy pretext, is to make his tenure of office more insecure than that of a shop boy. Of course if the Minister of the Household resign on other grounds, that is entirely a different matter. But the *Yiji's* point is that he must on no account resign because of the present affair. To tell the truth, the *Yiji* is somewhat scandalized by the incident, and is pained at seeing both the Government and the public thrown into a state of ferment by such a trivial cause. It is as if the administration of the country had been degraded to children's play.

The *Nichi Nichi* wants to know whether the authorities deem themselves exempted from any

further responsibility in connection with the affair, so soon as they have dismissed the Vice-Minister and the chief of the Peace Preservation Bureau of the Home Department. Is not the Home Minister and is not the Cabinet itself responsible?

The *Nippon* attempts to persecute its rival the *Nichi Nichi*, which enjoys the special privilege of publishing the official notices of the Department of Communications; a privilege which of course imposes upon local post offices and others the necessity of subscribing for the paper. The change of Ministry without any corresponding change in the *Nichi Nichi's* privilege, has brought about a strange conjuncture, for the *Nichi Nichi* is now found attacking the government whose patronage it enjoys. The *Nippon* considers such a state of affairs to be entirely opposed to the spirit of official discipline, and urged that the *Nichi Nichi* must be deprived of its privilege. It should be added here that the Department of Communications notified the *Nichi Nichi* that the existing relation will be severed at the end of next February.

The *Nichi Nichi* and the *Shogyo* comment on the new Japan-Germany Treaty. The former strongly criticizes Viscount Aoki, as responsible for the defects in the Revised Treaty, a responsibility which the late Cabinet must share. Count Okuma, however, was under no obligation to employ the Viscount. He is at liberty to recall any Minister guilty of the offence of exceeding his powers. Yet the Count, without taking this course and without even adopting a remedial measure devised by his predecessor, has quietly ceded to Consular Courts jurisdiction in matters relating to patents. Though the inconvenience is only temporary, still it must be considered detrimental to the dignity of the Empire and of its people, and for that Count Okuma must be held responsible. The *Shogyo* hopes that the Japanese Government will promptly open special negotiations in this matter and devise some means to provide against the extension of Consular jurisdiction.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE U.S. ELECTION.

A TELEGRAM from Chicago, dated Nov. 4th, in the *Tacoma Daily Ledger* says:—"The returns from the entire country, although incomplete in some States, are of a nature to insure the election of McKinley. A sufficient number of States have declared for the Republican party to make certain 264 votes in the electoral college for its leader. The States whose votes are sure for him are as follows:—

California	9
Connecticut	9
Delaware	3
Illinois	13
Indiana	14
Iowa	15
Maine	6
Maryland	8
Massachusetts	15
Michigan	14
Minnesota	9
New Hampshire	4
New Jersey	10
New York	36
North Dakota	3
Ohio	23
Oregon	4
Pennsylvania	31
Rhode Island	4
South Dakota	4
Vermont	4
West Virginia	6
Wisconsin	12

Total 364

The New England States have, as was expected, given heavy pluralities for McKinley without exception. The Republican ticket was successful in Massachusetts beyond what was claimed for it by the most enthusiastic prophet of Republican success. New York and Pennsylvania vied with each other for the largest plurality, and the figures at hand do not indicate which one has surpassed the other. Each state has given the Republican candidate a plurality of between 375,000 and 380,000.

To these States, Illinois is a good third in its plurality for the winning candidate. If the percentage of gain over the presidential election of 1892, that has so far been given continues to the end, it will give a plurality of not far from 175,000.

MONTHLY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for October, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1895.	1896.
Exports	13,771,947.466	13,544,662.820
Imports	11,039,546.000	15,204,424.400
Total exports and imports	28,809,087.220	28,749,087.220
Excess of imports		1,719,761.580
Exports	238,094.908	
Imports	443,476.016	
Miscellaneous	19,448.710	
Total	701,019.634	

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports, Silver Yen.	Imports, Silver Yen.	Total, Silver Yen.
China	4,332,581.740	3,065,912.301	7,398,494.041
Hongkong	80,413.170	2,151,608.863	2,232,022.033
British India	479,456.770	1,190,113.200	1,669,570.000
Korea	393,691,070	481,411.910	875,102,980
Russian Asia	279,000,110	334,611,130	613,611,240
Annam & other French			
India	968,000	127,000,260	127,968,260
Philippine Islands	3,400,000	113,400,450	116,800,450
Siam	1,913,610	35,900,000	37,813,610
Great Britain	8,240,418.80	5,633,847,170	6,457,891,150
France	8,086,791.510	355,115,150	2,611,901,170
Germany	330,748.470	8,311,311.410	2,488,559,910
Italy	546,081.570	9,048,080	556,129,650
Switzerland	43,570.100	970,161.160	315,131,600
Belgium	1,447,000	335,118,100	130,514,300
Austria	47,881.480	9,104,120	9,583,000
Holland	43,500,600	2,017,450	40,483,050
Russia	5,584,100	9,148,450	14,732,550
Sweden	1,091,970	9,310,320	20,431,290
Spain	16,000	9,161,80	9,177,800
Denmark	1,753,700	10,610	2,004,300
Portugal	400,000	1,307,180	2,707,180
Turkey	1,271,400		1,271,400
United States of America	4,364,424.510	799,466,110	5,163,890,620
Canada & other British America	258,949,300	4,083,680	263,032,980
Peru		4,083,680	4,083,680
Australia	243,113,330	40,819,800	283,933,130
Hawaii	38,004,830	22,000	38,026,830
Other Countries	20,717,580	97,914,820	118,632,400
Total	13,161,310,080	15,164,484,400	28,325,794,480

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports	Imports	Total
Yokohama	7,947,415.900	7,010,110.410	14,957,526.310
Kobe	4,030,365.300	7,030,617.310	11,060,982.610
Osaka	178,396.880	877,999.300	1,056,396.180
Nagasaki	318,193.170	74,636,310	74,954,503.170
Kiushu	106,380,000	38,390,990	144,770,990
Niigata	704,900	21,158,130	21,863,030
Shimonoseki	224,187,990	128,681,880	352,869,870
Moji	449,706.250		449,706.250
Hakata		2,161,960	2,161,960
Karatsu	5,406,500		5,406,500
Kuchinotsu	131,100,500		131,100,500
Iidatsuhara	1,785,190	824,400	2,609,590
Shimonoseki	24,311,990	600,500	24,912,490
Fushiki	1,787,990		1,787,990
Muroan	55,335,530		55,335,530
Utsunomiya	20,790,300	75,000	20,865,300

Specie and Bullion	Exports	Imports	Total
	1,204,558,840	697,018,410	1,901,577,250

Total 1,901,577,250

Excess of imports 507,570,430

By Japanese Merchants { Exports 3,515,755,430

{ Imports 3,399,664,760

Imported by Government 17,620,360

VALUE OF COMMODITIES EXPORTED AND IMPORTED EACH MONTH

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	7,742,602.130	14,773,188.410	22,515,790.540
February	8,008,112.470	17,206,166.150	25,214,278.620
March	9,154,041.480	19,041,090.810	28,195,132.290
April	9,714,017.750	13,565,491.010	23,279,508.760
May	9,707,717.160	14,433,386.380	24,141,103.540
June	7,579,889.390	14,181,000.510	21,760,889.900
July	7,547,194.000	14,653,981.710	22,201,175.710
August	7,008,059.080	17,375,841.150	24,383,900.230
September	8,098,093.330	15,813,183.380	23,911,276.710
October	12,541,603.880	15,164,414.400	27,706,018.280
Total	90,857,731.940	143,473,878.780	234,331,610.720

SHOOTING A WIFE IN YOKOHAMA.

A FRENCH creole named Armand Tanet has been arrested and charged before the French Consulate with firing at his wife with a revolver, on Monday night. The man's wife was a Miss Peignot, and her husband was once employed in her late father's livery stables. He was a ne'er-do-well, and notwithstanding the efforts of his friends never succeeded in keeping any permanent employment. Lately there has been reason to suspect that his intellect has become deranged and a subscription was raised to get him off to Shanghai. Meanwhile his wife left him and went to live with some friends at No. 138, Settlement. On Monday evening Tanet went to see his wife, and after some conversation with her, in which he strove to persuade her to come back to him,

he fired a revolver. The shot struck the woman's cheek. She then grappled with her husband in an endeavour to get the revolver away from him, and in the attempt the revolver went off, the bullet this time grazing Mrs. Tanet on the left side of the head. Fortunately at this moment the police came on the scene and the man was secured. Mrs. Tanet has had a very narrow escape.

THE STRANDED "HIMEJI MARU."

THE *China Mail* of Nov. 16th says:—"The *Siegfried*, with the salvage party and 140 of the shipwrecked Japanese steamer *Himeji Maru*, arrived this morning from the Paracels Islands. The *Siegfried* arrived at the distressed steamer on Tuesday morning about eleven o'clock. She was found to be in a very dangerous position in a cove behind a high reef. Capt. Tipple pulled off to the *Siegfried*, but afterwards returned to his ship. On Wednesday nothing could be done owing to the heavy seas, which were breaking over the ship. On Thursday efforts were made to rescue the crew, which was accomplished after considerable difficulty, the rescue boats being twice capsized but fortunately with no loss of life. The captain refused to leave his ship, and the purser, the second engineer, a steward, boy, and a cook were left behind on the steamer. It is feared if a strong North wind rises that she will become a wreck; already it is believed the cargo is completely destroyed. The *Siegfried* will make another voyage to the reef to-morrow or next day to bring away the Captain and others who decided to stay behind.

The *Hiroshima Maru*, that arrived in Kobe on Tuesday, brought on from Hongkong 138 officers and men from the ill-fated steamer *Himeji Maru*, which was driven upon the Bombay Reef of the Paracels, on October 1st. The larger number were naval men who were on their way to England to bring out the *Fujiyama*. The *Kobe Chronicle* learns from Captain Anderson that when the *Hiroshima* passed the Paracels she had a westerly current of 22 miles in 24 hours. It was no doubt due largely to this current that the *Himeji* got upon the reef. It was at half-past four in the morning when she struck, and a strong monsoon was blowing at the time.

JAPAN AND FORMOSA.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *China Mail* as follows from Tainanfoo, Formosa:—"The people here are now being treated with much consideration by the authorities. . . . The Japanese high authorities know now the true state of affairs, and, as I expected, the people are reaping the benefit in milder treatment. I have just returned from a visit to the Pescadores. Stormy weather prevented my visiting Kapoos—the island where the *Bokhara* was wrecked; but from Fisher Island by the aid of a glass I could distinguish the monument which was erected. On all sides one can see signs of Japanese possession,—in Makung harbour a Japanese man-of-war, and one or two merchantmen. In the town of Makung several Japanese shops in which can be bought foreign goods. All around can be seen the Japanese policeman with his inevitable note-book, the gendarmes, and soldiers. North of Makung they have enclosed a large piece of ground as a Japanese cemetery. In this cemetery are some six or seven huge mounds, and a large monument in the centre indicating that nearly 1,000 soldiers who died of plague are buried in these mounds. There is also a flourishing Japanese school in which Chinese lads get from \$3 to \$4.50 to come and learn Japanese. A few of the Chinese have cut off their queues and adopted foreign dress. The majority of the people are as poor and as wretched as ever they were. . . . It is wonderful how the 50,000 inhabitants who live on these brown, barren rocks manage to eke out an existence. They seem to be getting on well with the Japanese, and I have heard few complaints."

WEDDING IN TOKYO.

AT the residence of the officiating clergyman, 15, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on Wednesday evening, the marriage of the Rev. Charles A. Tague

and Miss Grace Tucker of Rochester, N.Y. (formerly of Fukuoka), was celebrated in the presence of a small company of friends. The Rev. John W. Wadman, assisted by the Rev. B. W. Waters of Osaka, performed the ceremony. The ritual was read from a beautiful souvenir, entitled, "The Wedding Ring," presented by the Rev. M. Rowe, the bride's former pastor in Rochester. The four Misses Wadman acted as Maids of Honour. The marriage knot was tied beneath a beautiful floral bell of white chrysanthemums fashioned after the Old Liberty Bell of Independence Hall. The wedding march was excellently rendered by Miss M. A. Spencer. All the arrangements reflected the highest credit upon the worthy hostess, Mrs. Wadman. After the supper, the happy couple took their departure amid showers of best wishes, rice, and old shoes for their future home in Hiroshima.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. DE WENDRICH.

The funeral of the late Mr. de Wendrich took place on Wednesday morning, at Ohno, Kobe. There was a large attendance, says the *Chronicle*, including the members of the Consular Corps, representatives of the Japanese Prefectural Government, and a detachment from the Austrian cruiser *Panther*. A large number of beautiful wreaths had been sent by the numerous friends of the deceased, including one from the Captain and Officers of the *Pamiat Anova*. The pall-bearers were Messrs. R. von Krencki, P. de Lucy-Fossarieu, J. F. Connelly, J. Carey Hall, W. Braess, W. F. K. Fearon, E. Jubiot, John G. Walsh, Ryle Holme, A. H. Groom, E. H. Gill, H. E. Reynell, C. P. Hall, and Dr. Thornicraft. The funeral service was performed by the Rev. J. L. Atkinson. The flags at the various Consulates and over several offices in the Settlement were flying at half-mast all day.

ARRESTING A LEITH STEAMER AT SEA.

Her Majesty's gun-boat *Circe* brought into Yarmouth last month the Leith steamer *Cavendish* under extraordinary circumstances, remarks a Kobe contemporary. The *Cavendish* was towed into Yarmouth the previous day, disabled, by the London steamer *Urpeth*. No agreement having been made for salvage for services rendered, it was found impossible to serve a writ on the *Cavendish* until the next morning, and her captain attempted to take advantage of the opportunity to leave without giving a bond. A Customs House officer was put on board to prevent him, but the Captain engaged two tugs and left late for the Tyne. Some hours later the *Circe*, which is a powerful fishery cruiser, arrived off Yarmouth, when the commander was informed of the *Cavendish's* escape. The *Circe* at once started in pursuit, and on coming up with the *Cavendish* the latter surrendered, and the *Circe* took her in tow to Yarmouth, where she was put under guard until all the legal formalities had been complied with.

RESCUED IN MID-OCEAN.

The *Strait Times* hears that the steamer *Prins Heinrich* arrived at Colombo on the 24th October, with 65 men, women, and children, officers, crew, and passengers of the steamer *Taif*, which foundered in mid-ocean on her way from Mauritius to Bombay. Most of these on board got away from the ship in safety, but 12 were drowned. Those who took to the boats were picked up by a sailing vessel, and on this they were for over a month, the sailer being bound for the China seas. At length the *Prins Heinrich* was spoken by the sailing ship, and the shipwrecked people were sent on board her, and conveyed to Ceylon.

BRITISH CONSULAR CHANGES.

The following notification appears in the London *Gazette* of the 9th October:—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint John Carey Hall, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul for Hyogo and Osaka, to reside at Hyogo; Joseph Henry Longford, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul at Tamsui; Henry Alfred Constant Bonar, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul at Tainan; William Joseph Kenny, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul for Hakodate and Ni-

gata, to reside at Hakodate; and Ernest Miles Hobart-Hampden, Esq., to be her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Tokyo.—Mr. J. J. Quin has since resigned the service, leaving a vacancy at Nagasaki, so a redistribution of posts will shortly be announced.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

It is a pity that the old prejudice against Rugby football dies so hard a death. Under the present rules it is a more exciting game than "Socker" and certainly far from dangerous, the rough and tumble elements of its infancy having been gradually eliminated. Yet in this far-distant portion of the East, though many Rugby players are now resident in the port, we only see the game once or twice in a season, when naval teams can get together. On Monday afternoon the officers of H.M.S. *Undaunted* and *Plover* beat the officers of the *Grafton*, under Rugby rules, by four goals to two tries. The flagship must look to its laurels.

NAVAL NEWS.

The *Ancona* is bringing up two bower anchors and cables for H.M.S. *Plover* to replace those recently lost in the Behring Sea.—On Nov. 6th No. 20 torpedo boat, belonging to the Hongkong Naval Yard, in charge of Lieutenant Taylor, with a crew from the *Narcissus* for training purposes, struck on a rock and had to be beached on the south side of Stonecutter's Island to prevent her sinking.—During the heavy gale in Hongkong on November 5th, the accommodation ladder was swept away from the side of H.M.S. *Narcissus*. A steam cutter, lying alongside, which was having a boiler hoisted out, was swamped by the heavy sea and sank. Divers have been sent down to search for both, but up to the present no trace of them has been discovered.

H.M.S. "IMMORTALITÉ."

A most enjoyable concert was given on board H.M.S. *Immortalité* on November 19th, while the vessel was at Nagasaki. Captain Chichester and officers and ships' company seem to have been most profuse in their hospitality, while concert was above the average in quality. We understand that the *Immortalité* will leave Nagasaki for Hongkong shortly to have her funnels lengthened. But before undergoing that operation, however, it is possible she may carry over to Chemulpo the monument that has been at made Nagasaki to be erected in memory of the 48 victims of the *Edgar* disaster. The monument will not be erected until next spring, as the foundations cannot be laid properly while the frost is in the ground.

THE "FUJI-YAMA KAN."

The battle-ship *Fujiyama*, which has been built in England for the Japanese navy, and is now under equipment, is expected to leave for Japan in March or April. The *Fiji* states that it is proposed to bring her out by way of the Cape of Good Hope. The draught of the vessel is 27 feet, and to come through the Suez Canal she would have to discharge her armament, coal, etc., to lighten her; in addition she would have to pay a considerable fee for passing the canal. To come round the Cape would take about four weeks longer than to come via the Canal. But the discharge and unloading of the armament, etc., would take about two weeks, so that the delay will be only a fortnight in taking the longer route.

INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES.

The crew of the *Olympia*, our Nagasaki contemporary says, contemplates giving a dinner to the men of the Russian men-of-war in port in return for a like courtesy extended to them by the Russian blue-jackets at Vladivostok during the festivities attendant on the celebration of the recent anniversary of the coronation of the Tsar.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S COFFIN.

An amusing story is told by the Chinese papers about Li's coffin which was on board the *Glenariny* when the vessel was on fire recently in the Red Sea. The coffin was not burnt, as at first reported, but was sold by auction by the underwriters, an English museum becoming the purchaser. The underwriters, it is said, have written

to the ex-Envoy offering him the value of the coffin, but the great man, with superstitious fears, declined to take the money. The *China Mail* remarks that this is the first time in his life probably that Li has refused money.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

A GAME of football under Rugby Union rules was played in Yokohama on Wednesday between a fifteen from the ships of Her Majesty's fleet now in harbour, and a team picked up by the shore. The Navy were infinitely superior to the Shore, which is only to be expected considering the length of time that has elapsed since most of the latter have played. Besides, the Navy had Dunkin, a tower of strength, who did all the scoring of the day. The Navy won by 10 points—2 tries, and 1 dropped goal—to nil.

TROOPS FOR MANILA.

The Spanish transport *Colon*, with heavy reinforcements of men—cavalry, artillery, marines, and sappers and miners, and large stores of munitions of war, arrived at Singapore on the 29th October, and, having taken 600 tons of coal, left during the night for Manila. The *Colon* is the largest steamer of the Compania Transatlantica which has ever been to Singapore, and is a very fast ship, making the run from Barcelona to Singapore in 23 days. She is to be followed by her sister-ship the *Cavadonga* with two battalions of troops on board.

LITERARY SOCIETY.

THERE was a fair attendance at the meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society last evening when the Rev. E. S. Gale read a capital paper on "The Korean Coolie." Mr. Griffin, who presided, thanked the reader, and hoped that he would give the Society another paper before he left Yokohama. The musical part of the programme included.—Overture, "Fra Diavolo" (Auber), the Misses Sale; song "Les Rameaux" (Faure). Mr. den Arend; trio, "Ye Shepherds" tell me" (Mazighi), Messrs. Lewis, Whitefield, and Crane.

KOBE NEWS.

OWING to an outbreak of small-pox among the servants, the Committee of the Kobe Club have deemed it prudent to close the Club for a short time. This action seems to have evoked sharp criticism.—The foreign laundry in Kobe is meeting with difficulties, the Japanese laundry men being leagued against it and resorting to all sorts of underhand means to impair its credit: articles of clothing being actually stolen in transit.

QUICK DOCKING.

UNDER this heading the *Nagasaki Shipping List* of Friday says:—The Russian Volunteer Fleet steamship *Yaroslavl*, a vessel of 4,300 tons, entered the Mitsu Bishi dock at 8 30 a.m., on Wednesday, was cleaned and given two coats of paint and launched again by 5.15 o'clock the same day. In other words the operation took just 9 hours 15 minutes, which we believe is record time.

THE LATE CAPTAIN HARDY.

THE late Captain W. H. Hardy, whose death we announced on Monday morning, was a Suffolk man, being a native of Ipswich. He arrived in Japan in 1873 and after several years work in the Siberian trade and sealing voyages, entered the N.Y.K. service as a diver. He was buried in Kobe on Monday.

ASSAULT.

A FRENCH sailor named Louis Rey, (19 years of age), belonging to the M. M. steamer *Salasie* was sentenced in the French Consulate on the 21st inst. to one month's imprisonment for having wounded two jinrikisha men named Sofu and Okada, in Yokohama Settlement, on the 19th inst. The accused was drunk at the time.

SMALL-POX AT KOBE.

SMALL-POX has been very rife among the Japanese at Kobe and now a foreigner has succumbed, Mr. H. W. Vince, of Messrs. Strauss & Co., sinking on Friday after a very brief illness. He had only been in Japan some eighteen months. Another foreigner is also sick with the disease in Kobe.

CURRENT POLITICS.

The Standing Committee of the *Shimpo-to* met on Saturday afternoon to discuss what attitude the Party ought to take in connection with the Household Department affair. After an excited debate, lasting for about two hours, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of general commissioners elected from among the Standing Committee, with the understanding that the Commissioners should endeavour to bring about a result consonant with the dignity and prestige of the Party. It was also decided to send the following circular to members of the Party in the provinces:—

"The fact that the Matsukata Cabinet, after pledging itself to safeguard freedom of speech, should have suddenly suppressed or suspended publications, will probably strike you with surprise and engender suspicion; for whatever conditions exist with the Government, these administrative measures amount to a distinct breach of a public promise. It is consequently, needless to say that the Party, in conformity with the resolutions adopted on the occasion of its last extraordinary meeting, must publicly censure the action of the Government. None the less to conclude that because the Government have acted erroneously in this matter, everything else undertaken by them must be similarly blameworthy, and to immediately open a general campaign against the Ministry for that reason, must be accounted a hasty procedure. In view of this consideration, the central office of the Party, is now conducting negotiations with the Government so as to induce the latter to duly review their procedure and put into genuine practice the promises made by them to the people. Should there be no hope of arriving at a satisfactory result in this negotiation, the central office will not fail, at the proper juncture, to take whatever steps the occasion dictates. For purposes of reference, the opinions held by the central office with regard to the affair of the Household Minister may be briefly stated thus:

1.—The Central Office sincerely regrets that the Opposition have debased the affair of the Household Minister into a weapon for party squabbles.

2.—It being an original tenet of the Party that the Household Department must be made to hold aloof from politics, the Central Office, even though challenged by the Opposition with reference to this affair, is determined not to accept the challenge.

3.—There may be in the Household Department many points demanding reform, but the Central Office is of opinion that to insist on such reforms at present, when party discussion has been carried to fever heat, might drag the Department into the vortex of political warfare.

4.—Consequently, the allegation that the Central Office has preferred to the Cabinet a demand for the resignation of the Household Minister is simply a capard fabricated by the Opposition.

Postscript.—Some of the Cabinet Ministers are reported to have made the following remarks on the occasion of an extraordinary Cabinet Council held to discuss the Household Department affair:—"Although no objection is entertained to the Government's introducing, in the next session of the Diet, an amendment of the Press Law striking out the clauses relating to suppression and suspension, there is no reason to relinquish the power of suspension and suppression so long as the Law remains unamended." "In the case of political discussions, the power of suppression and suspension need not be exercised, but in matters relating to the Imperial Court it must be employed so long as the Law remains unaltered." Such absurd arguments can not be approved by the Central Office. In short, any error committed by the Cabinet will be distinctly recognized as such by the Central Office and will be unreservedly censured; but, at the same time, the Central Office will endeavour to

make the Cabinet adopt such praiseworthy measures as shall atone for the fault it has been betrayed into committing."

The Editor of the *Tokyo Shimbun* has been arraigned before the Tokyo Local Court on the charge of endeavouring to bring officials into public contempt. The newspaper itself explains that the cause of the prosecution is to be sought in the attack directed by it against Mr. Takahashi, the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet.

It is confidently believed that Baron Ito contemplates starting an organ of his own and one of Marquis Ito's in Tokyo and in the Kei-Han districts. The *Jiyu*—now an insignificant daily—announces that it will cease publication, and that it will be replaced by a new daily called the *Meiji Shimbun*, of which the first number will appear on the 3rd prox.

We read in the *Jiyu* that certain influential intercessors have appeared upon the scene, and have succeeded in removing any feelings of umbrage that may have temporarily estranged the Cabinet and the Household Department. One or two questions that have arisen in the sequel of the present affair remain to be disposed of.

It is an invariable habit with the opponents of a Cabinet in Japan to prefer against prominent Ministers charges of misappropriation of public funds. When Count Matsukata was Premier in 1892, some of the *Jiyu-to* politicians accused him of providing a sum of half a million yen for election expenses, the money being taken from some reserve or surplus not very distinctly indicated. Those that were present in the Lower House when Count Matsukata repudiated this accusation from the rostrum, can not have forgotten the indignant vehemence with which he uttered five words of denial, and the conviction this disavowal carried. Now again we find the *Tokyo Shimbun* charging Count Okuma with having presented eight thousand yen to the members of the former *Kaishin-to*, on the Emperor's birthday. Mr. Ozaki Yukio is made the retailer of this story, and it is added that the *Kaishin-to* were not content. Of course the money is supposed to have come out of the secret service fund of the Foreign Office, but the publication of such a charge shows either that the editor of the *Tokyo Shimbun* is ill informed, or that he counts on finding his readers very ignorant.

Despite the fact that the central office of the *Shimpo-to*, in a circular addressed to the Party's constituencies a few days ago, denied explicitly that any demand had been preferred for the removal of Count Hijikata, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now alleges that the *Shimpo-to* have asked for the removal, not of Count Hijikata only, but also of four Ministers of State, namely, Viscount Enomoto, Marquis Hachisuka, Viscount Nomura, and Mr. Kioura, and that they desire to have the portfolios given to men of their own Party. Our contemporary further alleges that a secret meeting of the Cabinet was held on the 19th inst. to consider this demand, and that a decision in the sense of a compromise was adopted, the Government agreeing that the Ministers indicated should be removed, but that favourable opportunities for effecting their removal must be awaited. With that answer the *Shimpo-to* representatives finally consented to be satisfied. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is seldom mistaken in its political intelligence, but of course it does not now enjoy the same facilities for obtaining information that it did formerly. We see no reason to attach any credence to this particular story, for although the leaders of the *Shimpo-to* have displayed a most singular want of tact in their attitude toward the Cabinet, and have made themselves decidedly ridiculous by their theoretical expression of confidence in the Government, and their practical declarations of distrust, it is incredible that they should prefer such a demand as the above, or that, if preferred, the Government should listen to it.

We have before us two utterances attributed to

prominent statesmen, on the subject of the Household Department affair, and the consequent suspension and suppression of publications. The first appears in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and is attributed to Viscount Shirane, formerly Minister of State for Communications. "This business of disrespect to the Throne" the Viscount is represented as saying, "is an astonishing affair. Matters relating to the Imperial Court ought always to be spoken of with the utmost deference, but truly when it comes to marshalling a pack of falsehoods about things of which His Majesty has not even any cognisance, and dragging the Court into the arena of party squabbles, it is impossible to speak in terms of too great condemnation. For my own part, having just recovered from an illness, I have made preparations for a trip to Europe, but it seems to me that I must abandon my intention, and fight this battle of the Household Department to the bitter end." The second utterance is published by the *Yorodsu Choho*, in the form of an interview that one of its staff had with Count Okuma on the 21st instant. His Excellency is made to say:—"The Cabinet does not consider that this discussion about the Household Department was actuated by any want of respect towards the Throne. Doubtless the language employed is not without points lacking in politeness, but that is a mere question of literary unskillfulness. The Cabinet, indeed, was at first disposed to attach little importance to the incident, but when the discussion was taken up here and there, and seemed likely to reach even the Sovereign, the Minister of Home Affairs had recourse to the suspension and suppression of publications in accordance with the provisions of existing laws. The Cabinet deeply regrets this occurrence, but accepts full responsibility for what it has done. It has been alleged that a split has taken place in the Cabinet in connection with the affair, but there is no truth in such a statement. If any proof were needed of the respect entertained by this Cabinet for freedom of speech in political discussion, instances could be adduced of cases where language much stronger than that applied to the Minister of the Household was suffered to pass without Administrative interference. I need scarcely deny the allegation that the Minister of the Household brought pressure on the Cabinet in this matter. The Minister of the Household is concerned with the affairs of the Household, and has nothing to do with the Administration. His interference would not be tolerated. As to his resignation, there has been no talk of anything of the kind in the Cabinet, and it is absolutely false to say that the Cabinet meeting on the 22nd instant had anything to do with such a subject. Equally incorrect is the rumour that there has been a want of unanimity among the Cabinet Ministers. From the moment that want of unanimity occurs, the Cabinet falls, as was the case with the Ito Cabinet. I can further assure you that the talk about a schism on the part of Mr. Kioura, Viscount Nomura, Marquis Hachisuka, and Viscount Enomoto is quite baseless. Those four Ministers have most loyally followed the Premier's lead. Did they entertain a different view, they would either resign or have to leave the Cabinet."

There is no reason to doubt that the *Yorodsu Choho's* report is correct. It finally disposes of many rumours previously disturbing the public mind.

HEREDITARY PROPERTY OF PEERS.

The *Oriental Economist*, after most laborious researches, has succeeded in arriving at some definite figures regarding the extent of the family property of peers registered in the Imperial Household Department. The *Economist's* figures are mainly gleaned from the *Official Gazette*, and date from 1884 to 1895 inclusive. At the end of last year, the peerage consisted of a little over 600 members, of whom 206 possessed hereditary property as follows:—Princes 9, Marquises 17, Counts 32, Viscounts 127, Barons,

10. Classified as Court or feudal nobles, and Peers created since the Restoration, the following figures result.

	Court Nobles.	Feudal Nobles.	Newly created.
Princes	6	3	0
Marquises	4	12	1
Counts	10	21	3
Viscounts	27	104	6
Barons	4	4	1

Total..... 51 144 11

Stocks and land belonging to peers by hereditary right are as follow:—

		Yen.
Pension Bonds		97,000
Navy Bonds		29,300
War Bonds		40,000
New Pension Bonds		2,525
Redemption Bonds		683,350
Nippon Ginko		1,660
Specie Bank		30
15th National Bonds.....	109,851	
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.....	3,744	
Marine Insurance Company	583	
Nippon Railway Company.....	28,588	
Hokkaido Tanko Railway	430	
	Y.-registered value.	
Wet arable land.....	1,848 cho	716,911
Dry arable land.....	440 cho	72,000
Dwelling land	550,000 tsubo	370,000
Salt fields	2 cho	800
Swamps and ponds.....	63 cho	570
Forest land	3,263 cho	15,000
Fields	599 cho	4,000

The *Oriental Economist* estimates the current price of the foregoing bonds and shares at about 35 million yen, and the landed property at 5 millions; in all, 40 million yen.

It next proceeds to discuss the influence that hereditary property exercises on the economy of the country. Peers being forbidden to use their hereditary property for purposes of business speculation, stocks and bonds incorporated in the list of family property must be considered as virtually withdrawn from the market. The consolidation of so much capital may, without exaggeration, be considered as a factor tending to tighten the market. The *Economist* is apparently opposed to the system of family property, and thinks that the comparatively scarce holding of such property by newly created Peers shows that they also regard it as useless. Hereditary property tends to interfere with the free development of the peers, a point borne out by the comparative scarcity of able men among the wealthier feudal peers as compared with their poorer brethren of Court extraction. Even the main purpose for which such property is intended, the maintenance of the status of the peerage, will soon not be easy of fulfilment, for while the property of peers, being subject to various inconveniences and restraints, can only be increased slowly, far more slowly than the advancement of the status of the people, commoners will soon amass larger property than their titled neighbours and thus throw them into the shade. Hence the system should be abolished.

MARITIME EDUCATION.

The Tokyo Mercantile Marine College has just turned out 49 graduates, thus bringing up the list of its alumni to 273. Owing to deaths, however, the number actually stands at 241 only. These are now occupying the following positions, namely, 41 captains, 80 mates, 11 engineers, and 49 assistant engineers, 11 first lieutenants in the service of the Imperial Navy, and so forth. The navigators brought up at the institution played a distinguished part during the recent war, and their services were duly acknowledged by the Government. Thus six of them received military orders, while 177 others obtained either pensions accompanied by decorations or rewards with or without decorations. The scope of the Institution has been considerably expanded, and it is expected that after a few years it will turn out more than 100 graduates annually.

Our readers are already aware that the expansion of marine transportation business since the war has been extraordinary. At the end of 1894, Japanese steamers and sailing vessels aggregated only 212,925 tons, but the figures

now stand at 339,721 tons. In 1894, ships built after the foreign model numbered 1,467, of which steamers constituted 745 and sailing vessels the remainder. There must therefore be some 2,000 ships at least registered in the Government list. Again, in 1894, there were 198 Japanese and 286 foreign captains qualified to command ships of over 500 tons displacement, Japanese and foreign mates or engineers for ships of the same standing being 692 and 471 respectively.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, ETC.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has issued the following:—

DEPARTMENTAL ORDINANCE No. 9.

Art. I.—If any person residing abroad desire to apply for a patent of any invention, or for registration of a trade mark or design, or to preter a claim in connection with the same, he must appoint a deputy, duly furnished with power of attorney, residing in Japan.

Art. II.—A foreigner forwarding an application or claim in connection with patents, trade marks, or designs, must append a certificate of nationality.

Art. III.—Applications, specifications, claims, or any other documents or communications addressed to the Patents Office, must be written in Japanese.

Art. IV.—Whenever a power of attorney, certificate of nationality, or any other document is written in a foreign language, a translation must be appended.

(Signed) VISCOUNT ENOMOTO,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

(Dated) Nov. 20th, 1896.

These rules have been enacted primarily to facilitate transactions of the nature referred to on the part of Japanese subjects residing abroad, but their provisions will, of course, have equal force in the case of foreigners that apply for patents, registration of trade marks, and so forth. It appears that Japanese residing in foreign countries have hitherto been in the habit of investing their attorneys in Japan with the character of inventors for the purpose of taking out patents or registering trade marks, and much inconvenience has resulted to the Patents Office no less than to the applicants themselves. The attention of applicants should also be especially directed to the fact that all fees must be paid to the Patents Office, not in coin or bank notes, but in registration stamps (*tsuki inshi*), which have to be duly cancelled by the seal or signature of the applicant. The Patents Office is strictly forbidden to receive any fee in cash, and, consequently, should cash accompany an application, it must of necessity be returned, needless delay and trouble being thus caused.

DRUGS IN JAPAN.

The drug and chemical trade has advanced in Japan in proportion to the progress in other lines of industry. Pills, ointment, powders, and so forth, in addition to the so-called *kaden myovaku* (patent drugs ranged under the title of hereditary family secrets) included only 140 varieties twenty years ago. Since the stamp duty was enforced in 1886, a considerable change has come about in the drug trade. The "hereditary family secret drugs" have been gradually superseded, and drugs compounded after the foreign style have appeared in large numbers. "Quinine Bitters" has enjoyed a remarkable popularity for about ten years, and at present every druggist of note has among his list of drugs one or more compounded with quinine bitters "for restoring the disorders of the digestive organs." Indeed, drugs of this description are now very numerous, there being at least 40 varieties. Even "hair-restorer" has run to five or six varieties in Japan. The latest introduction from abroad in the "jikyo-gwan," a Japanese name for pills manufactured by the Lion (Whelpton's?) Pills Dispensary, England, which are advertised as the best remedy "for bracing up the system and restoring bodily vigour." Importers have not spared money in vaunting this pill's miraculous virtues, and the money thus spent is believed to have been repaid a thousand-fold.

THE SPINNING INDUSTRY IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

The *Mainichi* gives a very clear exposé of the relative circumstances of the spinning industry in Japan and China, especially with respect to Japan's recent surrender of the privilege of free manufacture. Our contemporary's purpose is to prove that the abandonment of that privilege really confers a substantial benefit on Japanese spinners and enables them to compete successfully with spinners working in China. Those that seek, writes the *Mainichi*, to minimize the advantage accruing from the excision of the free-manufacture clause and the consequent imposition of a tax by the Chinese Government on goods manufactured by natives or aliens within its own dominions, hold that even if an impost of 10 per cent. belevied on commodities in China, Europeans and Americans will not be deterred from investing capital in the shipping industry, since they are contented with a narrow margin of profit, say 5 to 7 per cent. Thus they can compete with success against Japanese spinners. Our contemporary does not, of course, maintain that the imposition of a 10 per cent. duty will prove prohibitive to the foreign spinning industry in China, seeing that even the Osaka capitalists who decided from the outset to elect a mill in Shanghai, are steadily proceeding with the enterprise. But it is certainly true that were no such duty imposed, Japanese producers of yarns would be entirely precluded from shipping commodities to China. There are in China seven mills, at which the spindles in operation and those to be newly added, total 135,000 and 90,000 respectively. There are also seven other mills in course of construction, their spindles aggregating 235,000. In this latter figure the portion representing Japanese enterprise is only 60,000, the remaining 170,000 being the property of Western capitalists. The Japanese are not so devoid of the spirit of enterprise as to shrink from starting industries in China or elsewhere, but everybody must admit that, other things being equal, no people carrying on business in a foreign land can reasonably hope to achieve the same measure of success as they would if working at home. Suppose then that China imposes a tax of 10 per cent. on the spinning industry within her own dominions, how will the case stand as compared with the same industry conducted in Japan? According to information from most trustworthy sources, the spinning business in China, if free from all taxes, should give a net profit of 15.04 per cent., which will therefore be reduced to 5.04 per cent. after the imposition of a 10 per cent. tax. Turning to Japan, we find at present 57 mills with spindles aggregating 1,300,000, of which only 610,000 are in operation. During the last half-year, after adding 12,071 yen to their reserves, these mills declared an average profit of 10.5 per cent. However, as various miscellaneous expenses must be incurred in shipping yarns to Shanghai, a Japanese mill can not expect to clear more than 9.57 per cent. on the sale of its products to China. Even at that rate, a clear margin of 4.53 per cent. appears in favour of the Japanese producers, a margin sufficient to guarantee success in competition with producers carrying on business in Shanghai. If, as some estimate, the clear profit accruing on the spinning industry in China, after a tax of 10 per cent. is deducted, amounts to 7 per cent. instead of 5, then, in the same way, there remains on Japanese yarns shipped to China a margin of some 2½ per cent. Hence, the *Mainichi* concludes, the retrocession of the free-manufacture clause confers a substantial gain on the Japanese spinning industry.

These figures are very interesting so far as they go, but their value would be much enhanced by a clear statement of the reasons that enable cotton mills in China to realize a profit of from 15½ to 17½ per cent., whereas cotton mills in Japan yield only 10½ per cent. So far as we can see, the salient difference in the conditions under which the industry is carried on in the two countries is that, whereas the Chinese mills obtain their supplies of raw material in China, the Japanese have to carry theirs from China to

Japan, so that the cost of the cotton is enhanced by export duty and freight. But, on the other hand, Chinese manufacturers have to pay freight and import duty on the coal used at their mills, and it would consequently seem that neither side possesses any special advantage over the other—at all events, nothing to account for a difference of from 5 to 7 per cent. in the net profits realized. It is evident that some explanation of this point possesses the greatest interest, for upon it seems to depend the relative capacity of Japanese and Chinese labour and organization for industrial purposes.

THE PRESS AND COUNT HIJIKATA.

We have alluded at some length in our leading columns to the series of blunders into which the *Kobe Chronicle* has been betrayed in connection with the affair of the *Twenty-sixth Century*. But before dismissing the subject some reference should be made to our contemporary's unfortunate hyperbole when it alleges that, "except three hireling prints, every paper in the empire says there is some truth in the allegations" against Count Hijikata, and, above all, when it adds that the Ministry's act in suspending the *Nippon* and suppressing the *Twenty-sixth Century*, was "instigated by a notorious evil-doer, unless every newspaper in Japan lies horribly." The "three hireling prints" are the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Tokyo Shimbun*, and the *Chu-o*. These papers the *Kobe Chronicle* calls "organs of Marquis Ito, Count Hijikata's accomplice." The description is misleading. The *Chu-o* is the organ of the National Unionists; the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the organ of the Liberal Party; and the *Nichi Nichi* is certainly not controlled by Marquis Ito, though generally friendly to him. At any rate, nothing could be more unjust than to stigmatise these papers as "hireling prints" in contradistinction to other Japanese journals. Among the great Tokyo dailies there are very few that are not affiliated with some political party just as closely as are the *Chu-o* and the *Tokyo Shimbun*, and much more closely than is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. If these three are "hirelings," then nearly all are hirelings. At any rate, to say that "unless every newspaper in Japan lies horribly," Count Hijikata is "a notorious evil-doer" is one of the grossest exaggerations we have ever seen in print. There has been no such unanimity on the part of the press. Only two newspapers of importance, the *Nippon* and the *Kokumin*, can be said to have endorsed the charges brought by the petty Osaka periodical. The others have kept silence, or condemned the *Twenty-sixth Century* with more or less vigour, or merely discussed whether the impugned article could be justly regarded as disrespectful to the Imperial Court. Moreover, no impartial man could rise from a perusal of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* reply to that article without being convinced that the Osaka periodical's attack is a tissue of wanton falsehoods or ignorant blunders. So far as we can discern, the whole affair is a political plot having for its object a radical change of *personnel* in the Household Department. All students of Japanese politics know that Marquis Ito owes something—perhaps a good deal—of his great influence to the confidence placed in him by the Emperor. Nothing, therefore, could further the aims of his political opponents better than to undermine that confidence, or, at any rate, to re-organise the Household Department in such a manner that it should interpose between the Marquis and the Emperor, instead of being eminently friendly to him, as it is at present. Such schemes are common incidents of party conflicts, the world over. But happily they are not always promoted by the aid of gross personal slanders, and, in this case, only the most reckless of the plotters, namely, the *Twenty-sixth Century*, the *Nippon* and the *Kokumin*, have lent their columns to an attack upon the morality of an old man who has hitherto enjoyed the reputation of being one of the most conscientious and least self-seeking officials of his time.

THE HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT AFFAIR.

Had the Government, writes the *Yiji*, turned a deaf ear to the clamour of the Opposition papers, and, had it met the demands preferred by the Household Department with the calm reply that the interference of that Department in matters of administration could not be recognised, the affair would have ended without creating any particular agitation. But the Ministry, instead of adopting that manly line, began to show signs of perturbation and therefore of vulnerability, so that, by unwillingly fomenting the tumult, they were ultimately constrained to have recourse to suppression or suspension in the case of several journals. The adoption of Administrative steps towards the press must have grave consequences for the Ministry, when it is remembered that they publicly pledged themselves to safeguard freedom of speech, and that, while this announcement caused considerable discomfiture to the Opposition, it placed the *Shimpo-to* in a position of triumph. But the relative situations of the Ministry, their supporters, the *Shimpo-to*, and their opponents, the *Yiji-to* have been suddenly reversed by the ill-advised proceeding of the Cabinet. Another point that causes the *Yiji* much uneasiness is that the Household Department has been dragged into the arena of political squabbles, for the pressure that a certain section of the public brought to bear on the Government by clamouring about alleged disrespect towards the Court, was unmistakably dictated by party feeling. Careful perusal of the article originally published in the Osaka periodical convinces the *Yiji* that its author intended merely to allege incompetence and immorality against certain officials in the Household Department, and that he had no idea whatever of causing any annoyance to the Court itself. A distinct line of demarcation must be drawn between the virtue of the Emperor and the character or doings of Court officials. The Emperor is sacred and inviolable, but no such doctrine applies in the case of the Household officials. If, therefore, it is disrespectful to the Emperor to call in question the conduct of courtiers who enjoy His Majesty's confidence, it must be equally so to criticize unfavourably the doings of Ministers of State or other functionaries who are also repositories of Imperial trust, or even to find fault with Laws or Regulations issued after obtaining the sanction of the Emperor. The *Yiji* does not place credence in the statements of the article in question, but as no man is infallible, there may be times when courtiers are really blameworthy. Can it be disloyal to criticize their misdeeds with the view of purifying the Throne from contact with such vicious persons? If the statements of the article were really slanders not borne out by facts, why did not the slandered persons take calm and proper steps, either by causing the withdrawal of the article or by recourse to criminal procedure against the writer? The measure that a section of the public and the officials of the Household Department adopted against the journals that published the article, show that they do not scruple to plunge the Court into the sea of political agitation. The *Yiji* concludes by declaring that such results inspire much solicitude.

"Acquainted as we are," writes the *Tokyo Economist*, "with the connection that existed between Count Hijikata and a fellow like the late Takamatsu Yasuo"—we (*Japan Mail*) can give no information about this individual—"we do not like to see the Count presiding over the Department of Home Affairs." Still the *Economist* can not approve the steps that the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon* took for the purpose of bringing about the downfall of the Household Minister. On the other hand, if the *Twenty-sixth Century* or the *Nippon* were open to the charge of disrespect towards the Court or of seeking to bring officials into contempt, they ought to have been proceeded against criminally. Thus the Matsukata Cabinet took Administrative measures against them was entirely wrong, quite irrespective of any promise

that the Home Minister had made with regard to freedom of speech. The real motive of suppression or suspension is to convey a warning, and to ensure the maintenance of public tranquillity. It is not a punitive measure. But when, as in the present case, a periodical was suppressed about three weeks after it had published an obnoxious article, and a journal was suspended several days after it had reproduced the article, the true object for which the suppression and suspension clauses were provided, can not possibly have been attained. According to the information of the *Economist*, the Department of Justice did not consider that the publication of the article constituted the offence of disrespect to the Court, though the attempt to bring Court officials into contempt was plain enough. Since, however, the Household Department was not disposed to take legal proceedings against the editors of the two publications, the public procurators themselves refrained from moving of their own accord. Thus it results that the measures adopted against the journals by the Government, though administrative in form, were essentially criminal in spirit; and the *Keisai* is consequently constrained to condemn the Cabinet.

THE YIJI'S EXPLANATION OF THE LATEST KOREAN TROUBLE.

Pending the arrival of fuller particulars as to the arrest of five or six Korean officers on the 21st inst., the following note from the *Yiji* is worth reproduction, that paper being conspicuously well informed about Korean affairs:—"The official telegram that reached the Foreign Office from its Korean Representative is to the effect that five or six Korean officers, together with a captain of the Body-guard, had been arrested on the charge of plotting to induce the King to return to the Old Palace on the occasion of His Majesty's contemplated visit to the Queen's Mausoleum. Thus the official message does not contain any reference to the arrival of the Russian blue-jackets and others mentioned in private telegrams. The *Yiji* is disposed to doubt whether such a plot can have been really concocted, especially when it is remembered that owing to the almost universal disapproval of the king's continued residence in a foreign Legation, the Korean Court has been obliged to repair the Myong-re Palace, and the date of His Majesty's removal thither from the Russian Legation was approaching. It is conceivable that certain politicians, not pleased to see the King leave his present asylum, may have fabricated the above rumour to frighten His Majesty, deter him from carrying out his original intention, and, at the same time, bring disgrace on their rivals. If this explanation prove incorrect, and these military officers did really conceive such a scheme, a plausible explanation is not wanting, for they are followers of Li Yun-yong, who was removed only a few days ago from the War Office to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and therefore they probably entertain hostility towards Min Yong-hwan who superseded Li. Apprehensive, therefore, that Min will dismiss them, these officers may have conceived the idea of getting the person of the King into their own hands when he leaves the Russian Legation, inducing him to return to the old Palace, and rehabilitating Li and others that are identified with the so-called English-Language Party. At any rate, the gradual ascendancy of the pro-Russian Party at the expense of the English Language Party must have culminated in the present trouble. Though not mentioned in the official message, the arrival of Russian blue-jackets at Seoul may have taken place in consequence of a request from the Korean officials who are near the person of the King and also of the King himself.

The Third National Bank gave banquets at Yaomatsu-ro, Mukojima, to over five hundred customers on the 22nd and 23rd inst. The chief directors delivered speeches in regard to the future of the bank.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

THE CABINET AND THE PRESS.

FIVE of the newspapers placed under the ban of suspension in connection with the attack made on the Minister of the Imperial Household and the Household itself, have been permitted to resume publication. They are, the *Nippon*, the *Kokumin*, the *Kagawa Shimpō*, the *Hokkoku Shimbun* and the *Shimotsuke Shimbun*. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is still under the ban, but will doubtless be released very soon. With regard to this last journal, we do not see how it can have hoped to avoid suspension, writing as it did. For it very plainly stated its suspicion that a tacit understanding had existed between the Ministry and the authors of the journalistic attacks on the Household Department, and it endeavoured, with unmistakable clearness, to indicate Mr. TAKAHASHI, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, as the prime mover in the whole matter. Considering that the Ministry had already suspended the *Nippon* and the *Kokumin* and suppressed the *Twenty-sixth Century*, it can scarcely be denied that the *Nichi Nichi* passed the bounds of propriety when it accused them of complicity in the very offence which they were openly punishing.

Certainly this business has been unfortunate for the Cabinet. In one sense it is a legacy bequeathed to them by their predecessors. For the *Twenty-sixth Century* published its first article on June 25th. That article, however, did not by any means approach the subsequent utterances of the same periodical in violence, nor did it make any attack upon the personal character of the Minister of the Household. Its gist was a complaint about the number of peers recently created, and about the rewards bestowed on Marquis ITO and Count MUTSU, who, in view of the Liaotung affair, deserved, it said, to be punished rather than recompensed. The writer ignorantly blamed the Minister of the Imperial Household, Count HIJIKATA, and the Lord High Chamberlain, Marquis TOKUDAIJI, for failing to advise the SOVEREIGN against the bestowal of so many distinctions, and called upon those two officials to resign. Two days later (June 27th), the magazine was suspended, and remained under the ban until October 22nd, when the present Home Minister released it. Meanwhile, legal proceedings had been instituted against the editor by the Public Prosecutor, on the charge of *Kwanri bujyoku* (attempt to bring officials into public contempt)—in our issue of Friday last we erroneously described this action as one for libel—and, after acquittal by the Osaka Local Court on July 17th, he was sentenced by the Osaka Court of Appeal, on October 23rd, to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour. On October 25th the magazine was once more issued, after an interval of three months, and in its pages there now appeared an essay of the most violent

nature, accusing Count HIJIKATA of corruption, disloyalty, immorality, and treasonable favouritism, and declaring that the re-organization of the Household Department was an urgent necessity. No official notice was taken of this article, to the evident disappointment of those by whom it had been inspired. There seems to be little room for doubt that their intention had been to bring about Count HIJIKATA'S resignation, for they hoped in that way to weaken Marquis ITO'S power by removing an official to whose co-operation they wrongly attributed much of the Marquis' influence at Court. Seeing their scheme likely to fail, they had recourse to the *Nippon*, a journal whose intemperate utterances are familiar to our readers. On Nov. 9th, it reproduced the Osaka periodical's article, adding its own endorsement. The Ministry must now have found themselves greatly embarrassed. Never since the first enactment of press regulations in Japan had there been a case calling more loudly for Administrative interference, and although, upon assuming office, they had given an indirect pledge to respect the liberty of the press, they were here confronted with an incident that proved the inexpediency, if not the impossibility, of observing such a pledge unreservedly. It is all very well to talk of law courts and libel suits, but there are some matters that can not be made the subject of judicial inquiry without inconvenience of the gravest character. The nature of several of the accusations preferred against Count HIJIKATA was such that their full investigation by a court of law was out of the question, and, on the other hand, to pass them without notice could scarcely be tolerable. We ourselves believe that the wisest plan would have been to prosecute the editors of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon* on a charge of *Kwanri bujyoku*. Both had been guilty of the grossest contumely by republishing, in greatly aggravated form, matter the utterance of which had already been judged a criminal offence by the Osaka Appeal Court. The Authorities, however, thought differently. On the 14th of November they suspended the *Nippon* and suppressed the *Twenty-sixth Century*. What happened between the 9th and the 14th, we do not know, but it is suggested by some that there may have been a struggle between, on the one hand, the reluctance of the Ministry to revert to an unpopular method of procedure in defiance of their own implied promise when assuming office, and, on the other, the insistence of the Household Department that some step must be taken to mark the Cabinet's disapproval of such disgraceful licence. We find difficulty in crediting that explanation, being convinced that the true cause of the delay in taking Administrative measures was due to a belief that the incident would fall flat, and might be

suffered to die of inanition. When, however, it was perceived that a serious agitation had been started by the efforts of the *Nippon*, the Authorities saw no alternative except to interfere. There seems to be a pretty general idea that the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon* worked from the first in collusion, and derived their inspiration from the same source. As to that we can not speak, but certainly it may be assumed that both publications acted in the interests of Marquis ITO'S opponents, and believed themselves to be serving a section, at any rate, of the present Ministry. It was a most blundering kind of service, for by driving the Cabinet to have recourse to the suspension and suppression clauses of the Press Regulations, they almost created a split between it and its political supporters, the *Shimpō-to*, and have assuredly postponed the complete recognition of freedom of speech. Prior to this incident there seemed to be every probability that the Government would introduce, in the next session of the Diet, a Bill practically abolishing the right of the Administration to suppress or suspend newspapers and relegating restraint of the latter entirely to the law courts. But that hope can scarcely be realized now, for no Government could propose the abolition of safeguards to which it had itself been compelled to have recourse six weeks previously. Thus, from every point of view, this affair has eventuated mischievously for the Ministers now in power, and it certainly has not tended to demonstrate the press' qualifications for the freedom so clamorously demanded on its behalf.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

REFERRING to Mr. JONAS' letter, published in our correspondence columns, we find, from the English Board of Trade Returns, that during the half-year ended June 30th, 1896, duty was paid on 26,350,392 lbs. of unmanufactured tobacco, and 2,452,609 lbs. of manufactured, making a total of 28,803,001 lbs. for the half-year, or 57,606,002 lbs. for the whole year. Moreover, there were remaining in the warehouses on June 30th, 126,195,394 lbs. of unmanufactured, and 2,687,982 lbs. of manufactured tobacco, or 2½ year's supply. It is thus a fair estimate that 2 years' supply is always on hand. How much larger the consumption of tobacco is in Japan than in England, we do not know. Our own idea is that a difference of 50 per cent. would be under the mark. Let us, however, take 33 per cent. Adding, then, 33 per cent., and adding also 15 per cent. on account of the fact that one-half of the tobacco in the English warehouses is stripped and the rest closely butted, we arrive at 85,256,882 lbs. as the annual consumption for Japan, or 63,942,661 cattiees. Hence the amount that may be expected to be awaiting purchase on January 1st, 1898, that is to say, two years'

supply, will be 127,885,322 catties, and the capital required to purchase it, at the low rate of 8 *yen* per catty, will be 10½ million *yen*, approximately, instead of eight million, as the Government is said to have estimated. Such differences of figures, however, bear no relation, in point of importance, to the consideration that if the Government carries out the programme as submitted to the Diet last session, it will assume a position such as no business man would contemplate for a moment. It will be absolutely at the mercy of any combination of growers or merchants and manufacturers. For example, the growers of Satsuma tobacco, should they be dissatisfied with the price paid by the Government, may unite and refuse to grow unless the Government agrees to pay more, and it is evident that such a precedent, once established, may be followed year after year. Tobacco growers in Japan are not like planters in other countries: they can devote their land to other purposes if any inducement offers. With regard to merchants and manufacturers, they too can combine and refuse to buy unless the Government lowers its prices, for they know that the tobacco must be sold whatever happens. Truly, apart from the exceedingly undignified position in which the Government might, and probably would, find itself placed, it is difficult to see whence a revenue of ten million *yen* is to accrue under such circumstances. Whatever officials were responsible for the scheme submitted to the Diet last session, and whatever members of the Houses formed the Committees that recommended the scheme, they have plunged the Administration into a pretty dilemma, for any attempt to carry out such a programme must end in disastrous failure. On the other hand, the simple and certainly successful alternative offers of passing the tobacco through Government warehouses and levying a tax on it in transit, without assuming any responsibilities of official purchase or sale, and without in any way disturbing the course of the trade. That is the English method, and, after all, English procedure, whether fiscal or financial, is generally a pretty safe model. We believe that tobacco is destined to be one of the Japanese Treasury's chief sources of revenue hereafter. Assuming the annual consumption to be sixty million catties, a tax of 50 *sen* per catty—that is to say, about one-fourth of the duty levied in England—would give a gross revenue of thirty million *yen*, and if the English warehousing system be adopted, the cost of collecting that great revenue would probably not exceed half a million *yen*, apart from an initial outlay of about a million for building warehouses. If, however, the monopoly programme be followed, he must be a sanguine man that will predict any large gain to the Exchequer.

COUNT OKUMA AND THE FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun*, in reporting a speech delivered by Count OKUMA at a recent meeting of the *Nikkan Tsusho-Kai* (Japanese and Korean Coöperative Commercial Society), has put into the Minister's mouth language that conveys a somewhat false impression of what was really said. It is true that the version given by the Tokyo journal differs very materially from the translation that has been published and severely commented on by a Yokohama English Journal, and to make the difference clear, we here place the *Japan Gazette's* translation and the accurate translation side by side:—

Japan Gazette Version.

European residents then in this country were not men of good social position and I think even those of to-day are, generally speaking, not men of high standing. There might have been among diplomatic officials and others some ranking above the middle class, but most of the foreign merchants then were of the lower class. But even those low class people were far superior to the natives, and regarded as versed in everything. Naturally we Japanese wondered at their superior knowledge. I myself called upon several foreigners to ask certain questions, when I was a young student, thinking they were learned professors, but they were really inferior even to graduates of middle schools of to-day.

True Translation.

Comparing Europeans and Japanese, I do not think that the Europeans then (at the beginning of the *Meiji* era) in Japan were a particularly high class of persons (*amari rippa na h'to de wa nakatta*) nor do I think that those here now are particularly high class. On the whole, I think they would not have been reckoned higher than middle class in Europe. Among diplomatic officials there may have been men of high standing, but the general run of merchants were of the middle and lower classes. Middle and lower classes though they did belong to, however, when we compare them with the Japanese of the time, how great was the difference in the degree of their civilization? The foreigners living in Yokohama, Nagasaki, and so forth seemed to know everything and were many degrees superior to the Japanese. Their ideas were so large that the Japanese were quite astounded. I was a student at the time, and I remember that on one occasion, thinking that a certain foreigner was a wonderful scholar, I went to ask him a question, but when I look back now I recognise that he was not equal even to a middle-school graduate. Still I was surprised by the explanations I received from him, &c.

It will be seen that even the *Yomiuri's* report conveys a very different impression from the *Japan Gazette's* translation. We do not find in the Japanese journal anything about the foreigners of early *Meiji* days "not being of good social standing," or anything about "most of the foreign merchants being of the lower class," or anything about "these low class people." Count OKUMA simply stated, in courteous terms, what we all very well know, namely, that the foreigners who came to Japan for purposes of trade in the early days were not representatives of the highest classes in their own countries. The whole gist of his speech was directed to prove that the Japanese now in Korea can not claim any such superiority over the Koreans as the foreigners in Japan in the early days could claim over the Japanese, and that if, despite the superiority of the foreigners, the Japanese were opposed to them and constantly committed outrages against them, every allowance ought to be made for the uncivil treatment occasionally received now by the Japanese in Korea. If he re-

minded his hearers that the foreign traders visiting Japan in the early seventies were not of the best class as foreigners, and were yet far superior to the Japanese in all the moral and material equipment of modern civilization, it was because he wished to draw from the patience then displayed by Western Governments a lesson of self-restraint for Japan to-day in her attitude towards Korea. We are speaking on the strength, not of our own conjecture, but of information sought and obtained from Count OKUMA himself, and our readers will agree with us that no reason whatever exists to misinterpret him as having commented unfavourably on either the intelligence or the social standing of the foreign merchants that came to Yokohama and Nagasaki a quarter of a century ago. Of the foreign merchants now residing at the Treaty Ports, His Excellency assures us that he said nothing whatever.

FURTHER MISREPRESENTATIONS.

QUITE an epidemic of misrepresentations has attacked the local English press of late. Several of the cases have been alluded to by us, and we have now to notice another, which is, perhaps, the worst of the whole. This time it is the *Kobe Chronicle* that has been misled. We quote its words in full:—

If the critics of Japan and her institutions would turn their attention to the case of Count Hijikata and the *Niju-roku Seiki*, they would find much more substantial ground to go on. Here is a newspaper which has published reports of gross immorality and shameful intrigues in the Imperial Household, not in the least reflecting on His Majesty, but accusing the Court officials of most disgraceful conduct, and of systematically hoodwinking their august master. * * * The accusations were categorical and circumstantial, and Count Hijikata brought an action for libel against the paper. The Osaka Court found that the newspaper had told the truth and nothing but the truth: but an appeal was lodged against the verdict, and the rehearing will take place on the 24th inst. before the Court of Cassation in Tokyo. Meantime the Osaka paper foolishly repeated and added to the charges, and so did the *Nippon*, while the press of the whole Empire is in slightly qualified agreement with them, excepting only the *Nichi Nichi*, *Tokyo Shimbun*, and *Chuo*, the organs of Marquis Ito, Count Hijikata's alleged accomplice. To return to the charge while the case is pending in the Court of Cassation is contempt of court, or would be in English law, and we presume (subject to correction) that there is some similar proviso in Japanese law. If there is not, there ought to be. But what has Count Hijikata done? He has somehow got the Government to suspend the *Nippon* and suppress the *Niju-roku Seiki*. This in our humble opinion is the very worst thing that could have been done. If the Government had any faith in the Judicature, there was no need to call out the Press Regulations which had been so ostentatiously put away. If Japanese courts of law are deserving of confidence, Count Hijikata stands convicted by the Osaka court, branded as a thoroughly depraved and shameless intriguer and libertine, a seducer of Court ladies, and a faithless and dangerous adviser of the Emperor. And, except the three hiring prints named, every paper in the Empire says there is some truth in the allegations, though they hesitate to endorse them in their entirety. But it is especially the law court that concerns us. We are to come under the "protection" of Japanese law courts. The protection accorded to the *Niju-roku Seiki* by the Osaka Court is annulled by the arbitrary act of the Home Minister, under a set of tyrannical Press Regulations which the Government is pledged to discard. It is not that the judge has punished the over-rash paper for commenting on a case *sub judice*; it is not that the verdict of the judge has cleared Count Hijikata's character. It is an arbitrary act, not to be tolerated in any free country and not to be safely committed in any country that wishes to have corruption exposed, and it is an act instigated by a notorious evildoer, unless every newspaper in Japan lies horribly—which we admit they sometimes do. But if there is no truth in the allegations, how are we to depend on the verdict of the Court? And if we admit that, once

in a way, a verdict on questions of plain fact, easy to be known as true or untrue, may go utterly wrong and be reversed on appeal without discrediting the judiciary, what are we to think of the Ministry which is not content to leave the matter to the Courts? The natural, obvious, inevitable inference is that Count Hijikata is afraid of the law courts, that he has reason to be afraid; and that the Government cannot trust the judges to give justice. And what are we to think of a judiciary which can be overridden by such a man? Or of a Ministry which will bolster him up, even swallowing its most solemn promises for his sake? This unwarranted interference with the course of justice is the most serious anti-revision argument we have seen yet; and as we have never opposed the new treaties, but always did and still do support them, we feel compelled to express our regret and protest in the strongest possible terms.

It is almost difficult to know how this singular article deserves to be treated, for from beginning to end it is one of the strangest series of blunders we have ever encountered in print. In exposing its mistakes, however, we shall perhaps be able to interest our readers by conveying to them a clear idea of an incident now agitating Japanese journalistic and political circles to an unusual degree.

The *Kobe Chronicle* alleges that Count HIJIKATA brought an action for libel against the *Twenty-sixth Century*. He never did anything of the kind. The Public Procurator brought a criminal suit against the editor of the paper on the charge of *Kwanri bujyoku*; that is to say, wantonly attempting to bring officials into contempt.

The *Kobe Chronicle* alleges that the *Twenty-sixth Century*, prior to the above suit, "published reports of gross immorality and shameful intrigues in the Imperial Household, * * * accusing the Court officials of most disgraceful conduct, and systematically hoodwinking their august master." It further alleges that "these accusations were categorical and circumstantial," and that "the Osaka Court found that the newspaper had told the truth and nothing but the truth." All this is completely erroneous. The *Twenty-sixth Century's* first article, submitted to the Osaka Local Court, contained no charges whatever of gross immorality or shameful intrigue, and did not in any way impugn the personal character of Count HIJIKATA. It merely expressed dissatisfaction with what it called "the indiscriminate creation of new Peers;" accused Count HIJIKATA and Marquis TOKUDAIJI of negligence in the discharge of their official duties, since it was their business to advise the SOVEREIGN; called upon them to resign, and finally declared that, in view of the blunder committed by Marquis ITO and Count MUTSU in the matter of the Liaotung Peninsula, the rewards bestowed upon them were altogether misplaced. Thus the Osaka Court knew nothing about any "categorical and circumstantial accusations of gross immorality and shameful intrigue" on the part of Count HIJIKATA. No such accusations were published until four months subsequently, and their truth or falsehood could not have concerned the Court in any way, unless it had undertaken to adjudicate upon an issue not before it, and unless it

had projected its perception into a distant future and applied itself to examine a libel that had not yet been uttered.

The *Kobe Chronicle* alleges that "Count HIJIKATA stands convicted by the Osaka Court, branded as a thoroughly depraved and shameless intriguer and libertine, a seducer of Court ladies and a faithless and dangerous adviser of the Emperor." A falsified slander could scarcely have been penned. The *Twenty-sixth Century's* article embodying these charges was published on October 25th. The trial before the Osaka Local Court took place in the preceding June. What the Court had to determine was the unique issue whether the editor of the periodical had been guilty of a wanton attempt to bring officials into ridicule. It decided in the negative, being of the opinion that the impugned article might have been inspired by *bona-fide* solicitude for the public good. There was not the remotest question about Count HIJIKATA'S morality. No breath of slander had yet been raised against him. Further, the Public Procurator at once appealed against the judgment of the Local Court, and, on October 23rd, the Osaka Court of Appeal reversed the verdict of the lower tribunal, and sentenced the editor to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, and a fine of 10 *yen*. Twenty-five days after the latter judgment, the *Kobe Chronicle* pens an article declaring that Count HIJIKATA stands "convicted by the Osaka Court, branded as a thoroughly depraved and shameless intriguer and libertine, a seducer of Court ladies, and a faithless and dangerous adviser of the EMPEROR." Even assuming that any of these issues, or anything resembling them however remotely, had come before an Osaka Court, why does the *Kobe Chronicle* accept the verdict of the lower tribunal and completely ignore the diametrically opposite finding of the higher?

The *Kobe Chronicle*, referring to the suspension of the *Nippon* and the suppression of the *Twenty-sixth Century*, alleges that "the protection accorded to the *Twenty-sixth Century* by the Osaka Court was annulled by the arbitrary act of the Home Minister, under a set of tyrannical press regulations." Underlying this accusation are many false hypotheses. The first of them is that suspension and suppression were resorted to by the Authorities pending the hearing of an appeal made by Count HIJIKATA against the verdict of the Osaka tribunal. There was no such appeal, for the simple reasons, first, that Count HIJIKATA had never instituted any suit, and secondly that, if any one needed to appeal, it was the editor of the *Twenty-sixth Century*, who had been sentenced by the highest Court in Osaka to imprisonment with hard labour. The second singularly false hypothesis of the *Kobe Chronicle* is that a legal tribunal has any competence whatever to "protect"

a newspaper against an Administrative order of suspension or suppression. After all that has been written and spoken about the Japanese Press Regulations, our Kobe contemporary seems to be still ignorant that the Regulations create Administrative powers entirely independent of the Judiciary. The Administration can suspend or suppress a publication, but can not imprison or fine the editor. The latter result can be achieved only by due process of law. What the Osaka Court had to determine was whether the editor of the offending magazine should be imprisoned. Neither its verdict, nor the verdict of the Court of Cassation on appeal, could have constituted the remotest protection against an Administrative order of suspension or suppression. What makes the *Kobe Chronicle's* contention doubly ridiculous is that the *Twenty-sixth Century* was already under sentence of suspension when the Public Procurator brought action against its editor. These are the facts:—The original article was published in the *Twenty-sixth Century* on June 25th, and the periodical was suspended on June 27th, that is to say, while the ITO Cabinet was still in power. Almost simultaneously, the Public Procurator instituted a criminal suit against the editor, on the charge of *Kwanri bujyoku*, or wilfully endeavouring to bring officials into contempt. The Osaka Local Court, before which the action was brought, pronounced in favour of the defendant, on July 17th, as already explained. Against that verdict the Public Procurator appealed, and, on October 23rd, the Osaka Appeal Court reversed the finding of the lower tribunal and sentenced the accused to 1½ months' imprisonment with hard labour, and a fine of 10 *yen*. On the 22nd of the same month the ban of suspension was removed, and on the 25th, the periodical appeared again, containing an article in which not only the former accusations were repeated, but also a number of serious charges were brought against the personal character of the Minister of the Imperial Household. Of this second article no notice was taken by the MATSUKATA Cabinet, until a leading Tokyo newspaper, the *Nippon*, reproduced it, with commendatory notes, on November 7th. Considerable excitement then ensued in journalistic and political circles, and, on Nov. 14th, the *Nippon* was suspended and the *Twenty-sixth Century* suppressed. Thus the *Twenty-sixth Century* was under sentence of suspension from June 27th to October 22nd, during which time the two law suits were tried in Osaka and the editor was sentenced to imprisonment on the day after his magazine had been released from suspension. Yet the *Kobe Chronicle* imagines that the Courts of law have power to protect a journal against suspension or suppression, and is so extremely silly as to say that "the Judiciary has been over-ridden by Count HIJIKATA"

because the Administration exercised powers which are vested in it quite independently of the Judiciary, powers with which the Judiciary has not the faintest shadow of concern, and exercised them in respect of an article which had never been brought within the purview of any law court!

Is there, in the nature of things, any imperative reason why nine out of every ten charges brought by the local English press against Japanese officialdom or the Japanese Judiciary should be so disfigured by ignorance or carelessness as to render the accusers objects of ridicule in Japanese eyes? The upshot must be that just complaints and unjust will all be lumped together in the same category of blundering sillinesses.

THE EXHIBITIONS OF PAINTINGS AT UYENO.

WANT of space has hitherto prevented us from recording the impressions conveyed by the two exhibitions of Japanese paintings recently held in the Uyeno galleries under the auspices of the Fine Art Society and the *Kangwa-kai*. Nor, indeed, is there much to be added to what we had occasion to write about previous displays of the same kind. There are undoubtedly some painters of considerable, we may even say great, skill in Japan at present; that is to say, painters whose works show admirable force of line, directness of method, and purity of conception according to Japanese canons. One has always to remember that a Japanese picture does not assert an idea but rather suggests it. In that respect it is perfectly in accord with the ethics of the nation. It has not the vagueness of the impressionist school or the insistence of the realistic. It does not show only such portions of a scene as are consonant with the painter's mood at the moment, neither does it enforce a hard-and-fast conception to the exclusion of every other fancy. It simply records glimpses of nature, sufficiently accurate to command sympathy, but seldom so complete as to be without need of the beholder's mental assistance to interpret them fully. Hence it results that numbers of Japanese paintings make no pleasanter appeal to alien minds than do the "woven-paces and waving hands" of Japanese dancing, or the fragmentary utterances of Japanese poets. The Japanese critic draws from an exhaustless fund of associations, from a wealth of historical allusions, from a mine of time-honoured conventionalisms, materials to supplement the painter's brush, the dancer's pose, and the poet's outlines. But all that auxiliary world is a virtually unknown region to the foreigner, and his appreciation is consequently as faint as his conception is imperfect. Of course the same may be said as to the appreciative faculty of a Japanese critic set down in a gallery of European paint-

ings. He, too, would be without the atmosphere essential to an intelligent estimate of what he sees. But his defect would not impair his judgment so seriously, for the Occidental artist is far more independent in his conceptions, than the Japanese. He translates his idea into language much of which can be read by any eyes, alien or to the manner born. If these things were kept in mind, the public would probably be less tormented by critics that have only one point of view and one measure of excellence. Long centuries of the practice of art were needed before Europe began to think seriously what art really signified, and even to-day it would be difficult to find experts that are agreed on a definition. Japan lived apart from the world for two thousand years. Her art developed along lines identical with those followed by Europeans art up to the Middle Ages. Then the two diverged, Japanese art remaining in the old route; European turning into a new direction. Some critics praise the conservatism of the former; others, the liberalism of the latter. We are not about to discuss such a formidable subject here, our only purpose being to note this additional difference and to insist on the caution that it dictates to critics. Yet there is no possible ground for pretending that any of the above considerations excuse such displays of pictures as those recently made at Uyeno, or that the most appreciative of Japanese critics could have found in them anything to admire. Nine out of every ten lacked the faintest title to be shown in public. It is astonishing that such pictures should be granted space in any gallery. Evidently no discrimination whatever is exercised by the hanging committee: every one that sends in a drawing can be sure of having it shown, and the affair thus becomes not a fine-art exhibition but a bazaar. On the other hand, it is noteworthy that the really able artists of the era did not show their usual unwillingness to contribute, and it is also noteworthy that their pictures secured the distinction they deserved at the Judges' hands. NOGUCHI YUKOKU, TAKI WATEI, YAMANA KWANZO, KAWABATA GYOKUSHO, SATAKE SUIKO, ARAKI KWAMPO, MURASE GYOKUDEN, and ISHII CHOKEN, all obtained special prizes; and in the second rank (silver medals) came NOGUCHI SHOHIN, IMAO KEINEN, KISHI CHIKUZO, and NOMURA BUNKYO. There were 32 recipients of copper medals (third rank), of whom OGATA GEKKO and UNRIUIN SOSAN were the most remarkable, but of the 202 artists that were awarded certificates of merit, we confess that very few seemed worthy of that distinction. The exceptions were perhaps, as follow:—

SUBJECT.	PAINTER.
Rice in rain	Takayama Seisho.
Barn-door Fowl	Hirayama Kwantei.
Barn-door Fowl in Autumn rain	Toda Giyokusho.

Flock of Ducks	Araki Jippo.
Parrot in <i>Kiri</i> tree	Koyama Unzan.
Cherry and Pheasant	Araki Gyokusho.
Snipe and Autumn Flowers	Yamashita Suiho.
Carp and Iris	Shimamura Shungetsu.
Ducks in Moonlight	Shinoda Koho.
Hawk	Nakamura Kinjo.
Monkeys in a Valley	Suyesada Gyokusho.
Peonies	Fukuda Veisai.
Carp under Wistaria	Kida Kwamitsu.

In some cases, notably OGATA GEKKO's pictures of FUDO and GYOKAN NO KWANON, it seemed to us that the Judges' awards were not sufficiently appreciative, but, on the whole, there was little to criticize on that score. The great trouble is the almost total absence of any discrimination. Good artists can scarcely be expected to send pictures to a gallery where the most miserable daubs are in overwhelming majority, and we are surprised that so many good artists did send to these recent displays.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT JAPANESE LITERATURE.

The last number of the *Bungaku-kai* publishes an unsigned article of considerable length on "English Literature in Japan" which is well worth epitomising. The author sets out by showing the wide influence of English literature throughout Japan. He acknowledges that students that can read and understand Shakespeare or Milton are few, and he thinks that men like Mr. Tsubouchi Yûzô have conferred an immense benefit on the reading public by furnishing translations of English poetical masterpieces. When the enormous difficulties that Mr. Tsubouchi had to encounter are considered, his *Hamlet*, observes the *Bungaku-kai*, is to be regarded as a *tour de force*. The English writers who for a long time were most studied in this country lived at the latter end of the eighteenth or the beginning of the nineteenth century, when English literature was passing through one of its transition periods. The taste for the classical literature of an earlier date was confined to a few readers. One of the principal reasons why Byron and Wordsworth found such favour was the comparative ease with which their poems were understood. Even Mr. Tsubouchi, than whom perhaps no one has laboured more diligently to render familiar to Japanese the beauties of English literature, was for a time carried away with the tide and confined his attention largely to comparatively modern writers. We are not in favour of constant change, but we think that some system should be followed in introducing students to a knowledge of English authors. Mr. Tsubouchi, who, as is well known, is at the head of the Waseda Semmon Gakkô, has done much to further the progress of English studies in that institution, and his influence in the school is likely to be felt for a long time to come. Turning to the history of the English Literature department of the Imperial University, it is important to say something about the character of the instruction given by the men who have occupied the chair of English Literature. We do not know how far Professor Dixon was acquainted with English literature, but it cannot be said that he was successful as a teacher of this subject. He figured rather as a grammarian than as a literary scholar, as is shown by the works he published. He was succeeded by Professor Wood. As far as we are aware, the only thing that Mr. Wood has published in Japan is an article on Tennyson, contributed to the *Tetsugaku Zasshi*, but there is no denying that as a teacher he has shown himself to be a *littérateur* of no mean order, and to him belongs the credit of creating in the University an interest in English literature never before known. If the *Teikoku-bungaku* is to be credited, Professor Wood is a man who has no desire for world-wide reputation as a writer. His hobby is teaching, and to this he has given his whole mind. He has been succeeded by Mr. Lafca-

dio Hearn. Mr. Hearn has been hitherto known as a newspaper correspondent and a contributor to foreign magazines. He is undoubtedly a most polished writer and a ripe scholar, but this does not guarantee his success as a teacher at the University. Much has been made by some of the fact that he has become naturalised in this country and has married a Japanese, but to us these circumstances signify nothing of importance. It is as yet too early to predict anything certain, but we cannot say that we shall the appointment with the delight shown to some quarters. It is said that Mr. Hearn's mind is permeated with poetic thought and it is predicted that this will attract students. The knowledge of young Japanese students of English is sadly deficient. We have never yet heard of one who has thoroughly mastered the spelling of English and the art of grammatically constructing English sentences. We do not say that it is impossible to gain an extensive acquaintance with English literature without being able to spell or write correctly, but certainly it is to be expected that the students of English in the University should be able to accomplish both of these tasks. Furthermore, it is reported that many of the expositions of Japanese professors of English are far from reliable. Though the study of grammar and the study of literature are different, it is correct to say that only students acquainted with the structure and the niceties of the English language, appreciate the beauty of English literary masterpieces. As has often been remarked before, the modern student is far inferior to the men who passed through the University seven or eight years ago. The influence of nationalism has been felt throughout all branches of knowledge, and the slovenly literary habits of the student of English to-day are among the results of the wave of anti-foreign feeling that swept over the country a few years ago.

To us, continues the *Bungaku-kai*, it is a subject for profound regret that the men bearing the title of *Yeiigo Gakusha* (English scholars) should be without any literary ideas of their own. All that can be said of them is that they are admirers of, and lecturers on, English literature. They possess none of the qualities esteemed by high-class students of other subjects. In days gone by, there was no such thing as a student of the Confucian classics not being able to compose an essay in Chinese, but in modern times the study of the English language and the study of English literature are carried on by different persons. Even in the case of such men as Professor Toyama, of the Literary Department, and Professor Sakurai, of the Science Department of the Imperial University, and of Professor Kanda Naibu and a few others that might be mentioned, either language or literature is almost exclusively studied and taught, and it is only in men like Professor Saitō of the First Higher School that we find scholars competent to teach both the English language and English literature. The increase of such teachers is the great desideratum of the age. The two subjects need to be studied together from the very first. It is only thus that the power of English literature can be fully realised in this country.

The *Sekai-no-Nihon* and the *Kokumin-no-tomo*, though primarily political organs, both devote considerable space to the discussion of literary topics. The former has articles on "Reach"; "Japanese studying in America," "American Universities," by Dr. Gotō Seitarō; "Swinnburne's Recent Works"; "On the Decline in the literature of the Practical School of Writers in Germany," and on "the Mother of English Novels." The gist of the last named article is that there are in English novels few mothers whose characters excite respect. Though women are held in high estimation in England, the personages that figure as mothers in the standard English novels are objects of contempt rather than of admiration, says the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. Examples are culled from various works but we have no space to quote them. An article that appeared lately in the *Athenaeum*

on "The tendency of Modern Romance," is reproduced in the *Sekai-no-Nihon*, and the same organ publishes a short history of the Newspapers and Magazines of the Western world.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo*, among numerous articles on foreign subjects derived from Western sources, has one on the necessity of painters and writers turning their attention to the lower classes. In the West not a few poets have uttered in never-to-be forgotten language the thoughts of the working-man, and numerous are the artists that have made themselves famous by representing scenes of peasant life. Neither Chinese poetry nor prose condescends to portray the lives of the sons and daughters of toil. If they are mentioned it is only with the object of causing merriment. Their hardships and their numerous merits receive little or no sympathetic expression or recognition. Japan in the past has followed too closely in the wake of China in this matter. The creation of a literature and art devoted to the description of the hitherto little-known country life of Japan is a task the performance of which men with learned leisure would do well to undertake. Japanese poets, instead of discouraging *ad nauseam* on such subjects as flowers, birds, the wind and the moon, would do well to study and describe Japan's ever growing industries. All allusions to these subjects in Japanese literature, says the *Kokumin-no-tomo*, have hitherto been characterised by a most offensive superiority of tone, and read like the observations of unconcerned spectators rather than the remarks of writers that appreciate labour at its real value.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo*, like the *Taiyō* and the *Sekai-no-nihon*, aims at supplying its readers with a history of the press, of science, and of the general course of events in Europe and America. In this line these magazines are fulfilling a most useful function.

The *Waseda Bungaku* has an interesting article on the character of the illustrations that appear in modern novels. The primary object of illustrations, says this organ, is to assist the author by making more vivid the scenes that he portrays, but it has become customary of late to insert pictures having no earthly connection with the subject under treatment, with the object of pleasing the eye. Thus the function the pictures are expected to fulfill in many cases is to atone for the real or supposed literary defects of the book. This device smacks too much of the peep-show, and should not be resorted to by authors whose works have any pretension to literary merit. The only thing that can be said in favour of these illustrations, is that they are an immense improvement on the hideous daubs that used to disfigure this class of literature: Prior to 1877, the illustrations employed by novelists were of the crudest description. The publication of various newspapers and magazines made a change. The popular sketches of such artists as Yoshitoshi and Yeiitaku were much in request, but it was not till the year 1884-1885 that the modern style of illustration was introduced by Mr. Yano Fumio in his well known and popular work, the *Keikokubidan*. What may be called the age of lithography then commenced. But printing from woodcuts, from copper plates, and from zinc plates did not cease. The supersession of the old methods of printing by lithography was the means of introducing a marked change in the world of fiction. To a number of able writers the old features of the popular novel were most objectionable, and they would have considered it a disgrace to attach their names to such works. So that with a new class of illustrations there appeared on the scene a new class of writers. But printing from blocks was by no means discontinued. On the contrary, it underwent numerous improvements, and the skill of the *Ukiyo-ye* style of artists was again called into request. In order to meet the demand for popularly illustrated works, the great novel publishing house, the Shun'yō-dō, was established. Some of the work accomplished by this firm was of a most elaborate description, a single picture often displaying some

20 or 30 different colours. Block-printing was carried to great perfection by the Shun'yō-dō; and the Hakubun Kan, the present well-known house, followed in the wake of the older establishment. The Shun'yō-dō has of late been utilising the services of such foreign-style artists as Koyama Shōtarō and Asai Chū, whose pictures are lithographed, and among modern illustrations occupy a foremost place in public estimation.

The magazine from which we have been quoting furnishes an account of the present state of fine art in Japan, of which we give the following epitome. The various schools of art have shown considerable activity during the past few months and Art Societies have been holding meetings at which urgent questions have been discussed. The *Nihon Kaiga* (繪畫) Kyōkai divides the paintings presented to it into three classes, namely, (1) Pictures of pronounced Oriental Style. (2) Pictures of foreign style. (3) Pictures of mixed style. At a meeting of the Society, recently held, the Vice-President, Mr. Okakura Kakuzō, delivered an address in which he said that the important facts connected with art at the present time were the doubts which had been expressed in various quarters as to the value of purely Japanese painting, and a marked revival of interest in foreign styles. Mr. Koyama Shōtarō has already expressed his opinion on this subject in the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. Recently the *Nihon* has been writing in the same strain. It seems, observes this organ, as though Japanese pictures were about to be utterly defeated by their foreign rivals, and that without a struggle, for no one is forthcoming to do battle with the foe. The great weakness of painters of purely Japanese pictures is the blindness with which they follow the lead of their predecessors—the aversion which they show to reproducing natural objects without alteration of their form. The *Pomouri Shimbun* states that the Tōkyō Bijutsu Gakkō has decided to allow students that have finished a course extending over four years to start on painting tours, assisting them in the matter of travelling expenses. The *Mainichi Shimbun* observes that since the Bijutsu Gakkō has created a Foreign-Style Department in the School, artists of the Japanese and foreign styles have fraternised with each other on equal terms, and adds that there are signs of a satisfactory amalgamation taking place. Hitherto the Meiji-Bijutsu-Kai and the Bijutsu Gakkō have been at daggers drawn on account of the latter establishment's figuring exclusively as a champion of the pure Japanese style. The concession made by the Bijutsu Gakkō to which we have referred was the means of reconciling the two bodies to each other for a while, but, according to the *Nihon* the lovers of strife and dissension found in almost every public body have, by creating new issues, again set the parties at variance. The *Waseda Bungaku*, commenting on this, says that wherever fundamental principles are opposed, union is impossible, but when these have been brought into harmony, it is a subject for deep regret that united action should be rendered hopeless by the interference of mere lovers of agitation.

The *Waseda Bungaku* publishes the first part of an essay on "The prose-writing of the Kamakura era," which contains a large amount of useful information. The subjects treated by the essayist so far are, (1) The general character of the Kamakura era and the state of literature in that age. (2) Japanese national characteristics as revealed in that literature. The essayist thinks the Japanese an extremely emotional people and that this characteristic affects literature in various ways. (3) The history and literature of the age that preceded the supremacy of the Kamakura Shōguns. (4) The state of Society in the age under review and the influence of literature thereon. (5) The extant records, documents, and letters of the period.

Commenting on the lack of musical taste among the Japanese and the unprogressiveness

* A summary of Mr. Koyama's views was given by us a few months ago.

of music in Japan compared with other studies, the *Waseda Bungaku* speaks with approval of the plan followed by the Ueno School of music at concerts, when, as our readers are aware, the audience is regaled with specimens of foreign composition and with classical Japanese music in turn. The friendliness with which performers of the two schools regard each other is, in the opinion of the magazine we are quoting, likely to lead to good results.

The following statistics, furnished by the Tōkyō Zushokan, are instructive, as showing the relative importance of subjects of study in Japanese estimation:—

A TABLE OF BOOKS LENT IN SEPTEMBER LAST.

Subjects.	Japanese and Chinese Books, Works.	Foreign	Total	Per Centage on Total
1. Religion.....	951	9	960	8.4
2. Philosophy and Education.....	2,002	207	2,209	5.4
3. Literature and Language.....	2,000	406	2,406	18.6
4. History, Biography, Geography and Travels.....	2,877	901	3,778	28.7
5. Law, Politics, Sociology, Economy, Statistics.....	5,384	225	5,609	13.9
6. Mathematics, Science and Medicine.....	6,394	315	6,709	21.6
7. Engineering, Military Science, Arts and Industries.....	3,312	84	3,396	8.4
8. Miscellaneous.....	2,649	204	2,853	7.0
Total.....	30,337	2,294	32,631	100.
Daily Average.....	1,383	70.3	1,453.3	—
Increase on last year's numbers.....	4,688	207	4,895	—

The publication is announced of a gigantic history called *國史大系, Kokushi-taiki*. The contents of this work include a number of rare monographs which, owing to the difficulty of procuring copies, are almost unknown to the reading world. The *Kokushi taiki* consists of 17 volumes and covers no less than 13,000 pages. The first volumes are to appear some time this month and the remainder will be published in batches from month to month. The price of the work will be 20 yen. The Keizaiasshi-sha, 7, Yazaemon-chō, Kyōbashi, Tokyo, are the publishers.

As the result of 20 years' labour Mr. Owada, Kenjin has produced a Dictionary which ought to supply a long felt need. The new work is called the *日本大辞典, Nihon Daijiten*. It is published by the Hakubun-Kan, 3 chōme, Honchō, Nihon-bashi Tokyo, and if applied for at any time during the present month may be obtained for 1 yen 80 sen, instead of 3 yen, the price at which it will be sold later on. Competent reviewers speak very highly of the work. The *Kokumin-no-tomo* says that no dictionary of the kind has hitherto been published. This statement we cannot endorse. It deals with polite language as well as colloquialisms of various classes; numerous examples are given of the senses in which words are used. The explanations are said to be very clear and the general arrangement of the work is adapted to the convenience of students. It covers 2,000 pages.

The *日本大辞典, Nihon daijisho* has now reached its seventh edition. It has been considerably enlarged and improved and now covers 1,500 pages, containing over 165,000 explanations and over 20,000 examples. The first edition of the work was published in 1893 as the result of seven years' incessant labour. It gives classical, colloquial, provincial, and slang terms, words imported from the west, and proverbial sayings. Its price is 2 yen 80 sen and it is published by the 明法堂 Meihōdō, Urajimbō-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō.

The Sanseidō are unusually active in the publication of Dictionaries. In addition to the *Wa-Ei daijiten*, by Captain Brinkley and others, they have published the *Taikoku daijiten*, which we cannot recommend, compiled by Messrs. Fujii Oto-o and Kusano Tami; and a German-Japanese Dictionary by Dr. Takaki Jumpei, a teacher in the Higher Commercial School (which consists of 1,603 pages and sells at 70 sen), and they announce the publication at an early date of another great work the *Ei-Wa daijiten*, which, if advertisements are to be relied on,

will surpass everything in the same line with which students are familiar. Messrs. Okura are about to publish a work entitled the *Kotugo daijisho*, compiled by Messrs. Ochi-ai and Hatakeyama. The *言海, Genkai*, an extremely valuable dictionary, has now reached its Tenth Edition. For terms used by actors we may refer students to the *Kabuki Shimpō* (歌舞伎新報), which is now devoting space to the publication of a vocabulary of theatrical terms, with full explanations of their meaning. Commenting on the remarkable activity shown by scholars and publishers alike in lexicography, the *Waseda Bungaku* observes that a full and reliable dictionary of colloquial Japanese has yet to be compiled. When this work is forthcoming lexicographers will be in a position to compile a Japanese Webster.

The Fifth Edition of Mill's Political Economy, translated by Mr. Amano Tameyuki, has been published and sells at 1 yen 75 sen, at the Fuzambō (富山房), Urajimbō chō, Kanda, Tōkyō.

Mr. Mochichi Rokusaburō, a teacher in the Yamaguchi Higher School, has published a work entitled *Keizai-Tsūron* (A General Treatise on Economy), which gives the views of the new school of Political Economists and is thoroughly abreast of the age. The book sells at 1 yen per copy and is issued by the last named publishing company.

Dr. Hozumi Hassaku is the author of a book called the *Kempō tai-i* (The Substance of the Constitution). This work, it is said, was written at the suggestion of Viscount Inouye, the former Minister of Education, whose idea it was that a clear exposition of the Laws of the Constitution was a great desideratum. The views hitherto expressed on the Japanese constitution, says the *Sekai no-nihon*, in reviewing this work, have been too much marked by the English, French or German bias of the jurists that have written on this subject. Moreover, great difference of opinion as to the proper application of certain laws of the Constitution has arisen in the course of discussions in the Diet from time to time. Dr. Hozumi's work aims at supplying a strictly legal interpretation of the Laws, and of summing up the conclusions reached by those that have studied the constitution in connection with its practical working since the opening of the Diet. The *Kempō tai-i* is issued by the Yawo Publishing House Ginza, Tokyo (formerly the Hakubunsha).

The Hakubunkan announces the publication of two new translations. The first is that of a German work on Races and Mankind, the author of which is Dr. Lange Rabel (?). The original translator was Mr. Seki Chōzō. Professor Tauboi Shōgorō, perhaps the most able anthropologist in Japan, has thoroughly revised Mr. Seki's work, and the newly published volume is said to be a very accurate rendering of the original. The other translation is that of Mr. Robert Mackenzie's History of the Nineteenth Century, by Mr. Kōda Naritomo.

Messrs. Maruya and Co.'s recently issued catalogue contains an announcement of the appearance of a translation by Mr. Abe Toranosuke of Dr. Ingram's Work on "The Philosophy of the History of Economic Science," a standard work which has already been translated into German. Dr. Ingram gives in this book a philosophical history of the development of Economic Science from the days of the Greeks and Romans down to the present day.

The *Kokumin-no-tomo* (No. 320), contains a review of Messrs. Eastlake and Yamada's "Heroic Japan." The style and general get-up of the book are praised, but exception is taken to some of the views expressed, and attention is drawn to the omission of historical details that would have thrown light on the events described. In the opinion of the *Kokumin-no-tomo* the book cannot be regarded as a full or impartial history of the War, and seems rather designed to fascinate youthful readers than to make clear to thinking men the course that events took at that critical

time. Regarded as a whole, the work does not seem worth the money and time spent on it, concludes the reviewer we are quoting.

The Sendai Second Higher School have for several years issued a bi-monthly magazine called the *有志會雜誌 Shōshikai Zasshi*. The *Shōshikai*, is a kind of "Earnest Endeavour" Society, as its name implies. It is divided into an Athletic and a Literary Department. The magazine usually consists of about 100 pages, and the contributors to it are, as a rule, students or teachers in the school. Mr. Yamamoto is now publishing an interesting series of articles on "The development of the Japanese Banking System and the establishment of Industrial Banks." It is the custom of some of the students to write for this magazine accounts of their travels and experiences during the long vacation. The October number contains these narratives.

Corresponding with Mr. Fukuzawa's *Hyakuwa*, published in the *Yūji Shimpō*, the *Taiyō* is publishing a hundred short essays from the pen of Dr. Kaiō Hiroyuki. Even the title of the new series of essays constitutes an amusing antithesis to the name of Mr. Fukuzawa's contributions, the *福翁百話 Fukuō-hyakuwa*, which may be read, "The 100 discourses of a Happy old Man." Dr. Kaiō calls his set of discourses the *食見百話, Hōmō Hyakuwa* "The Hundred Essays of a Miserable Old Man." Mr. Fukuchi, the former editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, has also come into the field with another series called *社會百題 Shakai Hyakudai* (One hundred Social Questions). Commenting on this new development, a wit predicts that it will not be long before the number of such writers reaches the figure eight and that they will constitute an amusing comment on the term *uso-happyaku*, eight hundred lies) since they deal with a variety of subterfuges and falsehoods.

The latest number of the *Taiyō* is well supplied with readable articles and the illustrations are well executed, among them being pictures of Mr. McKinley and Mr. Bryan, and a lithograph of the attendants at the Religious Conference held in Shiba on Sept. 26th, which reveals the fact that Dr. McCauley was the only foreigner present. Among other articles are a Review of "Mr. Henry Dyer's Evolution of Industry;" "The Object of Free Marriage;" "The Pioneer Photographer of Japan;" "Mr. Fenollosa's Views on Art;" No. 13 of Dr. Kato's Short Essays on "The number of our Ancestors 990 Years Ago." The copy of the *Taiyō* before us contains, including advertisements, nearly 300 closely printed pages. It is issued fortnightly on the 5th and 20th of each month.

The 明治評論, *Meiji Hyōron* has an article entitled "The aged Fukuzawa Yukichi as a newspaper writer," in which reference is made to the great influence wielded by the Mita sage. It is generally thought, says this organ, that education is Mr. Fukuzawa's forte; and so it is to a large extent. But he is greater as a writer than as a teacher, and the *Keiōgijuku*, principally owing to this fact, has turned out more newspaper writers than any similar institution. Mr. Fukuzawa is endowed with the rare gift of being able to make subjects both clear and entertaining. He knows his power and would not exchange it for any other kind of power, and he knows too that no office would add one iota to his usefulness in the world. Some time ago he was offered a doctor's degree. But he resolutely refused the offer, saying that he had no desire to be anything but plain Mr. Fukuzawa. He has had numerous opportunities of entering the Government service, and in the opinion of many there are few high posts that he would be incompetent to fill. But he has always been averse to sacrificing his independence even for the sake of serving the Government. It is essential that a newspaper writer should be ahead of his age; that he should be capable of presenting in popular form the re-

aults of the investigations of specialists; that he should have the power of generalising; should know how to group facts under the theories which explain them. These qualifications Mr. Fukuzawa possesses in an eminent degree. What is known as the "Mita style" has never been successfully imitated. It has a charm of its own. By means of the simplest language the profoundest and most delicate feelings are expressed. The writing, moreover, is full of spirit and deep earnestness. The present success of the *Yiji Shimpō* is largely due to Mr. Fukuzawa's guidance and writing. This paper is not written for students, neither is it written for politicians. Its aim is to reach the middle classes, the business section of the community, and the work it has accomplished in this mission is something to be proud of.

The same number of the *Meiji Hyōron* has an article on the New Style of verses that Professor Toyama and others have been publishing, and from which great things are expected in some quarters. The writer goes somewhat fully into the character and alleged objects of this kind of poetry, and comes to the conclusion that its superiority has been exaggerated and that it is most unlikely that it will retain a permanent hold on the minds of literary men. Professor Toyama's first attempt in this direction, the *Shin tai Shishō*, was a failure, and his more recent work entitled *Shin tai Shika Shū* (A collection of New Style Verses), has not been more successful.

Two *Teikoku Bungaku*, has, among other subjects, articles on a Chinese Novel entitled *西廂記*, *Seishōki*; "The Compilation of Dictionaries and the History of Lexicography in Japan" (not yet concluded); "The Origin of *Kana*" (to be continued); "Nature as represented in Dante's Divine Comedy" (a translation). Among the miscellaneous literary subjects discussed by this journal are the character and tendency of Chinese poetry when compared with Japanese. The author of this subject contends that the minds of Chinese poets are oppressed by Confucianism and that any natural flow of thought and expression of feeling are consequently impossible with them. They write on birds, flowers, or the age in which they live. Their poems are characterised by wearisome sameness and are exclusively mechanical in form. There is no such thing as the flight of the imagination. It is pinned down to material things and has no wings wherewith to soar. Chinese poets seem to be entirely devoid of high aspirations.

A writer in the same number of the *Teikoku Bungaku* brings similar charges against Japanese poetry, which he describes as displaying "shallowness of feeling, lack of imagination and absence of the meditative spirit." Poetry to be worth anything, continues this writer, must display strong feeling—intense love or hatred—or must deal in wild fancies and imaginary combinations of men and things for the sake of the effect they produce on the minds of readers.

Ye have left your souls on earth.
Ye have souls in heaven too!
Double-lived in regions new!

wrote Reach. The poet must deal with two worlds. While accommodating himself to the wants and the circumstances of this mundane sphere, he must soar to heavenly heights and gaze on the beauty of a world to which the vulgar crowd have no access. "To me it seems," concludes this writer, "that all Japanese poets are unworthy of comparison with their Western *confères*." He hopes that the writers of the new style of verses may show themselves to be made of different stuff to the material that forms the mental web and woof of the typical Japanese poet.

In the same magazine we find some very sensible remarks on "The capital and the provinces," as places of residence for literary men. It is customary, writes the *Teikoku Bungaku*, for literary men to regard the capital as the only place worth living in, and to count residence in

the country as banishment. It is said that the comparative ease with which folks obtain a living in the country renders them less keen than the inhabitants of the capital. Men are apt to go to sleep where there is little competition and next to no intercourse with persons of thought and enterprise. But, observes our contemporary, there is no reason why this state of things should last. From a literary point of view the country offers, as a field of investigation, greater attractions than the metropolis. For the literature of a country to deal solely with the phases of city life is by no means desirable. It is said that one of the great causes of the deterioration of French romances was the undue prominence given by them to the corrupt practices of Parisian society.

Under the title "The translations of Fuchian (不知庵)," an author whose work has been appearing in the *Sekai no Nihon*, the *Teikoku Bungaku* remarks that the style of this busy translator is most unsuitable to the books chosen for translation. It is altogether too formal. To render, for instance, many parts of the younger Dumas' "La Dame aux Camélias" into stilted Chinese is to make it ridiculous. It is far more easy, says the *Teikoku Bungaku*, to adequately reproduce the contents of English novels than to bring out in Japanese the humour, delicacy and facile grace of the French. Fuchian's *Tsubaki Hime*, the title in Japanese of the above work, is not likely to prove a literary success. The *Bungaku kai* is equally severe when commenting on another work entitled *Tsumi to Batsu* (crime and punishment) by the same translator.

The *Teikoku Bungaku* congratulates the *Shinri*, the German Protestant organ, on the literary character which, in an increased degree, it has lately assumed. It has always aimed at being something more than a religious organ, but in the numbers recently issued its articles and items of news have a distinctly literary hue. In last month's issue the translation of "Maria Stuart," by Shigetsu and Jiteki (assumed names) is severely criticised. The *Shinri* maintains that in some cases the translation expresses the exact opposite to the original. To take an instance; the words:—*Mög' es sein Glück mit seinem buhm nicht erkaufen!* are translated *Saru gayu eni kokka no anzen wo hakaran tame go hyōban wo kinsutsuke tamō koto wa hanahada shikarubekarasu to sonji age tatematsurimasuru*. The *Shinri* proposes the following as a substitute for the above:—"Nano tament kokuri mimpuku wo uran to wa kamayete nashi tamai so." The *Teikoku Bungaku* argues that the correction of the *Shinri* is founded on a misconception of the meaning of the original, and quotes this as an example of a literary Jupiter found nodding. It is surprising, says this author, that a writer who has given to the world so many proofs of his minute acquaintance with German literature should be betrayed into a mistake of this kind. In regard to the general character of the review of the translation of "Maria Stuart" published in the *Shinri*, the *Teikoku Bungaku* expresses great admiration. The writer of the review, says this organ, shows an intimate acquaintance with the subject, and power in expressing his thoughts not usually found among this class of writers.

DISTURBANCE IN KOREA.

The *Asahi Shimbun* issued an extra on the 23rd inst. in which it stated that several Korean Military officers have been arrested on a charge of trying to abduct the King and carry him to the Keifuku Palace on the occasion of the King's visit to the Murei Palace. The plot was discovered by a Korean who lately returned from Russia. Three Russian officers and eighty seamen with a piece of ordnance, entered Seoul the same morning (23rd).

Marquis Saionji is to leave his villa at Omori on the 29th inst. at half-past seven o'clock, taking train thence for Yokohama. He leaves for Europe by the French mail steamer.

RATES OF INTEREST IN ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

Mr. Matsuyama Chuzaburo, writing in the *Tokyo Economist*, discusses the difference in the rates of interest prevailing in England and Japan, and says that it is far smaller than might appear at first sight. This circumstance makes the prospect for Japanese Government bonds in London devoid of much hope. People often say that as the ruling rates of interest on money in England and Japan is 2 and 5 per cent. respectively, and as there is therefore a difference of 3 per cent. between the two, Japanese consols will be eagerly bought up in London when foreign capitalists are assured of the stability of Japanese finance. A careful inquiry into the subject must convince these folks of the fallacy of their idea. The Japanese are familiar even with the relative amount of risk involved and other incidental causes that produce this difference of 2 or 3 per cent. in the rate of interest. Do not bankers charge interest at the rate of 7 to 8 per cent. on advances, while the Government can raise its loans at 5 per cent.? Mr. Matsuyama does not believe that investment in Japanese consols is deterred by the uncertain confidence that the Japanese Government enjoys abroad. The risk in this case is chiefly due to the fall in the gold price of silver and to the subsequent rise in the market price of commodities. The result is that interest paid in Japan has a less purchasing power than interest paid in England. In England, however, the rise in the silver price of gold has resulted in a fall in the market price of commodities, as the following table shows:—

1873.....100.....	1883.....77.....	1893.....66
1878.....82.....	1888.....69.....	.....
Thus it will be seen that the market that stood at 100 in 1873 fell to 66 within the lapse of two decades, that is to say, a fall of 34 per cent. In other words, the purchasing power of money steadily increased at the yearly rate of 1.7 per cent. in England. Debtors in England are now actually obliged to pay 1.7 per cent. more than the promised rate of interest, and interest calculated at 1.5 per cent. in London really amounts to 3.2 per cent. This contention is borne out by the gradual fall of interest in England:—		
Average between	Market rate.	Bank of England.
	per cent.	per cent.
1871 to 1875	3.50	3.53
1883	2.94	3.40
1888	2.38	3.30
1893	1.58	2.50

The depreciation of silver and the rise in the market price of commodities are conferring an unexpected boon on debtors in Japan. Subjoined are some comparative figures showing the rise in the market price of commodities:—

1873.....100.....	1883.....103.....	1893.....121
1878.....104.....	1888.....112	

The rise during the two decades was 20 per cent., or a trifle over 1 per cent. per annum. Therefore, though nominally 5 per cent., the rate of interest in Japan is only 4 per cent. If, as in the case of England, the money market shows an increase of 1 per cent. in the rate of interest, this contention of the writer's could be made more convincing, but he regrets to find that in practice there has been a fall in the money market. But as this must be due to improvement of law, greater safety enjoyed by creditors, the development of national wealth and mechanisms of circulation, and so forth, the apparent anomaly can not by any means impair the validity of Mr. Matsuyama's position. The relative difference in the real rate of interest between Japan and England will not disappear so long as the wide discrepancy now existing in the purchasing powers of silver and gold continues. Therefore, foreign capitalists will not jump at Japanese Bonds as at something particularly tempting. The common saying of Japanese capitalists and producers that though wages are low in Japan it is difficult to maintain competition with foreign capitalists because interest on money is higher, is entirely fallacious. Mr. Matsuyama, in another article, observes that the rumours that foreigners were contemplating

investing in Japanese bonds, and that, even Baron R. R. Schickel was coming to Japan next spring with a view to purchasing mines, are all without credible foundation. We (*Japan Mail*) do not profess to follow Mr. Matsuyama's reasoning, but merely quote it as an example of what some Japanese economists think.

A LAWYER'S BILL IN TOKYO.

A dispute having arisen between Mr. Masujima, barrister-at-law and member of the Tokyo Bar, and the Tokyo City Council in connection with the former's bill for his work in the Tokyo Water-pipe scandal case, Mr. Masujima is about to sue the City Council in the Tokyo Local Court. When the Water-pipe scandal was first discovered, the City Council determined to arraign the Directors of the Iron Foundry before the Tokyo Local Court, and the services of Mr. Masujima were retained. By his advice, the Directors of the Company were sued in the Court for damages amounting to one million yen. Mr. Masujima became, subsequently, associated with six other prominent members of the Tokyo Bar, but all the preliminary proceedings were undertaken by him. Before the case reached its conclusion he was obliged to go to America on business of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and no definite arrangement was made between him and the City Council as to his bill of costs. When Mr. Masujima returned home, he asked the Council for 20,000 yen as his own fees and 10,000 each for five other lawyers, the sixth preferring to undertake the work gratis. A violent discussion ensued in the City Assembly, as reported at the time, the debate resulting in the resignation of Mr. Tomita Ginnosuke. Baron Kusumoto, Chairman of the Tokyo City Assembly, volunteered to act as mediator between Mr. Masujima and the City Council, but the Council were not disposed to concede Mr. Masujima's demands and Baron Kusumoto was obliged to withdraw. Mr. Masujima next addressed a strongly worded letter to Marquis Kuga, Governor of Tokyo, demanding the settlement of his claim and stating that, if the demand was not complied with by the 18th inst., he should be constrained to have recourse to law. The letter reached the Governor on Monday, the 16th inst., and he at once placed the matter before the Council. That body thought Mr. Masujima's proceeding too coercive, and argued that they were not warranted in acceding to the demand. An answer to that effect was sent to Mr. Masujima. Mr. Masujima will therefore institute a law-suit against the City Council in the Tokyo Court. We have not yet learned what the other barristers are doing in the matter. On the Tokyo City Council are such prominent men, as Viscounts Tani and Soga, Baron Nagaoka, Messrs. Shibuzawa Eiichi, Koizuka Ryu, and Matsuda Hideo.

THE PLAGUE AND OTHER EPIDEMICS.

Pest patients in Formosa aggregated 84 by the 15th inst., of whom 34 succumbed and five have recovered. On the 15th inst. seven fresh patients were reported in Taipei, of whom one afterwards died. Two pest cases that appeared in Taipei garrison have been taken to hospital; and one trooper was infected on the 16th inst. Small-pox is raging in Hyogo Ken. Up to the 10th inst. no less than 1,248 persons were affected, the latest weekly report from Kobe alone showing 312. The late cholera and dysentery returns are very serious. Up to the end of September, 1,062 cholera patients were reported, of whom 500 died. At the same date dysentery had attacked 82,460 people, and carried off 20,209. It is estimated that the number of people succumbing to one epidemic or another up to the end of September must have reached 35,000 throughout the country.

KOREAN NEWS.

The Korean Court is said to be very much embarrassed by a proposal made in connection with the engagement of Russians as advisers. The proposal is to the effect that if the Korean Court will give a written promise to invest these advisers with full powers, Russia is ready to furnish any number of them. Japanese correspondents spread this rumour, but it seems quite incredible. We also read in the vernacular press that after Min Yong-hwan returned from his official mission to Russia, bringing with him a number of Russian officers whom he had engaged as advisers to the Korean Army, several Russian civilians arrived in Seoul, and have since put up at the Russian Legation. These new comers are waiting, it is said, for a definite settlement of the above proposal before they decide to enter the Korean service.

The appointment of Min Yong-hwan as Minister of War is said, by Japanese correspondents, to have resulted from two influences one exercised by the King and the other by certain prominent Koreans desirous of inducing their Sovereign to leave the Russian Legation. Out of deference to Russia, the King and a section of his courtiers wished to give to the ex-Ambassador to St. Petersburg some important seat in the Cabinet, and as Li Yun-yong, the holder of the portfolio of War, had gradually lost favour with both the King and the Russian Representative, the idea of superseding him by Min began to be entertained, the post appearing, moreover, especially suitable for Min, since several Russian officers had returned in his train and would be connected with the War Office in the capacity of advisers. While the King was revolving this plan, certain Koreans who objected to seeing their Sovereign living within a foreign Legation, thought that if Min were appointed Minister of War, there might be a chance of getting him to urge the King's return to his own palace, for Min being a *persona grata* with the Russians, such a proposal would not give offence if advanced by him. Hence they advocated the replacing of Li by Min, and the change seemed likely to encounter no obstacles. But Li being a leader of the English Language Party and therefore backed by the Americans, it was impossible to deal with him in any summary manner. Hence it was ultimately decided to remove Cho, the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry, who had no one to back him. He was accordingly "persuaded" to tender his resignation, and his comparatively unimportant portfolio was given to Li, the latter's place being filled by Min, and Cho being appointed a Cabinet Councillor.

Kin Pyong-si has at last wearied the King by his persistent resignations of the Premiership, and Yun Yong-sun has been appointed Acting Premier.

Min Yong-chun has, for the third time, received a sinecure, namely, the post of Court Councillor. Some say that the consideration persistently shown by the Court to him is due, not to any favour with which he is regarded, but to the fact that he is wealthy, and that hopes are entertained of getting him to contribute to the Court's expenses. He has already been obliged to perform that kind of service, and it was apparently to reward him for it that a sinecure was conferred on him.

The Prince Parent is leading an unenviable life at his palace. He is allowed only 300 yen per mensem. This being insufficient to maintain his numerous household—more than one hundred in all—he is obliged, it is said, to sell off land that he owns in various part of the country.

It appears from a story related by the *Independent* that official paymasters in Seoul exercise a degree of discrimination not hitherto accredited to them. A certain gentleman, whose name is not given, succeeded by devious devices in obtaining the post of chief of the civil law bureau and judge in the Supreme Court. But when pay day came the Finance Department sent no salary to the new judge, on the ground that he did not know civil law from uncivil.

Thinking that the War Office would be more liberal and less particular, he had his ermine exchanged for the uniform of a regimental Colonel. But once again disappointment awaited him, for the War Department concluded that a Colonel unable to distinguish the shooting end of a gun did not deserve any salary. The "advisers" are evidently doing good work in Korea.

The Independence Club, a Korean organization in Seoul, is about to issue a semi-monthly magazine, compiled in the mixed Korean and Chinese script. This is the first periodical of the kind published in Korea.

A representative of the *Independent* interviewed Min Yong-hwan, who recently returned from his mission to Russia, and found him quite enthusiastic over what he had seen in the Occident. Min seems to have been struck chiefly by the universal spirit of industry that prevails in Europe and America.

The Seoul *Independent* says:—

Some of the China and Japan papers very justly criticise the appointments of Kim Ok kyun's murderer, Hong Chong-wo, to the position of Master of Ceremonies, and of the former Yi Sé-chik to the position of Chief of the Diplomatic Bureau in the Royal Household Department. But the amusing part of the whole affair is that when Prince Komatsu of Japan was making a visit to Seoul some days ago, the convicted forger and attempted assassin, Yi Sé-chik, loomed up in the Japanese Legation as big as life, to greet the Prince. If we are not mistaken, the Japanese Court convicted him as a forger, and the Japanese Court punished him for the attempted assassination of Pak Yong-ho. But now he has been received by a Prince of that country as a welcome guest. What a change!

We can not believe that Prince Komatsu wittingly received Yi Sé-chik. At all events, if the Korean Government sent such a person to call on the Prince at the Japanese Legation, it was something very like an insult. *Apròpos* this Mr. Yi Sé-chik, we find in the *Independent* a note well worth quoting:—

It is reported that Mr. Pak Yong-ho who has been exiled from Korea since last year, and who is now sojourning in Japan, intends to go to Europe or America. He told a newspaper reporter that the cause of his leaving Japan is solely due to his health, which has not been good for the last two years, as the climate of Japan does not agree with him. But the real cause of his going away from Japan is said to be the fear of being assassinated, as there are rumours in Japan that an assassin has come to Japan from Korea to kill him. We advise Mr. Pak that he need not be afraid of that, because Mr. Yi Sé-chik is very busy just at present with his diplomatic functions in the Royal Household Department, and Mr. Hong Chong-wo is engaged in arranging the ceremonial matters in the same Department. They have not the time to attend to such a trifling business as killing Pak Yong-ho.

Here, too, is another paragraph from the same source:—

We are glad to hear that the Governor of Seoul has requested the Japanese Consul in Seoul to issue an order to the Japanese shopkeepers along the streets inside the South gate to Chongno to tear down their stores which were built inside the original limit. The Japanese Consul promptly complied with the Governor's request and issued an order to his people to that effect. The Japanese merchants are, without a murmur, tearing down their shops, leaving the streets the proper width. We congratulate the Governor of Seoul, the Japanese Consul, Mr. Kato, and the Japanese merchants for their progressive spirit in this matter.

THE HONGWAN-JI COMPLICATION.

We have received a letter from the Secretary of the Nishi Hongwan Temple in Kyoto calling our attention to the fact that the complication recently described in these columns does not concern the Nishi Hongwan-ji, as we erroneously stated, but the Higashi Hongwan-ji. Our readers are doubtless aware that these two great temples are both situated in Kyoto, and that the latter is an off-shoot of the former. We have to apologise for the error.

CHINESE NEWS.

The Chinese Government have issued instructions to the Viceroy and Governors throughout the Empire to establish schools for teaching the English language and Western sciences in all the principal cities. The reason assigned is that China, in order to keep herself on terms of equality and in touch with the Great Powers of Europe "must educate the masses and encourage inventive genius and foreign learning among her people, together with that love for country and home and that devoted patriotism so conspicuously ingrained in the hearts of those who have studied such languages and sciences." It is a new experience to find the Peking Government talking of equality with European Powers as a thing to be aimed at by China. Hitherto any suggestion of equality has been deemed an insult to the Celestial Empire. As for the Emperor's instructions, their result will depend entirely on the mood of their recipients. The Central Government in China has no manner of control over its provincial satraps.

A somewhat serious outrage on the part of Chinese semi-officials occurred on the 5th of November in the Peiho river near Tientsin. A lighter loaded with goods for an English steamer was being tugged down the river when she fouled one of the Government rice-junks, which were anchored eight deep. The tug and lighter were immediately boarded by a mob of junkmen, and though the crew of the former managed to beat off their assailants, the latter was held prisoner by several hundred of the invaders until representations from the British Consul induced the Viceroy to take steps for her release. This forcible capture of a British vessel within sight of the settlement of Tientsin naturally caused some excitement.

News from Shensi is to the effect that although the Mahomedan rebellion is virtually over, the disbanded troops are committing wholesale outrages. They help themselves to anything they need, and have even had the audacity to make their way into the district magistrate's *Yamen* and to steal his wife's valuables off her person. The beheading of several of their number, and the issue of Imperial proclamations had no effect on them, but a heavy rain-fall with its usual Chinese accompaniment of roads two feet deep in mud seems to have checked them for the nonce.

The Scandinavian Alliance Mission have commenced the publication of a newspaper in Shensi. It is called the *Sh-tsen Yuenpao*, and its editor is the Rev. Mr. Henriksen. The paper is to contain Chinese and foreign news and, of course, its main purpose will be to disseminate Christian truth. Such efforts have probably more effect in China than any steps taken by officialdom.

It is alleged that Li Hung-chang's so-called "offence" in entering the palace grounds in Peking was not due to any carelessness on his own part. Indeed, everybody had difficulty in comprehending how an old official of such long experience could have perpetrated a blunder of the kind. The story now told is that, at the close of his first audience with the Empress Dowager on his return from the Occident, the Imperial lady suggested that Li should examine the improvements and changes made in the grounds during his absence. He proceeded to do so, encountered a eunuch, failed to give the man a sufficient *douceur*, and was reported to the Emperor, who, being at daggers drawn with the Empress Dowager, gladly seized the occasion to slight her. The Board of Punishments sentenced Li to be deprived of all his offices, but the Emperor commuted the penalty into the loss of a year's salary.

The problem how to conciliate England so as to induce her to consent to an increase of the customs tariff, seems to be growing more and more difficult of solution by China. The Cassini Convention, according to the terms of which—if it be a genuine document—China has practically promised to assist Russia in the event of a war between the latter and Great Britain, will not help matters much. Neither will the agreement made by Taotai Sheng promising that the

American syndicate represented by Mr. Bash shall have the privilege of supplying whatever materials the Hang-yang Ironworks cannot provide for the Peking Hankow (650 miles) railway. The Han-yang Ironworks are not likely to be of much use for the purposes of the line, and it is said that Li Hung-chang's idea had been to give the order for these materials to British manufacturers as a kind of sop. The greatest difficulty will be with Japan, however. Her new commercial treaty with China makes her mistress of the situation, for unless she agrees to the contemplated change, goods from all parts of the world might be passed through her ports to China at the rates fixed by the old tariff.

OPENING OF THE PRISON GATE HOME.

The Prison Gate Home, or *Nhutsugoku-nin Kyusei-jo*, established by the Salvation Army in Otowamachi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, has been successfully opened. The buildings, for there are three altogether, comprise two large workshops, accommodation for no less than forty ex-prisoners, rooms for the officers in superintendence, etc.; three moderate-sized dwelling-houses, surrounded by gardens, being used for these various purposes. Otowamachi is quite a distance from the centre of the city, but the location is very healthy, so that the immediate environment of the Home leaves nothing to be desired. The opening ceremony was conducted by Brigadier W. M. Powell, assisted by 26 Salvationist officers and cadets, only two of these being foreigners. After the guests had inspected the buildings, the ceremony began with a rousing song, to the tune of "The Bell-ringer":—

*Susumi yuki, susumi yuki /
Susumi yuku, Kyusei Gun /
Kirisuto no hai to shite,
Susumu maga Kyusei Gun /*

Brigadier Powell then gave a short but graphic description of the Salvation Army's Prison Gate Homes in other lands, and emphasized the fact that out of the thousands of ex-prisoners who passed through the Homes, not more than 15 per cent. ever served another term of imprisonment. So greatly beneficial had these Homes been recognised to be that in Great Britain, India, and elsewhere, the Government made annual grants to the Army for the furtherance of the work. The speaker was aware that some attempts of a similar nature had already been made in Japan, but their failure, or the moderate degree of success attending them, was, in his opinion, owing to the absence of lively belief in God and the neglecting to place such institutions upon a sound and fervent religious basis. The Home is under the immediate charge of two Japanese Salvationists, one of whom has been no less than thirteen times in prison; and it has begun with six ex-prisoners. That lively interest in the working and result of the Home is felt was proved by the presence of a number of metropolitan prison-officials. The Keishicho warden, Mr. Yamashita Fusachika, was represented by his Secretary; while among others present were the Governor of the Ichigaya Prison; Chaplain Honda Choun (Nishi Hongwanji Sect) of the Sugamo Gaol; two Police Inspectors from the Koishikawa Police Office; Mr. and Mrs. Hara, until recently attached to the Hokkaido State Prison; Rev. Mr. Namai, of the Aoyama Gakuin; the editor of the *Fukui Shimpo*, etc. Refreshments in Japanese style were served after the ceremony was over. It has since been concluded to begin the manufacture of soap, as an employment for the inmates of the Home, for these inmates are expected to support themselves and the Home at the earliest possible date. The undertaking certainly deserves every success.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

We hear little from Manila, says the *China Mail*, as almost every source of information outside of the ably-censored Spanish papers published at the capital, is practically closed. The news therefore—if news it can be called—consists of either rumours, or officially-cooked misstatements. From the general tenour of the rumours, however, it may be safely stated that the Spanish authorities are not making great progress in the suppression of the rebellion. This, from a trade point of view, is to be regretted, as it points to a prolonged period of unsettled commercial conditions. We heard several days ago that the Spanish troops had suffered a severe reverse at the hands of the rebels, and that the Spanish loss was about 300. That report seems now to be confirmed, and the organisation and discipline of the rebels are apparently astonishing the authorities. Some time ago a rumour was in circulation that the General who was second in command at Manila had disappeared, and all sorts of stories were in circulation. It is now stated that General Blanco sent this officer to Spain, for the good of his health—on so-called sick leave. A large number of troops are said to have been ordered from Home, and many of these are alleged to be on the way. To judge from the tactics of the rebels, it would appear they are led by some heads other than Indian. Dr. Rizal, whose movements we have previously noted, is now in the fortress at Manila, awaiting disposal.

We hear of a sad incident which happened a few miles outside of Manila. The son of Mr. S. Morris, who had gone on a photographing expedition, came upon some rebels, and, as he showed fight, he was cut down and killed. This event seems to prove that life is not safe at any distance outside the capital.

The attack upon the rebel positions in Cavite commenced on the 8th or 9th November. The *Comercio* of the 10th, the latest date received, refers to the affair briefly and guardedly as follows:—

"A note has been communicated by the Headquarters to the Press on the operations now coming to a head in Cavite. According to this, yesterday the attack was commenced on the entrenched positions of Cavite Vieja and Noveleta, which were defended by more than ten thousand rebels. General Rios' brigade, divided into two columns and supported by the vessels of the squadron, after a fierce combat obtained possession of the Noveleta isthmus, the redoubt and village of Bincayan, which were destroyed, and of the Imus road, which was fortified. Our loss was thirty-five killed, including five officers, and a hundred and three wounded, including one staff officer and four other officers. Our troops conducted themselves heroically, so much so that the officers cannot find words to sufficiently praise their gallantry. The circumstance of the field of operations being so near and the ease with which information can be transmitted to the enemy necessitate great reserve as to the plans projected for the suffocation of the insurrection, but we may assure our readers that the valiant army will soon arrive, covered with glory, at its goal. The sensible losses which these operations have cost are the best proof of the manner in which our soldiers, both Peninsular and native, are fighting, not hesitating to shed their blood."

According to information received from a private source the affair bears a different complexion from that placed on it by the above. Operations commenced in earnest on Sunday, the 8th November. The rebels are said to be strongly fortified and provided with Nordenfildt and other quick-firing guns, and in the attack on Noveleta, notwithstanding the assistance from men-of-war in the bay, the Spanish troops were obliged to retire with heavy loss. Whereas the official account states the loss at 35 killed and 103 wounded, it is said that on Monday midnight (9th) the steamer *Isabel I.* moored alongside the quay close to the Magallanes monument with 240 severely wounded, all of whom were taken to the military hospital in Iloilo; and on Tuesday morning the steamer *Filipino* came up the river at 11 a.m. with 60 more wounded, some of them slightly only and able to walk. This makes 300 wounded in place of 103 as stated in the official

account. The rebel loss is not stated in the extract quoted above from the *Comercio*, but it is said to have been given out at 400. Considering, however, that the rebels were all behind parapets and in rifle pits, which the Spaniards were unable to take, this must be purely conjecture and published for political motives. On Wednesday, 11th, news was received that the Spaniards had lost 200 more men in a second unsuccessful attempt to take Novelta. The Spaniards estimate the insurgent force there as 10,000 men, so what they may be in Imus, the great stronghold seven miles inland, it is impossible to say. In order to buoy up public opinion the newspapers came out with extra editions on Monday afternoon, anticipating as usual glorious victories and stating that the first shot fired from the cruiser *Castilla* was so well directed that the shell burst in the public square just at the moment when the same was crowded with people. Reference to the map will show that Imus is just seven miles from the coast and considering that the *Castilla* was anchored at least one mile from the shore and that Imus was invisible, this is rather a "tall" order, especially when it is considered that between Imus and Cavite lie the towns of Cavite Viejo and Noveleta, both of which are held by the insurgents. Dr. José Rizal returned to Manila by the transport *Colón* on the 3rd November, and was consigned to prison, at the disposition of the military authorities.

1,383 troops arrived by the *Colón*.

According to a Madrid telegram of the 4th Nov. General Polavieja accompanied by four other Generals had arrived at Barcelona to embark for the Philippines.

Madrid, November 4th.

The issue of a loan of ten million dollars in Manila, the operation to be undertaken by the Banco Español Filipino, is under consideration.

The export duty on tobacco is to be increased.

The Provincial of the Order of St. Augustine has received a letter, dated the 20th October without the name of the place where written, from the Rev. Father Domingo Candelas, the parish priest of Talisay, Batangas. Father Candelas having disappeared from Talisay when it was attacked by the rebels it was supposed that he had been murdered. Later news negated that supposition but stated that he had been wounded. Father Candelas now writes with his hand, but does not say whether it is correct that he was wounded. He simply stated that he is well, that he is not ill-treated, and that there are with him, in the same circumstances as himself. Señor Domingo Martínez, Señor Manuel Martínez, and Herminio Miguel, a sergeant of infantry, all Europeans.

The revolt of one of the native regiments in Mindanao has now been suppressed, and the Mutineers, broken up into small groups, are trying to leave the island by ones and twos. On the 28th October fifteen men connected with the outbreak were sentenced to be shot.

Madrid, October 15th.

Marshal Blanco telegraphs that a Spanish outpost at Talisay having been attacked by the insurgents, he despatched a column of 400 men to assist the outpost; but the column was unable to cut its way through the superior forces entrenched in strong positions, and had to fall back with a loss of two officers and sixteen men killed, one major, one subaltern, and twenty-one men wounded.

On hearing of this reverse Marshal Blanco sent two battalions, who succeeded in rescuing the garrison outpost, who made a dash through the insurgent lines.

The Marshal, in a later telegram, states that his object in moving forward was to assume the command in person in the province of Laguna, to seize promptly some strategic positions on the frontier of the provinces of Cavite and Catangas, and to check an advance of the insurgents which might be dangerous in the populous districts of both provinces. The occupation of Talisay by the rebels obliged the Marshal to move towards Lipa and Catangas, with a view to stop the onward march of the rebels; and he left two regiments to guard the lines from Tananan to Colomba. The Marshal concludes by stating that he will not telegraph unimportant daily skirmishes, and that he has garrisoned Manila and Cavite with the European troops which had recently arrived.

The Government will immediately prepare fast steamers to take out several thousand men, and has telegraphed offering Marshal Blanco all the forces he may require. The intelligence has caused much sensation in Madrid.—*Standard Correspondent*.

St. Sebastian, October 15th.

The Minister of State in attendance upon the Court to-day communicated to the Queen-Regent a telegram from Manila announcing that the

mutiny of the soldiers of the disciplinary battalion in the island of Mindanao had been completely suppressed.—*Reuter*.

Madrid, October 16th.

The unfavourable news received from the Philippine Islands yesterday has caused great anxiety here, which has been increased by later telegrams, confirming the report of the check sustained by the Spanish force. It was hoped that the troops already sent out would be sufficient to cope with the situation, but it is now regarded as possible that further reinforcements will be required.

The *Correspondencia* says the necessity of sending further reinforcements with the object of stamping out the insurrection is unanimously recognised.

The rising prove to be more completely organised than was supposed at first.

The *Heraldo* states that in consequence of yesterday's telegrams it has been decided to despatch further troops.—*Reuter*.

The following is an extract from a leading article in *El Imparcial*, reproduced in the *Diario de Manila* of 25th October, having curiously enough been allowed to pass the censorship:—

To the brave woman, loving wife, and pure Aragonese by birth and blood who attempted to march in the attire of a soldier from Zaragoza to Cuba.

In my country there is a legend reading thus, applicable to this woman in the striped uniform:—

"Do you wish to compare the pool to the sparkling fountain?"

"The sun rises and dries up the pool but the fountain remains for ever."

The fountain is the race and this, thank God, remains and will continue to remain in Spain, limpid and generous gushing without ceasing, and flowing without contamination to clear away the evil caused by the mephitical emanations from the pool.

The pool. . . . What is the pool but the personification of our perturbed politics, our corrupt administration, the pernicious example from high places, putrid leaven which is fermenting below, and the impunity with which the evil-minded boast, owing to the apathy or cowardliness of the right-minded?

No, we must not despair, for the race remains, and the fountain; but. . . . the sun of justice is tardy in rising to dry up the pool.

—*Daily Press*.

MARINO DE CAVIA.

STEAMER BREAKDOWN.

The Norwegian steamer *Hermann Vede Falsburg*, Capt. Reimers, arrived in port on Sunday morning six weeks out from San Francisco. The Captain reports that the crank shaft has got out of order. After making necessary repairs he will proceed to Calcutta, his destination. He is carrying a cargo of wheat.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE N.P. MAIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL"

SIR,—The Agent's answer to "G."s complaint of the 9th inst. causes me to come to the latter's aid in hopes that the "preponderance of evidence" may be on his side. For three months I have had reason to note the difference in mail service between the two routes mentioned, as my travelling companion's mail has been coming by San Francisco owing to the letters having been addressed that way, while my own mail, not having been specially addressed by my correspondents, has, almost invariably, come by Tacoma, with the result that his "home news" is usually a week or two later than mine and frequently his New York letters, mailed later than mine, get here far ahead.

A recent instance showed by postmarks that if, instead of putting the mail on a steamer at Tacoma, the United States authorities had taken the time to send it on down to San Francisco to the next steamer, we would have had it much sooner. I regret that I cannot give exact dates, but I have just sent the post-marked envelopes back to my correspondents to show them the absurdity of allowing their letters to come that way. I do not know how long the N.P. steamers

have taken to make the run in comparison with the San Francisco steamers, nor can I imagine why the United States postal officials give them the preference, but I do know that I have had letters from New York in eighteen days by the Canadian Pacific steamers and I have had them take thirty-six days via Tacoma, but never as long as that via San Francisco.

Very truly yours, (ANOTHER) "G."
Tokyo, November 17th, 1896.

SOME PERTINENT QUERIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Article XVII. of the Revised Treaty with Great Britain stipulates that British owners of Patents and Trade-marks shall enjoy the same rights as Japanese owners of similar property.

It will soon be important to know what those rights are. They are, I believe, summarised in the "Regulations for Patents, Trademarks, and Designs" reprinted from the *Japan Weekly Mail* of 5th Jan., 1889, and, as several points in that publication seem obscure, I shall be glad if you or some of your correspondents will kindly enlighten me on the subject.

According to sec. XXIV. s.s. 3.—Patents become invalid "when a Patentee has imported and sold patented articles from abroad" (The italics are in the original.)

Taken literally, this means that every one, whether foreigner or Japanese, who brings foreign patent goods of any kind into Japan, is thereby disqualified from the exercise of patent rights.

This seems absurd. Let us assume, although we have no right to do so, that the clause is loosely drawn, and that similar patented articles are referred to. What do we then find? Simply that the import by foreigner or Japanese, alike, of the goods for which patent rights have been secured, will invalidate those rights.

Turning to Trade-marks. I assume that foreigners have no rights here, either as regards patents, trade-marks, or designs, until the Revised Treaties come into force, and I suppose that Japanese, who exercise, since 1st February, 1889, the rights conferred by the Regulations, have been able since that date to register such marks as they think fit, subject to the rights of their co-nationals, even though such trade-marks are the property of foreigners. That being so, and supposing the foreigner registers his marks as soon as he has the power, he will in many cases find himself forestalled by Japanese, and will have no remedy, for by s. VIII. of the Trade-mark Regulations, registration will be granted according to priority of application. It is true that Art. II. s.s. 3 refuses registration when the mark closely resembles one already in use by another person, but it is probably a moot point whether foreigners can claim protection by virtue of it, as they were not the "persons" contemplated when the Regulations came into operation, and were, as far as their provisions were concerned, non-existent.

By Art. VI. the exclusive use of any trade-mark is limited to 20 years from date of registration. I am under the impression that in Europe the ownership of a trade-mark does not lapse but exists in perpetuity. I shall be glad to be set right if I am in error. The apparent injustice is tempered by the proviso Art. XVI., giving power to apply for renewal.

As I write, it occurs to me to propound another question which is of public interest.

The protocol to the Revised Treaty provides that the duties on unenumerated articles of Import shall be those of the *General Statutory Tariff of Japan for the time being in force*.

What is this General Statutory Tariff? What are the rates of duty it imposes? Can it be promulgated or modified at a moment's notice?

The subject is one of great importance. The number of unenumerated articles is very great and comprises goods which are likely to form a large portion of the Imports of the country. For instance, all kinds of Machinery, Tools, Locomotives, Ships, &c., are unenumerated articles, and are liable, it seems to me, to any rate of duty, even a prohibitive one, which the Japanese Government deems fit to impose, and the rate may be varied from time to time, to the injury of importers, without sufficient notice.

It will be remembered that the present tariff limits the duty on unenumerated articles to 5% ad val. It seems regrettable that some definite arrangement of a similar kind was not made in the new Tariff. Some little time ago, one of the Public Departments submitted to tender some goods of the unenumerated class for delivery during and up to the close of 1897. The present tariff may be superseded by that time. The new one contains no scale of duty; so far as I know no statutory tariff exists, and when it does come, it may turn

out that the rates are very much higher than was expected, and that certain classes of foreign manufactured articles, especially machinery, are virtually prohibited.

Yours faithfully,
IMPORTER.
Yokohama, November 17th, 1896.

[In a few days we shall publish a revised version of the Japanese Laws of Patents, Trade Marks, &c., together with the Regulations bearing on the operation of those laws. After making the publication, we shall answer our correspondent's questions.—Ed. J. M.]

A MISTAKEN IMPRESSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I ask as a favour that you do whatever you may be able to help dispel what seems to be the universal impression prevailing in the interior, that a foreign lady who wears a veil is a "tekake." In North East and Central Japan, whether residing or travelling, I always hear it called out after me when wearing a veil, the veil being referred to as the sign and proof.

It happens that it is one of fashion's dictates just now that ladies wear veils, but there are those, of whom the writer is unfortunately one, afflicted with a skin upon which sun, wind, dust, and simple cold always produce effects which are positively painful. The thinnest gauze veil even is a great relief and comfort. Hence its use.

On the other hand, it is a torture for an honest woman to hear "tekake, tekake" shouted after her by little boys, big boys, and men constantly, whenever she appears on the street.

I eagerly wish that all Japanese might know that if a foreign woman were that shameful disgraceful thing—a concubine—she would never robe herself by any outward sign that others might know her low character; on the contrary, she would strive by all possible means to hide the secret of her shame.

I have taken many a serious cold at this season of the year, simply because I dreaded to begin wearing a veil; knowing by the experience of many years in Japan the inevitable result, because of the seriously mistaken impression which seems in some unaccountable way to have gone out all over the land. So that for some women, whether they wear a veil or not, there is real discomfort. What can one do in such a case?

Yours, &c.,
November 20th, 1896.

THE BIRTH-RATE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—One trembles to take up a pen in the face of so much learning and wisdom as are evinced in a recent article in your paper entitled "Birth Rate," but it is taken up very modestly by one who feels much too humble to call herself by that greatly misinterpreted title "the new woman," however she may admire the same.

The writer in the "Revue Scientifique" is doubtless learned, logical, and widely observant, having probably actually seen the creature which his pen (or imagination?) describes, the "virilized" woman. I doubt if many others have seen her.

Reading the same article brought some queries to my feminine mind regarding some other possible causes, which may have had some effect in decreasing the birth-rate at least as much perhaps, as woman's new "costume," be it much or little, which the learned writer seems to think a cause of the mischief.

I wondered too why the blame for decrease in the birth-rate is laid all at the feet of the women. Why not lay a part of it at the feet of those ease-loving bachelors who think more of their freedom—yes, more of their undisturbed enjoyment of their cigars even—than of a wife, or the taking of cares of domesticity upon themselves.

I queried why the learned writer should not consider the fact that there is an increasing army of men going down to drunkard's graves, every year equal to all the slain in any war the world has ever seen. Why not consider that probably the death of every one of these affects some woman, as mother, wife, or sister or daughter, or, it may be, as forced to be unwedded and obliged to "make her life like that of men" to the extent of toiling to earn her daily bread and very likely that of others dependent upon her?

Why not consider this fact of alcoholic deaths as one of causes why there are several tens of thousands less of men than women in the United States, especially in New England, the part of the country referred to by the said writer?

More than all, I wonder and wonder again why the writer in his broad sweep of the horizon to discover the cause of the decrease in the birth-rate, does not take into account the deteriorating hereditary effects on the human race of alcoholics and narcotics.

Learned scientists and high authorities are freely declaring that alcohol and tobacco are altogether pernicious, depressing, and degenerating in their effects upon the human system and upon offspring. So widely has this come to be an acknowledged fact that all but two or three of the United States and Territories have enacted laws for teaching the effects of alcohol and tobacco upon the body in all their public schools.

That which has enfeebling effect on the children of the drinking man, on the growing boy to dwarf his mind and soul and boy, and cut short his life, can but have effect on the man himself. Is it not reasonable to suppose that it may take away of his "virility" at least as much as the new woman is "virilized" by her new Turkish trousers?

Is it not reasonable to suppose that it decreases the birth-rate as much as the occupation of some women who are compelled to support themselves as type-writers, telegraph operators, lawyers, or doctors, finding these occupation more to their comfort than those of the seamstress or washerwoman?

Why is not the study of the effect of alcohol and narcotics on the birth-rate, as legitimate a subject for scientific investigation as the new woman and the birth-rate?

Then, too, I query why the French women are brought up as models, when there is probably no city in the world with so large a proportion of illegitimate children as Paris, nor anywhere where the evils of licensed prostitution are more marked.

Why not justly charge vice and sin and profligacy with cause for decrease in the birth rate as well as a handful of women who may be working out an honest problem in an honest way?

Allow me to say, and then I will stop my musing, that I have known and heard of many who are likely to be called the "new woman," but I have never heard of one who did not believe the choicest, holiest treasure of woman is motherhood.

And whether married or single, one object of her work is the betterment of the world for the sake of the little child, for she believes that every child has the inherent right to be well born, free from taint of alcohol or nicotine or opium or evil virus on nerve or muscle.

Some such *fin-de-siècle* women have learned that the effect of narcotics (alcohol being a true narcotic) is so frightful on heredity that they refuse to become wives and mothers rather than to be guilty of bringing feeble children into the world. These are some of my queries, and I still query if all the causes of decrease in birth-rate are revealed yet, and if they were, I question if the female sex would be found more at fault in the matter than the male.

Yours, &c.,
November 19th, 1896.

THE PATENT LAWS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—With reference to what "Importer" wrote about the Japanese Patent Law, etc., I am happy to say, that I hear it stated that the Authorities are going to revise the whole of the said Laws, so as to fit them to the new state of affairs; of which revised Laws, I suppose, you will of course publish a translation, and not a revised version of the Laws (1889?) you kindly referred to.

Allow me to ask you, also, whether you have got any such report confirming my information about revision of the said Laws, for editors of papers are generally presumed to be better informed.

Yours truly,
R. OZA & WA.
Tokyo, Nov. 24th, 1896.

[We have no such information. On the contrary, we believe that the existing law is to stand.—Ed. J. M.]

THE NARA SCHOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The letter which the Rev. Isaac Dooman sent you about the Nara High School trouble being a gross misrepresentation of actual facts as well as defamatory to me, I wish you to spare me space in your paper so that I may rebut the charges unjustly laid at my door.

Needless to say that the sudden prosperity which the Nara High School attained in only two years was due to the liberal support of the American Episcopal Board and to the untiring exertions of Mr. Tamaki, the proprietor, and of Mr. Ido, the treasurer, of the School, as well as to the earnest assiduity of the teachers. Whatever pains I took on behalf of the Institution were of small account, and I do not like to say anything about what the rev. gentleman charges me with having done, either explicitly or implicitly. I desire to confine myself to such portions of the charges as are of a public character.

In the first place, I must remind the reverend gentleman that the post I received from the Local

Office originated with Mr. Tamaki, who, with the primary view of promoting the prosperity of the school, obtained for me, after conference with the Governor of the locality, two official functions, namely, the superintendence of the local experimental farm and the inspection of the farming of Nara Prefecture. It is true that I received on that account a monthly allowance of 15 *yen*, but it is not true that I frequently absented myself from my school duty, for I undertook my inspection tours chiefly during the summer vacation. The travelling expenses I was allowed were hardly sufficient to maintain my official position, as Mr. Suyeta, the Chief of the Agricultural and Commercial Section of the Local Office, is well aware. There were five trustees in the School, two of whom were foreigners, another two were Japanese Christians, and the fifth was a Japanese who had not yet embraced Christianity. In addition to them, there was a treasurer whose consent was necessary for any outlay. It is quite absurd, therefore, to say that I could have spent 900 *yen* without obtaining the consent of the treasurer and the trustees. Can it be really believed that if the director arbitrarily spent such a sum, the treasurer and the trustees would and could have suffered him to do so with impunity? Why was he not obliged to refund the sum? Not only in matters of school economy, but even with regard to the arrangement of school affairs, I did not hear one word of caution from the lips of the trustees during the two years that I was connected with the school. That the school incurred a debt of 900 *yen* is unquestionably true, but it was no fault of mine, as Mr. Patton, one of the trustees, frequently declared to me and the students, especially when the trouble unfortunately broke out at the school. He frankly admitted that it was due to the fault of the trustees.

I am constrained to differ diametrically from the reverend gentleman as to the cause of the present trouble. When, on Oct. 1st of this year, I, in company with the teachers and students, visited the Himuro Shrine and paid respect to it, the Trustees sent me a strongly worded letter, demanding an explanation why I, the director, who believed in the Christian creed, conducted myself in such a way before a Shinto Shrine. Again, when two deputies of the students met Mr. Page, of Osaka, in order to petition him to retain my services and those of other teachers, Mr. Page told them that Mr. Kawamura was very cool in furthering the object for which the American Board maintained the school, namely, the propagation of the Christian creed, and that, therefore, he must be made resign. Mr. Patton was present when the two deputies saw Mr. Page.

Lastly, as Mr. Dooman left Nara in October of last year and has not visited the place since that time, I strongly suspect that he may have been unjustly prejudiced against me by hearing only one side of the affair.

Yours obedient servant,
K. KAWAMURA.
Takamatsu, Sanuki, Nov. 19th, 1896.

THE TOBACCO MONOPOLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—At the last meeting of the Tokyo Economical Society, an official of the Finance Department told the members present that the Government estimated to spend 8,000,000 *yen* in buying up the whole of the tobacco held in Japan on the 1st Jan. 1898. It may be taken for granted that there will be found to be quite two years' consumption in the country, for if it were not so, we should have prices of tobacco very much higher than they are. I contend that with the crop grown in 1897 and the balance from the previous year, there will be quite two years' supply. In England there is always in the bonded warehouses 2 years' supply at least. Now, taking the estimate of 8 *yen* per 100 *kin*, which, I am told, is a low appraisement, the total to be purchased would be 100,000,000 *kin*, according to the above estimate. In England the consumption, according to the last returns, is put down at 1.66 lbs. per head of the population; the consumption of tobacco must be greater in Japan than in England, because smoking goes on all day here, whereas, during business hours, no smoking takes place in England. Again, here the women are great smokers, so it may fairly be estimated that the consumption in Japan is quite one-third more than that of England—or say 2.20 lbs. per head of population—and taking the population in Japan at 42,000,000, this gives a total of 92,400,000 lbs.=69,300,000 *kin*—of bitted tobacco. Now, taking the Government's estimate of the tobacco to be purchased at 100,000,000 *kin* and that this is two years' consumption, one year's consumption would be 50,000,000 *kin*. From this must be deducted at least 25% for loss in

weight, damaged tobacco, and unsalable stock. This gives 37,600,000. Again, it is necessary to deduct from this quite 15% for butts and stalks, the bulk of the tobacco imported into England being strip, namely the mid-rib of the leaf removed or else well butted close up to the leaf, whereas Japanese tobacco is sold with these included. This gives a total of 31,875,000 *kg* as the Government's estimate; or if the Government is to get its anticipated revenue of 10,000,000 *yen* out of this amount of tobacco they will have to obtain a profit of more than 26 *yen* per 100 *kg* of unbutted tobacco, and more than 31 *yen* per 100 *kg* of butted, in order to get a revenue of ten million *yen*. The money is to be borrowed, so there will be an immediate charge on the revenue. Mr. Sakagata also mentioned that old godowns were best for the storage of tobacco. In this I quite agree, if such godowns are two-storied and fit for the storage of such an easily damaged commodity as tobacco, but if they are one-storied and of such a type as the Akasaka Godowns, which I hear the Government have leased or bought for the storage of the Tokyo tobacco, they are totally unfit for the tobacco to be stored in for any length of time, and if tobacco is stored in such godowns, where the loss of the Government will end I do not know. The Government must recognize from the start that it is handling a dangerous article that damages easily, an article the good keeping of which depends greatly upon its storage. What is required are well built, two-storied (at least) godowns, well ventilated, with plenty of room for handling the tobacco, and plenty of floor space, because the piling up of new tobacco may result, in fact is nearly certain to result, in a big loss by damage. If the godowns are new the tobacco is easily protected from any damage by placing planks between the walls and the tobacco, but the godowns are better when built for some time and allowed to dry. Under this Monopoly Law the godowns ought to be well under way by now. I believe there is plenty of money granted for their building.

Your obedient servant, F. M. JONAS.

LITERARY CARNIVAL AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

"What's in a name," once asked the Bard of Avon. Many a man, yea, and woman too, has asked a similar question not once nor twice in the course of their pilgrimage through life's deariestnesses. Such a question is certainly pertinent when one visits a Literary Carnival in Yokohama arranged by the merry band of the King's Daughters Circle and finds on entering the portals of the Public Hall that it is only the old familiar fancy-fair passing itself off under a new name. For sooth to tell beyond a few stray mottoes hidden away in the recesses of the stalls, and that had to be sought for most diligently, there was little of the literary element about the affair. But there was plenty of fun—and after all, what's in a name? So long as there are plenty of bewitching maidens decked out in becoming costumes to shower sweet blandishments on all and sundry what matters the name they employ; the tag is convenient even though it may scarcely fit the occasion. Mrs. Theodore Morris, the President of the Yokohama Circle, has a band of energetic young ladies around her now, and they turned the Public Hall into a very pretty play-room on Wednesday. Just at the entrance was pitched the old lucky-wheel—it went on this occasion by the most unpoetic name of "Portia's Grab"—represented by the three caskets that stood in the proud palace of Belmont in the days when noble Bassanio went wooing the gracious Portia. And, as in Shakespeare's tale, the luck fell out (at times) sadly different to expectations, for Dame Fortune has still her favourite son. The Lady at the Well was Miss Thorn, a fairy of many charms. Next came "Vanity Fair"—with a few suggestions from Thackeray's immortal work. Here presided Miss Annie Watt, Miss Jane Watt, Miss Muriel Thomas (a stately and sweetly-serious barrister-at-law, bewigged and begowned), and Miss Trixie Sharp. In the corner was a very widespread Refreshment Booth, with maidens principally dressed in caps and gowns that at one time adorned the wardrobe of Miss Muffet—these ladies were the Misses Marion, Ada, and Lillian Sale, Hilary Moss, Leslie Herb, Jennie Manley, Bella Goddard, and Rosie Cameron (Red Riding Hood). Turning on to the stage one found some alcoves in charge of "A.B.C." girls—Londoners and others who have sojourned there will know the alphabetical signification. They were Miss Averill, the Misses Eldridge, the Misses Moss, and Miss Wheeler. Their stalls were labelled, "Over the Tea-Cups." In the green-room was arranged the "Old Curiosity Shop," in charge

of Miss Mabel Sharp ("Little Nell") and Miss Cissie Carst. Having passed the threshold a most amusing sight was encountered, "Satires on Books." Among them was "The Light of Asia"—a bottle of kerosene; "A mere cypher"—0; "All sorts and conditions of men"—a directory; "English composition"—hard cake; and sundry other whimsicalities of the sort. In addition, there were some stands of Korean, Chinese, and Japanese curios of a most advanced type and certainly mirth-provoking. In the centre of the hall was placed the Candy Stall, and at the receipt of custom stood Miss Poole (Candy-stick), and Miss Kulu (lemon-drop). Opposite, along the wall, was a stall labelled "Books and Book-markers"—really the most literary part of the whole show, and yet deplorably deficient in anything actually relating to the cult, unless book-markers can come in as poor relations—where Miss Annie Moss (a Greek vestal) and Miss May Merriman were in charge and did a roaring trade. The flower-stall was a very pretty erection, with a thatched roof. It was loaded with lovely flowers presented by Messrs. Boelmer and Mr. Manley. Towards evening sundry curiously fashioned lanterns cut out of pumpkins and melons—the work of Mr. Auguste Manley—were lighted up and presented a pleasing appearance. The little ladies in charge of the flower-selling were Miss Frances Cameron, Miss Edith Wilson, Miss Carol Merriman ("Topsy," to the life), and Miss Bessie Burns. A lemonade well was in charge of Miss Jennie Loomis and Miss Myrtle Bagnall; there was also a "k'rect weighing machine" near by. Perhaps one of the most attractive stalls was that entitled "Hansel and Gretchen," where young ladies—the Misses Ena Grosser, Anna Meier, Voight, and Reiz—dressed in old German costumes gave everyone a warm welcome and cordial refreshment.

The success achieved was phenomenal, crowds turning up both in the afternoon and evening, and the young ladies are to be congratulated on the amount of their "takings." In the afternoon the Town Band attended, and in the evening the string band of H.M.S. *Undaunted* played a capital section of music, while Miss Thomas sang "The Promise of Life," and Mr. Den Arend, Schumann's "Two Grenadiers." The Yokohama Circle, we understand, attained its fifth anniversary on Wednesday.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The autumn athletic meeting of the Teikoku Daigaku Undokwai (Imperial University Sports Association) was favoured with most pleasant weather on Saturday afternoon, and the large play field in the University grounds at Tokyo was therefore more than usually crowded with undergraduates, the boys of the Higher Middle School, lads of the Nobles' School for Boys, and students of the Higher Commercial School; while many ladies, foreign and Japanese, graced the sports with their presence. The rising ground on the west side of the field was set aside for spectators, the Imperial grand-stand, and the band of the Guards, and here long streamers were stretched from which flew flags of every nation, with Japanese flags forming the centre of the device. Very pretty was the effect obtained, the bunting and reddening foliage of the low maples that crown the hill harmonizing well in the brilliant sunshine that flooded a cloudless sky. Soon after the commencement of the sports H.I.H. the Crown Prince arrived. He was greeted with three rousing cries of "Banzai" as he walked up to his seat on the grand-stand, and on his departure an even more boisterous cheer was raised. The Prince stayed till the eleventh race, when the sun was beginning to drop behind the hill; the air was then getting chilly. During the afternoon the College of Engineering paraded before the Prince the Champion Flag of the river, won by its crew at the spring regatta.

The form of the various competitors was much in advance of previous years, and several of the University records were broken. In the Long Jump, Tominaga cleared 16ft. 10in., beating the last record by nearly two inches; and the same athlete broke the University's previous best High Jump by three inches, clearing 5ft. 4in. In the Pole Jump, Kamio beat last year's performance by one inch—5ft. 9in. Already the vast benefits conferred in youth by athletic sports and outdoor exercises generally are beginning to show in the form and physique of the University students: the present set of young men at the Teikoku Daigaku are better set up and more generously developed than those of a few years back. On Saturday afternoon, for the first time in the annals of these sports, the University team of fifty almost held its own in the tug-of-war with the Mombusho School; three times

they tugged, and only in the last rally did the Commercial school-boys manage to pull the University down. This contest, always amusing, was additionally so on Saturday by reason of the intense enthusiasm prevailing among the hundreds of school-boys present. They yelled and cheered, groaned and shrieked as the fortune of war wavered from side to side, the noise being terrific. The erstwhile indifferent school-boy of Japan now has this in common with his Western brother, a genuine interest in manly sport, and this ardour will doubtless be maintained as steadily by him during the years of his early manhood as it is in the west. Athletics, after some struggles and disasters, have now come to stay in Japan, to borrow an expressive colloquialism of the day. At the close of Saturday's sports the prizes, that were both useful and ornamental in form, were presented by the President of the University. A word of notice is due Professor Kikuchi Dairoku, who again bore the burdens of Judge. He has consistently supported the sports since his return from England, pushing them resolutely in the years when their fortunes were at their lowest ebb; and now that he has the pleasure of seeing them firmly established in the life of the University he still sticks to his post, developing enthusiasm and encouraging fresh effort. Results:—

100 YARDS RACE.

T. Inouye.....1	K. Tomita.....4
I. Sato.....2	I. Taguchi.....5
S. Yamamoto.....3	

Ten started. Inouye soon opened out from the ruck and half way down had secured a lead of two yards. This he increased nearing the tape, though Sato and Yamamoto made a game attempt to catch him in the last 10 yards. They were unsuccessful, Inouye getting home by four yards: very little between second and third. Time, 10 9/10 secs. It should be explained that this is a grass-track, and owing to the configuration of the ground, that gives a lap of 360 yards only, the 100-yards straight is really five yards short of that distance.

THROWING THE HAMMER.

S. Murata.....1	M. Arakawa.....4
M. Kashiwagi.....2	I. Taguchi.....5
K. Tomita.....3	

Murata threw 91ft. 6in. being several feet behind the University record of 1894, when 96 feet were covered. There were ten entries.

LONG JUMP.

T. Tominaga.....1	M. Maruo.....4
S. Murata.....2	Mita.....5
Shimomura.....3	

The previous record for this event on the University ground was 16ft. 8 1/2 in. On Saturday Tominaga cleared 16 ft. 10 in. and secured a special prize. Shimomura, the third placed man, was penalised 13 inches, and yet covered 16ft. 7in.

220 YARDS RACE (final).

T. Inouye.....1	Ishikawa.....4
I. Sato.....2	S. Murata.....5
Oda.....3	

The preliminary heats in this event were run off during the preceding week, leaving ten men in. Inouye opened out before turning at the corner and increased his lead along the top of the field. Turning into the straight he had the race easily in hand and won eventually by about six yards: a close finish for second and third. Time, 27 1/5 sec.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

T. Tominaga.....1	Odawa.....4
S. Murata.....2	I. Maruo.....5
Ibara.....3	

Though the air was perfectly still, the University record of 90yds. 2ft. 9in. was not approached, Tominaga, the day's winner, only covering 84 yards 2ft.

HIGH JUMP.

T. Tominaga.....1	K. Okamura.....4
S. Murata.....2	M. Maruo.....5
T. Inouye.....3	

In this event another University record went, Tominaga jumping 5ft. 4in., surpassing the previous best leap of 5ft. 1in. He was awarded a special prize. Murata, the second man, cleared 5ft. 3 1/2 in.; Inouye, third, 5ft. 3in. Two of the competitors hugely delighted "the gallery" by taking diving jumps over the tape, landing neatly on their back and shoulders.

THREE-LEGGED RACE.

Inouye and Nambu.....1	Ogudo and Saigo.....4
Sato and Tsukiyama.....2	Murata and Hyodo.....5
Nakaya and Tomita.....3	

The competitors ran very well together, none falling till the very end, when excitement caused three pairs to collide and tumble over one another

in a desperate attempt to get third place. Time, 11 secs.

NOBLES' SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

Two races were arranged on the ground for the lads of the Nobles' School for Boys, races in which the Crown Prince took a great deal of interest—one of 100 yards the other for 200 yards. About twenty boys ran in each, the results being:—

Kuroda	1	Hitotsuyanagi	1
Yagyu	2	Yanagita	2
Niire	3	Soga	3

440 YARDS (final).

T. Inouye	1	Ode	4
Ishihara	2	K. Okamura	5
Hanaoka	3	Otoe	6

Twelve started in this handicap, but Inouye, the scratch man, after getting through the crowd, won as he pleased; little separated second and third. Time, 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.

POLE JUMP.

M. Kamio	1	S. Nakaya	3
T. Tomimaga	2	Nakamura	4

The winner cleared 9ft. 9in., getting a special prize for surpassing the previous record, 9ft. 8in. The competition was very close.

MOMBUSHO SCHOOL RACE.

Moriwaki	1	Yamada	3
Ishizaki	2		

This contest aroused the excitement among Commercial School-boys to fever heat, and the winner had an ovation at the end. Time, 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.

880 YARDS RACE (final).

T. Inouye	1	Okamura	5
Hanaoka	2	Togawa	6
Otoe	3	Oda	
K. Tomita	4		

There were twenty-one starters in this event. Otoe lead round the first time and maintained the pace till nearing the top, when Inouye, scratch, passed through his men, and assumed the lead going into the straight. Inouye then won easily, Hanaoka got passed Otoe only on the tape. Time, 2m. 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.

GAKUSHI RACE.

Imamura (S.)	1	Ishiwii (J.)	3
Yoshino (T.)	2		

Five entries. The initials after the names belong to the college from which each graduated. This was a close race, Imamura only snatching victory on the tape. Time, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.

SPECIAL MEMBERS (PROFESSORS) RACE (100 yards).

Prof. Sakura	1	Prof. Okada	3
Prof. Tamba	2	Prof. Terao	4

This race was run by the Professors in their walking costumes, just as they stood. Professor Sakura got the best of a desperate struggle by about a foot from Professor Tamba. Time, 15 secs.

OBSTACLE RACE.

Taguchi	1	Honga	2
Asakura	2	Nakaye	3

This event, as usual, was very amusing. It attracted 20 starters. The men had first to jump over a hurdle and crawl under a pole—there were six of these obstacles in 20 yards—then swing themselves along some trellis-work; next vault through hoops; then walk along the top rail of some hurdles; rush through several long miller's sacks; scramble over a ten foot bamboo fence; plunge through a hammock netting, and then dash for home with a bale of charcoal. There was a dead heat for first place. Time, one lap, 2m. 67 secs.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

By JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, October 21st, 1896.

The Coloured Races Restriction and Regulation Bill, introduced by Mr. Reed, the Premier of New South Wales, into the Colonial Legislative Assembly, has passed the third reading and been sent up to the Legislative Council, but whether it will receive the approval of that body has yet to be ascertained. The measure is directed principally at Chinese and Indian immigration, the number of Hindoos and other natives of British India finding their way into the colonies being steadily on the increase, while in northern Australia the Chinese constitute the great majority of the population. Mr. Reed, in the course of his somewhat lengthy speech on the second reading, said:—"I repudiate altogether the notion that this bill is aimed at the Japanese particularly. The bill is not aimed at that especially gallant and progressive race—they merely happen to be included

in it. It has a much wider application. If the Japanese had been singled out they would have been entitled—and properly entitled—to resent it. But nothing of that sort has been done. We are simply endeavouring—and I think it is better to do it at once—to place upon our statute-book legislation which, without picking out any particular nation or country, defines the policy of Australia with respect to the whole subject; and so far as that is concerned, I think that this bill is not at all calculated to awaken susceptibilities." He maintained that by passing the bill much future misconception and difficulty would be avoided. With one or two exceptions, the whole of the speakers, both for and against the measure, spoke strongly in favour of avoiding giving offence to the Japanese people. Mr. McMillan, ex-Colonial Treasurer, and head of the Sydney firm of Alexander McArthur and Co., while admitting the importance of keeping Australia for the Australians, suggested that the measure should not come into force until Asiatic settlement on an extensive scale was threatened. He said:—"I candidly admit that if we had the power, and if the British Government give us the power, I would go to any extreme of prohibition to prevent a large number of these coloured people from settling in the waste lands of the tropical parts of Australia. We occupy, I must confess, rather a mean position. We propose to shut out a nation which is rising into the first class by energy, by intellect, and by material resources—I mean the Japanese. What is the position which an Australian takes up? An Australian will not allow a Japanese to come into his own country; but he goes into Japan and calls himself a British subject, and any man who attempts to shut him out he threatens with the British flag. There is no doubt that any British subject can get into Japan as a free citizen, without any stigma being cast on his colour or his race. We are creating an anomaly, and, in my opinion, a very mean position for ourselves as British subjects. I am not denying the necessity for this legislation, although I do not agree with many people that it is as imminent a danger as they think; but I say most emphatically that this is the first of a series of acts which must bring us face to face sooner or later with the particular tie which binds us to the mother country. For instance, if I digress, there is a general idea amongst colonial statesmen that we ought to be able to make independent treaties, even with foreign countries. That is another question which is in the near future. But I would ask the Premier to seriously consider that it may be better to suspend the operation of this bill until it is known what the action of the British Government will be. Nobody can say at this moment whether it will be allowed or disallowed. I think it will be more courteous, more dignified, and equally independent if we allow sufficient time to the British Government to give a clear-cut opinion on this question before they allow their bill to come into operation. Of course the Premier may say, when he replies, or through a colleague, that communication has been had with the British Government, that the Government are aware that the bill will be allowed, and that the British Government are in sympathy with what undoubtedly is the feeling of the great majority of the people in these colonies. I will offer no objection to the bill. I am in sympathy with the ultimate design of the bill. At the same time, I think it is only right that those who see these serious points, and who desire that in this most important legislation touching on our position as British citizens and touching on international rights, should very carefully go about the business, and surround it with all that prudence and judgment which are so essential in doing such a great act.

Mr. McMillan's remarks may fairly be accepted as representing the general tone of public opinion in New South Wales. There exists a strong desire to avoid giving offence to Japan; but at the same time it is contended that, after all, should the bill become law, the Japanese in Australia will not be placed on a worse footing than are Australians in Japan. On this point one of the speakers in the Legislative Assembly remarked:—"Subjects of the British empire have not the right of free entry into Japan. They can only visit Japan when they have a passport. I have in my hand a pass given to a gentleman in Sydney during this year. It is only for a period of one month. Its conditions are that he must have the pass with him wherever he is found in Japan, that he must show it to any police-officer who asks him, that he must show it to the landlord of any inn in which he may lodge, and that refusal to show the passport at any time he is asked for it by Japanese officials will render the bearer liable to be brought to the nearest open port. Further, the passport is not transferable. Then it goes on to say, 'The bearer of this passport is

forbidden to trade or conclude contracts in Japan.' It also says, 'The bearer of this passport is not permitted to rent any house or to reside in Japan.' Also, 'The holder of this passport is warned that the game license conveys no right to a foreigner to discharge firearms while in Japan.' So that practically the Japanese do not allow our people this free right of entry to Japan. An Australian, merely as a visitor, holding this passport in his hand, has a right there on sufferance for a short fixed period. The gentleman who had this passport issued told me he was treated with anything but courtesy by the Japanese officials. They fussed round, and wanted to see his passport on every possible occasion, and made the thing as vexatious as they possibly could. This, of course, is merely a matter of administration, and I am not saying that we ought to exhibit any retaliatory spirit. I am only replying to the argument that the Japanese allow our people free entry into their country, while we propose to refuse the same concession to them. We simply say, 'We will not allow you to come here unless you pay a certain poll-tax; but when you do come we will allow you something you do not allow our subjects—that is, the free exercise of the rights of citizenship in the country.'

Several of the colonial papers are not slow in perceiving the many difficulties to which the impending legislation may give rise. The Sydney *Evening News* says:—

"At the present time, when the Legislative Council is on the eve of considering the bill sent up by the Assembly to restrict the immigration of coloured aliens, some features in connection with the measure point to a possibility that it may perhaps not be very readily approved by her Majesty's advisers in England. The bill as passed by the Assembly in the course of debates aggregating less than five hours' duration, restricts the immigration of all coloured races whether British or foreign subjects, and it will, if agreed to by the Council, most likely be reserved by the Governor for the Queen's assent as a measure of an extraordinary character or one inconsistent with obligations imposed upon her Majesty by treaty, the Governor's power of assent not extending to such bills. The Premier says he has the precedent of a Canadian Act of Parliament for saying that Royal assent will be given to his bill, but even so, the home authorities have another precedent to quote on the other side. In 1876 the Queensland Legislature passed an Act "to amend the Gold Fields Act of 1874, so far as relates to Asiatic and African aliens." Governor Cairns sought the advice of the then Attorney-General (Mr. Griffith), who said the bill came within the scope of his Excellency's jurisdiction, as he did not consider it was inconsistent with obligations imposed upon her Majesty by treaty, or that it contained anything whereby her Majesty's prerogative or the rights or property of British subjects not residing in the colony, or the trade and shipping of the United Kingdom and its dependencies might be prejudiced. The Governor was not, however, satisfied, and considered that the measure might involve a breach of international comity. He therefore sought the personal assent of her Majesty, and it was refused. The bill now before the New South Wales Parliament not only applies to Chinese and Japanese, but to Indians who are subjects of the Queen, thus going much further than did the Queensland Bill of twenty years ago. Since then public opinion has changed considerably, and the political power and importance of the colonies has vastly increased, but the ruling of the Secretary of State for the Colonies has important bearings upon the present question. Lord Carnarvon, the Minister at the time, wrote, in summing up his conclusions upon the whole of the representations made to him: "I have given much thought to the course which I should pursue in respect to this bill, for I should be most unwilling even to appear to infringe upon the privileges of self-government enjoyed by the inhabitants of Queensland. . . . And I am very sensible that the regulation of Chinese immigration and the preservation of order under the complications which too frequently result from it are amongst the most difficult questions of internal administration with which a colonial legislature has to deal. I have, however, felt myself constrained after full and careful consideration to advise the Queen that this bill is one which should not receive her Majesty's approval in its present shape. . . . I trust that they (the Queensland Ministry) will feel able to recommend provisions which will not only be less calculated to cause injury to British subjects of Asiatic or African origin, but will appear less directly and exclusively aimed at the subjects of a friendly Power with which it is for the advantage of the Empire at large that free intercourse should be maintained."

The *Sydney Morning Herald* says—"The real question is whether such a measure is required, and whether the danger against which it is intended to guard has any present existence. Certainly little support is given to it by the figures dealing with the influx of Asiatics into Australia. The alleged fears of timid women about Syrian hawkers and the trade-union jealousy of Afghan camel-drivers seem but a meagre basis for an act of legislation of so wide a scope. It is difficult to fully understand the patriotic importance attached in some quarters to this rather factitious-looking measure. But it is impossible to deny that the feeling has an existence throughout the colonies, and wherever the bill may be introduced few will care to incur the responsibility of opposing it. Nor can it be denied that circumstances might at any time arise which would convert the most doubting to a prompt recognition of the immediate necessity of passing such a measure if Australia was to be preserved for the white race. The bill is offered as a measure demonstrating the statesmanlike foresight of its authors in providing against a danger not yet visible. If at the same time they could make us feel satisfied that all the dangers and necessities actually in sight are already adequately provided for by legislation, the case for the Aliens Bill might be regarded as complete. In the meantime it is gratifying to be able to allay the alarm of cricketers lest Prince Ranjitsinhji should be excluded from Australia by this sweeping measure, by mentioning that the statesmanship of the Premier proved equal to the emergency by the addition of a clause placing a dispensing power in the hands of the Government."

The *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, discussing the leading features of the measure, alludes to its application to Japan. "Hitherto," the writer says, "we have differentiated between Chinese and Japanese immigrants, not because one was more or less desirable than the other, but because there had been no influx from Japan of sufficient proportions to cause alarm. In Queensland, however, this is not so, the Japanese element there amounting in the north almost to the dimensions of an alien colony. A complete Act, such as the Government now aim at passing, must, therefore, include Japanese with other coloured peoples. Of course, this trenches upon the ground of international diplomacy, which, in the present state of the world's affairs, may prove even more critical than that involving the status of Indian subjects of the Empire. The Chinese have always regarded their exclusion as a national insult. And that they have not yet forgotten it is proved by the fact that during Li Hung-chang's recent visit to England he made it a special point of complaint. Whether England cares to have the more peppery and powerful and assertive Japanese nation also placed in an attitude of perpetual protest against the invidious action of the colonies, has to be seen. The position is bristling with difficulties, but the greatest of all would be the trouble certain to arise if we were to let matters drift, and make no effort to stop the alien influx until it had flooded the country, perhaps beyond redemption."

The New South Wales provincial papers generally seem to be in favour of the measure. The *Maitland Daily Mercury*, explaining on what grounds the colonists are warranted in excluding coloured peoples, even British subjects or subjects of Governments with which Great Britain has treaty relations, says—"It behoves us, first of all, to maintain, at all hazard, the British character of the community. We do not want the future Australian to be a composite white and coloured blood. That end can be attained only by preventing coloured races from becoming denizens of Australia. A second equally strong ground is that we cannot tolerate races among us to whom we are not prepared to give, and who cannot exercise, equal political rights. There must be no inferior race in Australia. Doubtless, something may be said about the brotherhood of man, but, just as individuals may be pardoned for allowing race feeling to restrict them in foreign marriage ties with coloured folks, so may communities be permitted a similar indulgence of race feeling. And, moreover, a blend cannot be argued for on the ground that it would be advantageous to either race. On the two grounds we have indicated Australia may therefore justly claim freedom from the Government of the Empire to exclude from her shores coloured races, though they be British subjects or peoples with whom the Imperial Government is friendly. Our right of self-government is a mockery, unless it includes power to regulate the components of our population. We should, in present circumstances, expect the aid of England if Japan or China, at the point of the sword, insisted upon sending into Australia dangerously large detachments of their people. And, if we are threatened

with a gradual, an insidious, but none the less certain and menacing irruption of these and other peoples whom we do not desire for the purposes of admixture with our own, the mother-country must help us. She must see that it is an essential part of Imperial policy that she should help us. She is no mother at all, but only a cruel stepdame, if she does not. That the irruption we speak of is not immediately threatened, we admit. But we do well to provide in time, and the measure of the Government, with the amendment introduced in committee, giving power to suspend operation of the law in circumstances likely to occur, is in all ways acceptable and praiseworthy."

The *Wagga Wagga Express* declares that the measure "is not a party question, nor one which affects New South Wales alone; it appeals to the sympathies of all dwellers in Australasia. The time has arrived when it becomes an absolute necessity that some drastic measures should be taken to prevent the increase in a British land of any coloured races. We have already had numerous instances of the undesirableness of dusky visitors to the back blocks in the shape of Indian hawkers and others, but their presence is but a minor phase of a far greater question. The problem we have to face is the prevention of an invasion of the black, brown, and yellow races of Asia and Africa, and the bill at present before parliament aims at a wholesome check to Australia being used as a rubbish tip by the coloured surpluses of other countries. It is possible that the policy of Great Britain may be to maintain a friendly relation with the newly risen Power in the Pacific, in contradistinction to the actions of Russia, Germany, and France to step in and rob Japan of her fruits of victory over China. It is no doubt a matter of Imperial policy to keep on good terms with that Power; but Australians occupying a position in the Empire cannot forget that their shores have been brought within striking distance of that Power boasting the largest fleet in the Pacific, and, as we have seen, a highly trained army. Their little islands are as heavily populated as Great Britain, and require an equal outlet. But, whatever happens, Australians should band themselves together and preserve their shores from the intrusion of other races. We have seen in the Hawaiian group, where the Chinese population have outnumbered the Europeans and the remains of native population: the effect of the policy of open immigration: the visitors have numerically gained their point, a result brought about by a policy of national eulchre. What has happened there may, and will occur here unless the strongest possible measures are taken to prevent an overwhelming influx of undesirable colonists. The late Governor of Queensland, in his recent speeches in England, has pointed out the danger which is imminent, from the proximity of such a Power as that of Japan, and this should show Australians the necessity of preserving the purity of their population, and also preparing for any eventualities in the way of organising their military and naval forces in which they seem to have taken only a small degree of interest. Australians have to take such steps as will repel the advance of alien races, in spite of Imperial notions which may lie in the direction of preserving friendly intercourse with those who would prove anything but desirable assistance in the way of colonisation. The purity of the blood of the Caucasian should not be tainted with that of the lower types, and this will most assuredly occur if, in the ordinary run of events, the dusky strains are admitted, if not welcomed. The responsibilities of the future are so much dependent upon the prompt and vigorous action of the politicians of the present day that all party feelings in the legislature of New South Wales should be sunk in the desire to bring about a result which will in some manner further cement the effects of the branches of the Empire. The main desire is the preservation of the race, and to those who can appreciate the disastrous result of a mixture of black, brown, or yellow, the necessity of the mother colony giving a good lead will be more than apparent."

The foregoing extracts may be regarded as indicating the general tone of Australian opinions. There is no hostile feeling towards the coloured races residing in the colonies, unless it be the lower class of Chinese, whose presence would be regarded as unwelcome anywhere, and there will not be the slightest interference with Asiatic immigration, unless it begins to assume large proportions. Practically, the measure is a defensive one, intended less to meet an existing state of affairs than to guard against possible contingencies. It must be remembered that while in the southern portion of the colonies the numbers of Chinese have become materially reduced, their places have been largely taken by

Afghans and Syrians; while in the northern portions more than half the population consists of Chinese, Malays, Afghans, and other coloured races. As regards the Japanese nation, there is no feeling in Australia save that of respect and goodwill, and, however severely the new legislation may press upon other peoples, it will not, so far as the colonists are concerned, tend to diminish the friendly relations subsisting between Australia and Japan.

U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIVOR, Esq., Judge.
WEDNESDAY, November 25th.

SMITH V. SMITH.

This was a case in which Mrs. Ida May Smith brought an action against her husband, Mr. Alfred Gillmore Smith, for permanent alimony and judicial separation.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. G. H. Scidmore for the defendant.

His Honour, on the case being called, said that a demurrer had been filed in the case by the defendants' counsel, due notice of which had been served on the plaintiff's Counsel. He was prepared to hear the arguments on such demurrer.

Mr. Scidmore—May it please the Court. In filing a demurrer in this cause, the defendant wishes it to be distinctly and clearly understood that he is not trying to dodge an issue on the facts; for he feels that this is an action impudently and inconsiderately instituted, and would not, I believe, have been dragged into the publicity of this tribunal had my learned friend been candidly and fully instructed by his client and her abettors. The defendant, if necessary, is fully prepared to meet the facts stated in the petition, and is quite willing to fight the case on its merits, but until his demurrer is disposed of, must be content to suffer in silence the imputations unjustly cast upon him. This is an action for divorce *a mensa et thoro* with alimony *pendente lite* and permanent alimony during the joint lives of the parties. The petition is as follows:—

1. The defendant is a citizen of the United States resident in Yokohama.
2. On the 1st day of November, 1893, the plaintiff and defendant were lawfully married at Yokohama, where they cohabited together until the spring of 1895. When, on the recommendation of her medical adviser, and with the consent and approval and at the cost of her husband, the plaintiff left Yokohama on a temporary visit to the United States, where she now is.
3. Whilst so absent from her husband as aforesaid, and without any fault on her part the defendant wilfully abandoned and deserted her and wholly separated himself from the plaintiff and positively refused thereafter to live or cohabit with her, or to allow her to live or cohabit with him.
4. The defendant further neglected and refused and still neglects and refuses to provide the plaintiff with reasonable support and maintenance suitable to her situation and to his condition of life, or with the means of returning to Yokohama or of defraying the expenses of this action.

The plaintiff therefore pray:—

1. A decree of judicial separation from the defendant.
2. That the defendant be ordered to pay to the plaintiff such alimony, *pendente lite*, as to the Court may seem fit.
3. That the defendant be ordered to pay to the plaintiff, during the joint lives of the plaintiff and the defendant such permanent alimony or separate maintenance as to the Court may seem fit.
4. That the defendant be ordered to pay to the plaintiff all the costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred by her in the prosecution of this action.
5. That the plaintiff may have such other or further relief as the nature of the case may require, or as to the Court may seem fit.

J. F. LOWDER,
Counsel for the Plaintiff.

Sworn to and subscribed by W. L. Merriman, who states that he has personal knowledge of the facts stated in the foregoing petition.

This 7th day of November, 1896.

W. L. MERRIMAN.

N. W. McIVOR
Consul-General.

The petition, I must assume, for I can find no other probable authority, is based upon Regulation 229 of this Court, which regulation reads as follows:—229.—Divorces may be granted from the bonds of matrimony, upon the following grounds 1st., habitual drunkenness; 2nd, extreme cruelty; 3rd, wilful desertion by one party of the other for a period of over two years; 4th, failing wilfully to supply the wife with the common necessities of life, having the ability so to do, for a period of over two years; 5th, adultery of either party, remaining uncondoned at the time the action is brought; and

7th, conviction of either party of a felony. To entitle a party to maintain an action for divorce in any of the United States courts in the empire of Japan, it must be alleged in the complaint, and proved at the trial, that the applicant for six months next preceding the time of commencing the action, has been, and still is an actual resident of Japan. In proceedings of this nature, the courts are authorised to make and enforce all suitable orders in relation to the children of the parties to the action and in relation to compelling the payment of alimony, either *pendente lite* or subsequent to the determination of the case; and also, to make suitable disposition of all common property of or belonging to the parties of the action." The defendant's demurrer to the petition is as follows:—

The Demurrer of Alured Gillmore Smith, the defendant, to the petition of Ida May Smith, above-named plaintiff.

This defendant, by protestation, not confessing all or any of the matters and things in the plaintiff's petition contained, to be true in such manner and form as the same are therein set forth and alleged, doth demur to the said petition, and for causes of demurrer sheweth:

1. That this Court has not jurisdiction of the subject matter or cause of this action.

2. That no cause of action is stated in the said petition.

Wherefore, and for divers other good causes of demurrer appearing in the said petition, the defendant doth demur thereto, and humbly demands the judgment of this Court whether he shall be compelled to make any further or other answer to the said petition, and prays to be hence dismissed, with his costs and charges in this behalf most wrongfully sustained.

It will be observed that the first ground of demurrer involves a direct attack upon the validity of this regulation 229. This regulation with others, was made—

Mr. Lowder—In order to shorten my learned friend's argument, I may state that my petition in this case is not based on that rule. I shall not in any way rely on that rule 229 in my answer to my friend's arguments.

Mr. Scidmore—That is an entirely new feature of the case.

His Honour—Then I understand that your case, Mr. Lowder, is not based on any rule or regulation of this Court?

Mr. Lowder—My petition, sir, is based on the Common Law, not on any particular rule of this Court, but on the rules of Equity.

His Honour said he wished to understand the scope of the arguments. He took it that Mr. Lowder's contention was that his petition was not invalid because of absence of any rule of the Court, but was based on the assumption that Federal Courts in the United States, failing the provision of any statutes to that effect, could assume jurisdiction in the district in which they sat.

Mr. Lowder—Not only that, in which I entirely agree, but that this Court has power to assume jurisdiction and dissolve the bonds of matrimony.

Mr. Scidmore—Then I take it that my learned friend's position is that, although there is no provision for such a case in the rules governing this Court, the Court can assume such jurisdiction?

Mr. Lowder—My contention is that my petition has not been brought under any particular rule governing this Court, but is brought under the rules of Common Law and the rules of Equity.

His Honour took it that the Common Law to which Mr. Lowder referred was the Common Law of England that was introduced into United States prior July 4th, 1776. By the regulations under which that Court was established it was provided that upon the Court finding no rules of its own applying in certain cases, then it was to turn to any local statutes for its guidance and thus enable the judge to guide himself by provisions provided in the body of the Common Law. He took it that Counsel for the plaintiff rested his case on the rights conferred in the laws—the common law—of England prior to July 4th, 1776.

Mr. Lowder—The law of England as introduced into the United States.

Mr. Scidmore—Then I take it that the demurrer is held not to apply to the rule of Court?

His Honour—I take it that you may confine the scope of your arguments to its bearing on the Common Law and to such statutory provisions as are not in force here.

Mr. Lowder—I merely repeat that I rely upon the provisions of the Common Law and the rules of Equity.

Mr. Scidmore—The statutory provision under which this Court was established was No. 4086, of the revised Statutes of the United States—that is the federal statutes. Let us now seek for the divorce jurisdiction of this Court: it is certainly not found in the law of admiralty; and as to the Common Law, my learned friend may

tell you that it in accordance with the Ecclesiastical Law, and that its main features were imported by the colonists into America and hence form part of our Common Law. To what extent the ecclesiastical law has been adopted by us is a question that might be interesting, but in the present case I submit that the provisions of that law relating to divorce have never been recognized as a component element of our legal system. The reasons for this are various; one good reason is that the colonists wisely omitted the establishment or importation of ecclesiastical courts. Colonists carry with them laws but not Courts, and so the ecclesiastical Courts which alone in England could grant divorces were not imported into America. That is the language, supported by numerous authorities of both countries, which you will find in Section 214 of Stewart on "Marriage and Divorce." But a most convincing reason you will find further on in the same section of Stewart's work and also on page 565 of the *American Law Review* for 1888, where it is stated that the jurisdiction to grant divorces is in all cases statutory and no court, though having jurisdiction of the parties, can grant a decree of divorce except for causes provided by the statute under which it acts. No less than 29 decisions selected from all parts of the nation are cited in support of this dictum. I am glad that I am provided this morning with most of them. In support of this argument—that divorces are viewed in no other light than regular exertions of legislative power—Counsel quoted a case in the Maryland Courts, decided in 1829 and reported in 19, *American Decisions*, p. 240.—*Crane v. McGinnis*. Then, he continued, in 1852 we have the case of *Wright v. Wright's lessee*, in which the case of *Crane v. Crane* is affirmed. This was reported in 56, *American Decisions*, p. 724. Under the American statute law we must look to the American Statutes to ascertain grounds for divorce, and in support of that I will refer to the Illinois case in 1856. That was *Hamaker v. Hamaker*, reported in 65, *American Decisions*, page 706. The same view was taken in Arkansas in 1857, in the case *Baumann and Baumann*, 68, *American Decisions*, p. 174. And again in California, in 1858, in the case *Conant and Conant*, 70, *American Decisions*, pp. 721-722. The Wisconsin case decided in 1882, *Cook and Cook*, reported in 43, *American Reports*, 706. In the state of Massachusetts, in the year 1894—two years ago—the case of *Kelley and Kelley*, 42nd *American State Reports*, page 389, in which it was held, "In this commonwealth no power exists in any Court to pass an order for the payment of alimony *pendente lite*, or of permanent alimony, in a matrimonial cause of any description, except under provisions of statute conferring such power." The doctrine is reiterated in *Erkenbrach v. Erkenbrach*, 96, *New York 456*, 42, *American State Reports*, in which Ruler, C.J., says, "The courts in this State have no common law jurisdiction over the subject of divorces, and their authority is confined altogether to the exercise of such express and accidental powers as are conferred by the state."

Coming nearer home, and in view of the fact that we have to look to the laws of England to determine to what extent ecclesiastical law was adopted, I will call your Honour's attention to the case of *Burtis v. Burtis*, decided in the state of New York in 1825, reported in *American Decisions*, Vol. 14, p. 564. This is by the Chancellor of the State as the presiding judge of the Equity Court, who says, "Thus it appears that the law of England concerning divorces and matrimonial causes was never adopted in the colony of New York. It was not adopted in fact or in practice and it was never the law of the colony." I may call your Honour's attention to the well-known historical fact that in South Carolina, one of the earliest settled British colonies in America, and one of the thirteen original states of the union, divorces are not provided for by law and are denied by the Courts. For a time, I must say, during what was known as the "carpet-bag" administration, divorces were granted, but only for a short time; and thus we find that for a period of a century and a half there were no laws of divorce in that state of the Union whatever. The authority for this is Hubbel's *Legal Directory for the United States*, 1899, page 591. Then, as to the question of the equity jurisdiction of the Court: I think I have shown that so far as the common law side is concerned this Court has no jurisdiction—that is, the ecclesiastical law is no part of the common law as imported into America, and therefore no part of the common law as administered by this Court. I think that I have demonstrated that with regard to the common law jurisdiction of this Court, it does not include any of the divorce powers known to the ecclesiastical law. Then as to the equity powers, such divorce jurisdiction as is very

commonly exercised—frequently and commonly used—by the courts of equity in the United States is the outcome of powers confirmed by statute only. (Pomeroy's *Equity Jurisprudence*, vol. 1, Section 112.) You will observe that this in an action the object of which is to alter the personal status of the parties. In one sense it has often been called and described as an action *in rem*. I have another authority for this which is the well-known Virginia case, and I think that it is of importance, as Virginia was one of the oldest of our colonies and in which the laws of England received a special prominence. I am referring to the case decided in 1826 (*Almond v. Almond*) quoted in 15, *American Decisions*, p. 782. So much for the laws of the several States; what then can we find under the federal jurisdiction? I cannot find an instance of an application for divorce made to a Federal Court. The reason for this is obvious. The nearest approach to such an application was a suit to recover alimony previously decreed in a State Court—*Barbour v. Barbour*, 21, Howard, 582, wherein the Supreme Court remarked, "We disclaim altogether any jurisdiction in the Courts of the United States upon the subject of divorce or for the allowance of alimony, either as an original proceeding in Chancery or as an incident to divorce *vinculo* or to one from bed and board." I had prepared my arguments, your Honour, on the assumption that the petition was drawn up under rule 229, but as the learned Counsel for the other side relies upon the Common Law, I have had to eliminate that part of my contention; but in my view, some part of the argument for the first portion of the demurrer is applicable to the second. The demurrer sets forth under the rules of the Court that the Court has no jurisdiction in this case; the second part was that the petition should be dismissed as it does not state the cause of action. [Counsel then quoted the prayer of the petition and said that one of the first facts disclosed was that the petitioner was not domiciled within the jurisdiction of the present Court.] My learned friend may contend that in this instance the domicile of the husband is the domicile of the wife. The authorities upon that point, I submit, though somewhat conflicting, especially on the rule, establish that where a wife's absence is involuntarily she thereby acquires a separate domicile. Counsel then quoted Stewart on "Marriage and Divorce," and added that even this authority showed that there was a conflict between the American rule and the English rule in regard to the practise. He could only refer the Court to the practise on the Pacific Coast. Counsel, again referring to the prayer of the petition, said that there was no allegation here as to the commencement or the duration of the neglect and refusal, or as to the supply of the common necessities of life, or as to the ability of the defendant to supply such necessities. The petition does not state what, if any, allowance, from her husband the plaintiff has been and is now receiving; nor does it state what is the situation of the plaintiff and the condition in life of the defendant. The relief asked for is somewhat ambiguous and contradictory in a sense. The first prayer of the petition asks for judicial separation, a term of law, if I am correctly informed, that was introduced by a British Act of Parliament passed in 1858. The second prayer of the petition is for alimony *pendente lite*. On that subject I will refer you to Lawson's "Rights, Remedies, and Practice," Vol. 2; and also *Foss v. Foss*, 2 Illinois Appeals, 411. *Angelo v. Angelo*, 81 Illinois, 251. Finally, I submit, that it is well established in the practise in these proceedings that the petition must allege every fact the existence of which is necessary to the granting of the divorce. It must set forth substantially in the terms of the law relied upon all to acts necessary to give the Court jurisdiction over the parties, and so as to make out a good *prima facie* case. Counsel finally quoted Stewart on "Marriage and Divorce," section 330-331; and closed his argument.

Mr. Lowder, in reply, said that he did not think that it would be necessary to advert at length to the last series of arguments presented by his learned friend, especially as he was not prepared to hear them raised upon the present demurrer. The demurrer was based on two grounds, first of jurisdiction and the second that no cause of action was stated. If the petition failed in those respects, he submitted that there was no necessity to raise the question of domicile. His learned friend said that the prayers of the petition were contradictory. If he had said that they were in the alternative he would have said what was meant. It was true that the plaintiff asked for judicial separation and also asked for alimony as to the court might seem fit. The argument on the other side was that the Court had no jurisdiction to grant a judicial separation; no jurisdiction to allow alimony; no jurisdiction to grant separate maintenance; no

jurisdiction to grant alimony *pendente lite*. If that was so, he was sure His Honour would agree with him that, however limited the jurisdiction of the Court might be, justice would fail by want of power or competence to do justice. In considering the demurrer, the Court would have to take the allegations contained in the petition as proved. What did they find these allegations to be? That on the 1st of November 1893, the parties were lawfully joined together in matrimony and cohabited together till the spring of 1895. Then, on the advice of her medical attendant, and with the consent and at the cost of her husband, the plaintiff went on a temporary visit to the United States. There she remained at present owing to her husband refusing to support her or send her the wherewithal to pay her passage back to Yokohama. These statements of the petition must, for the purposes of the demurrer, be taken as true, and it would be a denial of justice if the Court found that the plaintiff's petition must be dismissed on the ground of want of jurisdiction. And then as to the other ground of the demurrer that no case could lie owing to no cause of action being stated in the petition, his learned friend—

His Honour—Pardon, one moment. I suppose you have cases to quote in support of your conclusion. If the Court should decide that it has no jurisdiction, does it necessarily follow that there would be no other Court open to the plaintiff?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—Because, otherwise, there would be an injustice.

Mr. Lowder—Yes. Because the defendant is here and no other action could be brought against him. A case brought in another court against him would fail.

His Honour—For want of jurisdiction?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—Are you advised on that point?

Mr. Lowder—That is my argument.

His Honour—I suppose you raise the point of her domicile?

Mr. Lowder—It does not necessarily follow that she has a domicile at all. All that the documents before the Court show is that her husband has left her in the United States, whither she went on a temporary visit, and she cannot get back for want of funds. I think that her domicile is with her husband; as my learned friend just now quoted in one of the cases he cited, the husband has the power of choosing the domicile for the household and changing it whenever he may think fit.

His Honour—You think then that the fact of her domicile cannot be questioned?

Mr. Lowder—On the facts before the Court it cannot be questioned.

His Honour—I think you might like to show how she is placed at the present time.

Mr. Lowder—I have it from the States that she has no domicile there, and that no action could be brought by her there.

His Honour—Possibly that meant at the time the opinion was given. When that opinion was stated she had not been from Yokohama long enough, perhaps, to obtain a domicile in the States.

Mr. Lowder—She is an involuntary absentee. She did not return to the States to obtain a domicile. I contend that her domicile, under the circumstances, is the domicile of her husband.

His Honour—She is not absent then, in the sense that she is an involuntary absentee by effect of physical and moral force?

Mr. Lowder—Certainly not, she was not so at first.

His Honour—I have presented this aspect of the case, Mr. Lowder, for the purpose, not of showing bias or anything of that description, but in order that I may have the help of Counsel in coming to a conclusion upon the matter.

Mr. Lowder—I am much obliged to your Honour, for so doing, and shall do my best to help clear up the matter.

His Honour—I hope I have not interrupted your argument seriously.

Mr. Lowder—Oh, no. I did not know that the question of domicile was going to be raised at this time. I had no idea it was going to be brought forward on the demurrer. In this case the husband fixes the house of the parties, and then, leaving his wife without funds in the United States, he deserts her. With regard to the cause of action not being shown, I will refer your Honour to Bouvier. He says: "The only causes for which such a divorce is granted in England are adultery and cruelty. In this country it is generally granted also for wilful desertion, and in some States for other causes." I rely on that. I will also direct your attention to another passage in Bouvier, in which he says:—"In general, if a wife is abandoned by her husband without fault of her part, and left without adequate means of support, a bill in equity will

lie to compel the husband to support her without asking for or procuring a decree of divorce." I will also refer you to Showler's work on "Husband and Wife." My learned friend has also said that in regard to the absence of jurisdiction, the ecclesiastical law could not be applied here because it had not been adopted in any way in the United States as part of the common law, and therefore such jurisdiction could not be accorded to this Court. He said that it had never existed in the United States even by implication. On such a point I cannot do better than refer to the very able work of my learned friend himself, where, on pages 98-99, he says:—"There is no Federal Statute of the United States upon the subject of divorce, consequently we must look to the Common Law or to the Law of Equity or to the Ministerial regulations for information under this head. In England, previous to the secession of the American colonies, divorces were only granted by the Ecclesiastical Courts administering the Canon Law. These divorces were of two kinds, a *vinculo matrimonii*, on a total dissolution for causes existing before the marriage; and a *mensa et thoro* granted for causes arising after marriage, such as intolerable cruelty, adultery, perpetual disease, and unnatural crime." I hardly think, in the face of that declaration, that it lies in his mouth to tell now us that ecclesiastical law was never adopted in the United States, until he brings out another edition.—(Laughter.) I doubt whether there is a better authority than Mr. Scidmore on this particular point.—(Laughter.) The case that has been very able discussed to-day by my learned friend is admirably met by Nelson on "Divorces and Separation." The work was published in 1895, and is the latest authority on Marriage and Divorces in the United States. The chapter I refer to is not very long, but it is very learned, and I intend to adopt the whole of it in my argument. [Counsel then read the chapter that gave all the latest cases and decisions in nearly all the States of the Union, showing that Courts of Equity have granted relief in such cases, when asked to grant alimony, and so prevented a multiplicity of cases being brought against a husband by tradespeople who have supplied goods to the wife in her support]. In conclusion, Mr. Lowder said—This is a case where such jurisdiction should be exercised. The Court in giving its decision would do well to rule in favour of the wife and declare that it will not refuse justice to the plaintiff.

Mr. Scidmore, in summing up, thanked his learned friend for referring to him as a high authority on the point of law in question. The learned Counsel certainly placed a higher value upon this little work than he (the author) did. Since that work was produced the author—he said it in all modesty—had learnt more law, and he trusted sounder law, than he then propounded.—(Laughter.) At any rate, he referred his learned friend to the preface of that book where he would find it stated that the work was written for students and as a guide to the high authorities. In regard to the question of domicile he would inform his learned friend that there were many courts in the United States open to the plaintiff if she sought for divorce. In North Dakota or Oklahoma a residence of ninety days was all that was required. In other courts a residence of two years was necessary. He did not think that if the Court found that it had no jurisdiction here that plaintiff would find herself without remedy. The authorities just quoted by his learned friend had more bearing on alimony than on divorce, and nothing thus far advanced by him had extended farther than that. Some Courts of the States might have such equity jurisdiction, but it was only in certain cases, and then their decrees did not carry with them a separation.

His Honour said that, in view of the serious nature of the issues, the number of authorities cited, and the importance of the Court's findings, he would defer passing on the demurrer until some later date. The decision of the Court was reserved.

A VERY CURIOUS CASE.

On Nov. 14th, at the Hongkong Magistracy, before Commander Hastings, Captain Innes, master of the steamship *Chingtu*, was charged at the instance of a Japanese, Mochitaka Taka, as follows:—"That you, on board the British steamship *Chingtu*, then in Victoria Harbour, in the waters of this Colony, unlawfully and injuriously and against his will and without any legal warrant, authority, or reasonable or justifiable cause whatsoever, imprison and detain the complainant for a space of time, to wit from about 7 a.m. on the 12th November, 1896, to 12.30 p.m. on the 13th day." There were seven similar charges at the instance of six Japanese women and one man. Mr. A. B.

Johnson, Crown Solicitor, conducted the case on behalf of the Police: Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., appeared on behalf of the defence. Mr. Francis said that the charge was not denied but the case was justified. M. Johnson then outlined the facts of the case which were these:—The eight Japanese arrived in Hongkong on the *Chingtu* having gone aboard as stowaways at Kobe. They were discovered at Fenchow by the officers of the ship, and were then taken below, and on arrival in Hongkong were put into a cabin and the door locked, and kept there until mid-day on Friday. From information which the Police received they went on board and the Japanese were let out of the cabin. It appears that a Japanese in Hongkong boarded the *Chingtu* and offered to pay something on account of the passage money of the eight stowaways, but the Captain demanded \$800, which was thought too exorbitant. Then communication was had to the Japanese Consul. The Magistrate in his decision said:—"The defence is absolutely and utterly useless and groundless. I was surprised that the Japanese consul had been communicated with." The Japanese consul possesses no extra-territorial rights here. If the man had been a Frenchman or Turk or a German the same course would have held good; he could have been brought up here and prosecuted. As to the idea that it was out of regard for our Vagrancy Ordinance, I think it is useless; your action is absolutely unjustifiable in keeping these people locked up. The reasons are not far to seek. You are a regular trader to Japan and were afraid to get into trouble with the Japanese authorities. It is perfectly competent for the Japanese authorities to search your vessel in their own waters and safeguard their own laws in any way they like, but the long arm of Japan does not extend to Hongkong harbour. As a ship-master, I think you have discredited the British flag in locking up these people. Japanese women have been brought here time after time, and the case has been remanded for ten minutes and exorbitant passage monies have been paid. This is an indictable offence on which I can commit you, but under section 80 I will deal with the case myself, and I will fine you \$75 with the alternative of two months' hard labour on each case." An appeal has been lodged.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Nov. 23.

During a debate on the Foreign Estimates in the French Chamber of Deputies, M. Hanotaux, Minister of Foreign Affairs, being asked to define the relations between France and Russia, declared that it was not expedient to supplement the precise statements of the Czar and President Faure regarding the *entente*, the existence of which was undeniable. Referring to Egypt, M. Hanotaux declared that France abandons none of her claims, and now she was not alone, having a friendly nation who supports her.

("SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

Nagasaki, Nov. 24.

The new granite dock at Nagasaki was successfully opened yesterday, the first vessel to be taken in being the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, formerly the *Ching-wo*.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, November 21.

Russia adheres resolutely to the treaty clauses relating to the Black Sea preventing the egress of Russian warships, but equally preventing the ingress of foreign warships and thereby protecting the Russian fleet.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.26

Exchange on London at New York ... 4.86½

(Tel. trans.)

London, November 24.

Russia has rejected the proposal made by France to establish International control of Turkish finance on similar lines to the Egyptian question.

London, November 25.

Advices from India state that rain has fallen in the Bombay Presidency, the Deccan, in Rajputana, and most of the districts of Bengal,

and if it continues the immediate danger of a severe famine will be averted.

An agitation has been started in Italy for the total and speedy evacuation of Erythrea.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, November 16.

The decision of the Venezuela Arbitration Court is not expected before the end of the year, hence the German Press regard the Venezuela settlement as an admission on the part of Great Britain of the right of the United States to supersede any American Republic in the case of a dispute with European Powers.

London, November 19.

In a debate in the Reichstag upon duelling in the German Army, the Minister for War, amidst protests, strongly defended the practice of duelling, as the honour of officers demands the right of self-defence, notably against insults by civilians.

Mr. J. N. Jordan has been gazetted Consul-General at Söul.

(FROM THE "BANGKOK OBSERVER.")

London, October 30.

The Hova Minister for the Interior, and Prince Ratsimanga, uncle of the Queen, have been tried by court-martial and shot for complicity in the rebellion.

London, October 30.

In view of Turkey's financial difficulties Russia has reduced the annual payments on account of the war indemnity by one half.

The total amount of the war indemnity is £32,000,000, the payment of which has been spread over 100 years, at the rate of £320,000 per annum, without interest.

London, October 29.

Pastor Lloyd, the Procurator-General of the Holy Synod of the Russian Church, recently declared at Vienna that a real alliance between France and Russia is impossible.

London, November 1.

The Tsar has returned to St. Petersburg.

London, November 19.

Le Temps states that France has taken measures to safeguard forthwith French rights in the Dahomey Hinterland and on the Niger in the event of the Niger Company attempting to occupy Bajibo.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kobe, November 25.

The Austrian man-of-war *Panther* left this port for Yokohama this morning.

Osaka, November 26.

The share market has risen considerably.

Takamatsu, November 26.

A meeting of promoters of the San-A Railway Company was held at the Yodogawa-ro last night. It was decided to amalgamate with the Kainan Railway.

Mayebashi, November 26.

H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, Commandant of the First Brigade, and Lieut.-General Oku, Commandant of the First Army Division, left for Tokyo to-day.

Bakan, November 26.

Colonel Ogihara and Major Kikuchi, of Gendarmes, arrived here to-day en route to Formosa.

Major Muraoka, who was appointed War Counsellor of the Shimonoseki Defence Artillery, arrived here to-day.

Akita, Nov. 26.

Mr. Igarashi, President of the Akita Local Court, who was appointed President of the Fukui Local Court, left here this morning to take up his new appointment.

Morioka, Nov. 26.

An ordinary meeting of the Prefectural Assembly was opened to-day. The estimated expenditure for the thirtieth fiscal year amounts to yen 348,785.

Toyama, November 26.

Mr. Terada Naonobu, Secretary of Irimidzgun, having been retired from his post, committed suicide yesterday.

Nagasaki, November 26.

The British man-of-war *Archer* has left for Kobe, and the *Æolus* arrived from the latter port to-day.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 261.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1—R to B 7 | 1—B takes R |
| 2—P to R 7 | 2—Anything |
| 3—P to R 8 (Kt), mate | 1—K takes R |
| 2—Q to R 5 ch. | 2—K to B 3 |
| 3—P to K 5, mate | 1—K to R 2 |
| 2—Q to B 6 | 2—Anything |
| 3—Q takes P, mate | 1—P takes P |
| 2—R to B 6 ch. | 2—K moves |
| 3—Q takes P, mate. | |

Correct answers from Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.H.S., W.d.H., E.J.K., and Omega.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 262.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1—R to Q R sq. | 1—Kt from B 3 |
| 2—R to R 5, mate | 1—Kt from Q sq. |
| 2—B to K 6, mate | 1—B moves |
| 2—Kt, mates | 1—P moves |
| 2—Q, mates. | |

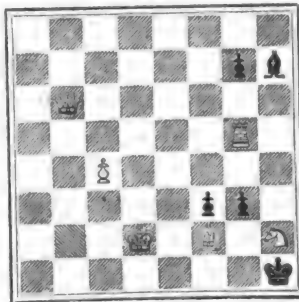
Correct answers from J.D., W.H.S., and Omega. No. 259.—Correct solution received from E.J.K. The Key-move sent by W.d.H. (Q to Q 8) will not solve the problem.

No. 260.—Correct answer received from W.d.H. No. 262.—This little example of the Spanish school has tricked many of our regular solvers. The following false Keys have been sent in. 1—K to R 8, 1—R to K 3, 1—R to Q B sq. Let our friends study the correct solution as above, and see where the differences arise.

PROBLEM No. 265.

By V. MARIN.

BLACK.



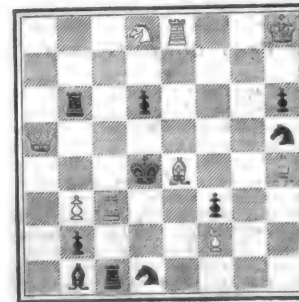
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 266.

By G. J. SLATER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

BUDA-PESTH.

We take the following interesting slip from the columns of the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

The games necessary to decide the tie which existed between the first and second prize-winners of the Budapest tourney resulted in favour of the Russian master, Tschigorin, his opponent, Charousek, being, apparently, easily disposed of. It is a remarkable fact that Tschigorin, who has always been regarded as a player of the first rank, never before succeeded in winning a first prize in any international tournament he had entered. He came within an ace of doing so, however, in the New York tourney of 1889, when at the conclusion of the scheduled games he was tied with Weiss. The tie match ended in a draw.

Rudolph Charousek, who has suddenly leaped to the front among chess players, is a native of Prague, Bohemia, and is 23 years of age. When 5 years old his parents emigrated to Hungary, and he learned chess at college at Kaschen in 1891. He is not a "book-player," and his study of theory has undoubtedly given the keen edge to his naturally sharp intuitive qualities. At the Nuremberg tournament he scored 5½ games against the prize winners, being only one point below Lasker, whose score was 6½. The Budapest tournament is his first record, he having won against Pillsbury, Tschigorin, Winawer, Maroczy, Noa, Popiel, and Albin, and drawn with Tarrasch, Walbrodt, and Schlechter, and lost to Janowski and Marco.

A game played between Tschigorin and Charousek at the recent Nuremberg tournament is not without interest at the present time. The score, with notes made by Emil Kienmayer of the *Philadelphia Ledger*, follows:—

GAME No. 609.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Tschigorin. | Charousek. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to B 4 | 3—Kt to B 3 (a) |
| 4—P to Q 3 | 4—B to B 4 |
| 5—P to B 3 | 5—P to Q 3 |
| 6—Q Kt to Q 2 | 6—Castles |
| 7—Kt to B sq. | 7—P to Q 4 |
| 8—P takes P | 8—Kt takes P |
| 9—B to K 3 | 9—Kt takes B |
| 10—Kt takes Kt | 10—Q to Q 3 |
| 11—Q to K 2 | 11—B to K 3 |
| 12—Kt to Kt 5 | 12—B takes B |
| 13—Kt takes B | 13—Q to Kt 3 |
| 14—Kt to Kt 4 | 14—B to K 2 |
| 15—P to K Kt 4 (b) | 15—K R to Q sq. (c) |
| 16—Kt to K 3 | 16—P to Q Kt 4 (d) |
| 17—Kt to K B 5 | 17—B to B sq. |
| 18—P to K R 4 | 18—Q to K 3 |
| 19—Q to B 3 | 19—Kt to K 2 |
| 20—P to R 5 | 20—R to Q 2 (e) |
| 21—P to R 6 | 21—P to Kt 3 (f) |
| 22—Kt to Kt 7 (g) | 22—B takes Kt |
| 23—P takes B | 23—Kt to Q 4 |
| 24—R takes P (h) | 24—K takes R |
| 25—Kt to Kt 5 ch. | 25—K takes P |
| 26—Kt takes Q ch. | 26—P takes Kt |
| 27—Castles | 27—Kt to Kt 3 |
| 28—P to Kt 5 | 28—R to K B sq. |
| 29—Q to R 3 | 29—R takes B P (i) |
| 30—Q to R 6 ch. | 30—K to B 2 |
| 31—Q to R 7 ch. | 31—K to K sq. |
| 32—Q takes P ch. | 32—K to Q sq. |
| 33—Q to Kt 8 ch. | 33—K to R 2 |
| 34—P to Kt 6 | 34—R to K Kt 7 (k) |
| 35—R to K B sq. | 35—Resigns. |

(a) White now could continue Kt to Kt 6. The game then would proceed 4—Kt to Kt 5, P to Q 4; 5—P takes P, Kt to Q R 4; 6—B to Kt 5 ch; P to B 3; 7—P takes P, P takes P; 8—B to K 3, etc. White winning a pawn, but being subjected to a strong attack. Tschigorin very often adopted the two knights defence, and he is probably the foremost exponent of this particular opening. It was quite bold on Charousek's part to adopt it against the Russian.

(b) Well played. Black cannot well continue now P to B 4, for it would open the K Kt file, giving White a king's side attack. White now is enabled to play Kt to K 3, followed by Kt to K B 5.

(c) K R to K sq. followed by Kt Q sq and Kt to K 3 was probably better.

(d) This move is not very promising. Black has no time for a queen's side attack. He should have played B to B sq or B to Kt 4, followed by Kt to K 2, and eventually Kt to Q 4.

(e) This, of course, enables White to win the exchange. But White, after playing Kt to B 6 ch, followed by Q takes R, would have difficulty in extricating the queen.

(f) P takes P was probably better. Black, it seems, overlooked the winning combination White had on hand.

(g) Beautiful play, forcing Black to capture the Kt, then opening the K R file. Black had no other play. His queen was attacked, and had he moved the queen White would have continued Kt to B 6 ch, winning the rook.

(h) Brilliant play. Black is obliged to capture the rook, for White threatens Q to R 3 and mate in a few moves. K takes R, of course, causes the loss of the queen.

(i) R to R sq was not any better. White would have continued Q takes K P.

(j) Necessary to stop the advanced Kt P, but Black's game is a hopeless one, and White's next move, R to K B sq, causes the surrender. White then threatens Q to H 8 mate. Should Black answer K to Q 3, then Q B 8 ch, and if K to Q 4 or Q B 3, then Q to B 3 ch, winning the rook.

The following are the prizes played for at the

Budapest tournament:—First, 2,500 crowns; second, 2,000 crowns; third, 1,500 crowns; fourth, 1,000 crowns; fifth, 600 crowns; sixth, 300 crowns; seventh, 200 crowns. A special prize of 100 crowns for best scores against prize-winners was awarded to Tarrasch.

GAME NO. 610. EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. J. Gunthers.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4
5—P to B 3
6—Castles
7—P to Q 4
8—B to R Kt 5
9—P to Q 5
10—Q to R 4
11—Kt to R 3
12—B to K 2
13—Kt to B 4
14—P to Q 6
15—Kt to Kt 6
16—Q takes R P
17—Kt to R R 4 (b)
18—B takes Kt
19—Kt to B 5
20—K R to Q sq.
21—K to R 8
22—Q takes R P
23—R takes P ch. (c)
24—R to Q sq. ch.

BLACK. W. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4
4—B takes P
5—B to R 4
6—Q to B 3 (a)
7—Kt to R 3
8—Q to Q 3
9—Kt to Q sq.
10—B to Kt 3
11—P to Q B 3
12—B to B 2
13—Q to B sq.
14—B takes P
15—R to Kt sq.
16—Kt to Kt 5
17—Kt to K 3
18—Kt takes B
19—Kt to K 3 (c)
20—B to B 2
21—R takes Kt (d)
22—K to Q sq.
23—K takes R
24—Resigns. (f)

(a) Mr. Steinitz considers this the best move for the defence but up to the present he has not by any means proved it to be so, if we may judge by the result of encounters in which he has tried it against M. Tschigorin, as well as by the result of the present game.

(b) Evidently the correct reply. Black cannot now prevent the knight being posted at B 5, which is at once fatal to his position.

(c) If K takes P the following variation would ensue:—16—Kt takes B ch.; Q takes Kt; 17—Q R to Q sq.; Q to B 2; 18—Kt takes P; and whether Black recaptures with Queen or Rook, White wins by 19—R to B 4, as the case may require.

(d) If K to Q sq., White would probably have replied with 20—Kt takes B; K takes Kt; 21—Q to R 3 ch.; P to Kt 5; 22—Q takes K P ch.; K to Kt 5; 23—Kt to Kt 6 ch., etc.

(e) Mr. Steinitz had doubtless overlooked this possible sacrifice.

(f) The Queen must fall in exchange for a Rook, after which White has an easy win; or if Black play Kt to Q 5, then P takes Kt and wins.

GAME NO. 611.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Steinitz.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Kt to B 3
5—Q to B 2
6—P to K 4
7—Kt takes P
8—B to K 3
9—Q takes Kt
10—Q to Q 3
11—B to Q 2
12—P takes P
13—Q to Kt 3 (b)
14—Q to Q sq.
15—P takes B
16—B to Q 3
17—B to K 4
18—B to B 3
19—Q to Q 3
20—Castles Q R
21—Kt to Kt sq.
22—B takes P (d)
23—B to K 4
24—K R to K sq.
25—B to Q 5
26—R to R 4
27—Q R to K sq.
28—R to B sq. (e)
29—P to R 4
30—P to R 5
31—P to R 6
32—R takes P
33—P takes P ch.
34—R (B 4) to K 4
35—K to Q 2
36—K to K 3
37—P to B 4
38—B takes R
39—R to K R sq.
40—R to K 5
41—B to K 4
42—R takes P ch.
43—Resigns. (f)

BLACK. Janowski.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K 2
5—Castles
6—P takes P
7—Kt to B 3
8—Kt takes Kt
9—P to B 4 (a)
10—P to B 5
11—P to K 4
12—B to K Kt 5
13—Kt to Q 5
14—B takes Kt (c)
15—R to B 4
16—R takes P ch.
17—Q to Q 2
18—P to B 4
19—R to K sq.
20—Q to R 5
21—B to B 3
22—R to K 2
23—R to Q Kt sq.
24—K to R sq.
25—R to Q 2
26—R to Q 3
27—R (Q 3) to Kt 3
28—P to Q R 3
29—P to Q R 4
30—R to K B sq.
31—Q takes P
32—R (B) to Q Kt sq.
33—B takes P
34—Q to R 8 ch.
35—R takes P ch.
36—R to K B sq.
37—Q to R 7
38—Q takes B
39—P to R 3
40—R (B) to Q Kt sq.
41—B takes R
42—K to Kt 2

NOTES FROM "THE FIELD," LONDON.

(a) A fine move in conjunction with the subsequent P to K 4 Janowski plays with wonderful lucidity.

(b) If 13—B to B 3, then 13—Kt to Kt 5; 14—Q to K 4, B to K 5, and wins. Janowski must have foreseen all these variations, which shows him to be a player of great depth of calculation.

(c) The hasty move spoils the combination. 24—R to B 4 would have given him a decisive advantage.

(d) White having had such a lucky escape (as it appears).

should not have tempted fortune by the capture of a Pawn that opens the Q file. If he wanted a P-win, why not B takes P ch.?

(e) The following beautiful variation shows how far Steinitz looks into a game. Supposing he had played the tempting 18—P to B 7, the continuation might have been: 19—R takes P ch.; 20—R takes R; 21—K takes B ch.; 22—K takes R; 23—K takes R; 24—K takes R; 25—K takes R; 26—K takes R; 27—K takes R; 28—K takes R; 29—K takes R; 30—K takes R; 31—K takes R; 32—K takes R; 33—K takes R; 34—K takes R; 35—K takes R; 36—K takes R; 37—K takes R; 38—K takes R; 39—K takes R; 40—K takes R; 41—K takes R; 42—K takes R; 43—K takes R; 44—K takes R; 45—K takes R; 46—K takes R; 47—K takes R; 48—K takes R; 49—K takes R; 50—K takes R; 51—K takes R; 52—K takes R; 53—K takes R; 54—K takes R; 55—K takes R; 56—K takes R; 57—K takes R; 58—K takes R; 59—K takes R; 60—K takes R; 61—K takes R; 62—K takes R; 63—K takes R; 64—K takes R; 65—K takes R; 66—K takes R; 67—K takes R; 68—K takes R; 69—K takes R; 70—K takes R; 71—K takes R; 72—K takes R; 73—K takes R; 74—K takes R; 75—K takes R; 76—K takes R; 77—K takes R; 78—K takes R; 79—K takes R; 80—K takes R; 81—K takes R; 82—K takes R; 83—K takes R; 84—K takes R; 85—K takes R; 86—K takes R; 87—K takes R; 88—K takes R; 89—K takes R; 90—K takes R; 91—K takes R; 92—K takes R; 93—K takes R; 94—K takes R; 95—K takes R; 96—K takes R; 97—K takes R; 98—K takes R; 99—K takes R; 100—K takes R; 101—K takes R; 102—K takes R; 103—K takes R; 104—K takes R; 105—K takes R; 106—K takes R; 107—K takes R; 108—K takes R; 109—K takes R; 110—K takes R; 111—K takes R; 112—K takes R; 113—K takes R; 114—K takes R; 115—K takes R; 116—K takes R; 117—K takes R; 118—K takes R; 119—K takes R; 120—K takes R; 121—K takes R; 122—K takes R; 123—K takes R; 124—K takes R; 125—K takes R; 126—K takes R; 127—K takes R; 128—K takes R; 129—K takes R; 130—K takes R; 131—K takes R; 132—K takes R; 133—K takes R; 134—K takes R; 135—K takes R; 136—K takes R; 137—K takes R; 138—K takes R; 139—K takes R; 140—K takes R; 141—K takes R; 142—K takes R; 143—K takes R; 144—K takes R; 145—K takes R; 146—K takes R; 147—K takes R; 148—K takes R; 149—K takes R; 150—K takes R; 151—K takes R; 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servant, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Komor and servant in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. O. Hansen and 2 children, Miss E. C. Stark, Mr. J. E. Ernst, Mr. W. H. Decker, Lieut. Von Stundin, Lieut. Auston Hoffmann, Lieut. and Mrs. R. A. Brown, Miss M. A. Holbrook, Mr. W. J. Schroth, and Mr. H. A. Little in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss Ackles, Miss Agnes Bryden, Mr. H. Beadle, Mr. C. M. Beecher, Mr. C. W. Collier, Dr. and Mrs. Darrin, Mr. B. D. Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Brazier, Miss Mabel L. Brazier, Miss Abby L. Brazier, Mr. and Mrs. Everett W. Brazier, R-v. R. W. Gray, Mr. High, Mr. and Mrs. D. Marr Henderson, child and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. C. Holliday, Mrs. C. L. Kingsley, Mr. Kwong, Mr. and Mrs. S. Moutrie and child, Mr. B. Miyaba, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Mactavish, Mrs. G. Palmer, Miss Tucker, Mr. Yen, Mr. Yuen, and Hon. Yui Shi Yi in cabin; 26 passengers in second class, and 428 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Dr. and Mrs. E. Woods, Messrs. J. S. Fiddler, J. W. Wilcox, G. L. Haight, J. K. Adam, G. W. Painter, W. M. Squire, and C. H. Noble in cabin; one European, 12 Japanese, and 304 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Daphne*, from Hongkong:—Misses Emma Giese, Marie Johannsen, H. de Fallot, Helene Simam, Emma Putzier and child, and Mr. Carl Niemeyer in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. O. I. Mr. Shirai (Consul), Mr. Achlebinsky, Mr. Mackevch, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mrs. Stoffgen and child, Mr. James Wallace, Mr. S. Yoshida, Mr. C. W. Collier, Mr. Charles Rogers, Colonel T. Shirayama, Mr. G. H. Smith, and Baron Seidlitz in cabin; Mr. John H. Herring, Mr. Henning, Mr. J. H. Carvalho, Mr. H. Nogi, Mrs. Perelman, Mr. Alex. Wyllie, Mr. J. Yoshimura, Mrs. S. Nakayama, Mr. F. Nakayama, Mr. T. Nagata, Mr. Y. Nakayama, Mrs. F. Nakayama, Mr. J. Yokoyama, Mr. Arai, Mr. Nakiyama, Mr. T. Tazaki, and Mr. T. Mihara in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—General C. D. Flagg, Mr. D. Alcock, Miss Birstingling, Miss E. Birstingling, Mr. M. C. Nason, Mrs. S. W. Inness, Messrs. T. Takayana, H. W. Uloth and servant, H. I. Choje, C. N. Crosse, H. Appel, R. W. Almond, Hands, and Mrs. C. Ah Yow in cabin; 9 Chinese and one Indian in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss D. Gorrie, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hale, Misses Chandler and Gregg, Hon. Mrs. Wm. Napier and Miss Napier, Mr. R. M. Galloway, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cummings, Mrs. and Miss Gorham, Mrs. J. B. Bemis, Mrs. S. W. Cummings, Mr. S. W. Cummings, Mr. J. P. Glossop, Mr. R. S. Gardiner, Rev. A. D. Gung, Masters Ambrose D. and R. Brainerd Gung, Mr. Soon Ho Chan, Mr. S. Donnerberg, Miss S. L. Ackles, Miss Agnes Bryden, Mrs. Malter, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Thacher, Rev. W. R. Gray, Mr. C. W. Collier, Captain C. F. Pope, Mr. Schütz Emanuel, Mr. Hu Tit Seng, Mr. E. Rogers, and Mrs. Wm. T. Payne in cabin; Mrs. Yasumura Hara in third class.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. I. W. Adams, Miss Brittan, Mr. Henri Blum, Lieut. R. A. Brown, U.S.A., Mrs. R. A. Brown, Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Curtis, four children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cotton, three children and servant, Mr. James Dempster, Mr. W. H. Decker, Mr. Eugene Ernst, Rev. D. L. Gifford, Rev. H. B. Gottwaltz, Miss M. A. Holbrook, M.D., Mrs. O. Hansen and two children, Mrs. J. H. Horton, Lieut. A. Hoffman, I.G.N., Mr. S. Ishida, Mr. J. Kubori, Mr. H. A. Little, Rev. S. A. Moffatt, Mrs. W. G. Pearne, daughter and maid, Miss Stark, Mr. H. Shugio, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Lieut. von Stundin, I.G.N., Miss M. J. Shea, Mr. John Whitehead, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mr. Jas. Wilder, and Mr. S. Yasuba in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Kirby, H. W. Bell, W. F. Balden, and C. Gibbens in cabin; Messrs. K. Omori, T. Satake, S. Satake, and N. Yoshimatsu in second class. For Shanghai:—Messrs. Samuel H. Saleno and Ching Chin Fah in cabin; 38 passengers in steerage in all.

Per British steamer *Aden*, for London via ports:—Messrs. F. Henderson and E. W. Rutter in cabin.

CARGONS.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 161 bales; Waste Silk, 308 bales.

Per British steamer *Macduff*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	LANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	744	2,190	—	—	2,934
Hyoogo	1,839	2,617	1,487	—	5,943
Yokohama	2,150	2,352	2,351	30	7,083
Colombo	—	—	—	120	120
Total	4,733	7,159	4,038	150	16,080

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	435	—	—	435
Hongkong	15	—	—	15
Yokohama	401	—	45	446
Total	851	—	45	896

RATES.
Tea cents Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurements \$11 Gold per ton.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTTAWA.	VER. OTHER.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	1,142	—	—	1,142
Amoy	—	4,531	417	—	4,948
Hyoogo	—	591	—	—	591
Yokohama	679	—	—	—	679
Hongkong	107	—	—	—	107
Total	786	5,122	1,559	—	7,467

	SILK.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	56	—	56
Hongkong	—	135	—	135
Yokohama	—	368	61	429
Total	—	559	61	620

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Empress of Japan*, Captain Lee, reports:—Left Vancouver, B.C., the 9th November at 2.30 p.m. calling at Victoria, B.C.; sailed from Victoria, B.C., at 10.35 p.m. the same day; Amstignak Island (Aleutian Group), was passed (distance 13 miles) at 7.17 p.m. on the 15th; Kinkasan was passed at 7.40 p.m. on the 21st. The passage across the Pacific was exceptionally fine; experiencing smooth sea, generally and fine winter weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd November at 2.40 p.m. Time from Victoria to Yokohama, 11 days, 22 hours, 34 minutes.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain A. Gove, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 6th November at 9 a.m., and Victoria, B.C., at 7.30 p.m.; experienced strong westerly winds throughout the passage. The meridian was crossed at midnight in lat. 50° 30' N. on 15th inst. On the night of 22nd, when off Imboye-saki, encountered a furious gale and very heavy sea, which commenced from E.S.E. gradually hauling to the southward and S.W., increasing in force until 2 a.m. on 23rd, when it commenced to moderate. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd November at noon. Time of passage, 15 days and 12 hours.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For New York via Suez Canal, Quick Despatch, the "POLYPHEMUS."—Butterfield & Swire.

For PORTLAND, Oregon, November 29th, at Daylight, the "MONMOUTHSHIRE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, November 29th, at 9 a.m., the "DAPHNE."—Norddeutscher Lloyd.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, November 29th, at 9 a.m., the "SALAZIE."—Messageries Maritimes Co.

For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimonoseki, and Nagasaki, December 1st, at Noon, the "SAIKIO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For MELBOURNE, via Kobe, Nagasaki, Hongkong, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, and Sydney, December 1st, at Noon, the "TOKIO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., December 3rd, the "BRAEMAR."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, via Vancouver, B.C., December 4th, the "EMPEROR OF INDIA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

For BAKAN, Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo, Penang, Port Said, Marseilles, London, and Antwerp, December 5th, at Noon, the "YAMAGUCHI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For BOMBAY, via Kobe, Hongkong, Singapore, and Colombo, December 5th, at Noon, the "HIROSHIMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Kobe, on or about 5th December, the "AGAPANTHUS."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, December 5th, the "BELGIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.
For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, December 6th, at Daylight, the "ANCONA."—P. & O. S.S. Co.

For LONDON via ports, December 6th, at Daylight, the "GLENHARRY."—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
For SAN FRANCISCO, December 12th, the "PBRU."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For SEATTLE, WASH., via Honolulu, December 19th, at Noon, the "TENSIN MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, December 21st, the "EMPEROR OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Agapanthus, British steamer, 2,866, R. J. C. Tod, 19th November, London via ports, Kobe 17th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, Thomson, 24th November, New York via ports, and Kobe 22nd November, General.—Corney & Co.
Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, Samuelsen, 27th November, Hongkong 20th November, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Deike Rickmers, German steamer, 2,314, Siegel, 27th November, Hamburg via ports, Kobe 26th November, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Salanie, French steamer, 3,400, A. Paul, 15th November, Marseilles 11th October, Hongkong 8th November, Shanghai 11th, and Kobe 14th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Thelia, German steamer, 2,363, Christiansen, 25th November, Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 6th October, North Pacific, Outer Skins.—Capt. in.
Golden Fleece, American schooner, 131, Finckel, 17th September, North Pacific, Seal Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.
Mistley Hall, British ship, 1,772, A. G. Parker, 4th November, New York 31st May, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 9th October, North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—John Kernan.
Sonoma, American barque, 998, W. Lundgreen, 20th November, Portland, Oregon, 3rd August, General.—Frazier & Co.
Sumbawa, British barque, 1,065, Carl Rehberg, 11th November, Caleta Buena 16th August, Nitrate of Soda.—Takata & Co.
Pointer, American schooner, 40, Snow, 8th October, North Pacific, Skins and Sealing Gear.—Captain.
Tolna, American yacht, 78, Count Festetics, 26th May, Sydney, via South Sea Islands, 24th May.—Captain and Owner.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Grafton (36), British cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 8th November, Hakodate 6th November.
Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andruoff, 9th November, Hakodate 6th November.
Panther (10), Austrian cruiser, Captain Carl Koppel, 26th November, Kobe 25th November.
Undaunted (12), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 15th October, Hakodate 13th October.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Still in the doldrums all round, although it seems improbable that the inaction can last much longer. A few small retail sales are all that can be recorded.

COTTON PICKER GOODS.

	PER YARD.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb., 38 1/2 yds., 30 inches	—
Grey Shirtings—9 lb., 38 1/2 yds., 30 inches	—
1. Cloth—7 lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	\$1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	1.16 to 0.32
Valises—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb., 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb., 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb., 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb., 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel—10 lb., 30 yards, 32 inches	\$0.50 to 0.471
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.334
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.23 to 0.271

Mousseline de laine—Crape, 2 1/2 yards.	
31 inches.....	1.15 to 1.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 56 inches.....	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—President, 51 1/2 56 inches.....	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 56 inches.....	0.10 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb.	
per lb.....	0.60 to 0.75

COLLIER VARIOUS	
Nos. 16 24, Singles.....	\$35
Nos. 38 32, Singles.....	—
Nos. 38 42, Singles.....	—
Nos. 32, Doubles.....	—
Nos. 42, Doubles.....	—
Nos. 8 60, Plain.....	—
Nos. 2 80, Plain.....	—
Nos. 2 100, Plain.....	—
Nos. 2 60, Gas-ed.....	\$75
Nos. 2 80, Gas-ed.....	—
Nos. 2 100, Gas-ed.....	—

MARKETS.
Nothing of interest in this market. Quotations unchanged but not strong. The heavy stock weighs on Importers and depresses the tone of the markets.

PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	3.50 to 3.55
Round and square up to 2 inch.....	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted.....	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron.....	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets.....	0.20 to 0.40
Wire Nails, assorted.....	5.00 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box.....	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1.....	1.70 to 1.72 1/2

IRON.
Quiet dealers waiting for some reduction in price before they replenish stocks. A shipment of Langkat has arrived in Kobe, and we may expect regular supplies in future.

American.....	Nom. \$2.27 1/2 to 2.30
Russian.....	Nom. 2.35 to 2.40
Langkat.....	—

SUGAR.
Brown—Lower quotations have led to some trade but there is no particular boom in this market. White—Quiet and unchanged.

PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao.....	\$4.20
Brown Manila.....	5.20 to 5.30
Brown Daitong.....	3.80 to 3.90
Brown Canton.....	3.70 to 4.50
White Java and Penang.....	6.70 to 6.75
White Refined.....	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.**RAW SILK.**

A dull week with small transactions. Quotations are down and look like going still lower. Stock very heavy and New Year approaching.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.....	\$820 to \$930
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.....	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers.....	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers.....	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15 deniers.....	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.....	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/15 deniers.....	710 to 720
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/15 deniers.....	700 to 705
Re-reels—No. 3, 13/15 deniers.....	—
Kakedas—Extra.....	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 1.....	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 1.....	700 to 705
Kakedas—No. 2.....	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 2.....	—

WASTE SILK.

The heavy business done this month is said to reach quite 6,000 piculs, and prices are well maintained with the tendency in favour of sellers.

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Oahu, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oahu, Medium.....	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshu, Best.....	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good.....	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best.....	120 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Good.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Bushu, Medium.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Good.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair.....	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Second.....	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair.....	20 to 25

TEA.

Not much business; but this is principally caused by the absence of desirable parcels of leaf. Quotations unchanged, with firm tone.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest.....	Nom.
Choice.....	\$25 to \$27
Finest.....	24 to 25
Fine.....	22 to 23
Good Medium.....	20 to 21
Medium.....	18 to 19
Good Common.....	16 to 17
Common.....	14 to 15

EXCHANGE.

Steady all round.

Sterling—Bank T.T.....	2/1 1/2
— — Bills on demand.....	2/1 1/2
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/1 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2/2
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/2 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.68 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.73 1/2
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1 1/2 P.
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	1 1/2 P.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	72 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight.....	168
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	174
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	51 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.16 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.22 1/2
Bar Silver (London).....	39 1/2

BISSET & URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 26th.

Telegraphic advices from Hongkong give the following quotations:—H. & S. Banks 181 per cent. premium Sellers; Hongkong Lands \$76.50 Sellers; China Fines \$103.50 Buyers; Hongkong Fines \$357.50 Buyers; H. & W. Docks 216 per cent. premium Sellers; H. & K. Wharfs \$58.50 Buyers; Douglasses \$54 Sellers; H. C. & M. Steamboats \$32.75 Buyers; Punjom Mines \$13 Sellers; Ramb Mines \$10 Sellers; Balmoral Mines \$1.50 Sellers; National Banks \$26.50 Sales; Indochinas \$41.50 Sellers; Straits Insurance \$26.50 Sales; Union Insurance \$230 Sellers; and China Traders \$75 Sellers.

Locally, Oriental Hotels are wanted at \$140. Japan Breweries are being offered at \$260 ex dividend and Club Hotels at \$60.

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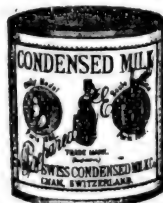
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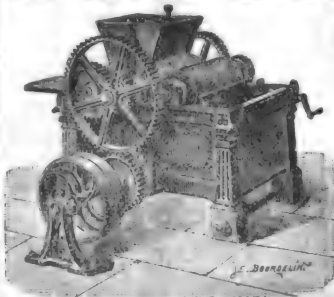
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November 21st, 1896.

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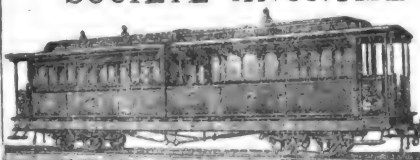
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June, 1896.

37

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 23.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 5TH, 1896.

月三年五十二拾

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE VOUS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 5TH, 1896.

MARRIAGE.

On the 26th November, at the Episcopal Church, Kobe, by the Right Reverend Bishop Fyson, assisted by the Reverend G. H. Davies, Chaplain, HERBERT WILLIAM, eldest son of the late Herbert Irving Bell, of Plaisance, Mauritius, to ISABELLA JOHNSTONE, third daughter of William Johnstone Steele, Esq., of Annandale Lodge, Vanbrugh Park, Blackheath, London.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

DR. JAMISON'S release has been ordered owing to ill-health.

THE Japanese cruiser *Yoshino* left Yokosuka on Tuesday for Manila.

RUMOUR has it that Count Goto will be appointed a Minister of State at no distant date.

H.M.S. *Grafton* having docked at Yokosuka, Rear-Admiral Oxley has hoisted his flag on the

Undaunted. Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Bulmer is visiting Singapore in the flagship *Centurion*.

COMMANDER IWASAKI, Inspector of Naval Shipbuilding, and staff, left for England on Sunday last.

A SEVERE storm swept over Hakodate on the 28th November, doing great damage to the shipping.

ON Saturday a sixteen mile bicycle race took place in Yokohama, the men riding in relays of two miles each.

THE *Moscow Bourse Gazette* strongly protests against the Russian Government's organizing relief for the Indian famine.

A SPECIAL railway carriage is being constructed for H.M. the Empress at a cost of yen 20,000. It will run on eight bogie wheels.

IN accordance with the Bank Regulations, a new Vice-president will be appointed in the Bank of Japan at an early date.

THE football match on Saturday between the Y.C. & A.C. and H.M.S. *Undaunted* resulted in a draw, each side obtaining a goal.

ST. ANDREW'S Day was duly celebrated in Yokohama and Kobe by large public balls, the St. Andrew's Societies being the hosts.

H.I.H. THE Crown Prince will spend the winter at Namadzu, a town that enjoys a warmer winter climate than the capital possesses.

THE British Government has given a written pledge to France that the Niger expedition will not touch any point in dispute with France.

A GERMAN libel suit was determined in Yokohama last week, Mr. P. Vanier being fined in the nominal sum of 100 marks for libelling Mr. Vollbehr, of the Normal Dispensary.

EIGHTY or ninety Japanese are now residing at Bangkok. They desire to have the Treaty between Siam and Japan concluded quickly and a Japanese Consulate established there.

MARQUIS SAIONJI, and several officials in the Communications, Agricultural and Commercial, and the Educational Departments, left for Europe by the French mail steamer on Sunday.

THE Portuguese Collaco, who was convicted in the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho, on the charge of stealing some old postage-stamps, has been acquitted on appeal by the Tokyo Appeal Court.

THE *Times* states that the Russian mission to Abyssinia has secured great influence with the Negus, and that the mission will remain in Abyssinia so long as the British remain in Egypt.

Two fires occurred in Yokohama this week. The first involved the total destruction of Farsari's photographic studio on the Bund; the other the complete loss of a two-storied godown at No. 130, China-town.

MESSRS. AOYAGI and Takahashi, of Yokohama, have applied to the authorities for permission to form the Shinhin Kisen Kaisha (Kanagawa and Yokohama Passenger Steamer Company). They are backed by a capital of yen 50,000.

YOSHIMURA SEITARO, aged 19, living at No. 4, Takegawa-cho, Kyobashi-ku, who fired into a room of the Kagetsu restaurant at Kyobashi the other night, has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment at the Kyobashi-ku Saibansho.

ON the 28th ultimo, while the lighter *Ebisu Maru*, owned by Mr. Fushimi, of Matsukage-cho, Yokohama, was receiving some iron for the Nippon Railway Company, from the British

steamer *Agapanthus*, the tackle-chain parted, the whole of the iron and tackle fell on the craft, and the lighter sank immediately. It was afterwards floated. The crew were saved.

ON Monday a strike of draymen occurred in Yokohama, with the result that foreign sailors and others were, for the first time in Japan, engaged to drive drays through the streets of Yokohama.

THE *Tairen Maru*, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, collided with the British steamer *Achilles*, of the Blue Funnel line, on the 27th of Nov. when the former was putting into Moji. Both steamers suffered slight damage.

THE Powers have presented a Note to the Porte declaring they will organise the Gendarmerie and judiciary in Crete without the Porte concurring, unless the Porte carries out the reforms promised in the trade issued in August last.

MR. KITO RYOSUKE, a dispenser in Maruya's Apothecary's Shop, Benten-dori, Yokohama, has been fined 10 yen at the Chihō Saibansho on a charge of having sold solid arsenic (to Mrs. Carew) in violation of the Japanese regulations for the sale of medicines.

TOWARDS dawn on Friday, the high pitched slope just behind the Akagi Shime, Ushigome, Tokyo, broke away, causing damage to the house occupied by Mr. Okamoto, and a house-maid was crushed to death. The accident was due to the heavy rain of Thursday.

BARON MATSUDAIRA, the new Vice-Minister of the Home Department, is appointed Chief Commissioner of the Tokyo City Reform Assembly and a member of the Railway Council, in place of Mr. Matsuoaka, the former Vice-Minister, who has resigned.

IN a speech at Pretoria, President Kruger condemned the damaging reports that it was the intention of the Transvaal to forcibly break the London Convention. He was confident that Great Britain would fairly meet the claims arising through the Jameson raid.

IN addition to the suit entered in the Tokyo Court by Mr. Masujima to recover his fees—\$20,000—in the Water-works scandal case, the Tokyo City Assembly have been served by Prof. W. K. Burton with a bill for yen 130,000 as fees for services rendered by him in preparing the plans of the Tokyo Water-works.

AFTER several weeks of absolute stagnation, a small trade has set in for Yarn, and some business is doing in Doubles, 42 Plain and 60 Gassed. In all other sorts business is very quiet, and Shirtings are quite lifeless, while Francies and Woollens remain without enquiry. A poor tone prevails in Metals, buyers only taking small lots to keep stocks running. The Kerosene market has experienced a slight drop, in sympathy with the fall in Kobe and Nagasaki, but business has not been attracted to any great extent, though the empty state of up-country stores should cause traders to come in shortly. There have been some few transactions in Brown Sugars, the heavy stocks causing a weakening in quotations. The prospects for White sorts are very good. In Raw Silk, the heavy and accumulating stock (in spite of large direct exports) has caused holders to weaken considerably. Consequently, a fair amount of silk has passed the scales, but the tendency is still downwards, as the present stock is about 21,500 piculs. Waste Silk is very active and prices notably harden in the face of a stock of 13,500 piculs. Tea is firm, with purchases running on the better grades, now becoming very scarce. Exchange continues steady.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The public excitement about the Household Minister's Affair has virtually subsided, but the Ministry's repeated resort to administrative measures against the press in connection with that affair has provoked a new outburst of controversy about freedom of speech. Seven or eight articles have appeared on the subject, but the trend of opinion is not uniform, as will be gathered from the following brief summary.

The *Mainichi* advises its contemporaries to combine once more into a league and bring pressure to bear on the Government and the Legislature with the object of having the suppression and suspension clauses expunged from the Press Regulations. The Ministry are believed to be contemplating the introduction of a Bill in that sense in the approaching session of the Diet, and newspaper men themselves must spare no effort to promote the attainment of the Cabinet's purpose.

The *Yomiuri* warns the Ministry that the introduction of the above Bill will not be sufficient, since, judging from experience hitherto garnered, and from the disturbance that the recent Household Department's affair created, the Bill will be opposed by a majority of the House of Peers, secretly backed, perhaps, by the "mess-together Ministers," and the reform may once again fail of achievement. The *Yomiuri* recalls a high-handed procedure that Earl Grey took against the House of Lords when the Reform Act was opposed by it, and advises the Japanese Ministry to push their Bill through the House of Peers at all hazards, staking their tenure of office on its success.

The *Nichi Nichi* still prefers to assume an attitude of isolation on the question of press emancipation. It devotes three or four articles to the enunciation of its position. It maintains that freedom of speech, as set forth in the Constitution, means freedom within the limits indicated by law, and not absolute freedom. It is true that administrative interference in journalistic affairs is inevitably more or less inconvenient to the press itself, and necessarily more liable to error than legal procedure would be. Still, recourse to the law has the advantage of lacking promptitude and efficiency and can not serve as a means for controlling the press with anything like the thoroughness of Administrative interference. Just as the press wields potent influence in rousing public sentiment to uphold a good cause—as witness its accomplishments during the late war, and also at the time when Count Okuma was about to conclude, in 1889, a disadvantageous revision of the Treaties, so newspapers have the power to demoralize the public mind, with results of which the assassination of the late Viscount Mori by Nishino Buntaro and the throwing of a bomb at Count Okuma by Kurushima Tsuneki are signal instances. Moreover, the tone of the press does not yet justify the removal of all restraint; witness the intemperate and contumelious utterances of certain journals in connection with the Household Minister's affair. Therefore, the *Nichi Nichi* concludes that press censorship ought not to be done away with, but must be suffered to exist as before.

Three articles, bearing either directly or indirectly on the question, have been published by the *Fiji Shimpo* this week. Their motive is not so much to advocate the abolition of all restraints on freedom of speech, as to rebuke journalists and publicists for the intemperance of their utterances. While admitting that a great improvement has taken place in the general tone of politics, and asserting that the authorities need no longer apprehend any disturbance of public tranquillity from occasional violence on the part of a limited section of public writers, the *Fiji* nevertheless regrets that the progress of general knowledge is far

from being satisfactory, and that various prejudices are still entertained on questions relating to religion, morals, education, and so forth. The existence of these prejudices offers a barrier to complete freedom of speech and pen. The excited discussion that the affair of the Household Minister evoked is a good illustration, for though the quarrels that occurred about it were apparently of a purely political character, still the tone of the controversialists was so low as to be entirely irreconcilable with the spirit that ought to co-exist with freedom of speech and pen. Evidently education is yet far from being thoroughly diffused, and the degree of public knowledge is still defective. Hence, to maintain that mere abolition of all restraints on the press would elevate Japan to the position of a country where freedom of speech may be safely enjoyed, is a patent fallacy. Unless education be more thoroughly diffused, and unless its beneficial effects be fully attained, genuine freedom of speech can never be used without abuse.

Japanese thinkers, writes the same paper in another article, are still prone to run from one extreme to another. They lack moderation and temperance. That is especially the case in politics, as the heated squabbles that have just subsided demonstrate. So unrestrained and violent was the language employed by the two opposing sections, that outsiders might easily have imagined that some heinous crime was the subject of debate. The mere fact that such strong language was thought necessary to compass a certain object, constitutes a plain proof that Japanese publicists have not yet developed the faculty of refined reasoning, an unavoidable consequence of deficient education. The *Fiji* considers that Judging by the quality of the theories advanced by leading politicians, the nation can not yet be said to have emerged from a crude condition: it stands much in need of fuller education.

In a third article the same paper indicates the course that the Authorities ought, in its opinion, to pursue should they be subjected to embarrassing queries by the House of Peers, in connection with the apparent inconsistency between their original promises and their recent performances towards the press. Some members of the Upper House are sure to ask why, if the Government were resolved to repeal the suspension and suppression clauses, they suppressed or suspended so many journals in connection with the Household Minister's affair. Reply frankly, says the *Fiji*, that the steps taken against these journals and periodicals were the result of a temporary aberration. Only by a frank avowal of error can the Cabinet emerge from its embarrassing situation.

The *Nippon* writes much about the prestige of the Cabinet, and also about the so-called *Banshoku Daijin*. It argues that the ineptitude of the Ministry to make the "mess-together Ministers" subservient to their will, and induce them to move in line with their colleagues, reflects seriously on the Cabinet's reputation. It further says that comparatively unimportant members being an unavoidable element in every Cabinet, the mere presence of *Banshoku Daijin* would not affect the dignity of the present Cabinet. When, however, as rumour alleges, these *Banshoku Daijin* are understood to be betraying the interests of the Cabinet in which they are suffered to sit, not only must their disloyal conduct be condemned strongly but the incompetence of the Cabinet to deal with them in a proper manner is a distinct slur upon its strength and influence.

Foiled in their attempt to drive Count Hiji-kata from his present post, writes the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the wire-pullers of Count Okuma's party have shifted their ground and started a crusade against what they call the "foreign-element" in the present Cabinet. They have succeeded in expelling Messrs. Matsuoka and Onoda from the Home Office, and are now contemplating a similar coup in the cases of

Viscounts Enomoto and Nomura, Marquis Hachisuka, and Mr. Kiyoura, whom they regard as inimical to the Matsukata Cabinet and whom they insult by the title of "mess-together Ministers." They seem to have entirely forgotten that these four Ministers never had any intention of entering the Cabinet, but were induced to do so by the advice of the Senior Statesmen and at the request of the Premier himself. The Premier must have been perfectly well aware that these four men entertained opinions of their own when he prevailed upon them to assist him in the administration of State affairs. Consequently, to dismiss them on the pretext that their opinions are not in accord with those entertained by Count Okuma's party, would be an act of gross injustice and discourtesy not only to the four Ministers but also to the Senior Statesmen. Count Okuma's relation to the Government is shrouded in mystery, continues our contemporary, for instead of frankly traversing any opinions of his colleagues that dissatisfy him, he keeps silence in the Cabinet, and then secretly inspires his followers outside to deliver assaults against these four Ministers. A statesman leading a political party ought not to act as the Count is acting.

The troubles among the Buddhists of Japan elicit critical remarks from several papers. In truth, the Buddhist house seems to be divided against itself, for while the Sodo Sect is at a loss what to do about its standing difficulty, the autonomy of its two centres, the Jyodo is in a state of commotion with regard to the election of its Chief Abbot; the United Sects are seriously perturbed by the litigation that has grown out of the elimination of four cardinal tenets of the Nichiren Sect from the general creed, and the most popular and influential sect of all, whose principal temple is the Higashi Hongwan-ji, has been so shaken by recent agitation that its very stability is threatened. The *Yomiuri* and the *Mainichi* ascribe these difficulties to the fact that Japanese Buddhism has fallen behind the general march of the time. The latter journal says that, in addition to that main cause, the interference of the Government with Buddhism and Shintoism has gradually deprived both religions of the spirit of independence, so that they have lapsed into a helpless state of internal corruption. Official control must given up; the present patriarchal system, sometimes hereditary, as in the case of the Hongwan-ji, must be thoroughly re-modelled, and absolutism must be replaced by a representative organization.

The *Yomiuri* argues that the troubles of the Higashi Hongwanji are attributable to a conflict between the old ideas and the new, just such as overtook the Japanese Government some thirty years ago, and that this wave of reform will sooner or later extend to other sects. The event is alike inevitable and beneficial, and will in the long run rouse Japanese Buddhism from stagnation and purge it of corruption. The disorder that has overtaken the administration and the finances of the Higashi Hongwanji, writes the *Nippon*, is attributable to the sensuality of its Lord Abbot and his immediate advisers. No one need be much concerned about the downfall of the Shin Sect, but every one would regret if the most influential source of religious influence in Japan were paralysed.

The *Nichi Nichi* writes strongly against the passage in the recent circular of the *Shimpo-to*, where it is declared that the party will make the Government atone for their past errors. Do the Cabinet and the party confound personal and State matters, and can a fault that has been committed by the Administration be atoned for by any subsequent good deed? Such a method of evading responsibility can never be tolerated in State affairs, unless the administration is to be reduced to the position of a mere party tool. Further, the assertion made in some quarters that the Government, heartily repenting of their broken promise to the *Shimpo-to* in the matter of freedom of speech, have once

more pledged themselves, by way of atonement, to introduce a Bill of Press Law amendment in the next session of the Diet, seems quite incredible, for, if true, it would mean that the Cabinet, instead of atoning for its error, is about to deviate still farther from the straight path. If the Ministry are really conscious of having committed a fault, they must crave the Emperor's indulgence. To make a secret stipulation with a political party and try in that way to shuffle out of their responsibility, is a fashion of procedure not to be tolerated in the case of Ministers of State.

The *Yomiuri* suggests the advisability of abolishing the Military Board of Inspection. It offers this suggestion not because the long absence of Marshal Yamagata, the Chief of the Board, apparently indicates the superfluity of his presence, but rather because the very fact that the Chief of the Board can be away for a long while without in any way retarding the Board's business shows that no special need exists for such an institution. The question of abolishing the Board has been talked of ever since the ing opening of the Diet but has not been pushed in deference to the influential personages serving on the Board. The Diet ought not to be deterred by any such trivial considerations, especially when the retrenchment of administrative expenses is deemed absolutely necessary.

The *Yiji* regrets to learn that the work of the Administrative Reform Committee has been brought to a standstill owing to various objections raised against their proposals, and that the Committee have held a special meeting with the view of facilitating progress. Administrative reform is a step to which the Cabinet was committed soon after its organization, and any failure to redeem the pledge would greatly impair the Government's prestige. If the dissatisfaction engendered by the Administration's ill-advised procedure against the press be followed by a fresh cause of dissatisfaction in the failure of Administrative reform, the public will despair of the Government's future.

The reason—writes the *Nippon* on this subject—why the Administrative Committee previously appointed failed to achieve any worthy work, was because they limited themselves to a narrow circle, excluding from their purview not only the Household Department, but also diplomacy, military affairs, justice, and so forth. They conceded too much in one direction and too little in another, thus failing to maintain proper equilibrium. Hence their work proved quite unfruitful.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SET-ON BY BANDITS.

A MOVING tale, set forth with all the adjectives that a Japanese reporter has at easy command, is given in the vernacular press, regarding some recent adventures of Miyazaki Gaku, a travelling drug-peddler. Miyazaki was recently in the neighbourhood of Nampho, Chhnn Chhōng-do, with a large stock of wares, when a band of roving tiger-skin dealers attacked him. At first he tried the gentle art of philosophic remonstrance, but the assailants paid scant heed to his words. Then he drew his sword and, after laying about him with commendable vigour, cut an exit through the crowd. Next he procured the assistance of a neighbouring village headman to recover his stock of stolen goods, and after securing what remained of them, fell asleep. Then the Koreans approached again, and tying him with a stout cord, dragged him along the road for a distance. Though thus rudely awakened, Miyazaki retained his presence of mind, warning the raiders of the dire consequences that would ensue upon the Japanese Minister hearing of the affair. Soon he found himself in a local dungeon, and though stripped of all his valuables, managed to retain a small dagger concealed in his left armpit. This dagger came in handily later, when the captive was

brought before the village Headman. When this official began to interrogate him, Miyazaki broke away from his captors and clutching the Headman by the throat brandished the dagger before his eyes. We are not surprised to learn that the Headman thereupon turned pale, and acceded to Miyazaki's demand that he (Miyazaki) should be allowed to put on women's garments and flee to the coast. At Ninsen he eventually arrived and told his tale to a sympathetic Japanese Consul.

CHRISTMAS TOYS.

MESSRS. LANE, CRAWFORD, & Co. have again laid the children of Yokohama, Tokyo, and in fact all Japan, under a great Christmas obligation by importing for them an excellently selected stock of toys. The rude and simple play things of children who came into possession of the nursey wonder-lands of the seventies and early eighties have long since been beaten out of the field by an artistic community of humanlike, highly finished—both anatomically and scientifically—toys that seem to bear no relation whatever to the playthings of a few decades ago. The question whether the latter-day child derives as much pleasure from his subtly devised toy as did his predecessor of years gone by from the archaic timber images then obtainable, is one of interesting possibilities, but does not concern us in this note. What we strongly advise is an early visit, by young and old, rich and poor—for the tastes and purses of everyone have been considered by Yokohama's premier store—to inspect the splendid variety of toys on view at No. 59, and more particularly the mechanical menagerie that includes lions, bears, camels, and elephants that move and roar as naturally as their prototypes in the Zoo. For the nautical minded—and what boy is not so inclined?—there are on sale some splendid steamboats with beautifully finished and perfect engine-rooms. Mechanical figures are also abundantly represented, as well as all the old favourite games of drawing-room, parlour, and nursery.

THE HONGWANJI TROUBLES.

THE troubles now affecting the harmony of the Higashi Hongwanji at Kyoto are detailed at length in the *Yiji*. We have already alluded to them in previous issues and need only say that specific charges of extravagant living are now preferred against the Rev. Mr. Atsumi, the Treasurer; and of immorality against the hereditary Lord Abbot. As is well known, the Temple, a few years ago, was burdened with a debt of two millions of dollars; this has been cleared off, while the cost of the handsome new buildings has also been entirely defrayed by the munificent donations of the faithful. Now it is alleged that a fresh debt of yen 600,000 has been incurred through the Treasurer's extravagance and the Lord Abbot's sensuality—strange tales regarding which are circulating throughout Japan. The reform party, which includes all the members of the Hongwanji College in Kyoto, and the Middle School of the Sect in Tokyo, is led by Prof. Murakami Sensei, of the Imperial University, and Mr. Inouye Yenryo, of the Philosophic Institute, Tokyo—both men of plain living and high thinking. They have issued a manifesto to more than 800 influential priests of the Shin Sect, in which they declare their conviction that a radical reform is necessary in the internal administration of the Temple. They enjoin the priests to uphold the cause of righteousness. Professor Murakami was the Director of the Hongwanji High School, in Tokyo, but resigned the post a few days ago. Upon this being known, the students forwarded a manifesto to the Authorities, over their joint signatures, stating that they would remain away from school until the era of purity returns.

A GERMAN LIBEL SUIT.

A LIBEL suit has just concluded in the German Consular Court, in which the defendant Mr. P. Vautier has been fined the nominal sum of 100 marks for libelling Mr. Vollbehr, assistant at the Normal Dispensary. The action arose out

of a fire insurance claim on some damaged postage-stamps in the collection of Mr. Vollbehr, the defendant being called in to assess the damage. After this was done the plaintiff accepted without demur the very great reduction made in his claim by defendant. Mr. Vautier then expressed some disparaging opinions in public regarding the matter, and with particular reference to Mr. Vollbehr's character. Upon this the latter brought action for libel. The Court found that the defendant had the right to make whatever remarks he pleased in his confidential report upon the assessment of damage, but that he was not justified in repeating them in public. It therefore inflicted on the defendant a nominal fine.

WARNING TO MARINERS.

CAPTAIN MAHLMANN, of Kobe, publishes the following report, received from Capt. Dithleisen, for the information of mariners:—While piloting the Austrian Lloyd's steamer *Gisela* through the Suwo Nada on the 27th instant, a Japanese schooner-rigged junk was sighted flying signals of distress. A life-boat was lowered from the *Gisela*, and the Chief Officer succeeded, after much difficulty, in saving the whole crew (four). They were taken on board and brought on to Kobe. It appears that the junk was disabled during the N.W. gale which was then blowing. The junk had to be abandoned by the *Gisela* owing to the weather and night coming on. The position of junk when abandoned was to the southward of Heigunshima, lat. 33° 44' N., long. 132° 14' 30" E., exactly on the track of steamers bound through the Suwo Nada. It is, however, possible that she was broken up during the night, or drifted S.-Eastward, as it was blowing a strong gale from the N.-West, all through that night.

PROPOSED SHANGHAI DOLLAR-NOTES.

A SPECIAL meeting of the ratepayers of Shanghai has been called by seven members of the Municipal Council and many land-renters to authorise the issue of dollar notes by the municipality. This meeting, we learn from China papers, is the outcome of a suggestion made about a month ago to the Municipal Council by Mr. Alford, head of the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., at Shanghai. The supply of dollar notes in Shanghai is not nearly up to the demand, and this state of affairs is believed to be brought about by the acceptance of notes in the interior. Formerly it was necessary for traders going into the interior to carry silver with them, but the natives now accept bank notes as currency. The notes have gradually been absorbed by the natives in the interior until it was found that the banks in Shanghai, by reason of the restrictions under their charter, could not keep up the supply to the demand. The Municipality have now come to the rescue and purpose issuing notes to the value of five lakhs of dollars. The individual value of the notes will be from \$1, \$5, \$10, up to \$100. The issue of these notes will be a benefit both to the community and the Council.

THE NEXT FRENCH MAIL.

A TELEGRAM received yesterday afternoon by the Messageries Maritimes Company says that the Company's steamer *Saghalien*, outward bound, arrived at Saigon with her engines in a disabled condition, and will stay there for repairs. Her passengers, mails, and cargo for Japan will be brought up by the Company's steamer *Tamise* sailing from Saigon to-day, the 5th inst.

NEW BRITISH WARSHIPS.

THE Fairfield Shipbuilding Company, Glasgow, have launched the British first-class cruiser *Diadem*, the christening ceremony being performed by Lady Currie. The vessel is of 11,000 tons, and 16,500 horse-power. Her armament includes forty-one guns, and she will fire in sixty seconds 15,000 lbs. of shot. Preparations are being made at Chatham for the construction of a new first-class armoured battle-ship, to which it is proposed to give the name of *Goliath*. The vessel will be one of a new type, and intermediate dimensions—a

class between the *Majestic* and the *Renown*. She will be 390ft. long and 74ft. broad and she will have a displacement of 12,900 tons. The order for the propelling machinery has been placed with Messrs. John Penn and Sons, who also engined the *Magnificent* and the *Illustrous*. Triple expansion engines driving twin screws will be supplied with steam by twenty sets of Belleville tubular boilers, with a maximum of 13,500 horse-power, giving a speed of eighteen knots per hour. The *Goliath* will be constructed in a building slip, and the first keel-plates will be laid on Monday, January 4, 1897. The Lords of the Admiralty have sanctioned an expenditure upon her of £120,000 before the close of the present financial year.

COMING FASHIONS FOR MEN.

In England, though a paper now and again announces the coming fashions, they are always ladies' fashions. In Paris the forecast for men's costume during the coming season has been published in the leading paper. As it seems to be derived from an English source, it may make interesting reading for those who cannot get such information at home. Black is gradually to go out of wear, and to be succeeded by chevrons and homespuns of not too aggressive a pattern. Evening vests are to be made entirely of silk, and the lapels are to be embroidered with coloured silk. The MacFarlane is to be universal. Dress coats are gradually to disappear as the jacket gets more and more in vogue. Overcoats are no longer to be made of beaver or witney, but of heavy chevrons, rough, thick, and warm. Lastly, lines are quite exploded in trousering, checks being the only wear. And now as we know what they say in Paris, we know what we must do in London.—*Westminster Gazette*.

THE CZAR IN SCOTLAND.

AFTER the Czar left North Britain, a Scottish newspaper reckoned up its country's grievances in connection with his visit. First and foremost comes his letter thanking the "English" people for the honour done to him at Leith, Dundee, Aberdeen, and Ballater. Next comes the presence at Balmoral of Lord Edward Pelham-Clinton, in despite of the fact that the Duke of Argyll is by hereditary right Master of the Royal Household in Scotland. Lastly comes the presence at Balmoral of the English Lord Steward, without a commission from the Scottish Lord Steward—Albert Edward Prince of Wales.

THE U.S. BATTLESHIP "TEXAS."

THE U.S. battleship *Texas* has been very unlucky ever since her launching, and now comes news of an accident to her while in Cob dock, Brooklyn Navy-yard. Owing to some unexplained cause, the main injection valve on the starboard side near amidships was broken in fourteen feet below the water line on November 9th. In a few minutes the engine-room was flooded and the *Texas* gradually sank till she touched bottom. There was only a few feet of water under her at the time. The battleship has since been floated.

THE CASTLE CASE.

Mrs. WALTER M. CASTLE, of San Francisco, who was sentenced at Clerkenwell Sessions, London, to three months' imprisonment, without hard labour, after having pleaded guilty, by the advice of her counsel, to a charge of shoplifting, was released from Wormwood Scrubs Prison on Nov. 10th on medical grounds, by order of the Home Secretary, Sir Matthew White Ridley. She is to return to America immediately.

"EN ROUTE."

THE 12th number of *En Route*, the newspaper published at intervals by the two French journalists, MM. Leroy and Papillaud, will make its appearance next week in Yokohama. It will consist of 10 pages, printed in French, English, and Japanese, and will contain 73 illustrations by the photogravure process by Mr. Ogawa of Tokyo. Messrs. Leroy and Papillaud are very pleased with the reception they have met with at the hands of the managers of the local Banks and

shipping firms, hotels, and other companies from whom they have received quite a number of advertisements. After this number is issued MM. Leroy and Papillaud contemplate spending the remainder of their stay in Japan in visiting the places of interest throughout the country. The subscription to *En Route* is \$2.00, and several lists are being circulated around the Settlement and Bluff.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

THE following is a comparative table of foreign Currencies and Japanese Silver *Yen* in use at the Imperial Custom Houses of Japan, to be adopted in calculating values of imports and to be in force from the 1st January to the 31st March, 1897:—

Country.	Foreign Currency.	Japanese Silver Yen.
Austria-Hungary	Krone	395
Belgium	Franc	376
British India	Rupce	571
Denmark	Crown	522
France	Franc	376
Germany	Mark	464
Great Britain	Pound	9470
Italy	Lira	376
Netherlands	Guilder	784
Norway	Crown	522
Portugal	Milrei	2107
Spain	Peseta	376
Sweden	Crown	522
Switzerland	Franc	376
Turkey	Piastre	686
United States of N. America	Dollar	1,956

Note.—The comparison of Foreign Silver Currencies, except Rupee and Japanese Silver coin, will remain as heretofore.

IMITATION WHISKY.

THE other week the Customs authorities at Calcutta confiscated 150 cases of imitation whisky, which had been consigned to a well known firm of wine merchants in Calcutta. The bottles were labelled "Finest Malt Whisky," and a fictitious Scotch name also appeared on the labels in large letters. In a corner of the label, and in tiny characters, were the words "Made in Germany." The bottles, on being submitted to analysis, were found to contain not a particle of malt spirit. It is said that similar seizures are likely to be made shortly. The consigners of the "whisky" are a Hamburg firm.

THE CHARGE AGAINST A PORTUGUESE.

SOME months ago A. R. Collaco, of Yokohama, was found guilty of stealing some postage-stamps from a dealer's collection in Motomachi, and sentenced by the Yokohama Chihō Saibansho to one and a half months' major imprisonment and six months' police surveillance. This was on September 24th. The accused appealed against the sentence, and on the case being retried in the Tokyo Appeal Court, he was acquitted, the five Judges of appeal finding the evidence against him insufficient for conviction.

NEW RAILWAY TROOPS.

THE new Railway Troops will be mustered on the first of December. Connected with this scheme, the railway line between Ofuna and Yokosuka and other lines in the vicinity of Tokyo will be leased by the Authorities, and the railway troops will be allotted to these stations, taking the place of ordinary Station Masters, conductors, etc.

DISOBEDIENT SEAMEN.

On Thursday, in H.B.M. Court for Japan, Capt. Carl Rehberg, of the British ship *Sumbawa*, charged Casimiro Vinderlich, carpenter; Jean Saintillan, John Foret, Wilhelm Reich, and Louis de Lain, A.B.'s with refusing duty. Defendants pleaded guilty, and were each sentenced to five days' imprisonment; to pay the costs of the Court \$1.50 each, and be put on board their ship on the expiry of their sentences.

THE LAST OF AN OLD WAR-SHIP.

THE U.S. sloop-of-war *Swaifara* has been towed into the "bone-yard" at San Francisco to be broken up. She was once well-known in Eastern waters.

AU REVOIR.

Mr. C. N. CROSSE, barrister-at-law, left Kobe by the French mail steamer *Salasie* for a short visit home. He will, says the *Chronicle*, be absent from Kobe about six months. Before

leaving, Mr. Crosse was made the recipient of a handsome time-piece presented to him by a few of his intimate friends who held a farewell dinner in his honour at the Oriental Hotel.

VESSEL ASHORE.

A SHANGHAI paper says:—It is feared that the steamer *Sultan*, previously reported as being ashore above Kiukiang, will remain there for the winter. Two tugs have been dispatched to her assistance, but owing to the rapid fall of the river there is very little prospect of her getting off until the water rises next spring.

STRAINED RELATIONS.

A WAR correspondent of the *Imparcial* of Madrid left Singapore for Manila, on the 9th November, in the *Cavadonga*. A result of the rebellion, the *Straits Times* says, is that the relations between the Spanish residents in Singapore hailing from Europe and those from the Philippines are getting very strained.

HOW A PHOTOGRAPHER'S STUDIO BURNS.

MR. N. MORGIN, the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, is evidently a man of humour. In his official report of the fire at the photographic studio of Messrs. Farsari and Company he says:—"On my arrival there I found that the place was developed in flames." So it was, to be sure, but who but a wag would have thought of the "developed"?

VESSEL ASHORE.

THE Japanese steamer *Asosan Maru*, which left Shanghai for Japan on Thursday, Nov. 26th, with a general cargo, is badly ashore above Gough Island, on the Yangtze. Lighters and tugs have been sent to her assistance from Shanghai and the cargo is being discharged.

NAVAL FUNERALS.

Two naval funerals took place in Yokohama on Thursday, from the Royal Naval Hospital. The first was that of James Ingham, engine room artificer of H.M.S. *Pigmy*, the other, Edward Pearce, A.B., of H.M.S. *Eolus*. The band and firing party were from H.M.S. *Undaunted*.

A LAUDABLE AMBITION.

THERE is no doubt, says an American exchange, that the new Lord-Mayor of London, Alderman A. Faudel-Phillips, will signalize his year of office by great brilliancy. He proposes to commemorate the 60th year of the Queen's reign by raising the sum of \$5,000,000 (gold), with which to free the London public hospitals from debt.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE "BAYARD."

WHEN the French flag-ship *Bayard* was entering Hongkong on her last voyage, she managed to touch the Dumail Rock, and thereby twisted her main shaft and lost one of her propellers.

MADAME NAKANO'S RECEPTION.

WE are requested to state that Madame Nakano is prevented by unavoidable circumstances from holding her usual reception on Monday next, the 7th instant.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY IN KOBE.

THE Kobe evening journal sentimentally remarks:—St. Andrew's Day, 1896; a dark and stormy morning; a bright, sunny afternoon; a glorious and long-to-be remembered evening.

THE JAPAN WEAVING COMPANY.

The *Nippon Orimono Kaisha* (Japan Weaving Company), whose financial difficulties have been more than once alluded to in these columns, has now decided to reduce its capital from 750,000 yen to 450,000, so that the face value of its shares, hitherto 50 yen, will now become 30 yen only. It has applied for permission to start business again, as a joint stock company, under the name of the New Japan Weaving Company (*Shin Nippon Orimono Kaisha*), this change to be effected from February next, until which time work will be carried on by the old Company as before.

THE TREATY REVISION COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed to make preparations for the operation of the Revised Treaties, is said to have concluded that the points demanding chief attention are administrative police, jails, and local administration. Among these three, the most important is pronounced to be that of administrative police. The Committee find that the exact limits of the police's competence not being clearly defined, they have in some instances exceeded their powers, and in others fallen short of them. Under any circumstances, such a state of affairs calls imperatively for reform, and the Committee justly think that the reform should be undertaken and completely carried out before the era of mixed residence commences, so that the treatment of Japanese subjects by the police may be exactly the same as the treatment of foreigners. The problem of jails has long been under consideration, and has received due attention from the foreign Representatives, for it is plain that, owing to the different modes of life of Occidentals and Orientals, a cell provided with a mat, a Japanese pillow and a wadded quilt, though suitable enough for a Japanese inmate, might be quite unsuitable for a foreigner, and a similar observation applies to the matter of food. An interval of more than 2½ years still separates us from the earliest date at which the Revised Treaties can go into operation, but the Japanese Government acts wisely in taking time by the forelock, for no precaution should be neglected that tends to remove any cause of friction or complaint. If we may judge from the tone of the majority of the local foreign journals published in Japan, there will be a strong disposition on the part of a section of the foreign residents to gird at Japanese administration and seek pretexts for arraigning it. Hence the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction and the opening of the whole country to foreign residence will certainly be attended by more or less trouble. It is well that the Japanese Authorities should make plain their desire to get rid of everything capable of causing complications. The appointment of this Committee and the recommendations it has made up to the present, ought also to remind the Japanese people that they owe a considerable debt of gratitude to Treaty Revision, and even to the difficulties that have impeded its consummation. The problem has proved a perpetual spur, urging the Japanese Government to push on reforms of various kinds, which, though doubtless they would ultimately have been achieved for their own sakes, would scarcely have been undertaken and carried through with such expedition under different circumstances.

Perhaps it may be well to refer here to a false impression for which the *Japan Gazette* is responsible. Rendering the Japanese name of the Committee (*Tyaku Shiko Jumbi iin*) by "Treaty Enforcement Committee," and construing "enforcement" in its literal sense, without reflecting that there are as yet no treaties to enforce, and that the appointment of a Committee for such a purpose would, under any circumstances, be a frivolous absurdity, the *Gazette* wonders why the Japanese should be so "anxious to enforce the new Treaties," and asks whether they anticipate, on the part of foreigners "acts which will require force to subdue." Having made these comments and created this mischievous notion about the Committee's functions, the *Gazette* calmly observes:—"Perhaps, however, the translation is a little at fault and the word enforcement may not express the actual meaning." That is certainly a most charmingly naïve confession of irresponsibility. Does the *Japan Gazette* think that it is in no respect responsible for its own translations, and in no way concerned about the deductions it draws from doubtful renderings of Japanese names? No person possessing the most rudimentary knowledge of the Japanese language could have misled the editor of the *Japan Gazette* so egregiously as to persuade him that the Japanese term for the Committee in question conveys the signification of "enforcing;" that is to say, using force. "Treaty Enforce-

ment Committee" may pass muster as an abbreviated rendering of "Committee for making preparations with regard to the operation of the Treaties;" but before undertaking to instruct the public about the exact significance of the abbreviated translation, and above all, before construing it in a sense calculated to alarm the foreign residents, whereas the real purpose of the Committee's appointment is to remove all causes for alarm, the *Japan Gazette* might at least have consulted some one competent to interpret the Japanese original. To publish a false and harmful interpretation and then to say placidly "perhaps, however, the translation is a little at fault," when a Japanese employé competent to explain the translation correctly is seated in the next room, may be taken as an illustration of the conscientious care bestowed by some journals in presenting Japanese subjects to their readers.

THE "TWENTY-SIXTH CENTURY'S" APPEAL.

The Court of Cassation in Tokyo has rejected the appeal of the Editor of the *Twenty-sixth Century*. We explained in a previous issue that the editor was indicted, in the first instance, before the Osaka Local Court, on a charge of insulting officials. This action was taken by the Public Procurator under the 141st Article of the Penal Code, which forms part of the Section relating to interference with the exercise of public functions. The Article reads:—"An insult by gesture or word against a public officer in the discharge of his functions, or on account of his functions, and in his presence, shall be punished with major confinement for a period of from one month to one year, and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen. The penalties shall be the same if the offence has not been committed in the presence of the functionary, but by means of the press or public speech." In considering suits brought under this Article, the Japanese Judiciary seems to distinguish, as far as possible, between insults of a vindictive or mischievous character, intended to bring an official into contempt, and writing which, though amounting to an insult, does not intentionally exceed the limits of legitimate criticism actuated by zeal for the public welfare. It is a distinction difficult to make in many instances, yet certainly it ought to be made, in the interests of free speech. The essay in the *Twenty-sixth Century* that formed the basis of the Public Procurator's charge, was not the essay concerning which so much commotion now prevails. The latter—published four months later by the same periodical—did not confine itself to questions connected with Count Hijikata's discharge of his official functions, as the former had done, but embodied also sweeping charges against his moral character. In the Osaka Local Court the editor obtained a judgment in his favour. That happened in July, about a month after the publication of the original essay. The Public Procurator appealed against the judgment, and on October 23rd the Osaka Appeal Court reversed the finding of the lower tribunal and sentenced the editor to 40 days' major confinement and a fine of 10 yen. The editor, in turn, appealed to the Supreme Court in Tokyo, and, on the 27th instant, that tribunal rejected his appeal and confirmed the sentence of the Osaka Appeal Court. Thus it results that, on account of the first essay published by it (on June 25th) against the Minister of the Imperial Household, the Lord High Chamberlain (Marquis Tokudaiji), Marquis Ito, and Count Matsui, the Osaka magazine suffered suspension from June 27th to October 22nd, and its editor has to go to prison for 40 days, and to pay a fine of 10 yen. On account of its second offence—the publication of a far more violent article, on October 25th, that is to say, while the criminal suit against the editor in respect of the first essay was still *pendente lite*—the periodical has been suppressed, but whether any further criminal proceedings will be taken against the editor remains to be seen.

MEETINGS AND SPEECHES.

The last ten days have been prolific of meetings and speeches. On the 21st inst., the United Chambers of Commerce of Japan, which had been in session for some days discussing the amendment of the Business Tax Law, invited the Premier and other Ministers of State to the Imperial Hotel. Five days later, the Tokyo Commercial and Industrial Association invited the same statesmen to the same place, and lastly the Tōa Kyokai (Oriental Association) held a meeting on the 27th inst., Count Okuma, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, being the principal guest of the evening. On all these occasions, hosts and guests delivered speeches, so that we are confronted by quite a large number of public utterances. At the banquet given by the United Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Shibuzawa, the President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, addressed the guests, among whom the Premier, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Household, and the Vice-Minister of War spoke in reply. Mr. Shibuzawa's address was to the effect that, willing as business men are to, bear their share of public burdens, so far as their resources permit, and to increase the receipts of the Treasury as much as possible, they are constrained, at the same time, to take care that the permanent prosperity of their business shall not be impaired, for unless commerce and manufactures flourish, national welfare can not be assured. With a view to attaining that great object, the United Chambers of Commerce which represent the business classes throughout the country, have carefully considered the new Business Tax Law, which is to go into force from January next, and have come to the conclusion that the changes proposed by it are too sudden. They have decided, therefore, to ask the Government to amend the Law, so that trade may not be prevented from attaining development commensurate with that of other great branches of national affairs.

The Premier, in reply, referred briefly to the vital importance that mercantile transactions bear to the mechanism of the State, and then proceeded to direct the attention of the leading business men, whose guest he was that evening, to the great discrepancy existing between the inflowing and outflowing currents of Japan's foreign commerce this year, and also to the extraordinary enthusiasm that prevails for business enterprise. He further dwelt forcibly on the immense power and influence that credit possesses in the world of business, and expressed doubts whether, in that respect, Japan did not fall below China, though the latter had been vanquished by the former in the recent trial of strength. Passing from generalizations to particulars, the Premier referred to the part that Japanese merchants played in exporting or importing goods. Last year, the volume of the country's foreign commerce stood at above 200 million yen, but of that total about eighty-five per cent. was managed by foreign merchants, fifteen per cent. only being in the hands of Japanese. Count Matsukata hoped that more resolute exertions would be made so as to secure at least a third or a half of the whole trade for Japanese merchants. He made no special allusion to the main subject of Mr. Shibuzawa's address.

Mr. Kiyoura, Minister of Justice, Count Hijikata, Minister of the Household, and Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War, spoke subsequently, but as the two latter confined themselves chiefly to complimentary phrases, it will be sufficient to notice here the gist of the speech made by the Minister of Justice. Mr. Kiyoura informed his hearers that the Codes Investigation Committee were engaged in revising the Commercial Code, with the view of amending it *in toto*, the only portions that had as yet been put into force being the chapters on the Law of Companies, of Bankruptcy, and of Cheques. The Committee, in carrying out the work of investigation and amendment, were determined to avoid, as far as possible, any disturbance of usages that had been prevalent in business circles since ancient times, and they therefore desired to obtain minute information

from Chambers of Commerce whenever such usages were in question.

The speech delivered by the Premier on the occasion of the Tokyo Commercial and Industrial Association's entertainment was short. He observed that the danger of a financial panic, so much apprehended a short time ago, seemed to have gradually grown less. Still economic agitation being common and generally periodic, the public ought not to be thrown into consternation, but should calmly and deliberately seek to benefit by the experience that these incidents afforded, and to turn the occasion to account with a view to improving the mechanism of business, since everything is more susceptible of improvement when under the stress of disaster than when it is in the tide of prosperity.

Count Okuma observed that the commerce of Japan, like her diplomacy, had assumed an active character since the War, whereas formerly it had been almost entirely passive. He hoped that the business men of Japan would duly appreciate the value of the Revised Treaties and would endeavour to avail themselves to the utmost of the new opportunities thus created.

The Foreign Minister's speech on the occasion of the meeting of the Oriental Association was of far greater length, and though much of it was of a retrospective character, it contained interesting declarations of the views entertained by His Excellency. The topic was appropriate alike to the occasion and to the office of the speaker. It was "Foreign Policy." His Excellency dwelt at first on the system of exclusion adopted by Japan while the Administration was in the hands of the Tokugawa Regency. He referred to the arrival of Commodore Perry; the agitation that ensued, shaking the Regency to its very foundations; the abolition of feudalism in the most remarkable manner, without bloodshed, and the restoration of the Imperial Government. All these events were, either directly or indirectly, the fruits of foreign intercourse. They were followed by a complete revolution in the social system and in the various institutions of the realm. Almost everything had been thoroughly remodelled after Western patterns. Foreign experts had been engaged for service in Japan and Japanese students had been sent abroad for study. There must have been an aggregate of something like a thousand men in each of these categories. The efficiency and benefit of the new methods were signally proved during the late Japan-China War, when Japan sent some two hundred thousand troops and transport coolies over the seas, and maintained them for more than a year, without in any way overstraining her resources. None the less there was still much room for improvement. Her science, industry, and commerce were inferior to those of Western countries, and her religion and morality could not for a moment claim any superiority to those of the Occident. Her wealth, too, stood at a low level. England's wealth must be at least fifty times greater than Japan's, and even Italy ranked far above her in this respect, though neither England nor Italy could boast such a wide territory or so numerous a population. Count Okuma then referred to the foreign policy of Japan. Observation showed him that people were disposed to regard tactics and manoeuvres as the essence of diplomacy. For his own part, he could not concur in such a view. The art of diplomacy, according to his conception, was to conduct the empire's foreign affairs with integrity and candour. No reason whatever existed for shrouding diplomatic procedure in mystery and secrecy. Japan was very fortunately situated with regard to her diplomacy. For while, from a domestic point of view, she possessed an Imperial Family that occupied the Throne for some thirty centuries without break, ruling over people thoroughly permeated with patriotism and public spirit, abroad she had the happiness to feel that no country entertained any animosity towards her. Her diplomacy, therefore, might follow peaceful lines, and the officials charged with its direction were free from harassing cares. Count Okuma himself set great store by the spirit of youthful ardour, for a nation devoid

of that spirit must be reckoned practically dead. But ardour must be tempered with reason, and any expansion not based on sound principles must be disapproved. The first essential for ensuring the preservation of peace in the realm of a country's foreign affairs was the development of commerce, to the end that the ties growing out of mutual material interests might be strengthened between State and State. Japan must seek above all things to foster the growth of her trade and industry, and any country wilfully or arbitrarily attempting to check her progress in that direction must be resolutely dealt with. The Count concluded his speech by referring to the great mission devolving upon Japan, the foremost nation in the Orient, the mission of guiding China into the path of civilization and progress.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The *Nichi Nichi* criticises as preposterous the statements said to have been made by Count Okuma to one of the staff of the *Yoroku Choko* and epitomized in these columns on the 25th instant. Our contemporary is indignant that the Count should regard the accusations in the *Twenty-sixth Century's* article as unimportant, and that he should attribute to defective scholarship the indecorous allegations contained in the article, whereas, in reality, they indicate disrespect towards the Imperial Court. The *Nichi Nichi* is surprised that the Ministry should take such a trivial view of their duties, and still more surprised that Count Okuma, speaking to a newspaper interviewer, should have used the words:—"The Home Minister seems to have taken decided measures against the offending papers," as though the Count himself had not been present at the numerous councils held by the Cabinet to discuss the Household Department affair.

The *Yoroku* has undertaken the useful task of sending members of its staff to leading officials or publicists to interview them with respect to the Household Department agitation. From Mr. Kudo Kokan, a member of the Diet and one of the leaders of the *Shimpo-to*, statements worthy of note have been elicited. Mr. Kudo has a reputation for straightforwardness and integrity. Asked by the interviewer what the *Shimpo-to* means when it says, in its circular to the provincial members, that it will seek to make the Government take steps in redemption of past errors, Mr. Kudo replied that the Party is resolved to urge the Government to introduce an amended Press Law, striking out the suppression and suspension clauses, and that, though the question is still in course of negotiation, there are ample grounds to hope that the Government will be persuaded. Should that hope prove fallacious, the *Shimpo-to* will have no choice but to sever its connection with the Cabinet. For his own part, at any rate, Mr. Kudo was resolved to take that course. As to the Household Minister's tenure of office, Mr. Kudo told his interviewer that information obtained from a trustworthy source pointed to Count Hijikata's resignation at an early date.

Statements made by Mr. Kawashima Jun, M.P., to a representative of the *Chuo* about the absorbing question of the day will be welcomed by those that denounce the *Twenty-sixth Century's* article as wanting in respect towards the Court. When the *Twenty-sixth Century* re-appeared after four months' suspension, and published an article criticizing the Household Minister, Mr. Kawashima received a copy of the periodical from an anonymous sender. Perusal of the article inspired a feeling of indignation, but when the *Nippon* reproduced it in such a manner as to throw the public into a state of ferment, Mr. Kawashima, though suffering from illness, could not sit idle. He called on certain Ministers of the Cabinet, and asking them what they intended to do, received reassuring answers. Mr. Kawashima thinks that any writer venturing to attack the internal condition of the Household Department, is just as blameworthy as a man who parades his own domestic troubles before

the world, with the view of enlisting the assistance of public opinion to settle the complication. Though the Household and the Court are apparently distinct, any attempt to expose the condition of the former necessarily and naturally involves the latter, and therefore a writer venturing upon such ground deserves to be severely censured for violating the duties that every loyal subject ought to observe towards the Sovereign.

The accounts given by the pro-Government papers and those opposed to them in connection with the resignation of Mr. Matsuoka, the Vice-Minister, and Mr. Inoda, Chief of the Peace Preservation Bureau, of the Home Department, are diametrically at variance. The pro-Government papers write that the two officials were dismissed because they failed to exercise due vigilance, and even betrayed the Government, in the matter of the Household Minister, into trouble; whereas the Opposition journals aver that they were sacrificed to the convenience of the Home Minister. The *Yomiuri*, for instance, says that when Mr. Inoda called the attention of Mr. Watanabe to the *Twenty-sixth Century's* article reproduced in the *Nippon*, the latter, instead of showing it to the Home Minister, privately consulted the Household Minister, and thus indirectly promoted the agitation. Count Kabayama, who learnt afterwards of this improper performance on the part of his immediate subordinate, was highly incensed, and called upon him, as a matter of official discipline, to tender his resignation. In point of fact, the Authorities did not see any necessity to adopt resolute measures in the case of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon*, for the attacks were directed against Count Hijikata and Marquis Ito alone, and showed no disposition to impair the dignity of the Court. Only when the *Nichi Nichi* and others tried to make capital out of the incident, and to estrange the Cabinet and the Household—in other words, employed the affairs of the Court as party weapons—were the Authorities compelled to take measures against the *Twenty-sixth Century* and others. Hence Count Kabayama does not stand open to any charge of want of timeliness in his procedure.

The *Chuo* reports that the Home Minister was induced to dismiss his two subordinates for reasons connected with the convenience of the Department, and that he was much embarrassed when they demanded the reasons for being required to send in their resignations.

The *Fiji* thinks that the steps taken by the Government in connexion with this problem wear the aspect of impartiality, for whereas the *Twenty-sixth Century*, the *Nippon*, and the *Kokumin*, were either suppressed or suspended, on the one side, the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Tokyo Shimbu* were suspended on the other; and against the removal of the Director of the Mausolea Bureau of the Household Department may be set the resignations of the Vice-Minister and the Chief of the Peace Preservation Bureau in the Home Department. Our contemporary further learns that the Home Office will call upon one other of its officials to resign, and the Household Department will do the same in the case of three of its officials. But though the complication may seem to be settled in that way, no one can be sure that another difficulty may not, at any moment, strain the relations between the Cabinet and the Household.

POLITICAL ORGANS.

According to the *Miyako Shimbu*, the present "Outs" will soon have quite a phalanx of newspaper organs. They already possess the *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* and the *Tokyo Shimbu*, and they are now credited with the intention of purchasing the *Eiri Nippo*, a second-class journal, and improving it into a first-class publication under the name of the *Asuma Shimbu*. A similar course will be pursued with regard to the *Niroku Shimbu*. The *Fuyu Shimbu*, now an unimportant sheet, though once the organ of the Liberals, will be remodelled, and

issued under the title of the *Meiji Shimbun*, and the *Seikai no Nippon*, hitherto regarded as the organ of Count Mutsu, will be transformed into a leading journal from the beginning of next year. Organs of the Party are to be started in Kyoto and Osaka also. There appears to be some uncertainty about the future complexion of the *Chuo*, though hitherto, as the organ of the Choshu section of the National Unionists, it has supported the present "Outs." Barons Ito and Suye-matsu are accredited with much activity in this matter, and we can well believe it, for they are exceptionally shrewd men, with an intelligent perception of the immense influence that well conducted newspapers can exercise on public opinion. We venture to offer one suggestion to them, however, and to the *Shimpo-to* also, for the matter of that. It is that a paper should be published for the purpose of bringing political affairs within the ken of the lower-middle classes and of women. It is very remarkable that despite the keen interest taken in politics by a majority of those possessing the franchise and by all members of parties or persons connected with officialdom, ordinary tradesmen and ladies have only the most superficial conception—and sometimes not even that—of the questions of the hour. To a certain extent the same may be said of Western countries, but in Europe or America if a lady or a store-keeper does not understand politics, it is because of lack of interest, not of opportunity. Any European of ordinary education can read newspapers printed in the language of his or her country, but a political discussion couched in Sinito-Japanese and presented in ideographic script, is quite beyond the educated potentialities of females or work-a-day folk in Japan. Would it not be well worth while to cater for the understanding of this large section of the population, instead of leaving it to be fed entirely on social little-tattle and sensational *feuilletons*? The party that first gets the fair sex to comprehend its platform and study politics through its spectacles will have stolen a long march on its adversaries.

BARON HAYASHI INTERVIEWED.

Baron Hayashi, Japanese Minister to Pekin, who is staying in Tokyo on furlough, has been repeatedly interviewed by journalists since his return. The account that the *Fiji's* representative gives of a conversation that he had with the Baron seems best worth quoting. Baron Hayashi remarked that China after the war was not so enfeebled or distressed as Japanese might suppose. In that colossal old kingdom not only were many provinces not directly affected by the war, but even those that felt its direct effects appear to be forgetting it entirely. On his way home, Baron Hayashi called at Yingkow and inspected its market. He found trade very brisk, and to all appearances it had not suffered at all from the War. Nor is the Chinese Government so helpless as Japan might think. The English papers published in China, indulging in wild imaginings, wrote as if the foreign policy of the Court of Pekin depended upon the will of two or three big Powers. But that is a false impression, for though China may be reduced to a more abject state and suffer hereafter more crushing defeats, she does not at present feel any particular pain, and does not rely on any Powers for anything. It is true that she may be obliged to seek the protection of England if Russia prefers certain strong demands, and *vice versa*; but possessing from the earliest ages vast self-conceit, she will never readily acquiesce in the demands of other Powers or follow their advice. If driven to bay, she may develop a resolution to oppose the whole of the outer world at the point of the bayonet. She does not yet avail herself of the lessons dearly bought during the war, but still keeps up her antique institutions. That is inherently due to the system itself. The ministers in the Tsung-li Yamèn are not wanting in ability; nor are the statesmen of China wholly asleep. From the Emperor downwards the statesmen at the Court of Pekin thoroughly appreciate the importance of learning English; the Emperor himself is taking lessons in that

tongue, and his statesmen are making their sons and brothers follow the Imperial example. The root of nearly all China's troubles lies in the system of appointing officials. The civil service examination, the gate to officialdom, is based on a knowledge of the ancient classics, now so entirely out of date. But this system being the corner-stone of China's administration two hundred years ago, it is difficult for her to do away with it. It is true that among the statesmen now at the Court of Pekin are men whose vision was suddenly extended by the allied Anglo-French invasion. Many of them were then in their thirties. They are not unreasonably prejudiced against foreign institutions, but their hands are tied by the vast conservatism of their surroundings. The foregoing remarks may sufficiently explain why China is so inert and devoid of an efficient central mechanism. But when the present generation has been replaced by the new men now growing up, China will gradually be awakened from her condition of stagnant lethargy. Cho In-kwan, who acted as China's Plenipotentiary when the new Treaty was being negotiated, may be considered as the vanguard of the progressive section, and the fact that he, though versed in foreign languages and familiar with foreign manners and customs, is suffered to sit in the Yamèn at Pekin is a proof that China will not lapse again into irremediable retrogression. When the pressure from without grows more insistent, and when the old conservative statesmen retire from the stage, the political and administrative atmosphere of China will be freed from its present stagnant tone. Just as the institutions of China still wear an aspect of age, so does the original relation that the Chinese people assumed towards the Japanese continue without particular modification. In official circles the whole blame of the war is laid on the shoulders of Li Hung-chang; others do not seem particularly concerned at the defeat sustained at the hands of Japan. Therefore not only are Japanese journeying and residing in China free from molestation or annoyance, but even in such a place as Yingkow the number of Japanese is gradually increasing. There they are carrying on trade unmolested. Such is not the case in Japan. Songs composed during the war are here as popular as ever. Chinese are insulted and not infrequently pelted with stones, and men of good standing who ought to influence the ignorant public differently, are in the habit of using abusive language towards Chinamen. Such things do not conduce towards maintaining good friendship between the two Powers; nor will they promote commercial and diplomatic relations. No abuse thrown at China will stimulate her into progress. China must be treated as an old conservative country, and Japan should strive to promote mutual feelings of amity, so that commerce between the two Powers may be developed and utilized to the utmost extent.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

The Mahomedan rebellion has had such a hydra-headed existence, exterminated half a dozen times by telegram, and resuscitated as often by rumour, that its final suppression is difficult to credit. However, the end seems to have come at last. An Imperial Decree, issued in Pekin on November 9th, declares that the insurrection is crushed and distributes rewards to the various officials concerned in stamping it out. The number of Mahomedans that fought is put by the Decree at two hundred thousand, all of whom have been either annihilated, or driven into the mountains between Kansu and Thibet, where they are gradually being hemmed in. If that estimate be near the truth, the affair strikingly illustrates China's hugeness. A rebellion in which the Government's troops were faced by two hundred thousand men, went on for months after months without producing so much as a ripple of excitement in the life of the nation. As for the outer world, it has scarcely given a second thought to the slaughter of tens of thousands of men, women, and children.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha held its half-yearly regular meeting in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 25th inst. There were present 1,870 shareholders, including Mr. Iida Son, the Treasurer of the Imperial Household, who represented the Household. Mr. Kondo, the President of the Company, took the chair and a clerk read the report containing the returns of the half-year from April 1st to Sept. 30th. The President proposed that the rate of dividend, put at 10 per cent. in the report, should be changed to 12 per cent., which amendment was adopted unanimously. The question of the election of Directors having then been proposed for discussion, a large majority of those present declared in favour of re-electing the officials now in office, though an objection was raised that one of the Directors held, at the same time a similar function in the Oriental Steamship Company.

The Business account, as approved by the shareholders, runs as follows:—

	Yen.
Brought over from the previous account	314,190.577
Special Reserve	427,561.394
Profit for the half-year	482,217.924
Total	1,223,969.895
Depreciation of the value of Buildings...	9,670.000
To Reserve Fund	57,000.000
To Reserve Fund for equalizing Dividends	427,561.394
Rewards	11,200.000
Dividend (12 per cent. per annum)	528,000.000
Carried forward to the next account.....	190,538.501

Total 1,223,969.895
The portions of the report that bear on the Company's foreign services are as follow:—

EUROPEAN LINE.

The line was opened in March of the present year, and a tolerable amount of cargo has been obtained on both outward and homeward voyages. Imports of iron, machinery, and so forth from Europe have considerably increased, but exports from the East have not shown a corresponding advance. In point of fact, freights have fallen to an unusual extent: the rate per ton of 50 cubic ft. has been reduced to 5 shillings between Singapore and Marseilles, and to about 6s. 3d. from Singapore to London. Apparently the service can not be maintained without difficulty by an individual or even a company, and although rates of freight rise higher than they are to-day, the undertaking can not prove profitable for some years; while, so long as rates retain their present low level, a loss amounting to many thousands of yen is unavoidable. When, however, the new steamers now in course of construction for the purposes of the line are completed, and when the service, which is at present only once a month, has been increased to once every fortnight, a greater number of passengers and more cargo may be obtained, and, assisted at the same time by State aids, in conformity with the provisions of the Navigation Encouragement Law, doubtless the service will gradually yield a suitable return.

BOMBAY LINE.

In continuation of the previous half-year's undertaking, the service on this line has been maintained, and as the movement of cotton was very active during June and July, two or three extra steamers were put on, these vessels not being required elsewhere, or having been chartered for the purpose. When the service was opened in 1893, the Company found itself exposed to strong competition from a combination between the P. & O. Company, the German Lloyds, and an Italian Company, so that considerable hardship was experienced. But owing to the firm support received from the Union Spinners and also to the alliance with Messrs. Tata, Sons, & Company, as well as to the judicious means employed for meeting this rivalry, the Company was able to hold its ground against the combined forces of the league. After a time, both parties became convinced of the disadvantages of competition, and at

last, after mutual conferences, the struggle was discontinued from July of the present year. On Aug. 26th, the Department of Communications issued a notification with respect to the line (the gist of the notification was given in these columns at the time). According to the notification, the service might be reduced to one steamer per calendar month, but the Company, having accepted the trust, is determined to keep up the original arrangement by sending one ship every four weeks.

AUSTRALIAN LINE.

While, in conformity with the resolution passed at an extraordinary general meeting of the company, the Directors were discussing measures to carry the resolution into effect, orders were received from the Minister of Communications to open a mail service to Australia, similar to the Bombay service, for the space of 4 years and 6 months, computed from Oct. 1st of this year. (The particulars of this service were noted at the time in these columns.) Subject to the approval of the Minister of Communications and according to the amount of freight that offers, the Company intends to confine the service to Melbourne for the present. This undertaking is to be put into practice from next half-year, but as the arrangements have been completed during the half-year under review, the matter is mentioned here.

AMERICAN LINE.

As one of the three lines decided upon by the Company, the service to Seattle, Washington Territory, U.S.A., was opened in August. The service was started with the view of effecting a junction with the Great Northern Railway, which terminates at that seaport, and which is regarded as being the most perfectly organized through line in that country, as well as the shortest route to the Eastern part of the United States. Negotiations had been conducted with the Railway Company for many years and a definite agreement was arrived at by representatives of the Company specially sent over in June. A contract was arranged for the joint conveyance of passengers and cargo by the two companies, and for issuing through tickets or bills of lading between America and Europe, on the one hand, and Japan, China, and other Eastern places, on the other. On August 1st the *Miki Maru* started from Kobe as the pioneer steamer of this new line and reached her destination after calling at Yokohama and Hawaii. Since that time, the service has been continued once a month between Hongkong and Seattle, and during the half year under consideration two steamers have been employed for it. The enterprise not having yet passed the inception stage, and moreover, the tea season having been past when the service was initiated, the cargoes on outward voyages have been far smaller than those obtained on the homeward route. But when a junction is regularly established between China and Vladivostok, and new steamers of greater speed are employed, both passengers and cargo will doubtless be attracted to a greater extent. There are three other Companies engaged in shipping business between the American continent and Asia, and it will prove a difficult task for the Company to establish this new enterprise on a profitable basis. But the line being an important highway for connecting the Western and Eastern hemispheres and for furthering the development of the national resources, the Company, for the sake of the objects attainable by the service, must be prepared to experience considerable hardship.

Mr. Kondo, the President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in his address delivered at the recent half-yearly meeting of shareholders, said that, in 1883, the Company owned 45 steamers with an aggregate displacement of 64,157 56 tons. At the end of September, 1896, the Company had 54 vessels, over and above the nine purchased from the Government on a 15 years' installment plan free of interest—in all 63 steamers, with an aggregate displacement of 126,579 01 tons. In other words, during the last three years they had added 18 steamers, or 62,421.45 tons. Again, in 1893, the distance covered by the Com-

pany's coasting and foreign services aggregated 14,600 nautical miles; but now they traversed 49,300 miles, or about three and a half times the former routes. If the 63 registered steamers were arranged in one straight line, they would extend a little more than 2.92 miles, while when the twelve new steamers were finished one mile more would be required for such a display. With the expansion of the Company's business their assets naturally increased considerably, and whereas in 1893 they amounted to 12,507,713 in round numbers, the figures now stand at 20,254,765 yen, approximately. Even if the sum of 3,300,000 yen, representing the first installment of new shares called in, be subtracted, the actual increment amounts to five million yen, or an increase of 56 per cent. as compared with the original capital of 8,800,000 yen. The last three years mark a memorable epoch in the history of Japan's maritime communications. During the Japan-China War, the Company allowed the Government to requisition nearly all its steamers, while at the same time it chartered a large number of foreign vessels and fulfilled the demands of its ordinary business. Convinced of the necessity for expanding its foreign services in conformity with the general extension of national affairs in the sequel of the War, the Company, with the approval of the shareholders, increased its capital from 8,800,000 yen to 22,000,000 yen in June, 1896. The original programme of expansion has been steadily pursued, and while the European and American lines have been actually initiated, the Company is contemplating opening a third, to Australia, beginning in October. Notwithstanding extraordinary demands on its resources, the Company had been able to twice declare an extraordinary dividend aggregating 1,232,000 yen, over and beyond the ordinary dividend; it altered, from November 1894, he mode of paying dividends, and whereas formerly they were paid once a year, payment is now made twice yearly. Moreover, it altered the mode of repaying debts amounting to 2,350,000 yen, and what was previously paid out of the profits was now met by reserves in the assets, and in this way a sum of 470,000 yen had been repaid during the last three years.

MR. MASUJIMA AND THE TOKYO CITY COUNCIL.

Mr. Masujima, as our readers are aware, has brought a civil suit into the Tokyo Local Court against the City Council to recover his professional fees in the Tokyo Water-pipe scandal case. He has sent a letter to each of the Tokyo newspapers, briefly stating the reasons that obliged him to adopt this procedure, as well as a copy of the petition lodged in the Local Court. The letter states that the petition represents the actual facts of the case, and adds that such a law-suit will furnish a good object lesson in the days to come when social customs and public sentiments enter on their decline, besides settling an important point in the relation that public body bears to a private individual. On April 23rd, 1896, the petition states, the Plaintiff was entrusted by the City Council with the control of the prosecution in the Iron-pipe scandal case, and after having intimated to the Council that the amount of fees would be determined in accordance with custom, that is, after the proceedings had advanced to a certain stage, the Plaintiff entered, on behalf of the Council, a civil suit for damages to the amount of 1,003,543 401 yen, against certain persons. In drawing up this petition and entering suit, plaintiff underwent considerable trouble. On June 19th, Mr. Masujima embarked for America on business connected with the Yusen Kaisha, but was recalled to Japan on July 15th. He returned home on August 3rd. Prior to his departure and also after his return he took proper measures with regard to obtaining a distraint on the property of the defendants in the Water-pipe scandal case, and secured a favourable order for the Civil Council in this matter. Soon after his return, he was asked to make some arrangements in regard to a

question of fees that had arisen between the Council and some other barristers who had been briefed in the case, and also to intimate in advance the amount of his own fees. After consultation with his colleagues, he replied that the aggregated fees in the case brought in the Court of First Instance should be fixed at 50,000 yen, of which plaintiff was to receive 20,000 yen. At the same time, Plaintiff suggested to the Council that they should discuss the best means of dealing properly with the barristers' fees. The Defendants (the City Council), on the plea that a number of barristers were engaged in the prosecution, asked that the whole case, up to the very end, should be undertaken for 50,000 yen. When Plaintiff rejected that proposal, the Defendants admitted, on September 3rd, after repeated negotiations, that 70,000 yen was a proper sum. But when this proposal was voted on in the Assembly, it was negatived. Then the City Council proposed to pay in full discharge of fees in the case up to the last stages, 20,000 yen to the Plaintiff as fees in the preliminary prosecution, and another 5,000 yen for the prosecution in the Courts of second and last instance, in all 25,000 yen. On September 11th, the City Assembly took this proposal into consideration and rejected it. Then the Council opened negotiations with Plaintiff on another basis, asking that the question of fees should be left entirely to the Council. The Plaintiff replied that if the Council were willing to accord him the treatment proper to his position, he would be ready to leave the matter in its hands. Opinions on this point were frequently exchanged, but the Council failed to grasp Plaintiff's real ideas on the matter, and on October 3rd, they unreasonably deprived plaintiff of the brief entrusted to him. At this juncture Baron Kusumoto tried to intercede between the parties, and on October 19th, at that gentleman's residence, Mr. Terada, Secretary of the Tokyo Municipal Office, stated, on behalf of the Council, that proper treatment would be accorded Plaintiff; in other words, that the Council would pledge itself to pay 25,000 yen as fees to Plaintiff, or even a sum larger than that. But, subsequently, the Defendants' statements were discovered to be lacking in sincerity, and Baron Kusumoto sent a note to the Plaintiff to that effect, adding that he was obliged to withdraw from the negotiation. On November 14th, the Defendants once more intimated to the Plaintiff that they would relieve him of their brief, and asked that all documents relating to the case should be returned at once. The Plaintiff did not think that acquiescence in such an unjust demand was proper, and, instead of sending back the documents, urged the Defendants to pay his fees. This demand they refused to comply with. The Plaintiff's petition concludes by saying that the Council's actions are at variance with the dictates of fidelity, and are not only open to the charge of unreasonableness, but also amount to gross discourtesy, especially when it is remembered that an attorney's fee is determined by the barrister alone and not appraised by the client; that a barrister who is unreasonably deprived of a brief before the case is brought to a definite conclusion is entitled, irrespective of the existence or non-existence of any agreement, to demand such a fee that he would have received at the close of the case. It must also be considered that the fees now demanded are less than 2 per cent. of the damages sued for in the Water-pipe Scandal case, and less than one-fifth of the fees fixed by the by-laws of the Tokyo Barristers' Association. Therefore, the Plaintiff prays that the Council be ordered to pay him the sum of 20,000 yen with interest thereon, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, calculated up to the time that intervenes between the lodging of the suit and final judgment.

The four torpedo destroyers ordered by the Chinese Government from Tele & Co. at Shanghai, each cost 330,000 Kuping taels. Their speed is guaranteed at 32 knots. The construction of the destroyers has been superintended by the officers of the Foochow Shipbuilding yard.

"THE TWENTY-SIXTH CENTURY"
CASE IN THE COURT OF CASSATION.

Our readers will doubtless be interested in hearing some particulars about the appeal carried to the Court of Cassation by the editor of the *Twenty-sixth Century*, who was sentenced to 40 days' imprisonment by the Osaka Court of Appeal. The appellant was represented by Messrs. Hanai, Uyemura, Motoda, Takahashi, Yamada, and Iida, Tokyo barristers of repute. They were confronted by Mr. Oto, a Public Procurator of the Court of Cassation. The case, it must be remembered, arose out of an article published in the 21st number of the magazine, on June 25th, an article entirely distinct from that published in the next number (October 25th), which threw the public into such an unusual state of ferment, and which obtained for the periodical a sentence of suppression. The case for the appellant was opened by Mr. Hanai, who protested that the article in question did not constitute the offence of a criminal attempt to bring officials into contempt, inasmuch as it simply criticized the procedure of the Household Minister, and neither affected his official functions nor impaired his official dignity, which results were the very essence of the crime of *Kwanri bujyoku*; that the original judgment (of the Osaka Appeal Court) had not given consideration to the question whether any contumelious motive really existed; that the passages which the Appeal Court regarded as the pith of the article did not go beyond accusing the Household Minister of neglect of duty, and inculcating the principle that persons employing contemptible means to curry favour with the great and powerful, should be held up for public condemnation, and punished; that the affair of the Household Minister had been quoted solely as an example in that context; and, finally, that the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula and the titles conferred on Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu had no relation to the official functions of the Household Minister. Mr. Yamada also spoke for the appellant. He too maintained that the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula and the successive creation of Peers could not be connected with the official duties of the Household Minister, and that consequently, the attacks made by the editor against the Minister on those grounds were irrelevant and could not bring him in contempt.

The Public Procurator replied that the article transgressed the bounds of temperate criticism, and brought contempt on Government officials; that all affairs relating to the Household Department came under the control of the Minister; that if a published article constituted the crime of *Kwanri bujyoku*, no necessity existed to determine the writer's motive before convicting him of the offence; and that the Court of Cassation need not concern itself to judge whether this particular passage or that embodied the gist of the article, or whether the ultimate object of the writer was to deter those that fawn upon the great and powerful. Hence the appeal was unreasonable, and was not based on any sound argument. The other barristers spoke for their client in nearly the same sense as Messrs. Hanai and Yamada. Judge Harada presided. The appeal was rejected, and the sentence of imprisonment has been enforced.

AN EX-CHIEF JUDGE ON JUDGE
BESSHO.

Mr. Miyoshi Taizo, ex-Chief-Judge of the Supreme Court, sent, a few days ago, a long article to the *Mainichi* on the Judge Bessho affair. As the Japanese Judiciary is now under keen observation by foreigners, in view of the approaching enforcement of the Revised Treaties, we proceed to cull from the article passages that strike us as interesting:—

Mr. Miyoshi quotes, in the first place, the articles in the Law of the Organization of Law Courts that provide for the independence of Judges, and also the articles in virtue of which the Minister of Justice is entitled to transfer

Judges even without their consent. He then argues that, whether the transfer of a Judge be due to the death of another Judge, his resignation, or his removal, and even when it originated in the will of the Minister of Justice, any Judge ordered to change the locale of his official functions can not disobey the order on the pretext that, according to his judgment, it is unnecessary; the power of deciding the necessity or otherwise of the step is vested in the Administration and, according to the law, is exercised by the Minister of Justice. A desire that the Minister should refrain as much as possible from exercising that power is not unreasonable, but to insist that such a desire should constitute the true interpretation of the provision, and that the law should be applied only in cases when no Judge willing to remove is available, must be pronounced an unreasoning contention, that confounds the domains of the Administration and of the law, and annuls the right of selection invested in the Executive. Such a method would not only disappoint able Judges, who have a title to expect that their promotion shall not proceed according to strict and mechanical routine, but also would ultimately retard the progress of the Judiciary so as to make it lag behind the general progress of State affairs. It is true that to ensure the independence of the judiciary certain provisions are in force to guarantee a Judge's tenure of office, but it ought not to be forgotten that Judges are merely a particular class of civil functionaries, appointed for the purpose of putting into operation the mechanism of the courts of law, and that, consequently, they are just as much bound as other public servants to obey the powers invested in the Administration. Even if an order of the Minister of Justice be at variance with the provisions of law, a Judge, on receipt of such an order duly issued, has no recourse, should he consider himself aggrieved, than to appeal to the Premier, for the law does not give him any right to protest against the order. An appeal made to a Disciplinary Court can not avail him, for a Court of that nature possesses no competence to pronounce judgment with respect to an Administrative order emanating from the Minister of Justice. If the Court were competent to render judgment in cases of the kind, Judges would have to be legally invested with the right to sue the Minister of Justice in opposition to his orders. With regard to the Judge Bessho case, so long as the Minister of Justice persists in refusing to withdraw his order of transfer, the Judge cannot escape the binding effect of the order, notwithstanding the judgment pronounced in his favour by a Disciplinary Court. The verdict of the latter Court, therefore, must be considered an empty affair, possessing no efficacy whatever. That this ridiculous farce has been brought about was because the Disciplinary Court exceeded its competence and trespassed upon the province of the Administration.

A Disciplinary Court differs from an ordinary civil and criminal law court in this, that, being established principally with object of maintaining discipline and good order in the ranks of officialdom, any faulty judgment rendered by it involves grave consequences and may disturb the mechanism of the Administration. The Disciplinary Court that sat in the Bessho case should have exercised the utmost care and observed the strictest secrecy in the discharge of its duties, for the result of its proceedings was not only watched with keen attention by the public at large, but also exercised serious indirect influence on such of the judges now holding commissions as are too much debilitated by age to perform their functions promptly and efficiently. When, therefore, the general character of the day's proceedings of the Court appeared in the newspapers on the following morning, Mr. Miyoshi felt considerable uneasiness and regret, as it seemed to him that the news had been furnished to the papers with the intention of sounding the drift of public opinion and of influencing the nature of the verdict. It has to be remembered that the Supreme Court is composed of Judges of erudition, whose experience extends over 10 years; that is to say, Judges that ought to be models to

others in subordinate Courts in the matter of upholding discipline and good order. Viewed from that standpoint, the incident naturally caused Mr. Miyoshi much distress. It is true that he was unable to ascertain through whom this official secret had leaked out, and that, consequently, the incident could not necessarily be regarded as impairing the honour and dignity of the Court over which he presided on that occasion. None the less, his sense of responsibility was greatly disturbed, and that was one of the reasons that induced him to resign his post.

The Law for the Organization of Courts that went into force from 1890, distinctly lays down the qualifications of Judges and Public Procurators, at the same time containing certain provisions guaranteeing and safeguarding their positions. But are there among the numerous occupants of the Bench—exclusive of the *alumni* of the College of Law of the Imperial University and those that have passed competitive examinations—any Judges or Procurators adequately equipped for the proper administration of the law? Few indeed are the jurists that are satisfactorily equipped. Strictly speaking, when this Law was put into force in 1890, these unqualified Judges or Procurators should have been relieved of their posts. The legislators of the day, however, placed too great weight on length of service and experience, and determined that all Judges and Public Procurators then holding commissions were to be considered as duly qualified. They thus extended to them the same rights and privileges as the Law conferred on *alumni* of the College of Law and others that had passed the competitive examinations. Such magnanimity was extraordinary, and in return for this exceptional favour these Judges and Public Procurators were prepared to make every possible return to the State and the Sovereign. Mr. Miyoshi candidly confesses that he was himself one of the number who benefited by this magnanimity of the Government and the Emperor. But now, too worn for service and fully aware of his ignorance, he confesses that he had long felt uneasiness whenever he considered the matter. He felt that he was obstructing the promotion of junior judges, and might also bring discredit on the Imperial Japanese bench in the eyes of Japanese and foreigners. He was determined to open a way to the remodelling of the Judiciary, and resolved on sacrificing himself in furtherance of that great aim. He accordingly represented his resolution to the Minister of Justice and other important dignitaries between June and July of last year. He requested that he might be permitted to resign. The idea, though it obtained approval, was considered premature, and he was obliged to await a proper opportunity. Certain circumstances arose in connection with the Bessho case that opportunely eventuated in the attainment of this desire, and he resigned. The independence of Judges is guaranteed by the law, for the sake of ensuring stability in the Judiciary. The special privileges extended to Judges were never intended to protect those that became too worn out for the proper discharge of their duties. Judges of enfeebled intellect, however, often refuse to acquiesce in the advice tendered them by others to retire; while others go even further and, by misconstruing the letter of the law, refuse to be removed. These men obstinately assert what they consider their "judicial independence" and, carried away by their feelings, parade this mistaken firmness and inflexibility as something to be admired. The public thoughtlessly applaud in too many cases, being ignorant of the internal system of the Judiciary. The public does not seem to realise that the Minister of Justice, being the highest executive officer in the service, gives the final judgment. Judges are under the direct control of the Chiefs of the Courts to which they are subordinate, and all these Courts are under the control of the Minister of Justice. In conclusion, the ex-Chief of the Supreme Court wishes to draw the public's attention to the grave duties that will devolve on the Judiciary on the morrow of the enforcement of the Revised Treaties, and to the absolute necessity of having competent Judges to administer the laws of the realm.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1896.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Consular Officials are now showing most commendable activity in the compilation of trade reports. A few years ago, theirs were the only documents of the kind published, and even in the case of men so zealous, the usual effect of monopoly was not altogether unobservable. The reports from Japan, which then made their first appearance in the columns of the *Japan Weekly Mail* and were subsequently sent to London, used to reach the printers' hands between May and July in the year succeeding that to which they referred, and nobody seemed to think that the process was at all belated. Nor are we even now prepared to say that greater expedition might have been used, for information in those days was incomparably more difficult to obtain than it is at present. Probably the first misgivings entertained as to the timeliness of the reports was suggested when the Japanese Imperial Customs began to publish monthly returns and annual summaries of trade, with the result that the Consular Reports had become ancient history, statistically speaking, before they found their way into the hands of the public. Still, an interval elapsed before changes corresponding with this new departure could be effected in official routine, but ultimately the Consuls recovered their old position of preëminence, and Mr. J. H. LONGFORD'S Summary of the Trade of 1895, sent to London in the opening days of last January, had the honour of being the most expeditiously compiled document of its kind ever submitted to the Foreign Office. Mr. HOBART HAMPDEN has now given us an equally timely report on the trade of the first six months of the current year. The document must have been completed in July, or August at latest, since there has been time for it to reach the Foreign Office, be published, and come back to Japan by the beginning of November. It is an excellently prepared report, evincing a thorough grasp of the subject and written in an exceptionally lucid style. We observe that Mr. HAMPDEN offers no explanation of the remarkable excess of imports over exports; an excess amounting to 27 million *yen*, approximately, at the time when he wrote, but now totalling over 50 millions. Doubtless the fact may be referred, in some degree, to the fictitious prosperity that always succeeds a victorious war. Great sums of money were spent among the people during the second half of 1894 and the first of 1895, and a corresponding demand for imported goods must have been stimulated. Moreover, a marked rise in the earnings of labour, owing to the withdrawal of many thousands of able-bodied men to the ranks of military coolies and of the army itself, and to the development of industrial enterprise, placed the working classes in a

position to spend much more than is their wont. But we are persuaded that another cause also was at work, namely, the exceptional facilities offered by the Specie Bank's London Agency. Indeed, when it was announced last year that the Government had no intention of disturbing the market by buying silver with the gold received from China, but that such portions of the indemnity as might be required in Japan would be transmitted thither by indirect routes, we ventured to predict that the trade returns for this year would show evidence of that programme in the form of an excess of imports. A like phenomenon, but of an opposite character, was produced in the early eighties. The Treasury stood in need of specie to redeem the fiat currency, but naturally shrunk from direct purchases of silver with depreciated paper. The plan adopted was to make advances to producers on easy terms, and to buy exporters' bills at rates higher than foreign banks could afford to offer, by which means a great part of the specie accruing from the export trade, instead of going to balance payments on account of imports, flowed direct into the Treasury's vaults, and a marked stimulus was given to exports. It is easy to see how, by dealing with imports in a similar manner, the Treasury has been able, during the present year, to remit large amounts of silver from London without actually purchasing the metal. It is also possible, though not very probable, that the prospect of the new Tariff's going into force may have induced importers to bring in supplies while Customs dues remain low. But inasmuch as the change of rates can not take place before the last quarter of 1897, at soonest, precautions in that sense are not likely to have been largely taken.

Mr. HAMPDEN brings out many interesting facts. Speaking of the import of metals, he says:—

As it has recently been suggested that the import of bar, plate, and sheet-iron is a trade lost to England, and fallen entirely into the hands of Belgium and Germany, it may be well to state that the revised returns for last year show that while Belgium is to be credited with \$937,164 worth of bar and rod-iron during 1895, Great Britain, although losing her leading place of previous years, still contributed \$865,361 worth, considerably more than three times as much as Germany; and that of plate and sheet-iron, \$709,115 worth were of British, \$179,084 worth of Belgian, and \$17,856 worth only of German manufacture, a proportion which for some years past has been nearly constant. The increase under the various headings of iron manufactures aggregates \$856,159 for the half-year under review.

He has devoted special attention to the cotton spinning industry, which, indeed, is well worthy of attention. We quote:—

The cotton industry this year bids fair to establish a record. An impulse was given to the import of raw cotton by the abolition from April 1 of the duty, which had enriched the Treasury by a sum of over \$500,000 during 1895. Already, by the end of June, raw cotton, to the quantity of 126,615,380 lbs. had been imported, the value of which, close upon \$18,000,000, exceeded the import for the corresponding half of last year by \$6,500,000, and approximately equalled the total import during the period of 23 years from 1848 to 1890. As this bulk of raw material would overtax the existing number of spindles in operation at the beginning of January—viz., 632,130, divided among 38 mills—it is not surprising to learn that it is estimated that before the close of 1896 the number of spindles in Japan will exceed 1,000,000. The present activity of the weaving industry may be imagined when it is added that, besides the raw cotton, not far from \$6,000,000 worth of cotton-yarns were imported between January and June, which is considerably more than half the total import of yarn of any previous year except 1848 and 1894. Japan aspires to supplant Bombay yarns in China, and it will be seen, on reference to exports, that Japanese spinnings command a

great and rapidly-growing sale abroad, but that the progress in the export of cotton fabrics is less marked. On the other hand, the import of cotton goods—a field in which Great Britain is supreme, not 1 per cent. being supplied by other countries—shows a substantial advance, amounting to \$1,911,389. Every item, except drills, T-cloths, and Turkey-reds, participates in this increase; but the largest share is to the credit of satins, which are coming into growing favour as sleeve and collar linings for Japanese winter clothing, displacing the native cotton fabric hitherto employed. It may be noted in passing that a new use has been found for cotton in this country, as a substitute for hemp in the making of fishing-nets; it is said to resist the effects of immersion and the attacks of fish better than hemp, but judgment must be suspended until statistics are to hand, showing whether this discovery of two years ago has made any real way among the fisherfolk for Japan.

The great activity now prevailing in the cotton industry is exemplified in the export of cotton yarn, no less than in the import of that article and of raw cotton already alluded to. The export of cotton yarn (to China and Korea) practically began as recently as 1894, and in 1895 had reached the considerable total of 4,110,524 lbs. and \$1,044,179. This record was already beaten as early as the end of April this year, and the total for the first half of 1896 amounted to 7,020,185 lbs., with a value of \$1,613,257. Japan millowners are congratulating themselves that freights for Bombay yarn to Shanghai are 3 rs. higher than those under a recent agreement between the shipping companies for raw cotton from Bombay to Japan, and they expect with the advantage gained by the abolition of the import duty on raw cotton to be able to undersell Bombay spinnings at Shanghai by as much as \$1 per bale.

Mr. HAMPDEN speaks of woollen manufactures also, but we doubt whether he does full justice to the quiet yet steady progress which that branch of enterprise is making in Japan. It is true that woollen articles of apparel have not yet been taken largely into wear by the Japanese, and probably many years will elapse before the demand for such goods becomes so great as to attract much enterprise to their manufacture. At present, they are needed chiefly by wearers of foreign costume, and in the form of rugs, hose, and shawls. It is beyond question that the serges and tweeds now made in Japan are thoroughly suited for clothing purposes, and as for the rugs and shawls, they may be said to have supplanted, or to be in process of supplanting, the imported article. Mr. HAMPDEN speaks of the Japanese manufactures being "conspicuously wanting in excellence of quality and durability." He is doubtless right in the main. The Japanese themselves are sensible that they have not yet succeeded in producing a thread equal to the English. But that can be a question of time only, and we have to observe that durability is an advantage with certain limits.

The great majority of persons that buy rugs, shawls, and blankets in Japan do not care for an article that will last more than four or five years. That degree of durability suits their purpose well enough, and to get beyond it at an increased investment of capital is an idea having little attraction for them. The blankets and rugs made from shoddy at the Shiba factory are precisely the kind of thing that the lower orders look for, and it must have struck every observer that the imported red rug formerly seen almost universally on the shoulders of *jinrikisha*-men or over the knees of their fares, has been replaced by a striped article of much soberer hue, a home product. We do not suppose that Japan will ever have an EDWARD THE THIRD to bring over Flemish weavers and fullers as instructors, nor yet a CHARLES THE SECOND to order that every one shall be buried in a woollen shroud. Without such official aid her woollen

manufacturing industry has already reached the stage of assured success, and we venture to predict that one of the most important articles of import in this section, *mousseline de laine* (*to-chirimen*) will soon find itself in sharp competition with a Japanese rival. It is worth noting in this context that German flannels have entirely lost caste in Japan. Nobody will look at them now-a-days, and those that find a market are said to be sold, for the most part, as British goods. Japanese woollens, too, benefit by adventitious aid of that kind in some cases. We heard recently that one of the proprietors of the Senju Factory, visiting a shop in Ginza, was offered articles that he had himself supplied under contract, the salesman assuring him solemnly that they were the best British goods. Mr. HAMPDEN mentions, we observe, that, in connection with the increased demand for army clothing necessitated by military expansion, a large order for wool will be, or has been, placed with a Sydney firm. It is a curious fact that the Japanese have hitherto found it cheaper to purchase Australian wool in Liverpool than to get it direct from the place of production. The cheapening of freights from Australia now that steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have begun to ply regularly, will doubtless cause a change. Mr. HAMPDEN does not notice, we observe, that wool is beginning to be largely used in the manufacture of the well known *Sakai-dansu*. Originally of cotton only, these attractive carpets and rugs afterwards became a mixture of cotton and jute, then of cotton and hemp, and finally of cotton and wool. The material last added promises to improve the quality of the manufacture greatly.

Mr. HAMPDEN is to be congratulated upon having compiled a report of exceptional interest and timeliness.

POLITICAL SENSATION.

It has been very interesting to watch the course of the agitation, now beginning to subside, with reference to the attacks on the Household Department—interesting, not in the sense that such occurrences can ever be regarded with mere curiosity by friends of Japan, but because the attitude of the press and of politicians has served to gauge the progress of public opinion. The attacks having been originally inspired by party plotters—men that aimed at removing what they believed to be one of the main buttresses of Marquis ITO's influence—naturally became at once a subject for party controversy, which means, of course, that a great many intemperate opinions were expressed on either side. With these we need not concern ourselves, for not only does their extravagance put them out of court, but also they are overshadowed by far more important issues. In the opinion of many persons the main question is whether or no slanders

uttered against officials of the Household Department constitute the crime of disrespect towards the Court itself. Speaking generally, there should be no difficulty in answering such a question in the negative. As the *Fiji Shimpō* justly points out, it has always been maintained that a Minister, though he holds office nominally as a repository of Imperial confidence, or a law, thought it has received Imperial sanction, may be publicly criticised without reflecting in any way on the EMPEROR himself, and in the same manner officials in the Household Department are open to journalistic comment quite independently of the Imperial Court. But there are limits to every proposition. It becomes a nice point whether the dignity of a SOVEREIGN is not vicariously compromised by accusations that his access to the journals of the day is unduly circumscribed by his *entourage*; that he is played upon by the Minister of the Household in the pecuniary interests of the Premier, and by the Premier in the pecuniary interests of the Minister; that his audiences are unfairly regulated, to the advantage of certain politicians and to the detriment of others, and that he is practically prevented from recognising the rights of his nobility. Undoubtedly people in a Western country would deem that such things, if written about the daily doings of their SOVEREIGN, reflected upon his competence and represented him as a monarch without much discernment or power of self-assertion. We can not be surprised that many Japanese view the matter in that light, for in Japanese opinion the faintest breath of criticism directed against the EMPEROR is sacrilege. Still, the very fact that the SOVEREIGN is placed on such an eminence makes it unlikely that the assailants of Count HIJIKATA contemplated the slightest disrespect towards the THRONE. They must have known that anything of the kind would effectually alienate public sympathy. A great deal will certainly be heard about this subject, for the Opposition journals are plainly determined not to let it rest, failing to observe, apparently, that their own insistence must contribute to the very consequences they deprecate. Five years ago, no such controversy would have been possible, we think. People would have feared lest its echoes might reach the THRONE. But times are changing. Young Japan no longer shrinks from treading on her teachers' shadows, or speaks with bated breath in the vicinity of Imperialism. Still more striking, however, is the position that the Government's political supporters, the *Shimpō-to*, have been driven to assume. From the very outset they have been embarrassed by the record of their own vehemence in the past. Men who, eight months previously, had denounced the *Fiji-to's* alliance with the ITO Cabinet as craven suicide, unconditional

surrender, a wholesale sacrifice of principles, and so forth, could not, with any semblance of consistency, enter into a precisely similar alliance with the MATSUKATA Ministry. Hence the strange manifesto issued last month, wherein, while virtually avowing confidence in the Cabinet, they proclaimed their resolve to watch it closely, and attack without mercy any deviation from the straight path. Their attitude, in short, was one of professed belief without practical trust. To politicians already treading such delicate ground the recent episode of suspended newspapers and suppressed periodicals doubtless came with most disturbing effect. Emphatic opposition to the Government must have seemed, for a moment, the only alternative. Happily there was still one road of retreat open—a committee. Experience garnered in nine sessions of the Diet had shown how successfully questions may be hidden away in the darkness of a committee room. The *Shimpō-to* appointed a committee, and gave it general instructions to do the best it could under the circumstances. At the same time, they issued the extraordinary circular of which we published a translation on the 24th instant, saying that the Government had sinned so as to require sharp censure, but not beyond redemption; that it might be given a chance of doing better, and that the Central Office of the Party would endeavour to make the Cabinet "adopt such praiseworthy measures as should atone for its fault." A strange document this, to be sure, when we recall the fact that, until a year ago, Japanese Cabinets asserted absolute independence of political parties and of parliamentary majorities, acknowledging responsibility to the Sovereign alone. Things move fast in Japan, but have they really moved so fast that a political party can openly arrogate the position of mentor to the Government, graciously promise support to the Ministers of the CROWN if they behave well, and grandiloquently announce that steps shall be taken to make them atone for a blunder into which they have just fallen? The *Shimpō-to* must be presumed to know that the arrogant tactlessness of their proclamations can not fail to hamper the Government, and that alliances secured on such terms are too humiliating to be welcome. It seems to us that these politicians find much difficulty in reconciling their past intemperance as untrammelled and destructive free lances with the exigencies of their new rôle as a constructive and disciplined party. Their long habit of independent and uncompromising opposition has impaired their faculty of subordination. They are furnishing now to the nation an object lesson in the difficulties of the system they clamour to introduce, for until parties learn to trust and follow their leaders, party cabinets are impossible.

THE TOKYO MUNICIPALITY AND PROFESSOR BURTON.

SOME of the vernacular newspapers publish a statement that Professor BURTON, acting through his legal adviser, Mr. MASUJIMA, has presented to the Tokyo City Council a claim for a large sum of money on account of plans prepared by him for the Water-works now in course of construction in the metropolis. The story circulated by these journals is that the City Council invited the late Major-General PALMER and Professor BURTON to draft schemes for the Water-works; that both gentlemen complied; that their plans were sent to Germany for examination by experts in that country; that Professor BURTON's plan was preferred by the German engineers; that it was handed to Professor FURUICHI, Chief Engineer of the Home Department; that he used it as the basis of the scheme now actually being carried out; that no further communication was held by the City Council with Professor BURTON, and that the latter has consequently sent in a claim for 130,000 yen, being 2 per cent., approximately, of the estimated cost (6½ million yen) of the works. This account requires considerable correction according to information possessed by us. In the first place, Major-General PALMER was never invited by the City Council to prepare any plan for a system of Water-works in Tokyo. He never had any connection whatever with the City Council. In 1888, a private company was formed in Tokyo for the purpose of supplying the most populous parts of the city with pure water. The programme was limited, but could have been ultimately extended so as to embrace the whole city. The Company proposed to construct the works under a five per cent. Government guarantee, and hand them over to the city, free of all charge, after a fixed term of years. In every respect the proposal was most liberal, and all necessary guarantees were given for the protection of the public. But the Cabinet refused to sanction the scheme, on the general principle that such undertakings ought not to be left to private enterprise. Ultimately, the documents embodying the results of the investigations made by the Company's experts for the purposes of the scheme were given to the City Council, the latter paying a sum that represented the expenses actually incurred by the Company in compiling the documents. Doubtless Major-General PALMER's plans and estimates were among the documents. He had prepared them for a trifling fee on the understanding that if the work was undertaken, its direction should be entrusted to him with proper remuneration; a stipulation that became void, of course, on the dissolution of the Company. Nevertheless, the City Council did not acquire any right of property in Major-

General PALMER's plans, and if it sent them to Germany for examination in conjunction with Professor BURTON's—the latter, we may note *en passant*, were compiled on a wider basis under different circumstances and at a later date—it adopted an entirely unwarrantable course. Moreover, we venture to doubt whether any sending to Germany took place. We have no special information on the point, but neither do we see any reason why German experts should have been consulted, considering that the Home Department has always had recourse to Dutch advice for such purposes, and that to consult engineers in Europe who had no acquaintance with the local conditions on which the plans were founded would have been a manifestly unwise step. With regard to Professor BURTON, there is no question that he designed the Water-works at the request of the City Council, and that he did so independently of his duties as a salaried official of the Departments of Education and Home Affairs. We are not aware that he made any stipulation as to fee at the time, but it is probable that he relied upon the unwritten law obeyed in all Western countries, namely, that if his plan was adopted, either proper remuneration would be given to him, or he would receive the appointment of engineer in charge of the works. In that expectation he seems to have been disappointed. No remuneration was offered to him, and Professor FURUICHI, Engineer-in-Chief of the Home Department, was placed at the head of the works. It is alleged that Mr. FURUICHI used Prof. BURTON's plans with immaterial modifications. As to that, we cannot speak, but we are fully persuaded that Mr. BURTON has not brought any charge of professional impropriety against a colleague. The plans were made for the City Council, and it rested with the City Council to acquire all rights in them before handing them to any engineer except their compiler. At all events, Professor FURUICHI's part in the matter remains to be elucidated, and for the moment we have only to observe that no charge of any kind has been brought against him by Professor BURTON. The City Council's action, however, is inexplicable, except on the hypothesis of most singular ignorance. They may possibly have imagined that, as Professor BURTON was in the service of the Central Government, his services might be requisitioned by any local government without remuneration; but that, of course, is a total misapprehension, and the sooner that such delusions are signally dispelled, the better for all concerned. With the Tokyo City Council we can not feel the smallest sympathy. Its *personnel* includes several men of acknowledged ability and business aptitude, yet its conduct in connection with the Water-works has been egregiously lacking in each of those qualities. We are in a position to say that the Council was in receipt of warnings that should

have averted the immensely costly and scandalous frauds connected with the iron pipes, but it treated the advice with more than indifference. We are also in a position to say that it has been warned about other difficulties which will certainly declare themselves soon, yet it has maintained the same demeanour of unconcern. It has bungled its relations with the barristers originally briefed in the water-pipes suit, and it seems to have made even a worse bungle of its relations with the engineer originally employed to plan the works. How such inept procedure is to be reconciled with the character of the individuals constituting the Council, we do not understand.

THE "KOBE CHRONICLE" AND COUNT HIJIKATA.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* has very frankly admitted the errors into which it was betrayed in connection with the HIJIKATA case. They were errors due, for the most part, to incorrect information obtained from Japanese sources, and though their acknowledgment thus becomes easier, we are nevertheless fully sensible of the straightforward and manly line taken by our Kobe contemporary. On one point, however, another word is necessary. The *Kobe Chronicle* writes thus:—

(11) "The second singularly false hypothesis of the *Kobe Chronicle* is that a legal tribunal has any competence whatever to protect a newspaper against an Administrative order of suspension or suppression." We are exceedingly sorry. We did truly think that legal tribunals were for the protection of all individual rights. We candidly accept the *Mail's* correction, and admit that we have misunderstood the principles of Japanese jurisprudence. Justice is not necessarily the same thing as law.

We can not regard this retraction as fair. It is so worded as to convey the impression that legal tribunals in Japan are not constituted for the protection of individual rights, and that we are responsible for such an assertion. Our contemporary can scarcely have intended to saddle us with that statement. He doubtless attached importance to the introduction of the qualifier "all"—"all individual rights." Well, but did the *Kobe Chronicle* ever suppose that the Law Courts had competence to protect a Japanese journal against an Administrative order of suppression or suspension? If the Law Courts had such competence, what basis would there be for any outcry against the suspension and suppression clauses of the Press Regulations? It is precisely because those clauses empower the Minister of Home Affairs to suppress or suspend without resort to legal process that so much agitation is directed towards their abrogation. The protection of a Law Court in such a matter could be exercised in one way only; namely, by enacting that a journal might not be suppressed or suspended without the approval of the Court. An enactment in that sense would deprive the Ad-

ministration of all its objectionable power, and remove every ground of complaint against the Press Regulations. An editor may no longer be imprisoned or fined in Japan except by sentence of a legal tribunal. If his paper might not be suspended or suppressed except by a similar process, the press of Japan would stand on practically the same footing as the press in England; and all the commotion on this subject among political parties would be senseless vapour. So far as we understand Japanese affairs, there are still three sets of Regulations the provisions of which deprive a man of the protection ordinarily extended by Law Courts to individual rights. They are, the Press Regulations, the Peace Preservation Regulations, and the Premonition Regulations. In every session of the Diet the Lower House has passed resolutions for rescinding the second and third Regulations and amending the first, but the consent of the Upper House has not been obtained, and the Regulations consequently stand unaltered. In all other respects individual rights have the full protection of the Law Courts, theoretically at any rate. With regard to the Osaka periodical, it was actually under order of suspension when the Public Procurator proceeded against it legally for bringing officials into contempt; it was released from suspension the day before its editor was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour, and it was again placed under suspension for a new offence before the editor's appeal against the sentence of imprisonment had been heard by the Court of Cassation in Tokyo. But the administrative orders of suspension, which concerned the periodical only, and the legal proceedings, which concerned the editor personally, were absolutely unconnected, and neither would or could exercise the slightest influence upon the other.

As to Count HIJIKATA'S position, it is certainly singular, when viewed by Western eyes. The *Kobe Chronicle* goes too far, we think, when it says that "of all the vernacular newspapers in Japan, there are only three that have not given a distinct, though in some cases qualified, endorsement to the very grave accusations against him." A juster statement of the position would be that several—not all—of the journals ranged on the side of the present Cabinet have condemned Count HIJIKATA, and that all the opposition journals have supported him. In short, the controversy has assumed essentially the character of a party fight, and where bias is so plainly manifest, none of the witnesses can be trusted implicitly. The one and only really independent journal, the *Fiji Shimpō*, scoffs at the idea of Count HIJIKATA'S resigning because "an impertinent youth" has undertaken to slander him, and records its opinion that the article in the *Twenty-sixth Century* "carries no particular weight as an

attack upon the Household Minister." We can not honestly say, therefore, that public opinion, as represented by the press, condemns Count HIJIKATA. For aught we know to the contrary, he may be the victim of a very unprincipled political intrigue. Indeed, that is the view taken by many people. Still, his moral character has been impugned in the most open and uncompromising manner, and he nevertheless seems disposed to take no steps for the purpose of vindicating it. The suspension or suppression of a dozen journals, and the imprisonment of as many editors for the offence of *Kwanri bujoku*, constitute no refutation whatever of the worst accusations preferred against the Minister. Englishmen find it very difficult to associate the idea of innocence with inaction under such circumstances. But we are in Japan, not England, and one of the strangest habits of the Japanese is to suffer newspaper attacks in silence. Time and again during the past 25 years the characters of individuals have been assailed with reckless vehemence and the fullest elaboration of details by this journal or by that, yet of libel actions at law during the same period, there have not been too many to count on the fingers of one hand. Is the moral perception of the Japanese exceptionally callous about such matters? We are inclined to think so. Their trust in time is large. *Hito no uwasa mo shichi-fu-go nichi*—rumour's life is 75 days. That is what they have been taught by precept, or learned by experience, to believe, and when they combine it with the aphorism *yabu wo tsutsuite hebi wo dasu*, which corresponds with our "let sleeping dogs lie," the result is strong disinclination to meddle with the adjustments that truth is always working to effect. There is another cause, too, for this apathy: the press has not earned so much respect that its utterances command very serious attention. In nine cases out of every ten, the most defamatory of its assertions provoke only mirth or contempt. The law requires that if a newspaper publishes an attack upon any one, it must, at his demand, give equal publicity to a denial. What more can any reasoning man require, asks the average Japanese. To push the matter farther is to incur certain trouble and expense, to risk the reproach of vindictiveness, and to effect little; for the Judiciary is inclined to appraise the sin of slander rather by the quality of the slanderer than by the dimensions of the libel. In not one case, not even so much as one case, have damages of a prohibitory amount been awarded in a libel suit. There could be no stronger practical proof of the low status of the Japanese press than the indifference with which its assaults are regarded, nor could anything tend more effectually to diminish its sense of responsibility than the licence it is suffered to enjoy. The question for Count HIJIKATA is whether he should depart from the

custom of his generation. It is a difficult question. The public sense of proportion would certainly be shocked by such a spectacle as the Minister of the Imperial Household proceeding against an utterly obscure Osaka periodical on a charge of libel; and if a plea of justification were set up in defence, personages that the Minister would properly shrink from citing as witness, and affairs that his official duty forbids him to discuss in public, might be involved. Resting where it is, the episode is very unsatisfactory, and we fear that it must eventuate in a greater injustice than any yet done.

THE REPORTED COMPLICATIONS IN KOREA.

THERE is reason to think that the rumours sent across the wires three days ago as to the arrest of several Korean officers for plotting to compel the KING'S return to his own palace, are unworthy of serious attention. The KING, essentially a timid man, has been pleased with his asylum in the Russian Legation, and would be glad, doubtless, to remain there for an indefinite time. But to satisfy that *penchant* he must have abdicated his royal position, for though, under momentary stress of circumstances, a monarch may be justified in taking refuge in a foreign Legation in his own capital, to live and hold his court there month after month can scarcely be reconciled with the idea of sovereignty. Various plausible excuses were invented from time to time to postpone HIS MAJESTY'S return to the palace, for in addition to his own feeling of security in the Russian Legation, there are considerations that render his continued stay there very desirable in the eyes of several of his *entourage*. The former interpreter of the Russian Legation, for example, who now occupies a high official position, and several other prominent men, must be very well aware that the KING'S departure from the Legation will certainly not inure to their benefit, or to the permanence of their political influence. Much delay has been contrived by pretexting the condition of the palace and the necessity of repairs; but that plea has ceased to be effective, since the palace is to be entirely ready for occupation at the end of this month or the beginning of next, and the KING'S removal thither can not reasonably be delayed beyond the middle of December. It seems most improbable that a plot to hasten the event can have been formed within a few days of the time when it would have taken place without recourse to extraneous pressure of any kind. What we should naturally expect, under the circumstances, would be a plot to keep him where he is, and there are very strong suspicions that something of that kind is the true explanation of the news just received. To persuade the KING that some of his subjects were

conspiring to obtain possession of his person, would have been an excellent device to excite his alarm, and make him seek new pretexts for prolonging his stay in the Russian Legation. If that hypothesis be correct, it would follow that the officers arrested on a charge of plotting to compass the KING'S removal to the palace, are themselves the victims of a plot. It is possible, however, that they may have been partisans of YE YUN-YONG, who has just been transferred from the position of Minister of War to the comparatively insignificant post of Minister of Agriculture. The downfall—for YE'S transfer is virtually a downfall—of a Minister of War in Korea signifies loss of position in the case of many officers who, under a more civilized system of government, would be independent of such vicissitudes. These men may have conspired in some way, for YE'S change of office and his replacement by MIN YUNG-WHAN signifies another success to the pro-Russian section at the expense of the English-language politicians. Whichever of the above two hypotheses be correct, the affair is evidently of secondary importance, a fact confirmed by the meagre nature of the telegrams sent by the Japanese *Chargé d'Affairs* in Söul to the Government in Tokyo. Fictitious importance was imparted to the incident by the arrival of some 80 Russian marines in Söul. But that was a mere coincidence. The marines were not a special force summoned in consequence of the emergency. They went to Söul for the purpose of relieving the former Legation Guard, and their arrival in the Korean capital was followed by the departure of over 70 men the next day. These "coincidences" are not always credible, but in the present case credence is facilitated by the fact that Admiral ALEXIEFF, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Naval Force in the East, arrived at Chemulpo on the 12th inst., in the *Rurik*, accompanied by the *Admiral Nachimoff*, two gun-boats and two torpedo-destroyers, so that an opportunity for changing the Legation Guard in Söul presented itself in the natural order of things. It may be presumed that those interested in the restoration of a normal state of affairs in Korea will make every effort to hasten the judicial examination of the officers arrested in connection with this so-called plot, in order that the true facts may become known, and that no further pretexts may be furnished for the KING'S maintenance of a line of conduct that has become quite farcical, and, if persisted in, will certainly suggest most inconvenient constructions.

Count Kuroda, being still in bad health, left Tokyo for Atami on Tuesday.

In consequence of snow, the railway between Nagano and Naoetsu, Nagano and Karuizawa, Karuizawa and Yokogawa will be blocked from six o'clock p.m. on the 2nd inst. till the 31st of March next year.

KOREAN NEWS.

An unprecedented event is reported from Söul. Ye Chung-suk, Magistrate of Sakyung, having received a bribe of \$845 from the defendant in a law suit, gave the case in the municipal gentleman's favour. Ye relied on the favour that he enjoyed in high places, and had the injured plaintiff proved less obdurate, the magistrate's confidence would not have been misplaced. But the plaintiff repaired to Söul, and after having been knocked about for a time from bureaucratic pillar to departmental post, he finally placed a memorial in the hands of the Minister of Law while the latter was passing along the street. The Minister summoned the magistrate to Söul, and the Supreme Court, assisted or directed by Mr. C. R. Greathouse, tried him, found him guilty, and condemned him to imprisonment for life with hard labour. A double record was thus achieved: an official was punished for the first time in Korea for taking bribes, and the crime elicited a sentence of imprisonment for life with hard labour for the first time in the history of the world. The Korean Government must set about building prisons very briskly if it means to follow that precedent.

A former *Chusa* of the Korean Home Department has memorialized the Throne, urging that no Korean should associate with the Japanese, and that the officials of the Royal Household Department who visited Prince Komatsu on the occasion of his recent visit to Söul, should be punished. He also recommends that the editor of the *Independent*, being a foreigner, be expelled from Söul. Conservatism must be lifting its head in Korea when such memorials are sent in.

The execution of soldiers for comparatively trifling offences seems to be common in Korea. One day, a man is shot in the presence of his company for breaking the military regulations; the next, a non-commissioned officer meets the same fate for raising a disturbance during the night, while under the influence of liquor, and insulting a post-office official. In the latter case the condemned man was certainly a loss to the service, for when he was about to be shot, he invited his company to the place of execution, and addressed to them an impressive and excellently composed speech, urging them to take example by his fate and avoid his error.

Fate was in a decidedly ironical mood when she impelled the King of Korea to issue his recent edict, announcing that, although he had promised to buy land for the railroads granted to American and French projectors, he could not afford to buy any more, and must therefore refrain from granting further concessions of the kind for one year. The edict was manifestly directed against the Japanese, who are trying so energetically to obtain a concession for the Söul-Fusan railway. Korea is under exceptional pecuniary obligations to Japan, having borrowed from her three million yen, the repayment of which seems to have been quietly put off to the Greek Kalends. Yet it is Japan above all states that is to suffer from Korean impecuniosity.

A DISCLAIMER.

By a displacement of inverted commas and an erroneous division of paragraphs, the *Japan Herald* makes us attribute to America a state of affairs similar to that existing in Japan with regard to the press. Quoting a portion of a leading article from our columns, our local contemporary makes us conclude thus:—

"There could be no stronger practical proof of the low status of the Japanese press than the indifference with which its assaults are regarded, nor could anything tend more effectually to diminish its sense of responsibility than the licence it is suffered to enjoy. *This we think is also largely true of America.*"

The words we have italicized, "*This we think, is also largely true of America,*" do not appear in our article. They are an expression of our contemporary's opinion, and should stand at the head of the paragraph following the quotation, not at the tail of the quotation.

CHINESE NEWS.

It would seem that all the stories hitherto circulated about the immediate furnishing of money by an American syndicate to build the Pekin-Hankow Railway are erroneous. Director-General Sheng has petitioned the Pekin Government for a loan of ten million taels to commence operations. He guarantees to obtain the other forty millions by the time that the Government loan is exhausted, and he recommends that no money be raised abroad until one-half of the line has been finished. He further advises that when foreign money is needed, it should be procured from America so as to avoid the mutual jealousy of European States, and that the rolling stock also should be bought in America for the same reason. If Sheng has to find twenty-five million taels in China before he goes abroad for money, it is possible that he may have considerable difficulty in carrying out the railway project.

There is a rumour that the Tsung-li Yamén has recommended the raising of export duties in China to ten per cent. *ad valorem*, the idea being that if Chinese exporters have to pay that amount, foreign importers can not object to a similar increase of import duties. It is a strange specimen of economical reasoning. For, in the first place, the export trade is in the hands of foreign merchants, so that every increase of export duties has to be paid primarily by them, and in the second place, duties upon exports for foreign consumption come ultimately out of the pockets of the foreign consumers.

The Municipality of the foreign settlement of Shanghai—that is to say, the British, American, and German settlement, as distinct from the French—contemplate issuing dollar notes on their own account. If they carry out the project, it will be a very striking illustration of the *imperium in imperio* that exists in the Far East under the present treaties. A foreign community living within China's dominions will be issuing, without any permission from the Chinese Government, bank notes for circulation almost entirely among Chinese subjects. That foreign banks established in China and Japan should have charters investing them with note-issuing competence, neither the Chinese nor the Japanese Government possessing any power of supervision or control, is curious enough. But a foreign municipality in China paying its way with its own paper would be still more curious. Financially speaking, there is nothing whatever to be urged against the programme, but politically it looks decidedly singular.

A new rapid has been formed in the Yangtze below Chungking. Big and little rocks, tumbled down by a furious current, have been lodged at a narrow place and piled upon each other until only four feet of water offers for the passage of boats. At the date of latest advices the river, owing to a continuous downpour of heavy rain coming after three months of intermittent wet, had been nearly 22 feet above its normal level, and there was uncertainty whether the flood would have the effect of aggravating or removing the new obstruction.

The new military academy in Nanking was opened on November 28th. Its buildings are extensive and conveniently planned. Commissioners Tsien, the director of the academy, has had several years' experience in the Tientsin military academy and has a working knowledge of German. The institution is to accommodate 120 cadets, and the number is already nearly full.

It is alleged that a young Belgian official, chief clerk in the Brussels Foreign Office, by name the Chevalier de Wouten d'Oplinter, has been engaged by the Chinese Government for the purpose of reorganizing the system of business in the Tsung-li Yamén, so as to place it on European lines.

The district treasuries at Daichu and Dainan, Formosa, will open on the 21st of December, and those at Hozan and the Pescadores on the 1st of January.

COUNT HIJIKATA AND THE "KOBE CHRONICLE."

In its issue of the 25th instant the *Kobe Chronicle* persists in its singular errors about Count Hijikata. "There seems to have been no serious doubt," our contemporary writes, "as to the truth of the accusations against Count Hijikata, or, at any rate, a sufficient portion of the accusations. The Court of Law decided against him on his libel action." We have only to repeat that there never was any libel action; that the accusations against Count Hijikata's personal character were not published until four months after the trial at law alluded to by the *Kobe Chronicle*; that the trial ended, not in the manner indicated by the *Kobe Chronicle*, but in the sentencing of the *Twenty-sixth Century's* editor to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, and that, consequently, if any inference is to be drawn from the trial, it must be an inference in favour of Count Hijikata. It is most unfortunate for the *Kobe Chronicle's* fair-fame that it should have been thus egregiously misled, and that, on the strength of flagrant perversions of fact, it should have lent its columns to assist in fixing foul slanders upon a grey-haired official of high standing and hitherto unblemished reputation.

FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

At five minutes to ten o'clock on Monday night, a fire broke out in an upper room of the premises at No. 16, Bund, occupied by Messrs. Farsari & Co., photographers, and within an hour the whole place, with its valuable machinery, stock of plates, and photographic materials, was consumed. Gentlemen in the smoking-room of the Public Hall had a fine view of the conflagration, the flames shooting up high in the still, windless air. The Yokohama Fire Brigade, under Superintendent Morgan, were early on the scene and an abundant supply of water was obtained by two hydrants and a steamer. The police brigade also lent valuable assistance, while a fire-party from the Russian gunboat *Manjour*, in command of an officer, did good work in subduing the flames. Unfortunately, one of the Russian sailors was seriously injured during the operations, a stove falling from an upper-room directly on to him. How the fire originated is still a mystery. The place and stock were insured to the amount of \$6,000 in an office of which Mr. Shand is agent.

The second fire within less than 24 hours broke out in Yokohama about six o'clock on Tuesday evening. The Y. F. B., on getting the alarm, proceeded with a couple of hose-reels and stand-pipes to the scene of the conflagration, a two-storied godown at No. 130, China-town. This place is divided into two, one part being occupied by Mr. H. G. Waggott, the other by Mr. H. B. Collins. The Yokohama Fire Brigade and the Police brigades managed to get the flames under control in less than an hour, but could not save much of the building or its contents. How the fire originated has not yet been discovered. Supt. Morgan reports that there were very few goods in the godown. The building we understand belonged to Mr. J. D. Hutchison, and was insured in the London and Lancashire Fire Office.

HAKODATE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, November 25th.

The steamer *Aswanly* from Yokohama, bound to San Francisco, put into this port yesterday to land Mr. Rayner, the fourth engineer, who had been attacked by small-pox, and two others whose symptoms were doubtful. Rayner died to-day, and one of the other cases is small-pox, one still doubtful. These have been isolated. The Captain of the *Aswanly* had the remainder of the crew vaccinated, and proceeded to Muroran to load bunker coal. This port is free from contagious disease, and at present otherwise healthy.

THE REV. JOHN ROSS AND THE QUESTION OF TORTURE BY ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS.

The Rev. John Ross refuses to withdraw his charges against the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchuria. He says that it will be time enough to do so when the Bishop himself shall have denied that "the photographer, Pung (or P'eng), was tortured in his compound on the 13th and 14th of March." The case has now assumed a strange complexion. On the one hand, we have the Rev. John Ross publicly preferring certain accusations; on the other, the Rev. Léon Robert publicly declaring those accusations to be baseless; and now, finally, the Rev. John Ross replies that, with a solitary exception, the Rev. Léon Robert is inaccurate in every one of his statements. Under such circumstances, it is difficult for outsiders to form any clear conception of the truth. Our readers can not have forgotten the affair. It had its origin in an essay contributed by Mr. Ross to the *United Presbyterian Christian Record*. He there stated that M. Léon Robert, a French Catholic Missionary in Shanghai, replied that, in view of such charges, the French Consul-General in Tientsin had visited Newchwang and Mukden; had investigated the matter; had obtained the release of certain Chinese incarcerated for alleged complicity in M. Léon Robert's unlawful practices, and had received a personal apology from the British Consul at whose instance the men were arrested but who now "regretted that he had been sadly misled." To every one of those rebuttals the Rev. Mr. Ross replies "inaccurate," and admits only that the French Consul-General visited Mukden. It is strange that there should be difficulty in eliciting the facts of an affair so flagrant.

THE ANTI-FOOT-BINDING SOCIETY.

The lady promoters of the Natural Feet Society and the International Woman's Union have aimed high but unfortunately their bolt has fallen short. Through the United States Representative in Peking, in his capacity of Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, they addressed to the Emperor and Empress Dowager a memorial praying that steps might be taken to put an end to the cruel practice of foot-binding. Mr. Denby duly forwarded the memorial to the Tsung-li Yamén, but that august body's reply was disappointing:—

We beg to state that the memorial of the said societies evidences the fact that the object in view is to do good. But the usages and customs prevailing in China are different from those of Western countries. The binding of feet is a practice that has been in vogue for a very long time. Those who oppose the binding of their children's feet are not compelled to do so, while, on the other hand, those who wish to carry out the practice cannot be prevented from doing so. Custom has made the practice. Those in high authority cannot but allow the people to do as they are inclined in the matter of binding the feet of their children; they cannot be restrained by law.

We have therefore the honour to inform Your Excellency that we find it difficult to carry out the request made and present the memorial to their Majesties the Empress Dowager and Emperor. We will keep the memorial in the archives of the Yamén, and beg that Your Excellency will communicate the above for the information of the two societies.

The affairs of the Osaka Seido Kaisha (Osaka Copper Smelting Company) which were greatly upset, have been reduced to order, and Mr. Akiyuki is selected as President, and Messrs. Matsura, Honda, and Nakamura directors.—*Asahi Shimbun*.

THE POWER OF CREDIT.

Credit, we are told by all public economists, is the main spring of present-day business. The *Tokyo Economist*, while supporting the axiom, says that the credit-system is by no means a late growth in Japan, but instead of illustrating its remarks by pointing out shops that give long credit, or have been in the habit of affording long credit to customers for many years past, it prints an account of a business that enjoys unlimited credit from its customers. The place in question is the Ninhen Bonito Store, situated in a narrow lane not far from the Echigoya—the silk mercery of the Mitsui Company. This homely establishment has been in existence for more than 200 years and enjoys the highest credit of any shop in Japan. It is the custom in this country to make presents on various occasions of domestic festivity, such as marriages, births, and other anniversaries, and at these times, dried bonito is a very favourite form of gift. To avoid overstocking a friend with dried bonito on such occasions, it is usual to send, instead of the fish, a voucher drawn on the Ninhen store, that can be redeemed at any time for an amount of bonito, 50 *sen* worth up to three *yen* or more. The amount of such vouchers issued by the Ninhen store is said to total 103,800 a year, and taking them at an average of 75 *sen* each, it follows that some 77,000 *yen* a year are deposited with the establishment "for value to be received." The vouchers can only be exchanged for dried bonito and then at the Ninhen store. In pre-Restoration days it was nothing unusual for these vouchers to be held for two or three years before being redeemed; meanwhile, the proprietary had the use of the money for nothing. Nowadays the vouchers are handed in more promptly; still it is not extravagant to suppose that the Ninhen establishment enjoys the privilege of using 79,000 *yen* and upward per year free of interest. Such a state of things can find no equal anywhere else in Japan: probably no where else in the world.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

The more we hear of Li Hung-chang's misfortune in Peking the less hope does there appear to be that he can ever recover his old power and influence. When the aged statesman took over his seals of office in the Tsung-li Yamén on the 1st of November, it is said that only subordinates were there to receive him, and that his colleagues did not arrive until some hours later: a studied insult full of significance. Li evidently assumed the Tsung-li Yamén post because he shrunk from offering himself as a fresh target for the attacks of his enemies, who would not have failed to denounce his refusal as disloyalty. Unfortunately for Li, a relative of Weng Tung-ho, his greatest enemy, happened to be supervising the work of restoration in the park when the ex-Viceroy entered in a Bath chair. It was probably the first time that a Bath chair had ever invaded the sacred precincts, and the sacrilege of the situation was made complete by the fact that its occupant was the hated iconoclast, the father of new fashions and alien systems, whose reforms had proved so futile in the hour of his country's direst need. Li's career is a paradox. Born before his time, he has nevertheless outlived it.

REFORM IN CHINA.

The Rev. Gilbert Reid, whose career in Peking has attracted much attention, and whose success in gaining access to high Chinese dignitaries has been unprecedented, says that Prince Kung is ready to receive a stranger with no better introduction than genuine good wishes for China's welfare. Mr. Reid is hopeful about China. He is one of the many optimists who, for the past twenty-five years, have been detecting signs of reform never consummated. The bases of his faith are that, in accordance with memorials addressed to the Throne, schools are to be founded in every province for giving instruction

in Occidental knowledge; that the Chinese classics are no longer to be the sole subject at literary examinations, but will be supplemented by Western learning; that a university is to be established in the metropolis where the sciences of Europe will be taught; that men are beginning to write more and talk more about foreign subjects, and that railways are at last on the eve of becoming an accomplished fact. Side by side with these signs of the dawn of better days it is interesting to read the memorial of a censor who declares that official extortion prevails to such an extent in the metropolitan province of Chihli as to threaten wide-spread disaster.

THE ALLEGED POLICE OUTRAGE AT KOBE.

The Police Authorities of Hyogo Prefecture have caused to be published by the newspapers originally responsible—the *Kwansei Shogyo Nippo* and the *Kobe Yushin Nippo*—a contradiction of the story that, on October 29th, four constables, having arrested a girl on suspicion of an offence against good morals, subjected her to very improper treatment. The procedure alleged against the police was of such a nature that it could not possibly have served any purpose connected with their duty, and, if true, must have been prompted by a spirit of purely wanton mischief. We ourselves caused inquiries to be instituted, and the resulting information is to the effect that the Kobe police have lately been endeavouring to suppress an abuse only too familiar to their Yokohama *confères*, namely, the keeping of disorderly houses within a foreign settlement under the title of hotels or restaurants. These places are maintained and frequented by foreigners of the lowest class, and the difficulty of dealing with them under present conditions of divided jurisdiction is very considerable. The proprietor of one such house was charged before H.B.M.'s Consul in Kobe on the 25th of November, but the evidence for the prosecution being insufficient, the Consul contented himself with putting the accused on recognisances for his good behaviour. Another house, the name of whose proprietor we refrain from publishing, has been watched by the police, and several of the women employed there have received punishment, to the great annoyance of the owner who has frequently complained and is much incensed against the police. It was with reference to one of the girls connected with this house that the story in question circulated, by the girl herself of course. The Police Authorities, however, deny flatly that she was subjected to any treatment of the nature described by the Kobe journals and copied by the *Yorodsu Choho*. What happened, they allege, was that the girl having been arrested and searched, was released by the constables, without any report to a superior officer, the ground of release being absence of incriminating proof. The constables have been severely punished for acting in such an independent manner, but not for ill-treating the girl. If it is denied that she was ill-treated in any way. There the matter must rest. We presume that a statement made by responsible officials is at least as worthy of credence as a story told by a woman that leads a life of shame.

PROFESSOR KUROKAWA ON LACQUER.

Professor Kurokawa, of the Imperial University, one of the highest authorities on the history of Japan and her fine arts, delivered a short lecture the other day before the Lacquer Society of Tokyo. In ancient times, observed the learned Professor, the use of lacquer in the field of fine arts was very limited, being employed mostly for delineating certain characters on wood. But the art of using lacquer for decorative purposes gradually extended, until we find it employed for *kinpun makiye*, "gold-dust pictures." Under the general term of *makiye*, various styles, each differing slightly from the other, came into vogue, as for instance, *chiriji*

(dust-ground) and *Nashiji* (pear-grained ground). The difference between the two consisted merely in the size of the gold specks used, those in the former being finer than those in the latter. Both appear to date from the time when the Imperial Court was at Nara, before it removed to Kyoto in 794 A.D. We gather from old chronicles that it is highly probable that another gold dust process, called *hirachiri-raten*, very similar in style to *chiriji*, was known about the *Kwanpei* and *Yenki* eras (889-922 A.D.). This process was first used in decorating Buddhist images and paraphernalia, and even the interior of Buddhist temples, as may be inferred from the internal decoration of the Chuzen Temple at Hiraizumi, one of the oldest Buddhist edifices in Japan.

The style termed *makiye* must have been known from about the *Tempei* era (729-748 A.D.), though mention of it first appears in the records of the reign of the Emperor Buntoku (851-858 A.D.). The lecturer thought that *makiye* should be subdivided into two main divisions, *makiye* connected with divine services, and the other merely a curiosity of fine art. The *makiye* or *hirachiri-raten* (gold dust and inlaid shell work) was used in decorating sacred furniture, and also the sheaths of swords worn by courtiers on ceremonial occasions. Other *makiye* wares were made to satisfy the taste of connoisseurs. It should be added that *raten makiye* was principally used in decorating objects required for Shinto temples.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SINGULAR CUSTOMS IN A FISHING VILLAGE NEAR NIIGATA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Hoping that the following may be of interest to the readers of your paper, I venture to trespass upon your valuable columns and ask you to insert it.

Yours truly,

T. SASAKA.

November 28th, 1896.

In the county of Nishi Kambara, Niigata Prefecture, Echigo Province, there is a fishing village called Manose, which consists of about two hundred houses. It is said that, from ancient times, singular customs have prevailed in this village, and among them the strongest, is an objection to making marriages with persons living in other villages.

Men when still young are said to be accustomed to learn carpentering in this village, and on attaining the age of maturity and after marrying, they will leave the village and journey through the districts of Aizu in search of work. After having made a good sum of money, they give up carpentering and take to fishing, and in the end succeed to the family estates. It is also said that it is the custom of the village that no one should be allowed to succeed to an estate unless he has taken a journey for the sake of work. So, every year, a party of young men from about seventy to one hundred in number, take a journey for the sake of work.

During the time they are engaged in work, they return to their homes only once every year, about the middle of August (on the days of the Festival of Lanterns, according to the old calendar) when they remain for a short period only. After their return home, and after they have met their parents, wives, and children, whom they had not seen since their departure, they start for the scene of their labours again in September.

Although it may sound ridiculous to us, it is said to be a fact that most of the young wives give birth to little ones in May so regularly that the cries of babies may be heard in most of the houses of the village at that time of the year, the births generally amounting to fifty or sixty.

THE "MONMOUTHSHIRE'S" MAIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Post and Telegraph Office,
Yokohama, November 30th, 1896.

SIR,—Will you kindly spare me space in your valuable paper to inform the public of the following incidents, which, to our great regret, have happened? The mail per steamer *Monmouthshire*, for Victoria and beyond, was advertised to close at this office on Saturday, the 28th inst., at 8 p.m., and when we were about to make her

mail up on the same evening we were advised by the Agent that, owing to bad weather, her departure from Kobe had been postponed, and that consequently, she would be unable to leave here on Sunday morning as previously advertised, but would probably sail on Sunday evening. We awaited definite notice from the Agent of the hour of departure, the usual custom being to convey to us such notice as enables us to give to the public due intimation of the postponement. But no notice came to hand, and when we asked the Agent this morning, we learnt to our great surprise that the *Monmouthshire* had left here early this morning, so that the mail-matters marked "per s.s. *Monmouthshire*," or intended to be despatched by her, are all left behind.

We shall dispatch the above mail by the first opportunity and by the quickest route. Meantime, we have thought it better to inform the public and those that posted letters by the said route, so that they may amend their correspondence.

T. UNAGAMI,
Director.

MIXED COINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On reading the article "XX. on Silver," which appeared in your Weekly issue of the 7th inst., I tried to work out your theory that a coin minted 25 years ago, composed of a mixture of $\frac{1}{2}$ gold and $\frac{1}{2}$ silver, would automatically redress any divergence in the ratio between the two metals and form a coin "the purchasing power of which would be a constant quantity;" following is the result:—

In your illustration you assume

$\$1$ S. = 1 lb. Tea.

$\$1$ G. = 1 lb. Tea.

ergo $\$1$ S. + $\$1$ G. = 2 lbs. Tea.

If silver declined in terms of gold to half its former value then

$\$1$ G. would = $\frac{1}{2}$ S.

and $\$3$ S. would be required to buy $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Tea; but according to your article

$\$1$ G. would buy $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Tea.

ergo $\$1$ G. would = $\frac{2}{3}$ S.

How do you account for this discrepancy? It seems to me that there is something wrong in your arithmetic, and that it is not correct according to

COCKER.

Shanghai, November 18th, 1896.

[Certainly if it be assumed that silver has declined in terms of gold to half of its former value, our figures are incorrect. On that hypothesis we should have written "the gold component of the coin would now purchase $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of tea and the silver component $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. G. would then be equal to a S. But in the article referred to we used merely illustrative figures, without any assumption as to a definite ratio between the metals. If G had appreciated 50 per cent in terms of S, then the statement would have been that the gold component would now buy $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and the silver component, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.—Ed. J.M.]

THE NARA SCHOOL ONCE MORE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am glad that Mr. Kawamura is willing to allow others also to have a share in the honour of the sudden prosperity of the Nara School with himself. Those of your readers who have seen the Tokyo dailies or weeklies when speaking on this matter well knew that they all have attributed the cause of its growth solely to the personal influence of Mr. Kawamura, and as they all spoke about the trouble in an authoritative manner, I very naturally concluded, as every sane man would have, they were directly or indirectly, inspired by him. However, let us come to the real cause of the trouble.

1.—My previous letter did not imply that Mr. Kawamura was not helped by Mr. Tamaki in procuring for himself the post of "Agricultural Adviser."

2.—Mr. Kawamura is mistaken when he says, "I took my inspection tours chiefly during the summer vacation." Mr. Kawamura could not have forgotten my reproving him in the teachers' presence for devoting too much time for his agricultural enterprise and neglecting his other duties to the School. He told one of the Trustees that he would *sappuku* if I reproved him once more.

3.—In regard to the 15 yen salary from the Kencho, he says it was not sufficient for his travelling expenses. (a) I believe the Japanese Ken Government pays the expenses of its officials. (b) Even if he did spend the money for his travelling purposes, it was his duty to have submitted an explanation to the School Committee.

4.—Mr. Kawamura has kept absolute silence in regard to the cause of the resignation of the President, Mr. Tamaki, and the Treasurer, Mr. Ido,

several months ago. These two gentlemen, as stated in my previous letter, have been the real founders of the School, and have contributed immense labour and treasure towards its prosperity. They resigned simply because Mr. Kawamura had virtually usurped their position. When they resigned the dismissal of Mr. Kawamura was only a question of time; because without them the School could not be continued.

5.—The progress of Christianity in the School since my absence, judging from the official organ of the Mission *The Church in Japan* (I'll send a copy if desired) has been very satisfactory to the foreigners in charge of the spiritual work in Yamate. To this progress Mr. Kawamura himself has contributed not a little!

6.—Mr. Kawamura knowing that at present the question of religion in the Mission Schools in Japan is their most vulnerable place to prejudice public opinion against them, he has separately attempted to give the Nara school a mortal thrust in this weak point. Let me say here that, in my opinion, there is no Government School in Japan whose students have enjoyed more *real* religious freedom than those of the Nara Chugakko; and their moral conduct has been a model to be copied by all. The principal law of the School being absolute religious neutrality, therefore Mr. Kawamura was guilty by knowingly violating the Constitution and taking the students to a Shinto shrine. His guilt would not have been *less* heavy even if he had taken them to a Christian Church. It will be seen that Mr. K.'s action has a dual aspect: to the school authorities he was guilty of violating its constitution of religious neutrality, and to his Christian spiritual overseers (Mr. K. is a Christian) he was guilty of violating his Christian vows. Mr. K. has repeatedly dwelt upon the second point, and left the first untouched. How could the religious neutrality in a school be kept sacred and intact if its principal would act as Mr. K. acted?

Finally, Mr. K. charges me with ignorance on account of my absence from Nara, consequently being prejudiced against him "by hearing only one side of the affair." The truth is that I have kept myself well posted about the school during my absence from Nara, Mr. K. himself being the chief source of my information. As to the recent troubles, if Mr. K. after leaving the School had acted like a gentleman, and kept silence, his inaccuracies—monetary, educational, and religious—would have been all forgiven and forgotten. But unfortunately since his dismissal he has never ceased from struggling to destroy the School, first its buildings, then worse than all, its reputation. That all my statements in regard to Mr. Kawamura are correct can be proved from the numerous letters of thanks which I have received from the Japanese friends of the School, the chief of which is from Mr. Tamaki.

Hoping your unbounded kindness will find a place for this letter,

I remain very respectfully yours,

ISAAC DOOMAN,

Tokyo, December 1st, 1896.

THE AOMORI-TOKYO LINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR.—I am sure the matter needs but to be mentioned to receive due attention from the Directors of the Japan Railway Co. From Aomori to Fukushima passengers are supplied with foot warmers, which, on arrival at 3 a.m. at Fukushima, are removed, no more being supplied. It is evident that they are most required at that time of the morning. Perhaps the well-heated offices of the officials in charge make them rather forgetful of the discomforts of the long railway journey from the North at this time of the year. The carriages, admirably suited for summer requirements, need some little attention to make them even fairly comfortable in winter. The Station Masters and other officials along the line are exceedingly obliging, but the matter of the comforts of passengers does not lie with them.

I enclose my card, and remain, yours, etc.,

COLD FEET.

Yokohama, Dec. 3rd, 1896.

The Emperor of Russia, says the *Westminster Gazette*, offered the Order of St. Andrew to Lord Salisbury during his visit to Balmoral, but it was declined in accordance with the rule which forbids a British Minister to accept any foreign decoration. Except Royalties, the only British knight of the Order of St. Andrew has been the Duke of Wellington, who received this order from the Emperor Alexander I. a short time after the battle of Waterloo.

REVIEW.

Dichtergrüsse aus dem Osten.—Japanische Dichtungen übertragen von Professor Dr. K. Florenz in Tokyo. Dritte verbesserte Auflage. Leipzig: C. F. Amelang's Verlag. Tokyo: T. Hasegawa.

Poetical Greetings from the Far East.—Japanese Poems from the German Adaptation of Dr. KARL FLORENZ, by A. LLOYD, M.A. T. Hasegawa, Tokyo.

PENDING the preparation of his critical translation of the *Manyōshū*, the chief classic among collections of ancient Japanese poetry, Dr. Florenz has issued a small volume of poetic paraphrases of selections from the *Manyōshū* and other well-known Japanese verse, for which readers who are seeking novel literary entertainment and admirers of unique-book making will be much indebted. And to the Rev. Arthur Lloyd many who enjoy musical English will be put under obligation for his excellent rendering into English verse of Dr. Florenz's *Dichtergrüsse*.

It is not our purpose to make an exacting review of either of these books. Suffice it to say in this connection that the direct translations, German text, if compared with similar work by other scholars, appear to be faithful representations of the Japanese originals: "on the whole" Dr. Florenz remarks, "as accurate as the fundamental differences between the spirit of the Japanese and German languages would allow;" also that Mr. Lloyd's English paraphrases of the German translations are throughout graceful and pleasing, and are for the greater part faithful transcripts of the letter as well as of the mood of the German verse.

Our chief interest in these books, however, lies not so much in their relation to each other or to their Japanese originals as in their literary excellence,—that especially considered,—and in their worth as specimens of odd and attractive book-making. Each page of the volumes is a work of art from the hand of some Japanese master, and, as a rule, is illustrative of the poem impressed upon it. Take, for example, the two pages depicting a snow-laden landscape, illustrating the little lyric entitled "*Endlose Liebe*." Both the writers and the artist have wrought in thorough sympathy, and the result is almost without fault, so far at least as literary and artistic intent goes. The ancient pine, an overfilled stream, the farm houses covered with snow, and white mountain—heights, speak for the artist; and from the writers are given as accompanying texts these almost interchangeable verses:—

ENDLOSE LIEBE.

Wo ich ferne des Mikane
Hohen Gipfel ragen seh,
Fällt der Regen endlos nieder,
Nieder endlos fällt der Schnee.
Ganz so endlos wie der Regen
Und der Schnee vom Himmel thau,
Ist auch endlos meine Liebe,
Seit ich dich zuerst erschaut.

ENDLESS LOVE.

Far away I see Mikane
Raise his towering peaks on high,
Here it rains without cessation,
There the snow falls ceaselessly.
As it rains without cessation,
As the snow falls ceaselessly
So unending is my passion
Since thy face I first did see.

Another noticeable page is that devoted to "*Augenäusung*" or "*Ocular Delusion*" whose English text is,—

I watched a petal fall from the tree,
It fell but flew back again;
What could it be? I rushed to see:
There did I spy
A hovering butterfly!

The verses overhung by flower-clustered branches and the falling petals crossed by the flight of flower-like butterflies make a delightful and expressive picture. Then there are the pages on which appear three poems,—meditations on the transitoriness of life,—their story told by the artist in the autumn leaves fluttering down across the melancholy words. But, like happy interpretations appear throughout the books. We should enjoy pointing out what seem to us numerous successes of the kind, but we here note only the fact that such successes have been achieved.

As literary productions merely, these volumes are desirable, but, presented to the public in their unique artistic form, they ought to receive a generous welcome. Particularly now as another holiday season approaches, these poetical greetings from the far East, can easily be made fitting messages of remembrance from Japan to many a home in Europe and in America. As gift books chiefly these volumes have evidently been prepared. As such they are marked successes.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

It has long been a source of wonder to other nations, that the British race—we are speaking of the peoples that collectively go to build up the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland—although the best colonizers and most capable pioneers of trade and industry in foreign lands, are yet the most absolutely homesick race the world has seen. The Englishman wherever he may pitch his tent abroad, is ever turning in memory to the well-loved green fields and trim hedge-rows, the placid rivers or old world commons, the broad moors and pleasant dales, deep lanes or red-brown crags of his own particular county; the Irishman is continually harking back in thought to the Emerald Isle and its wondrous beauties, and the Scotsman is always hearing the wail of the "Heimweh" calling him back in contemplation to the far away land of "brown heath and shaggy wood." Yet the patriotic nostalgia that consumes the heart of the most reticent Scot is very often described, even by themselves in moments of unpremeditated confidence, as being more intense than that of the Irishman and Englishman combined. To their poets they are greatly indebted for much of the material that feeds this "pure lambent flame." From the days of Walter Scott and Robert Burns onwards, every Scottish tongue that "lisp'd in numbers" has sung the praises of the bonnie land, and none perhaps more warmly than dear old Professor Blackie. Not many years before he passed away for ever from the busy scenes of a full-lived life, he expressed the thoughts of every Scottish exile when he wrote—

I've wandered East, I've wandered West,
In gypsy wise a random roamer.
Of men and maids I've known the best,
Like the far-travelled king in Homer.
I've fed my eyes by land and sea
With sights of grandeur streaming o'er me,
But still my heart remains with thee,
Dear Scottish land, that stoutly bore me!

Another, and perhaps equally potent force that assists the Scotsman abroad to grip closer the links that bind him to his native land is the anniversary of St. Andrew—Scotland's patron saint. All over the world wherever one or two "brither Scots" are gathered together, whether in the lonely northlands of Canada, or the sparsely peopled countries over which the Southern Cross doth nightly gleam in India, the South Americas, east and west throughout the temperate or the torrid zones, there will a St. Andrew's Society be found; and within the immediate neighbourhood of its habitat and through its instrumentality the good Saint's holy-day will be observed with feast or dance, or other form of decorous revel. Here in Yokohama the custom for many years past has been for Scotsmen to give a public ball on the 30th November, and once again we chronicle a joyous Caledonian Ball. The invitation list, large as it was last year, was again extended and the number of acceptances topped the record. It is a very great pity that the Public Hall is not equally as expansive as the generosity and hospitality of the Scottish hosts. On Monday night, despite the damp and chilly weather, the place was filled to overflowing. Yet the tact of the Committee and the good humour of hosts and guests prevented the crush from becoming unbearable. The guests included a large contingent from the British warships in harbour; and several of the *Corps Diplomatique*, including Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., the Hon. G. Lowther, Baron and Baroness D'Aethan, and others.

The decorations were again exceedingly pretty and were arranged under the superintendence of Mrs. J. D. Hutchison. The stage was roofed with rustic trellis work over which and through which straggled the flowers of the morning glory in wild profusion. Here and there cosy arbours were arranged, the whole width of the stage being utilised. A very effective floral centre piece bearing the motto "For Auld Lang Syne," was suspended in the proscenium arch and this was wreathed with white and blue ribbons. On the walls were hung the heraldic shields of many of the old Scottish families, heads of deer, and festoons of hunting—the latter supplied by Capt. Pope. The ladies' cloak-rooms were behind the stage; the card-room upstairs, the arrangements being the same as in previous years. Shortly before twelve o'clock the royal haggis—"great chieftain of the pudding race"—was borne in and the large company sat down to a well served supper supplied by Mr. W. N. Wright of Wright's Hotel. Several hours later, when the ladies had gone, a second supper party congregated in the smaller hall, and the fun waxed fast and furious till the dawn drove the last stragglers home. Two gentlemen appeared in kilts,—with the tartans of Clan Fraser

and Clan Stewart—thus increasing, in conjunction with the very handsome dresses worn by several of the ladies, the picturesqueness of the scene. We have only to add that the floor was in perfect condition: the Town Band kept excellent time, and the programme given below had to be supplemented by several "extras" ere the fairer portion of the dancers would cry content.

Highland Schottische.	Caledonians.
Polka.	Waltz.
Waltz.	Reel.
Caledonians.	Waltz.
Waltz.	Lancers.
Highland Schottische.	Waltz.
Lancers.	Waltz.
Waltz.	Waltz.
Reel.	Highland Schottische.
Extra supper Waltzes.	

"Auld Lang Syne."

The Committee were:—Mr. W. Ross, President; Mr. J. A. Fraser, Vice-President; Messrs. J. Dodds, J. Stewart, N. G. Munro, F. J. Cruikshank; J. MacArthur, Treasurer; H. W. Fraser, Secretary; and a host of stewards.

THE INDEPENDENCE ARCH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Sŏul, Nov. 21.

Korea seems to be beginning to appreciate the importance and benefits of the Independence of the country secured her by Japan. The Independence Club is an organisation formed last spring, having for its avowed object the propagation and dissemination of sentiments of independence among the people. As long as Korea relied on China she had no thought of independence, but when Japan removed that prop, Korea did not fall, as was perhaps not unnaturally thought she would, into her neighbour's arms; and she likewise seems determined to put forth and effect an escape from the great Northern Power. The Editor of *The Independent* was active in the formation of this Club, and to his enthusiasm is due to a large extent, at least, the successful efforts of the organization.

On the site where the king and his courtiers met to welcome the ambassadors from China was a gate called "The Gate of Welcome and Blessing." In the beginning of 1895 this gate was torn down as having outlived its usefulness. In its place, and its seems to me very properly, is to be erected the Arch of Independence, the corner stone of which was laid to-day with appropriate ceremonies. The following programme was carried out:—

Song	"Korea"	Student Chorus.
	The deposition of the box into and laying of the Cornerstone.	
Prayer		Rev. H. C. Appenzeller.
Address by the President,		Gen. An Kyen-su.
Address	"How to Perpetuate our Independence"	Hon. Ye Cho-yun.
Song	"Independence"	Student Chorus.
Address	"The Future of Our Country,"	Hon. Ye Wan-yong.
Address	"Foreigners in Korea"	Dr. Philip Jaisohn.
Song	"March"	Student Chorus.
	Drill by the Students of the Royal English School.	
	Refreshments.	

The day was perfect, the crowd very large and estimated any where from 5,000 to 7,000 people; the feeling excellent, the singing hearty, the addresses eloquent. Everything was new and showed the hand of foreign training. Did students ever before sing in commemoration of the independence of the country? Did any Governor of Sŏul ever before get up thousands of his fellow citizens and tell them how to "perpetuate" their independence? Did any Foreign Minister ever seriously discuss the future of his country? "Foreigners in Korea" have been discussed by Koreans ever since their arrival, and not always in a way complimentary to them perhaps.

The President in a few well chosen and simple words told of the Club and the significance of the Arch; the Governor of the Capital spoke in a manner suggesting the earnestness of a Fourth of July orator, and he showed that the perpetuation of independence lay in every man discharging his duty in whatever sphere he is labouring. The Foreign Minister affirmed that Korea must stand alone; that dependence on China was a thing of the past; that Japan though a near neighbour, and Russia a great Power, should not be leaned upon, but "we must stand alone"—an utterance which it required considerable courage to make when all the peculiar circumstances in which Korea finds herself are taken into consideration. But the sooner the force of their words are fully realized the better it will be for this land. Dr. Jaisohn spoke in English first and then in Korean. He said the "Righteous Army" did not enter Sŏul because of the presence of foreigners, and paid a well deserved tribute to

the labours of the advisers in the Finance and Law Departments, teachers, and the Missionaries.

After the formal exercises were over the foreign guests and Korean officers repaired to the pavilion near by, where a collation was served. The building has been repaired and made into a beautiful hall where large gatherings of this kind can be held. After partaking of the excellent refreshments furnished, speeches were called for from the several foreign representatives. The secretary of the United States Legation told of his residence in the country and faith in the people, and referred to the oratory displayed by the speakers of the afternoon as indicating that it was in the people. The Russian Representative was not present, but a doctor from a man-of-war said a few words. The English and German Representatives went home direct from the arch. The Acting Japanese Minister Kato was called on and in a few well selected words—so I infer from the deliberation with which he spoke—reciprocated the kindly feelings, and concluded by calling for cheers for Korean independence, which was responded to by his nationals with vigour and enthusiasm, showing that they are still for Korean independence as much as ever.

The last speaker was Dr. J. McLeavy Brown, who spoke of the excellent spirit prevailing between the foreign community and Koreans.

This must be regarded as a memorable day. It cannot but be a great and good object lesson to the Korean people. It gives new thoughts, new ideals. The Independent Club must be congratulated on the good work it has already accomplished.

The several schools under foreign and native supervision attended in a body. Some of them carried the Korean flag, the sight of which is not as rare as it was before the war. The expressions of loyalty to their King were frequent and always received with enthusiasm. May the Arch be speedily completed and stand as a silent witness of Korea's independence.

ON THE SANITARY CONDITION OF NORTH FORMOSA.

The following report, compiled by Professor Burton for the Department of Education, in Japan, has been handed to us for publication:—

Early in the summer, I received instructions from the Civil Governor of Formosa, Mr. Mizuno, to proceed to North Formosa to report on the sanitary condition of that part of the island, especially on that of the towns of Kelung, Tai-hoku, Tamsui, or Hube, and Tai-chu, formerly called Tai-wan. I was accompanied by Mr. Hamano, C.E., and received direct instructions from Mr. M. Kato, Chief of the Sanitary Section of the Civil Department of Formosa, of the Sanitary Bureau, Home Department.

As Formosa is now a part of the Japanese Empire, and as many Japanese are immigrating there, it may be of interest to you to know some of the sanitary condition of even one-half of the country, so as to be able to judge to what extent it is fitted to be a home for people of your own nationality.

It is barely necessary to state that the sanitary condition of North Formosa is inferior to that of Japan proper of the present day, for in Japan proper many sanitary works have been carried out within the last quarter of a century, on modern principles, which have vastly improved the condition of the country in general, and especially of the large towns. I may go further, however, and state that the sanitary condition of Formosa is at present worse than that of Japan proper has been within historic times, for there are wanting two things that have undoubtedly conducted greatly to the health of the Japanese people in spite of most imperfect water-supply and sewerage arrangements, namely general cleanliness, and the general use of a style of dwelling which, being constructed above the ground, with space for ventilation under the lowest floor, protects the occupants from many of the evils that otherwise arise from imperfect sewerage. Of the want of cleanliness, and the very unhealthy nature of the houses at present common in Formosa, I will have more to say hereafter.

GENERAL ASPECT OF THE COUNTRY.—As I am neither a geologist nor a botanist, I cannot enter into a long and learned description of geological formations, or into the question of the fauna and flora, but I can give a general description of the aspect of the country; and indeed this may pretty well be summed up in the statement that I was agreeably surprised to find it so like that of Japan proper. The land consists of rich alluvial plains surrounded by mountains of moderate height, whilst in the distance, towards the east, there tower the enormous peaks of the great range of mountains inhabited by the savages. Of these at least one is higher than Fuji-san, probably two, and possibly three. Tra-

velling through the plain in the centre of which is Tai-hoku, the Capital, one could quite imagine oneself in any of the many large rich alluvial plains of Japan proper. The most notable differences on looking a little more closely are the absence of pine trees (which, however, I am told, grow on the mountains), the great luxuriance of bamboo growth, the plants being quite commonly 60 and 70 feet high, and the presence of occasional stunted palms, cacti, banyan, and camphor trees. The vegetation could not be described as tropical. The cultivation is, as in Japan, principally rice, though much tea is grown and pine-apples of the most delicious flavour are to be had in great quantities.

CLIMATE.—This is a matter of great importance, and needs to be treated at some length. I can speak, from experience, only of the summer climate, but I took every opportunity of questioning old residents concerning the climate at other times of the year, and think that I can give a fair idea of it.

As to the summer climate, first, as I can speak of that from experience:—Briefly, its nature may be described as fine and clear, but oppressively hot. It is distinctly very oppressively hot, yet the thermometer did not rise, during my stay in the country, to any very remarkable height. The highest that I observed was 97.5 Fahr. in true shade. Before going further let me explain what I mean by "true shade." I consider that a thermometer is placed in true shade when it is shaded not only from the direct rays of the sun, but from any surface of at all considerable area (such as a wall or a roof) on which the sun is beating; also when it is in a position at least several feet from any spot on which the sun is shining. Reflection from a wall or roof, even many feet away, may raise a thermometer as much as 5° Fahr.

The temperature in the houses was generally, in the day time, about two degrees lower than that of true shade out of doors; several degrees higher at night; the houses being pretty massive, and absorbing heat during the day time, which they gave out at night.

I have mentioned 97.5° Fahr. as the maximum observed out of doors in true shade. A more common maximum for the day was 93° to 95° Fahr. I understand, however, that hotter weather than any experienced by me is not uncommon in North Formosa. The oppressiveness of the heat must, I presume, be due to dampness.

The heat in the sun is intense, particularly during the afternoon. This is because the ground, especially such as is of the nature of street pavement, gets highly heated by the nearly vertical sun. It gets so hot that the hand cannot be kept in contact with it, and thus, in the open air one is between two sources of heat, the heat from the sun beating downwards, and that from the ground reverberating upwards. No relief comes during the afternoon, till the sun actually sets.

"Temperature in the sun" is an item that is not of much use to know, as it is quite indefinite, the height to which a thermometer rises being a fraction of the difference between the amount of heat received by radiation, and that carried off by convection. The amount absorbed by radiation varies with the nature, form, &c., of the receiving surface, and that carried away by convection varies with position, amount of wind, &c. Yet, though it cannot be taken as conveying any precise information, it may, perhaps, be of interest to know that, when I placed my thermometer, which is contained in the metal case of an aneroid barometer, and which is scaled up to 135° Fahr., in full sunshine on a tile roof, the mercury rose so quickly towards the top of the scaling that I removed the barometer, lest the thermometer in it should be burst. An engineer to a railway contractor told me that Japanese workmen could not stand severe labour in this excessive heat, and that he had to employ Chinese. One thus saw the rather curious sight of Japanese labourers employed in tunnelling, Chinese in excavating and embanking.

One peculiarly oppressive kind of heat I observed more than once. This occurred when, early in the afternoon, the sky became overclouded with a film of thin clouds, but yet sufficient to obscure the sun. In such a case the earth has already become intensely hot and the thin film of clouds prevent free radiation, whilst they do not altogether prevent the penetration of heat from the sun. On one occasion the thermometer, placed out of doors under such a sky—in what might be called shade, inasmuch as no shadows were cast—rose to 112° Fahr.

Some time during September heavy rains or "freshets" begin, and from that time on, the weather is, I was told, comparatively cool. The rain that falls during these freshets must be terrific, to judge by what I was told of the rising of the rivers, and by the appearance of the river beds.

We crossed one river to find it a mere trickle of water through stones, yet the bed is over two miles wide, and there was ample evidence that, during

floods of a recent date, the greater part of this bed had been running full.

On one occasion, during what was considered by residents of the place a mere "shower," we gauged just a fraction less than 3 inches of fall in 30 minutes. The "shower" lasted for about 4 hours. The gauging was done when it was at its height, but there can be no doubt that at least 10 inches of rain fell altogether, yet this was considered a mere trifle. The terrific rainfalls that the country is subject to, will present a great difficulty in the way of carrying out many engineering works. One of the things now most wanted is the establishment of meteorological Bureaus at different parts of the country. Till this is done, and some idea of the rainfall that has to be dealt with is obtained, it is almost impossible to design some kinds of works, especially water-works.

The weather during November and December is, I was told, cool, fine, and pleasant. January and February are rainy, after which there is fine weather gradually getting hotter and hotter.

WATER SUPPLY.—From what I have already said, it will be gathered that there is no lack of water in North Formosa, yet up to the time when the island became a part of the Japanese Empire, no systematic water supply had been provided for any town, unless the few artesian wells in the richer portion of Taihoku can be dignified by such a title. Of these wells I shall have more to say hereafter. For the most part water from shallow wells of, to put it mildly, doubtful quality, or that from streams passing through towns, and generally much contaminated, has been used. The Chinese seem quite indifferent to what kind of water they use for drinking and other purposes, but I was told that they generally boil water before drinking it. I have, however, no means of substantiating this statement.

There is plenty of water, as I have said, and indeed the difficulty in designing suitable water-works will not be on account of want of water, but on account of the evidently destructive nature of the floods that occur. To give a single example: it seems to me—though it is not possible to say with certainty till there is some record of rainfalls during flood times—that earthwork dams for impounding reservoirs cannot be used, as it would be impracticable to provide waste weirs large enough to carry away the overflow during flood times. The only forms of impounding reservoir dams that appear to be practicable are those of the expensive masonry construction, which can act as waste weirs throughout the whole of their length.

The following are brief details of the possibility of water supply for the several towns mentioned at the beginning of this paper:—

KELUNG.—This is the town in connection with which there is likely to be the greatest amount of difficulty, because it is surrounded so closely with a range of hills which cast the rain-water away from the town. It is certain, however, that a good supply can be got either by the construction of an impounding reservoir, with a masonry dam at "the water-fall," or by leading water from the higher reaches of the Tamsui river by a main, through the new railway tunnel. In either case the expense will be somewhat great, and it seems most advisable that as a temporary expedient a quantity equal to the dry-weather flow of the water-fall should be led to the town by a small main. This will by no means give an adequate supply, but it will give a vastly better one than there is at present. Indeed, it may be said that there is scarcely any supply at present, and that the town suffers from a water famine during dry weather.

TAMSUI OR HOBE.—A plentiful supply can be got from a spring at a suitable elevation, and temporary works to make use of this are being established.

TAIHOKU.—This is a particularly interesting case. The valley or plain in which the town is situated displays a wonderfully typical artesian well formation. The area of the plain is about 60 square miles, and the outlet from it is narrow. The plain is surrounded by mountains of moderate height. The formation, as explained to us by well-borers and others is, from below upwards, as follows:—

- (1) "Bed rock."
- (2) Shingle.
- (3) Gravel.
- (4) Sand.
- (5) Sandy clay.
- (6) Tenacious clay.

On boring down as far as the sandy clay, water is obtained which rises to the surface, and indeed to a height of several feet above the surface, if piping be supplied, but this water has a decidedly sulphurous smell and taste, the sulphur compound being apparently hydrosulphuric acid (H₂S), but

as the wells are made deeper the sulphur becomes less, and water that has the appearance of great purity and that, in fact, cannot contain any substance to render it unfit for drinking purposes, is found at a level between the sand and the gravel, at about 100 feet below the surface of the land.

There appears to be no limit to the quantity of water that can thus be obtained, and all that is necessary to give a supply sufficient in every way, is to increase the present number of Artesian wells, and to provide each with a tank so that the greater quantity of water is not run to waste as at present, but that flowing in the night time is stored, to be used in the day time. A very large number of draw-offs must be added, so that there shall no longer be the crowding that there is at present at every place where water can be drawn.

The system at present proposed is a low-pressure one. High pressure can eventually be obtained by pumping, but it seems premature to establish expensive pumping machinery, till a little more can be gathered as to the future of the city. It may increase in size vastly within the next few years, in which case machinery erected at present would prove insufficient. On the other hand, it may remain stationary, in which case, were provision made for considerable extension, it would simply be money thrown away. One great advantage of the system proposed at present is that it is capable of extension with any extension of the city that may take place.

TAICHU.—In this town there are several shallow wells that give water of wonderful clearness and, according to analysis, of great purity. I believe that these wells tap a subterranean river, which disappears, sinking into the porous ground, at the foot of the mountains some seven or eight miles distant. If this be the case, the supply will be excellent, but further investigation is necessary.

SEWERAGE.—There is practically no sewerage in towns in North Formosa. There are, in many places, roughly constructed drains or gutters along the sides, or in the middle of the streets, but these are nearly always stagnant in dry weather, and the sewage soaks into the ground. There are also filthy stagnant canals through many parts of the towns.

To construct sewers to carry away the sewage will be no difficult task, but the question of carrying away storm water is a very different matter, and there can be no doubt it will be a difficult one, although in this matter, as in many others, it is not possible to say anything definite till rain water gaugings have been taken for some time.

DISPOSAL OF RUBBISH AND GARBAGE.—One of the things that needs most to be reformed is the method of disposal of rubbish and garbage in the towns of North Formosa. At present there simply is no system. Rubbish, including a large proportion of garbage, is simply thrown anywhere. It is to be found all about the towns, lying on any piece of spare ground, heaped in corners, or on the banks of canals and rivers. The stench that comes from these heaps of garbage is sometimes almost intolerable. I noticed with particular disgust that a large kind of iridescent fly—known in England the "blue bottle"—infested these garbage heaps in myriads, and that the same kind of fly—double the size of the common house fly—entered the houses and settled on any food that was left unprotected.

After this it is scarcely necessary to say that one of the reforms most urgently needed is one that will secure the removal and destruction of this garbage, and that will make provision to prevent its accumulation in the future.

THE DWELLING HOUSES OF THE CHINESE RESIDENTS OF FORMOSA.—The dwelling houses of such of the wealthier Chinese as I entered were well built, and had every appearance of cleanliness and of being healthy residences, but it must be understood that I entered such houses only to investigate the water supply, and did not inspect the buildings thoroughly, but merely observed what I casually could, and therefore speak with no certainty.

I speak with certainty enough, however, about the condition of the houses of the poorer Chinese, for everything is visible from the door. These are the most miserable hovels conceivable, often of only one room, built of brick, sun-dried mud blocks, or walled bamboo smeared with mud. The floor is commonly merely the earth of the ground.

This brings me to what I consider the most important part of this paper, namely:—

The probable effect on the health of the Japanese in Formosa of the manner in which the Chinese live in the poorer quarters of the cities. To describe this method of life would be impossible. Until I saw it I did not believe that human beings could live in such a state of absolute and beastly filth. The houses are small and terribly overcrowded, the streets are narrow—so narrow that in some

places the broad eaves of the houses meet over their middles. The public latrines are literally sickening on account of the stench that comes from them. Garbage and filth of every kind is simply thrown into the wretchedly narrow streets, or is left to rot in the houses. It has been my unpleasant duty, whilst in practice in London, to crawl, on hands and knees, through a quarter of a mile of sewer, about 20 feet below the level of the road, and I would do that again, just as soon as walk through a mile of the streets of (say) Banka, the poorer quarter of the Chinese town of Taihoku.

Such a spot must simply be a hot-bed of disease. I hope the Japanese will not argue that, as Chinese only are concerned, the matter is of no consequence. This would be a wide departure from the enlightened policy which the Japanese generally follow, but it should be distinctly understood that it is not the Chinese only who are concerned. I have no hesitation in stating that so long as such a place as Banka forms a part of a city in Formosa, no part of that city can be healthy as a residence for Japanese. The Chinese, through hundreds of generations have become inured to filthy living. It would probably be more scientifically correct to say that by natural selection—by the survival of the fittest (to withstand the results of filthy living)—the Chinese have acquired a comparative immunity from the ill effects of such living. It is not so with the Japanese, and they are likely to be particularly sensitive to what may be called, for want of a better name, "filth diseases." Indeed, if what I have been told is true, this has already been proved. I have been told that the "pest" (rather an indefinite expression, but one I feel sure indicating a "filth disease") has broken out in one of the cities of Formosa, and that many Japanese have been smitten with it, for one Chinese who has suffered. This is exactly what I should have expected.

I can see no cure for the state of affairs described, except the total doing-away-with—the annihilation of—quarters such as Banka. All "improvement" except that of "improving them off the face of the earth" seems to me to be useless. Not only, if the island is to be made habitable for Japanese, must they be done away with, but steps must be taken to prevent the like wretched state of living from coming into existence again. It is not at all for me to say how this most difficult work is to be carried out, without oppressing the poorer classes of Chinese in a way that I am sure the Japanese Government would not consent to. It is only for me to point out what I consider the absolute necessity for the reform.

W. K. BURTON.

THE "HIMEJI MARU."

MORE TROUBLE WITH THE JAPANESE.

The *China Mail* has been able to gather some further details as to the position of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Himeji Maru*, and the successful efforts to rescue the crew: The German steamer *Siegfried* left Hongkong on the 8th November, with a salvage party from the Docks and a number of coolies employed by the Company to remove the cargo from the distressed steamer. The *Siegfried* reached the Parcels reef about mid-day on the 10th Nov., and found the *Himeji Maru* lying broadside on the north-west side of Bombay reef with a list of about fourteen degrees to starboard. When the *Siegfried* appeared in sight the rigging of the disabled steamer was manned by the Japanese who cheered loudly as the ship approached. It was found impossible to approach near the vessel owing to the rough seas. Mr. J. Gilchrist and Mr. G. White, who were in charge of the salvage party from the Docks, pulled off to the *Himeji Maru* in a small boat, and when nearing the ship the boat was capsized and they were left struggling in the water, but they were both thrown on the reef by the heavy breakers and escaped with their clothes torn to shreds. On boarding the steamer it was found that all the life boats were lost, with the exception of one which was smashed into a shapeless mass. The fore and mizzen topmasts had been taken down, and all the binnies cut away to make rafts, which lay alongside the vessel. The engine room, stoke-hole, and fore-hold were full of water which rose and fell with the tide. They were compelled to remain all night on board the stranded steamer, and next morning the *Siegfried* was not to be seen but about four o'clock she was sighted and the *Himeji Maru* signalled to her to be ready early in the morning to launch the life boats. Thursday forenoon and afternoon were occupied in transferring the Japanese and their baggage to the *Siegfried*. Considerable difficulty was experienced in this work as there was a heavy sea on. On the second voyage of the life-boat, with the chief officer

of the *Siegfried*, the boat was badly smashed on the reef, but she was temporarily repaired in a few hours, and was again in use about four o'clock in the afternoon. Two boats were requisitioned to take off the crew—a large life-boat and an iron boat, the former capable of holding about twenty persons and the latter about eight. Great annoyance was caused by the Japanese who refused to leave the ship without dragging large boxes and other baggage with them into the boats. The Captain reported that he had great trouble with the crew when she went on shore. On Friday morning, however, the crew, with the exception of the Captain, the purser, second engineer, a steward, a boy, and a cook, were transferred to the *Siegfried*, and she steamed off to Hongkong. Great credit is due to the chief and second officers of the *Siegfried* for the way in which they worked to rescue the crew from the *Himeji Maru*. On the voyage up from the reef some trouble arose amongst the Japanese about the water on board the steamer. The second engineer had reason to interfere in the dispute, when a mob set upon him and he had to seek refuge in the chart house. The mob swarmed around the chart house and several were noticed with revolvers, knives, sticks, etc., in their hands. It was with considerable difficulty the enraged Japanese were quieted down and persuaded to remove to their own quarters. In the position the *Himeji Maru* lies at present she is exposed to the full force of the North-east monsoon, and any attempt at rescuing the ship will have to be delayed until more favourable weather. To remove the cargo at present would be a dangerous proceeding both to the ship and those employed in the work. She is said to have over 200 tons of copper on board, worth about a lakh of dollars.

The *Siegfried* returned for the second time to Hongkong from the stranded *Himeji Maru* on the 22nd ult. Captain Tipple, the Purser, the Second Engineer, and the four sailors who had stood by the steamer were brought back on this trip. The *Himeji Maru* is now advertised for sale in the Hongkong papers. The *China Mail* of the 23rd says:—The German steamer *Ingraben* also arrived this morning with Chief Officer Harrison and Second Officer McGarrity of the *Himeji Maru*, the two European passengers, and a number of Japanese from Touron. After the ship struck, the chief and second officers in two boats went off to Touron to telegraph for assistance. They became separated, and the chief officer returned to the ship thinking the second officer with his boat's crew were drowned. He made another attempt and reached Touron two days after the second officer. The Captain, officers, and men will proceed to Japan to-morrow by the *Belgie*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Nov. 27.

The Transvaal Volksraad has decided that no foreigner shall be admitted into the country without a passport and without showing that he is able to support himself.

The Egyptian army is to be increased by four line battalions, two squadrons of horse, and one battery of artillery.

The plague is increasing at Bombay.

London, November 30.

Parliament meets on January 19th.

The British Government has given a written pledge to France that the Niger expedition will not touch any point in dispute with France.

London, December 2.

The *Times* states that the Russian mission to Abyssinia has secured great influence with the Negus, and that the mission will remain in Abyssinia so long as the British remain in Egypt.

The *Moscow Bourse Gazette* strongly protests against the Russian Government's organizing relief for the Indian famine.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]]

Hakodate, November 28.

A severe storm has occurred here, accompanied by snow and sleet. Thirty sampans and lighters have been smashed up in the harbour.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, Nov. 26.

Latest advices from India report that the pro-

spects for winter are improved in the Deccan, markedly so in Central India, and sensibly in the North West Provinces.

The Dockers at Hamburg and Bremen have gone out on strike.

It is expected that an extra session of Congress will be held after Mr. McKinley has been installed President to consider the question of an increase of the tariff.

London, November 28.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* states that the Government intends to increase the army estimates by several millions sterling, to complete the re-arming of the artillery, to form several new line battalions, and to reorganize the transport service.

The *Neue Freie Presse* says that Russia is opposed to International Control of Turkish Finances because she does not wish Great Britain to co-operate at a moment when the reopening of the Egyptian question is perhaps imminent.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.26½
New York..... 4.87

(Tel. trans.)

London, November 30.

Numerous arrests have been made at Constantinople of Turks implicated in the "Young Turkey" movement.

The Cretan question is still in a critical stage as the Porte is seeking to evade fulfilling the promised settlement.

In a speech at Pretoria, President Kruger condemned the damaging reports that it was the intention of the Transvaal to forcibly break the London Convention. He was confident that Great Britain would fairly meet the claims arising through the Jameson raid.

London, December 1.

Several Russian papers demand that the free passage of the Dardanelles be opened to Russia vessels.

Dr. Jameson's release has been ordered owing to ill-health.

The Powers have presented a Note to the Porte declaring they will organise the Gendarmerie and judiciary in Crete without the Porte concurring, unless the Porte carries out the reforms promised in the Irade issued in August last.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Band, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 263.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Q to Kt sq. 1—K takes Kt
2—Q takes P ch. 2—K to Q 4

3—P to Q B 4, mate 1—K takes P
2—K takes Kt

3—Q takes P, mate if 2—Any other

3—P to K B 3 dis, mate 1—Kt to B 6
2—K takes P

2—Kt to B 6 ch. 2—K takes P

3—P to K B 4, mate 1—P to Kt 6
2—Anything

3—Mates accordingly other variations obvious.

Correct answers from W.H.S., Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.d.H., XX, and Omega.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 264.

WHITE. BLACK.
1—Kt to K 7 1—Kt takes R
2—Q to R 2, mate 1—R to Kt 3

2—Kt takes R, mate 1—R to Kt 2

2—Q to B 6, mate 1—B to Kt 2

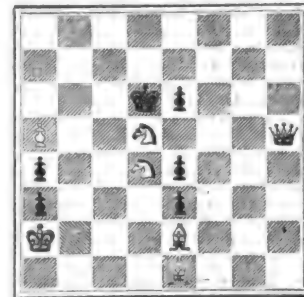
2—Kt to Kt 6, mate. etc., etc., etc.

Correct answers from XX, W.D.C., Shogi, W.H.S., J.D., W.d.H., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 267.

By C. PLANCK.

BLACK.



WHITE.

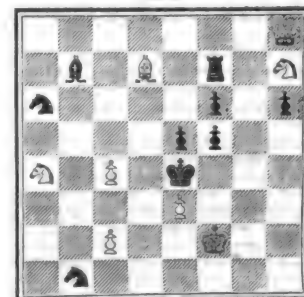
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 268.

By GOTTHILF ENGEL, Berlin.

(From Berliner Schachzeitung.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 613.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. BLACK.
Steinitz. Maron.
1—P to Q 4 1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4 2—P to R 3
3—Kt to Q B 3 3—P to Q B 3

Not good. We prefer Kt to K B 3.

4—P to K 4 4—P takes P
5—Kt takes P 5—Kt to B 3
6—Kt takes Kt (ch.) 6—Q takes Kt
7—Kt to B 3 7—B to Kt 5 (ch.)

Black does not like White's playing B to Kt 5. This move prevents it.

8—B to Q 2 8—B takes B (ch.)
9—Q takes B 9—Kt to Q 2
10—Castles Q R 10—Castles
11—Q to K 3 11—P to B 4

This is only a temporary sacrifice, but its object is doubtful. R to Q sq. followed Kt to B sq. was more promising, both for attack and defence.

12—P takes P 12—Q to B 4
13—B to Q 3 13—Q takes P
14—K R to K sq. 14—Q to B 2
15—Kt to K 5 15—R to K sq.

Black retards unduly the development of his queen's side.

16—K to Kt sq. 16—Kt to B sq.
17—P to B 5

An excellent move. If P to Q Kt 3 White would reply with B to Kt 5, with advantage.

18—Kt to B 4 18—P to B 3
19—Kt to Q 6 19—P to K 4
20—P to B 4 20—R to K 2
21—P to B 5 20—B to Q 2

Well played. In such positions the veteran is irresistible.

22—B to B 4 (ch.) 22—K to R sq.
23—P to K Kt 4 23—P to Q Kt 3
24—P to Kt 5 24—P takes P
25—Q takes P 25—P to K R 3
26—Q to R 5 26—P takes P
27—Kt to B 7 (ch.) 27—K to R 2
28—Kt to Kt 5 (ch.) 28—K to R sq.

29—P to B 6 29—P takes P
30—Q takes P (ch.) 30—Kt to R 2
31—Kt takes Kt 31—K takes Kt
32—Q takes P (ch.) 32—R to Kt 2
33—R takes P 33—Resigns.

Very pretty play. Black must submit to the inevitable.

CHESS IN ASIA.

We are glad to note that the Salamanders of the Tropics are hard at work. Hongkong is forging through a good Club programme and a Chess Club is being established in Singapore. Our Kobe friends are also strengthening their foundations and Tokyo is looking up with new members and fresh enthusiasm. The old Pioneer "Yokohama" is also waking up with a Handicap tournament now being played, and prospective Championship and other contests next month. Let up hope that the present season will witness some battles royal between the treaty port and the capital as in days of yore.

BUDA-PEST.

The games are coming slowly in. We publish one played in the first round in which Pillsbury has to lower his colours to Albin.

GAME NO. 614.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE.
Pillsbury, New York.
1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—P to K 5
5—P to B 4
6—P takes P
7—Q to Kt 4
8—P to K R 4
9—Q to Kt 3
10—P to R 3
11—B to Q 3
12—B takes Kt
13—Q to Kt 7
14—Kt to B 3
15—P to Q Kt 4
16—Q to R 7
17—Kt to Q Kt 5 (e)
18—Kt to Q 6 ch.
19—Kt to R Kt 5
20—K Kt takes K B P
21—Q takes R P
22—Q to R 2
23—Q to Kt 6
24—P to R 5
25—R to R 3
26—Kt to B sq.
27—K to Kt sq. (g)
28—R takes B
29—R to Kt 2
30—K to R 2
31—R takes P
32—K to Kt sq.
33—K to R 2
34—R to Q B 3
Resigns.

BLACK.
Albin, Vienna.
1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to K B 3
4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to Q B 4
6—B takes P
7—P to K Kt 3 (a)
8—P to K R 4
9—Kt to Q B 3
10—Kt to Q 5 (b)
11—Kt to B 4
12—Kt P takes B
13—R to B sq.
14—Q to K 2 (c)
15—B to Kt 3
16—P to K 4 (d)
17—P takes P
18—Kt to Q sq.
19—K to B 2
20—K to Kt sq.
21—B to Q 5
22—Kt to B 4
23—Kt to K 5
24—Q to B 2 (f)
25—B to B 6 ch.
26—P to Kt 3
27—P to Kt 6 (h)
28—Q takes R
29—Q to K 8 ch.
30—Q takes B
31—Q takes P ch.
32—Q to B 7 ch.
33—Kt to Q 7
34—R to R 5

(a) This move makes Black's position rickety on the king's side. Casting is the ordinary move, though even then Black would have to play with very great care, and experience shows that in the majority of cases White obtains the better game in this variation. We really think that the move of K to B sq. played at Hastings by Bird against Gunsberg at this stage deserves to be further tested in actual play.

(b) The position is not much unlike the game between Pillsbury and Lasker at Nuremberg, in which it will be remembered Pillsbury won by exceedingly fine play, beginning with P to K B 5. In that game Lasker (Black) also played Kt to Q 5 without deriving any benefit from doing so.

(c) We prefer B to K 5.
(d) It was fortunate for Black that White, through the advance of his knight's pawn, gave him an opportunity for a counter-attack, which Albin at once seized and follows up with good judgment.

(e) This move looks much stronger than it really is; for after the knight gets to Q 6, Black will obtain considerable leverage on White's centre position by P to K B 3, or else by following up his queen's side attack.

(f) The artful way in which Black has executed a retreat with his king, and the attack he is now directing against White, shows him to be a player full of resource and natural ability for the game.

(g) Black threatened B to R 3 (ch), &c. It is difficult to point out any other way by which White might have hoped to escape the attack. Kt takes Kt is not possible, as Black could reply with Q to B 5 (ch); K to Kt sq. P takes Kt, and the rook cannot be saved. B to Kt 3 might have been tried.

(h) Excellent play. There is no further resistance to be made. The whole of White's disaster arose through his incautious move of P to Q Kt 4.

HONGKONG.

We take the following two games from the *China Mail* and are glad to note that our friend the "Ebony ecclesiastic" keeps up a lively discourse in the Cathedral city:—

GAME NO. 615.

EVANS GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE.
W. H. Pollock.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4
5—P to Q B 3
6—P to Q R 4
7—P to R 5
8—P to Kt 5
9—B takes Kt P
10—P to R 6 (c)
11—P to Q 3

BLACK.
E. Lasker.
1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4
4—B to K 3 (a)
5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q R 3
7—B to R 2
8—P takes P
9—Kt to B 3 (h)
10—Castles (d)
11—Kt to K 2

12—P takes P
13—Kt to R 3 (e)
14—Castles
15—P takes P
16—Q to K sq. (g)
17—B to Kt 5 (h)
18—Kt to B 2
19—R takes B (k)
20—Kt to K 3 (l)
21—R takes R
22—Q takes Kt
23—R to R sq.
White resigns.

12—B takes P
13—P to Q 4 (f)
14—Kt to Kt 3
15—Kt takes P
16—Q to B 3
17—Q to B 4
18—Kt takes P
19—B takes Kt
20—Q takes B
21—R takes R
22—Kt to B 5
23—Kt to K 7 ch.

NOTES BY DR. TARRASCH.

(a) It is noteworthy that Lasker usually declines the Evans Gambit, although he has declared that he knows a winning defence.

(b) Kt to K 5 seems preferable.
(c) Instead of developing, White makes premature attempts at attack, which finally only facilitate and hasten the development of his opponent.

(d) Kt takes P would be bad, on account of 21—Q to R 4. Kt to B 4; 22—P takes P.

(e) B takes P ch was threatened.

(f) Black is so far advanced in development that he can at once begin the attack.

(g) All of White's pieces are in bad positions, with the exception of the King's Knight at B 3. White's game is thus no longer capable of defence.

(h) With this and the mistake immediately following the Bishop was also exposed. It would have been better to interrupt the file of the adverse Queen's Bishop with Kt to Kt 5 and K 4.

(i) He may well despair.

(j) After B to K 3 Q to Kt 5 wins.

GAME NO. 616.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE.
J. W. Showalter.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Kt to B 3
5—B to B 4
6—Q to B 2
7—P to K 3
8—P takes P
9—B to Q 3
10—Kt to K Kt 5
11—P to K R 4
12—Kt to K 2
13—P to K Kt 4
14—Kt takes Kt
15—B takes Kt P
16—Kt takes Kt P
17—Kt to K 6
18—K to K 2
19—Kt (Kt 6) takes R
20—P takes P
21—Q R to K Kt sq. ch.
22—R to Kt 6
23—P to R 5
24—Q to R 4
25—Q to R 5
White mates in two moves.

BLACK.
S. Lipschütz.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K 2
5—Castles
6—P to Q R 3
7—P to Q Kt 3
8—P takes P
9—B to Kt 2
10—P to Kt 3
11—Kt to R 4
12—P to Q B 4
13—Kt takes B
14—P to B 5
15—R P takes B
16—P to K B 4
17—B to Kt 5 ch.
18—Q to B 3
19—B takes Kt
20—Kt to B 3
21—K to B 2
22—Q to R sq.
23—Kt to Kt 5
24—P to Kt 4
25—R to K sq.

CLIFTON TOURNAMENT.

GAME NO. 617.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE.
C. J. Lambert.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4
3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Kt to B 3
5—P to K 3
6—P takes P
7—B to Kt 5 ch.
8—B to Q 3
9—Castles
10—P to K 4
11—Kt takes P
12—B takes Kt
13—B to B 2
14—R to R sq.
15—B to Kt 5
16—B to K 7 (d)
17—R takes B
18—Kt to K 5
19—B to Kt 3 ch.
20—Q to R 5 (e)
21—R to K sq.
22—B takes Kt
23—R to K B 7
24—R takes Q
25—Kt to B 6
26—Kt to Q 8
27—Q to K 8 ch.

BLACK.
F. J. Ellwell.
1—P to Q 4
2—P to R 3
3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to Q Kt 3
5—B to Kt 2
6—P takes P
7—P to B 3
8—B to Q 3 (a)
9—Castles
10—P takes P
11—Kt takes Kt
12—P to K B 4 (b)
13—Q to B 3
14—B to B sq. (c)
15—Q to Kt 3
16—B takes B
17—Kt to R 3
18—Q to B 3
19—R to R sq.
20—Kt to Kt 5 (f)
21—Kt to Q 4 (g)
22—P takes B
23—K to Kt sq. (h)
24—P takes R
25—R to B 2
26—R to B 2
27—Resigns.

(a) We prefer B to K 5.
(b) White was threatening B takes P (ch), followed by Kt to Kt 5 (ch), &c., but with the next move he rather exposes his game especially considering that he has no minor pieces on the king's side, and that White has a white Bishop, while White can also play Kt to Kt 5. In fact, the play that followed may almost be foretold instinctively on Black's playing P to K B 4. Kt to Q 5 was preferable, for that knight could assist the defence by playing either to K B 3 or K B sq. later on.

(c) Intended to prevent 25—R to Kt 3 (ch), followed by 26—R to K 6.
(d) Very well played. It gets the rook into the hostile camp and leaves the opponent without a single minor piece developed. White further threatened mischief after the bishop has been removed by Kt to K 5 in conjunction with B to Kt 3 (ch).

(e) On mating intent Nothing definite would result from Kt to K 7 (ch), K to Kt sq.
(f) Of course, if Q takes R, K to Kt 6 (ch), mate, if P to Kt 3, Q takes P, mate. Black was without any resource.
(g) Black's idea was to cut off the mating demand of White's bishop from the diagonal. We should have been inclined to connect both rooks by B to R 3, even though that should lose the exchange.
(h) White handled the black very cleverly, there is nothing left to do. For if R takes R, 24—Kt takes R (ch), K to Kt sq. 25—R to K 8, mate.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 23th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 12th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 21st.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 23th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 12th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Monday, Dec. 14th.
Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Dec. 23rd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 31st.

* P.M. left Hongkong on December 3rd. † City of Peking left San Francisco on December 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 27th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 6th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 13th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 27th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. D. Lloyd	Saturday, Dec. 19th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 21st.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 24th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 25th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kwannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Anno, 28th November,—Kobe 27th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 28th November,—Yokkaichi 27th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 29th November,—Hongkong via ports, 20th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, C. Anderson, 29th November,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 29th November,—Hongkong via ports, 15th November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Higo, 29th November,—Kobe 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fulmi, 29th November,—Yokkaichi 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Dundee, British steamer, 2,572, Edward Hailey, 30th November,—New York 22nd September, General.—Frazier & Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 30th November,—Otaru via ports, 26th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, Tanaka, 30th November,—Yokkaichi 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Archer (6), British cruiser, Captain C. Long, 1st December,—Nagasaki via Kobe 29th November.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Tibbals, 1st December,—Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Crocas, Norwegian steamer, 765, Peterson, 1st December,—Vladivostok, Ballast.—H. Grauert.

Tairen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,791, R. J. McIvor, 1st December,—Kobe 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 1st December,—Yokkaichi 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 1st December,—Kobe 30th November; General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 2nd December,—Yokkaichi 1st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nanyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,670, Suzuki, 2nd December,—Otaru via ports, 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,879, Porter, 3rd December,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe 1st December, General.—Dudwell, Caillil & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, Flandin, 3rd December,—Marseilles 25th October, Hongkong 25th November, Shanghai 28th, and Kobe 2nd December, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 3rd December.—Hongkong via ports, 25th November, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Teruick, 3rd December.—Nagasaki 1st December, Coal.—Mitsui Bishi Sha.

Palawan, British steamer, 2,995, C. E. Baker, 3rd December.—London via ports, and Kobe 2nd December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 4th December.—Hongkong via ports, 24th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 4th December.—San Francisco 12th November, via Honolulu 26th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kaifong, British steamer, Dewar, 4th December.—Kobe 2nd December, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 4th December.—Otaru via ports, 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, J. W. Ekstrand, 4th December.—Shanghai via ports, 28th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ika Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 28th November.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, Thomson, 29th November.—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, Samuelsen, 29th November.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Naehf.

Salasie, French steamer, 3,400, A. Paul, 29th November.—Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 29th November.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwanon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Anno, 30th November.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Deike Rickmers, German steamer, 2,314, Muller, 30th November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Grafton (36), British cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 30th November.—Yokosuka.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, W. A. Evans, 30th November.—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Thekla, German steamer, 2,363, Christiansen, 30th November.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Okinawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,041, Kataoka, 1st December.—Nagasaki, Cable Supplies.—Navy Department.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, Tanaka, 1st December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 1st December.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, E. S. Barstow, 1st December.—Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 1st December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 2nd December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Higo, 2nd December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 2nd December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cosmopolit, German steamer, 760, Holtz, 3rd December.—Kobe, Sugar.—H. Grauert & Co.

Taiven Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,731, R. J. McIvor, 3rd December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 3rd December.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 4th December.—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 4th December.—Vancouver, B.C.,

Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andriuff, 4th December.—Oshima.

Yefo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 4th December.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Carr, Miss Stornebrink, Messrs. H. Clarkson, B. Clarkson, J. Aikawa, Jupp, B. Woodd, A. Donald, Stornebrink and child, W. Balden, C. Breitschneider, Lieut. H. W. Bowring, R.N., Mrs. Diehl, Mrs. Cheo, Mr. and Mrs. Choep, Mr. and Mrs. Wenn, infant and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Menzell, and Major and Mrs. Jackson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Braemar*, from Hongkong via ports:—For Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Miss Tuck and Mr. Baiff in cabin; 16 Japanese and 12 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles:—Captain Million in cabin; Mr. Sugita, Mr. Yanagisawa, Mr. R. P. Faurie, Miss Lesneur, and Miss Bornans in second class. From Kobe:—Mr. Campagnol in cabin. From Shanghai:—Messrs. Patcher, Yater, and Harper in third class.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. W. Smyth, Mr. R. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Holm, governess, and 2 children, Miss Fuchs, Mr. H. W. Arthur, Mr. J. H. Longford, Mr. Gerlinger, Mrs. and Miss Wadman, Mr. M. Denegri, Mr. and Mrs. G. Window Thacher, Mr. E. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Cummings, Mrs. Gibbons, Mrs. Payne, Mr. H. G. Waggott, and Mr. H. J. H. Tripp in cabin; 14 passengers in second class, and 296 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Palawan*, from London via ports:—Miss Lucque in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. C. H. Jaeger, I.G.N., Paymaster E. Unger, I.G.N., Lieut. B. Koschembahr, I.G.N., Mr. H. F. Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Collins, Mr. E. Young, Mr. C. Holcombe, Lieut. Mauer, I.G.N., Mrs. M. I. Leech, and Mr. Meyer and servant in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. E. Quackenbush and 2 children, Miss Helen Quackenbush, Miss A. Quackenbush, Miss E. Brugman, Miss E. Smith, Mr. G. E. Burgoyne, Dr. Mary Brown, Miss L. Hamilton, Miss E. F. Boughton, Lieut. F. Reiss, I.G.N., Lieut. Boethke, I.G.N., Mr. A. J. McGlew, Mr. S. Nagata, and Mr. T. Tomonaga in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss C. H. Spencer, Mr. Shin Nemoto, Mr. Paul Behn, Miss Alice R. Haworth, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Griffin, Mr. H. M. Wheeler, Mr. S. Mine, Mr. C. Okumura, Mr. J. Whitbread, Mr. Leon L. Colver, Mr. J. Malowansky, and Mr. Jas. Isdale in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. Kwai, Mr. Shin, Rev. John Murray, Mrs. M. J. Plumb, Mrs. T. W. Houston and 5 children, Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Wolsey, Dr. and Mrs. Chas. Lewis, Miss Effie L. Abbott, and Miss Mary F. Wilson in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. A. Findlay Smith, Dr. P. T. Carrington, Colonel and Mrs. H. C. Kessler, Miss Nyrip and 2 children, Mrs. Dewitt C. Hay, Rev. and Mrs. F. J. Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. J. Casanova, Mrs. S. E. Carrington, Rev. and Mrs. B. C. Henry and child, Miss Henry, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. M. Farland, Mrs. J. A. Farnan, Rev. W. A. Niles, and Mr. Geo. E. Chapin in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. S. Scherer, Mr. Wm. Paulsen, Captain R. Tipple, Messrs. Bruce, T. L. Harrison, S. Teshima, M. Yamashita, K. Chiba, Devine, Okada, Shima, Y. Idzumi, and Dr. T. Kawasaki in cabin; Messrs. F. McGarity, E. G. Bergersen, Shotakuten, Hatakeyama, and M. Yamada in second class, and 55 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Salasie*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. C. Matti, E. Becker, S. Schwob, H. G. Waggott, A. J. Curtiss, Mrs. A. J. Curtiss, Miss Leach, Rev. Dom Marie Bernard, Messrs. Arthur, E. Lay, H. B. Collins, J. Reimes, Mark Leong, M. Ridley, Pailhes, Mrs. Pailhes, Seurs Germaine and Sidonie, Messrs. Garonne, Charria, Anai, Mrs. Anai, Marquis Saionji, Messrs. Y. Obayashi, H. Akai, G. Yamashita, Iwasaki, G. Odote, R. Kawashima, Mrs. Schenninger, Messrs. Schenninger, K. Henmi, K. Tanaka, and K. Hayashi in cabin; 3 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Daphne*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Charlesworth and son, Mr. Goto Rokuya, Mr. and Mrs. Oelmichen, Mr. Taen Er Tong, Mrs. M. Juhannsen, and Mr. Y. Kusakabe in cabin; 3 Europeans in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. Denys Larrieu, H. Breitschneider, A. V. Bryan, and A. B. Scherer in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. B. Hamazaki, Miss Okuda Katsu, and Miss Miyake Toku in second class. For Shimonoseki:—Mr. T. Kimura in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. W. K. Samoiloff and Mr. F. Truscott in cabin; Miss Kondo Kane and Mr. Tanabe Keizo in second class. For Shanghai:—Prof. W. K. Burton, Prof. Y. Hamano, Mr. E. W. Fairley, and Mr. W. P. Daniels in cabin; 44 passengers in steerage in all.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Captain C. Ashburnham, Rt. Rev. Bishop E. Bickersteth, Mrs. E. Bickersteth, Mr. C. W. Collier, Mr. S. W. Cummings, Mrs. S. W. Cummings, Mr. G. T. Gerlinger, Mr. M. H. R. Harris, Mr. H. Iwasaki and servant, Mr. R. Nomura, Mr. J. M. Robledo, Mr. H. W. Smyth, and Mr. S. Yamaguchi in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Salasie*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 147 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 351 bales.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, for Portland, Oregon:—

	TEA.				TOTAL
	CANADA AND WEST.	CHICAGO NEW YORK	PACIFIC	COAST.	
Hongkong	221	—	—	153	374
Shanghai	—	1,179	—	—	1,179
Ilyogo	1,508	—	335	—	1,833
Yokohama	855	—	1,178	52	2,085
Total	2,584	1,179	1,503	205	5,471

	NEW YORK.		TOTAL BALS.
	—	—	
Yokohama	102	—	102
Total	102	—	102

Per German steamer *Daphne*, for Hongkong via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 194 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 279 bales.

Per British steamer *Braemar*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL
	CANADA AND WEST.	CHICAGO NEW YORK	PACIFIC	COAST.	
Shanghai	—	2,462	—	—	2,462
Ilyogo	1,794	—	1,088	—	2,882
Yokohama	3,882	887	2,590	—	7,359
Hongkong	—	451	—	50	501
Amoy	—	—	5,549	—	5,549
Foochow	5,466	1,250	1,022	—	7,738
Total	10,942	5,050	10,172	50	26,214

	NEW YORK.		TOTAL.
	—	—	
Shanghai	314	—	344
Hongkong	60	—	60
Yokohama	466	—	466
Total	870	—	870

Tea 1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement \$11 Gold per ton.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL
	CANADA AND WEST.	CHICAGO NEW YORK	PACIFIC	OTHER	
Colombo	200	—	—	85	285
Hongkong	—	—	—	84	84
Calcutta	450	—	405	—	855
Amoy	—	3,318	—	—	3,318
Foochow	1,957	127	90	—	2,374
Shanghai	2,421	1,863	1,012	86	5,382
Nagasaki	699	—	—	—	699
Kobe	331	—	30	—	361
Yokohama	719	—	—	—	719

	NEW YORK.		TOTAL.
	—	—	
Total	6,680	2,190	8,870

	SILK.		TOTAL.
	—	—	
Hongkong and Canton	95	—	95
Shanghai	178	—	178
Yokohama	688	—	688
Total	961	—	961

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Braemar*, from Hongkong to Tacoma, via Chinese and Japanese ports, had strong N.E. monsoons up, and fair weather.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 12th November at 2.10 p.m., via Honolulu the 21st at 1.21 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th December at 1.55 a.m. Had heavy southerly and

head sea most of the passage to Honolulu; from Honolulu the prevailing winds have been westerly with head sea; November 25th lat. 26° 07', long. 179° 31' W. met a steamship steering east. Passage from Honolulu, 12 days, 4 hours, 44 min.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A small revival in the demand for Yarns, and some business is doing in Doubles, 42 Plain and 60 Gassed. All other sorts quiet. Shirts quite lifeless, while Fancies and Woollens remain very dull indeed.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 lb., 38 yds., 39 inches	—
Grey Shirtings—9 lb., 38 yds., 45 inches	—
I. Cloth—7 lb., 24 yds., 32 inches	\$1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds., 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 21 yds., 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satinets Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.
	0.15 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds., 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds., 42 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb., 21 yds., 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb., 24 yds., 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb., 24 yds., 30 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb., 24 yds., 30 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32
Italian Cloth, 30 yds., 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yds., 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilot, 51 1/2 lb., 56 inches	0.15 to 0.20
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 lb., 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 lb., 56 inches	0.10 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$36
Nos. 28 32, Singles	—
Nos. 38 42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles	—
Nos. 42, Doubles	—
Nos. 2 60, Plain	—
Nos. 2 80, Plain	—
Nos. 2 100, Plain	—
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	\$75
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	—
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	—

AIRLATS.

Poor tone, very little doing indeed; buyers only enquiring for small lots of special sizes to keep up their assortments.

	PER PIECE.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.70 to 1.74

KEROSENE.

Market says a bit and quotations are lower in sympathy with other Japan ports. Not much business doing but there are symptoms that buyers may soon enter the arena if prices are suitable.

American	\$2.20 to 2.25
Russian	2.30 to 2.35
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Some business, but with a heavy stock all round prices are down and the market closes in favour of buyers. White—Rather more doing at last rates and a better prospect generally.

	PER PIECE.
Brown Takao	\$4.15 to 4.20
Brown Manila	5.10 to 5.20
Brown Daitong	3.70 to 3.80
Brown Canton	3.60 to 4.40
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The heavy and accumulating stock (in spite of heavy direct export) has caused holders to weaken considerably. Consequently a fair amount of silk has passed the scales at our quotations. But the tendency is still down, as the present stock is about 21,500 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9 1/2, 10 1/2 den.	\$780 to 790
Filatures—Extra 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10 1/2 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1, 10 1/4 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1, 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 2, 10 1/2 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 2, 13 1/2 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 1, 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 1, 13 1/2, 14 1/2 den.	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 2, 13 1/2 deniers	675 to 680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14 1/2 deniers	665 to 670
Kakadas—Extra	690 to 700
Kakadas—No. 1	670 to 680
Kakadas—No. 14	660 to 665
Kakadas—No. 2	640 to 650
Kakadas—No. 24	—

WASTE SILK.

Market still keeps active and prices firm at quotations. Stock of all kinds about 13,500 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Filature, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Bushu, Good	120 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshu, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 24

TEA.

A fair amount of trade for this period of the season, purchases running on the better grades, which are now scarce. Total stock is down to 1,500 piculs and the market closes firm.

QUOTATIONS.

	Nom.
Choicest	\$26 to \$28
Choice	24 to 25
Finest	22 to 23
Fine	20 to 21
Good Medium	18 to 19
Medium	16 to 17
Good Common	14 to 15
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Rates continued steady all though the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2
— — Bills on demand	2/1 1/2
— — 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/3 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	1.69
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.74
On Hongkong—Bank sight	par.
— — Private to days' sight	1 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight	168
— — Private 30 days' sight	175
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight	2.22 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	29 1/2

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 12TH, 1896.

DEATH.

On the 8th December, in Paris, ALBERT DUBUFFET, a former resident in Japan.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE strike of dock hands at Bremen has terminated.

The Times Paris correspondent states that President Faure will visit Russia next year.

SMALL-POX cases in Tokyo from January this year up to the 6th inst. totalled twelve hundred and seventy-six.

NEW Meteorological Observatories have been opened at Mayebashi, Gumma Ken; and at Kobe, Hyogo Ken.

Two small fires occurred in Yokohama this

week: one at No. 130 (H. B. Collins), the other at No. 93 (J. Witkowski and Co.). Little damage was done.

THE Navy easily defeated the shore at Rugby football on Saturday, the score being 13 points to nil.

MR. GREATHOUSE, the American Adviser to the Korean Government, is reported to have left Seoul for Tokyo.

THE Italians are sending a force to Magadoxo, Somaliland, to punish the Somalis for the recent massacre of Italian officers.

THE conflagration at Shingu-machi, Wakayama Ken, resulted in a loss to the Meiji Fire Insurance Company of yen 18,000.

SOME capitalists of Odawara, Kanagawa Ken, will publish a journal named the *Takai Nichi Nichi Shimbun* from the 15th instant.

AN agreement between France and Russia has been concluded for the representation of Russia on the council of the Ottoman Debt.

"SOME Devonshire Worthies," was the title of an interesting paper read by Mr. W. D. Cox before the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday.

A PORTION of the National Unionists have resolved to oppose the abolition of the regulations providing for the suspension and suppression of newspapers.

MR. KURINO, Minister to Italy, will return home at an early date. It is stated that he will be transferred to another country as Minister after his return.

THE *Mutsu Maru*, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, that left Yokohama for Hakodate on the 4th inst., having damaged her engines, returned to the port for repairs.

NOMURA ICHIRYO, Editor of the *Twenty-sixth Century*, was brought up in the Osaka Court of Appeal on the 3rd inst and sent to Horikawa goal the same day.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL left the Akasaka Palace on Monday at half-past eight o'clock for Yokosuka, where he inspected the captured war-vessel *Chinyen*.

THE mining regulations, now under the consideration of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, will be submitted to the Legislative Bureau in a few days.

WOR. COMPANION RETZ was installed as the M.E.Z. in the Yokohama Chapter H.R.A., on Thursday evening in the presence of a large number of the Brethren.

MR. N. W. McIVOR, Consul-General of the United States at Yokohama, has decided that his Court can entertain a suit brought to obtain alimony from a husband.

THE Venezuelan Government has accepted the agreement arrived at by the United States and Great Britain to arbitrate the dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela.

ON the occasion of the Empress's visit to Yokosuka all the naval prisoners on the ships in the port, including the British flagship *Grafton*, were released at Her Majesty's request.

THE Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce having passed a resolution for abolishing export duties, on the 4th inst., Mr. Hara, the President will present a petition in that sense to the Cabinet.

MR. JUSTICE MOWAT has decreed the enforcement of a promise to provide a competency for Miss

May Oastler Burdis, that was stipulated for in an agreement of adoption entered into by her father with the late Mr. G. S. Burdis, in 1891.

THE Japanese man-of-war *Maya*, that stuck in the mud of the Peiho for many months, recently floated off owing to the overflow of the river. We hear that she will remain at Tientsin.

THE people in the neighbourhood of Bakan are eagerly engaged in preparing a petition to the Authorities to induce them to make Bakan a special port for imports and exports.

THE Nippon Race Club held its annual general meeting on Friday afternoon. The report spoke of a most successful year of racing, and the balance-sheet showed a handsome surplus.

THE crew that will bring home the *Fuji Kan* from England left Shimbashi Station on Saturday at eight o'clock for Yokohama, and sailed for England at noon by the *Yamaguchi Maru*.

THE Mosquito Yacht Club have re-elected their old officers and Committee for the ensuing year, with the addition of Mr. Middleton as Vice-Commodore. The Club has over \$500 in cash and property.

THE Iron-pipe scandal case was concluded in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on Tuesday. Kazama Nobukichi was sentenced to five months' imprisonment and fined yen 20. Yamanaka Rinnosuke was acquitted.

THE funeral of the late Rear-Admiral Fukushima took place on Sunday last. An Imperial Chamberlain, Captain Hirohata, was dispatched on Saturday to the late residence of the deceased with a present from the Court.

THE Turks that were arrested and exiled, without trial, to Anatolia, are believed to be connected with the Liberal Party, whose numbers are strengthening. The Party has sent a manifesto to the Embassies demanding political liberties and concluding with the words "Down with the Tyrant."

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, in a message to Congress, strongly urges Spain to grant autonomy to Cuba, which would at once terminate the war. America, he declares, is always ready to mediate, and it is hinted she might eventually intervene if Spain proves powerless to restore order. The message merely defends the existing tariff.

THE improvement noted last week has not continued, enquiries for Yarns "petering-out" in a very little time. A few desultory transactions are reported in Shirts, and trifling sales have taken place in Fancies. In Woollens the outlook is still gloomy in view of the piled-up stocks now in godowns. There has been rather more doing in Metals, without any quotable change in prices, though values in England and on the Continent are going up—holders, in fact, would be glad to clear some of their present stock at easy quotations. The tone of the Kerosene trade is weak, and the reported discovery of fresh fields in Sumatra lead to the expectation of a plentiful supply of Langkat next year. In Sugar, sales exceed arrivals, but prices are sagging downward both for Brown and White sorts. Holders of Raw Silk have accepted the inevitable, this inducing a considerable trade. For the time of year the stock still on hand is excessive, 21,000 piculs, and native merchants are anxious to lighten the load ere the new year. Europe has caught on to a fancy for Japanese Waste this year, and consequently a good trade has resulted of late, the stock being now down to 13,000 piculs. The Tea season is almost over, very little leaf being now in the country. Exchange closes steady at the advance.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Journalistic discussion has been unusually rapid during the week. The question of amending the Press Law continues to receive attention at the hands of several papers, but as much has been reproduced on the subject in these columns we need not trouble our readers with lengthy reference to the articles now before us.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* is surprised to hear a rumour that the Government have decided not to introduce the Press Regulations amendment as an official Bill, but, on the contrary, to make the *Shimpo-to* take up the matter. While expressing bitter regret that the fate of newspaper emancipation, one of the Liberals' cherished ideas, should be entrusted to dubious hands, the organ of the Liberal Party desires to know whether the *Shimpo-to* persevere in their intention of supporting the Government in the face of such repeated breaches of faith on the part of the latter.

The *Chuo* is constrained to support the preservation of the suppression and suspension clauses even though its own interests would be injured by their continued existence. The organ of the National Unionists does not think that the tone of political discussion has reached such a level as to warrant dispensing with the restraints placed on newspaper utterances. It adduces the Household Minister's affair as a good illustration of its contention. Incidentally the *Chuo* throws doubt on an assertion repeatedly advanced by pro-Government partisans and papers, namely, that greater freedom of public speech and discussion has been enjoyed since the present Ministry came into power. Our contemporary's doubt is based on the criminal suit recently instituted by the Cabinet against the *Tokyo Shimbun* on the charge of *Kwanri-bujyoku*, a method of procedure to which, according to the *Chuo's* defective memory, the last Cabinet never resorted. The principle underlying charges of *Kwanri-bujyoku*, or bringing officials into contempt, must be considered as a remnant of the old custom of *Kwanron Minji* (official supremacy and popular insignificance). No such principle can coexist with freedom of political discussion. Altogether the *Chuo* is inclined to believe that the scope of free speech has been practically narrowed since the advent of the Matsukata Cabinet.

As a proof of the uselessness of placing checks on journalistic utterances, the *Nippon* draws the attention of the Authorities and of the people to the official report of the proceedings of the Imperial Diet. Statements are found there far more violent and unreserved in tone than any of the journalistic articles that have incurred the displeasure of Press Censors from time to time.

The *Yiji* devotes several articles to discussing the question of officers and men for the Navy. Our contemporary learns that the Authorities contemplate completing the First and Second period expansion programmes within the space of 10 years, and estimates that by the eve of that time, some 20,000 officers and men will be required to man the additional vessels of the Navy. Briefly stated, the *Yiji's* contention is that steps must be taken to curtail the time devoted to acquiring technical knowledge by officers, and that more attention must be given to practical training, so as, if possible, to shorten the time before graduation.

The *Tokyo Shimbun*, which, by the way, has lately begun to take a very active part in political discussions, protests against the judgment of the Tokyo Local Court pronounced against its editor and publisher. Its complaint is based chiefly on the point raised by Mr. Isobe, one of the counsel for the Defendants in the Local Court, namely, the unlawfulness of convicting a man of bringing contempt on Government officials in a case where the sufferers do not exist as individuals but as a body corporate. If the arguments advanced by the Public Pro-

curator who conducted the prosecution be admitted, and if the verdict given by the Local Court be strictly legal, then a criminal suit might wear a ridiculous aspect. Suppose, for example, that a Department of State preferred a similar charge against an individual. In that case, according to the judgment of the Tokyo Local Court just pronounced against the *Tokyo Shimbun*, all the officials and employes, from the head of the Department to a mere servant, must be set down as complainants, and the Court would have to decide that as the defendant had brought all those personages into public contempt, he must be convicted of the offence of *bujyoku* against that particular Department.

One of the problems that have been upon the *tapis* ever since the installation of the Matsukata Cabinet, namely, the creation of new officials called *Saimu Ji-kwan* (Executive Vice-Ministers), as distinguished from the present Administrative Vice-Ministers, furnishes a theme to the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Kokumin*. The latter argues that in evolving a democratic Government out of the old Clan Government, there must be a ladder to bridge the chasm; that the proposed new officers, whether designated Executive Vice-Ministers or Chief Councillors, constitute such a ladder; that the creation of these posts would furnish a means of testing the ability of leading publicists outside the ranks of officialdom, and that one of the objects outlined in the Cabinet's policy would thus be attained.

The *Nichi Nichi* can not perceive any necessity for appointing special Vice-Ministers, who would move with the Cabinet of the day, inasmuch as Party Cabinets are still unknown in Japan, and are, moreover, not at present feasible. For, apart from the vast differences between England and Japan in respect of national characteristics, no Japanese political party can at present command a majority within the walls of the Diet, and consequently no party could undertake to form a Cabinet of its own. The *Nichi Nichi* concludes that the idea of creating a new post of the kind contemplated must have originated with the *Shimpo-to* wire-pullers of the Cabinet, who, by taking advantage of the weakness of the Ministry, seek to gratify their own craving for office. The *Yomiuri* and the *Kokumin* offer some advice to the Government in connection with its attitude towards the Diet. The *Kokumin* cautions the Cabinet against stooping to win supporters in the House, as previous Cabinets frequently did, but only with temporary success. The wisest plan is to proceed in an honest and direct manner towards the realization of genuine convictions.

The *Yomiuri* warns the Ministry not to imitate the unsympathetic bearing that the Ito Ministry used to adopt towards the Diet, for that cool attitude undoubtedly constituted one of the causes that led the public to regard that Ministry with disfavour. Our contemporary advises the Ministers of State to be present in the Houses whenever any important discussion is going on, not to make their subordinates represent them, and to reply orally, as far as possible, to questions put by members.

The *Yiji* writes about the necessity of despatching a Japanese Representative as quickly as possible to Korea. Our contemporary compares Korea to a sick man suffering from incurable malady, who may die at any moment, though his symptoms do not suggest immediate danger of demise. The Japanese Representative being an important consulting physician must not leave the bed-side of the patient even for a short while. With regard to the selection of a Minister, the *Yiji* warns the Government not to appoint a statesman of the old school, for such a man would be entirely out of place and even dangerous—witness the disasters that overtook Japan in connection with the affair of the Queen's assassination.

The *Kokumin* has something to say on the subject of Korea, especially with reference to

the proceedings of the Koreans whom that paper designated "patriots." These "patriots" hailed with joy the nomination of Count Okuma to the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, hastily concluding that Japan would back their efforts and enable them to drive the Russian faction out of power. Labouring under that serious misconception, they are in danger of making thoughtless attempts, the result of which must be to entangle them in the snare set by their rivals. Let them clearly understand the notions and policy of Japan towards Korea, and, abstaining from any such proceeding, wait until fitting opportunities are matured.

The *Chuo* stigmatizes the policy of the present Ministry more especially, of Count Okuma, as a "banquet policy." Since Count Okuma's installation at the Foreign Office, he has proved himself very tardy in dealing with practical problems, but has displayed eminent aptitude in parlour politics, notably in the matter of speeches and banquets. He has already delivered five or six speeches, while the almost uninterrupted series of entertainments given by him have procured for him the epithet of "Garden-Party Count," even from newspapers friendly to him. The *Chuo* asks whether such frequent invitations are reconcilable with the spirit of a self-assertive foreign policy, and whether they contribute to the maintenance of official discipline, to both of which objects the Count has pledged himself.

The *Yiji* can not understand why Moji and Shimonoseki are excluded from the list of special commercial ports. If the authorities made the exclusion owing to considerations of military strategy, nothing could be more unreasonable. In fact, they are open to the charge of a complete misconception, for they do not seem to bear in mind the fact that the object of military defences is to guarantee the safety of commercial transactions and to promote the prosperity of trade. The step they have taken with regard to the two ports amounts to sacrificing commercial interests on the altar of military defence. Shimonoseki now occupies a very important position with regard to Japan's commerce, for its foreign trade aggregated over 22 million *yen* last year, being thus inferior to Yokohama and Kobe only. The inconvenience to which the port is subjected seriously impairs its prosperity. Sugar, for instance, destined for Shimonoseki, must be first carried to Kobe, and thence shipped back to Shimonoseki, with the result of materially increased expenses. The *Yiji* points to Vladivostok as a good example how commercial transactions and military defences can be combined, and urges the Authorities to remove the serious inconvenience now suffered by the people of Moji and Shimonoseki.

To promote the independence of the Philippines is one of the objects to which the *Kokumin* pledged itself when it published its platform on the occasion of its two thousandth issue. Germany is vigilantly watching for something to turn up in the Far East, or the South Seas, so that she may avail herself of it to obtain a base of operations in these regions. The rebellion in Manila has attracted her attention, and she is thinking of rendering assistance to the rebels. Her idea is purely selfish, but still Japan might cooperate with her. Indeed, Japan must abandon her chivalrous efforts in Korea and divert them to the South. She might combine with Germany and England in liberating the Philippines from the fetters of bondage. Such are the *Kokumin's* views.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* is evidently determined not to omit any opportunity for discrediting the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the eyes of the public. It criticizes in strong language the speech that His Excellency delivered a few days ago before the Japan-Korea Commercial Association. It charges him with having publicly and in broad daylight disgraced his country and insulted its people. The basis of this intemperate assault is that Count Okuma justified the outrageous bearing of the Koreans towards the

Japanese, that he set forth the evil doings of the Japanese living in Korea, and that he condemned his nationals there as altogether in the wrong. It demands an explanation how the Japan of 40 years ago can be comparable with the Korea of to-day, inasmuch as the Japan of that time had stepped out of her ordinary routine, whereas the Korea of to-day is practically moving in her usual groove. The only point of analogy is the abandonment of a policy of seclusion. In striking contrast to Japan, Korea has made no reformation nor any serious change in her internal administration, as Japan did on the occasion of the advent of the new regimen. In short, the *Tokyo Shimbun* holds Count Okuma up to public condemnation as the only Foreign Minister that has solemnly and publicly cast obloquy on his country.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB.

THE annual general meeting of the Yokohama Skating Club was held in Keil's Building on Thursday, under the Presidency of Mr. J. O. Averill, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The accounts presented showed an income of \$363.08, and a balance, after paying all expenses, of \$160.75. There were 66 members on the roll. The accounts, on the proposition of Mr. W. W. Campbell, seconded by Mr. W. Sutter, were adopted. Mr. Campbell wished to spend some of the surplus in "experiments"—which he explained meant searching for a more suitable ground than that used at present. He thought that a more central site should be selected. Mr. Sutter pointed out the impossibility of securing a suitable piece of ground in the Settlement, and suggested that even if the lower tennis ground of the Bluff-gardens proved suitable, it could not be obtained for such a purpose as a skating rink. But even that would require an enormous area of roofing, and special preparation for keeping in the water. A long discussion ensued, but nothing definite was come to, it being generally understood that in the past every endeavour possible had been made to obtain a better rink, but only to meet with failure, while the paucity of members present at the meeting precluded the possibility of obtaining consent on that occasion for using up the surplus in "experiments." It was also pointed out that the surplus would easily be exhausted should a mild winter come along and prevent any skating from taking place at all; then the members would naturally fall away.—The old Committee were re-elected, Mr. A. H. Dare taking Mr. Campbell's place.—The chairman was empowered to make all suitable arrangements for early skating.

A NEW JAPANESE CRUISER.

THE San Francisco papers announce that the Union Iron Works at that city have obtained a contract to build a cruiser for the Japanese Navy. The *Chronicle* says:—The vessel to be built at the Union Iron Works for the Japanese Government will be what is termed a second class unarmoured protected cruiser, and will be of high speed. Her extreme length over all will be 405 feet 2 inches, length on load water line, 396 feet; breadth, moulded, 49 feet; normal draft of water, 47 feet 7½ inches, and displacement, in tons at normal draft, about 4,760. The cruiser's engines are to be triple expansion twin screw propelling with the usual auxiliary machinery. There will be a high-pressure cylinder of 40 inches diameter, one of intermediate pressure of 60 inches diameter, and two low-pressure cylinders of 66 inches diameter, the stroke of all the pistons being 36 inches. The collective indicated horse-power for the propelling engines will be 15,500, and they are to make 150 revolutions. There will be four double-ended and four single ended boilers of the Scotch type of 14 feet 3 inches diameter. The double-ended boilers will be 17 feet 6 inches long, and the single-ended boilers 9 feet 3 inches long. They will be placed in four water-tight compartments, and will have 22,440 square feet of heating surface and 800 square of grate surface. The armament

will consist of two 8-inch 45-calibre quick-firing guns and twelve 12-centimetre guns, these being practically the same as the American 5-inch quick-firing guns, twelve 12-pound guns, and six 47-millimetre quick-firing guns. In addition there are to be five torpedo launching tubes, one 14-inch fixed and four 14-inch training. The speed of the vessel is to be 20½ knots an hour under normal draft and 22½ knots under forced draft. Every effort will be made by the Union Iron Works to bring the vessel a little beyond the requirements, as success probably will mean the Japanese Government placing other and more important orders at San Francisco.

THE "ALCIDES."

THE British ship *Alcides*, from Yokohama, arrived at San Francisco on Nov. 6th. The *Call* says:—The British ship *Alcides* that arrived here yesterday after a smart run of thirty days from Yokohama, had an exciting experience last month. When the master saw that a storm was brewing, he at once began to shorten sail, but before all the canvas was in a typhoon struck the ship and she was thrown on her beam ends. The few sails that were on the yards were blown out of the bolt ropes and for eight hours it was nip and tuck whether the stout vessel would right or go down. To make matters worse the ballast shifted, but, when hope seemed gone, the *Alcides* passed out of the revolving storm and the danger was over. "We had fair weather after leaving Yokohama up to October 15 last," reported Captain Dart. "Then we were in latitude 43 north, longitude 165 east. A heavy typhoon from the south-south-west and west came up, and we were at its mercy for several hours. Many of our sails were blown away, the ship was thrown on her beam ends and our ballast shifted. That was our worst experience, and we had no more trouble in reaching San Francisco." Judging from the looks of the *Alcides* she must also have lost some of her boats, and the chances are that some repairs will have to be made before she will begin loading wheat for Europe. This is the third trip Captain Dart has made to this port, but it is the first time he has ever reported a typhoon.

BAZAAR AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

THE Japanese bazaar given at the Public Hall, Bluff, on Saturday was very successful, for though the attendance of foreigners was small, the number of Japanese present all through the day and evening was very large, and a good trade was done. The Hall was prettily decorated with red lanterns and the ever-effective bamboo, while the numerous stalls were daintily set out. Upon entering the lesser Hall, one found a dancing booth erected, and here three little Japanese children at intervals went through an interesting series of national dances. Opposite stood a large stall at which some very well executed water-colours, by Japanese artists, and *kakemono*, were on sale. In the vestibule were other stalls crowded with a bewildering stock of bead ornaments. Then passing into the Hall itself one encountered stalls at which were sold drawn-work on silk, *kandashi*, porcelains, plants, bronzes, cloisonné vases, lacquer cabinets, trays, etc. In the centre was pitched a stall at which fancy goods and artificial flowers could be obtained at remarkably cheap prices. At the stage end of the Hall was a fish-pond, and near to a shooting gallery; while on the stage itself refreshments were served. Here also was stationed a band that played many pleasing selections during the day. All the stall-holders were Japanese ladies speaking the English tongue, and their efforts met with the success they deserved. In the evening an amusing mock auction took place that evoked plenty of laughter and fun.

THE DEATH OF A HONGKONG SCHOOL-BOY.

THE inquiry into the death of the Diocesan School-boy Frank Butler (Tong Wing), was resumed at the Magistracy, Hongkong, on the 26th November. The Jury returned, a verdict of "Accidental death, the result of a fall." It will be remembered that in the course of the enquiry some questions were put to witnesses

regarding a statement made by the deceased reflecting on one of the Masters of the School, Mr. Ralphs, in reference to his using a ruler upon the lad. The Coroner in summing up said that with the exception of the statement made by the deceased there was absolutely no evidence whatever against Mr. Ralphs. Not one of the witnesses called had said that Mr. Ralphs struck Tong Wing or them on the head. Of course if the jury thought that Mr. Ralphs had inflicted the blow, with the pointer, then they must return a verdict of manslaughter against him, as the pointer was an unlawful and unauthorised weapon to use, the cane being the legal weapon in the school.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

NEXT Wednesday the Yokohama Choral Society give their first concert for the present season, and they have selected a very pretty cantata to begin with—Cowen's "Sleeping Beauty." The practices have been very well-attended, and everything promises a successful rendering of the work. We notice that the soloists will be Miss Webb, Miss Thomas, Mr. Fleet, and Mr. den Arend. The Philharmonic Society will assist in the concert, and it is anticipated that they will completely outshine their performance of last season, having thoroughly learned the pieces they now intend to give.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

NOTWITHSTANDING the heavy downpour of rain on Friday evening, the fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was fairly well attended. Mr. J. T. Griffin presided. The paper of the evening "Some Devonshire Worthies," by Mr. W. D. Cox, was an excellent composition and received much commendation. The musical programme included, pianoforte solo, "Polish Dance" (Scharwenka), Miss Thorpe; song, "My Happiness" (Bohm), Mr. J. G. Crane; Song, "Das Feusterin" (Helmund), Mrs. Herb; song, "Thursday" (Molloy), Mr. R. C. K. Johnson.

SLATE PENCILS.

WE read in the *Tokyo Shimbun* that a difficulty long experienced in Japanese schools, namely, the brittleness of slate pencils manufactured from home material, has been overcome by a graduate of the Industrial College. After much search, this Mr. Matsumura Kichijiro has succeeded in finding a stone that answers the desired purpose even better than the stone imported from France. Mr. Matsumura's factory is in Nagoya. He has obtained a patent for fifteen years.

THE "KOBE MARU."

THE Shanghai mail-liner *Kobe Maru*, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, left Yokohama on Tuesday under command of Captain Nunome, the old Commander, Capt. Ekstrand, having, we understand, to remain on shore, in consequence of the Tokyo Marine Court of Inquiry having suspended his certificate for two months for having grazed a rock near Shimonoseki some three months ago, while in command of one of the Company's vessels.

RULES FOR BICYCLISTS.

A KOBE contemporary calls attention to the following bicycle regulations issued by the Japanese authorities a few months ago:—

XXIV.—Persons who use the streets for riding on bicycles must conform to all the following rules:—

- (a) More than two bicycles are not allowed to go abreast; racing is not allowed.
- (b) Travelling at high speed after dark is forbidden.
- (c) Riding for pleasure after dark is prohibited.
- (d) Lights must be carried after dark.

POST OFFICE VAGARIUS.

UNDER this heading the *Higo News* writes:—A country Postman returned a letter to the Office and affixed his report: "Addressee hanged himself last night; present address unknown." A telegram was delayed 24 hours at the receiving office for disinfection, because the message originated in an infected area. We could not possibly find it in our hearts to condemn the Post-Office employees in either of these cases; the humours of the situations are too fine.

CABINET MINISTERS' OPINIONS ON LIBERTY OF SPEECH.

TWO Cabinet Ministers are reported to have expressed opinions with regard to the question now agitating the political world, namely, the removal of all restraints upon freedom of speech. The view attributed to Count KABAYAMA, by no less an authority than the *Fiji Shimpō*, is that nothing could have been more regrettable than the Government's recent necessity of suspending and suppressing publications in the face of its previously announced resolve to extend the freedom of speech and pen. One reason of the unfortunate occurrence was that the laws now in force provide no resource except Administrative interference under circumstances such as those that confronted the Ministry. None the less the Cabinet adheres to its original purpose of removing all restrictions upon personal rights. The *Fiji Shimpō* interprets this to mean that the Minister of Home Affairs would gladly be relieved of the responsibility of enforcing the present law, and would advocate the excision of the suspension and suppression clauses.

Mr. KIOURA, Minister of Justice, is the other official whose views are quoted, but in his case the authority—the *Yomiuri Shimbun*—is less trustworthy. He, too, is represented as being in favour of abolishing Administrative interference with the newspaper press, but he reserves three contingencies, namely, writings that constitute disrespect towards the Imperial Court; writings calculated to injure the country's foreign relations, and writings subversive of good morals.

It appears to be assumed by the Cabinet's opponents and apprehended by its supporters that the recent suspensions and suppressions of publications constitute a fatal obstacle to any parliamentary action on the part of the Government in favour of complete freedom of speech. We do not agree with such a contention. Certainly hostile politicians may urge, with considerable semblance of reason, that a Cabinet coming before the Diet red-handed from acts of suspension and suppression, can not, with any semblance of consistency, declare itself convinced that the necessity for Administrative orders of suspension and suppression may now be dismissed as beyond the range of practical eventualities. But that is a delusive method of stating the case. When the Government of a country finds itself confronted by circumstances that demand the exercise of some control, it must needs have recourse to the form of control provided by law, even though it entertains the conviction that some other kind of control would be far preferable. The question to be determined on the occasion of the recent journalistic commotion may have seemed, in the eyes of the Cabinet, to be this:—Will the public interests be better served by leaving the agitation wholly unchecked, or by checking it through the agency of a law which, however unsuited to the spirit of the time, is nevertheless the only law available for the purpose? We do not pretend to interpret the actual ideas of the Cabinet, but it appears to us that the Ministers of State may have argued in the sense here set down. If they did, they will not invite any accusation of inconsistency even though they introduce a Bill for depriving the Administration of power to suspend or suppress newspapers and other publications, provided that they simulta-

neously propose some more constitutional mechanism for press control. Their recent action has not, by any means, committed them to the principle of Administrative interference. It has committed them to nothing more than the principle that competence to interfere in some fashion or other must not be abrogated, since the need of interference is still a visible contingency. They are precluded by their own doings from asserting that the day has come when all checks upon the liberty of the press may be safely removed, but they are not precluded from advocating a system of checks less arbitrary and more tolerable than those now available. Can such a system be devised? It is a difficult question. At present Japanese Courts of Law have no competence to suspend or suppress a publication. Competence could, of course, be vested in them. But its exercise would not meet the theory entertained by advocates of Administrative interference, namely, that suspension is not a punitive so much as a preventive measure: in other words, that the public interests may often demand the suspension of a journal when its writings threaten to imperil, though they have not yet actually imperilled, good order. Recourse to the inevitably cumbersome machinery of the law would plainly be too slow to constitute a remedy from that point of view, unless it were provided—and in this the solution seems to lie—that so soon as the Public Prosecutor lodged notice of legal action against a journal in connection with a certain subject of discussion, all further reference to the subject by the same journal, pending the conclusion of the suit, should constitute the crime of contempt of Court. In that way the incriminated utterances would be interrupted until a legal tribunal either pronounced them harmless or interdicted them altogether. What the advocates of free speech ask for is that the Administration should be stripped of its power of arbitrary interference, and they would be perfectly content could they secure the privilege of responsibility to the Law Courts only. The Cabinet may effect that reform without convicting itself of the least inconsistency.

THE TREATY REVISION COM- MITTEE.

The Committee for investigating the steps that should be taken preparatory to the operation of the Revised Treaties, is divided into two sections, writes the *Asahi*. One of them consists of men selected from the ten Departments of State, and is entrusted with the duty of considering matters that fall within the province of the Departments. The other is composed of officials from the Cabinet and the Privy Council—Messrs. Hirata, Komuchi, Takahashi, Tsuzuki, and Doke—and has for its chief function the task of collating and unifying the results of the other section's researches. Whenever consultation between the two sections is necessary, an extraordinary meeting is called. Of course the duty of collating the work of the whole Committee will ultimately fall on the Cabinet itself.

The silk sold at Yokohama on Wednesday included:—37 boxes to Robison & Co., No. 3; 34 boxes to P. Dourille, No. 164; 15 boxes to Cornes & Co., No. 221; 38 boxes to Sieber Breunwald & Co., No. 9-A; 13 boxes to Siber & Co., No. 90-B; 121 boxes to the Kiito Kaisha.

CURRENT POLITICS.

The recent meetings of Marquises Ito and Yamagata and Count Inouye are attracting much attention among pro-Government parties. The first two statesmen met at Nara, while Marquis Ito and Count Inouye met at Onomichi. To add to the perturbation of the pro-Government Party, Count Kuroda, the President of the Privy Council, is reported to have secretly left the capital for Kyoto. It is believed that something will eventuate from these movements on the part of the *Genkun*; and even the *Yomiuri* admits the truth of such a probability. It writes on the strength of information obtained from unnamed quarters, that certain senior statesmen are contemplating making friendly advances towards the Premier, and that the recent meetings of the *Genkun* in the Kansai districts may be a preliminary to this step.

The *Fiji's* account of Messrs. Matsuoka's and Onoda's resignation is worth quoting, as it throws much light on the Household Department affair. When the Osaka periodical published its notorious article, Mr. Onoda showed it to Mr. Matsuoka, the Vice-Minister of the day, and to the Minister of the Household, not with a view to taking Administrative steps against the periodical—for he well understood the policy of the present Cabinet in the matter of the freedom of speech—but simply to call attention to the writing. The Household Minister sent a messenger to the Home Office and asked Mr. Onoda to take Administrative measures against the periodical, but the latter refused to comply with the request and said that the better scheme would be to order the withdrawal of the offending matter. Mr. Onoda was subsequently thanked for giving this advice. But when the article was reproduced in the *Nippon* and discussion arose on the subject, the Household Minister personally called on the Home Minister and urged that Administrative measures should be taken against the offending journals. This resulted in the repeated convoking of Cabinet Councils. In the meantime, the attitude of the Vice-Minister underwent a complete change, for whereas he had at first ignored the article, he now suddenly urged, when the *Nippon* reproduced it, that the Home Minister should take decided steps against the journals. Mr. Matsuoka is understood to have actually agitated to have this step carried out, hence his conduct was considered as amounting to a breach of official discipline, while Mr. Onoda laid himself open to the charge of having been remiss in the discharge of his duties; not having shown the last article to the Home Minister. Hence both were ordered to send in their resignations.

CURRENT NEWS.

The visit of the Empress to the *Chinyen* on the 2nd inst. was marked by a gracious act. Her Majesty ordered Admiral Aiura, the Commander of the Yokosuka Admiralty, and Admiral Tsuboi, the Commander-in-Chief of the Squadron, to release in her name, all marines then undergoing disciplinary punishment at Yokosuka. The Commanders of warships lying in the port were at once signalled to come to the flagship, and the command of Her Majesty was communicated to them by the two Admirals. Capt. Kurooka, of the *Naniwa*, conveyed the news to the Captain of the British flagship *Grafton*, at that time

in the Yokosuka Yard, and the latter declared that he would at once take steps to extend the benevolence of the Empress to such of his men as were under punishment. Thus it resulted Her Majesty's benevolent intention took effect in the case of both Japanese and foreign warships.

The National Unionists have decided to oppose the total abolition of the suspension and suppression provisions in the Press Law. They are of opinion that more or less amendment of the existing Law may be advisable, but they can not approve the total expunging of the much discussed clauses. This decision was reached at a meeting in the Central Office, held on the 7th inst.

Undoubtedly school troubles may be classed among the constitutional ills of Japan, for not a month passes without news of an outbreak of disturbance in this or that Upper or Normal School. Apart from the temporary closing of the college and high schools under the control of the Higashi Hongwan Temple—for those institutions are now shut up in consequence of the extraordinary agitation that recently broke out among the staff of the Temple itself—we now read of a commotion in the Nagoya High School and the Tochigi Normal School. The students of the former, who had been for some while chafing under the somewhat strict control to which they were subjected after a change of Director, struck work by way of protest, and when the faculty dismissed the ringleaders, the rest broke out into open rebellion against the Director and principal teachers, so that these latter were obliged to seek the protection of the Police, and to provide against bodily peril by other extraordinary means. The umbrage of the boys—more than seven hundred in all—has spread to their sureties, who declare themselves dissatisfied with the School Authorities on account of the latter's having dismissed several boys without any notice whatever to their sureties. Consequently, hundreds of citizens of Nagoya have taken up the cause of the school-boys, and are endeavouring to bring about the resignation of the director and of the principal teachers. The trouble at the Tochigi Normal School is ascribable to friction among the staff of the school, and consequent agitation among the students, several of whom have been dismissed.

The Tokyo Local Court, engaged in trying the suit in connection with the alleged suppression of four cardinal tenets of the Nichiren Sect from the general creed of the United Sects, gave judgment on the 5th inst. in favour of the defendants. The plaintiffs have given notice of appeal.

The Tokyo City Assembly has approved two motions, one with reference to harbour construction in Tokyo, and the other with reference to hastening street improvement. The former proposal was made by Mr. Sakuma Teiichi. He pointed out that a scheme of harbour improvement was originated in 1880, and four designs were prepared by four different experts. But subsequently the matter was left in abeyance, with the result that the capital of the Empire is likely to fall behind Osaka, Hakodate, and other less important places in the matter of harbour improvement. The proposer was of opinion that the sale of the land reclaimed in the process of constructing the harbour would repay the

cost of the work, and that the harbour dues would subsequently suffice for purposes of maintenance. Mr. Hasegawa Tai moved the second proposal. He urged that the improvement of the main streets must be effected as quickly as possible, and that work on the subsidiary streets must also be hastened. The two proposals were placed in the hands of a special committee.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has carried out its long cherished idea of placing a Japanese captain in command of its ocean steamers. Mr. Shimadzu Gosaburo had charge of the *Hiroshima Maru*, which cleared at Kobe on the 9th inst. for Bombay. This is the first time that the Company has appointed a Japanese captain to a steamer bound for foreign waters.

The Emperor seems to be a very prolific poet, for we are told by the *Chuo* that, during the last ten years, Baron Takasaki, who may be considered to occupy the position of Poet Laureate in Japan, has seen more than 25,000 couplets composed by the Sovereign. His Majesty has penned 4,200 couplets in the course of this year.

The idea of appointing Vice-Ministers who shall act as Government Delegates in the Diet, and move with the Cabinet, has been revived in another guise. The original proposal failed to obtain the approval of a majority of the Administrative Reform Committee, and it has now taken the form of a scheme for appointing Chief Councillors of Departments. Count Okuma, the President of the Committee, explained that the functions of a Chief Councillor would be to draft Government measures, to control subordinate Councillors, and to act as Government Delegates while the Diet is in session. The measure has been entrusted to a Committee of six.

COUNT OKUMA'S SPEECH AT THE MEETING OF THE ORIENTAL SOCIETY.

Count Okuma's speech at the recent meeting of the Oriental Society has evidently attracted considerable attention, and as the vernacular newspapers' reports have been either unsatisfactorily rendered or greatly abbreviated in process of translation for the foreign local journals, we hope soon to lay before our readers a full and accurate re-production. The *Kokumin Shimbum* says that, on the 3rd instant, when Count Okuma held his usual weekly diplomatic reception, several questions were propounded to him by the Foreign Representatives as to the exact meaning of the terms used in the speech. Only one of these perplexing examples is given by the *Kokumin*, namely, the word *hasha* as distinguished from *osha*. Both words are strange to us. The term *hasai* is not uncommonly used, however, with reference to the military administration of the Shogunate, and *osei* with reference to the Imperial administration that replaced the former. By that analogy the sense of *hasha* becomes apparent, namely, military government in contradistinction to *osha*, monarchical government—though the latter term seems to have been intended by Count Okuma to include the significance of popular government. This is an instance of the great difficulties with which foreign translators often have to contend when confronted by words that have their origin in conditions for which no exact

modern analogies suggest themselves, though they are employed by Japanese writers and speakers to convey familiar ideas.

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR TO H.I.H. PRINCE FUSHIMI.

The Emperor to-day visits His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi, whose residence is at No. 4, Kioicho, Kojimachi, Tokyo. His Majesty leaves the Palace at 1.30 p.m., and after a short rest at his host's house, will view a performance of *No kyogen*, and then hear a lecture (*Kôdan*) by Momogawa Iyoen. After dinner, the hour of which is not mentioned, His Majesty will return to the Palace. On the following day the Empress will visit the Prince, the programme of entertainments being the same as on the 8th, except that Japanese music will be substituted for the *No kyogen*. His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi is a Major-General and commands the Fourth Brigade.

BRICK BUILDINGS IN TOKYO.

The two houses that were burned in Ginza, Tokyo, on the night of the 8th instant, offer a very plain object lesson. Nothing was demolished except the wood-work. The shells stand intact, and already carpenters are engaged re-roofing and re-fitting. Probably in a week or ten days the houses will be as serviceable as ever. The record would have been very different in the case of Japanese buildings: nothing would now remain except some charred fragments of wood and heaps of broken tiles. It is twenty-four years since Ginza was built and not half-a-dozen of its houses have been destroyed by fire in all that time, whereas every street in its vicinity has been levelled with the ground, some more than once. The loss, if reduced to money, would amount to a huge figure. Tokyo can never become a rich city until it is protected against perpetual devastation.

THE ST. HILDA'S BAZAAR.

The Bazaar at the Shorei-Kai, Tokyo, in aid of the St. Hilda Mission's Free Dispensaries and District Nursing, proved pecuniarily successful, the net takings being over seven hundred *yen*. It was a well organized affair, the stalls being tastefully arranged, and the articles offered for sale, not merely attractive but also useful, so that many provident visitors carried away a store of pretty Christmas presents. A little more space would have been advantageous, but, after all, any defect on that score was very slightly felt. The holders of stalls were: (1) Baroness Sannomiya and Miss Hayes; (2) Mrs. Squire and the Misses Squire; (3) Mrs. Bickersteth and Mrs. Gubbins; (4) Mrs. F. S. James; Mrs. W. B. Walter, Mrs. J. Fraser, Mrs. Dunlop, Miss Nelson, and Miss Fraser; (5) Mrs. Brinkley, Mrs. Conder, and Mrs. Duer; (6) the children's stall, Miss Brinkley, Miss Conder, and Miss Duer; (7) the tea stall, Mrs. Sonoda, Miss Mair, Miss Dun, Miss Howe, Miss Münster, Miss Gibson, Miss Hunt, and Miss Nishikawa; (8) flowers, Miss Dening. It will be observed that the ladies presiding at No. 4 stall were from Yokohama. Their kind co-operation contributed materially to the success of the Bazaar.

BREAKING CUSTOMS SEALS.

On the 7th inst., the mate of the British ship *Sumbawa*, was arraigned in H.B.M.'s Consular Court at Yokohama, on a charge of violating the Trade Regulations of the port by breaking Customs seals. The facts were simple. At 6 a.m. on the 28th November, the mate set men to open the hatches which had been sealed on the previous evening by a tide-waiter. Before ordering this operation to be commenced, the mate did not take the trouble either to examine the seals, for the purpose of seeing whether they had been already broken by the Customs officials, or to inquire whether any official had come on board to break them, though information on that point must have easily been procurable from the watchman. He simply assumed that the seals had been broken. It does not appear that he had any intention whatever of violating the Regulations, for when he discovered, by the evidence of a lock, that the officials had not yet removed the closure from the hatches, he at once knocked off work. By that time, however, two of the seals had been broken. A few minutes later, a tide-waiter arrived to break the seals. Finding two of them broken, he addressed himself to the mate for an explanation, whereupon the latter endeavoured to elude responsibility by a falsehood. He said, according to the tide-waiter's evidence, that the seals had been broken by the wind; according to his own evidence, that they might have been broken by the wind. There is no moral difference: both assertions were deliberate falsehoods. Asked to reduce his statement to writing, the mate abandoned his untruth and related the facts. Now there cannot be the least doubt that had he, in the first instance, offered a frank explanation to the tide-waiter, and expressed regret for an act which, if not supplemented by a lie, would have amounted merely to carelessness, the matter would have rested there. But, under the circumstances, the Customs Authorities deemed it expedient to prosecute him—a course that we cannot but endorse—and he was fined the sum prescribed by the Regulations, \$60. Thus far the matter is scarcely worthy of notice, but the defence set up by the mate and a statement attributed by the reporters to H.B.M.'s Consul, imply a reading of the Regulations that is to us unintelligible. The mate complained that the Customs officials go on board ships to break the seals "sometimes before two o'clock in the morning and always before five," and complained that by doing so they violate the Regulations, which he quoted to the effect that such visits should be made "between sunrise and sunset." H.B.M.'s Consul endorsed this complaint, and asserted that the officials "certainly should not come at that time in the morning." Now the Regulations do not say "between sunrise and sunset;" they say "between sunset and sunrise." There is a vital difference. The Regulations provide that the operation of affixing the seals and presumably that of removing them must take place while the sun is not above the horizon: that is to say, during the night. Obviously the intention is that no obstacle shall be offered to the handling of cargo during daylight; in other words, during working hours. It would seem that the Custom House officials, on their side, knowing that the rapid discharge of cargo is generally an object, endeavour to facili-

itate matters by going on board to remove the seals from the hatchways at an hour so early that the taking out of the cargo may be commenced whenever the crew are ready to work. In Summer that means visiting some of the ships at two or three o'clock in the morning, and all of them before half-past four. If the officials of the Custom House take that trouble, they deserve thanks, instead of being accused of violating the Regulations. Evidently the mate of the *Sumbawa* spoke under a misapprehension, but we are unable to understand why H.B.M.'s Consul should have condemned the tide-waiters for the timeliness of their procedure, since he had the Regulations before him, and knew, as was subsequently shown, that the words of the Article are, not "between sunrise and sunset," but "between sunset and sunrise." As a matter of fact, the mate of the *Sumbawa* violated the Regulations not only by breaking the seals, but also by commencing to discharge cargo before sunrise. It is laid down that "no goods shall be unladen from any ship between sunset and sunrise, except by special permission of the Custom-house Authorities," and as the sun does not rise until past six o'clock at this time of year, to open the hatches and take out cargo at six is evidently illegal. What we infer from the mate's conduct is, not that any ground exists for complaining of the action of the Custom-house folks, but rather that officers of merchant vessels, being accustomed to encounter no obstacles whatever, take it for granted that they can begin to handle cargo at any convenient hour. In short, the mate assumed, as a matter of course, that the hatchways had been unsealed, and did not take the trouble to verify his assumption. Had he himself complied with the Regulations, waited for the sun to rise before handling the cargo, and then found the hatches still sealed, he would have been ready enough, we suspect, to complain of the tardiness of the Customs officials. In short, the defence set up as to the tide-waiters' breaking seals in the small hours of the morning was entirely irrelevant, and instead of endorsing it, the British Consul, we venture to think, should have explained their error to the mate and the master. If, in the face of what has occurred, the tide-waiters should receive instructions to insist henceforth upon the presence of an officer when they remove the seals in any ship, an irksome addition would be made to the duties of men already worked quite hard enough, and no really useful purpose could be served, for it is evidently quite sufficient that the man on watch when tide-waiters visit a ship, should have cognisance of the breaking of the seals, and should duly report the fact to the mate at an hour convenient to the latter.

ECONOMIC NEWS.

On the 3rd inst., Mr. Tanaka Fujita, a manager and expert of the Tokiwa Spinning Company, which was established by Osaka capitalists with the view of carrying on spinning industry in Shanghai, presented a report, showing the state of affairs in the latter place and the progress of the Company's undertaking. He stated that as the site for the Company's mill enjoys great facilities of transport, five mills are already in operation in the vicinity, their spindles aggregating about 200,000. Besides these, five other mills have either

been constructed or are in course of construction, two, of 40,000 spindles each, being English; one, of 30,000 spindles, American; and one, also of 30,000 spindles, German. Machinery is about to be erected in all these buildings. A Chinese mill of 15,000 spindles is also in process of construction. The mills in Shanghai turn out yarns of 14 and 16 counts, and also shirtings, their products being, for the most part, sold in neighbouring markets, though a portion is exported to Tientsin and Newchwang. In short, the prospects of the spinning industry in Shanghai are very bright. The preparation of the site for the Company's mill was commenced last January, but, owing to the nature of the ground, the work proved tedious, and it was not until September that the erection of the buildings commenced. Building materials being tolerably accessible, and wages not particularly high, the mill will probably be ready for work by June next. At first, it was proposed to build a factory with 75,000 spindles, but subsequently the plan was reduced to 25,000 spindles, with the intention of gradual additions, until the originally contemplated dimensions were reached. The mill is to manufacture yarns of 14 and 16 counts, and also shirtings. As to the question of taxation, the Chinese Authorities are said to have decided on an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. The Company has 15 Chinese artisans serving as apprentices in its spinning mills in Osaka, and when the Shanghai mill is opened, these will be appointed master-spinners, and will give instruction to others engaged subsequently. The fifteen Chinese will complete their training by June next.

It does not seem positively certain whether the mill will be opened for work, the prospective imposition of a ten per cent. tax constituting a deterrent feature. The projectors think that if a tax of 10 per cent. be really levied, there will be much difficulty in competing with goods imported from abroad. On the other hand, they are naturally reluctant to abandon the enterprise, after having spent so much money in buying and preparing ground, and after having concluded a contract for the purchase of building materials. They have decided that the manager, who lately returned from Shanghai, shall proceed to Tokyo for the purpose of ascertaining the views that the Authorities entertain on the subject. Another general meeting will be held on the 10th inst. to discuss what steps the Company should take at the juncture.

The Nippon Weaving Company, reference to whose financial difficulties has been made several times in these columns, is resolved to continue its business on a new footing. On the 4th inst., 146 shareholders of the Company met at the Nihonbashi Club, to hear the report of the Adjusting Committee. The Committee stated that against assets amounting to 750,000 yen, the Company's liabilities totalled 1,000,000 yen, an excess of 250,000 yen on the debit side, and that the following proposal had been drafted for the approval of the shareholders:—

- (1) That a loan not exceeding 250,000 yen be raised, should the continuation of the business be deemed advisable.
- (2) That the assets, trade-marks, good-will, and liabilities be transferred to the projectors of the new Japan Joint Stock Weaving Company, at 300,000 yen.
- (3) That a share of the existing Company be exchangeable for a thirty-yen share of the new Company.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, a temporary adviser of the Company, explained that out of the sum of 250,000 yen to be raised by loan, 150,000 yen will be paid to the Yasuda Bank, and that the remaining 100,000 yen will be available for the current expenses of the new Company. This loan of 250,000 yen will be redeemed by cutting down the face value of the shares of the Company from 50 yen to 30 yen, each share thus showing a loss of 20 yen. A shareholder moved that as the Directors and the Auditor were responsible for the loss incurred by the Company they must be required to make it good, but the proposal was overruled by a large majority. The draft submitted by the Adjusting Committee having been adopted by the shareholders, Mr. Watanabe Koki, who occupied the chair, appointed the following gentlemen as Directors and Auditors of the new Company:—

Directors:—Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Omura Hikotaro, Abe Kosuke.

Auditors:—Messrs. Kikuchi Jyoshiro, Ishizaki Masao, Nanjyo Shinrokuro.

The *Oriental Economist* publishes an interesting table showing the rise in the market prices of commodities during the five months ended October last. The figures are obtained by taking the ruling prices in January, 1894, as the standard (i.e. 100):—

	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Rice	118	122	122	131	131
Barley	101	94	107	112	118
Table salt.....	180	196	217	237	278
Soy.....	100	86	110	110	111
Sugar	90	94	92	92	94
Dried Bonito	163	—	157	167	167
Kerosine	119	119	115	117	123
Coal	105	107	105	106	110
Copper	123	121	123	123	123
Iron	100	98	102	117	117
Ginned Cotton	116	115	120	121	124
Cotton Yarn	107	108	109	111	110
Shirtings	105	104	104	104	105
Charcoal	157	157	157	163	171
Fuel	out of stock.	out of stock.	out of stock.	out of stock.	out of stock.
Averages	120	117	124	129	134

Table salt shows the highest rise, the average quotation in the month of October being 278, as against 100 in January, 1894. On the other hand, sugar has fallen considerably, namely, from 6 to 10 per cent. Considering the period from January, 1894, to the end of last year, it appears that the market reached its highest point in December, 1895, the average quotation for all the above staples standing at 122. In January of this year the average figure fell to 117, but rose to 124 in August and to 134 in October.

A steady appreciation of the market prices of commodities must naturally be followed by a rise in the rates of wages. Concerning that point, some idea may be gathered from the following table, in which the figures for 1894 are taken from the 11th Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and those for May 1895 and 1896 from the *Tokyo Asahi*:—

	1894.	May 1895.	May 1896.
Carpenter	50.0	55.0	58.0
Stone Masons.....	65.0	68.0	72.0
Tobacco Cutters.....	30.0	30.0	33.0
Smiths	40.0	48.0	55.0
Printers	35.0	55.0	55.0
Ship Carpenters.....	55.0	54.0	60.0
Cotton-ginners	25.0	22.5	25.0

On the whole, the rise of wages is seen to have been less than the appreciation of commodities, which is in accord with the experience of other countries.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The President of the House of Representatives having been raised to the peerage under the title of Baron Kusumoto, the question of his successor is beginning to be anxiously talked of, now that the opening of the Diet's Session is so close. In the early days of the Diet, there was a tendency to regard the balloting for the President of the Lower House as a test of party strength, each political party putting forward a candidate, and marshalling all its forces to compass his election. But a departure from that groove was made at the last election. The Liberals (*Jiyu-to*) and their supporters, having a clear majority in the House, could easily have secured the presidency for their candidate, had they been so minded. But considerations, as to the nature of which we have no knowledge, induced them to hold their hand, and Mr. Kusumoto, their opponents' candidate, came off victorious. No one, that is to say, no outsider, seems to be certain whether the Liberals will show similar abstention in connection with the election of Baron Kusumoto's successor. We read in the vernacular press, however, that they intend to put forward Mr. Kono Hironaka, and if that be true, we may take it for granted that no effort will be spared to secure his election, for Mr. Kono is much too great a man in political circles to be lightly treated. The *Shimpo-to*'s candidates are said to be Mr. Shimada Saburo, now Vice-President, and parliamentary leader of the Party, Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo, and Mr. Ohigashi Gitetsu. The National Unionists are credited with the intention of nominating Mr. Sassa Tomofusa. Of course, to put forward three candidates is an imprudent division of strength on the part of the *Shimpo-to*. But doubtless the object is to test the sentiments of the other parties. The necessary plurality of votes (one half of the whole House) has never hitherto been obtained at the first ballot, but the temper of the House, can generally be observed, and at the second ballot readjustments can be made so as to secure the desired election.

RAILWAYS IN JAPAN.

So many statements are published by vernacular newspapers from time to time about the total number of railway companies in Japan and their capital, that a very confused notion probably emerges from their perusal. The clearest and most readily grasped account we have yet seen is given by the *Tokyo Shimbu*. We read there that the aggregate mileage of the lines, State and private, already built and in operation, is something over two thousand; that the length of the lines now in process of construction by the Government is 700 miles, approximately, and that the length of those for which provisional charters have been granted to private companies is over 2,500 miles. Assuming the cost of construction to be fifty thousand yen per mile, the capital embarked in these new lines is 160 million yen. Whence does it come? The Japanese people certainly manage to turn over the few hundred millions of yen in their possession so often that the operation becomes bewildering.

COUNT OKUMA'S SPEECH AT THE ORIENTAL ASSOCIATION.

The following is an accurate translation of the speech delivered by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs at the recent meeting of the Oriental Association:—

Your Excellency and Gentlemen—I am here this evening as the guest of the Oriental Association. His Excellency, the President of the Association, has just expressed a desire to hear my views respecting the foreign relations of the Empire, since I am in charge of the Foreign Office, and he spoke in undeservedly high terms of my experience in that branch of the public service. In fact, when Mr. Inagaki Manjiro, who has laboured incessantly to promote the interests of the Oriental Association, called on me the other day and casually suggested that I should make a speech this evening, I did not pay much heed to his remark, and I was therefore extremely surprised to learn that the invitations issued by you contained an intimation that I would make a speech on this occasion. Such was not really my intention. I thought it would only be necessary for me to make a few remarks at the table during dinner. Now that it is to be an address, I confess I am very much perplexed. As His Excellency, the President, has told us that the Oriental Association attaches the greatest importance to diplomatic affairs, I am inclined to believe that the position in which I have been unwittingly placed was a piece of diplomacy on the part of Mr. Inagaki Manjiro. But in the presence of your great hospitality and His Excellency, the President's wish, I cannot well refuse the invitation to address you, and though it is difficult for me, being without eloquence and a rustic, to dilate on diplomatic matters, I cannot but accede to what I believe to be your special wish.

His Excellency the President referred just now to diplomatic secrets. It is true such things do exist, but they are not numerous. Before speaking of our foreign relations at the present time, I propose to touch on the intimate connection foreign intercourse has had with the reform and progress in the national life of Japan.

Our country, as you are all aware, enjoyed for about 250 years a peace unparalleled in the history of the world. I do not know of any other State that for two centuries and a half has not appealed to the arbitrament of the sword. Ours was such a peace as the highly imaginative pen of the Chinese would have to confess was not equalled even in the reigns of Yao and Shun. Setting aside the tribulations of the people, there was no appeal to arms. It was indeed an unique country where there was no war at home or with any foreign power. But what was the consequent state of the country? It remained in a most piteous condition, and the nation, being stationary, had fallen into extraordinary decay. At this time foreign intercourse suddenly took its rise. There had certainly been premonitions. In the Bunkwa and Bunsei periods there were indications which, however, the nation, being still asleep, failed to apprehend. In 1854 and 1855, that is during the Kayei and Ansei eras, Perry arrived at Uraga, with an American Squadron. The nation was greatly amazed, and its patriotism was aroused to an exalted pitch. This then was the beginning of

our relations with the outside world. Because of foreign intercourse, the nation for the first time was induced to take account of the state of the country, but the examination was not reassuring, for the condition of the Empire was deplorable. The relation between foreign intercourse and domestic concerns, the influence of foreign intercourse upon national reform and progress, and the changes wrought for the first time by foreign intercourse, among the lords of the three hundred clans, who under the despotic rule of the Feudal Government presented themselves in turn for service at Yedo, were questions that dismayed the Feudal Government. It was paralyzed by the occurrence of an event that was without precedent since the days of Iyeyasu, and for the first time it realized that it must deal with this new factor. In its extremity the Bakufu bethought itself of the Sovereign who stood above its head, and it sought temporary release from its difficulties in the existence of the Emperor. Then the light of the sacred Imperial line of Japan, which had, since the Kamakura régime, been withdrawn from sight, began to brighten. Then arose the cry of loyalty to the Imperial Throne. This cry had indeed long before come into existence. Its hidden currents had already influenced society, as our senior, Count Soyeshima, and others are all aware. Even in the Bunkwa and Bunsei periods it was known, but it was only the impulse of foreign intercourse that caused this shibboleth to develop a social reform movement. Simultaneously the cry for the expulsion of barbarians arose. But as the agitation respecting the Imperial cause and the demand for the expulsion of barbarians were ineffectual, it was proposed to amalgamate the Kuge and military classes, and that proposal in turn gave rise to a demand for the abolition of the feudal régime. And what was actually taking place in the mean time? As the inutility of the old swords and bows, when face-to-face with foreign powers, was recognized, a reform on an extensive scale in the matter of military weapons was inaugurated before the Restoration, and everywhere swords and bows were being replaced by firearms, while rifle companies were at the same time organized. Again, with a view to the construction of steamships and men-of-war, the Feudal Government established the arsenal at Yokosuka, now one of the most important naval stations and dockyards in Japan, and then began the manufacture of ammunition. The army and navy were, imperfectly it is true, reorganized on European models. These various changes were nothing more than consequences of the national attitude towards foreign powers. Then also was aroused the spirit of national patriotism. Patriotism remains quiescent so long as the State is in repose. Japanese patriotism was called into activity at the time of the Mongol invasion, but with the disappearance of the inciting cause it again became dormant. Immediately, however, upon the establishment of foreign intercourse, patriotism once more became a vital force, and as the final result of devotion to the country, Prince Tokugawa Keiki, the late Shogun, whose family had exercised supreme power for two hundred and fifty years, surrendered the sovereignty to the Imperial Court, while, at the instance of a few persons, all the other territorial lords, influenced by the same sentiment—nationalism—returned their daimiates to His Majesty. It is a most astonishing

history, unparalleled in the world. In Europe, feudalism was destroyed only by the loss of innumerable lives and after a struggle lasting for centuries, but in Japan, the lords gave up, without bloodshed, and in consequence of an appeal to national patriotism, their territories which some of them had held as long as six or seven centuries. All this had its origin in foreign intercourse. From consideration of the nation's external relations, the Japanese had been influenced by their unrivalled love of country. This loyalty became all absorbing, and was carried to such an astonishing pitch that the nation was ready to sacrifice for the State personal interests, power, and property. All this was, as I have said, the result of foreign intercourse. What happened immediately upon the downfall of the Feudal Government and the abolition of feudalism? Upon a calm survey of the world, it was found that foreigners were not in the least savages as had been supposed when the expulsion of barbarians was being advocated, but were far superior to Japanese in civilization, and that this country must, in order to compete in the world as an independent Power, be on a level with the advanced nations of the world. Indeed, in the Imperial Edict regarding the Restoration, it was declared that Japan must keep pace with the Powers and advance along all the lines of human progress. Consequently, reforms were commenced in every department, in educational institutions, culture, commerce, industry and agriculture. About the same time the compilation of the civil law was undertaken. Again, as Japan was still in her infancy in arts and sciences, European arts and sciences had to be introduced, and therefore, the University was established; hospitals were built to encourage medical studies, and other sciences were fostered. But this was not all. As men of learning were in demand, students were sent abroad in large numbers; at one time thousands were thus despatched to foreign countries. Still this was not sufficient. It was thought necessary to secure the services of foreigners and thousands were thus employed. All of these activities owed their inspiration to foreign intercourse. The object was to put Japan on a level with the most advanced foreign countries in respect of arts, and science, and knowledge, and wealth, and power. At first bigoted views prevailed, and it was supposed that foreigners came to Japan as spies, and consequently that they should be kept at arm's length; but it was discovered that they were not barbarians, and then, spurred on by the laudable desire to be on a level with Western States, various laws were compiled, telegraphs, posts, railways, and lighthouses on the coasts were established, and arsenals were erected. Now I count Japan the most fortunate country in the world. Possessing myself but little learning, and not being well acquainted with the world's history, I do not know for certain if there is another country so highly favoured and so successful in accomplishing and surmounting difficulties, but my researches have not enabled me to discover that happy country. We have already in operation a representative system, that is, a constitutional government, which the world had pronounced to be impracticable in the Orient. Formerly convictions were entertained and freely expressed that Japan's civilization was merely superficial, and it was questioned whether she had really made any

progress. It was, moreover, doubted whether the Japanese forces, although skilful on parade, at reviews, and field manoeuvres, would be effective when actually confronted by an enemy. Under such circumstances, then, whether fortunately or unfortunately I cannot pretend to say, the unhappy war between Japan and China broke out. Japan had no wish to wage war merely from love of fighting; neither, I am sure, had His Imperial Majesty any such desire. From unavoidable causes, then, an irreconcilable antagonism of intentions between China and Japan led to the deplorable conflict, and it was of such great importance that, for the first time, the attention of the world was riveted on all the movements of the Japanese forces. In connection with this affair, Europeans made grave mistakes in their estimates of Japan. They thought that a poor country like Japan could not mobilise great forces and continue the struggle for more than a year. But such was the loyalty and devotion of the people that we were determined to carry on the war at the cost not only of lives but also of the wealth of the nation. Undoubtedly, Japan is a comparatively poor country, but the abounding patriotism of her subjects, in spite of her poverty, is unique. Foreigners were, therefore, astonished at the love of country shown by the people, and at the vast sums of money placed at the disposition of the Government, which permitted the prosecution of the war to a successful conclusion, without having recourse to foreign capital. That war also taught them that besides completing many reforms and undertakings, Japan had really advanced and still was advancing in civilization, and that this civilization is deep-seated and enduring. In some quarters there are grave apprehensions, owing to exaggerated reports regarding Japan's rapid industrial and commercial development, that Japanese commerce is to dominate Asia and that it will eventually attack the markets of Europe. But Japan has not yet progressed to that extent. It would be most satisfactory if she had, but I regret to say that she has not. Japan's manufactures and commerce have still a long and uphill fight before them. We could not even dream of influencing European markets, and it will indeed be long before we can fully control the markets of Asia. But the indomitable courage of the Japanese, once applied, never ceases. It has been said that the Japanese are impetuous and that, although energetic, they are lacking in perseverance. Individually there may be such cases, but when once in contact with a national movement, that is to say, with a movement quickened by foreign intercourse, their energy is as constant as the revolution of the planets around the sun. Nationalistic movements in Japan therefore possess the quality of never-ceasing progression. There may be individuals who are impulsive and easily diverted; taken collectively, however, they are constant and true to their aspirations. But the influence of foreign intercourse upon movements affecting the entire body politic, cannot be denied. How would it have been with us without the stimulus of foreign intercourse? Turn for an answer, to the history of China or of Europe. Indeed European civilization was not the creation of a day. It had its origin in India, Babylon, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. The civilization and wealth and power of Europe are not the growth of

a night, but that civilization has developed and advanced amid the vast rivalries and conflicting ambitions of competing Powers. China had, also, developed to a surprising degree during the "Age of the Wars of Shunju," and her progress in civilization was almost unrivalled in the history of the world, but, for her, the last two thousand years have been a period of retrogression, while the rivalry among the European Powers is indeed a matter of surprise. Compared with China or Europe, Japan has, I must confess with great regret, but little to show.

Though it is natural for men to be proud of their own country, we have unhappily nothing to boast of. I do not know the reason, but it is a fact that although the University of Japan is anxious to occupy a high place before the world, nevertheless the world declines to recognize a graduate of the Japanese University as a learned man. He must first study further in the universities of Berlin, or London, or Paris for not less than three years. Thus it is proved by facts that our University stands on a lower level than those of Europe. Administrative legislation, diplomacy, and all other kindred activities are based on science. Science rules the universe and is the parent of all things. The basis of morality, religion, and all other social institutions is science. Compare for instance our common education—that taught in the middle and higher schools and in our University—with that of Europe. Reluctant as we are to confess our inferiority, we cannot conceal the unwelcome fact. We must therefore endeavour to produce men of great learning, men who will be able to compete with those of Europe; and also we must be enterprising enough to become great inventors conferring immeasurable benefits on mankind.

There is also a vast difference in the comparative degrees of wealth. Japan has only a fiftieth, it may be, one-hundredth, but I shall be so far partial as to put it at one-fiftieth—the wealth of England. In foreign trade she stands in a similar position. It will be extremely difficult to increase Japan's present wealth and trade fifty-fold. In area, Japan and England, stands to each other in the ratio of 6 to 4, and the same is true in regard to population. Japan is a large country having a very large population. In population, although not in measurement, it is larger than France. It is, of course, larger than Austria-Hungary or Italy. Consequently it is numbered among the great countries of the world. Italy is said to be a poor country for Europe, but Japan is still behind that country, for she has only one-tenth of Italy's wealth. Japan is therefore in a very inferior position as regards wealth.

Then in regard to social questions there may be some points in her manners, customs, or morality, in which Japan is far advanced, but a careful comparison will reveal many defects. The conduct of the Japanese who reside in Formosa, in Korea, or on the Pacific coasts is often reprehensible. I wonder if their conduct is not such as the lowest labouring classes of America would be ashamed of? One moralist cannot make a whole nation moral; but as forty million persons constitute the Japanese nation, they must one and all be moral. It is charged against Japan that her civilization is in a backward state and her morality at a low standard. While Japanese generally boast that they are in these respects ahead of the rest of the

world, it is possible an impartial observer might not arrive at the same conclusion. Steadily progressing as are Japan's industries, commerce, navigation, army, and navy, she cannot yet claim to be on a level in these respects with other nations. We should endeavour first to overtake those Powers and keep pace with them, and next to go ahead of them, for international emulation and rivalry conduce to national progress and achievement. From ancient times, nations without foreign enemies or danger from without, have fallen. There must be rivalry, for where strong competition exists, there will activity and power to thrive, and when we have reached the zenith of our aspirations, then we can look down on Europeans. Japan is not small, she will soon become great, and the result will be the outcome of foreign intercourse. She must persevere in the never-ceasing struggle. Men are endowed with wonderful energy, which, if misapplied, frequently gives rise to quarrels and disputes, but which, if, with increasing knowledge, it is rightly directed, will keep in accord with conscience. Excessive energy engenders pugnacity and love of strife, and a country so developed may attain temporary greatness, but the days of such a nation are surely numbered. The Mongols who invaded Europe were great, but now they need not be considered. The Turks, four centuries ago, caused Europe to tremble, when they unfurled their crescent standard in Constantinople, but they are to day a nation in its dotage. We do not envy such nations. We must endeavour to contribute our share towards the happiness of mankind. As learning is necessary for that, old men like me are useless. It is the advice I give young men of the coming generation. It is my duty to do so. Up to this time, Japan, stimulated by foreign intercourse, has undertaken and carried to a successful conclusion reforms in many directions. Japan, I think, is truly a favourite of fortune, I do not know why. I cannot clearly give the reason, but I can only offer the vague suggestion that Japan occupies in the world's economy a unique position. Since the foundation of the Empire her shores have remained inviolate to foreign foe and the State has continued for three thousand years since its origin. During that time the Imperial dynastic line has been unbroken. This is all due to guidance by the Spirits of the Imperial Ancestors for these three thousand years in the path of happiness. The explanation is vague, but at any rate the facts are undeniable. In our history we stand alone in the universe, and I think that the same progress and happiness that have been manifest in the past, will be continued in the future.

I would here strongly recommend to the Oriental Association the earnest study of diplomacy. The word "diplomacy" has been variously interpreted. Formerly it was taken to mean craft and stratagem, but this is an antiquated definition, which is now, like stocks and shares, at a discount, and which, it seems to me, is distinctly erroneous. We have among us aged men of experience, promising young diplomats, and learned scholars who are versed in these matters; but, in my opinion, diplomacy is justice. It may perhaps be well sometimes in diplomacy to be entrenched within fortifications, but I do not intend so to shield myself. I shall, on the contrary, be guided by a spirit of perfect frankness. Adhesion to this policy has, I think, been the secret

of Japan's success. Of course, there have been many slight failures in diplomacy and reforms, but the general result has always been satisfactory. Many observers attribute the success of civilization or reforms in Japan to this or that person,—to a single individual. That is a great mistake, for it is never in an individual's power to effect such reforms. They can be effected only by the general progressive spirit of the nation. Such, for instance, was the case with the Restoration. Count Soyemima once said that it is a gross error to attribute the Restoration to the efforts of one or two loyalists. Though it was unquestionably effected by the efforts of the loyalists, the speedy accomplishment of the necessary reforms was, I think, brought about by the help of the Sacred Spirits of the Imperial Ancestors of these three thousand years. Notwithstanding more or less failures and mistakes, success in general was obtained. I do not think there will be need of craft and stratagem in future any more than in the past. If our good fortune continues, we have no call for intrigue. Intrigue requires craft and stratagem; and if Japan were specially bent on territorial aggrandizement, or if, relying on her strength, she were anxious for war, intrigue might then be necessary. But I do not see the least necessity for it, nor has His Imperial Majesty the least inclination in that direction. The slightest expression of such an intent has not been detected from the beginning of the Meiji Era up to the present day, neither did the Imperial Edict declaring war against China contain such a suggestion. The war owed its origin entirely to His Majesty's benevolent wish to aid a weak and defenceless neighbour. Therefore, our diplomacy, in obedience to the Imperial Will, should be founded on justice; but in this we are not alone, for all other nations have justice as the basis of their international relations. Among the gentlemen here present there are many scholars versed in International Law, and for me to address them is like preaching to the wise; but International Law, it seems to me, is based on justice, and without justice it is useless. As peace gradually becomes more enduring in the world, International Law also will gain influence; and as justice is beginning in consequence to acquire wider sway, we must make justice the corner-stone of our diplomacy. The relations between Japan and the Treaty Powers are happily very friendly, and there is no country scheming against us or attempting to injure our interests or rights. That is very fortunate for Japan, and also for me in my official capacity. Thus our present foreign relations are very amicable and undisturbed.

My efforts at the present time will therefore be directed to the encouragement of commerce. It is my earnest desire to do the utmost to promote our foreign trade. How powerful is foreign trade! As trade grows prosperous in the world, so will the world's peace also become more assured. Trade relations are truly wonderful. Commerce almost disregards territorial boundaries. As henceforth the relations among the Powers will grow closer and peace become firmer, a war will inflict still more incalculable evils, and therefore even if a few great Powers should desire a war, they will be deterred by trade considerations. I do not think that if we always observe justice in our diplomatic and commercial relations, Japan's foreign policy will ever go wrong. But diplomacy

is not a monopoly of any single country. There are always other countries to be taken into account. If, however, those countries should injure Japan's prestige, rights, or interests, I need hardly affirm that the patriotism of the forty million Japanese would, as I have already said, burst out like a volcanic eruption. Fortunately, however, Japan has few enemies. Her geographical position has raised up against her but few foes, and that is one of her blessings.

I must thank the Oriental Association for its diligent study of diplomacy and also for its publication of useful reports on the subject, which is a matter of great satisfaction to me. I feel, therefore, especially closely connected with you, members of the Association. Diplomacy, however, is not a simple matter, but is very complex. It cannot be explained in an after dinner speech. I would suggest for study to the Oriental Association this diplomacy—diplomacy by which the national interests may be promoted and the peace and balance of power in the Orient may be maintained. There is, moreover, a nation possessing nearly a third of the population of the whole world whose present condition is indeed pitiable. To rescue that nation from its sufferings is a labour which Japan, in deference to sentiments of justice, should undertake. Such undertakings can only be carried out by the united power of the nation. I would therefore earnestly recommend to the Oriental Association, which enjoys great influence, that it should take upon itself to deliver from its distress that great but unfortunate nation in order to maintain the peace of the world, or speaking in a more limited sense, the peace of the Far East.—(Loud applause and cheers.)

THE "TOKYO SHIMBUN" IN COURT.

The trial of the editor and publisher of the *Tokyo Shimbun* took place on the 2nd inst. in the Tokyo Local Court, the accused being defended by Messrs. Isobe Shiro, Suzuki Jyubi, Yamada Taizo, Toshimitsu Tsurumatsu, and three others, all of them members of the Tokyo Bar. The charge was *Kwanri bufyoku* (bringing officials into contempt) and the object of the alleged contempt was, not Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, chief secretary of the Cabinet, as had been at first supposed, but the Cabinet *en masse*. Mr. Fujikawa, a Public Prosecutor of the Court, opened the prosecution. He said that, in its issue of Nov. 15th, the *Tokyo Shimbun* published a leading article headed "The three iniquities of the Matsukata Cabinet," containing the following passage:—"We have narrowly watched the doings of the Matsukata Cabinet since its organization and have discovered three offences, outraging the public sense of justice and reason. In the first place, it has regarded with indifference the inviolability of the Emperor, has suffered others to impair with impunity the dignity of the Court and to subject the Sovereign to gross disrespect, so that we are left to wonder wherein exist the sanctity and augustness of the Emperor. In the second place, the Matsukata Cabinet has allied itself with business men, thus disturbing the sphere of economy, and perverting the central monetary mechanism into a tool for serving its own interests. Lastly, it has won over members of Parliament by bribery, and has corrupted the Legislature of the Empire. The Matsukata Cabinet may be said, on the one hand,

to have trampled the Constitution under foot and impaired the August dignity of the Emperor, and on the other, to have undermined the laws of the land by leaguering itself with monied men. Those that are inclined to uphold the cause of justice must assault the Cabinet in ordered phalanx, while those that are subservient to it must be denounced as traitors to the public good and to the interests of humanity." "These passages," continued the Public Prosecutor, "are intended to throw contempt on Count Matsukata, the Premier, and the other Ministers of State whose functions are to render assistance and tender advice to the Emperor in affairs of State. The language employed constitutes ample proof of the offence."

The presiding Judge next put questions to the two defendants, who replied that they had written and published the article without the least intention of bringing the Matsukata Cabinet into contempt, but simply to criticize its public doings, because they perceived that facts justified the utterance of such criticisms, it being the duty of newspaper writers to comment on the merits or demerits of the Administration, and to state the opinions deduced by them from the results of actual observation.

Counsel for the defence then submitted six documents, which, they argued, substantiated the statements in the incriminated article. The documents were a copy of the census register of Count Matsukata's family, showing the matrimonial relations subsisting between the family and Baron Iwasaki and Mr. Matsumoto Jyutaro; a copy of the list of shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in which the names of Counts Matsukata and Okuma and Viscount Takashima appear as large holders of stock; a copy of the *Fortnightly Proceedings of the Liberal Party*, containing an article headed "the Matsukata Cabinet's Offences" (this article was epitomized in our Weekly Summary some weeks ago); No. 4 of the *Sekai-no-Nippon*, containing an article of import more or less similar to that in the *Proceedings of the Liberal Party*; a copy of the *Nippon*, re-producing the notorious articles that originally appeared in the *Twenty-sixth Century*; and, lastly, another copy of the *Sekai-no-Nippon*.

The defendants' barristers next demanded that the editor and the publisher of the *Twenty-sixth Century* be summoned, as also Count Matsukata, Viscount Takashima, Mr. Arai Shogo, M.P., Baron Iwasaki, Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, and a certain stock-jobber, Count Okuma's Steward, and Countess Okuma's elder brother. The attendance of the editor and publisher of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and of Mr. Takahashi Kenzo was for the purpose of inquiring whether the Osaka magazine was in receipt of pecuniary aid from Mr. Takahashi; whether it had been secretly instructed by Mr. Takahashi to publish the article about the Household Minister; and lastly, what relations existed between the *Twenty-sixth Century*, the *Nippon*, and Mr. Takahashi. As for the two Ministers and the member of Parliament, their presence was required for the purpose of determining whether or not members of Parliament had been bribed; Baron Iwasaki's evidence was needed to substantiate the fact that Count Matsukata had obstructed the raising of the last installment of the War Loan while the Ito Cabinet was in power; and the testimony of the stock-jobber, Count Okuma's Steward and Countess Okuma's brother would establish the fact that Counts Okuma and Matsukata

were in league with monied men and had disturbed the money market.

The Public Prosecutor opposed the application of Counsel for the defence. He contended that no necessity existed to summon the above personages, since it was manifest that the criticisms penned by the defendants against the Cabinet were based not on facts but merely on conjectures.

The Presiding Judge then left the Court with his two Associates to consider the question of summoning witnesses, and on resuming their seats on the bench, the Judges rejected the application of the barristers, on the ground that the Court saw no necessity for the production of such evidence.

The Public Prosecutor then addressed the Court. He said that had the suit been one for libel, and had the plea of justification been set up, it might have been necessary to inquire whether any basis of fact existed. But the offence of *Kwanri bufyoku* (bringing officials into contempt) was quite distinct from libel, and was constituted by the mere attempt to impair the dignity of Government officials in connection with the discharge of their official functions. The attempt might be by abusive language or gesture in the presence of the officials, or by public writing, and the offence was established by the mere act. The passages quoted from the defendants' writings were undoubtedly designed to publicly discredit the officials in question, and constituted a crime, punishable, according to the Penal Code, with major confinement for not less than a month or more than a year, together with a fine of from 5 to 50 yen.

Mr. Toshimitsu and his brother barristers traversed the arguments of the Public Prosecutor. The first named gentleman spoke at great length. He discussed the mission of a political newspaper; contended that the three points raised against the Matsukata Cabinet were based on facts and not on mere conjecture; declared that the defendants were compelled by the duty they owed to the public to write the incriminated article; denied that they entertained any malice towards the Cabinet Ministers, and was constrained to differ from the Public Prosecutor as to the necessity of inquiring into the actual facts on which the charges were based, for, though the establishment of facts might not entirely absolve the defendants, it might at any rate prove the absence of malice, and even though the absence of malice could not be demonstrated, a knowledge of the full truth must be useful in determining the gravity of the offence and the nature of the penalty. He further argued that the failure of the Cabinet to take prompt and efficient measures for the control of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the *Nippon*, which publications had contained articles amounting to gross disrespect towards the Court, might fairly be construed as an evidence of the Ministry's having trampled upon the Constitution by compounding a crime of *lese-majesty*, and shirking a responsibility that primarily rested on the Administration. A political paper must have a tolerably free hand to discuss such occurrences. Indeed, expressions of an extraordinary character were daily employed by the public press with reference to Ministers of State. For example, the term *Banshoku Daijin*, though grossly disrespectful towards the Ministers to whom it referred, was suffered to be constantly used by newspapers. He saw no reason

whatever why the incriminated article of the *Tokyo Shimbun*, which stated facts as they existed and appended only a brief criticism, should constitute the offence of contempt to Government officials. Passing to the second count, he spoke at length about the close relations alleged to exist between the Mitsubishi Company and Counts Okuma and Matsukata; about the matrimonial ties that bound Count Matsukata's family with certain millionaires; and about the fact that Count Matsukata, while out of power, had unfavourably criticized the financial policy and measures of the Cabinet of the day, tried to ingratiate himself with business men, and finally contrived to overthrow the last Cabinet.

Mr. Suzuki Jyubi, M.P., addressed the Court after his colleague. His argument, also, was protracted, but we find in his speech nothing particularly noteworthy, except, perhaps, the following statement:—In their issues on the Emperor's Birthday, several papers, including the *Tokyo Shimbun*, published a note that a certain personage had received from Count Okuma a sum of money, but as no contradiction of the statement subsequently appeared, the persons concerned must be held to have tacitly admitted the fact, and consequently, to charge Government officials with corruption was not an attempt to bring them into contempt but merely a statement of facts.

Mr. Isobe Shiro followed Mr. Suzuki. He argued that the charge brought against the defendants could not constitute the offence of *Kwanri-bufyoku*, inasmuch as the Cabinet was an artificial person, and being consequently without eyes, must be incapable of suffering insult from any act committed in its presence. The crime of *Kwanri-bufyoku* could not be perpetrated except against individuals. He was unable to understand why the charge that the Matsukata Cabinet had leagued itself with the monied classes could constitute the offence of *Kwanri-bufyoku*, for combination was necessary under certain circumstances and was not in itself culpable. Believing, as they did, that Count Matsukata possessed many friends among business men, the defendants wrote that the Count, by allying himself with capitalists, tried to increase his influence, and to make his monied friends serve his interests, just as politicians tried to employ newspapers as their own tools. Further, in connection with the Household Minister affair, the Ministry had dismissed the Vice-Minister and the Chief of the Peace Preservation Bureau, of the Home Office. If the matter really belonged to the sphere of the Cabinet's official functions, the Ministers ought to have resigned in a body. But they had simply dismissed two officials on the ground of neglecting their official duties. Hence the Cabinet's responsibility must be considered indirect, and presumably from that point of view no necessity for general resignation had been recognised. In other words, the question did not belong to the functions of the Cabinet, and it followed that the charges preferred in connection with the Household trouble, or any comments on those charges, could not constitute the offence of throwing contempt on the Cabinet.

Mr. Yamada Taizo, M.P., could not understand why, while violent language was almost daily employed by various newspapers, the Metropolitan Police had singled out the *Tokyo Shimbun* alone as an object for prosecution.

The Public Procurator spoke in rebuttal of the above arguments. He contended

that, so long as the printed passages bore the plain interpretation of contumely and malice, there was no necessity to inquire whether the writers really harboured malice and intended disrespect; and that so long as the passages were plainly calculated to throw contempt on Government officials in the discharge of their duties, the writers must be convicted of the crime of *Kwanri-bufyoku*, irrespective of whether their comments were borne out by facts or not. As to the allegation that the Cabinet was an artificial person and therefore could not suffer from contempt, it might be set aside as extravagant and ridiculous. Counsel for the defence had repeatedly referred to the disrespect shown by certain articles towards the Imperial Court, but he, the Public Procurator, could not recognise the existence of such offence. Counsel had simply stated their own opinion, or propounded the idea for the purpose of compassing a certain end, but it might be confidently asserted that any act amounting to want of respect towards the Imperial Court was absolutely out of the question in Japan.

The Presiding Judge declared the Court adjourned, and said that judgment would be given on the 7th inst.

On the 7th instant, judgment was delivered. The accused, namely, the editor and publisher, were pronounced guilty of the charge preferred against them, and were sentenced to two months' major confinement together with a fine of 5 yen. Notice of appeal was given.

We may notice here that the editor of the suppressed *Twenty-sixth Century*, whose appeal to the Court of Cassation from the judgment of the Osaka Court of Appeal, was rejected a few days ago, has been incarcerated in the Osaka prison.

PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS.

The *Shogyo Shimpō*, a journal usually well informed on all subjects connected with trade, avers that the officials of the Patents Bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, after long consultation, have decided to adopt the following course with respect to granting patents and registering trade marks or designs, in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Treaty with Germany:—(1) Patents will not be granted, even though applied for, in the case of any article that has already been imitated and used in Japan. (2) Even in the case of articles newly patented abroad, the patent will not be recognised in Japan if it has already been brought within public cognizance by the agency of newspapers or books. (3) After Japan has joined the union of States for the mutual protection of industrial rights, if an application made to the Government of one of the States does not elicit an application in response to the Japanese Government within seven months, Japanese manufacturers will be free to produce the article in question.

We have translated the third of the above resolutions as it stands. Presumably the meaning is that if a Japanese manufacturer applies, through the proper channel, for permission to manufacture an article patented abroad, and if the foreign patentee does not apply for the registration of his patent in Japan within seven months from the time of the Japanese application, then the patent will not be respected by Japanese manufacturers.

These statements are given on the authority of the *Shogyo Shimpō* only. Our contemporary adds that they have received the approval of Count Matsukata, the Premier; Count Okuma, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; and Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

JAPAN AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION OF 1900.

On the 5th instant the Council for Exhibitions was convened in special session at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The Minister of the Department addressed the Council. He explained that the object of convening it was to concert measures for the proper representation of Japan's industrial and artistic products at the Paris International Exhibition of 1900, in which this country had promised to participate. Japan had already taken part in many exhibitions in Western countries. At the Columbian Exposition in 1893, she had been enabled, owing to the progress of her industries, to make a fair show in competition with Occidental nations, and the reputation attained by her in the war with China made it more than ever incumbent that she should seek to develop her resources. Moreover, 1900 would be the year following that in which the Revised Treaties were to go into operation, with the almost certain result of placing the country's commercial relations with foreign states on a wider basis. No effort should then be spared to familiarize foreign nations with the true state of Japanese progress and civilization, and what better opportunity could offer than an international exposition held in Paris, the centre of refinement and civilization? In the matter of art products the object kept in view should be not merely to reproduce the beauties of traditional canons but also to show new and special excellence; and in the field of industrial productions, not only should the present needs of foreign consumers be consulted, but also the future tendency of their requirements should be carefully gauged. Such were the uses to which the Exposition might be made to serve, and he begged the Council to lend its best energies to the furtherance of these aims.

NEW PEERS.

The Matsukata Cabinet has marked its accession to power by advising His Majesty to grant patents of nobility to five gentlemen, the rank in each case being that of Baron. The fortunate recipients of the honour are Messrs. Shimadzu Jukiu, Iwakura Michitane, and Kuroda Minetaro, fourth sons Prince Shimadzu, Prince Iwakura, and Marquis Kuroda, respectively, who owe the distinction to the services of their fathers; Mr. Hosokawa Moriaki, younger brother of Marquis Hosokawa, who also is rewarded for the sake of his brother; and Major-General Sano Nobukatsu, a *shizoku* of Choshu, whose elevation is referred to his own merit.

The Minato-za, Ichome, Sumiyoshi-cho, Yokohama, has been sold for yen 325 to the Yokohama Yushitsu Kabutsu-bako Seisaku Kabushiki Kaisha (Yokohama Export-Cargo-Case-Making Joint-stock Company), which was given a license recently.

TREATIES AND OWNERSHIP OF
LAND BY FOREIGNERS.

THE *Hochi* and the *Nippon* invite attention to a so-called conflict between the Revised Treaties and the Laws relating to the ownership of land by foreigners, the articles of both papers being based on the opinions of anonymous authorities:—

The Revised Treaty with Germany beyond that with any other Power, distinctly invests foreigners with the right of lending money on land. But the practice of borrowing money from foreigners on the security of land is emphatically forbidden by a notification issued on April 14th, 1872. The Notification runs as follows:—"Japanese subjects are forbidden to sell their land to foreigners or to mortgage land or title-deeds for purposes of monetary transactions with foreigners." Therefore the law does not recognize the right of foreigners to advance money to Japanese on the hypothecation of land, and if the law can be set at naught by a Treaty concluded with any foreign Power, then the sovereignty of Japan must be regarded as extremely insecure. If, indeed, a law issued previously can be nullified by a Treaty subsequently concluded with any foreign country, and if a law that has been put into force with the consent of the Diet can be freely modified or totally invalidated in the same manner, even the Imperial Constitution can not be safe. We are thus brought face to face with the great question whether it is right and justifiable to conclude a Treaty that conflicts with the laws of the realm. At another point, also, the laws and the Revised Treaty come into collision, that is to say, with regard to perpetual lease of land. Though no express veto exists in the text, the Amended Civil Code does not recognize the right of perpetual lease, therefore any transaction of the kind must be declared illegal in Japan. But, according to the Revised Treaty, the right of perpetual lease in the settlements now existing is recognised, and the right is vested in foreigners. Is not that a distinct collision between the Code and the Treaty? Suppose that a foreigner concedes the rights of perpetual lease to a Japanese subject or to another foreigner, and suppose that the Civil Code steps in and rules that, perpetual lease being illegal, a limit of time must be definitely fixed, such interference would be disregarded in virtue of the provisions set forth in the Revised Treaty, and the Civil Code would be reduced to a dead letter. The difficulty might be avoided by modifying the provisions of the Code, but any such step would considerably impair the sovereignty of the country. In short, this is another question worthy of the serious considerations of publicists and lawyers.

The *Nippon* says that as the acquisition and enjoyment of the right of advancing money on immovable property, a right distinctly set forth in the Treaty between Japan and Germany, is calculated in practice to enable foreigners to become land-owners, a contingency that has an important bearing on Japanese interests, the Department of Finance is determined to conduct minute investigations into this point. The right of perpetual lease is a matter about which the Authorities are very much perplexed, and it is said that they are compiling special provisions to solve the problem. Another difficulty in connection with the exercise of the same right is predicted by the *Nippon*. A creditor has two modes of dealing with mortgaged property, namely, a compulsory sale by public auction, and compulsory control. When a debtor fails to discharge his obligation to a creditor, the latter can have the mortgaged property sold by auction; but should he see reason to apprehend that the sum accruing from a public sale would be insufficient to meet the liability, then he is entitled to have the property placed under his control, until he succeeds in finding a purchaser willing to pay a satisfactory price. Pending that event, he has the right to transfer the use of the property to a third party and to receive remuneration from him. Suppose that a Japanese subject tempted by a low rate of interest, borrowed money from a foreigner on the security of his land, and suppose that the debtor failed to discharge the debt, in that event the foreign creditor would get the land under his control and might lease it to a Japanese tenant. The only safeguard against such a contingency would be the establishment of mechanisms like Industrial and Agricultural Banks at various important places in the country, which would compete with foreign capitalists in making advances to land-owners and farmers. This contention is not endorsed by others. They hold that the Revised Treaty provides the right of leasing

or using land for dwelling purposes or for the prosecution of business, and that this restriction was agreed upon in deference to the already existing laws of Japan which forbid the owning of land by foreigners. Therefore, the possession of land by foreigners being solely for the purpose of dwelling, or for the prosecution of business, does not extend to fishing or farming, and therefore the placing of land under the control of foreign creditors for any agricultural purpose would be opposed to the spirit of this particular provision. The acquisition and enjoyment of the right of advancing money on immovable property is intended to facilitate the circulation of money between Japanese and foreigners.

In our opinion, the only claim the above comments possess to serious treatment is the fact that they are seriously advanced. Even though it were true that a treaty had been concluded conferring on foreigners privileges contrary to the laws of the realm, the sovereignty of the State would be in no wise impaired, since it is the SOVEREIGN that makes the treaty. But it is not true. Taking the points advanced by our Japanese contemporaries seriatim, we find it contended, in the first place, that a notification issued in 1872 with special reference to the then partially opened condition of Japan, must remain in force after the country is completely opened in 1899. That is manifestly extravagant. So long as foreigners were prohibited by treaty from renting, or otherwise occupying, land outside the limits of the Settlements, it was consistent and proper that the law should interdict all transactions calculated to place foreigners in possession of extra-settlement land. But when a new international arrangement is made, abolishing the Settlement limits and entitling foreigners to reside and trade wherever they please throughout the length and breadth of the realm, then the old law, also, must obviously be modified to meet the altered conditions. Yet even in claiming this we are overstating the case. For the Revised Treaties neither conflict with the spirit of the old law, nor involve any alteration of laws since enacted. What they provide is, simply, that certain privileges granted to Japanese subjects by the Civil Code of Japan shall be extended to the subjects for citizens of the Treaty Powers. If indeed, it could be shown that the privileges in question conflicted with laws for which the new Civil Code was not specifically substituted—that is to say, conflicted with laws remaining in force side by side with the Civil Code—then, possibly, some ground might exist for the arguments of our contemporaries. But the right of mortgage contemplated in the new Civil Code distinctly excludes the right of possession of the thing mortgaged. Thus the spirit of the Notification of 1872, quoted by the vernacular newspapers, is in no respect violated by permitting foreigners to acquire mortgages on land. The sole object of the Notification was to prevent foreign ownership of land, and a mortgagee, according to the Civil Code, acquires no right of ownership. His redress against the mortgagor is not at all of the kind described

by the *Nippon*. He can not get the land into his possession or under his control. A court of law determines the manner of dealing with the mortgaged property, whether by public sale, or by placing it in the hands of a receiver. Hence the *Nippon's* elaborate apprehensions as to the alienation of Japanese land by the agency of mortgages and cheap foreign money, and its suggestion that the only practical remedy is to establish banks which shall accommodate Japanese land-owners on easier terms than those granted by foreign capitalists, are absolutely meaningless. Indeed, neither of the journals from which we have quoted seems to have taken the ordinary precaution of studying the Revised Treaties and the Civil Code before commenting on them. With regard, finally, to perpetual leases of land within the Settlements, we would remind our Japanese contemporaries that these leases represent a privilege created by treaty thirty-eight years ago, and that, so long as the treaty stands, the privileges conferred by it can not be lessened or abolished by domestic legislation. If the *Hochi Shimbun* is solicitous lest a newly concluded treaty should conflict with existing laws, it should be equally solicitous lest a newly enacted law should conflict with an existing treaty.

THE JAPANESE CIVIL CODE AND
FOREIGN CIVIL LAW.

AN article on the above topic from the pen of Professor UME KENJIRO appears in the *Sekai-no-Nihon*. Dr. UME is well versed in the subject on which he writes, and as a member of the revising committee, his observations cannot but be of interest at a time when the character of the new civil code is so much discussed. Professor UME first treats of the sources from which the laws now constituting the Civil Code were derived. Speaking generally, the object of the compilers was to combine foreign law with Japanese traditional law and custom in as far as this is compatible. A careful examination was made of the laws of the following twelve countries, France, Austria, Holland, Italy, Portugal, Switzerland, Montenegro, Spain, Belgium, Germany, England, and America. The extent to which each of the different systems was utilised by the compilers of the Japanese revised code may be thus summarised:—

France.—Notwithstanding certain well known imperfections that characterise the French Code, the fact that it constitutes the basis of so many other codes led the compilers of the first Civil Code of Japan to make an extensive use of it, in fact to employ it as a standard, but the compilers of the revised Code, which has now become law, decided, on the ground of the defective arrangement of many parts of the French Code, to no longer use it as a standard to the exclusion of other Codes.

Austria.—Austrian Law is much simpler than the French or Prussian systems, but many of its provisions are imperfect or

unnecessary, regarded from the Japanese standpoint, and hence very little resort was had to this system in the compilation of our revised Code.

Holland, Italy, and Portugal.—The laws of these countries are all based on the French Code with slight modifications, and seem to contain nothing specially adapted to the needs of Japan.

Switzerland.—The case of Switzerland is different. Though in Switzerland each canton has its own laws, and unification has not taken place, the reputation of the Swiss as legislators is deservedly high and hence the revisers of the Code found in the Swiss systems some excellent models.

Montenegro.—The Montenegrin system of laws is founded on the German, but contains elements which were found useful for purposes of comparison.

Spain.—Spanish Law is founded on the French Code, and, though extremely minute, possesses a simplicity that proved of no small value in deciding on the course to be pursued in revising the Japanese Code.

Belgium.—The Belgian system is founded on the French, but contains many improvements on the French Code. In 1851 the laws of registration, mortgage, and the like were revised, and these laws have since furnished models to not a few countries. In 1885 was finished a proposed revision of the whole Belgic Civil Law, and a bill has been presented to the National Assembly, but has not passed. The revised code is of great length, but supplies many of the defects of the French Code.

Germany.—German Law has not yet been codified. For more than 20 years a Committee has been engaged on a draft of codified law, which was presented to the Diet at the beginning of this year and which is now about to pass the second reading. Though the new code is of great length, it differs from the French code in containing no superfluous matter, no useless repetition. The labour spent on it and the ingenuity displayed in providing for every conceivable situation are alike marvellous. Its form and general arrangement leave nothing to be desired, and Professor UME ventures to think that when this Code is promulgated experts will agree that nothing equal to it exists in the world.

England.—England is still without a code and has little written civil law that could be embodied in the Japanese Code. The study of English books on Law and the reports of trials, however, proved of some assistance to the Revising Committee, and in the system of Law administered in India they found a great deal that was most valuable.

America.—Like England, America not only has no national code, but has few written laws. In some States codes have been drawn up and some of these have taken the French Code or other European systems as models. What proved of most use to the revising Committee for purposes of reference were the Californian and New York Civil Codes, but since the laws which constitute these codes are of English origin they were for the most part only useful for comparison, and could not serve as models.

In the compilation of the Japanese new Civil Code the greatest use has been made both of pre-existing Japanese laws and of foreign codes, but it is absolutely incorrect to say that the new Civil Code is modelled on, or slavishly follows, any single code.

There are parts of it which are borrowed from the German Civil Law system; parts, for instance, the Law of Obligation, which come from Switzerland; parts are derived from the French Code, and parts for which the Japanese have to thank Italy or Spain. But no foreign model has been followed so closely as to warrant its being alleged that the new Civil Code is a mere modification of the system of Law in use in any foreign State. Persons who hold this opinion in reference to the revised Japanese Civil Code can never have read it through. The principles followed by the compilers aimed at giving to the code what the Germans call a *pandekten* character. Though hitherto-existing Japanese Civil Law is the basis of the new draft, the revisers took into consideration the cases in which European laws and customs are contrary to Japanese laws and customs, and in all such instances they endeavoured to make a thoroughly impartial choice. Of course there were differences of opinion among the members of the Committee as to what should be rejected and what taken, and there were times when Professor UME could not agree with the views of the majority of the members. But this was unavoidable. It is well to mention that the revisers aimed at using simple language as far as possible, and avoiding the tedious length which has been reached by some foreign codes. It has been said that the terms used in the revised code are too simple, that is, that they lack definiteness. But it is better to err on the side of simplicity than on that of excessive technicality.

Though the new Civil Code has been compiled and revised by Japanese, concludes Dr. UME, yet it must never be forgotten that the compilers are indebted to foreigners for their models. Law, like other things, must keep pace with the progress of the age in which we live, and Japan should not rest content with what has been attained, but aim at keeping herself abreast of the foremost nations of the West.

SÖUL-FUSAN AND SÖUL-NINSEN RAILWAYS.

The *Yomiuri* states that the concession of the Söul-Fusan Railways is covered by the Provisional Treaty concluded between Japan and Korea in 1894, and that Japan therefore enjoys the prescriptive right to construct this railway despite any breach Korea may make in the Treaty. Therefore, when the Korean Government lately asked Japan to defer the enforcement of the Treaty for the period of one year, the latter refused peremptorily, and is now reopening negotiations with the Korean Government on a stronger basis than ever. As to the Söul-Ninsen Railway, that matter is entirely another affair. It is true that the concession of this line was secured to Japan by the same Treaty of 1894, but the Korean Court, with unpardonable discourtesy, broke the Treaty and gave the concession to Mr. Morse, of the United States. When Count Okuma re-entered the Foreign Office, Korea expressed

sorrow for her errors and offered an apology to Japan, but the Count refused to accept it and contemplates demanding reparation for the violation of the Treaty.

Fortunately for Japan, the lessee of the concession has not achieved success in raising funds, to say nothing of the engineering difficulties to be encountered, and he will therefore have to apply for help from Japan. In short, the lessee is said to be at a loss what to do with his concession. This has naturally attracted the attention of the projectors of the Fusan-Söul Railway. This particular line is never expected to yield any satisfactory returns, and the project is put forward not so much from a desire to reap material profit as from a wish to promote the national interests of Japan. The projectors have conceived the idea that if they could undertake the Söul-Ninsen Railway as well as the unprofitable Soul-Fusan line, the two projects might eventuate in profit to the Company. The projectors waited on the Foreign Minister, and asked his help in furthering their scheme. Considering the idea proper and reasonable, the Foreign Office, while on the one hand demanding reparation for the breach of the Treaty from the Korean Court, has decided to take steps, on the other, to apply pressure so as to further the scheme of the Japanese projectors in recovering their prescriptive right to the construction of the Söul-Ninsen Railway.

INTEREST PAID OUT BY THE TREASURY DURING DECEMBER.

The sums of interest to be paid out by the Treasury during the present month are as follow:—

	Yen.
Five-per-cent. Railway Bonds...	150,000.
Five per Cent. Consolidated Bonds	4,261,821.25
Five per Cent. War Bonds	2,805,672.125

Total 7,217,493.375

The *Shogyo Shimpö*, from which we take the above figures, says that the addition of so considerable a sum to the floating capital of the country within the course of a month, must ease the money market perceptibly.

CHINESE ARTIZANS.

We are surprised to find in the *Kobe Chronicle* a statement that "in the matter of facile touch and artistic taste the Chinese have never distinguished themselves, according to the standards of the world." Why surely it is precisely in these respects that the Chinese have distinguished themselves. What is to be said about their wonderful egg-shell porcelains, thin as a leaf and of perfect technique? What of their jewelled, reticulated, and engraved ceramic productions that connoisseurs, the world over, have always valued so highly? What of their delicious monochromes, never equalled by any other potters? What of their extraordinarily delicate ivory carvings, miracles of patient and deft manipulation? What of their embroideries? What of their bronzes, chiselled so as to satisfy the most exacting critic? What of their cameo glass? What of their pictures, that had reached a high level of artistic excellence while Japanese pictorial art was still in its infancy? It is true that the spirit to which these remarkable productions were due seems to be no longer active among the Chinese. Even the faculty of imitation has not taken its place. Nothing remains beyond a certain measure of mechanical ability. But the race has shown wonderful capacities in the past, and to say that it has never distinguished itself in the matter of facile touch and artistic taste is surely a most unjustly inappreciative assertion.

KOREAN NEWS.

The latest batch of letters received by the metropolitan papers from their Seoul correspondents do not contain any trustworthy information as to the cause of the sudden arrest of military officers and others, between the afternoon of the 21st, and the forenoon of the 23rd ult. Beyond a broad explanation that the trouble originated in the conflicting interests of those that advocated the return of the King to his own palace and those that desired his continued residence in the Russian Legation, nothing can be gathered from the correspondence. One letter says that the arrests totalled 13, while another puts the number at 23. It seems certain that the persons hitherto apprehended are not men of very high position. Two were majors of the Guards, two others captains, and all the rest were either subordinates or previous occupants of inferior military or civil posts. By whom the plot was concocted is not yet clear, but there is a vague conjecture that the new War Minister had more or less connection with the affair. This suspicion is based on the fact that An Hwan, who filled the position of police-inspector at the time of the overthrow of the Kim Cabinet, and who with others assassinated the then Premier and the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry, was again appointed to a high post in the Police Board only a few hours before the recent arrests commenced. As illustrating the absence of even a semblance of order and discipline in the Korean Administration, it is mentioned that so soon as An entered the precincts of the Police Board, he summoned a number of detectives and gave orders for the seizure of this or that Korean, and that when the Chief of the Board asked how he ventured to arrogate such authority, An produced an official document nominating him inspector, and, at the same time, arrogantly stated that he had been directed by the King to arrest traitors. Now An is a *persona grata* in the eyes of Min Yong-hwan, the new War Minister, and it is confidently believed that he owes to the latter's influence his rehabilitation as an official of the Police Board. Hence the suspicion that Min must have ordered the arrests. The Chief of the Board was replaced soon afterwards by a man between whom and the War Minister a good understanding is supposed to exist. When the arrests commenced, the Korean soldiers and police that were guarding the King's apartments in the Russian Legation, were relieved by a band of Russian blue-jackets, and were directed to mount guard outside the gate. Early in the morning of the 22nd of November, 80 Russian blue-jackets under three officers entered the capital, drawing with them a piece of artillery and leading 30 pack-horses and 18 waggons. The party had come from Chemulpo during the night. Its arrival intensified the consternation that the arrests had occasioned in the Korean capital, but in point of fact, these marines seem to have been destined simply to relieve those hitherto on duty at the Russian Legation. The two Majors who were apprehended have been deprived of their commissions and replaced by men enjoying the confidence of the new War Minister. The correspondents agree in reporting that relatives and friends of the War Minister are arriving in Seoul in large numbers, and it is confidently inferred that Min Yong-hwan will soon become the repository of the principal power in the State.

Vague as the above is, it goes far to confirm the conjecture recently advanced in these columns, namely, that the so-called plot to carry the King away from the Russian Legation was in reality a plot to keep him there. The middle of this month (December) had been practically fixed as the latest date for His Majesty's return to the palace, an event that would have signified loss of political influence, if not something worse, to a good many persons now very fortunately situated. The best way to prevent the King from quitting the shelter of the Legation was to persuade him that danger threatened if he left its precincts, and the discovery of a plot to obtain possession of his person and remove him by force, may have

seemed the readiest device for rousing his apprehension in that sense. Considering that by sitting quiet and making no extraordinary essay of any kind, the advocates of His Majesty's return to the palace could count on seeing their object attained within three weeks at latest, and considering that they had already waited inactively for many months, it is difficult to conceive why a sudden access of impatience should have driven them to conspiracy and lawlessness.

CHINA NEWS.

The Shanghai Municipal Council have decided to abandon their project of issuing notes. They are said to have been influenced by two considerations; first, that the Chartered Bank being about to make an issue of dollar notes, the present scarcity will be remedied; secondly, that it is unwise for a municipality to enter into competition with banks in matters belonging primarily to the functions of a bank. Either of these reasons would be good in the absence of the other. Advanced in company, they make an incongruous couple.

A singular custom with the people in the vicinity of Kiukiang is to migrate in multitudes for the purpose of begging when hard times overtake them. They put their summer clothes in pawn, leave a few persons to look after each group of their houses with the poultry, pigs, and furniture, and then go off by boat to the big cities along the river, where, by begging from house to house, they manage not only to live, but also to accumulate small sums which they carry home with them in the spring. An exodus of the kind has just taken place owing to the unsatisfactory harvest this year.

In spite of strong opposition offered by the Chinese Authorities, the Japanese have succeeded in obtaining an office for a steam-tug company in the part of Soochow originally selected by them for the purpose, namely, the business quarter of the city. When they first hired a house there, the landlord was arrested by the officials, the middleman was beaten, and the carpenters that repaired the house were punished. But the Japanese persevered, and have now gained their end.

Chang, Taotai of the Eastern Marches—that is to say, Fenghuang, the Yalu Valley, &c.—was recently denounced to the Throne by the Tartar General of Mukden, the celebrated E-ko-tang-a, for obstructing a colleague in the performance of his duties. The colleague was an expectant Taotai, despatched by the General to "assist" Chang in collecting the taxes. But Chang did not want any assistance. It appears that when the Intendency of the Eastern Marches was first established twenty years ago, special permission was given from Peking that the local taxes should be entirely devoted to defraying the expenses of the Taotai'ship. Since then, the revenue from taxation has largely increased, but naturally no Taotai reported to the Throne that too much money was coming into his hands. Each officer quietly pocketed the surplus and kept silence. Probably, if Chang had shared the plunder with the expectant Taotai sent to aid him, he too, might have remained undisturbed. But he rebelled against all interference, was denounced and deposed. Then a commission was despatched to investigate, and it transpired that in six months Chang had collected 240,000 Tls. and paid out 5,000. The process of making him disgorge the plunder is now going on.

THE RAILWAY CORPS.

Our readers are aware that the organization of a Railway Corps forms part of the scheme of military expansion elaborated by the Ito Cabinet and approved by the Diet. It is stated that the men required for the Corps will be obtained during the present month by taking an additional number of conscripts, and that the lines in the vicinity of Tokyo will be either bought up or hired in order to appropriate them, as well as the Ofuna-Yokosuka road, for the training of the troops. Every post on these lines, from that of station-master to stoker and track-man, will be filled by soldiers of the Corps.

INCREASE OF INCOME.

The *Fiji Shimpō* furnishes interesting information illustrating, to a certain extent, how the wealth of the people has increased since last year. Income returns sent in from 34 Local Offices show that the income tax yields 226,739 yen more this year than last. The total increase of income in those districts, exclusive of Hokkaido, Kanagawa, Kagawa, and Kagoshima, is 13,725,516 yen. The following are the localities where this increase is specially noteworthy:—

	Increased Income. yen.	Increase of Tax. yen.
Tokyo	4,993,186	87,873
Hyogo	1,002,391	15,517
Shiga	991,996	5,344
Okayama	777,942	10,891
Aichi	764,800	11,553
Fukuoka	631,702	7,897
Kyoto	614,665	9,105
Hiroshima	105,344	7,851

There being in all 47 Local Offices, we may reckon the total increment of income throughout Japan at about 20 million yen, judging from the rate of increase in the 34 districts from which returns have already reached the Department of Finance. Turning to the latest annual statistics compiled by the Government, we find the rate of increase of income during the past few years to be as follows:—

	Total Income.	Income Tax.	No. of Tax payers.	Average amount of tax paid by each person.
1890.....	81,047,372	1,088,476	115,833	9.39
1891.....	82,059,320	1,113,068	115,945	9.59
1892.....	83,453,130	1,129,047	117,094	9.64
1893.....	91,313,444	1,237,954	124,077	9.97
1894.....	99,470,716	1,359,152	129,327	10.50

Judging from the above figures, an increase of income to the extent of more than 20 million yen since 1895 seems somewhat sudden, but we quote what we find stated.

SMALL-POX IN JAPAN.

Small-pox is now widely prevalent in Japan. It rages with more or less virulence in Kyushū, Shikoku, the Kei-Han districts, the vicinity of Tokyo, and spreads even as far north as Miyagi. In the Kei-Han districts, Hyogo Ken is the centre; in Kyushū, Fukuoka; and in the Kwantō, Tokyo. During the month of November as many as 630 patients were reported in Hyogo Ken; 500 in Tokyo *fu*; 157 in Fukuoka prefecture; and in other places the new patients aggregated from 30 to 70. Between January and September, the cases reported from all parts of Japan were 3,880, of which 1,234 ended fatally, but after September the disease so suddenly assumed an epidemic character that whereas, during September only 14 persons were attacked in Tokyo, the number swelled to 80 in October, and to 500 in November. As similar increases occurred in the other afflicted districts, the total throughout Japan must have reached 5,000 by the end of November. In the spring of this year a few sporadic cases occurred in Tokyo, but the disease had virtually disappeared by June, and did not break out again until September. From January 1st to December 6th, 1,276 patients were reported in Tokyo, distributed as follows, according to urban sections:—

Kojimachi	85	Kanda	175	Nihonbashi	86
Kyobashi	95	Shiba	56	Azabu	7
Akasaka	2	Yotsuya	21	Ushijima	45
Kojimachi	8	Hongo	36	Shitaya	148
Akasaka	32	Honjo	210	Fukagawa	79

The epidemic does not yet show any signs of abating: 17 or 18 fresh cases are daily reported. In the vicinity of Tokyo, Kanagawa has the worst record: there were 39 patients there last month. Then came Chiba and Saitama.

An epidemic of small-pox in Japan is generally localized: its universal prevalence is very rare. For instance, the disease prevailed during 1886 and 1887 in Chugoku, Kyushū, and Shikoku; while during 1892 and 1893 it spread through the north-eastern portion of the main island, the Hokuriku districts, and also through Hokkaido. But the march of the malady is very irregular this year, for while Kyushū, in the South, is

afflicted, a portion of the north-eastern section of the main island is also attacked. According to the opinion of the authorities, the epidemic must have been imported from either China or Formosa, the germs having been brought over by military coolies returning from a sojourn of more or less duration in those places. The prevalence of the disease in Hyogo and Fukuoka, which are in close touch with China and Formosa, seems to support that hypothesis; while its appearance in Tokyo may be accounted for by the fact that people throng thither from all quarters. Miyagi being a place where a military division is quartered, the military coolies may have carried the disease there. It should be noted here that during November the mortality in Tokyo was 114 out of 500. The mortality is far greater in Okinawa, where out of 255 patients reported up to the 8th inst. no less than 129 died.

THE "MUCH" ABUSED "LIKIN."

It has been alleged that after the triumvirate of allies had "persuaded" Japan to restore the Liaotung Peninsula without making the restoration contingent upon China's concluding a new commercial treaty with her conqueror, the Tokyo Government would have been well advised had they made no haste about the treaty, but waited quietly until the evacuation of Wei-hai-wei came upon the *tapis*, since they would then have possessed a lever to obtain concessions from Peking. Perhaps that would have been an astute policy, but it need not be now discussed. Among the things "wanted" was some conclusive arrangement about *likin*, but truly it is difficult to see what conclusive arrangement could be made other than the complete abolition of the much abused impost. It is all very well to obtain for foreign goods transit passes that nominally free them from any further payments *en route* to the consumer, but how can that freedom be guaranteed? Who is to safeguard the goods from the time that they pass beyond the immediate ken of foreign consuls? So soon as they reach the interior, the Chinese local authorities have them in their power, and can tax them to their heart's content by processes in which every Chinese official is an adept. On the other hand, would the abolition of *likin* be an unmixed blessing? A correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* makes some interesting remarks on the subject. It appears that the transport of goods along the Yangtze is effected chiefly by junks, and that the *likin* paid for short distances is about one-twentieth of the import duty. Now if *likin* were abolished, and if all goods for the interport trade had to be passed through the Imperial Customs at present rates, they would be taxed to the extent of one-half of the import duty in transit from one customs station to another; and inasmuch as there will soon be customs stations at intervals of every 50 miles along the river, the last state of the goods would evidently be worse than the first. Local trade would be strangled by such a system, and the only alternative would be to leave junk traffic free of all tax, which would mean, of course, that no work would offer for steamers.

FIGHT AT THE MOUTH OF THE RIVER TAMA.

On the 5th inst., a severe fight took place at the mouth of the river Tama, resulting in the wounding of about 40 persons, of whom 30 were police constables. The quarrel had its origin in competition between the Okura-gumi on the one hand, and the Takashima-gumi and the Wakizawa-gumi on the other, about the supply of stone, to the extent of over 52,000 *yen*, for the construction of the third fort in the vicinity of Yokosuka. The last two firms had succeeded in obtaining the contract, and their success roused the ire of their rivals, who proceeded to hire all the sampans and junks in the vicinity of Yokosuka, Yokohama, and Tokyo, with the object of preventing the contractors from carrying out the work. Hence the quarrel.

So soon as their tender had been accepted, the contractors proceeded to hire some 90 boats, but that number being insufficient, they chartered 10 more from fishermen in the vicinity of Yokosuka. Their rivals, hearing of this transaction, prevailed upon the owners of the boats to hand them over temporarily, and then had the craft secretly removed to the mouth of the Tamagawa, where about a hundred other boats, collected from the vicinity of Yokohama and Tokyo, were also kept under the guard of more than a hundred fishermen of the vicinity. When the news of these doings reached the contractors, they sent fifteen or sixteen men to the mouth of the river to get back the boats, to which they had a prior right. These men, who were ex *soshi*, preferred their demand for the ten boats in such strong language that the fishermen posted to guard the craft, seized their oars and gave the ex *soshi* a sound thumping by way of reply. The latter fought desperately, but as the odds were so much against them, they were soon worsted, some being thrown overboard, and struck with oars as they sought to swim ashore. The news reached the Kawasaki Police Office, and was thence conveyed to the Kanagawa Police Office and also to Omori and Shinagawa. Some fifty or sixty constables hastened to the scene, and at last succeeded in quelling the disturbance, and arresting several of the ringleaders on both sides. The scuffle lasted from 1 to 4 p.m., and 40 men carried away ugly records of the prowess exhibited by both parties.

THE EWO COTTON MILL.

At the first ordinary general meeting of the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, the Chairman, Mr. Alford, spoke in very confident terms about the question that has attracted so much attention since the probability was pointed out in these columns that the Chinese Authorities would endeavour to strangle foreign manufacturing enterprise at its birth by taxing either raw cotton on its way to the mills or cotton yarns when about to issue from the factories. Mr. Alford said:—

The danger of this excise question I do not underate, nor must you; it is a serious matter, but apart from the rights and obligations of Treaties and such like points, which it can serve no useful purpose to here discuss, I have confidence that the common sense of the advisers of the Chinese Government will prevail, and whilst we have already made representations on the subject, we are still taking steps to impress our views: meantime do not let us aggravate the difficulties we have to encounter by crying before we are hurt.

It is difficult to endorse this sanguine tone, however we may admire the speaker's courage. Treaty obligations can no longer be invoked. Whatever security the Shimonoeki Treaty conferred has been annulled by Japan's consent to waive the privileges that the document contained in this particular respect. As to "the common sense of the advisers of the Chinese Government," the obstinacy shown by China in prolonging the negotiations for the commercial treaty with Japan until the latter consented to waive the free-manufacturing clause of the Shimonoeki agreement, and the fact that China was willing to purchase Japan's complacency in this matter at the cost of sites for four independent settlements, show pretty clearly how much trust can be placed in Peking's forbearance, and what intentions are entertained by the Chinese Government in the matter of taxing the products of foreign manufacturing enterprise. Finally, can it be reasonably expected that the British Government will exert itself strenuously to further the prospects of cotton mills in China which will compete directly and at great advantage with Manchester and Bombay? The broad view may be taken that China's prosperity, by whatever means accomplished, can not fail to generally benefit the countries trading with her, and ought to be promoted by England without regard to the disadvantages entailed upon particular branches of trade or particular individuals by the process. But we doubt whether Her Majesty's Government will be induced to adopt that view very vigorously in the present instance.

"YOKOHAMA" CHAPTER H.R.A. INSTALLATION.

On Thursday evening the annual installation of Principals and investiture of officers of the "Yokohama" Chapter of the Royal Arch, No. 1092, E.C., took place at the Masonic Temple, Main Street. A goodly number of Companions were present. The Installation ceremony was impressively carried out by M. E. Companion Geo. Hodges, P.Z., who placed M. E. Comp. F. Retz in the Grand Orient as Z. with becoming ceremony; and afterwards Ex. Comp. L. Stornebrink as H., and Ex. Comp. T. E. Beatty as J. The full list of officers follows:—

M. E. Comp. F. Retz Z.
Ex. Comp. L. Stornebrink H.
Ex. Comp. T. E. Beatty J.
M. Ex. Comp. Geo. Hodges, P.Z. S.E.
Ex. Comp. R. N. St. John S.N.
M. Ex. Comp. H. Moss, P. Z. Treas.
Comp. S. E. Unite P.S.
Comp. Thos. W. McIlraith 1st A.S.
Comp. E. P. Pallister 2nd A.S.
Comp. Rev. A. R. Morgan Chap.
Comp. H. Ivison Janitor.

After the closing of the Chapter, some twenty of the Companions sat down to a *recherché* repast provided by Mr. C. B. Clausen, of Clausen's Hotel, the M.E.Z. Retz presiding. The toast of "The Queen and the Craft" was given from the chair; as was also "The Grand Principals and Officers of the S.G.C. of R.A.M. of Eng." M. Ex. Comp. W. Barrie toasted the "newly installed Principals and Officers," to which the M.E.Z. suitably responded. The chairman then gave "The retiring Principals and Officers," to which M. Ex. Comp. H. J. Sharp responded. In doing so he referred briefly to the work of the past twelve months, and to the assistance afforded him by the Scribe E., assistance that proved invaluable. He wished the newly-installed officers a prosperous year. The Chairman next gave "Our sister Chapter at Kobe," for which Comp. E. C. Fox responded in cordial terms of appreciation. Next came "The youngest Companion," to which Comp. H. W. Lea responded; then "The installing Principal," proposed by M. Ex. Comp. Barrie, and feelingly replied to by M. Ex. Comp. Hodges. "The Visitors," responded to by a visiting Companion from the United States; and "The Tyler's Toast," concluded the list.

IMPORTANT TO EXPORTERS.

The following notification is of interest to shippers of goods to the United States:—

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.

1. No oath shall be required for the verification of invoices of merchandise on the free list or subject to specific duty only.

2. The verification by oath of invoices of merchandise subject, expressly or in effect, to *ad valorem* duty may be required when the consular officer to whom the invoices are presented has reasonable ground to suspect fraudulent undervaluation or other willful misstatement therein, but shall not be required in any other case.

Any oath required pursuant to this regulation may be taken before any commissioner or other officer of good character and standing who is legally qualified to administer an oath to which the local law attaches a penalty for false swearing.

3. Consular officers are prohibited from receiving the whole or any part of the fees charged by a Commissioner or other officer for administering oaths to invoices; from receiving anything as a gratuity or otherwise on account of the administration of such oaths; and from being in any way either directly or indirectly pecuniarily interested in such fees.

RICHARD OLNEY,
Secretary of State.

Department of State,
Washington, D.C., Oct. 21st, 1896.

I would call the attention of shippers to the fact that while, under the order of the Hon. the Secretary of State, above notified, the necessity for verifying, by oath, invoices covering merchandise on the free list or subject to specific duty only, is dispensed with, it is clear from instructions received by me, that the presentation at this office of the copies of the invoice with the customary declaration is still required.

N. W. McIVOR,
Consul General.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, ETC. PATENT LAW.

Imperial Ordinance No. 84 of 18th day of the 12th month of the 21st Year of Meiji (A.D. 1888), to be in force from 1st day of the 2nd Year of Meiji (A.D. 1889).

Art. I.—Any person who has invented any new and useful technical process, machine, manufacture, or compound, or any new and useful improvement thereof may obtain a patent in accordance with the provisions of this law.

By the term patent is meant a document by which are secured to the inventor, or inventors, the exclusive right to manufacture, and all the benefits arising from the sale or use of a particular article.

Art. II.—The following are not patentable:—

1. Articles of food, drink, or fashion.
2. Medicines, or methods of compounding them.
2. Articles which have been in public use before the application for a patent.

This does not exclude articles which have been on public trial for a term of not more than two years.

Art. III.—Any person who desires to obtain a patent shall make application to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce annexing the specification and necessary drawings for each invention.

Such application, specification, and drawings shall be filed at the Patent Bureau.

Art. IV.—On application for patent, the Director of the Patent Bureau shall direct the examiner of the Patent Bureau to examine the invention and if the latter decides in favour thereof shall register it in the Register of Patents and proceed to deliver Letters Patent with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. V.—Letters Patent shall be signed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce and countersigned by the Director of the Patent Bureau, and delivered to the applicant together with the specification and necessary drawings.

Art. VI.—The periods for which patents shall be granted are three viz., 5, 10, and 15 years and shall be reckoned from the day of registration.

Art. VII.—When it is considered that the general use of an invention is desirable for the public interest, or, that the invention should be kept secret for military purposes, the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may grant a conditional patent, or may refuse to grant a patent, or may fix conditions to, or cancel a patent already granted.

In such cases the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce must give the inventor, or owner of the patent, such compensation as he thinks adequate to the case.

Art. VIII.—Any person who has invented an improvement upon a patented invention of another, and desires to obtain a patent for such improvement, shall first confer with the original patentee, and send in his application, in compliance with the provisions of Art. III., after having obtained from him a license to use the original invention together with the improvement.

In case the owner of the original patent does not agree, the inventor of the improvement may send in his application stating the circumstances, and the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may grant him a patent to use the original invention together with his improvement.

The inventor of the improvement having obtained a patent by virtue of the last paragraph must give such compensation as the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may think adequate.

Art. IX.—When a person who has obtained or has applied for a patent dies, his rights devolve on his heirs or assigns.

Art. X.—Patents granted to the following classes of inventions are to be annulled:—

1. Inventions which have been proved to be either not new or not useful.
2. Inventions which have been found to come under Article II.
3. Inventions of which it has been found

that facts important for working the inventions have been intentionally omitted from the specification.

4. Inventions of which it has been found that particulars irrelevant to working the invention have been intentionally inserted in the specification.

Art. XI.—When the examiner of the Patent Bureau decides that a patent should not be granted, the Director shall send a written statement of the decision to the applicant.

Art. XII.—Any person who is not satisfied with the Director's decision may file a written statement of grounds of dissatisfaction and demand a re-examination.

Upon demand for re-examination the Director shall instruct the examiner of the Bureau to re-examine the application, and if the latter decides that the grounds for dissatisfaction are unreasonable a written statement to that effect shall be sent to the applicant.

Art. XIII.—When the examiner decides that the invention for which a patent is applied interferes with one under consideration or patented, the Director shall inform the parties of the points of interference and direct them to send in further particulars of their inventions.

On the parties filing these particulars, the Director shall refer them to the examiner, and direct him to decide the question of priority, and send a written statement of the decision to the applicants.

Art. XIV.—When under the previous Article an existing patent is revoked, and another granted, the latter shall date from the registration of the former, and cannot extend beyond the date of expiry of the former.

Art. XV.—Any persons who is not satisfied with the re-examination under Article XII., and the decision under Art. XIII., may demand trial before the Patent Bureau.

Art. XVI.—When one patentee finds that his right interferes with that of another patentee he may demand trial before the Bureau for the determination of their respective rights.

Art. XVII.—Any person finding that an invention for which a patent has been granted falls under Article X, may demand trial before the Bureau in order to annul the patent.

Art. XVIII.—When a trial is demanded the Director, as presiding judge, shall hear the case with two or more assistants.

Art. XIX.—There shall be no appeal against the judgment of the Patent Bureau to any court whatever.

Art. XX.—When the parties concerned require evidence as regards the examination under Article XII., or trial before the Bureau, the Director may at their request require a Civil Court to collect the same.

Art. XXI.—Costs incurred under Article XV. and XVII. shall be borne in accordance with the practice in civil suits.

Art. XXII.—A patent may be sold, or transferred, with or without conditions, or may be hypothecated; but, in such cases, application must be made to the Bureau, and the contract shall be registered, and shall be invalid unless registered.

Art. XXIII.—No official of the Patent Bureau shall, during his employment in the Bureau, apply for a patent, or become the owner of a patent except by succession.

Art. XXIV.—In the following cases patent shall be forfeited:—

1. When the patentee without sufficient reason has not worked, and exploited his invention after the expiration of three years from the date of his patent.
2. When the patentee without sufficient reason discontinues working and exploiting the invention for three years.
3. When the patentee imports and sells an article for which he has obtained a patent, or knowing that some other person is importing and selling an article which infringes his rights acquiesces therein.

Art. XXV.—When a patent is damaged or lost, the patentee may, stating the cause, apply for its re-issue.

Art. XXVI.—When a patentee finds his specification or drawings insufficient, or not

sufficiently detailed, he may, in order to secure the efficiency of the patent, make application for amendment of the patent, annexing the amended specification, and/or, drawings, but he may not introduce changes in the essential particulars of the invention.

Art. XXVII.—When a patentee finds that he has inserted by mistake some particulars not of his own invention as his invention in his specification, he must apply to have the same corrected.

Art. XXVIII.—When any person makes application in accordance with Articles XXVI. and XXVII. the Director shall refer the application to the examiner, and direct him to examine the application.

In the foregoing case an applicant who is not satisfied with the decision of the examiner may demand a re-examination.

Art. XXIX.—Patentees shall affix to their articles such marks as may be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XXX.—When applications or requests are made in respect of patents, the following fees shall be paid on application:—

1. On application for a patent for each inventionyen 5
2. On request for registration of sale, transfer, or partnership in a patent, for each invention " 10
3. On application for re-issue of letters patent for each invention " 1
4. On application for amendment of a patent, or for the correction of a specification for each invention ... " 5
5. On application for a trial for each invention " 7
6. On application for registration of hypothecation " 6

Art. XXXI.—The following fees shall be paid for Letters Patent:—

1. A patent for 5 yearsyen 20
 2. A patent for 10 years " 30
 3. A patent for 15 years " 40
- For revised Letters Patent:—
1. A patent for 5 yearsyen 10
 2. A patent for 10 years " 15
 3. A patent for 15 years " 20

Art. XXXII.—The Patent Bureau shall periodically print and sell at a reasonable price an *Official Journal* of patented specifications and matters relating to patents.

Art. XXXIII.—Any person wishing to have copies of documents, or of drawings relating to patents, may obtain them on application to the Patent Bureau by paying a reasonable fee for making the same.

Art. XXXIV.—Any person infringing the patent rights of another shall be liable for damages to the patentee.

Art. XXXV.—As to the liability for damages under the preceding Article the limitation shall be three years.

Art. XXXVI.—Any person counterfeiting a patented article, or process belonging to another, and using or selling it, or who knowingly uses himself, or sells on behalf of another a counterfeited article, or who pirates the patented article or process belonging to another, shall be punished with Major Confinement for not less than one month and not more than one year, or a fine of not less than yen 20 and no more than yen 200.

Any person who knowingly imports and uses or sells an article infringing the rights of a patentee, or who knowingly uses himself or sells on behalf of another such article, shall be liable to the same punishment.

Art. XXXVII.—In the foregoing cases the article in question shall be forfeited and handed over to the patentee; and as to articles which have been sold, the offender shall be compelled to pay the amount for which they have been sold to the injured party.

Art. XXXVIII.—Any person obtaining a patent by fraudulent means, or who shall sell unpatented articles with patent marks, or marks being colourable imitations of them, or who knowingly sells such articles on behalf of another, shall be punished with major confinement for not less than fifteen days and not more than

six months, or a fine of not less than yen 10; and not more than yen 100.

Art. XXXIX.—Offences under Article XXXVI. shall be tried only at the instigation of the injured party or parties. In such case a judge may, upon demand of the injured party or parties, provisionally suspend the use of articles which are the subject of litigation.

Art. XL.—A patentee who neglects to affix the patent marks above mentioned in Article XXIX. to his patented article or articles, cannot sue for damages for infringing on his rights.

Art. XLI.—When a defendant in his answer to the suit states that the patent is void he shall file his defence before the Court, and demand trial within thirty days after that date under Article XVII.

In such case the Court shall adjourn the proceedings until the trial before the Bureau shall have been concluded.

Art. XLII.—The provisions of the Penal Code as to the concurrence of several offences shall not apply to offences under this Law.

Art. XLIII.—The rules for the carrying out of this Law shall be made by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XLIV.—This Law shall come into force on the first day of the second month of the 22nd year of Meiji (A.D. 1889).

Art. XLV.—The Patent Law Notification No. 7 of the 18th year of Meiji (April A.D. 1885) shall cease to be in force. Provided that patents secured under this last mentioned Law shall have the same force as those secured under the present Law.

Any application for patent which may not have been decided on the date on which this Law comes into operation shall be determined according to the provisions of this Law.

CABINET ORDINANCE No. 23.

Published 25th day of the 12th month of the 21st year of Meiji (A.D. 1888), and to be in force from the 1st day of the 2nd month of the 22nd Year of Meiji (A.D. 1889).

Fees for grants and registration under the provisions of the Patent Law, the Law of Designs, the Law of Trade Marks, as well as fees under Articles XXX. and XXXI. of the Patent Law, Article XVIII. of the Law of Designs, and Article XVII. of the Law relating to Trade Marks shall be paid in registration stamps.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE, ORDINANCE No. 17.

Rules for carrying out the Patent Law, Published 18th day of the 11th month of the 25th year of Meiji (A.D. 1892) to be in force from the 1st day of the 12th month of the same year.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Art. I.—All documents filed at the Patent Bureau shall be made out separately for each subject, have the date of filing and the name, status, occupation, and residence of the depositor, and the specification and drawings shall bear only the name of the depositor, and, be sealed. Demand for trial, statement of particulars, reply relating to interference, or, trial, and amendment shall be made in such number of copies as the number of the adverse party, besides the original documents.

Art. II.—All documents must be clearly written, and no alterations or erasures must be made, and, when words are inserted, are to be omitted, or, are written in the margin, they must be stamped with the party's seal. Words to be omitted shall not be erased, but they shall be noted in the margin.

Art. III.—When documents, drawings, models, &c., are imperfect or of doubtful meaning, or require explanation, the Director of the Patent Bureau (or the presiding judge), shall inform the applicant thereof and direct him to amend, reconstruct, or answer within sixty days from the date of notice in writing.

Art. IV.—When an applicant finds anything imperfect or obscure in his documents, drawings, or models, he may ask to be allowed to amend or reconstruct them.

When the foregoing application introduces changes in essential parts, or the Director or

the presiding judge does not recognise the necessity for the application, it shall be rejected.

Art. V.—When demand for trial, statement of particulars, reply relating to interference, or trial, have been amended, the Director, or presiding judge shall send the amended documents to the adverse party.

Art. VI.—When from an unavoidable cause it is impossible to take the ordinary or designated course within the term prescribed by these Rules, the party shall state the reasons and as far as oral trial is concerned, with the consent of the other party file an application for postponement.

When the Director, or presiding judge considers such a request reasonable he shall fix a further term not exceeding sixty days, and give notice thereof to the parties concerned.

Art. VII.—When an applicant does not take the ordinary or designated course within the prescribed term as fixed by the Rules or by the Director, or presiding judge, the application shall be refused.

Demand for trial, particulars, demand for postponement of trial, reply relating to interference or trial, and amendment, shall not be received unless filed within the term stated in the preceding paragraph.

Art. VIII.—Demand for trial, particulars, reply relating to interference, or trial, shall be accompanied by evidence necessary to prove the alleged facts.

Art. IX.—Documents, drawings, models and specimens shall not be returned except those deposited as evidence.

Art. X.—When the plaintiff, or defendant appears by attorney notice shall be given thereof, and the power of attorney shall be exhibited. When the Director or presiding judge, considers the attorney or attorneys unfit, he may, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, direct the appointment of a new attorney or attorneys.

Art. XI.—The term of a Patent cannot be altered after it has been once granted.

Art. XII.—The Director shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, publish the registration, amendment, revocation, annulment, or cancellation of Patents and other important matters relating to the same in the *Official Gazette* and the *Official Gazette of Patents*.

CHAPTER II.—APPLICATION FOR PATENTS.

Art. XIII.—Application for Patents shall be made in accordance with forms Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and registration stamps shall be affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XXX. Section 1 of the Patent Law.

Art. XIV.—When an applicant wishes to obtain a Patent on joint account with, or in the name of, another, he shall so state in his application, and if it concerns patent of improvement under Article VIII. of the Patent Law, shall annex a written statement of license from the patentee and the reason for not doing so when he cannot obtain it.

Art. XV.—When an applicant cannot file the specification or drawings at the time of application, he may first file the application only, and subsequently file the specification and drawings within thirty days from the date of filing the application. In the latter case, a document is needed stating that the drawings and, or, specification are to accompany an application for a certain invention filed on such and such a date.

Art. XVI.—When application, specification, and drawings are complete, the Director shall put a serial number upon the application and give notice thereof to the applicant. All documents referring thereto must, after receiving the above notice, bear the serial number of the application.

Art. XVII.—When after the filing of the application for patent a person wishes to obtain a patent on joint account with, or in the name of another, he shall make application therefor before the registration in the Registrar of Patents. After the registration no such application can be received.

CHAPTER III.—SPECIFICATIONS, DRAWINGS, MODELS, AND SPECIMENS.

Art. XVIII.—Specifications shall be made under the following heads:—

1. Title of invention. Every invention shall have a name sufficiently describing its nature.
2. Abstract of the nature and purposes of the invention. The structure, functions, and operation of the invention shall be briefly described.
3. Short explanation of drawings if any. The position, views, and parts shall be indicated by figures.
4. Detailed explanation of the invention:—The invention shall be fully explained with all details necessary for its working (reference to be made to drawings if any) so that any person of ordinary ability will not experience any difficulty in working the invention; and the meaning of words in the extent of claim must be defined.
5. Relation to the original invention of an improvement of an invention:—The difference between the original invention, and the improvement, the essential points of combination and results obtainable by co-operation must be pointed out.
6. Extent of claim for a Patent:—Those particulars which alone are indispensable for constituting an invention shall be pointed out.

Art. XIX.—In the following cases, and the following cases only, the extent of claim in the specification should be separated:—

1. When, in order to make plain the scope of the Patent right the parts new and constituting an invention are stated in several ways.
2. When, in order to ascertain the Patent right, the invention or parts new and constituting an invention are separately stated.

Art. XX.—Drawings must show the parts necessary to make an invention clear. If it refers to improvement, the relation between it and the original invention must be shown.

Art. XXI.—As to models and specimens only those parts which are essential to the invention need be strongly constructed in metal or wood, their length, breadth, and height not to exceed one *shaku* (Japanese foot) and if it be an object liable to be broken or of a perishable nature the depositor shall take proper precaution. When, however, the subject matter of application for patent is of some special material or the Director approves or specially orders, this rule shall not apply.

Art. XXII.—The patentee shall by order of the Director deposit the model or specimen of his invention for exhibition.

Art. XXIII.—When a model or specimen becomes unnecessary the Director shall notify the depositor to take it away, and, in the event of his not doing so within ninety days from the date of notice in writing the Director shall dispose of it at his discretion. The Director will not be liable for damage or loss of models or specimens.

CHAPTER IV.—EXAMINATION.

Art. XXIV.—Inventions shall be examined into according to the serial number of the application, except in the following cases:—

1. Applications for Patent falling under Article VII. of the Patent Law.
2. Applications for amendment under Article XXVI. of the same Law.
3. Applications for correction under Article XXVII. of the same Law.

Art. XXV.—The following inventions must not be considered as new and useful inventions:

1. Inventions publicly known before.
2. Inventions publicly used before application for Patent is made; provided that public use by Patent* shall not be held to prejudice their novelty.
3. Inventions from which no good result can be expected.

Art. XXVI.—For the following applications, though the inventions are new and useful, Patents are not to be granted:—

* Note.—This is only in case of interference.

1. Applications considered fall to under Sections 1 or 2 of Article II. of the Patent Law.
2. Applications in which it is considered that there are certain circumstances coming under Sections 3 or 4 of Article X. of the same Law.

Art. XXVII.—Grant of Patent for improvement shall be confined to such improvements as, adopting the extent of claim of a Patented invention and, adding an improvement upon it, a good result towards the same purpose is attained.

Art. XXVIII.—When a model, or specimen of an invention is required in the proceedings of examination, the Director shall give notice thereof to the applicant and direct him to deposit it within ninety days from the date of notice in writing being given.

Art. XXIX.—When it is necessary to make experiments during the examination of an invention, the Director may appoint a time for it and direct the applicant to make the experiments.

Art. XXX.—A written statement of refusal to grant a Patent shall be made as follows:—

1. Serial number of the application.
2. Title of the invention.
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the applicant or his attorney.
4. Abstract of application for the Patent, or, in case of re-examination, the grounds of refusal.
5. Grounds of refusal shall be exactly and accurately explained by reference to the specification, and on what evidence; when, however, in accordance with Article XIX. the extent of claim is separately stated in two or more items, reasons shall be given for each item separately.

In case of re-examination, the grounds of appeal shall be refuted and the reasons of the decision on the first examination explained and demonstrated.

6. Text of judgment.

7. Date of decision.

Art. XXXI.—Any person demanding re-examination shall make a written statement of grounds for appeal under the following heads and file it within thirty days from the date of the decision:—

1. Serial number of application.
2. Title of invention.
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the applicant, or his attorney.
4. Chief points of appeal.
5. Arguments referring to the specification and only those contesting the grounds of refusal.
6. Alleged proofs in support of appeal.
7. Signature and seal of the applicant or his Attorney.
8. Date of appeal.

Art. XXXII.—When in the written statement of appeal the grounds of refusal are not refuted or dissatisfaction only is expressed in the refusal to grant a Patent on the ground of the matter not being described in the specification, the written statement of appeal shall be treated as though it had not been filed. The Director shall explain the reason to the applicant.

Art. XXXIII.—When an adverse decision is given against the written statement of grounds for appeal, not on the grounds indicated in the written statement in the first decision, but on new grounds, this decision shall take the place of the first decision and that decision shall be revoked. The Director shall give notice thereof to the applicant.

Art. XXXIV.—In the case of trial being demanded according to Article XV. when it is decided that the grounds of refusal were unfounded, the Director shall proceed to hold a new examination.

When the new examination is held the grant of Patent cannot be refused on the same grounds as before.

CHAPTER V.—CONFLICTING APPLICATIONS.

Art. XXXV.—An interference of inventions takes place only when there are the same items in the extent of claim for a patent made by two or more persons with the following distinctions.

Provided that of the parts not separately

stated in the specification as prescribed in Article XIX., or parts to be considered as abandonment of rights, as provided by Article LX. no interference takes place.

1. Between two or more inventions under application.
2. Between an invention under application and inventions patented or under amendment.
3. Between two or more patented inventions under amendment.
4. Between patented inventions and those under amendment.

Art. XXXVI.—Examination of interference shall be held after an invention interfering with another has been decided as patentable. When the examiner finds the invention does not interfere before examination of interference is concluded, the examination shall be closed.

Art. XXXVII.—When the extent of claim of an invention which has been applied for does not interfere with the extent of claim of another invention for which application has been made for Patent only by reason of being not separately stated in accordance with Article XIX., the Director shall inform the applicant thereof and enquire whether he will amend the specification or not.

Art. XXXVIII.—Notice of interference, together with written statement of grounds indicating the interference, shall be sent to the party concerned. When the party concerned has received the foregoing notice and written statement of grounds, he shall file particulars relating to his invention within sixty days and if he fails to do so within that term he cannot claim priority on the grounds that he had completed his invention before the date of his application for Patent.

Art. XXXIX.—When the party has filed particulars, the Director shall send them to the other party, and direct him to file his reply within thirty days. After the parties concerned have filed particulars, if the Director thinks it necessary to direct either or both parties to reply, he shall again take the foregoing course.

Art. XL.—Any person wishing to dissolve proceedings in an interference of invention shall, before the final decision of interference, demand the revocation of his Patent, or application interfering, or the cancellation of the interfering parts of the invention. When such a claim comes before him the Director shall dissolve the application and give notice thereof to the parties concerned.

Art. XLI.—Particulars shall be stated under the following heads:—

1. Serial number of interference.
2. Title of interfering invention.
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the parties concerned or their attorneys.
4. Statement of facts. These shall be accurately stated, with dates of invention, when designed and when completed, when and how the invention was taken either in drawings, models, or specimens.
5. Alleged proof of facts.
6. Signature and seal of depositor or his attorney.

Art. XLII.—Reply relating to interference shall be made according to the following heads:

1. Serial number of interference.
2. Title of interfering invention.
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the party concerned or his attorney.
4. Chief points of reply.
5. Arguments.
6. Alleged proof of facts, or statement against the mode of taking evidence proposed by the adverse party.
7. Signature and seal of the depositor or his attorney.
8. Date.

Art. XLIII.—Written statement of decision of interference shall be made in the following order:—

1. Serial number.
2. Titles of the conflicting inventions.
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the parties concerned or their attorneys.
4. Abstracts from the statements of the parties.
5. Grounds of decision. These shall be based

on sound evidence and stated exactly and accurately.

6. Text of judgment.

7. Date of judgment.

CHAPTER VI.—TRIAL.

Art. XLIV.—Any person demanding trial shall make request to be heard according to the following headings, and file it with registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XXX., Section 5, of the Patent Law within sixty days from the date of the written decision in re-examination, or of the written statement of decision in interference.

1. Name, status, occupation, and residence of plaintiff and defendant or their attorneys.
2. Explanation of the case.
3. Chief points of the demand.
4. Arguments of fact or in law.
5. Alleged proofs.
6. Signature and seal of the plaintiff or his attorney.
7. Date of petition.

Provided that the examiner of the Patent Bureau shall not be cited as defendant.

Art. XLV.—On receipt of a petition the presiding judge shall send it to the defendant and direct him to file a reply within thirty days.

After the defendant has filed a reply if the presiding judge still thinks it necessary to direct either, or both the parties to produce further argument or evidence, he shall again take the above course.

Art. XLVI.—The reply shall be made in the following order:—

1. Serial number of trial.
2. Name, status, occupation, and residence of plaintiff and defendant or their attorneys.
3. Explanation of the case.
4. Chief points of the reply.
5. Arguments of fact or in law.
6. Alleged proofs of facts, or statement against method of taking evidence proposed by the adverse party.
7. Signatures and seals of the plaintiff and defendant or their attorneys.
8. Date of reply.

Provided that the examiner of the Patent Bureau shall not be cited as defendant.

Art. XLVII.—When any person who has demanded trial wishes to withdraw the case, he shall make application before it is concluded or decided, and on receipt of the application the presiding judge shall give notice thereof to the defendant.

Art. XLVIII.—The party withdrawing from a case after he has filed his reply, shall bear the costs of the case, not, however, if he withdraws with the consent of the other party.

Art. XLIX.—Trials shall be of two kinds viz., in writing or oral.

Art. L.—When both parties demand or the presiding judge considers it right, trial shall be heard publicly.

Art. LI.—In case of oral trial the presiding judge shall appoint the day and give notice thereof to the plaintiff and defendant.

Art. LII.—When the defendant does not file a reply within the time designated the arguments shall be considered closed, and when either plaintiff or defendant does not appear as provided in Article LI., the trial may be concluded in his absence.

Art. LIII.—After the trial the presiding judge shall cause to be given to both plaintiff and defendant copies of the judgment sealed with the seal of the Patent Bureau, and in the case of oral trial he shall pronounce judgment.

Art. LIV.—The written judgment shall be given in the following order:—

1. Serial number of trial.
2. Name, status, occupation, and residence of plaintiff and defendant or their attorney.
3. Abstracts of petition and reply.
4. Grounds of judgment. Reference shall be made to the specification, and in the case of petition against the decision, to the statements of the latter, and be stated concisely and accurately.
5. Text of judgment.
6. Official title and name of the judges.
7. Date of judgment.

Provided always that the examiner of the Patent Bureau shall not be made the defendant.

CHAPTER VII.—GRANT OF PATENT.

Art. LV.—When it is decided to grant a Patent in accordance with Article XLIX. of the Patent Law, the Director shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, send notice in writing thereof together with a memorandum for the payment of the fee to the applicant. On receipt of the foregoing notice the applicant shall file the memorandum for payment with stamps of the value corresponding with the fee prescribed under Article XXXI. affixed, together with two copies of both specification and drawings, within sixty days from the date of the notice in writing.

Art. LVI.—When the applicant has paid the fee for grant of Patent the Director shall register the invention in the Register of Patents under the date on which it was paid, give notice thereof to the applicant, and send him Letters Patent within thirty days. When the fee is paid during or after the last office hour, or on a holiday, it shall be treated as paid on the next office day.

Art. LVII.—In cases under the second paragraph of Article VIII. of the Patent Law, when a patent, being an improvement on a patent already granted, has been issued to an applicant who has failed to obtain the consent of the owner of the original patent, the Director shall give notice to the latter to confer with the applicant with regard to compensation. If such conference does not result in an agreement the Director shall notify the parties the amount, &c., of compensation which the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce shall think proper, informing the applicant at the time of notifying of the grant of Letters Patent, and also giving notice to the original patentee at the same time as the improvement is registered.

Art. LVIII.—Letters patent shall be made out in accordance with form No. 4, and the day of registration shall be the date.

Art. LIX.—All patented articles shall be marked, either on the article itself or the envelope, with the word "Patented," date of Patent, and duration of Patent, in accordance with Article XXIX. of the Patent Law.

Art. LX.—When a patentee sells separately those parts which belong to the division of claim under Article XIX. of these Rules it shall be considered an abandonment of right concerning that division.

Art. LXI.—When a person succeeds to a patent or a patentee changes his name, residence, or seal, the heir or patentee, as the case may be, shall at once give notice thereof to the Patent Bureau.

CHAPTER VIII.—SALE, TRANSFER, PARTNERSHIP, AND HYPOTHECATION.

Art. LXII.—A person wishing to have the sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation of a Patent registered in accordance with Article XXII. of the Patent Law shall make application in form Nos. 5 or 6 and file it with registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee fixed by Article XXX., Section 2, of the Patent Law, together with the original and a copy of the deed as well as the Letters Patent.

Art. LXIII.—When any person has had the sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation registered and subsequently discharges the contract, he shall file notice in writing thereof, countersigned by the parties concerned, together with the letters patent.

On the filing of the above documents the Director shall note the matter in the Register of Changes and send back the Letters Patent to the patentee, endorsing the matter thereon.

Art. LXIV.—When partners wish to sell, transfer, obtain new partners, or hypothecate a patent, the consent of all the partners must be obtained, otherwise it cannot be registered.

CHAPTER IX.—APPLICATION FOR RE-ISSUE.

Art. LXV.—Application for re-issue under Article XXV. of the Patent Law shall be made in accordance with form No. 7, and have affixed registration stamps of the value prescribed by Article XXX., Section 3, of the Patent Law.

Art. LXVI.—On receipt of application under

the foregoing Article, the Director shall issue Letters Patent on which are endorsed the subject and date of delivery.

CHAPTER X.—APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT AND CORRECTION.

Art. LXVII.—Application for Amendment of a Patent in pursuance of Article XXVI. of the Patent Law may be made in the following cases:—

1. When it is found that there are statements irrelevant to the patent right or errors in the drawings.
2. When it is found necessary to make the extent of claim clear and concise without changing its meaning.
3. When a patentee finds that he claimed by mistake a sphere for the patent right of his invention beyond its scope.
4. When a patentee finds it necessary to divide a patent without extending the sphere of his patent right.

Art. LXVII.—Application for amendment shall be made in accordance with form No. 8 and shall have registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee prescribed by Article XXX., Section 4, of the Patent Law and be filed, together with the amended specification or drawings, and the original Letters Patent and dependant specification and drawings. Upon the granting of the foregoing application, the Director shall note the same in the Register of Patents and send the certificate of the amended letters patent to the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Articles LV. and LVI.

Art. LXIX.—The certificate of amended letters patent shall be made in accordance with form No. 9, and the day on which it is granted shall be its date.

Art. LXX.—Application for disclaim of specification under Article XXVII. of the Patent Law may be made in the case of it having been found necessary to omit some items of the extent of claim separately mentioned according to Article XIX. and thereby to abandon part of the sphere of the patent rights.

Art. LXXI.—Application for disclaim shall be made in accordance with form No. 10, and shall have registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee prescribed by Article XXX., Section 4 of the Patent Law, and be filed together with the Letters Patent.

On grant of the foregoing application, the Director shall note the same in the Register of Patents and send back the Letters Patent after endorsement.

FORMS.

To be written on Mino paper; thirteen lines per page and twenty-five characters per line.

FORM 1.

Petition for Grant of Patent. Registration stamp and seal.

Title of invention.

The above is an art, machine, manufacture, or composition set forth in the annexed specification and an invention which I (or we) completed (date) and I (or we) firmly believe that it does not in any way conflict with the provisions of the Patent Law, I (or we) therefore pray that a patent for years may be granted to me (or us).

Domicile, and present place of residence, status, occupation.
Date, Inventor's name and seal.

(When two or more persons apply for the same Patent each one shall sign and seal. And the same regulation shall apply to all these forms.)

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 2.

Application for Patent for the improvement of an invention already patented by another person. Petition for grant of Patent.

An improvement on (title of original invention).

The above is as set forth in the annexed specification, an improvement which I (or we) have made upon (title of original invention) patented under Letters Patent No. — belonging

to (name) which I (or we) completed (date) and I (or we) firmly believe that it does not in any way conflict with the provisions of the Patent Law, I (or we) hereby annex the license of the patentee (or statement of reasons why I (or we) cannot obtain the license of the patentee); praying that letters patent may be granted to me (or us).

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Date.

Inventor's name.

Seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 3.

Application for Patent by heirs.

Petition for Patent.

Title of invention.

Registration stamp and seal.

The above is an invention completed by the late (name of inventor) which I have succeeded to and (is an art, machine, manufacture, or composition of material) set forth in the annexed specification; and I (or we) firmly believing that it does not in any way conflict with the provisions of the Patent Law pray that a Patent for years may be granted to me (or us).

Domicile and present place of residence.

Inventor's name.

Name of heir.

Status.

Occupation.

Date.

Petition for Patent.

Name and seal.

To Mr. (or the rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 4.

Form of Letters Patent.

No. of Patent.

Letters Patent.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Name.

Title of Invention.

In pursuance of powers granted us under the Patent Law we hereby grant to the above mentioned a patent for years with reference to the extent of claim in the annexed specification.

Date.

Name, seal (with rank of nobility if any) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Name, seal Director of the Patent Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 5.

Request for registration of sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation.

Letters Patent No.

Title of Invention.

Name of Invention.

Registration stamp and seal.

I (or we) having sold, transferred, entered into partnership, or hypothecated my (or our) Patent as set forth in the annexed deed to which are attached copy of the said deed and original of the Letters Patent, I (or we) request that the same may be registered.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Date.

Patentee.

Name-seal.

To Mr. Director of the Patent Bureau Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 6.

Request for registration of the sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation of a Patent already hypothecated.

Letters Patent No.

Title of Invention.

Name of Invention.

Registration stamp and seal.

I (or we) having sold, transferred, entered into partnership, or hypothecated the above mentioned Patent belonging to me (or us) which was hypothecated to by a deed dated, Name and domicile, and present place of residence.

I (or we) annexing the original and a copy

of the deed and the Letters Patent request that it may be registered.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Date.

Patentee.

Name, seal.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Purchaser transferee, partner or assignee.

Name, seal.

To Mr. Director of the Patent Bureau,
Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 7.

Application for re-issue of Patent.

Petition for re-issue of Patent.

Letters patent No.

Title of Invention.

Name of Inventor.

The Letters Patent belonging to me (or us) having become damaged or lost, &c., (state the cause) I (or we) pray that Letters Patent may be re-issued.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Date.

Patentee.

Name, seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister
of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 8.

Application for amendment of letters patent.
Petition for amendment of letters patent.

Letters patent No.

Title of Invention.

Name of Inventor.

Inasmuch as the above mentioned Letters Patent belonging to me (or us) do not secure the efficacy of the patent (state the reasons) I (or we) desire to amend them as in the annexed specification. There will not be introduced changes in the essentials of the invention thereby. I (or we) annex the accompanying amended specification, and/or, drawings and the existing letters patent and dependant specification and/or drawings and pray that amended letters patent may be issued.

FORM 9.

Form of Certificate of amended Letters Patent.
No. (number of amended letters patent).

Certificate of amendment of Letters Patent.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Name.

In pursuance of powers given us under the Patent Law, we hereby grant to the amendment set forth in the specification and/or drawings attached to these Letters Patent No. (number of amendment of Letters Patent, in the case of re-amendment of amended specification, or, drawing).

Amended for (period) granted (date)

Name, seal (with rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture.

Name, seal, Director of Patent Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 10.

Application for Disclaim

of Specification.

Petition for correction.

Letters Patent No.

Title of Invention.

I (or we) having found that I (or we) mentioned by mistake, in the specification annexed to Letters Patent belonging to me (or us) within the extent of claim certain matter, or matters not of my (or our i.e. the above mentioned Inventor or Inventors) invention I (or we) wish to omit the words from to the word of line page I (or we) pray that they may be cancelled.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status.

Occupation.

Patentee.

Name, seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

THE LAW OF TRADE MARKS.

Imperial Ordinance No. 86 of the 18th day of the 12th month of the 21st year of Meiji (A.D. 1889), to be in force from the 1st day of the 2nd month of the 22nd year of Meiji (A.D. 1890).

Art. I.—Any person wishing to use a Trade Mark to indicate his own special goods shall have the exclusive right of using it upon registration according to the provisions of this law. Essential parts of Trade Marks shall be figures, characters, or combinations thereof, which shall be special and distinctive.

Art. II.—The following cannot be registered as Trade Marks:—

1. Such Trade Marks as may be of an immoral nature.
2. Trade Marks the essential parts of which consist of the common names of goods, or, native, or foreign emblems.
3. Such as are identical with, or similar to Trade Marks already registered, or such as have been used by others before the application was made, and which are intended to be applied to similar goods.

Art. III.—Any person wishing to have his Trade Mark registered, shall make application, annexing specification and specimen for each trade mark, to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, provided that such application, specification, and specimen shall be filed at the Patent Bureau.

Art. IV.—On application for registration of Trade Mark the Director of the Patent Bureau shall instruct the examiner of the Bureau to examine the trade mark, and if the latter decides in favour thereof, shall register it in the Register of Trade Marks and, proceed to deliver the Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. V.—The Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark shall be signed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce and countersigned by the Director of the Patent Bureau and be delivered to the applicant together with the specification and specimen.

Art. VI.—The longest term for the exclusive use of a Trade Mark shall be twenty years, and, shall be reckoned from the day of registration.

Art. VII.—The application of Trade Marks is exclusively confined to the goods designated by the applicant in the classification of goods fixed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. VIII.—When there are two, or more applications for registration of the same, or similar Trade Marks for the same goods, that application having the prior date shall be registered, but if they are of the same date, none shall be registered; provided that when it happens that an application, or applications are revoked, there remains only one application, that may be registered.

Art. IX.—When any person who has had, or intends to have, his Trade Mark registered dies, his rights devolve upon his heirs.

Art. X.—When Trade Marks already registered are found to come under the provisions of Article II., or to have been registered in contravention of Article VIII. they shall be annulled.

Art. XI.—As to matters relating to examination, decision, and trial the Patent Law shall apply.

Art. XII.—When the owner of a Certificate of Trade Mark wishes to sell, or transfer his business, or takes a partner, or partners, into his business, he may sell, transfer, or use on joint account with another, or others, the right to his Trade Mark after application to the Bureau of Patents, and registration of the contract; but without such registration, no recourse can be had against a third party for infringement of rights.

Art. XIII.—In the following cases registered Trade Marks shall be forfeited:—

1. When the owner of a Trade Mark has not used it, without adequate reason, after six months from the date of registration.
2. When the owner of a Trade Mark discon-

tinues its use without adequate reason, for the period of one year.

3.—When the owner of a Trade Mark discontinues the business in which the Trade Mark is used.

4. When the owner of a Trade Mark makes a false declaration with regard to the quantity, place of origin, quality, &c., of his goods.

5. When the owner of a Trade Mark uses a defaced or broken Trade Mark.

Art. XIV.—When the owner of a Trade Mark wishes to continue the use of his Trade Mark after the expiration of the original term of its exclusive use he may again apply for its registration.

Art. XV.—When the certificate of registration of Trade Mark is damaged, or lost, the owner may apply for re-issue stating the reason.

Art. XVI.—When the owner of a Trade Mark finds his specification, or specimen imperfect, he may, in order to secure efficient registration, make application for amendment of the Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark, annexing amended specification, and/or specimen, but he must not introduce essential changes in the Trade Mark.

Art. XVII.—When application is made with regard to Trade Mark, the following fees shall be paid:—

1. On application for registration of Trade Mark, for each Trade Mark and each class of goods ... yen 1.00
2. On application for registration of sale, transfer, or joint ownership, for each Trade Mark and each class of goods „ 10.00
3. On application for re-issue of Certificate of Trade Mark, for each Trade Mark „ 1.00
4. On application for amendment of Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark, for each Trade Mark and each class of goods ... „ 2.00
5. On demand for trial of a case ... „ 7.00

Art. XVIII.—On obtaining Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark, Certificate of amendment of Registration, or Certificate for a further term of use of Trade Mark, for each class of goods the fee shall be yen 20.

Art. XIX.—The Patent Bureau shall from time to time publish an *Official Journal* of Trade Marks, and, keep it open to inspection, and may sell it at a reasonable price.

Art. XX.—Any person wishing for copies of documents relating to Trade Marks may apply to the Patent Bureau, and a reasonable fee shall be paid for the same.

Art. XXI.—Any person infringing the right to a Trade Mark shall be liable for damages to the owner.

Art. XXII.—The limitation for damages under the preceding article is three years.

Art. XXIII.—Any person who knowingly uses the same Trade Mark, or one similar to one registered for the same class of goods, and sells them with that mark, or who knowingly sells them on behalf of another, shall be punished with major confinement for not less than fifteen days and, not more than six months, or a fine of not less than 10 yen and not more than yen 100.

Any person obtaining a Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark by fraud, or who applies the word "Registered" to a Trade Mark not registered, or who knowingly sells such goods on behalf of another shall be liable to the same punishment.

Art. XXIV.—In the foregoing cases the unlawful Trade Mark shall be confiscated, and when it is inseparable from the goods they shall be destroyed.

Art. XXV.—Offences under the first paragraph of Article XXIII. shall be tried only at the instigation of the injured party. In such case the judge may, on demand of the plaintiff, grant an injunction suspending the sale of the goods in question while the trial is pending.

Art. XXVI.—The provisions of the Penal Code as to the concurrence of several offences shall not apply to offences under this Law.

Art. XXVII.—The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce shall make rules for the enforcement of this Law.

Art. XXVIII.—This Law shall come into force from the first day of the second month of the twenty-second year of Meiji (A.D. 1889).

Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Ordinance No. 19, Rules for enforcing the Law of Trade Marks. Published the 18th day of the 11th month of the 25th year of Meiji (A.D. 1892), and to be in force from the 1st day of the 25th, month of the same year.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Art. I.—Articles from I. to X., inclusive of the Rules for enforcing the Patent Law, shall apply to these Rules.

Art. II.—The Director of the Patent Bureau shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, publish in the *Official Gazette* and *Journal of Trade Marks*, the registration, amendment, revocation, or amendment of rights of Trade Marks, and other important matters relating to the same.

CHAPTER II.—APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.

Art. III.—Application for registration of Trade Mark shall be made in accordance with Form No. 1 for one class of goods only, according to the classification under Article XXXIV., with registration stamps of such value as corresponds with the fees prescribed under Article XVII. of the Law of Trade Marks affixed thereto.

Art. IV.—When two or more persons wish to be registered as partners in a Trade Mark, a written statement of having business in common shall be annexed to the application.

Art. V.—On receipt of the application for registration accompanied by specification and specimen, the Director shall put the serial number upon the application and give notice thereof to the applicant.

All documents filed with reference to the application after receipt of the foregoing notice shall be marked with this serial number.

Art. VI.—When, after the filing of the application for registration of Trade Mark, any person wishes to have his Trade Mark registered on joint account with another, he shall make application therefor accompanied by a written statement setting forth the facts before the registration in the Register of Trade Marks. After registration no application therefor shall be received.

CHAPTER III.—SPECIFICATION, SPECIMEN, AND PLATE.

Art. VII.—Specifications shall be made out in the order of the following heads, and be accompanied by two specimens of the Trade Mark, one of which shall be affixed to the specification, and be stamped with the applicant's seal at top and bottom so that the seal shall be partly on the specimen and partly on the paper to which the specimen is affixed.

1. The explanation of the Trade Mark shall set forth the entire construction of the Trade Mark and explain the form, position, style, direction, ornaments, remarks, &c., of diagrams and letters.
2. Essential parts of a Trade Mark.—In referring to the specimen of the Trade Mark, mention shall be made only of parts which have special and distinctive forms.
3. Class and name of goods to which a Trade Mark is applied. The name of the goods shall be mentioned in accordance with the classification of goods under Art. XXXIV.
4. Application of a Trade Mark.—The way of actually using the Trade Mark shall be explained.

Art. VIII.—The specimen of the Trade Mark must be one actually to be used.

When however, for some reason it cannot be so, a facsimile, or reduced facsimile, may be used.

Art. IX.—The block of a Trade Mark must not exceed *sun* (Japanese inch) 1.8 in length by *sun* .76 in breadth and shall be made of wood or type metal.

When, however the above mentioned dimensions cannot be adhered to the plate must not exceed *sun* 7 by *sun* 5

Art. X.—The block of a Trade Mark shall have the entire design cut on the surface of one block and not be divided into parts for the

purpose of colouring, &c. The depositor shall take adequate precautions against the block being defaced by lapse of time.

Art. XI.—When a block ceases to be required, the Director shall notify the depositor to receive it back, and, if he does not take it within ninety days from the date of written notice, the Director may dispose of it at his discretion.

The Director will not be responsible for damage to, or loss of, blocks deposited.

CHAPTER IV.—EXAMINATION.

Art. XII.—Examination shall, with the exception of application for amendment of Trade Mark, coming under Article XVI. of the Trade Mark Law be held according to the order of application, or if of the same date to the serial number after thirty days from the date of application.

Art. XIII.—The following figures, characters, or combinations thereof are not considered to have sufficiently distinctive forms to be used as the essential parts of Trade Marks:—

1. Trade Marks consisting of signs, or figures merely indicating the quality, nature, or utility of goods.
2. Trade Marks which consist of signs, or figures merely indicating the name, form, or material of goods.
3. Trade Marks in which only a geographical name, commercial name, or firm name, in common use is written in the ordinary style.
4. Trade Marks which consist of patterns of goods.
5. Trade Marks which consist of symbolic signs, such as are already in common use among fellow traders, or in habitual use in commerce.

Art. XIV.—Though containing essential particulars special and distinctive, the following are not to be registered as Trade Marks:—

1. Trade Marks which are identical with, or similar to, the Imperial crest.
2. Trade Marks which come under sections 1, 2, or 3 of Article II. of the Law of Trade Marks.
3. Trade Marks the applications for which come under Article VIII. of the Law of Trade Marks, and which are of the same, or, posterior date.

Art. XV.—When two or more Trade Marks to be used for the same goods fall under one of the following headings they are to be considered as similar:—

1. When there is no obvious difference.
2. When the names which naturally arise from the Trade Marks are identical or liable to confusion.

Art. XVI.—Written decision of refusal of registration shall be made under the following head:—

1. Serial number of application.
2. Class and name of goods for which the Trade Mark is required
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the applicant or his attorney.
4. General description of the Trade Mark, or, in case of re-examination, abstract of grounds for refusal.
5. Grounds of refusal shall refer to the specimen and specification, be stated exactly and concisely, and in the case of re-examination rebut the grounds of appeal, and explain and demonstrate the grounds of decision on first examination.
6. Text of the decision.
7. Date.

Art. XVII.—A person who applies for re-examination shall make a written statement of the grounds of dissatisfaction in the following order and file it within thirty days from the date of the written statement of the decision:—

1. Serial number of application.
2. Class and name of goods for which the Trade Mark is to be used.
3. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the applicant or his attorney.
4. Chief points of appeal.
5. Arguments referring to the specification and specimen, but only such as are in support of the appeal.

6. Alleged proofs.

7. Signature and seal of the applicant, or his attorney.

8. Date.

Art. XVIII.—Articles from XXXII. to XXXIV. inclusive of the Rules for enforcing the Patent Law shall apply to these Rules.

CHAPTER V.—TRIAL.

Art. XIX.—Articles from XLIV. to LIV. inclusive of the Rules for enforcing the Patent Law shall apply to these Rules.

Provided that to the petition to be heard shall be affixed registration stamps of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XVII., section 5, of Law of Trade Marks.

CHAPTER VI.—REGISTRATION.

Art. XX.—When it is decided that registration shall be granted in accordance with Article IV. of the Law of Trade Marks, the Director shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, give written notice thereof to the applicant, together with a debit note for the payment of registration fee.

On receipt of the foregoing notice the applicant shall file the debit note for registration fee with registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the registration fee under Article XVIII. of the Law of Trade Marks, together with the two copies of the specification, and plate of the Trade Mark within sixty days from date of notice in writing.

Art. XXI.—On payment of registration fee the Director shall on the same day register the application in the Register of Trade Marks and give notice thereof to the applicant, and send him the Certificate of Registration of the Trade Mark within fifteen days.

When the above mentioned payment of registration fee has been made during or after the last office hour, or on a holiday, it shall be considered as paid on the next office day.

Art. XXII.—Certificate of registration of Trade Mark is to be made according to Form No. 2, and the day of entry in the Register of Trade Marks shall be its date.

Art. XXIII.—When any person succeeds to the exclusive right to a Trade Mark, or, when the owner of a registered Trade Mark abandons its use, or changes his name, residence, or seal, the heir, or owner, as the case may be, shall immediately give notice thereof to the Patent Bureau.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

COUNT HIJIKATA AND POPULAR OPINION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In view of the fact that several foreign-edited journals have not hesitated to give some degree of credence to the adverse rumours concerning Count Hijikata, based on the absurd vagaries of the *Twenty-sixth Century* and the other journals which followed that obscure print's lead, it is perhaps as well, from a wholly disinterested standpoint, to emphasize the fact that the charges preferred against this old and faithful servant of the Imperial Crown, have never been for a moment credited by the better class of Japanese. My occupation bringing me into frequent contact not only with Japanese of good society but also those who have won name and fame in the world of letters, I have been at once gratified and pleased with the esteem with which the Minister of the Imperial Household is regarded by the best and wisest citizens. It is affirmed that he is no inactive official, but ever alive to the interests of his Imperial Master and anxious to increase in every way that reverent regard for the Throne which is so characteristic of the Japanese. In writing the above I have simply endeavoured to express the result of honest conviction, as obtained not from the columns of the Opposition organs but from those of the independent and unbiased class. And it certainly seems well that, just as this juncture, foreigners should learn that adverse opinions are confined to the ignorant few, while those best acquainted with the real state of affairs or

who can write and think unaffected by partisan considerations, unhesitatingly give the maligned Minister that credit which is so eminently his due. I have not the honour of Count Hijikata's acquaintance, yet this has not deterred me from addressing you on this subject.

Yours, etc.,
Tokyo, Dec. 6th, 1896.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The letter of Mr. Kawamura, appearing in your columns, Nov. 30th, calls for correction in one particular. He says "Again, when two deputies of the students met Mr. Page, of Osaka, in order to petition him to retain my services and those of the other teachers, Mr. Page told them that Mr. Kawamura was very cool in furthering the object for which the American Board (Mr. K. means the American Episcopal Mission) maintained the school, namely, the propagation of the Christian creed, and that, therefore, he must be made to resign. Mr. Patton was present when the two deputies saw Mr. Page." The passage quoted contains two (of course, unintentional) mis-statements of fact.

The first mis-statement is that Messrs. Page and Patton (for we both took part in the interview) acknowledged to the Deputies that the Trustees of the School had resolved to get rid of Mr. Kawamura, and had had the intention of forcing him to resign. No such acknowledgement was made, either at the interview referred to, or at any other time, or to any other parties whatsoever. It is true that circumstances had arisen which made the retention of Mr. Kawamura in his position a matter of some difficulty; but, so far from taking any action to secure his resignation, we were hoping that all misunderstandings would be cleared up and difficulties removed. We can assure Mr. Kawamura that if the Board of Trustees had found that his resignation was inevitable, we should have approached the matter in the spirit of a friendly conference; taking it for granted that both he and we had the best interests of the School at heart, and that if differences of opinion on questions of policy and management made a separation necessary, we both alike—he on his part and the Trustees on theirs—wished to part with mutual esteem and undiminished good-will. We should have assumed in our dealings with him that one who had for several years laboured as zealously in behalf of the School as Mr. Kawamura had done, would, in taking his departure from it, take it in such a way as to inflict upon it the least possible injury. Had the Trustees been seeking Mr. Kawamura's resignation, such is the way, and such is the spirit in which they would, without injury either to Mr. Kawamura's reputation and influence, or injury to the School, have sought to bring it about. Of the six teachers who, appealing to the students, sent in their resignations and retired at once from the discharge of any duties in the School, Mr. Kawamura was the only one whose resignation had been considered by the Trustees as an event that might become inevitable; but not even his resignation had been determined upon. As to the remaining five teachers, no complaint respecting them had been laid before us, and until they took action with Mr. Kawamura in appealing to the students, we were not aware that any grounds for dissatisfaction existed between us and them.

The first statement being thus entirely incorrect, the second statement, founded upon the first, is equally so. Since the Trustees deny that they had determined to bring about Mr. Kawamura's resignation, they, of course, deny that they brought it about because of his lack of Christian zeal. And if the Trustees refused to give a favourable answer to the petition of the students asking that Mr. Kawamura and the other five Teachers be reinstated, they did not assign as a ground of their refusal Mr. Kawamura's coolness in the propagation of the Christian Creed. The fact is that we gave no reason whatever to the deputies for our refusal. During two long interviews which we had with the deputies we took the ground that we were not yet ready to say that we could receive the six offenders into the School again. Being earnestly pressed by the deputies to give our reasons for not at once acceding to their petition, we were finally compelled to reply that we must refuse to give our reasons. The final reply was made two days later in the form of a short note to the deputies, in which, saying that the matter had gone beyond our power to alter, Mr. Page asked them to withdraw their petition. Our delay in answering the deputies was due to the faint hope which we entertained that some intercessors in behalf of Mr. Kawamura and the others would appear with some better claim to be heard than had a body of riot-

ous students engaged in smashing the School windows and breaking up valuable chemical apparatus. But no such intercessors appeared. Why did no one of any weight and influence come forward to plead in behalf of Mr. Kawamura? We were his friends. We are still his friends. And he doubtless had friends of weight and influence in Nara and elsewhere. Why did they not appear in his behalf? The entirely patent explanation is that Mr. Kawamura had, in appealing to the students and resigning in the way that he did, taken a course which even his best friends could not justify. He had himself rendered it impossible for them to do anything for him. Apart from our grief at the injury which he has inflicted upon the School, we sincerely lament that a friend of ours should have been betrayed into such a mistake, and should do himself such harm. Believing that he already sees and regrets his mistake, we offer him our sympathy for the pain which he undoubtedly feels.

And asking, Mr. Editor, your kind insertion of this correction, we are, respectfully yours,

H. D. PAGE,
J. LINDSAY PATTON.

And I will thank you also, Mr. Editor, to insert in my behalf

AN ADDITIONAL CORRECTION.

The Trustees of the School had the supervision of the finances, and it was their duty to have kept a control over Mr. Kawamura's financial management so strict that his expenditure of any considerable sums without their knowledge would have been impossible.

Since they failed to do this, the Trustees have from the first acknowledged their fault: and I acknowledged as much to Mr. Kawamura.

But I certainly never, to my knowledge, admitted that we were pleased with Mr. Kawamura's conduct in the matter, or acquitted him of all blame. Far from it. We indeed accepted the whole official responsibility: and, therefore, had not made his financial management a ground for seeking his resignation. But none the less, he had seriously embarrassed the Trustees, and made it more difficult for them to retain him in his place.

Respectfully yours,
J. LINDSAY PATTON.
December 7th, 1896.

THE FUR SEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—So many erroneous statements have lately appeared in the local press in regard to Fur Seals and their extermination, that I think a little truth about the matter would be quite acceptable to the public. These statements are mostly taken from American papers, and as I wish to show their source and object you will, I am sure, excuse me from writing at some length. Up to 1892, the Alaska Fur Company had the lease of the Pribilof Islands and paid the United States Government \$7.50 gold for each skin taken by them on the Islands. In the spring of that year the lease expired and they were outbid by the North American Fur Co., who were awarded the lease for twenty-five years, paying the U.S. Government \$10.00 gold a skin. The parties composing the North American Fur Co. are some of the most wealthy and influential men in the United States, one of the principal shareholders being an Ex-president's son, and many other are high Government Officials. In 1892, pelagic sealing was, generally speaking, in a bad way; the grounds off the Japan Coast were hardly known, and on the American coast sealing had received severe checks by the seizures of the sealing schooners in the Behring Sea; and as the North American Fur Co. had also made arrangements to take the skins from the Russian Company on Copper and Robben Islands, they had virtually a monopoly of the seal skin market, as the political members of the Company brought powerful pressure to bear on the Government to secure further favourable legislation—which finally ended in the present *modus vivendi* prohibiting pelagic sealing from the 30th of April to the 1st day of August, from 35° deg. North lat., and from the American Coast to the 180th meridian, and also prohibiting the use of fire-arms in the Behring Sea. In 1892, the North American Fur Co. bought the catch of the Victoria sealing fleet, paying \$22.00 gold a skin, and managed to obtain \$19.00 a skin for the whole of their catch in London, as they held all the skins in the market, but in 1893 quite a number of vessels came over to the Japan Coast and a large catch was made, and these when thrown on the market sent the price down to \$11.00 a skin; and the North American Fur Co. instead of making money as fondly expected was considerably out. Certainly things could not go on like this, and from that day there has been a

howl from these poor would-be monopolists that the pelagic sealers were exterminating the seals.

In 1894, the first year of the *modus vivendi* by closing up the eastern part of the Pacific drove a fleet of seventy-six sealing schooners to the grounds off the Japan Coast. Before these vessels left, the agents of the North American Fur Co. approached the owners of the United States and British sealing vessels and offered to buy the whole catch right through at \$10.00 a skin. But a part of the owners would not agree to this and the proposal fell through. Had this arrangement been perfected and kept up, I doubt very much whether anything further would have been heard of fur seal extermination; as it was, the abnormal large catch in 1894 sent the price of skins down to \$8.30, making a still greater loss for the Company, and since then everything that is possible has been done to enact further legislation altogether prohibiting pelagic sealing. The owners of the U.S. schooners have been harassed in various ways, with the result that of the some forty odd sealing vessels under the American flag in 1894, barely half a dozen remain; the rest having been taken out of the business or transferred to the British flag. The seals taken off the Japan Coast are the Copper and Robben Island seals, which leave the rookeries late in the fall, and slowly proceed to the southward to lat. 35° N., and are generally from one to four hundred miles offshore. About the middle of March the herd turns to the northward. The males usually reaching the rookeries in June and the females a little later. It is while the seals are off the coast that the pelagic sealers make their catch out on the high seas, and that certainly is not poaching, as the *San Francisco Chronicle* claims in its issue of the 29th of October.

"The Japanese Government stands really to join the United States in any plan of seal protection, and is desirous of including sea otters, which are now being exterminated. The co-operation of Japan is said to be of much importance to the United States, as the seal poachers have fitted out mainly at Japanese ports, and a large trade has been built up at Yokohama and Nagasaki. Notwithstanding this, Japan feels it to her interest to suppress the pirating. Many of the Canadian poachers go to the Japanese ports and either ship under the Japanese flag or take out sealing permits from the British Consuls there."

Now I need hardly say that no British Consul ever issued a permit to a sealer to raid the seal islands and poach seals; neither do I think it possible for a Canadian to sail his vessel under the Japanese flag. The fact of the matter is, the United States in its efforts to protect, not the fur seal, but the North American Fur Co., needs the co-operation of some Government on this side of the Pacific. The United States cannot very well claim to be the owner of the seals on this side, as they come from the Russian rookeries; and as the Russian Government seems to be perfectly satisfied with the way things are at present, Japan's assistance is required. Whether Japan will be foolish enough to go into any arrangement for having a close season on this coast simply to oblige the United States (the North American Fur Co.), remains to be seen. At present she has everything to gain and nothing to lose under the existing arrangement, as her fleet from two vessels in 1894 has increased to nine in 1896, and will probably be fifteen vessels in 1897. All the vessels have made handsome returns to their owners, as they can sail them for one-half of what it costs to run a foreign schooner, while the foreign schooners have left over a 1,000,000 yen in the country since 1893.

Now I presume no one will claim that it is out of pure philanthropy that the United States Government is sending out commissions and men-of-war to investigate the sealing question on this side of the Pacific?

Seals, the U.S. claimed before the Paris Tribunal, were domestic animals. This, however, was not allowed by the arbitrators, but in this case we will allow they are, why then do the United States concern themselves about seals which belong to the Russian Government. If the seals were really being exterminated it would enhance the price of the skins taken on the Pribilof Islands, but the fact is that extermination is a long way off, if it is coming at all, and in the meantime a lot of would-be monopolists in the United States are kicking themselves for bidding \$10.00 a skin for the privilege of killing seals which they can only sell for \$8.00. And that is not all, for the great body of the American public is gradually beginning to understand the situation, and one of these days they will arise and smite this monopolistic corporation that already, on two occasions, has brought the country to the verge of war, and after that the oceans will be free to all men to seal for ever and aye.

Yours truly,
December 7th, 1896.

FUR SEAL.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

At the November meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan, held in Tokyo, a paper on the "Influence of the Aryan Race upon Japanese Art," was read by Rev. Isaac Doorman. The paper was too long to be read entirely at the meeting and the author made only brief extracts with comments. The substance of his remarks is summed up in the following abstract:—

On the progress of intercourse between the different continents and nations we find new sciences for the comparative study of their thoughts and actions springing up. The study of comparative philology, and for a certain extent that of comparative religions, for example, are very recent productions of this happy international intercourse. Why, then, should we not inaugurate a new science for the comparative study of art in all countries and all ages?

Chap. II.—The dominant Spirit in the Ancient Art of Japan.—The student of early Japanese Art, especially that of the Yamato period, is so completely surrounded by a vast multitude of art objects of the highest merit and so radically different in form and conception from the native as developed during the Tokugawa's domination, that he is compelled to look elsewhere for their ante-natal circumstances and birth. Considering the colossalness of the volume, the facial features, anatomical characteristics, and finally the grouping of manifold ideas together, we are constrained to come to the conclusion that Japan got its early art from an Aryan race, undoubtedly from India. This Aryan influence upon Japanese art we can see in feeble traces even to-day, although after the decadence of the Yamato civilization we find its vigour getting weaker and weaker daily. At the beginning of the Tokugawa era and the ascendancy of the native art, we observe this above-mentioned colossalness of the Aryan art superseded by the diminutiveness of the Japanese art: it is the transition from sculpture to carving. Even in architecture, where we find a wholesome continuity maintained to the present day, still that sublimity, though very austere, or grandeur, is usurped by an excessive and effeminate ornamentation; contrast for example the Nara Todaiji with the Nikko and Shiba temples.

Both in sculpture and architecture the Japanese artist has one great disadvantage, namely, the absence of good marble from the strata of these islands; if Japan possessed as good marble as that of Italy or Greece, it would not be presumptuous to say that the artists who from wood brought into existence such wonderful works of art like the two Todaiji Ni-O, would have been the worthy rivals of a Phidias or a Praxiteles.

Chap. III.—The Influence of Buddhism upon Japanese Art.—The greatest and most potent factor which has created these art idols and their objects in Japan, is that great, in fact, the only great religion which the genius of the Aryan race has been able to produce, namely, Buddhism. But if Buddhism awakened the dormant intellect of the Japanese Artist, he also on his part has transformed it from a religion of despair and pessimism into that of mirth and joy; more, he has introduced the comic and caricatural element into his social art, a phenomenon nowhere seen, as far as we know, in the religious history of any other nation. Observe for example, the seven-gods of prosperity, especially when shown by the facile brush of Hokusai, who in the comic art stands as unique in the history of humanity as Shakespeare is in that of tragedy.

The caricatural element is altogether alien to the Buddhist religion, and no traces of it can be seen in the early Buddhist art of Japan. With all probability this element, also like that of diminutiveness, was developed after the communication with the continent had ceased, and the art ideals of pure Buddhism through lapse of time had grown dim, if not totally effaced, and the native taste, a love of humour, began asserting itself.

In Greece also, we find attempts made, especially by its poets, to introduce the humorous into the world of gods; but this comic instinct was completely checked by the universal intellect, and sober citizens of its philosophers men like Plato and Aristotle. In Japan, however, until the recent Revolution, we find the artist everywhere, and the philosopher nowhere. Is it wonder that the artist after reading Hirata's or Motowai's definition of the deity thought such a god a fit object for the play of his erratic humour?

A general discussion followed the reading of the paper. Mr. Tyng questioned whether the later art of Japan was merely a degenerate form of the earlier art. In the later art we find landscape, with man figuring in it in a subordinate way, while this was not so in the earlier art. We might say that one was different from the other, though not necessarily degenerate.

Mr. Droppers thought the writer of the paper laid too much stress upon climate as a factor in influencing religious ideas. He believed that it was a relatively feeble and unimportant element. Witness the contrary and entirely inconsistent beliefs held in the same country, of which it could not be said that the climate had varied. Religion was much more a matter of race than climate. He thought that Herbert Spencer, Buckle, Taine, and others had vastly overrated the effect of climate on race and religion.

Mr. Lloyd remarked that an interesting comparison might be made of the development of art in Japan with that in Greece. Both countries had received their first artistic impulses from without. This impulse came in the one case through India, in the other case through Egypt, but it was evidently the same in origin. Both in India and in Egypt art was colossal, and the great end of art seemed to be to represent the body at rest. Both countries then set themselves to work first to surpass their teachers and then in process of time to discard them. The transition was from the representation of the body at rest to the representation of the body in active life. This might be illustrated by a reference to Greek literature:—Æschylus, who was colossal in his thoughts and style, represented men as they could not be; Sophocles came a step lower and represented men as they ought to be; Euripides came down still further and painted men as they are. Greek tragedy gained in interest as it came nearer to real life. The reader of the paper had said something about the diminutiveness of the later Japanese art. It must have been the same with the Greek painters. The well-known story preserved by Cicero, of the contest between two artists, one of whom produced a picture of a bunch of grapes so clever that it deceived some birds, while the other deceived men by a fly painted on a curtain, shows that they must have painted small subjects with great attention paid to minutiae. The element of humour was also to be found in the Greek and Roman art as in the Japanese. Even the gods were caricatured, as can be seen from Horace and from the early Christian apologists.

Mr. Doorman made brief replies to his critics, whereupon the meeting adjourned.

MOSQUITO YACHT CLUB.

The first annual meeting of members of the Mosquito Yacht Club, took place on Tuesday afternoon in Keil's Building. There were present, Mr. W. W. Campbell (Commodore), in the chair; Messrs. G. W. Bramhall, S. Warming, K. Wilson, M. Schellenberg, F. McWilliams, P. S. Bent, F. S. Morse, F. J. Hall, F. H. Tanner, and F. W. Balden.

The CHAIRMAN first called to order the extraordinary general meeting, which had been called to make various necessary alterations in the bye-laws, to authorise the incoming Committee to draw-up and publish a corrected scale of ratings, time-scale, etc.

The revised rules having read by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. K. Wilson,

Mr. P. S. BENT moved the adoption of the revised rules. Mr. BRAMHALL seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then declared the extraordinary meeting closed, and called the ordinary general meeting to order.

Mr. WILSON read the minutes of the first meeting, which were approved, on the motion of Mr. F. J. HALL seconded by Mr. McWILLIAMS.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the report and accounts, said that all must agree that their first year's work as a Club had been crowned with success. They had now over 60 members, and although they had not as many boats as they could wish in their fleet, still more boats were on the way. He strongly advised those who proposed building boats to do so this winter as the price of lumber and the rate of wages were rising; while the winter season was the best time when this kind of work could be done; it was then done more slowly and supervision could be carried out more thoroughly. The Temple-house at Tomioka had also been a successful part of their summer programme, the place being used every Saturday and Sunday by a large number of members. As for the *Aborigines*, the scheme had worked out the most successful of all; only on one Sunday did she remain at her moorings during the season. The possession of this 42-footer was a great thing for the Club in inculcating the rudimentary principles of seamanship and navigation. Many a man who went aboard her at the beginning of a voyage with the crudest notion of the handling of a boat, now knew—and boasted of the fact—which end went first and which rope was called the main-sheet.—(Laughter.) They had a

small ice-chest on board, that was fitted up with the usual accessories, and he thought it spoke well for the high morality of the members that the profits from this chest came to only \$1.90.—(Laughter.) And this brought him to the question of a Club House. The Club was in urgent need of a Club House wherein to store gear, and where the *sandoes* could dry sails and mend things generally. They had approached the Governor of the Ken—who treated them with all courtesy—about a site behind the English hatoba. But unfortunately this place could not be spared by the Customs authorities. They had no wish to build a place on the Bund; the members of the Mosquito Yacht Club would be the last people to obstruct the view from there, and as no suitable place offered, they had to fall back on the suggestion of building a floating Club House. This should be 2-storied high, have a verandah running all round, and be suitably fitted-up inside. But how were they going to build such a desirable place? He could only hope that the Club would fall across some folk with well-lined pockets who would build the house for them. Then the Club would rent the place, and at \$25, or \$40 a month rent, he was confident the speculation would pay. This was a matter, however, that they would know more about next year. In reference to racing, the Chairman said that the Club were to be congratulated on the innovations they had made, especially, as besides the fun of the racing itself, owing to the conditions under which some races took place, the members were taught how to handle their boats entirely by themselves, even to the lowering of sails and mooring. He trusted that in the coming season they would be even more successful in this line, and advised all members to study the racing rules and sailing conditions, and, if possible, keep up to time in getting the races started. And now gentlemen, he continued, I will read one of the concluding paragraphs of our first report:—"It is with very great sorrow that the Committee have to record the loss sustained by the Club in the death of Mr. W. R. H. Carew, the late Vice-Commodore. He was one who always took a keen interest in the welfare of the Club, having been one of its promoters. He was an ardent and fearless yachtsman and an energetic Committee-man and will be deeply missed by the members of the Mosquito Yacht Club." I have little more to add, save that the Committee in retiring, offer their best wishes for the future success of the Mosquito Yacht Club.

No one having any questions to put or objections to urge, Mr. BRAMHALL moved that the report and accounts as presented be accepted.

Mr. McWILLIAMS seconded.—Carried.

REPORT FOR 1896.

We have pleasure in handing you this, our first annual report. We feel that success has crowned our efforts and that our Club has prospered in this, the first year, of its existence.

There are already more than sixty members on our Club Register, and several new boats have been added to the fleet since the opening of the season.

A temple at Tomioka was rented for the Summer months and was greatly appreciated by the many who used it. On Sundays, especially, it was the resort of a good portion of the Club. No doubt when more of the members possess boats of their own the country Club House will be repaired to more frequently on week days.

Early in June your Committee decided to purchase the yacht *Aborigines*, and we feel sure that much satisfaction has been given by the decision. During the cruising season she only lay at her moorings upon one Sunday, and very seldom on week days. She answered the purpose of Flag Ship, Training Ship, and Bathing Barge. Eight debentures of \$50 each were issued to cover her cost, and it is with no small feeling of pleasure that the Committee saw themselves enabled at the close of the season to pay off one of these.

Several letters have passed between the Governor of this Ken and the Honorary Secretary with a view to obtaining a site for a Club House. The places asked for were all to the northwest of the English Hatoba. So far, we regret to say, in the Committee has not met with success, and, in view of the limited space available, the probability is that it will be necessary to construct a floating Club House.

In the matter of Racing, some interesting innovations were introduced. We had two single-handed races and two without *sandoes*, starting from moorings with all sail down.

The Committee would like to see a larger number of boats enter, and hope that they will have that pleasure next year.

Several very handsome cups were presented and are as follow:—The Nandeska Cup, won by *Cocktail*; Daimyo Cup, won by *Nandeska*; Cocktail Cup, won by *Isabel*; Mountain Dew Cup, won by *Sodesha*, and Sodeska Cup won by *Sayonara*.

A prize fund was voluntarily started at the suggestion of Captain Gordon, of the *Sunda*, and was handsomely added to by Mr. G. W. Bramhall. A clock, looking-glasses, and several useful articles were pre-

sented to the *Aborigine*, and a measuring appliance to the Club.

It is with great sorrow that the Committee have to record the loss sustained by the Club in the death of Mr. W. R. H. Carew, the late Vice-Commodore. He was one who always took a keen interest in the welfare of the Club, having been one of its promoters. He was an ardent and fearless yachtsman and an energetic Committee man, and will be deeply missed by members of the Mosquito Yacht Club.

With very sincere wishes for the future success of the Club, the Committee beg herewith to tender their resignation.

W. W. CAMPBELL, Commodore; K. WILSON, Honorary Secretary; S. WARMING, Honorary Treasurer. F. J. HALL, P. S. BENT.

STATEMENT OF WORKING ACCOUNT OF THE "MOSQUITO YACHT CLUB" FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOV. 30TH, 1896.

Dr.	
To <i>Aborigine</i> Account—	
Original Purchase "Aborigine" ...	\$160.45
Fixtures and Repairs ...	113.00
Furniture, Gear, etc. ...	94.54
	\$368.99
To Tomioka Club House Account—	
Rent May 1st to Oct. 15th, 1896 ...	75.88
Sampanshire ...	30.70
Steam-launch-hire ...	30.00
Furniture and Fittings ...	27.30
Fixtures, Charcoal, Wood, etc. ...	3.68
	230.56
To Flag Account—Twenty Club Flags @ \$1.05 ...	21.00
To Printing and Stationery Account—Circulars, Postcards, Stamps, Books, etc. ...	50.08
To Wages Account—Sendees, Coolie Hire, Collector, etc. ...	81.63
To Fire Insurance Account—Fire Insurance Policy for the "Aborigine" ...	5.00
To Interest Account—Interest on Debentures to October 31st, 1896 ...	9.35
To General Charges Account—	
Sampans for Races, etc. ...	0.50
Cartridges, Oil, Matches, Brooms, etc. ...	4.95
Wreath for Mr. Carew ...	11.00
Lawyer's Charges for Letter and Advice ...	25.00
	41.45
To Balance (Cash in Hand) ...	41.43
	\$698.89
Cr.	
By Subscription Account—Sixty-five Members @ \$5.00 ...	\$325.00
By Initiation Account—Eleven Entrance Fees @ \$15.00 ...	165.00
By Flag Account—Fourteen Club Flags @ \$1.50, sold to Boat Owners ...	21.00
By Fee Account—Fifteen Registrations of Boats @ 50 cents ...	7.50
By Prize Fund Account—	
Contributions by Mr. Bramhall and Captain Gordon ...	\$30.00
Less Prizes for Races in Sept. ...	8.50
	21.50
By Furniture and Gear Account—Subscriptions towards one set of Flags for "Aborigine" ...	21.00
By Bar Account—Profit on Refreshments, "Aborigine" ...	2.09
By Debenture Account—	
Eight Debentures @ \$50.00 ...	400.00
Less Debenture No. 3, paid off ...	50.00
	350.00
	\$698.98

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON NOVEMBER 30TH, 1896.

ASSETS.	
The "Aborigine," complete, with Sampans, etc. ...	\$368.99
Less 10 per cent. Depreciation ...	51.82
	466.37
Sundry Furniture and Fittings at Tomioka ...	27.30
Less 10 per cent. Depreciation ...	2.73
	24.57
Stock of Club Flags, one ...	1.00
Cash in Hand ...	41.43
	\$544.57
LIABILITIES.	
Seven Debentures @ \$50.00 ...	\$350.00
Interest to November 30th, 1896 ...	2.04
	\$352.04

E. & O. E.

S. WARMING, Honorary Treasurer.
Examined with vouchers and found correct,
Yokohama, December 1st, 1896. A. COUTTS.

Mr. BRAMHALL said that in regard to the next business—the election of officers and committee—the Club were so satisfied with the working of the old committee that he thought they should be given a chance of distinguishing themselves again.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Bramhall for his kind expressions, but said the election must go by ballot.

The result of the ballot was as follows.—Commodore, W. W. Campbell; Vice Commodore, G. Middleton; Hon. Treasurer, T. Warming; Hon. Sec., K. Wilson; P. S. Bent and F. J. Hall. Votes of thanks were passed to the following:—Dr. Todd, for lending the Club a godown at the R.N. Depot, in which to stow sails, etc.—Dr. Todd's election as an honorary member was also confirmed; Mr. J. F. Lowder, for kindly volunteering to act as honorary Counsel to the Club; Mr. Keil, for the use of the room for the meeting; Capt. Gordon for voluntarily starting the prize-fund; and Mr. G. W. Bramhall for materially helping the same along; and to the Chairman for presiding.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before JAMES TROUP, Esq., Assistant Judge.
MONDAY, December 7th, 1896.

BREACH OF THE CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

This morning Fritz C. E. Lütze, chief mate of the British ship *Sumbawa*, was charged by the Japanese Customs Authorities with a breach of the Regulations, in breaking the Customs seals affixed to a hatch of that vessel on the 28th ult.

Defendant pleaded that he accidentally broke the seals; but did not open the hatches.

Mr. L. Akiba, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Customs.

Arakawa Matsumoro, a tide-waiter in the employ of the Imperial Japanese Customs, deposed—On the 28th ult., at 6.30 o'clock in the morning, I went off to the *Sumbawa*. I examined the four hatches. Two seals of No. 4 hatch were broken. On the previous evening this hatch had been sealed in four places by one of the tide-waiters. I asked the mate why he had broken them. The mate is sitting in Court now. Next I asked him when they were broken; and whether he had seen them broken or not. The mate answered that the seals had been broken by the wind about six o'clock that morning and he had seen them broken. I then asked him to give me a written statement to that effect. When I asked him to do that the mate trembled; his lip quivered. Then he said, "I ordered the men to set to work at 6 o'clock and then noticed that a lock was on the main hatch; I became frightened and told the men to stop work." At that time he added, two seals had already been broken. He said that he was very sorry and regretted that he had ordered the sailors to commence work at six o'clock. The mate's two statements therefore did not tally, and he is thus guilty of incivility to me. The mate then promised to write his second statement on paper. This statement I afterwards received from him.

The defendant—I did not say that the seals were broken by the wind, but that they could easily have been broken by the wind; that is what I said, and I should like to ask the witness whether those are not the words I used?

His Honour had the question put through the interpreter.

Witness—The mate said, "You see like that (motioning his arms) they were broken by the wind." He did not say "might have been broken by the wind."

The defendant—In the summons it says that I opened the hatches. I did not do that, it would have been impossible to open them under the circumstances.

His Honour pointed out that this arose through the wording of the summons and was merely the phrase used in the regulations; "break the seals and or open the hatches."

Defendant—I only broke the seals accidentally.

His Honour—That is what we are inquiring into now. Have you any other questions to put?

Defendant—No.

Onoki Michisuke, another Customs official, sworn, deposed—A report was brought to the Customs House by the last witness, that this affair had happened, and I went off at once in a steam launch to the *Sumbawa*. I examined the broken seals and found that two were split across at No. 4 hatch, at the corners of the hatch. I spoke to Arakawa, and he said that a statement had been written by the mate in reference to the affair. I gathered from the statement that the mate had broken the seals. The mate was present at this time. I further asked the mate how the seals were broken. He said that as the Customs officials always came aboard early to break the seals, he therefore told the crew to set to at six o'clock, thinking the seals had been undone. The mate further said that when he saw the lock on the second hatch, he came to the conclusion that the Customs House officers had not been aboard, and he gave orders for the men to stop work; but by time two seals had been broken, I feel sure that the two seals were broken in consequence of the mate giving orders to the men to get to work.

His Honour—Well, well, I want facts, not opinions.

Witness, continuing—I told the mate to come to the Custom House and I left.

The defendant—The Customs officials often come aboard as early as 5 o'clock to break seals, and do so very often without calling the mate at all. Sometimes they come aboard and leave without breaking all the seals; at other times they just hit them with a hammer, and go away without cutting the strings.

The Customs official who visited the *Sumbawa* at sunset on the 27th ult., deposed to placing the seals on all the hatches. Owing to the impossibility of affixing locks to Nos. 3 and 4, threads were passed

through the tarpaulin at the four corners, and these were sealed. The tarpaulin was further fastened down with nails to prevent it flapping in the wind.

To the defendant—The tarpaulin was certainly nailed down by me that night. It was my duty to do that, and I drove the nails in.

His Honour—Are you sure, Mr. Wileman (the interpreter) that witness did not say string instead of tarpaulin? I have string in my notes, but on your twice repeating the word tarpaulin I altered the word to string.

The Interpreter put the question again and then said—The string was fixed down by nails to prevent it from shrinking in case of rain.

His Honour—Yes, I thought he said string at first.

Defendant—I should like to call evidence that the hatches were not opened.

His Honour—I am quite prepared to accept your word for it, that the hatches were not opened. I have no proof before me further than that the seals were broken, so it is not necessary to call evidence as to the hatches being open.

Defendant—I could also say how easy it was to break the seals. I have men who can say that the seals were broken only five minutes before the Customs officials came aboard.

His Honour—I am afraid that would not help you much.

Defendant—I could call the Captain.

His Honour—Well, he can go into the box if you wish to have him examined. What question do you wish to put him?

Carl Rehberg, Master of the *Sumbawa*, entered the box and was sworn.

The defendant—I wish to ask him whether some seals did not remain unbroken all day.

His Honour—I do not see your point.

Captain Rehberg—Sometimes the Customs House officers come aboard early in the morning and break seals without calling the mate's attention or any man's attention except the watchman. Consequently when the mate went on deck that day he thought the seals were broken. Sometimes the Customs officers merely chip the seal with a hammer, not removing the string, and so it is very hard to see whether the seal has been broken or not.

His Honour (to defendant)—Have you anything further?

Defendant—Yes; I can prove that they just touch the seals with a hammer and leave the string.

His Honour—I can't see how that can help you. You are charged with breaking the seals. If the Customs officers had broken the seals that would relieve you of the responsibility and then you could bring evidence to prove that was so. As it is, you acknowledge that you broke the seals.

Defendant—Sometimes the Customs officers will break the seals between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning, but most times before 5 o'clock. They should observe the regulations if they wish others to keep them. I would not have broken the seals if I had known it. I thought that the officers had been, and when I found they had not I told the men to knock off work.

His Honour—Have you any evidence to lead that would prove that the Customs officers have broken the seals at 2 o'clock?

Defendant—Yes.

His Honour—Who is the man?

Defendant—The watchman.

His Honour—Where is he?

Defendant—Aboard the ship, but I can fetch him.

His Honour—You have had full warning about the case. The summons was served on Friday. Have you anything else to say?

Defendant—No, sir.

His Honour then read the regulation applying to the case, wherein it is laid down that any breach of the regulation must be punished by the infliction of a fine of \$60. Continuing, he said—I dare say you did not think about it at the time when you ordered the crew to open the hatches, and from that point of view it may seem a little hard. But then it was your duty to think about it. There is no doubt that you have violated the regulation, and it being so I must convict you of the offence as charged; and as the fine is provided for and laid down in the Treaty, I have no option but to inflict the fine of \$60. You will also have to pay the costs of the Court—2½ yen. The fine is payable in the Court.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.

TUESDAY, November 8th, 1896.

MAY OASTLER BURDIS V. JAMES JOHNSTONE.

This was a case brought by Miss May Oastler Burdis, who moved the Court for "Specific performance," the defendant being Mr. James Johnstone, Executor of the estate of the late Mr. George Sanders Burdis.

Mr. Lowder—I appear for the plaintiff.

His Honour—This is an action for specific performance?

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—It has been entered as one for judicial relief. You appear for the defendant, Mr. Litchfield?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes.

Plaintiff's petition was as follows:—

1.—The plaintiff, who is a spinster, was born at Yokohama in the year 1873. Her mother was a native of Japan and her putative father was William Oastler, a British subject.

2.—The mother of the plaintiff died in the year 1886, whereupon the said William Oastler became entitled to and did assume the sole guardianship and care of the plaintiff, and undertook to act towards her in all respects *in loco parentis*, until the making of the agreement hereinafter mentioned.

3.—On the 26th day of January, 1891, the said William Oastler, with the knowledge and consent of the plaintiff, entered into an agreement on behalf of the plaintiff with George Sanders Burdis, a British subject, whereby it was agreed that from the date of the said agreement, the plaintiff should in addition to the names Mary Oastler theretofore borne by her, assume the surname of Burdis, and relinquish all claims upon the said William Oastler for maintenance, and otherwise should thenceforth live and abide with the said George Sanders Burdis as his adopted child and should during their joint lives render to him such faithful, dutiful, and filial obedience and service as are due from a daughter to her parent, and should not, during the life time of the said George Sanders Burdis, be married without his approval and sanction first had and obtained, and in consideration of the premises the said George Sanders Burdis agreed that he would adopt, maintain, and support the plaintiff and would secure to her for her sole and separate use a competency sufficient to maintain her in comfort after his death.

4.—Immediately on the execution of the said agreement the plaintiff in pursuance of the terms thereof went to live with the said George Sanders Burdis as his adopted daughter and assumed the surname of Burdis and thereafter until the death of the said George Sanders Burdis did not cease to reside with him nor to render to him such faithful, dutiful, and filial obedience and service as are due from a daughter to her parent.

5.—William Oastler died on the 22nd day of September, 1891, without having made any provision for the plaintiff other than the agreement aforesaid.

6.—George Sanders Burdis died on the 13th day of March, 1895, without having fulfilled that part of his agreement by which he undertook to make provision for the maintenance and comfort of the plaintiff after his decease, but leaving property within the jurisdiction of this honourable Court sufficient for the fulfilment of her said agreement.

7.—The defendant is the executor, in Japan, of the will of the said George Sanders Burdis.

The plaintiff prays:—

1.—That the defendant be restrained from parting with any of the estate, or with any of the rents and profits of the estate of George Sanders Burdis deceased, which may now be in or hereinafter come into the possession of the defendant until the further Order of the Court.

2.—That out of the estate of the late George Sanders Burdis within the jurisdiction of this Court, the defendant be ordered to make provision for giving effect to that part of the agreement of the said George Sanders Burdis which is set out in paragraph 3 of the petition and which was not carried out in his life-time.

3.—That the plaintiff's costs may be paid out of the said estate.

4.—That the plaintiff may have such further and other relief as the nature of the case may require, and as to the Court may seem fit.

The defendant's answer was as follows:—

1.—The defendant admits that he is executor of the late George Sanders Burdis, but does not admit that he has assets of and belonging to the estate of the said testator sufficient for the purpose claimed in the said petition.

2.—The defendant submits to the first prayer of the said petition and says that he will not part with any assets of the said testator which now are or which may hereafter come into his hands until judgment has been rendered in this cause.

3.—The defendant says that the allegations contained in the paragraphs 1, 2, and 4, of the said petition are matters of which he, the said defendant, has no personal knowledge.

4.—The defendant says that the said George Sanders Burdis did not promise as in the 3rd paragraph in the said petition alleged and further says:—

(a.) The said alleged agreement was void for want of consideration—there was no duty on the part of William Oastler to provide for the plaintiff, and assuming that the said George Sanders Burdis did promise as alleged, there was no obligation on his part to make provision for the said plaintiff.

(b.) That the terms of the said agreement are so indefinite and uncertain that they could not be performed by the said George Sanders Burdis or by the defendant.

(c.) That the said plaintiff was not in any way prejudiced by relinquishment of any claim she might be supposed to have upon the benevolence of William Oastler.

5.—The said William Oastler died on the 22nd September, 1891, having previously made his will dated 26th September 1891, by which he appointed the said G. S. Burdis, his executor, by whom the said will was proved and the value of the estate sworn upon £600, but the defendant believes that the assets were only sufficient to pay the debts and testamentary expenses of the said William Oastler.

6.—The defendant believes that the said George Sanders Burdis during his life-time spent considerable sums of money in completing the education of the plaintiff, and he admits that the said George Sanders Burdis died on 13th March, 1895, without having altered his will made by him previously to the 26th January, 1891, or making any provision for the plaintiff other than herein mentioned.

Mr. Lowder—May it please the Court; this is an action brought by the plaintiff for the purpose of compelling the defendant to carry out as the

executor of the will of the late George Sanders Burdis deceased, the promise made in an agreement entered into between the putative father of plaintiff and the said George Sanders Burdis, during the life time of Burdis and Oastler, wherein Burdis undertook to provide for her comfort and maintenance for the rest of their lives. The agreement is set out shortly on the third paragraph of the petition. The petition, after setting forth the terms of the agreement goes on to allege that the plaintiff did carry out the agreement, but Burdis through some mistake, I suggest, failed during his life time to take such steps as would enable him to fulfil the latter part of the agreement. This action is therefore brought to ascertain your Honour's opinion whether she is right in her opinion, and can maintain her claim upon the estate. The first, second, and fourth paragraphs of the petition are not admitted by the defendant on the ground that he has no knowledge of the facts alleged. The whole argument, will, I presume, centre on the third paragraph, the answer to which is contained in the fourth paragraph of the answer.

His Honour—There is an agreement, you say? Mr. Lowder—Yes, a written agreement. But the answer alleges that there has been want of consideration.

His Honour—I have read the answer.

Mr. Lowder—Perhaps it will be as well if I read the agreement first, and then your Honour can see whether the terms have been correctly set out in the petition.

The agreement—is as follows:—"It is hereby mutually agreed between William Oastler, of Takahama, Kobe, on the first part, and George Sanders Burdis, of Kobe on the second part, that I, William Oastler, Father of May Oastler, do herewith agree and sanction, without let or hindrance and with the full approval of my daughter May, that she becomes from this date the adopted child of the said G. S. Burdis and that she is to live with and abide with G. S. Burdis as his adopted child and daughter from this date forth. And that G. S. Burdis on the second part, agrees to receive said May Oastler as his adopted child from this date, and that G. S. Burdis agrees to give to May his own name and that she will henceforward be known as May Oastler Burdis, and that G. S. Burdis will maintain and support in sickness or in health and with all the privileges and endowments due to her as though she were his own naturally born child, and that a competency will be secured upon herself only sufficient to maintain her in comfort after the demise of said G. S. Burdis. Should May O. Burdis at any time during the life-time of G. S. Burdis wish to marry, it must only be with the full approval and sanction of said G. S. Burdis, and we hereby subscribe our names on this 26th day of January, 1891."

Mr. Lowder—I shall prove that this agreement is in the hand-writing of George Sanders Burdis.

His Honour—The plaintiff at that time was 18, apparently?

Mr. Lowder—She was born in 1873. I shall consider it my duty to call your Honour's attention to Stephen's Blackstone, and to Keats' Commentaries, page 337, vol. 2., where the law is laid down with regard to similar cases.

His Honour—If the defendant—the late testator—undertakes to provide for plaintiff does it make it necessary for the putative father to maintain her?

Mr. Lowder—In quoting the case just now, I was merely meeting the allegation set out in the answer.

His Honour—At present it seems that Oastler does not enter into the case.

Mr. Lowder—That is what it seems to me. I will leave it until I hear what my learned friend has to advance on the point. The next point in the answer is that the agreement is void for want of consideration. On that point I shall refer you, sir, to Pollock on "Contracts," page 158, where the adequacy of consideration was not enquired into.

His Honour—It is quite clear that Mr. Litchfield does not say adequate consideration: he says there was no consideration.

Mr. Litchfield—There is no question of adequacy.

His Honour—I have said, Mr. Litchfield, that I do not see where Oastler comes into it at present. Mr. Lowder—I submit that a consideration has been set out.

His Honour—I think so too, if the agreement holds.

Mr. Lowder—If I am to define a legal term for it, I should say that there was mutual consideration. I will refer you, sir, to Leake on "Consideration."

His Honour—The man practically said: If you come to me and live with me as my daughter, I will do certain things for you on that condition.

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—If she performs it.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, if she performs it. The next point, that the deceased had no obligation to perform the promise set out in the agreement, is difficult to meet.

His Honour—Outside of the agreement there was not any obligation.

Mr. Lowder—Quite so. Perhaps it will be urged that as the agreement extended beyond a life-time, it was not legal, but our old Equity maxim will meet that. I will refer you to a case in 1829—*Bryan v. Flyte*; to 5, *Meason and Wellsby*, where it was left to the Jury to determine what was a reasonable amount of compensation.

His Honour—In that case one of the judges dissented.

Mr. Lowder—Yes.

His Honour—I think you will find a later case, *Roberts v. Smith*—twenty years later.

Mr. Lowder—The fifth point is that the plaintiff was not prejudiced—

His Honour—I don't see how that bears on the case.

Mr. Lowder—The next point is that Oastler made a will before his death. As to that I have no knowledge. I submit, sir, that in the absence of any very strong arguments to the contrary, I have made out a case on behalf of the plaintiff which your Honour will see is properly made effective. I will now call evidence.

May Oastler Burdis, the plaintiff, was then sworn. She deposed—I was born on March 22nd, 1873—I was told this by my father. He also told me that I was born in Yokohama. My mother was a Japanese, and my father's name was William Oastler, who was a Scotsman. My mother died in 1886, in Kobe, where she had been residing with my father for seven or eight years. I lived with my father and mother until her death. After she died I continued to live with my father until the end of January, 1891, when I went to live with Mr. Geo. S. Burdis, and took his name.

Mr. Lowder—Do you recognise this paper? (Agreement shown)—Yes.

In whose handwriting is this paper?—That of my adopted father, Mr. Geo. S. Burdis.

Is it signed by him and also by Oastler?—Yes.

You know their handwriting?—Yes.

Did he give you that document, or one similar to it, some months before his death?—Yes.

His Honour—You are speaking of Mr. Burdis? Mr. Lowder—Yes.

Witness—I gave the document to Mr. Johnstone, to keep for me: this was after the death of Mr. Burdis. Mr. Johnstone was then searching for a will. I subsequently, asked Mr. Crosse, who was acting for defendant, for this document and received it back. Mr. Johnstone at that time told me that he had found an identical document in the office of Mr. Burdis. Mr. Burdis died in March, 1895. I continued to live in the house for three months, with my brother, until defendant told me he must let the house and I must make other arrangements. My brother never took the name of Burdis; he is still known as Oastler. I took the name of May Oastler Burdis when I went to live with Mr. Burdis, and I have kept that name ever since. On the death of my father, Mr. Oastler, my brother came to reside in the same house with Mr. Burdis. Mr. Oastler died on the 22nd Sept., 1892. From January 1891 till Sept. 1892, Oastler made no provision for me, nor did he pay any of my expenses—that is, from the date of the agreement he ceased to support me, either with money or clothing. Burdis solely supported me, and I lived with him. I kept house for Mr. Burdis, ordered his meals, looked after his comfort generally, paid the servants wages and the monthly bills as they came in, and served him faithfully and filially until the end of his life.

To His Honour—As a daughter would?

Witness—Yes, like a daughter would.

His Honour—You understand the expression filially?—Yes. Like his own daughter.

Cross-examined by Mr. Litchfield—When my father, Mr. Oastler, died, he left me in his will a legacy of \$100 to buy a ring. That \$100 Mr. Burdis gave to me.

His Honour—You got it from your father's executor, that is, Mr. Burdis?—Yes.

He gave you that amount?—Yes.

Mr. James Johnstone, the defendant, was then sworn. He deposed—I am the defendant in this case, and executor of the late G. S. Burdis. I was a great friend of the deceased during his lifetime. I was aware that the plaintiff was living with him as his adopted daughter. He adopted her about the time she went to Kobe—some years prior to his death. She sat at his table and entertained his guests; and when I have been

at Kobe and have had tiffin with him, she was always at the table.

Mr. Lowder—And, so far as the law allows, you would have no objection to carrying out the performance of the promise made in the agreement?—Yes, but I am administering other people's money in this case.

Mr. Lowder—That is, you have no objection to the prayer of the petition being granted if the law allows?—Yes.

Witness continuing—Burdis left property within the jurisdiction of this Court. There are four houses in Kobe, all let; but the leases are short, some falling in next year.

His Honour—I don't propose to go into that until an amount is fixed.

Mr. Lowder—I only wish to prove that there is property.

His Honour—I should not fix an amount, sitting here.

Mr. Lowder—Sitting as a jury?

His Honour—Precisely.

Mr. Lowder—I have very little doubt whatever that should the principal point be given in my favour than an arrangement can be come to between the parties. That is my case.

His Honour—Have you any questions to put, Mr. Litchfield, to this witness?

Mr. Litchfield—No.

His Honour—Then I will hear your case.

Mr. Litchfield—The case for the plaintiff is founded on an agreement made by two persons, one the assumed father of the plaintiff and the other George Sanders Burdis, now deceased. The Court is now asked to decree a performance of the agreement come to between those parties. I submit first, that before the plaintiff can recover, there must be some valuable consideration moving from the plaintiff to the deceased Burdis to support the promise which he had made. The consideration, so far as the agreement states, and so far as the evidence given this morning carries it, is one of agreement of adoption. That is to say, Oastler, upon whom there was no obligation to provide for plaintiff after his death, makes an agreement with Burdis that Burdis should assume his position towards plaintiff, and put him (Burdís) in the position of father by adoption towards plaintiff. If no obligation was upon Oastler to make provision for plaintiff after his death, there cannot be any greater obligation on Burdis than there was on Oastler. This agreement was not an agreement of service; it was an agreement of adoption, and therefore plaintiff obtains the same position relative to Burdis and his estate as if she was in fact the natural daughter of Burdis. I contend that no—

His Honour—The actual daughter, not natural—there is a difference between the two.

Mr. Litchfield—Whether actual or illegitimate, there is no obligation on an English father to leave by will any money, or to promise to leave any money or legacy—there is no obligation whether she is a natural or an illegitimate daughter. Further, I shall submit, that the proper consideration necessary to cause the deceased to give effect to the promise must be that of mutual obligation. There is no agreement between Oastler or the plaintiff to give service to the deceased Burdis beyond service for a specific time. The agreement was to terminate on her part at will, as is only natural in the case of father and daughter. There was no obligation on the part of plaintiff to render service to the deceased Burdis. If she had chosen to leave his home, no power on earth or any Court could have restrained her: there was no obligation on her to give continual service to Burdis. I presume that it will be said that the plaintiff after the agreement changed her status: that that is sufficient consideration. I submit there must be change of status detrimental to herself before she has sufficient grounds to pray for the performance of the promise. Then another point is raised: what did Burdis promise the plaintiff by this agreement? [Counsel here read the contract.] Continuing, he said—That is a promise not to bequeath any property to the plaintiff by will, but to secure to her in some way, which is not mentioned, a competency, a competency of an indefinite amount—an amount which, I submit, this Court can not ascertain and fix with any certainty or with sufficient certainty, to enable it to decree the performance thereof after the death of Burdis. When the Courts of Equity are appealed to to decree performance of an agreement it is first essential that the agreement should be a specific one—one that can be enforced without importing into its terms further stipulations and obligations than are contained in the agreement sought to be enforced. In the case of *Holloway and Hedington* (6 L.J.C. page 199)—in that case the Court was appealed to to decree performance of an agreement to bequeath some money after death, and the Vice-Chancellor held that the wording of the agreement was so vague—

His Honour—What were the words of the agreement?

Mr. Litchfield—I have not got the case with me. His Honour—All depends on the wording of the agreement. I will send for the volume named from the Court Library. [After the volume had been brought in and the case consulted, His Honour said—The wording of the agreement in that case is so vague that it could not be enforced.]

Mr. Litchfield—I will now refer your Honour to *Kimberley v. Fennings* (5 L.J.C. p. 115)—that is an agreement in trade.

His Honour—You may be able to find me a closer or more similar case than that.

Mr. Litchfield—I don't think there ever has been such a case like this before.

His Honour—Well, perhaps, you can find a case more akin to this than the one you have just cited. You were about to say something on competency, I believe?

Mr. Litchfield—I don't see that the Court has competency here: the agreement in this case is just as vague as that of the case just cited. But what is a competency? It is a phrase, or word, that is very indefinite, very vague. It has been defined as being double what one has got at present. If you have got nothing, by doubling it you have nothing.

His Honour—But why do you suggest such a ridiculous definition. This is not a definition at all.

Mr. Litchfield—Then assuming that the Court is competent to decide—what will be the measure by which it will decree a competency? I presume of course, that in coming to an agreement, something must be inferred, and if your Honour finds that the Court can make a decree in this case, then it will have to decide what sum of money for plaintiff's support will be deemed suitable. I was trying by suggestion to assist the Court in coming to a decision in the matter.

His Honour—By a process of exclusion, a certain sum, or certain sums, will be found not to be a competency: certain other sums would be a competency. There are two limits for you to work on: it is for this reason that I say that the case you cited does not apply at all.

Mr. Litchfield—Then we have the case of *Hill v. Gore*, reported in 8 L.J.C., page 350, and on appeal to the House of Lords, 9 L.J. page 54. That was a case of adoption, or assumed to be adoption, of a child eight years old, by a labourer, in consideration of £100, and doubts were expressed in both Courts whether the £100 ever passed.—[Case quoted.] I submit that, taking all these points into consideration, this agreement is of such a nature that it makes the promise one that the Court of Chancery could not enforce.

His Honour—Have I got down your point aright: that there must be a valuable consideration moving from the plaintiff to the deceased in order to make valid the grounds of this action to enforce performance of the promise?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes.

His Honour—Were not her services valuable consideration?

Mr. Litchfield—Not as coming from a daughter; coming from a servant, yes.

His Honour—You say that because he adopted her as a daughter that her services were not a valuable consideration moving from her to the deceased; but that, had he not adopted her, then her services as a servant would have been a valuable consideration?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes.

His Honour—Then this is how you put it—the adoption destroys the service?

Mr. Litchfield—Yes. She did not, as a daughter, render valuable consideration.

His Honour—But she rendered services?

Mr. Litchfield—She came into a position as if she had been Burdis' own child.

His Honour—Could not a man promise his own daughter that he would leave her some money in his will?

Mr. Litchfield—He could, but he could afterwards legally change his mind.

His Honour—No doubt: but what is there to prevent the plaintiff from not receiving a competency from the estate?

Mr. Litchfield—If there had been an agreement of service, it would have come under the case of *Alderson v. Madeson* 7 Q.B.D., and before the House of Lords, 8 A.C., p. 467.

His Honour—My next note is that you say that Burdis was not more bound than Oastler was to provide a competency for plaintiff—I don't yet see how that applies.

Mr. Litchfield—There was no obligation.

His Honour—You deny service?

Mr. Litchfield—I take it that what service was given was compensated for during his lifetime.

His Honour—Yet you say there was no service.

Mr. Litchfield—The agreement only covers Burdis' life.

His Honour—There you are going into adequacy of consideration—an entirely different question.

Mr. Litchfield—I go further.

His Honour—He may have thought that he would like to provide a competency for her.

Mr. Litchfield—I submit that there was no service sufficient to secure a competency. That is what the agreement is founded on.

His Honour—He has agreed to provide her for life with comfort and maintenance, and a competency after his death. I understand you to say now that there was no consideration at all because the services rendered by plaintiff were those of a daughter and therefore he is not bound to provide for her after his death.

Mr. Litchfield—Yes.

His Honour—If he agreed to do a certain thing why should he not be held to it?

Mr. Litchfield—The agreement was not of such a nature as to enable plaintiff to come into this Court and ask for an enforcement of the promise contained in the agreement. That is all I have to say.

His Honour—Mr. Lowder, when would you like to make your reply?

Mr. Lowder—It is past twelve o'clock, sir, and I should like to consult the cases cited and the one handed down from the Bench.

His Honour—Will to-morrow at 10.30 suit you?

Mr. Lowder—Yes, sir.

His Honour—Then we will adjourn till to-morrow.

MONDAY, December 9th, 1896.

On the Court resuming this morning,

Mr. Litchfield said—I wish to put in the probate of the will of the late Burdis, and probate of the will of the late Oastler.

His Honour—Have you evidence to lead?

Mr. Litchfield—No, sir.

His Honour—Have these documents any bearing on the case?

Mr. Litchfield—I don't think so. I did not think yesterday that it would be worth while putting them in, but on reflection I thought that, as I had them in my possession, I had better put them in.

His Honour—I thought you had closed your case.

Mr. Lowder—I have no objection to make.

His Honour—Do you wish to see the wills?

Mr. Lowder—No, sir.

His Honour—Very well, then I will hear you Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—I will not trouble your Honour with the authorities that I had prepared in answer to the argument that the defendant's counsel used when he said that the putative father of the plaintiff was under no obligation to provide for the maintenance of his daughter after his death, and therefore that her adopted father was not bound to support her after his life-time, because we have had it in evidence that Oastler in this particular case did assume that obligation after the death of her mother, whether that duty was legally binding upon him not. And also or we have it in evidence that has not been traversed that he entered on behalf of the plaintiff into an agreement with Burdis the provisions of which agreement were carried out faithfully by the plaintiff on her part, until they ceased naturally by the death of Burdis. Now the first point advanced by the defence is that there was no consideration moving from the plaintiff to Burdis that can render valid the enforcement of the promise contained in the agreement. In my opinion, sir, the mere change of name was sufficient consideration even if no other service had been rendered. It is no uncommon thing for a legacy to be left to A. in the will of A.B., on the condition that A. shall take the name of A.B., and supposing that the executor of the will should afterwards refuse to pay this legacy to A., the law can be moved to enforce the payment. Now surely if this can be done by will it can be done by deed and contract. But not only was the change of name not the whole of the consideration moving from the plaintiff to Burdis, but she went and lived at his house and rendered such services as a daughter would render to a father. The next point raised by my learned friend is that there was no mutuality—that had the plaintiff declined to carry out the agreement and chosen to leave the house of her adopted father, then there was no law and no power to compel her to return. I do not think that such a proposition can be supported. If the contract was a good one, I do not see why it can not be enforced against the defendant. It may be said that the plaintiff at the time of the making of the agreement was an infant: but it can not, I contend, be void after she had accepted it on coming of age. It may be implied that as it would not be enforced against an infant—

His Honour—An infant, of course, cannot apply for specific enforcement.

Mr. Lowder—She is no longer an infant. Then, as to remedy. I contend that mutuality in the remedy is not really essential to the contract. I think that my learned friend was mistaken in putting that argument forward. I shall now refer your Honour to a note on page 19, in Leake on the "Law of Contracts," with reference to mutual promises. There it is laid down that mutuality of remedy is not essential. Then we have *Laythorp v. Bryan* in 2 Bingham, p. 743. Turning to another point in the argument of the previous day, Mr. Lowder said that his learned friend had urged that the agreement was not one of service but one of adoption. I understood him then to say that by and through this adoption plaintiff was compelled to gratuitously render those services, that as a servant she might have been paid for doing. But adoption in the sense used by my learned friend is unknown by the law of England. Perhaps a better illustration would be that although it is competent for an Englishman to become a Japanese by adoption because the laws of Japan allow of that form of naturalization, it would not be competent for a Japanese to become an English subject by adoption by the Englishman Burdis. Her nationality is not changed thereby. She was a Japanese, whatever the terms of the contract, and she is a Japanese to this day. I think that the mere fact of Burdis adopting her as he did does not take away the right she had conferred on her by the agreement. Then the other side urged that no time was specified in the agreement. It is true that the agreement does not specify any particular limit of time, but then it could hardly have done so. Burdis adopted her once and for all, and from that day forth she lived with him and rendered to him the services of a daughter, and the contract ran that it was to continue so during the joint lives of Burdis and the plaintiff. I do not know if any necessity existed for the setting forth in the agreement of a specified time other than that. It ended with the life of Burdis, I should think, not before. I refer your Honour now to *Wales v. Day*, reported in Meason and Welsby, p. 273, where it was decided that a certain covenant ran for life, and was lawful. Your Honour was good enough yesterday to point out that some confirmation of a promise might be necessary. I submit—

His Honour—When a written agreement is put in and accepted, no corroboration is required. When such a document is put in, what more is needed?

Mr. Lowder—Then I need not discuss that point. His Honour also pointed out that Counsel need not argue the point raised by *Roberts and Smith*, as the point had been made sufficiently clear during the proceedings.

Mr. Lowder then referred to Mr. Litchfield's contention that the wording of the agreement was vague, but His Honour said that he need not discuss the point.

Mr. Lowder—Then we come to the question, what is a competency?

His Honour—If I should grant the decree asked for, I should not arrange that, not at this stage of the proceedings, but should appoint some proper officer of the Court to fix it.

Mr. Lowder—I merely wished to answer the point raised by the other side.

His Honour—It is not so vague and indefinite of itself that a proper officer could not fix it. It is not what Burdis might have considered a proper competency that now arises, but what would be considered a proper competency under the circumstances.

Mr. Lowder—I think so too.

His Honour—The point is quite clear, I think.

Mr. Lowder—Then that is all that I have to say.

His Honour thought that the case was sufficiently clear to enable him to deliver his finding at once without calling Counsel to the Court again to hear a written finding. Practically there were only two points raised: one was that the agreement was void for want of consideration; the other that it was too vague and indefinite. As to the first, he was of opinion that the agreement was not void for want of consideration. It had not been disputed by defendant that the agreement was made by Oastler on behalf of his child, the child then being under age. That being so, it was open to her, on coming of age, either to adhere to it or repudiate it. What she did was to adhere to it, thereby ratifying and confirming it. The consideration that Burdis had under the agreement, and for which he agreed to make provision for her maintenance and support, was that she should live with him as a daughter. Burdis could not have all the advantages under the agreement, and he promised to provide for plaintiff as if she were his own child, and further to provide for her after his demise.

There was thus amply sufficient consideration. Defendant enjoyed all the advantages of the promise, plaintiff lived with him as a daughter and rendered him the services that a daughter would render, and this state of things continued after she came of age, and then she continued to do what had been stipulated for until the day of his death. If this action had been brought as by a minor she could not have demanded specific performance of the agreement, and it would have been given against her. A passage in a work of the late Justice Pollock carried the law even further than he (the learned Judge) had supposed. But that was an opinion of the learned author alone, and he cited no cases in support of it. He could only say if that was the law, supposing the action had been brought by plaintiff—after attaining her majority—against Burdis while he was alive, he could not see how Burdis' executor could now be excused from fulfilling the agreement, for this reason, the plaintiff had done all she had to do during Burdis' life and there was nothing more for her to do. The executor could not say, you cannot force this agreement against me—against my testator's estate—because she had completed all her performance, and because she had carried out her part of the agreement. So much for the agreement not being void for want of consideration. He, the learned judge, thought that it would have been a matter for regret if he had been forced to another conclusion in the affair. It was hard to think that the testator would have wished to take such a position, or wished to convey the impression that the plaintiff had got all she was to have during his lifetime. He could not think that such was the case, nor that plaintiff could be put off with part of the promise made to her—that she should be cast adrift without consideration. It had been given in evidence that shortly before his death Burdis had handed to her the document of agreement. Why did he do so? Was it not to prove to her that he intended to provide for her. If not, he (the learned Judge) could not imagine anything more cruel than to give the agreement to the girl at such a time if nothing was to come of it. For that reason he should have felt regret had he been forced to an opposite conclusion. The other point in the defence was the question of the terms of the agreement—that they were too indefinite and uncertain. Well, the words of the agreement were "a competency will be secured upon herself only sufficient to maintain her in comfort after the demise of said G. S. Burdis." He had yesterday asked for a definition of what was a competency. No one was prepared to say what a competency was in the abstract. The meaning of the word in the abstract might be totally different in the opinion of any two persons. At the same time there were limits within which a definition could be formed—they were from what was absolute want on the one hand, to what was superfluity on the other—the mean would be found between the two. A great deal depended on that circumstances, the position in life, education, and previous mode of life. A person brought up in a wealthy family might consider his wants to be larger than one used to narrower circumstances. But even if it was not easy to define what a competency was, still, in his mind, that was not a reason for not doing it if the authorities allowed. He thought the law on the subject was clearly set out in *Moorhouse v. Colvin*, 1852, 21 L. J. Chan., in which the Master of the Rolls said:—"Suppose a testator said, 'I will give to my child a fit and sufficient provision,' the Court would ascertain that by means of a reference to the Master to ascertain what was a fit and proper provision. But supposing the testator had said, 'I will give to my child such a provision, and such only as I choose,' would it be proper then for the Court, if he gave nothing, to refer it to the Master to say what he ought to have given. It is manifest the Court could not have ascertained such an amount." These words, His Honour thought, seemed very nearly equivalent to the words raised in the agreement in the present case—"a competency only sufficient to maintain in comfort." That would be, a fit and sufficient provision having regard to her position in life and expectations. In conclusion, His Honour said—I have come to the conclusion that the agreement is not too indefinite and uncertain, and in case Counsel in this suit can not agree as to some sum—and I hope they will agree, and so avoid further expense—I shall make a decree ordering the Chief Clerk to ascertain what, under the circumstances, is a fit and proper provision for the plaintiff; the costs of course are to come out of the estate.

U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before N. W. McIVOR, Esq., Judge.
THURSDAY, December 10th.

IDA MAY SMITH v. ALURED GILLMORE SMITH.

This case, in which Mrs. Ida May Smith brings an action against her husband, Mr. Alured Gillmore Smith, for permanent alimony and judicial separation, was again called on this morning, from adjournment on the 25th November, for the purpose of hearing the ruling of the Court on the demurrer lodged by the defendant, in which he urged that the court had no jurisdiction.

Mr. J. F. Lowder appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. G. H. Scidmore for the defendant.

His Honour, on taking his seat, regretted that there had been such a long interval between the closing of the arguments on the demurrer and the delivery of the ruling of the Court, but it was the result of certain matters of immediate importance, and demanding immediate attention, that had occurred in another department of his office. He would now proceed to deliver his ruling:—The demurrer upon which a ruling is asked raises a question as to the jurisdiction of this Court in the case at bar. That jurisdiction rests upon the following provision, included in an Act of the Congress of the United States of the 22nd June, 1860, which reads as follows:—

"Section 4086.—Jurisdiction in both criminal and civil matters shall in all cases be exercised and enforced in conformity with the laws of the United States, which are hereby, so far as is necessary to execute such Treaties respectively and so far as they are suitable to carry the same into effect, extended over all citizens of the United States in those countries, and over all others to the extent that the terms of the Treaties respectively justify or require, but in all cases where such laws are not adapted to the object or are deficient in the provisions necessary to furnish suitable remedies, the Common Law and the Law of Equity and Admiralty shall be extended in like manner over such citizens and others in those countries, and if neither the Common Law nor the Law of Equity or Admiralty, nor the Statutes of the United States, furnish appropriate and sufficient remedies, the Minister in those countries respectively shall, by decrees and regulations, which shall have the force of law, supply such defects and deficiencies."

It is possible that the phrase "the Common Law," used in the Statute might be taken to include all those principles and applications of law which are recognised in common by Anglo-Saxon jurisdictions; but giving to the phrase its narrower meaning, namely, those principles and applications enforced by the law Courts of England anterior to the 4th July, 1776, the question is presented in the argument of Counsel, as to whether or not jurisdiction in matters of marriage and questions arising upon the enforcement of such contracts, was exercised by the Common Law Courts or, in other words, whether that body of law known as ecclesiastical law, and which dealt with such cases, was a part of the Common Law. Bouvier, under the title "Equity," subdivision 6, says:—"Still that Common Law (Roman Law which was administered by the Ecclesiastical Courts) cannot be said to be authority even in Equity proceedings." "The Commons were jealous of its introduction." "In the reign of Richard II. the barons protested that they would never suffer the kingdom to be governed by Roman Law, and the Judges prohibited it from being any longer cited in the Common Law tribunals." In a valuable preface to the "Judges of England" (Foss), in which the author gives a classification of the Courts of England, with a summary of the history of each, Ecclesiastical Courts are not mentioned. The same fact is to be noticed in the reading of a chapter under the title, "The Courts of Common Law," in the "History of the English Constitution" (Quest); see also Reeve's "History of the English Law."

From these authorities and others that might be cited, I think that it is safe to conclude that the principles and practice of the Ecclesiastical Courts did not form a part of the body of Common Law which was in force in and taken over by the American colonies when they declared their independence.

But the Statute conferring jurisdiction upon this Court does not limit its application of principles to those found in the Common Law as distinguished from Equity, since the phrase, and the law of equity occurs immediately after the phrase last discussed. The history of the rise of the Equity jurisdiction in England and its subsequent recognition in the United States, is so well known that it is only necessary to summarise that history by noting that it had its being to mitigate the rigours of the rigid rules of practise in the Common Law Courts, and give effect to those broader principles of natural

justice for the enforcement of which the rules and forms of the Common Law made no provision, or no adequate provision, or in cases as to which no forum was provided for giving effect to claims founded on moral and admitted right not contrary to law.

Amongst the principle functions of Equity, were the decreeing of the specific performance of contracts and the avoidance of the multiplicity of actions.

In an early case in the United States, the Court says: "It is clear that strong moral obligations must lie on the husband who has abandoned his wife to support her. The marriage contract and every principle binds him to this; if he fails to do it, it is a wrong acknowledged by Common Law, though the law knows no remedy because the wife cannot sue the husband, and it is the province of the Court of Equity to afford the remedy where conscience and law acknowledge the right but know no remedy. (*Butler v. Butler*, 4 Little, 202.) Judge Storey, in his well-known work on Equity Jurisprudence, says:—"It has been held that if a husband abandons his wife and separate himself from her without any reasonable support, a Court of Equity may in all cases decree her a suitable maintenance and support out of his estate, upon the very ground that there is no adequate or sufficient remedy at law in such a case." (Quoted in *Il. Nelson on "Divorce and Separation,"* 963.)

In the case at bar the petition is addressed to the Court sitting as a Court of Equity; neither a divorce *a vinculo* nor a divorce *a mensa et thoro* (one being a complete and the other a partial judicial annulment of the marriage contract), is prayed for.

While Counsel for Plaintiff may have been unfortunate in using, in the prayer of the petition, the words "judicial separation"—a phrase which occurs, I believe, for the first time in 20 and 21 Vic., c. 85, section 7, and is technically unknown to our law—I gather from the petition, as explained by the argument, that the prayer is for a decree providing for *separate maintenance*: this is not then a prayer for divorce or the annulment of a marriage contract, but for the specific performance of one of the implied and admitted covenants of that contract.

In many States of the United States, Courts sitting as Courts of Equity have refused jurisdiction on the ground that by statutory enactment full remedies had been provided for at law, or on the ground that since the legislative authority had seen fit to provide for the entertaining of suits for maintenance or alimony with divorce, it amounted to an exclusion of the right of a Court of either Law or Equity to act in cases other than those specified in the Statute, and that it was unnecessary to invoke the aid of Courts of Equity in actions brought in conformity with the Statute since by Statute an adequate remedy was provided for at law. In England, I take it, that the aid of a Court of Equity has never been invoked because at all times another Court has existed in which an adequate remedy could be obtained, or to which such jurisdiction was combined.

It would seem that this Court, uninfluenced as it is by any of these considerations, resting on controlling Statute must recognise its duty to give effect to those broader principles of Equity which formed the historic substructure of the jurisdiction before Statutes intervened to limit and control the exercise of its remedial functions.

However much I may regret the necessity for hearing and determining an action of this kind, I believe that the Court would be open to the charge of shirking the duty and one of the functions of its Equity power if it refused to take jurisdiction of this case.

The demurrer is overruled, and the defendant is required, failing the allowance of an appeal from this ruling, to answer the petition filed within five days.

The Court then rose.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, Dec. 5th, 1896.

The Times Paris correspondent states that President Faure will visit Russia next year.

An agreement between France and Russia has been concluded for the representation of Russia on the council of the Ottoman Debt.

The strike of dock hands at Bremen has terminated.

London, Dec. 9.

The Italians are sending a force to Magadoxo Somaliland, to punish the Somalis for the recent massacre of Italian officers.

London, Dec. 10.
The Right Hon. Sir E. J. Monson, the new British Ambassador to France, has presented his credentials to President Faure. Cordial speeches were exchanged.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, December 3.
The St. Petersburg Bourse Gazette demands the free passage of the Dardanelles for Russian ships alone, and also the abrogation of the treaty of 1841.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has rejected a motion by the Opposition for an early discussion on the abandonment of Erythrea.

Dr. Jameson, whose release from prison was ordered on the ground of ill-health, was removed from Holloway gaol in an ambulance last night.

Yokohama, December 3.
Exchange on London at Paris,.....25.25
Exchange on London at New York ... 4.87
(Tel. trans.)

London, December 4.
The Italian Consul Cecchi, with the Captains of the Italian war-ships *Voltorno* and *Staffetta* and six officers, made an excursion outside of Magadoxo, Somaliland, escorted by seventy Askaris. They were attacked by the natives, and all the whites and thirty of the escort were massacred.

The Court of Appeal has condemned the Egyptian Government to refund half a million sterling used for the Dongola campaign and to pay all costs. Lord Cromer, the British Agent, has informed the Khedive that Great Britain is prepared to advance the money.

London, December 7.
Egypt has accepted Great Britain's offer of pecuniary aid.

The Turks that were arrested and exiled, without trial, to Anatolia, are believed to be connected with the Liberal Party, whose numbers are strengthening. The Party has sent a manifesto to the Embassies demanding political liberties and concluding with the words "Down with the Tyrant."

Exchange on London at Paris,.....25.24
Exchange on London at New York ... 4.87
(Tel. Trans.)

London, December 8.
The Venezuelan Government has accepted the agreement arrived at by the United States and Great Britain to arbitrate the dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela.

President Cleveland, in a message to Congress, strongly urges Spain to grant autonomy at Cuba, which would at once terminate the war. America, he declares, is always ready to mediate, and it is hinted she might eventually intervene if Spain proves powerless to restore order. The message merely defends the existing tariff.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 265.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt 8	1—P takes Kt
2—Q to KR 8	2—P to Kt 3
3—Q to R sq., mate	if 2—B moves
3—R to Kt sq., mate	1—P takes B
2—Kt to B sq.	2—Any
3—Q to R 2, mate	1—K takes Kt
2—Q takes P ch.	2—K to R 8
3—Q, mates	1—P to Kt 7
2—Kt takes P	2—P to Kt 8
3—R takes P, mate.	

Correct answers from W.H.S., Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.d.H., and Omega.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 266.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to Kt 8	1—Kt to B 3 ch.
2—B takes Kt, mate	1—Kt takes P
2—B takes Kt, mate	1—R to Kt sq.
2—Kt to B 6, mate	1—B takes B
2—Kt to K 6, mate	1—R takes R
2—Q to Q 5, mate.	

cum multis aliis.

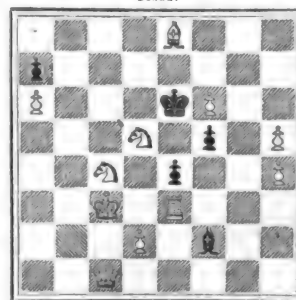
Correct answers from W.H.S., Shogi, W.d.H., J.D., and Omega.

XX.—Your Key-move will not do. R to K 7 is an excellent try, but it will not work against Black's defence of R to Kt sq.

PROBLEM No. 269.

By JAN KOTRE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

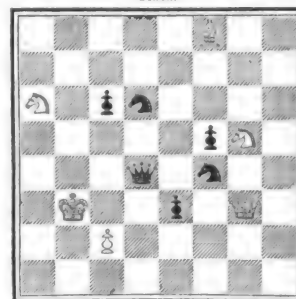
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 270.

By T. B. ROWLAND, Dublin.

(First Prize Weekly Irish Times Tourney.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Moscow.

Our expected telegram did not arrive last week but we hope for one yet in time to publish it herein. Meanwhile we take an interesting clipping from the columns of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, published November 8th, two days after the match began.

The long-talked-of encounter between Emanuel Lasker and William Steinitz for the world's chess championship did not take place on the date originally arranged, for some reason at present unknown. Hostilities were, however, commenced on Friday (6th Nov.) at Moscow, Russia, in the presence of a fairly large assemblage of visitors. The ex-champion was successful in winning the toss and selected the Giuoco piano for the opening attack. Lasker, who appeared to be in first-class condition and played with great coolness and deliberation, succeeded before the game had progressed very far in obtaining a very superior position. This advantage he was not slow to follow up and by the time the forty-sixth move had been reached he compelled his opponent to resign. Steinitz evinced considerable chagrin at his defeat, but he expressed himself as being confident of wresting the laurels from his redoubtable, though youthful, antagonist.

The match is ten games up, and a purse of 3,000 roubles hangs upon the result. The next game is scheduled to begin on Monday (9th Nov.). The previous struggle, which wrested the chess championship from the Bohemian veteran, who had

held it for upward of a quarter of a century, required nineteen games to settle, the final score being: Lasker 10, Steinitz 5, drawn 4. The match was finished May 26th, 1894.

Senor Quirós has translated the annotations of a game played between a couple of Spanish gentlemen, both expert chess players, at the Casino in Madrid. The game originally appeared in the *Barcelona Monthly*. The score follows:—

GAME No. 618.

MUZIO-POLERIO GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Sr. H. Adana.	Sr. V. Marin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to Q B 4	4—P to K Kt 5
5—Castles (a)	5—P takes Kt
6—Q takes P	6—Q to K B 3
7—P to K 5 (b)	7—Q takes P
8—P to Q 3 (c)	8—B to K R 3
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—Kt to K 2
10—B to Q 2	10—Kt to Q B 3 (d)
11—Q R to K sq.	11—Q to K B 4
12—Kt to Q 5 (e)	12—K to Q sq.
13—B to Q B 3 (f)	13—R to K Kt sq. (g)
14—B to R B 6 (h)	14—B to R Kt 4
15—B to Q B 3?	15—Kt takes Kt
16—B takes Kt	16—P to Q 3
17—B takes Kt	17—Q to Q B 4 ch.
18—K to R sq.	18—Q takes B
19—Q takes P	19—Q takes P ch. (i)
20—K takes Q	20—B takes Q ch.
21—K to R sq.	21—B to K 4
22—R takes P	22—B to K 3

Resigns.

NOTES BY DR. TOLERA CARRARA.
(a) This gambit used to be played in the sixteenth century as proved by several manuscripts from Polerio, so Salvioli and other compilers who did not know of those manuscripts are mistaken in giving Muzio as the inventor of the gambit. Having the intention to sacrifice the Kt casting is much more attacking than the moves: 5—P to Q 4, 5—Kt to Q B 3 and 5—B takes P ch, which are called the "Muzio-Donop, Muzio-MacDonnell and Muzio-Lolli" extensively analysed in several works. Taenisch's advice to the beginner is to practice the opening so as to obtain some knowledge of the art of attacking and defending. He might have added that black must play very correctly to be able to stand the rapid development that gives to white the bold sacrifice of the Kt.

(b) Some players prefer 7—P to Q 3, which is also weak, as the following variation will prove.
7—Kt to Q B 3; 8—Q B takes P, B to Q B 4 ch; 9—K to R sq. P to Q 3; 10—Kt to Q B 3; 11—Q to K Kt 3; 12—Q to K Kt 3, Kt to Q sq.; 13—B to K Kt 5, Q to K Kt 3; 14—B takes Kt, Q takes Q; 15—P takes Q, B takes B; 16—R takes P, Kt to K 5; 17—Q to K B sq.; 18—K to K 5; 19—R to K B sq. ch, K to Q 5, must win.

(c) Much better then 8—B takes P ch, a move adopted by MacDonnell and Morphy, Black may play in that case K to Q sq with some advantage.

(d) A favourite move of Labourdonnais played nowadays in preference to the old move P to Q 3, which used to be considered best to stop Kt to Q 3 and thereafter P to Q 4.

(e) Paulsen was the inventor of that defensive move of the queen. He played it first against Kolisch; since then the old defense Q to Q B 4 ch has been discarded.

(f) In place of the text move the Hirschfeld attack was considered for a long time the best. It is to bring R to K 4 attacking the gambit P and double R on the K file. The attack, however is unsound, as Zukertort proved with the following variation: 12—R to K 4, castles; 13—B takes P, B to Kt 5; 14—Q to K 5, P to Q 4; 15—B takes H P, Q to K Kt 4; 16—P to K R 4, Q to K Kt 3 and Black must win as the hand-book says it:—

First—17—B takes P, B takes Kt; 18—B takes Kt, B takes Kt P; 19—B takes Kt P, P to K B 4, etc.

Second—17—Kt takes P, Kt takes Kt; 18—B takes Kt, B to K B 4; 19—R from K 4 to K B 4, B to K 3; 20—B takes B, P takes B; 21—R to K 4, R takes R ch; 22—Q takes R, R to Q sq. ch; 23—K to Kt 3, Kt to Q 5; 24—Q to Q sq, R to Q B sq; 25—P to Q B 3, R takes B; 26—P takes Q, Q to K Kt 6 etc.

(g) The best is 12—R to K sq and if 14—Kt to H 6, R to B sq; 15—P to K Kt 4, Q to K Kt 3; 16—P to K R 4, P to Q 4, etc., if 14—B to K B 6, B to K 4; 15—B takes B, Q takes B; 16—Kt takes P at K B 3, Kt to K 4; 17—Q to K 3, P to K B 3 etc.

(h) If it would be best—14—R takes Kt, Kt takes R; 15—B to B 6, R to K sq; 16—B takes Kt, Q to K Kt 3; 17—Q to K 2, B to K B sq; 18—P to K 5, etc.

(i) The few last moves of White were made in the attempt to obtain a drawing position.

(j) If 19, B takes Q; 20—B to H 6 perpetual check.

OPENINGS AT BUDAPEST.

Twenty openings were used in the Budapest Tournament, and 78 games were played. White won 35 games, equal to 44.8 per cent.; Black won 25 games, equal to 32.3 per cent.; 18 games were drawn. The record follows:—

Openings.	Total	White won.	White lost.	draw.
Ruy Lopez	19	7	5	7
Queen's Gambit declined	13	8	3	2
French Defence	7	3	2	2
Giucoco Piano	6	2	3	1
King's Bishop's Game	5	2	2	1
Four Knights' Game	4	1	1	2
Vienna Game	4	3	1	0
King's Bishop's Gambit	3	1	1	1
Dutch Game	3	1	1	1
King's Gambit declined	2	1	1	0
Falkbeer Counter Gambit	2	2	0	0
King's Fianchetto	2	0	1	1
Evans Gambit declined	1	1	0	0
Philidor's Defence	1	0	1	0
Hampe-Allgaier	1	1	0	0
Sicilian Defence	1	0	1	0
Petroff's Defence	1	0	1	0
Queen's Fianchetto	1	1	0	0
Irregular	1	0	1	0
Total	78	35	25	18

STEINITZ VS. PILLSBURY.

One of the most interesting games played in the Nuremberg Tourney was the one between the veteran master and the young American. It will be remembered that, in the St. Petersburg Tourney, while Pillsbury defeated Lasker and Tschigorin, he could not win a game from Steinitz. The meeting of these two experts in Nuremberg was watched with great interest, and as both played remarkably well the game is a fine specimen of high grade Chess.

GAME No. 619.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Steinitz.	Pillsbury.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K B 3	5—Castles
6—Q to Kt 3 (a)	6—P to B 3
7—Kt to B 3	7—Kt to K 5 (b)
8—B takes B	8—Q takes B
9—Kt takes Kt	9—P takes Kt
10—Kt to Q 2	10—P to K B 4
11—P to B 5 (c)	11—Kt to Q 2
12—Kt to R 5	12—K to R sq.
13—Q to B 3	13—Kt to B 3
14—B to K 2	14—Kt to Q 4
15—Q to Q 2	15—P to Q Kt 3
16—Kt to K 5 (d)	16—P takes P
17—Kt takes P	17—Q to Q B 2
18—Kt to K 5	18—P takes P
19—P takes P (e)	19—P to B 5
20—Castles	20—B to Kt 2
21—Q R to B sq.	21—Q to K 2
22—P to R 3 (f)	22—Kt to K 6
23—R to K B 2	23—Q R to Q sq.
24—P takes P	24—B takes P
25—R takes P (g)	25—R takes R
26—Q takes Kt	26—Q to R 5
27—B to B 3	27—B takes B
28—Kt takes B	28—Q to B 3
29—R to R 6	29—Q to B 4
30—R takes P	30—Q to Kt 8 ch.
31—Q to K sq.	31—Q takes Kt P
32—P to K R 3	32—Q takes R P
33—Q to K 5	33—Q to Kt 8 ch.
34—K to R 2	34—Q to B 4
35—Q to K 3	35—R to K B sq.
36—R to K 5	36—Q to Q 2
37—R to K 7	37—Q to Q 3
38—Kt to K 5	38—R takes P
39—R to Q 7	39—Q takes R
40—Kt takes Q	40—R takes Kt
41—Q to K 6	41—R (B sq.) to Q sq.
42—Q to Q R 6	42—P to R 3
43—P to R 4	43—R to K B sq.
44—K to R 2	44—K to R 2
45—Q to Q B 6	45—R to Q 6 ch.
46—P to Kt 3	46—R to K 6
47—Q to B 2 ch.	47—K to R sq.
48—P to R 5	48—R to K 4
49—K to R 4	49—P to R 4
50—Q to R 4	50—R to Q Kt sq.
51—P to Kt 4	51—R to R Kt 4
52—Q to B 6	52—R to K Kt sq.
53—Q to R 6	53—K to R 2
54—Q to Q 3 ch.	54—K to R sq.
55—Q to R 6	55—R to Q sq.
56—Q to Q B 6	56—R (Kt 4) to Q 4
57—Q to H 4	57—R to R sq.
58—K to R 3	58—R to Q 6 ch.
59—K to R 4	59—R to K 6
60—Q to B 6	60—R to K B sq.
61—Resigns.	

NOTES BY THE REV. C. E. RANKEN, IN THE "BRITISH CHESS MAGAZINE."

(a) A novelty, threatening to win a Pawn by B takes Kt, etc., and forcing Black either to exchange Pawns or to support his Q P.

(b) The Chess-editor of *The Standard* eulogizes this move, and says that it should always be made as soon as possible in all variations of this opening, where the opponent has played B to K Kt 5.

(c) This leaves a hole for the Black Kt which he quickly proceeds to occupy.

(d) The weakness of P at B 5 now became evident, for, if White exchange Pawns, he gives Black an open file for his R, etc.

(e) If Q takes P then R to Q sq; and White could not Castle.

(f) He has nothing better.

(g) Was this necessary? B to B looks good enough to ward off present danger.

CHAROUSEK.

Rudolph Charousek, who has suddenly leaped to the front among Chess-players, was born at Prague, Bohemia, on September 10, 1873, and is, therefore, 23 years old. When 5 years old his parents emigrated to Hungary, and he learned Chess at college at Kaschen in 1891. At the Nuremberg tournament he scored 5½ games against the prize-winners, being only one point below Lasker, whose score was 6½.

The Budapest Tournament is his first record, he having won against Pillsbury, Tschigorin, Winawer, Maroczy, Nona, Poniel, and Albin, and drawn with Tarrasch, Walbrodt and Schlechter, and lost to Janowski and Marco.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 14th.
From America	per F. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 12th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 14th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 15th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 13th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 16th.
From Europe, via		
Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Dec. 17th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 18th.

* Castle left Hongkong on December 10th. † City of Peking left San Francisco on December 11th. ‡ Panama left Kobe on December 11th. § Empress of China left Vancouver on December 11th. ¶ Taniz (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 10th. ¶ Doria left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per F. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 13th.
For Europe, via Hong-		
kong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 13th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. D. Lloyd	Saturday, Dec. 12th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 14th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 15th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 16th.
For Europe, via Hong-		
kong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 12th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 13th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 5th December.—Yokkaichi 4th December, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 5th December.—Kobe 4th December, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hector, British steamer, 2,489, Bair, 5th December.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 4th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Cubota, 6th December.—Mororan 4th December, Coal.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andruoff, 6th December.—Oshima 6th December, from Target Practice.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 6th December.—Kobe 5th December, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 6th December.—Yokkaichi 5th December, General.
—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,629, Formes, 7th December.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 7th December.—Yokkaichi 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Achilles, British steamer, 1,470, Harvey, 8th December.—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 7th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shigaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 8th December.—Otaru via ports, 5th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gemba Maru, Japanese steamer, 433, Yamanouchi, 9th December.—Hakodate 7th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,717, R. Morgan, 9th December.—London via ports, and Kobe 8th December, General.—Dodwell, Carllill & Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Higo, 9th December.—Kobe 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 9th December.—Otaru via ports, 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Hayashi, 9th December.—Honolulu 20th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 9th December.—Handa and Yokkaichi 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Grafton (36), British cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 10th December.—Vokosuka 10th December.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Tibballs, 10th December.—Hakodate 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,312, Thompson, 11th December.—Seattle, Wash., 20th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 11th December.—Handa and Yokkaichi 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 11th December.—London via ports, and Kobe 10th December, General.—Corney & Co.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorenzen, 11th December.—Hongkong, Sugar.—H. Gruert & Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 11th December.—Shanghai via ports, 5th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 11th December.—Nagasaki 8th December, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, Yoshizawa, 11th December.—Kobe 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Anno, 11th December.—Otaru via ports, 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 11th December.—Hongkong via ports, 2nd December, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 12th December.—Kobe 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 12th December.—London via ports, and Kobe 10th December, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Belgie, British steamer, 2,695, J. H. Rinder, 5th December.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, Wm. Ward, 5th December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,031, G. Shimazu, 5th December.—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mistley Hall, British ship, 1,772, A. G. Parker, 5th December.—Manila, Ballast.—Captain.

Nanyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,670, Suzuki, 5th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,910, A. E. Moses, 5th December.—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 6th December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 6th December.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 6th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 6th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 6th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Agapanthus, British steamer, 2,866, R. J. C. Tod, 7th December.—Seattle, Wash., via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, Anderson, 7th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 7th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Dundee, British steamer, 2,572, Edward Halley, 8th December.—Kobe, General.—Dodd, well, Carlill & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, Ekstrand, 8th December.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 8th December.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 9th December.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaifong, British steamer, Dewar, 9th December.—Viadivostock, General.—Piazzi & Co.

Palawan, British steamer, 2,995, C. E. Baker, 10th December.—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Hector, British steamer, 2,489, Baits, 10th December.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shigaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 10th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Yagi, 10th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 10th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,629, Formes, 11th December.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Higo, 11th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 11th December.—Handa and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 11th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Hayashi, 11th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Undaunted (12), British cruiser, Captain Halifax, 11th December.—Nagasaki.

Achilles, British steamer, 1,470, Harvey, 12th December.—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Iwato and 2 children, Mrs. Johanson, Messrs. R. S. Schwabe, C. H. Allum, H. B. Allum, and Y. Idzumi in cabin; Messrs. S. Mashita, T. Ogawa, B. Kusakari, and Ed. Lambert in second class, and 35 Japanese, 4 Europeans, and 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Messrs. E. Eagling, Cyrus W. Moore, C. Rhine, C. A. Forbush, and M. Tupper in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. C. O. Gill and Mr. G. G. Lotman in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss E. Babitt, Lieut. Paul Boetlike, I.G.N., Mr. G. E. Burgoyne, Major and Mrs. Bartlett, Miss H. Brugman, Dr. Mary Brown, Miss E. F. Boughton, Captain S. A. Day, U.S.A., Mrs. L. Hamilton, Mr. Chester Holcombe, Mr. A. J. McGlew, Lieut. C. H. Jaeger, I.G.N., Lieut. von Koschlembahr, I.G.N., Mrs. M. L. Leach, Mr. Murata, Lieut. Mauer, I.G.N., Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Menzell, Mr. S. Nagata, Mr. Ozaki, Mr. and Mrs. E. Quackenbush, Miss Helen Quackenbush, Miss Amy Quackenbush, Miss L. H. Quackenbush, Master E. S. Quackenbush, Lieut. Fritz Reiss, I.G.N., Miss E. E. Smith, Mr. S. Tomonaga, Paymaster E. Unger, I.G.N., Miss C. A. White, and Mr. E. Young in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. R. de Luze, Mrs. Hecht, Mr. E. Eagling, Mr. J. Leiria, Mrs. Montfort, Mrs. Howard, Mr. T. P. Cochrane, Mr. A. Donald, and Mr. Chas. F. Rhine in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*, for London:—Captain M. Saito, Commander H. Sakamoto, Lieut. K. Tajima, Lieut. K. Nomaguchi, Chief-Engineer N. Tomioka, Chief-Engineer Kanetsune, Staff-Surgeon S. Kuwahara, Staff-Paymaster M. Yamada, Sub-Lieut. K. Kato, Sub-Lieut. S. Nakajima, Sub-Lieut. S. Yoshioka, Sub-Lieut. S. Saito, Engineer M. Yoshimatsu, Engineer K. Miyagawa, and Captain R. Numome in cabin; Messrs. Y. Kuroya, M. Inouye, K. Shima, K. Tamai, and K. Kusunoki in second class, and 228 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Hon. J. F. Price, Mr. L. C. W. Phillips, Mr. G. H. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Darrin, Major and Mrs. Jackson, Mr. J. Tamet, Mr. P. Chiron, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Brown, Mr. Alexander, Mr. P. H. McKay, and Mr. K. Makino in cabin; eight Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Kobe:—Captain Y. Kawara, Miss Anderson, Miss G. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Collins, Mr. G. Sakano, Mrs. James Martin, Baron H. Iwasaki, and Mr. Y. Tawara in cabin; Mr. M. Imamura in second class. For Kagoshima:—Mr. K. Imai and Professor J. L. Janson in cabin. For Shimonoseki:—Viscount M. Yamaji in cabin; Mr. D. Takagi and Captain N. Nakano in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. P. Behn in cabin; Mrs. Ite Ura in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. H. A. C. Bonar, Mr. H. Grün, Mr. J. D. Strang, R.N.R., Mrs. Strang, Rev. and Mrs. Ost, Mr. Egon Kunhardt, Mr. H. J. Tripp, and Mr. M. Kameyama in cabin; 92 passengers in steerage to all ports.

Per British steamer *Palawan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. Colonel Cotton Jodrell, M.P., Mrs. and Misses Jodrell (2) and maid, and Mr. and Mrs. Cornells in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Belgie*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—

	TEA.	NEW	FRANCISCO.	CHICAGO.	OTTAWA.	VER.	CITIZEN.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	774	1,012	—	—	—	—	—	1,786
Yokohama...	865	600	—	—	—	—	—	1,465
Hongkong...	395	—	—	—	—	—	—	395
Total...	2,034	600	1,012	—	—	—	—	3,646

	SILK.	NEW	FRANCISCO.	CHICAGO.	OTTAWA.	VER.	CITIZEN.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	18
Hongkong...	—	160	—	—	—	—	—	160
Yokohama...	—	205	—	—	—	—	—	205
Total...	—	383	—	—	—	—	—	383

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 412 bales; Waste Silk, 556 bales.

REPORTS.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 5th December at 11.15 a.m.; had moderate N.W. breeze and fine, clear weather. After clearing North Saddle the light wind increased to a fresh N.W. gale and high sea, which continued up to arrival at Nagasaki the 7th at 5.15 a.m. While in Nagasaki had light N.W. winds, clear weather and continued squalls. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5.30 p.m.; after clearing Iwo-shima light experienced strong north-westerly gale accompanied with blinding rain squalls, which continued up towards midnight; thence to arrival at Shimonoseki the 8th at 6.35 a.m., had moderate to fresh N.W. winds and sea. Left Shimonoseki the same day at noon; had moderate to fresh N.W. gale and squally, with clear weather, through whole of Inland Sea, arriving at Kobe the 9th at 7.40 a.m. Left Kobe the 10th at noon; had light easterly and south-east winds attended with fine, clear weather; passed Oshima Light at 8.10 p.m.; thence to Rock Island, which was passed on the 11th at 9.20 a.m., had light to moderate south-easterly winds and fine, clear weather; thence to arrival at Yokohama at 3.15 p.m., had moderate N.E. winds and cloudy, but fair weather. Saw nothing of importance during the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Not much improvement. Yarns—After a few purchases at quotations, buyers have shut up again and there is nothing doing. Shirts—A few desultory enquiries, which have so far led to no trade. Fancies—Trifling sales which do not count for much. Woollens—Very gloomy market with nothing doing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	—	—
Grey Shirtings—40 yds, 38 1/2 yds, 45 inches	—	—
Fl. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 24 yds, 32 inches	\$1.70	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95	to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yds, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Saltees black, 32 inches	0.16	to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 22 inches	8.00	to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 42 inches	0.75	to 0.90
Turkey Reds—3.0 to 3.4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.35	to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.65	to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.90	to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Flannel—40 yds, 32 inches heat	\$0.30	to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.35	to 0.41
Medium	0.30	to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches	0.25	to 0.37 1/2
Common	0.15	to 0.22
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yds, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 yds, 36 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds, 36 inches	0.60	to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 yds, 36 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2 yds	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER YARD.	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	\$16.00	to 38.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	39.00	to 40.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	44.00	to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00	to 45.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	48.50	to 49.50
Nos. 1/60, Plain	Nominal	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	75.00	to 80.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	Nominal	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	120.00	to 130.00

METALS.

Rather more doing, but without any quotable change in prices. Homeseide rates are advancing, but holders here would only be too glad to clear out some of their existing stock at last quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch.....	3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch.....	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch.....	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted.....	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron.....	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets.....	9.30 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted.....	5.00 to 6.00
Iron Plates, per box.....	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1.....	1.70 to 1.75

KROSKNE.

The expected revival in demand has not come and the tone of the market is weak. The fresh discovery of large oil-field in Sumatra, should lead to a plentiful supply of "Langkat" next year.

American.....	\$2.20 to 2.25
Russian.....	2.30 to 2.35
Langkat.....	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Sales exceed arrivals, but in spite of that fact, prices are lower. Formosa sorts are specially neglected and depressed. White—Market steady, but holders would like to see buyers more active.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Tahau.....	\$3.00 to 4.00
Brown Manila.....	4.40 to 5.10
Brown Daitong.....	3.70 to 3.80
Brown Canton.....	3.60 to 4.40
White Java and Penang.....	6.50 to 6.60
White refined.....	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Holders have accepted the inevitable and taken lower prices, thus inducing considerable trade. But the stock is still over 21,000 piculs, and they would like to further lighten their burdens for the New Year account.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom. \$770 to 780
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	Nom. 750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers.....	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 13/15, 14/16 den.	660 to 670
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	660 to 700
Re-reels—No. 2, 13/16 deniers.....	660 to 670
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	690 to 700
Kakedas—Extra.....	Nom. 670 to 680
Kakedas—No. 1.....	Nom. 660 to 665
Kakedas—No. 2.....	Nom. 640 to 650
Kakedas—No. 3.....	—

WASTE SILK.

Strong market with good daily business. It seems that Japan Wastes are now much in favour with European consumers. Stock down to 13,000 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best.....	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good.....	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best.....	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good.....	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium.....	95 to 100
Noshi—Shimizu, Best.....	75 to 80
Noshi—Shimizu, Good.....	65 to 70
Noshi—Shimizu, Medium.....	140 to 150
Noshi—Shimizu, Fair.....	110 to 115
Noshi—Shimizu, Good.....	70 to 75
Noshi—Shimizu, Fair.....	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best.....	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Second.....	90 to 95
Kibiso—Shimizu, Good.....	25 to 30
Kibiso—Shimizu, Fair.....	20 to 25

TEA.

Small business caused by lack of stock to work upon. Prices strong and present stock reduced to 1,000 piculs. There seems very little tea left in the country districts, so it is probable that the season will close early.

QUOTATIONS.

Choice.....	Nom.
Choice.....	\$26 to \$28
Fine.....	24 to 25
Fine.....	22 to 23
Good Medium.....	20 to 21
Medium.....	18 to 19
Good Common.....	16 to 17
Common.....	14 to 15

EXCHANGE.

Silver has gone up a point or so this week-end, and quotations close firm.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2
— — Bills on demand.....	2/1 1/2
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2/2 1/4
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/2 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight.....	2.70
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.75
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	par.
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	1 % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight.....	72 1/2
— — Private 10 days' sight.....	73 1/2
On India—Bank sight.....	166
— — Private 30 days' sight.....	175
On America—Bank Bills on demand.....	52 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	54
On Germany—Bank sight.....	2.18 1/2
— — Private 4 months' sight.....	2.23 1/2
Bar Silver (London).....	30

969



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17.

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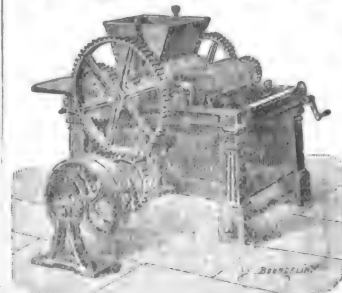
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37

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No. 25.]

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AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 19TH, 1896.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and (cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 19TH, 1896.

BIRTH.

On December 14th, 1896, at No 57, Bluff, the wife of E. B. STUART EDWARDS of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Carew trial is fixed for the 4th proximo.

THE formal opening of the Tenth Imperial Diet has been fixed for the 24th inst.

THE French Chamber, by 295 votes to 85, has demanded the immediate liberation of Deputy

Chauvin, who was arrested in the socialist disturbances at Carmaux. The Cabinet acquiesced.

THE insurgent leader Maceo has been killed in the province of Havana.

THE Government intends to devote two million yen towards encouraging navigation in the thirtieth fiscal year.

THE Yokohama Choral and Philharmonic Societies gave their first concert this season on Wednesday evening.

THE appointment of Mr. Arthur Hyde Lay to the British Acting Vice-Consulate in Tokyo was notified on the 10th inst.

THE beds of smokeless coal discovered in the vicinity of Ono-mura, Hida-gun, Oita Ken, are reported to be of excellent quality.

A NAVAL regatta was held on the Sumida-gawa yesterday, the Emperor and a large number of officers of both services being present.

IT is reported that King Menelik of Abyssinia has ceded to Russia a strip of land on the coast near Obok, to be used as a coaling station.

THE silk traders of Yokohama, foreign and Japanese, are making preparations to hold a friendly dinner party in January next year.

THE French Senate has adopted the measure promoted to prevent the introduction and circulation of counterfeit Indo-China coins into France.

THERE is strong popular opposition in Venezuela to the agreement with Great Britain for arbitration, but the President and the Government approve the arrangement.

THE railway between Kyoto and Saga having been completed and an engine run over the line, it will be opened for traffic on or about the 3rd of January next.

THE French Ministry intend proposing an immediate reform and increase of the Navy, involving an expenditure of two hundred millions of francs (£3,000,000 sterling).

THE Marine Court of Tokyo was occupied on Thursday and Friday with an enquiry into the loss of the N.Y.K. steamer *Himeji Maru* on the Bombay Shoal of the Paracels.

THE President of the United States in his Message to Congress says he cannot believe that the present sombre prospect in Turkey will be long permitted to offend the sight of Christendom.

GREAT indignation is felt in America owing to a rumour that General Maceo, the leader of the Cuban insurgents, has fallen through Spanish treachery. The Spaniards repudiate the charge.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA I'AKKHITO and Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, went to Yokosuka on the Wednesday and attended the graduation ceremony of the Naval Engineering College.

THE North German Lloyd mail steamer *Salier*, bound from Bremen to Buenos Ayres, has been totally wrecked near Corunna, and all on board, numbering 275 souls, perished. There were no English passengers.

A PETITION has been presented to Count Matsukata, Premier, and other Ministers of State, asking for the abolition of export duties, a step that the Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce proposed the other day.

A TELEGRAM published in Berlin states that the Dutch Consul at Lorenzo Marquez has been

assaulted and wounded, the German Consulate attacked, and the British flag torn to pieces. No details are given, but it is added that Germany has demanded reparation from the authorities at Lisbon.

REVISED newspaper regulations, as embodied in a bill to be submitted to the next session of the Diet, have been completed by the Home Department, and will be laid before the Legislative Bureau in a few days.

A TELEGRAM received at the Specie Bank, Yokohama, on the 15th inst., states that Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Specie Bank, and Mr. Yamamoto, President of Business of Bureau of the Nippon Ginko, arrived at Bombay on the 13th inst. from London.

A TELEGRAM from Batoum, received by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., No. 1, Settlement, Yokohama, reports that a steamer conveying one hundred and ten thousand cases of petroleum (Anchor brand), will leave Batoum for the East during December.

A FRENCH syndicate has offered to advance to the Egyptian Government half a million sterling, but the offer previously made by Great Britain has rendered needless the acceptance of this later offer. England advances £200,000 this month, and further amounts as they may be required.

The *Times*' Athens correspondent states that a revolutionary movement is projected in Macedonia for next spring. The leaders of the movement propose, in order to create a diversion, to foment the revolt in Crete. Large quantities of munitions of war have already been sent to Crete.

THE U.S. Republican party is about to frame a new Tariff Bill which will be submitted at an extraordinary session of Congress after March 4th. Reciprocity will be a feature of the new tariff, and it is understood that the average rates will be lower than the McKinley tariff but considerably above the present rates.

THE thirteenth anniversary of the late Emperor Komei will be celebrated in Kyoto on the 30th of January next year. T.I.M. the Emperor, Empress, and Empress Dowager will leave Tokyo on the 18th January, arriving at Kyoto on the 20th, after staying a night at Nagoya. It is said that Their Majesties will spend three weeks in Kyoto.

COMMERCIAL prospects in the Import line are very gloomy now-a-days, week after week going by with hardly any business to chronicle. This week the record runs:—Yarns—No business; Shirts—Nothing doing; Fancies—Dead, with the exception of a few sales of Turkey Red; Woollens dormant, in spite of the cold weather. Cheerful reading in very sooth. Some houses declare that they see no prospect of any amelioration until March at soonest. A better feeling prevails in the Metal market, with prospect of some good orders in the near future, especially in railway material, for which Belgian iron is most in demand. Kerosene is dull, with all in favour of buyers, who are still coy at filling up obviously empty store-houses. In Sugars, a fair business has been done in Browns, though Formosa sorts are, comparatively speaking, much in the shade. In White Sugars there is a fair trade doing for the time of year. A considerable business has been done in Raw Silk at irregular prices, dealers trying to unload all they can before the new year's settling. In Waste, transactions have slackened, though prices are unchanged. The Tea trade is lifeless, nothing of any quality being left to buy. Exchange continues steady.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The opening of the 10th session of the Diet being now only a few days distant, political circles have naturally begun to show signs of excitement. The Liberal Party held a general meeting two or three days ago, and resolved to assume an attitude of opposition to the Government, though, as some pro-Government papers observe, the Party does not enunciate any definite reasons why the ministry should be condemned. It is worthy of note that the Party has not come to any final decision with regard to the nomination of a leader, but has tacitly resolved to dispense with an acknowledged head for the present. Papers not favourable to the Liberals explain that this apparent removal of Count Itagaki from the presidential chair is due to the umbrage entertained by the Kwanto and Tohoku sections of the Party towards their Tosa associates.

Nothing conclusive is yet known as to who will be chosen candidates for the Presidency of the House of Representatives. The Liberals were believed to contemplate the election of Mr. Sassa Tomofusa, Parliamentary leader of the National Unionists, their idea being to win the alliance of the Unionists. But Mr. Sassa having resolved to make a tour to Europe and America soon after the Diet opens, is not eligible for nomination. At present the Liberals seem to have no alternative except to put forward Mr. Kono Hironaka. Nor are the Progressionists (*Shimpo-to*) better prepared in this respect, they do not seem to have made to any definite arrangement. The Tokyo press believes that their choice of a candidate will lie between Messrs. Ohigashi, Hatoyama, and Shimada.

The problem of freedom of speech continues to agitate the press. It has, in truth, been the chief topic of discussion during the week. The controversy is led by the pro-Government papers, from which fact it may, perhaps, be inferred that the Cabinet has not yet decided to give satisfaction to the *Shimpo-to* in this matter. When Deputies of the Press League waited on the Home Minister on the 14th inst., and stated the views held by the League, the Minister replied that the Authorities were conducting investigations with the object of introducing certain amendments of the Regulations in the approaching session of the Diet; that the desires of the League might not be fully satisfied, but that the Authorities would endeavour to make the amendments as liberal as possible. The draft is still in the hands of the Home Office and has not been forwarded to the Legislative Bureau. How the discussion stands at present may be gathered from the following summaries of leading journals' articles. The *Yomiuri* is astonished to learn that though the suppression and suspension clauses, as applied to political discussion, will be struck out, the power of suppression will continue to be vested in the Administration with regard to matters that concern the Imperial Court, military and international affairs, and public morals. Now, argues the *Yomiuri*, if any difference exists between suppression and suspension, it is only a difference of degree. The two being essentially one and the same thing, if suspension is unreasonable and illegitimate, suppression must be equally so. If suppression be maintained and suspension abolished, a case formerly dealt with by suspension will now evoke the more rigorous measure of suppression, and freedom of speech will be subjected to severer control than ever. In point of fact, there is no necessity whatever to maintain the power of suppression for safeguarding the interests of the Court and of public morals, for express provisions exist in the criminal code to deal with acts amounting to lese majesty or offences *contra bonos mores*; and to suppress journals for having divulged military or diplomatic secrets would have an even more mischievous effect.

The *Kokumin* avers that a failure on the part of the Cabinet to effect thorough amendment of

the Press Regulations must produce a split in the ranks of the *Shimpo-to* and the downfall of the Matsukata Cabinet. The Government, frankly observes the *Kokumin*, while failing to carry into practice any one of the promises included in the Premier's declaration of policy, have been discomfited in the matter of the Household Minister's trouble; in the matter of eliminating the foreign element from their midst, and in the matter of creating the office of Chief Councillors of Departments. Already, therefore, the members of the *Shimpo-to* are far from being firmly and cordially united. But as the party would be placed in a very difficult and humiliating position were its relations with the Cabinet severed, and as it is hampered by that infirmity, it will endeavour to exercise as much patience as possible, and to induce the Ministry to act up to their public announcements. But if the Cabinet fail to view the problem of personal right in a proper light, and to abolish the suppression and suspension clauses of the Press Law, a split disastrous to the *Shimpo-to* may prove inevitable. Rumour says that if the Cabinet does not introduce a Bill satisfactorily amending the Press Law, the Liberals will do so, and the Progressionists will then find themselves in the painful dilemma of having either to support a defective measure in obedience to the dictates of friendship, or to range themselves by the side of their enemies in obedience to the dictates of conscience. The *Kokumin* asks whether the Matsukata Cabinet can not yet rouse itself from its state of torpor.

The *Nichi Nichi* writes at great length against the total abolition of the suspension and suppression clauses. The gist of its arguments is virtually the same as that reproduced in our last Summary. One point worthy of note in our contemporary's latest utterance has reference to the contention that, as Japanese subjects are most unlikely to be betrayed into acts amounting to lese majesty, and as, in the event of their committing that most un-Japanese crime, the punitive clauses of the Criminal Code fully suffice to meet the case, no necessity exists to preserve the Administration's special power of interference. The *Nichi Nichi* finds that contention entirely irrelevant. If the unlikelihood of the people's being betrayed into disloyal acts is an argument making for the abolition of the suspension and suppression clauses, it is an argument equally making for the rescission of the punitive provisions in the Criminal Code. The provisions in the Code and the clauses in the Press Law must be viewed in the same light, especially as freedom of speech is far-reaching and requires prompt control.

The *Yomiuri* contends that the Government's intention of guarding official secrecy by subjecting the press to special control is putting the saddle on the wrong horse, for the betrayal of official secrets is really due to laxity of official discipline and to the presence of treacherous men in the ranks of the Administration.

The *Mainichi* also wishes to call the attention of the Government to the above point, and observes that the publication, by the *Nichi Nichi*, of news relating to the creation of new officials called Administrative Vice-Ministers or Department Councillors, and, by the *Chuo*, of intelligence as to the reception given to the proposal by the Administrative Reform Council, are facts illustrating the urgent necessity of enforcing discipline in the ranks of officialdom.

Another important topic of discussion during the week was the procedure of the Government with reference to private railway enterprise. The three Tokyo papers opposed to the Government, namely the *Chuo*, the *Nichi Nichi*, and the *Tokyo Shimbum*, or rather four, if we include the *Meiji Shimbum*, which appeared on the 5th inst. as successor to the *Fuyu*—and also the *Fiji*, strongly criticize the Government's want of fixed views in this matter. It will be remembered that for the

purpose of determining the policy to be pursued, the Government specially appointed a number of prominent business men, as Mr. Shibuzawa and others, to be extraordinary members of the Railway Council, and invited them to discuss these questions:—"First, does the present economic condition of the country warrant the construction of new railways, and should the work of construction be considered necessary, what effect would its carrying out produce on that condition? Secondly, if it appears that to permit the construction of new railways would disturb the national economy, should the Government forbid construction? Commenting on these questions, the *Chuo* and the *Tokyo Shimbum* infer that the Government do not possess any fixed policy with regard either to the construction of railways or to the present features of the national economy. The questions furnish a true gauge of the financial ability of the Matsukata Cabinet, whose strength is believed to be in finance.

The *Nichi Nichi* condemns the Government for having obliged the Railway Council to discuss affairs evidently outside its functions, for any question relating to the general economy of the country and the policy to be taken with reference to it, must be determined by the Administration itself. The *Fiji* assumes a similarly unfavourable attitude, maintaining that the idea of deducing from the economic condition of the country an indiscriminate answer as to whether or no the construction of new private railways should be permitted, is not only open to the charge of vagueness, but must also be condemned as needless and futile official meddling. The questions simply show a lack of fixed views on the part of the Government with reference to the important subject of railways. Moreover, if the Authorities intend to refuse permission to all applications for laying lines in districts where railways are already open for traffic, their idea is entirely wrong, for the absence of competition is a fundamental cause of the absence of improvement in Japanese railways. The *Fiji* points to the Sanyo and the Nippon Railways as good illustrations of its contention, the competition produced by coasting steamers in the case of the former having tended to improve it in many respects, while the absence of any such incentive in the case of the latter has resulted in many defects. We note that the pro-Government papers have nothing to say on this subject.

The *Nippon* writes that an agitation is secretly on foot to resuscitate the alliance between the Satsuma and the Choshu statesmen. The object of the persons seeking to bring about that end is to place Marquis Yamagata at the head of the administration, to make Count Matsukata devote himself to finance, and to replace Count Okuma by Marquis Ito at the Foreign Office. The alliance of the Sat-Cho statesmen restored, the co-operation of the Liberals and the National Unionists would follow as a matter of course, according to these persons, and a majority could thus be easily commanded within the Diet. Needless to say that the *Nippon* has no language strong enough to denounce this scheme.

Months have elapsed since Count Okuma assumed the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, but nothing has been effected in the matter of Korean policy. Whenever any difficulty turns up for solution, the Count merely speaks of it as a result of the previous Cabinet's faults, and bestows no attention on it, while even matters of his own initiation he abandons to fate when any obstacle presents itself. Whatever be the cause of this inertness on the part of Count Okuma, his negligence about Korean affairs must be strongly blamed, concludes the *Nichi Nichi*, since it impairs the interests of the Far East in general and of Japan in particular.

The *Yomiuri* and the *Chuo* invite public attention to the question of reconstructing Tokyo harbour, a question that was again brought up for discussion at the last meeting of the Tokyo City Assembly, and entrusted to a Committee specially elected for the purpose.

The suggestions that the *Yomuri* wishes to make in connection with this problem are that the citizens of Tokyo be licensed to reclaim land from the sea at their own volition as far as the forts off Shinagawa, and that certain privileges be extended to them, in view of the risk and outlay involved in the undertaking, as, for instance, that persons fixing their abodes in the reclaimed streets be relieved from paying various public burdens and from the restraints generally imposed on the prosecution of business. A project to reclaim that portion of the shore was rejected a few years ago by the City Assembly on the ground that such a work would deprive of their means of livelihood many persons engaged in fishing and gathering sea-weed and shell-fish. But no such consideration should be suffered to obstruct a scheme that would confer immense benefit on the city at large. Immediately after reconstructing the harbour, Tokyo should be included in the list of special commercial ports, so that various inconveniences now arising from the absence of that privilege might be removed.

The *Chuo* reminds the public that serious opposition has to be encountered in this matter of harbour improvement, namely opposition in military quarters where uneasiness is felt even about leaving Yokohama open to foreign commerce. In fact, the idea of substituting some harbour in Izu or Sagami for Yokohama, so that foreign ships might be kept as far away from the capital as possible, is gaining strength in military and naval circles, especially since the termination of the Japan-China War. Vehement opposition will therefore be encountered by the scheme now in the hands of the Committee of the City Assembly, and unless some means of surmounting that difficulty be in sight, the City Assembly will have only its trouble for its pains.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FINDINGS OF MARINE COURTS OF INQUIRY.

As mentioned by us a week ago, the Tokyo Marine Court of Inquiry have found Captain Eckstrand to blame for the accident that happened to the *Kobe Maru* in Nagato Straits on 4th July last. The accident occurred shortly before 7 o'clock in the morning, the vessel touching the reef. She, however, reached Nagasaki safely the same day the damage to the vessel's bottom being slight. The Court found that Capt. Eckstrand was to blame for not ascertaining the position of the steamer in spite of the fact that she had been drifted to the right by the current. His certificate is suspended for one month.—Two days before delivering this finding, that is on the fifth instant, the same Marine Court found that Capt. F. L. Sommer was responsible for a breach of the maritime regulations in taking the *Satsuma Maru* out of Yokohama harbour, on the 3rd February, before the safety valve of that vessel had been closed by the properly appointed official. The Court suspended Captain Sommer's certificate for one month, and cautioned Mr. P. Staffa, the chief officer.—Both of the above named vessels belong to the fleet of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

OUT FOR AN AIRING.

HARRIS and the musing spider that stepped upon a red hot shovel, and having exhibited a brief but wild surprise, shrivelled up, might be comforted could they come to Shanghai in the flesh, and hobnob with the reporter of that settlement's leading journal, who, describing the Caledonian Ball, says that "the *cor Scotorum*, as *perferendum* as their *ingenium*, had extended their invitations as widely as the community itself has expanded." "Bopple," "schuawp," "bolwoogylo," and "dingblatter" might be recommended for the consideration of that reporter could one be sure that his *cor Scotorum* and its etcetera were soberly intended. But we suspect that his idea was not so much to air his Latin as to pourtray the spirit of magnificent frolic that marked the St. Andrew's Ball in Shanghai. It was evidently a noble affair. Twenty-four dances, exclusive of the Highland Fling and a

Sword Dance, bag-pipes and kilts galore, and at daylight a procession homeward headed by the pipers.

THE KOREAN POWER-SHOVEL.

In the *Korean Repository* a new section has been inaugurated under the heading "Things in General." We take the following humorous note from it:—

This interesting invention occupies a front rank among the labour-saving machines of Korea, for it saves from three to five men a vast deal of work. It consists of a long wooden shovel armed with an iron shoe to cut into the earth properly. The handle is about five feet long and is worked (to a certain extent) by the captain of the crew. Two ropes, one on each side, are attached to the bowl of the shovel, and these are managed by the men who seek to save their labour.

When in operation the captain inserts the iron-shod point of the shovel as deep into the earth sometimes as three inches, and then the crew of two or four men give a lusty pull and a shout and away will go a table-spoonful of dirt full six feet, if not more into the distance. This operation is repeated three or four times and then the weary crew take a recess and refresh themselves with a pipe. It is a beautiful sight to watch a crew working these power shovels, everything is executed with such clock-like regularity, especially the recess. Then the crew sometimes sing in a minor strain, for the Korean day labourer can always be depended on, when putting in time, to do it in as pleasant a manner as possible.

That this implement belongs to the class called labour-saving machines there can be no doubt. It takes five men to do one man's work, but entails no reduction in pay. In fact the number of its crew can be extended to the limits of the shovel's ropes without risk of a strike among the labourers. Many interesting stories might be told to illustrate its name of the power shovel, one of which I will tell. We had a small patch of garden we wanted turned over, so we hired a coolie and put in his hand a beautiful new spade from America. He attached two straw ropes to it, hired four other coolies, at our expense of course, and did the job in triumph. Such is the power of this instrument over the Korean mind!

JAPANESE RESIDENT IN KOREA

The Rev. D. S. Spencer, writing his "First Impressions of Chosen" in the *Korean Repository*, says:—

I had not been in Korea a week before I became convinced that, with certain manifest exceptions, the Japanese who are there are not at all fairly representative of their people. A dozen years among the latter should give one a right to an opinion. The Korean Japanese are, to far too great a degree for the good of either Korea or Japan, mere adventurers, who have found their way to Korea in the hope of making financial gain out of the present and recent-past state of affairs in the peninsula. Without definite aim, without financial or moral standing, many of them professing to be irreligious, and more of them feeling none of the restraints of moral obligation, and lacking business qualifications, they form an element rather dangerous than otherwise under present social conditions in Korea. Through them Japan is badly represented to the world. If they are to remain in Korea, and on no principles of justice can they be easily excluded, the opening of distinctive Christian work among them is a matter of the highest importance.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The following extract from a private letter, dated Manila, the 25th of November, throws some doubt on the recently reported successes of the Spanish troops, says the *N.-C. Daily News*. The movement referred to below was the general forward movement attempted by the Government troops:—"The situation has not improved. The movement I mentioned in my last utterly failed, and the Government troops are now awaiting still further reinforcements. The reverse they have suffered has probably had the effect of largely increasing the rebel ranks, but I do not think the latter will venture to leave their strong positions at Cavite, but will await further attacks."

THE "NEWCHWANG"—"ONWO" COLLISION.

SIR NICHOLAS HANNEN has found that both vessels were to blame in the *Newchwang-Onwo* collision, thus reversing the finding of the Naval Court of Inquiry that found that the master of the *Newchwang* "was solely in error in that he did not observe at first Rules 15 and 21, and afterwards Rule 16 of the *Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea*, that he starboarded his helm in place of porting it when he could have done so without in any way endangering his ship; and that

he improperly starboarded his helm to the *Onwo's* red light and went half-speed ahead, attempting to cross the *Onwo's* bows." The collision occurred on the Huang-poo River, near Woosung, on April 30th, and some hundreds of lives were lost through the sinking of the *Onwo*. Sir Nicholas found that the *Onwo* had herself violated Regulation 18.

ROYAL MARINE GARRISONS.

THE naval correspondent of a London paper writes as follows on a proposal, not a new one, concerning the garrisoning of coaling stations abroad:—"It is believed that the Admiralty and War Office Authorities are considering the question of substituting Royal Marine garrisons for the military garrisons of places like Aden, Halifax, Hongkong, and St. Helena. I believe such a scheme would be very popular in the corps, but it will necessitate a considerable increase in their present strength. At present the total number of Marines is, I believe, 16,000, of which number about half are serving afloat. It would have one very great advantage, inasmuch as it would probably give some congenial employment to the senior officers, who at present are like hunters in a frost, eating their heads off in the stable."

THE "KANAGAWA MARU."

On October 22nd, Messrs. D. & W. Henderson & Co., Partick, launched the twin-screw steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, built for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. This vessel is the first of ten being built in England for that Company. Eight are being built on the Clyde and two in Belfast, and they represent an aggregate tonnage of about 60,000 tons gross. The *Kanagawa Maru* is 463 ft. by 49 ft. 2 in. by 33 ft. 6 in., about 6,000 tons gross, and classed in Lloyd's 100 A1 three deck rule. She will carry a large deadweight, and is expected to attain an average speed of fully 12 knots on a moderate consumption. She has accommodation for first-class passengers and 150 steerage passengers.

THE STRANDING OF THE "NENMUIR."

At the Osaka Marine Court of Inquiry, on the 10th inst., an enquiry was held into the circumstances attending the stranding of the British steamer *Nenmuir* in the Inland Sea in the spring of this year. The vessel was on a voyage from Kobe bound for Hongkong, and left the former port on the 30th of April last. The pilot in charge was Mr. Frank Bishop, a German subject. At two o'clock on the morning of the 1st of May the vessel struck a shoal near Imajimachi, Iyo Province, Inland Sea. The pilot was sleeping in his chair on the bridge at the time of the occurrence. After hearing several witnesses, the Court found that Frank Bishop was to blame for having neglected his duty, and suspended his Inland Sea pilot's certificate for two months.

DACOITY.

TELEGRAPHIC news had reached Haiphong of the burning by dacoits of half the town of Coclieou in the Laokai district. A French firm had workshops in the town and three of their men were severely injured and the terrified remainder are threatening to desert.

A RUSSIAN FETE-DAY.

A SALUTE was fired at noon yesterday by the war-ships in harbour in honour of the first anniversary of the nomination of the Czar of Russia. In the evening the *Dimitri Donskoi* was beautifully decorated with innumerable clusters and festoons of electric lights.

THE DELAY OF THE "SAGHALIEN."

THE *North China Daily News* learns that the cause of the detention of the *Saghalien* was the bursting of one of her boilers. One of the engineers and ten firemen were killed.

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

THE prize-distribution and breaking up of the Girls' High School (Mrs. Cahusac), takes place at 4.30 o'clock this afternoon at the Van Schaick Hall.

MR. H. S. WILKINSON.

MR. HIRAM SHAW WILKINSON, Crown Advocate in H.B.M.'s Courts in China and Japan, is a passenger by the incoming French mail.

WHEN THE REVISED TREATIES GO INTO OPERATION.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, the well known economist, says, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, that he sees no reason to make any special preparations for the time when the Revised Treaties will go into operation, for the number of foreigners attracted to Japan will not be anything like the estimate of certain publicists. He would himself be charmed to anticipate a large influx of foreigners, but the prospect seems very uncertain. The interior of the country is practically open already for any one that likes to visit it, and the mere fact of not requiring a passport will not make any material difference; certainly not at first. As to the prediction that cheap foreign capital will be embarked in various enterprises, Mr. Taguchi attaches little faith to it. On the contrary, he fears that nothing so fortunate can be hoped for. Just as the Japanese themselves hesitate to embark capital in Hokkaido or Formosa, though the profits obtainable there are said to be large, so foreigners will be doubtful about risking their money in Japan. The editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, if he be correctly reported by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, seems to hold the foreign merchants of Yokohama and Kobe in light esteem, for he applies to them generically the epithet "*materosu*," which describes seafaring individuals of low class. He thinks that though the opening of the country may bring some additional foreigners, they will not be men of standing but rather persons of the "*materosu*" genus, just as the Japanese that go to Hawaii or New Guinea are questionable characters. It is evident that Mr. Taguchi knows very little about the spirit of British enterprise, but as experience alone can teach him, we need not essay the task. He is usually a man of remarkably broad and liberal views, so that closer contact with foreigners after the new Treaties go into operation, may mend his mistakes. Meanwhile, he has discovered one cause of apprehension, namely, that although the ownership of land by foreigners will be interdicted, there will be nothing to prevent their acquiring shares in railways, and if they get all the stock of a railway company into their hands, then they become, *de facto*, proprietors of the land on which the line is built. Mr. Taguchi forgets that no railway company has a perpetual charter.

FOREIGN CAPITAL FOR JAPAN.

It is rumoured that Japan may have recourse to the foreign market for funds instead of floating the proposed Public Undertakings Loan at home. In her programme of finance for the decade commencing with the present fiscal year, a public undertakings loan, amounting to 135 million *yen*, is included among her revenues. The programme excludes any consideration of the sum—225½ million *yen*—due on account of the Chinese Indemnity at the time that the programme was drawn up. It was the object of the financiers that compiled the scheme to provide means for meeting the expenditures of the State without relying on the recovery of a debt not absolutely free from all elements of uncertainty. Hence, should the Indemnity payments be made with regularity, there will be no

occasion to have recourse to the loan; or, to speak more correctly, the repayment of any portions already raised, and the abandonment of any further issues will presumably follow. Meanwhile, the Diet consented, last session, that 8½ million *yen* of the loan should be floated during the current fiscal year (ending March 31st, 1896), and 61½ millions during next fiscal year (April 1st, 1897, to March 31st, 1898). It is, doubtless, with reference to these portions that the talk of recourse to foreign capital is now heard, the home market being no longer in a favourable condition for such borrowings. Indeed, we have often wondered that the home market did not long ago become incapable of further exploitation, for its comparatively trifling store of floating capital—perhaps 400 million *yen* in all—has already been made to perform the functions of a fund twice as large. It supported the immense drafts made upon it for the purposes of the war, and it has since supported even larger drafts at the behest of the spirit of enterprise created by the war. Hence, that a five-per-cent. loan of 135 millions should overtax its hardworked energies, is not surprising. In the *Miyako Shimbun* we read that an idea is entertained of dividing the loan into three parts, one to be placed abroad, one to be floated at home, and one to be taken up by the Bank of Japan. Nothing is as yet settled, but in view of the demand arising in London for Japanese consols, the proposal to draw upon foreign capital is said to be gaining favour.

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES IN KOREA AND POLITICS.

Some time ago, in commenting on a statement contained in the *Söul Independent* to the effect that foreign missionaries stand entirely aloof from politics in the Korean capital, we expressed doubts as to the complete accuracy of such an assertion; called attention to the fact that Bishop Corfe has been, for some years, a journalistic or magazine critic of Korean political affairs, invariably writing in a manner very hostile to Japan; alleged that there undoubtedly exists in Söul a social coterie, led by the Russian Representative, certain American missionaries, the Secretary of the United States Legation, and the editor of the *Independent*, and added that we believed this coterie to have a common political platform. To these observations of ours the editor of the *Korean Repository* replies:—"A negative proposition is sometimes very 'difficult to establish.' This is readily admitted, and the missionaries whose conduct, quite naturally and properly, is so closely watched, would have no difficulty in accounting for their conduct; but, of course, might find great difficulty in attempting to prove the opposite of all the charges preferred against them by newspaper correspondents. We missionaries were outraged last year when the Queen was hounded murdered. We showed sympathy with the King by promptly complying with his request to be near him while he was surrounded by those whose hands were red with the blood of his Queen. We should have done as much for the lowest coolie under the circumstances; why not for the afflicted Royal Family? If this is 'being drawn into the vortex of politics,' make the most of it. To us it was only showing the

ordinary instincts of humanity to those in suffering. As to the 'social coterie,' that is very funny. We are still waiting to see it proved that social amenities necessarily imply meddling in politics. Everybody is mentioned specifically except 'certain American missionaries,' and as they are presumably the only ones moving in a doubtful sphere, it would be interesting to know who they are and of what political gossip or sins they are guilty."

THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST FRENCH PRIESTS IN MANCHURIA.

The story of the accusations preferred by Dr. John Ross against the Roman Catholic Bishop of Mukden in particular, and the French Priests in Manchuria in general, has entered a curious phase. Already an emphatic contradiction of Dr. Ross' assertions has been published by one of the French Missionaries, but Dr. Ross has declined to attach any importance to the denial unless it comes direct from Monseigneur Guillon. It will be remembered that he charged the Bishop with having in his compound a pillar to which Chinamen were tied up by their queues and beaten unmercifully, and with having practised that form of torture to a most aggravated extent in the case of a man who had abandoned the Roman Catholic faith and become a Protestant. Another defender of the Bishop has now entered the field, namely, the Rev. H. Lemassee, *Missionnaire Apostolique*. M. Lemassee proposes that a jury be formed of respectable residents of Shanghai—he is willing that the *personnel* should be four or six English merchants—and that Dr. Ross lay before it any proofs he can produce of the truth of his allegations. He further offers to put up two thousand dollars if Dr. Ross' will do the same, on condition that if the majority of the jury decide in Dr. Ross' favour, that is to say, decide that his accusations are correct, then, Mr. Lemassee says:—

- 1.—The sum of \$2,000 will be yours.
 - 2.—Further I bind myself, without any reciprocal obligation on your part, to pay you a sum of \$500 for every Chinese, Catholic, Protestant, Pagan, or Mahomedan of Manchuria, whom you can prove, before the same jury, to have been tortured by Monseigneur Guillon or any one of his missionaries.
 - 3.—It will be lawful for you to publish this verdict of the jury in any paper you like.
- But if you are unable to get evidence and if the verdict is against you, thus:—
- a.—The deposit of \$2,000 will be handed to me and laid out for some good work, tending to promote the diffusion of Christianity in Manchuria.
 - b.—I will require all the papers which published your accusation, to publish also your inability to prove it.
- Lastly, if you refuse to accept what I propose, I leave it to public opinion to pronounce upon what you are worth.
- In all this, of course, I engage but my own personal responsibility, without any prejudice whatever to the judicial proceedings that Monseigneur Guillon and his missionaries may reserve to themselves the right to bring against you, for since in your report you defamed the Bishop and all the French missionaries in Manchuria, it is plain that they are each and all qualified to ask satisfaction from you in the way they may deem proper. As for my own way, I think it is sufficiently frank.

It is possible, of course, that Dr. Ross may not be able to produce his witnesses in Shanghai, but his position has certainly become very difficult, and unless he has grounds for knowing that Monseigneur Guillon intends to arraign him before a law court on a charge of libel, the public will judge him harshly if he declines M. Lemassee's challenge, so far, at any rate, as its essentials are concerned.

RAILWAYS AND OTHER UNDERTAKINGS.

The Railway Council, we read in the *Yomiuri*, resolved to sanction at its last meeting some 1,500 miles of private railways. In connection with these projects the *Yomiuri* asserts that a good many have no hope of being started at all, or, if started, will not pay; while there are others that have a good chance of success and yet failed to obtain the sanction of the Council. This news has evoked some indignation among business men connected with railway enterprise, and it is asserted that while the less scrupulous do not hesitate to approach the Authorities in an underhand manner with a view to compassing their ends; others of a more honourable turn of mind demand of the Authorities in strong language the reasons for displaying such partiality. Beset with such difficulties, the Chief of the Railway Bureau was at a loss what to do, and resolved to seek the opinion of the Premier. The Premier declared that he was not satisfied with the steps that the Council proposed taking, and averred that he was inclined to contract the scope of railway enterprise. In the matter of selection also, the Premier thought that the Council was lacking in discretion. It is said, therefore, that the Railway Authorities are secretly reconsidering the subject. The same paper reports that Viscount Nomura, Minister of Communications, and Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs, entertain quite different opinions to those of the Premier in the matter of railway enterprise, and both are alleged to have told certain railway projectors that they did not think it advisable to contract the scope of railway enterprise.

Captain Kimotsuki, Chief of the Hydrographical Bureau of the Navy, inspected, a few days ago, the site that Paymaster Ishihara selected at Tanikawa, Izumi, for the construction of dockyards. He spoke of the result of his inspection to the representative of the *Osaka Asahi*, observing that the site was excellent for the purpose in view. He dwelt much on the absolute necessity for increasing the dockyards of Japan, and recommended the Pay-master's scheme to the favour of Osaka pitilists.

The Government, we read in the *Nichi Nichi*, intends that the iron foundry shall be capable of turning out 60,000 tons of steel yearly. A sum of a little over four million *yen*, spread over four years, was approved by the last session of the Diet for this enterprise. The scheme has been steadily pushed forward, and while experts have been sent to investigate foundry affairs in the West and to engage two foreign experts as managers, other experts staying at home have succeeded in selecting a suitable site for the buildings. It was originally designed to establish Foundries in two different places, but prudence dictated starting one at first. The site selected, is situated in the village of Yedamitsu, Oga District, Fukuoka, and covers more than 200,000 *tsubo*. It slopes from south to north, and rests on a firm substratum of granite. In one direction it terminates on the coast; and is only a few miles distant from the port of Wakamatsu. The result of the last two years' meteorological observations shows that the district enjoys exceptionally fair weather throughout the year, no less than 233 days having been clear and only 53 days cloudy.

The citizens of Shimonoseki and Moji

are highly displeased at finding their towns excluded from the list of ports opened for special commerce, a notification having been issued in October depriving them of the privilege that they had previously enjoyed in regard to the export of certain special commodities. The idea of the Authorities in excluding these two places from the list of special ports, is said to be based on military considerations. The Shimonoseki and Moji people reply that, if military considerations have so much weight, they can not understand why foreigners should be allowed to live in Yokohama, which is so close to Tokyo and Yokosuka; moreover, what difficulty would there be in preventing both ports' being temporarily closed in time of emergency? The Government's action is highly inconsistent and thoughtless, they urge. It opened the two places for the purpose of special exports and encouraged their prosperity, yet now, people having invested money in improving the harbour basins, the Government turns round and suddenly deprives them of their privileges. The indignation of the residents is said to be so strong that unless proper steps are taken they may break out into riot. A glance at the Customs returns will be useful in this context. In 1895, exports from Shimonoseki aggregated over four million *yen* and the place ranked next to Yokohama and Kobe as an export outlet. The Local Assembly of Yamaguchi has decided to unanimously memorialize the Cabinet on the subject.

A LESSON FROM THE "NEW CHWANG"-"ONWO" COLLISION.

When the collision between the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna* and the I.J.S. *Chishima* became the subject of inquiry in a British Naval Court, with the result that the former vessel was acquitted of all blame, we ventured to suggest that the finding of a Naval Court and the finding of a Law Court were two distinct and often very different things, and that the verdict of the Naval Court could not be considered to have absolved the *Ravenna* of all legal responsibility. Readers of the foreign local press in Japan probably remember what a storm of invective was directed against us in consequence of these remarks, and how roundly the Japanese Authorities were abused for not accepting as final the judgment of the British Naval Court. For the sake of our assailants at that time, we may now refer to the case of the *Newchwang-Onwo*. A Naval Court of Inquiry, sitting in Shanghai, found that the *Newchwang* was solely to blame, but the owners of the vessel did not accept that ruling. They carried the matter into a Court of Law, and Chief Justice Hannen has now reversed the finding of the Naval Court and declared that both vessels were in error. Whether a British Law Court would have reversed the Judgment of a British Naval Court in the case of the *Chishima* and *Ravenna*, we do not pretend to say, but assuredly no conceivable blame attached to the Japanese for appealing to British law.

The railway between Kyoto and Saga having been completed and an engine run over the line, it will be opened for traffic on or about the 3rd of January next.

Count Okuma, Foreign Minister, proceeded to the Imperial Palace on Wednesday and was received in audience.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

The *Jiji* publishes an interesting comparison between Western and Japanese railways in respect of efficiency and convenience, basing its views on information supplied by a Japanese expert who lately returned home after a prolonged visit of inspection through Europe and America. In the first place, a striking contrast is observed between the two systems with respect to the style of rolling stock, for whereas a western railway uses 6 to 8 wheeled cars—it is only quite recently that the bogie style was introduced in America—the majority of cars or waggons used on Japanese lines are 4-wheeled, and of a style entirely out of date in the West. The locomotives used in Japan are similarly old-fashioned. The average speed of locomotives between Ueno and Aomori is only 18 miles per hour, while that between Shimbashi and Yokohama is 20 miles. But the speed could easily be increased to 40 if only locomotives of the latest style were used. Another striking difference between Japanese railways and those of the West is in frequency of the train service. The defective and insufficient service in Japan is due to her railways being yet on single tracks, and the doubling of the lines—at least those running through important districts—must be undertaken as quickly as possible. Another contrast is furnished by the volume of goods service and the charges, for whereas in England the majority of goods belong to such subterranean products as coal, iron, and forth, Japanese railways carry in their waggons principally agricultural products, though this is not the case with the Hokkaido and Kyushu Railways. Then the difference between the various classes of fares is not so wide in the West as in Japan, the second class fare being only twenty per cent. higher than that of the third class. This is of course due to the beneficial result of competition.

The growing activity in the parcels post service and the increasing number of parcel post-bags that private railways are obliged to convey without remuneration, are beginning to attract the attention of railway companies in Japan. It is said that in England 25 per cent. of the receipts from the parcels service goes to the Treasury and the remaining 75 per cent. to railways that carry parcels. Certain private railway companies in Japan have asked the Post Authorities to modify the present arrangement, but the latter have refused to comply. Another grievance that the private railway companies of Japan entertain against the Government is connected with the telegraph service. Railway stations situated in localities where the Government has not yet established a service, are obliged to permit the public to use their lines. Yet the Postal Authorities appropriate two-thirds of the receipts. Such a partition is, in itself, open to the charge of being unfair, but there is an even more serious cause of complaint. When the Postal Authorities compel private railway companies to allow the public the use of their telegraphs, the Authorities watch the pecuniary result of the service, and when they are satisfied that the service pays, they forthwith proceed to establish Governments line along the route and so ruin the private lines.

FASHIONS OF GAMBLING.

The conservatism and at the same time the progress of the Chinese have just been testified to by an incident in which the Shanghai police took a part. Gambling was in question. Forty-one persons were arrested for pitting crickets against each other. The affair is thus described by the *China Gazette* :—

The *modus operandi* partakes somewhat of the nature of cock-fighting, but the combatants are beetles, a kind of third cousin to the common or domestic cricket. These insects are imprisoned in jars, well fed and kept warm by a small hot-water tin, the whole being contained in a box similar to those carried by pigeon fanciers in the Old Country. Two male crickets are placed in a miniature bamboo cage, while separated by a thin partition is a female cricket. The males, inspired by the presence of the other sex, commence fighting, and the stakes are placed upon each of them, the owner of the victor being declared the winner. The crickets are most pugnacious, and are said to cost from one to two dollars each, while pedigrees and performances are given when sales are effected. All the paraphernalia were confiscated by the Court on 30th ult., and it will be interesting to know what will become of them. The gamblers were fined \$10 each, but some, who had been bailed out for \$20, had their bail estreated. The owner of the house was fined \$25, the master of ceremonies \$25, and a native newspaper reporter, who said he went there to "look see" for the *Sin Wan Pao*, was let off with \$5.

We call this a testimony at once to the conservatism and to the progress of the Chinese, for the habit of pitting one mantis against another is centuries old in China, while the idea of subjecting the amusement to police interference is comparatively modern. We suspect that what our Shanghai contemporary calls "a kind of third cousin to the common or domestic cricket" is in reality the praying mantis. Every one familiar with Chinese porcelains knows that when enamel decoration over the glaze began to command the admiration of Chinese connoisseurs in the *Ch'eng-hwaera* (1465-88), one of the most favourite decorative subjects was a mantis fight, and it is related that the pastime of making these insects do battle with each other was all the vogue in those times among the higher classes of the people. Now-a-days it is apparently regarded as a criminal offence. So is cock-fighting in England, but who could compare cock-fighting with mantis-fighting, except on the ground that each is a fashion of gambling? It is impossible to feel sorry for a mantis under any circumstances. There exists no such fiendish cannibal in the universe. A cat is cruel enough to its prey, in all conscience, but its frisky methods impart an artistic character to its doings as a torturer. But the mantis is the grimmest of savages. He will crook a near relative in one of his long fore legs, and bite into him bit by bit, just as a greedy child, with lingering deliberation, consumes a gingerbread. To see that mantis pause over the writhing remnants of his first cousin, and lick out with his long tongue any crumbs of the repast that many have lodged in the channels of his claw, the while his diamond-shaped pin-points of eyes scintillate with the coldest glitter, is to witness one of the most devilish incidents in the struggle for life that disgraces this world of ours. The mantis is beyond the pale of pity, and to set him fighting against one of his kind seems a justifiable act. It is a petty amusement, in truth, but we have seen a pettier, namely, races between mites taken from a cheese and deposited upon hot plates. Each man chose a mite, and, at a given signal, laid it, as nearly as possible, in the centre of a plate heated just suffi-

ciently to be a most unpleasant resting place for a tender footed insect. The mite invariably started in a bee line towards the edge of the plate, by what instinct guided the father of entomologists alone knows. Of course the mite first to tumble off his plate won the stakes of all the other vermin owners. But never were races so uncertain. Often within an inch of the rim that constituted the winning post, a mite, hitherto squirming along well within himself, would shrivel up, and take no further interest in the proceedings. After all, the Chinese mantis-fights seem the more intellectual pastime of the two.

THE LAST OF AN UNSIGHTLY RECORD.

Every foreign visitor to Tientsin has been shocked by a ruin that looms obtrusively apparent on the bank of the Peiho. It is in the form of a great gate with flanking walls. The space behind is vacant, but on it once stood a large cathedral, the most imposing evidence of Roman Catholic propagandism that then existed in China. The cathedral was burned to the ground, in 1870, by a mob of Chinese rioters, who, at the same time, slaughtered a number of Sisters of Mercy after the brutal fashions of mobs everywhere, and especially of Chinese mobs when foreigners are the objects of their fury. France's hands were too full of other work at the time to permit her to exact ample compensation for the cruel outrage, and it seemed that the ruins of the cathedral bore perpetual testimony to the insufficiency of China's punishment. At last the unpleasant reminder is to be removed. The French Representative in Peking has prevailed on the Chinese Government to rebuild the Cathedral. It is to be a handsome edifice, with a roof of yellow tiles, a colour that carries with it special distinction in the Middle Kingdom.

OWNERSHIP OF LAND BY FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN.

It is wonderful what effects can be produced by an appeal to sentiment. There has been so much talk about the ownership of land by foreigners in Japan that the contingency now assumes the dimensions of a veritable bugbear among the giddy section of the population. We actually find a journal like the *Mainichi* speculating on the necessity of devising some means for preventing foreigners' getting land into their possession through the medium of Japanese subjects. What possible matter could it make to Japan though they did so? The land would not really belong to them. They might have the use of it for practical purposes, but it would be registered in the name of a Japanese subject, and could never be legally transferred to any one except a Japanese subject. This talk about *tochi shoyu-ken* is extremely silly. Land can not be carried away. It remains a perennially inalienable asset of the country whether foreigners or Japanese happen to have the use of it. There are, it is true, many reasons, easily conceivable, why the Japanese people might object to the presence of a large number of aliens in the capacity of land-owners, but not one of those reasons applies to the case of land occupied by a foreigner and registered in the name of a Japanese. We are glad to

perceive, however, that while referring to this chimera, the *Mainichi* quotes an expression of opinion attributed to the Committee appointed to make preparations for the operation of the Treaties. The view said to be taken by the Committee is that a foreigner, purchasing land in the name of a Japanese, places himself entirely beyond the pale of the law in respect of all matters relating to the land, and has no legal recourse against the Japanese owner though the latter mortgage the land or even sell it. No record of the foreigner's connection with the land appears in the public registers. It might be sold and duly transferred to another Japanese without the foreigner's having the smallest suspicion of the event, and the law courts could not take cognizance of any appeal from the latter for redress. Foreigners willing to take such risks must be few and far between, especially since they know that any Japanese subject joining them to whip the devil round the post in such a fashion could scarcely be worthy of implicit confidence.

"MUDA-NA" AND A TOKYO CORRESPONDENT OF "THE TIMES."

Our old friend, with his chronic malady of *cacoethes scribendi*, has got himself into a horrible mess. Strange that the Japanese railways, with which he is so familiar, have not taught him the trick of going slow. A few days ago he accused the Tokyo correspondent of *The Times* of having described the streets of Tokyo as "broad and beautifully kept," and as the scene of competition between electric tramcars and humble *jinrikisha*. The Tokyo correspondent of *The Times* thereupon publicly denied that he had ever written anything of the kind, but "Muda-na" retorted that if the Tokyo correspondent had not written it, a Tokyo correspondent certainly had. But it now turns out that the words contained in *The Times* were, "humble jinrikisha may yet be seen competing with the electric tramcars for the traffic in the broad and beautifully kept streets of Tokyo." So *The Times* correspondent did not write about actualities but about possibilities. He talked of what might yet be the case, not of what is the case. It must not be imagined that "Muda-na" has acknowledged his gross blunder. Not a bit of it. Under the plea of correcting a wholly immaterial omission from his quotation, he inadvertently slips in the tell-tale "yet." Delightfully ingenuous "Muda-na"! He knows how much better it is to tell one and stick to it, than to essay the abominable inconsistency of confessing the truth.

RAILWAY PROJECTS.

We read in the *Yiji Shimpō* that the Railway Council, which has been in session since the 14th of November, found on its table some two hundred applications for charters, and that it has decided to sanction not more than a fourth of the number. On a question of general principle the Council's opinions were divided, one section maintaining that no new line should be sanctioned if it competed with one already in existence; the other section holding that injurious competition only should be regarded as a bar. The former view obtained a majority, with the result that, as nearly all the applications for lines in and about Tokyo and Osaka are of a competitive character, not more than one or two will obtain charters.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.

The Liberal Party held a general meeting on the 15th instant at the Central Office of the Party situated in Shiba Park, Tokyo. The meeting was attended by some 350 members, about a third of whom consisted of present and past members of the Diet identified with the Party. Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi occupied the chair.

Mr. Kono Hironaka, on behalf of the General Committee of the Party, addressed the meeting as follows:—At last year's general meeting, the Party came to the determination to effect an *entente* with the Cabinet of the day, and this resolution was carried out in the 9th session of the Diet. In that session various *post-bellum* measures of prime importance came up for discussion. That they were carried through and enacted and that the foundation of the greater Japan was laid on a suitable structure, was mainly due to the efforts of the Party. Subsequently, Count Itagaki, the leader of the Party, obtained a seat in the Cabinet, and considerable progress was attained in the representative system of the country. The occurrence of successive natural calamities after Count Itagaki's entry considerably diverted his attention, and thus the realization of many cherished ideas of the Party was unavoidably interfered with. The resignation of the then Minister of Finance in August of this year eventuated in the resignation of nearly all the Members of the Cabinet, and it is to be regretted that the *entente* could not be brought to a satisfactory issue. Three weeks later, the so-called Matsukata-Okuma Cabinet came into existence, but though fully four months have elapsed since that time, nothing particularly noteworthy has been effected by the new Cabinet, and this in spite of the fact that, while the two leaders occupied the position of "outs," they spoke loudly about the necessity for administrative reform, the reduction of the scope of the military expansion programme, the adjustment of finance, and so forth. Nor does the much quoted policy announced by the Cabinet before the Assembly of Local Governors contain anything noteworthy, for it was shrouded in vague terms and was in short nothing more than a meaningless speech. It is true that an Administrative Reform Committee was appointed, but nothing has as yet been effected; whereas repeated administrative steps taken against journals in connection with the Household Minister's affair invited strong criticism from the public at large. Taking all things into consideration, the doings of the Ministry in power have simply resulted in impressing the public with an unfavourable opinion of the present Government. With such materials to judge from, it would be no difficult task for anybody to estimate the true capacity of the Government and to guess how long its tenure of office will last. Confronted by such an unstable Cabinet, the future of our Party must be considered full of hope. At the same time, the responsibility that the Party owes to the State has been considerably increased, and extreme care must be exercised before it decides to take any step. Indeed, if the Party regulates its affairs in such a manner as to be consonant with circumstances, it may attain, even in the coming session, satisfactory results. Mr. Kono concluded his speech by asking his fellow members

to use their united and cordial exertions for the good of the Party and of the country at large.

The platform adopted by the Party is as follows:—The Party considers the Ministry in power as opposed to it, and will leave the steps to be taken in accordance with circumstances to the care of the members of the Diet in the Council of the Party. In completing the *post-bellum* measures, the policy adopted by the Party in the 9th session of the Diet shall be pursued. The extension of personal freedom and rights shall be upheld in pursuance of the original policy of the Party. In the event of amending the Law of Election for the House of Representatives, the Party will advocate the increase of the number of members to not less than 500 and not more than 600.

Count Itagaki could not attend the meeting owing to the death of one of his relatives.

MR. A. S. ALDRICH'S AMENITIES.

In our issue of the 15th inst. we published a précis of an article in the *Fiji Shimpō*. It was an article embodying information furnished to the *Fiji* by a Japanese expert who recently paid a visit to the West. From first to last the précis did not contain a single expression of our own opinion or a single statement emanating from ourselves. Everything was taken from the *Fiji Shimpō* and was distinctly credited to that journal. Mr. A. S. Aldrich, a secretary of the Railway Bureau, considered it necessary to record his dissent from the views embodied in the *Fiji Shimpō's* article. He therefore addressed to this journal two letters, couched in his own inimitable style, wherein he was kind enough to say that one paragraph in our précis, "as it stands, is in itself nonsense," and that "neither the Japanese expert, nor the *Fiji*, nor (shall I say?) yourself, know anything whatever about the subject upon which you affect to throw light." We are familiar with the beauties of Mr. Aldrich's diction. His graceful pen has charmed the Yokohama public scores and scores of times over anonymous signatures about miscellaneous subjects which, as they stood, were in themselves flashes of genius. We have often admired his facility in inventing Japanese pseudonyms to conceal his identity, and in the silence of our editorial sanctum have applauded the courtesy evinced in his choice of epithets, the politeness shown in his strict avoidance of personalities, and the courage that drove him to deliver anonymous dicta upon innumerable topics—courage which that silly person Tennyson would have described as "blind and naked ignorance, delivering brawling judgments all day long on all things, unabashed," but which we, in our humble line of life, deemed as magnificent as the audacity of that other Aldrich who submitted his domestic arrangements to the scrutiny of a Law Court. Mr. A. S. Aldrich can not have appreciated our silent admiration of his tactful doings, lovely syntax, and mischief-aborring reticence, or he would never have been so cruelly ungrateful as to charge us with "knowing nothing whatever about a subject upon which we had affected to throw light," when, in point of fact, we had not written so much as one word on the subject, nor affected to throw upon it any light other than that reflected by the *Fiji Shimpō*.

MR. OMIWA.

Mr. Omiwa, one of the chief projectors of the Sōul-Fusan Railway, who stayed in the Korean capital after Baron Ozaki had left Korea, returned home a few days ago. Interviewed by a representative of the *Osaka Asahi*, Mr. Omiwa observed that the pro-Russian and anti-Japanese sentiment was not so deeply rooted among Koreans as the public believed. Both officials and people dread the ambition of Russia, and, with the exception of two or three of their number who are open to pecuniary persuasion, are all eager for the return of the King to his own palace. As to the progress of the Sōul-Fusan Railway, Mr. Omiwa observed that Mr. Kato, *Chargé d'Affaires* in Korea, has sent in a fourth official note to the Korean Government regarding the notification issued over the King's signature on the 21st ult., and has asked the Government for a definite reply. Mr. Omiwa cannot, of course, make a distinct statement, but he believes a favourable result will, in the end, be obtained. A certain amount of agitation and palm-oiling is always required in Korea to get most things done, and Mr. Morse, who secured the concession for the Sōul-Ninsen Railway well understood this. However, the projectors of the Sōul-Fusan Railway, whether deterred by the tradal depression in the interior or from other considerations, hesitated to follow this example in the way of distributing gifts. The Sōul-Fusan railway is, however, a national question and its projectors cannot be swayed by any consideration of filthy lucre. If they look solely for a speedy return of profits on their investment the privilege secured by Japan will come to nothing. The attitude of Koreans towards the Sōul-Ninsen undertaking has undergone a considerable change. At first the projectors understood that they were to obtain land gratis for the track, but now they are asked to expend large sums in removing the King's Botanical Garden, situated outside the gate of the Capital through which the line is to pass. Again, the land in the vicinity of Ninsen being owned by foreigners can not be obtained except by paying high prices. Consequently, the projectors have been obliged to defer by one year the work of construction, and are now trying to get the construction of the Sōul-Fusan Railway also into their hands. This is the reason why Mr. Omiwa has returned home, to ascertain the attitude of his co-projectors towards the scheme.

LEASING OF LAND TO FOREIGNERS IN KOBE.

With reference to the tenure of land by foreigners in Kobe, and the alleged conflict between the terms of the Revised Treaties and the provisions of the new Civil Code, the *Osaka Asahi* says that from the 1st to the 21st year of *Meiji*, the lands rented to foreigners by Japanese subjects comprised ten hill lots and three town lots on perpetual leases; fourteen lots on leases having no fixed term; one lot on a twenty-years' lease; two on twenty-five-years' leases; three on five-years' leases, and one on a ten-years' lease. Our contemporary adds that out of these thirty-four leases, five only have been allowed to lapse. The ten perpetual leases of hill lots are given in the following list:—

Lessee.	Extent.	Yearly Rent.
No. 1, American	518.6 <i>tsubo</i>	24.87 <i>yen</i> .
No. 5, British	672.8 "	29.29 " "
No. 6, American	458. "	23.96 " "
No. 7, American	404. "	8.776 <i>toku</i> of rice.
No. 11, German	1,008. "	90.87 <i>yen</i> .
No. 15, Chinese	423.88 "	4.29 " "
No. 20, American	372 "	10.63 " "
No. 21, American	770.2 "	16.35 " "
No. 23, American	518.82 "	16.35 " "

JAPANESE FINANCE.

WE shall soon have to consider the Budget for the approaching fiscal year, and in view of that fact, it may not be uninteresting to set down some figures conveying a tolerably clear idea of the financial programme evolved by the last Cabinet, and communicated to the Budget Committee, though not, of course, brought before the House itself. We do not vouch for the absolute accuracy of these figures, but believe them to be a very close approximation to the truth, if, indeed, they differ from it at all.

It has already been pretty generally understood that the plan of Army and Navy Expansion extends over two periods, commencing with the current fiscal year (April 1st, 1896, to March 31st, 1897). We can not indicate the exact duration of these periods, that information being kept secret.

The estimated expenditures on account of the two Services are these:—

ARMY EXPANSION.		Yen.
First Period	43,329,409	81,679,409
Second Period ...	38,350,000	
NAVY EXPANSION.		Yen.
First Period	94,979,681	187,579,681
Second Period ...	92,600,000	

Grand Total..... 269,259,090

As to the manner of meeting these outlays, it has hitherto been roughly stated that the indemnity received from China would be devoted to the purpose. The total indemnity is 345 million yen, out of which 119,050,000 yen have been paid and drafted into the Budget, 78,950,000 yen being applied to the purposes of the Extraordinary War Fund, to cover outlays already made, and 40,100,000 yen being included in the Revenue for the current fiscal year. It has further been assumed that the latter sum (40 millions) was appropriated on account of Army and Navy Expansion, so that, out of the grand total (269,259,090 yen) to be expended on the two Services, 229,259,090 yen only would remain to be defrayed out of the still unpaid portion (225,950,000 yen) of the indemnity. On those hypotheses, the Army and Navy expenditures would exceed the funds appropriated from the indemnity to meet them, the excess being 3,309,090 yen, a comparatively trifling amount which would be more than covered by the interest on the outstanding portions of the indemnity.

But the indemnity is not a certain asset, and to base a large programme of expenditure on an income that may never be realized—remote as the negative contingency is—would be bad finance. The ITO Cabinet consequently adopted measures to provide for an increase of available funds independently of the indemnity, the two principal sources being taxation and the floating of a Public Undertakings Loan (135 million yen). It was also estimated that the normal growth of the Ordinary Revenue, year by year, would result in a considerable surplus. Hence

from three directions money would flow into the Treasury. For the sake of clearness we shall deal with each of these separately. First, as to the Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure, we have the following figures:—

	Ordinary Revenue Yen.	Ordinary Expenditure Yen.	Surplus Yen.
29th fiscal year (1896-7)	97,227,222	92,186,835	4,840,412
30th fiscal year (1897-8)	100,615,615	93,449,134	7,166,481
31st fiscal year (1898-9)	101,993,900	89,894,053	14,099,847
32nd fiscal year (1899-1900)	100,139,884	91,152,960	14,986,924
33rd fiscal year (1900-1)	110,515,535	93,849,230	17,677,305
34th fiscal year (1901-2)	111,181,585	94,519,425	16,662,160
35th fiscal year (1902-3)	111,608,366	94,210,165	17,398,201
36th fiscal year (1903-4)	112,308,454	94,433,849	17,874,605
37th fiscal year (1904-5)	110,751,139	94,605,967	18,145,172
38th fiscal year (1905-6)	113,444,418	94,841,334	18,603,084
Total Surplus			146,718,977

With regard to the revenue from additional or increased taxation, and the proceeds of the Public Undertakings Loan, we have the following:—

	Instalment of Increase of Revenue for Taxation. Yen.	Public Undertakings Loan (Net amounts.) Yen.
29th fiscal year (1896-7) ..	3,107,222	8,211,414
30th fiscal year (1897-8) ..	17,073,016	61,309,498
31st fiscal year (1898-9) ..	24,565,268	40,146,151
32nd fiscal year (1899-1900) ..	30,517,729	10,217,933
33rd fiscal year (1900-1) ..	30,848,625	6,519,043
34th fiscal year (1901-2) ..	31,160,044	5,730,269
35th fiscal year (1902-3) ..	31,598,310	1,514,581
36th fiscal year (1903-4) ..	31,655,956	—
37th fiscal year (1904-5) ..	31,655,956	—
38th fiscal year (1905-6) ..	31,655,956	—
Total.....	261,838,082	133,648,889

To these amounts have to be added the sum appropriated from the indemnity during the current fiscal year, together with the annual payments made by China on account of the maintenance of the Weihaiwei garrison, up to 1902. We thus arrive at the total assets—independently of the portion of the indemnity still due—that will be available for defraying extraordinary expenditure during the decade under review, according to the programme of the Ito Cabinet; namely:—

	Yen.
Total of surpluses of Ordinary Revenue	146,718,977
Total income derived from additional taxes	261,838,082
Public Undertakings Loan	133,648,889
Appropriation from Indemnity (in 1896)	40,100,000
Payments from China on account of Weihaiwei	5,250,000
Grand Total	589,555,948

Turning now to the expenditures, we have this table:—

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.		Yen.
29th fiscal year..... (1896-7)	yen	68,361,060
30th fiscal year..... (1897-8)	„	89,498,214
31st fiscal year..... (1898-9)	„	75,822,954
32nd fiscal year..... (1899-0)	„	57,269,962
33rd fiscal year..... (1900-1)	„	51,535,330
34th fiscal year..... (1901-2)	„	54,152,871
35th fiscal year..... (1902-3)	„	42,926,269
36th fiscal year..... (1903-4)	„	40,577,369
37th fiscal year..... (1904-5)	„	40,152,248
38th fiscal year..... (1905-6)	„	40,069,273
Total	yen	560,365,550

It thus appears that this programme yields a surplus of incomings over outgoings, amounting to 29,190,398 yen, independently of the unpaid portion of the Indemnity, namely, 225,950,000 yen. Of course, in the event of regular payment of the instalments of the Indemnity, no necessity would exist to float the Public Undertakings Loan. On this latter hypothesis—namely, the receipt of 225,950,000 yen from the Indemnity and the excision of the Public Undertakings Loan item

(133,648,889 yen)—the surplus in the treasury at the close of the 38th fiscal year would be 121,491,509 yen, which would more than suffice to meet all payments during the second period of Army and Navy Expansion. With regard to this question of Army and Navy Expansion, we may note that expenditures on account of the second period, to the amount of 21,623,518 yen, are to be made by the end of the 38th fiscal year (March 31st, 1906), and as the whole outlay for the second period is 130,950,000 yen, there will remain 109,326,482 yen to be defrayed subsequently to March 31st, 1906. Hence we have the following two contingencies:—

(a) Leaving aside the remaining portion of the Indemnity, and following the ITO Cabinet's financial programme as above outlined, the Government, at the close of the 38th fiscal year, would find itself with, on the one hand, an accumulated surplus of 29 million yen, and an annual income exceeding the annual expenditure by some 10 millions yen; and with, on the other, a programme of second-period Army and Navy expansion involving a total outlay of 109,326,482 yen; and Public Undertakings Loan Bonds, to the total amount of 135 million yen would have been issued. (b) Assuming that the Indemnity is paid in full, the situation at the ending of the 38th fiscal year will be that the Treasury will have a surplus of 121,491,509 yen in its vaults; an annual income exceeding outlays by 10 million yen, approximately, and the same liability as before with regard to the second period of Army and Navy Expansion. Moreover, the domestic loan of 135 million yen would not have been issued.

We have finally to note that the only extraordinary expenditures included in the above estimates, apart from the outlays on account of the Expansion of the Army and Navy, are:—

	Yen.
Iron Foundry.....	4,095,793
Hokkaido Railway	1,178,330
Tobacco Monopoly (capital invested)	12,213,550
Telephone Service Expansion, &c.	12,804,102
Improvement of Government Railways.....	26,553,000
Subsidy to Industrial Bank.....	3,750,000
Supplement to Capital of Agricultural and Industrial Bank	10,000,000
Total	70,592,775

FOREIGNERS IN JAPANESE COURTS.

A CATALOGUE of the agitations periodically started to terrify ill-starred Occidentals on the eve of submission to Japanese jurisdiction, would be a curious document. Some one with leisure and an appetite for the pop-guns of parochial politics will, perhaps, compile the record before the last page in the chapter of Settlement history is finally turned over. Of late, we have had quite a puff-puff of this Liliputian artillery. A stoker subjected to the cruel torture of having his tender fingers squeezed against a pen-

handle; a law court over-ridden by the administrative suspension of a newspaper for an offence with which law courts have nothing to do; a *fille de joie* singled with a lucifer match; a stone thrown by a school-boy at a cyclist, and so forth and so on, have supplied ammunition for the salvos. In truth, of all the paltry trivialities that ever filled journalistic columns, some of the local foreign journals in this country can fairly claim a monopoly of the paltriest. So greatly has their sense of proportion been distorted by chimeras of their own construction that they tremble at a shadow and hear the thunder of catastrophe in every whisper of tittle-tattle. Yet sometimes seemingly solid grounds of alarm are indicated. Prominent among these is an allegation that foreigners can not entertain any reasonable hope of obtaining justice in Japanese law courts. Experience has shown, it is alleged, that such a hope would be quite fallacious. Now that is certainly a serious outlook, and nothing could be more explicit than the terms in which it has been stated. For example:—

It is a well known fact that the Japanese have had in force for a considerable period a very excellent system of laws, yet foreigners very rarely have recourse to the Courts, and when they have done so and the case has been carried to the Court of Cassation, they have invariably lost.—*Japan Gazette*, October 3rd, 1896.

When such an accusation has to be considered we can leave the realm of wordy controversy and have recourse to authentic records. Is it a fact, then, that when cases brought by foreigners in Japanese courts have been carried to the Court of Cassation, the foreigner "has invariably lost?" Is it a fact, as the same authority alleges, that in consequence of these repeated failures to obtain justice, "a deep distrust of Japanese law prevails in the breasts of foreigners?" It has seemed to us worth while to seek an answer to these questions by reference to the archives of the Yokohama Court. We have not carried the investigation farther back than November, 1890, since it was at that time that the Yokohama tribunal underwent reorganization, in accordance with the provisions of the "Law of Organization of Law Courts." But a period of nearly six years is amply sufficient for the purpose in view. The list of cases taken from the Court's archives is printed elsewhere in our columns. It contains 106 suits in all, omitting one which was transferred to Tokyo. Analysing these 106 suits, we obtain the following record:—

Given in favour of the Foreign Plaintiff	36
Given in favour of the Japanese Defendant ..	20
Given partly in favour of the Foreign Plaintiff and partly in favour of the Japanese Defendant	8
Compromised	2
Non-suited	1
Withdrawn (presumably settled out of Court) ..	34
Not yet settled	5

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It is further to be noted that among the 20 suits given against foreign plaintiffs, 5

were brought by Chinese subjects and 2 were practically identical, the plaintiff and the matter in dispute being the same, though the defendants were different. Hence it may be stated that whereas 36 cases were given in favour of Occidental plaintiffs, only 14 were given against them. Turning, finally, to the question of appeals, we find that in two cases only out of the whole record did a superior tribunal disturb the judgment of an inferior. In one of those cases the appellant was a foreigner who had lost his suit in the Local Court. He obtained a partial reversal of the lower tribunal's finding. In the other case, the foreign appellant had already failed in the lower court. Thus, in the space of nearly six years, there did not occur so much as one solitary instance of a foreign plaintiff's success in the Local Court being converted into defeat by the Court of Cassation, or by the Court of Appeal. Is it possible to find in facts a more flagrant contradiction of any statement than this record furnishes of the allegation quoted above?

"Foreigners very rarely have recourse to the Courts, and when they have done so and the case has been carried to the Court of Cassation, they have invariably lost." Instead of "invariably lost," the official archives show that the truth would have been "never lost in one single case."

It is not to be assumed that any intention exists of deceiving the public when newspapers circulate statements so singularly false as the above; but certainly the foreign residents have a right to expect that before advancing assertions calculated to create grave alarm about the probable consequences of submission to Japanese jurisdiction, and, above all, before advancing them in the guise of indisputable facts, an editor will take the trouble to refer to easily accessible sources of conclusive information. In the present instance, we suspect that some confusion has occurred between the results of lawsuits previous to the promulgation of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the state of affairs since then. Prior to 1890, that is to say, prior to the time when the law enabled a suitor to attach the property of a defendant at an early stage of the legal proceedings, it happened not infrequently that although a foreign plaintiff won his case against a Japanese subject in all the Courts of hearing, he found himself without material redress in the end, the debtor having made away with all his available assets in the interval between the delivery of judgment by a tribunal of First Instance and the final decision of the Court of Cassation. The trouble did not lie with the law courts. So far as we know, their verdicts were generally favourable to the foreign suitor, or, at any rate, showed no trace of prejudice against him. But the law was faulty. It provided no mechanism for securing suitors against what was practically a failure of justice, namely,

such a disposal of the defeated litigant's property that nothing remained at the close to satisfy his creditor. Several experiences of that character naturally engendered a serious want of confidence in the relief procurable by recourse to Japanese Law Courts, and it became a common saying that the issue of a foreigner's appeal to the Japanese Judiciary was usually a heavy bill of costs on one side, and a battered brazier supplemented by a tattered *futon* on the other. Small wonder that people did not pause to discriminate very carefully between the defects of the law and the incompetence or unfairness of its administrators. Enough for them that to go into Japanese Courts usually meant to have nothing in the sequel but one's trouble for one's pains, and thus the public's empirical conclusion was that, some how or other, Japanese Law Courts were bruised reeds, not to be leaned on under any circumstances. Since the Code of Civil Procedure went into application, however, the main obstacle to justice has been completely removed. A suitor can now obtain an order from the Court to attach the property of a debtor against whom he has instituted proceedings, and the days of the *hidachi* and the *futon* are past. It would be manifestly extravagant to look for a standard of judicial excellence in Japan such as some Occidental countries are sufficiently fortunate to possess. But, on the whole, the records show that Japanese judges have discharged their functions conscientiously and with average intelligence, and that no solid grounds exist for the apprehensions so sedulously fostered in certain quarters about submission to their jurisdiction.

PROFESSOR BURTON AND THE TOKYO CITY COUNCIL.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* has a paragraph professing to explain the facts connected with Professor BURTON'S claim against the Tokyo City Council for services rendered in preparing plans and estimates of the Tokyo Water-Works. Our contemporary astutely commences its paragraph by calling Mr. BURTON "one of the compilers of the water-works plan," and then goes on to declare emphatically that the plan actually used for the works is not Professor BURTON'S plan by any means. "In his capacity of an *employé* of the Home Department," continues the *Yomiuri*, "Professor BURTON, probably in connection with the scheme of City Improvement, drew up a water-works plan, and this, having been amended by Professors FURUICHI and NAGAYO, was handed to the Chairman of the City Improvements Committee, who, in turn, transmitted it to the City Council. At that time Professor BURTON was not under any engagement to the City Council, but was merely treated as an adviser and received an honorarium of eight hundred

yen per annum. There is consequently no reason whatever to make any compensation to him now. Nay more, it is said that subsequently to the amendment of his design by Professor FURUICHI, it was still further amended by Mr. NAKAJIMA. Under all these circumstances, Professor BURTON does not appear to contemplate any recourse to the law courts." Unwilling as we are to conclude that any injustice has been wittingly done to Mr. BURTON, or that he has been the victim of unprofessional treatment at the hands of the Japanese, we find it impossible to accept the *Yomiuri's* explanation. Our contemporary's story amounts to this:—That Professor BURTON, while serving as a salaried official of the Home Department, was asked to report upon the general question of Tokyo City Improvements, and, *inter alia*, to prepare a plan for water works; that his plan was handed, without his knowledge or consent, to Professor FURUICHI, chief engineer of the Department, who, having amended or altered it in some respects, passed it on to the President of the City Improvements Committee, an unofficial body having no connection with the Department of Home Affairs; that by the President it was submitted to the City Council; and that, after some further changes, it was used by the Council for purposes of water-works construction. Thus the upshot of the affair is that Professor BURTON'S plan, modified by two Japanese engineers, without reference to him, or consultation with him, is now being used for the water-works by the authority of the City Council, with which, confessedly, Mr. BURTON had no connection other than that of adviser at a salary of 800 yen annually. It does not greatly matter how much or how little the plan was altered by Mr. FURUICHI and Mr. NAKAJIMA; it is still Professor BURTON'S plan. Thus the problem for solution resolves itself simply into this—according to the *Yomiuri's* statements:—did Professor BURTON'S duties as a salaried *employé* of the Home Department extend to preparing plans of works required by any municipality or local government throughout the empire? If they did, the Home Department is to be congratulated on having secured the services of an eminent engineer on terms so low as to be scarcely credible and totally unprecedented. Evidently Professor BURTON himself imagines that, as an *employé* of the Home Department, his functions were limited to the business of the Department, and were not of the peculiarly elastic character indicated by the *Yomiuri*. Did he not entertain such a belief, he would never have preferred any claim. The conduct of the Japanese Government towards its foreign *employés* has invariably been liberal and upright. We are precluded from imagining that the Home Department deviated from this honorable record in Professor BURTON'S case. But municipal govern-

ments, hampered by the not always temperate views of city assemblies, fall sometimes within the range of criticism, and it is just possible that the Tokyo City Council has failed to appreciate its responsibilities in this matter. It is to be hoped that substantial justice will be done, and that there will be no ultimate disposition to take refuge in pleas such as those advanced by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

ADMISSION OF OFFICERS TO THE ARMY IN JAPAN.

THE Government has issued an Ordinance making an important change in the manner of admitting candidates to the Army Officers' College. Hitherto, admission has been by examination, and though the standard of education has not been very high, competition rendered success more or less difficult. But, according to the new regulations, all graduates of Ordinary Middle Schools, or other educational institutions duly invested with Middle School status, will be eligible for admission to the College without examination. The system of examination is not abolished; it will be resorted to in the case of youths that desire to enter the College, but have not graduated from any of the designated schools. Evidently this change amounts to something very like the abolition of the competitive system. Graduation at a Middle School is merely an affair of qualification. Certain tests have to be satisfied, but differences of ability or erudition are recognised only in the graduation list, and will receive no recognition whatever, so far as we can perceive, for purposes of admission to the Officers' College. It must be presumed that a step of such radical import has not been taken without due consideration and for sufficient reasons. The need of a large body of officers, in connection with Army expansion, is supposed to have partly prompted the measure; yet, inasmuch as the same end might have been attained without alteration of the existing system but simply by announcing that an increased number of vacancies would be open for competition at the several examinations, it seems evident that the Authorities must have obeyed some motive apart from the mere question of arithmetic, and we are driven to conjecture that the competitive system not having been found altogether advantageous from a military point of view, has been replaced in the main by the method of qualification. On the other hand, nothing has occurred within general cognisance to indicate that the officers now serving in the Army have fallen short of a high standard. They are smart, zealous, frugal, eminently brave, and thoroughly addicted to soldiering—this last being a characteristic well worth noting, for it is not everywhere the habit of army officers to regard their pro-

fession as a calling that demands the fullest exercise of industry and intelligent application. Possibly a more stalwart physique is desired, but certainly, from a moral point of view, the new system ought to involve the admission of inferior men. It is true that one safeguard is provided in the form of a regulation that each candidate must be furnished with certificates of recommendation not only from a competent guarantor, but also from the commanding officer of the army corps that he desires to serve with. Certificates, however, are not difficult to procure: they are generally granted in obedience to considerations quite distinct from the object that they are originally intended to compass. We can not, therefore, regard that precaution as likely to be very effective, and, on the whole, there is no avoiding the conclusion that a system has now been introduced which will tend to lower the standard of education in the upper ranks of the Japanese Army. Had the old method of competitive examination been suffered to continue in operation, and had provision been made for filling any remaining vacancies by direct drafts from graduates of the Middle Schools, there would have been nothing to provoke public curiosity. But when that order is reversed, the competitive examination being lowered to the rank of a mere supplementary device, we are justified in saying that the competitive system has been practically abolished in favour of the qualificatory. It is not within our knowledge to pronounce any confident opinion on the advisability of this large change from the point of view of Japanese conditions. But under a correlated aspect we greatly regret it. Another stunning blow is dealt to private enterprise in the field of education. Already the graduates of schools controlled and aided by the State possessed large advantages over the graduates of private schools, however well equipped the latter might be, and however high their tests of scholarship. Now another important item is added to the list of discriminations, and hundreds, nay thousands, of lads whose parents have incurred heavy expense to provide for them an education much better and more comprehensive than the stereotyped curriculum of the Middle Schools, find them proscribed, and perhaps suddenly and unexpectedly excluded from the very career for which they had been preparing.

THE INDEMNITY AND THE ITO PROGRAMME OF FINANCE.

In answer to a correspondent, we have to explain that when we spoke of the already-paid amount of the Chinese indemnity as 119,950,000 yen; we referred to the sum handed over at the time when the financial estimates of the Ito Cabinet were compiled. The amount received by Japan up to the present is 130 million *taels*, but only 80 million *taels* had been received at the period in question. For the purposes of the financial programme, the sum actually realized was alone to be considered.

UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

Brief reference has been made in these columns to a resolution that was recently carried by the United Chambers of Commerce. It runs as follows:—The Business Tax Law regards the rental of a building as a gauge of the rateable value, and proposes to impose duty at the rate of 4 per cent. of the rental. But as the size of the building and the relative rental paid can not be considered as an indication of the profit derived, and as the rental itself can not so be fairly determined, no fair estimate can be arrived at by this method. Another condition by which the tax is gauged consists in the number of servants employed in a shop. But the United Chambers are of opinion that to include mere shop-boys or apprentices in the list of employés, and to estimate the tax accordingly, is not only unfair, but will ultimately tend to retard the progress of trade and industry. For merchants and manufacturers will naturally be induced to cut-down the number of boys and apprentices in their employ. The amount of capital can not be considered commensurate with the amount of profit, while it must be well-nigh impossible to ascertain the capital invested by an individual in any enterprise. Then, as to the amount of money capitalized in the form of buildings and so forth, it is difficult and well nigh impossible to estimate the capital invested by merely appraising the value of buildings and appendages. A tax based on the volume of business done will show a wide difference between wholesale and retail businesses, the rate for the first being *rototo* of the sales, and that for the second *rototo*. But such a demarkation can not be established in any strict sense, and the difference of 1 and 3 in the rates levied on the two kinds of business must be considered unfair. These points the United Chambers desire to have amended. The Chambers have concluded that for individual businesses men the rate should be determined by the following standard:—For sale of commodities:—Irrespective of wholesale or retail business, the amount of sales must be used as a standard in determining the rate. For banking business:—The amount of gross profits (from which current expenses are not deducted) must be used as a standard. For money lending:—The rate must be determined on the full amount of loans. For insurance, lending of articles, manufactures, printing, &c., the amount of income must be used as a standard, while the rate itself ought to be modified according to the nature of the business. For public works, contracts, and labour contracts:—The amount of the contract to be used as a standard and the rate suitably modified. For public agency, middlemen, and so forth:—The amount of commission should be taken as a standard and the rate suitably modified. For businesses undertaken by companies, the profits should be taken as a standard, for from the nature of the organization of such mercantile establishments it is easy to arrive at the amount of profits made, though it is difficult to do so in the case of businesses undertaken by individuals. Lastly, the United Chambers are of opinion that the tax has been too suddenly proposed, for whereas the Treasury's receipts on account of the business tax have not hitherto exceeded 2,090,000 *yen* approximately, the Government contemplates raising them at one bound to 7½ million *yen*.

THE TOKYO DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

The next performance by the members of the Tokyo Dramatic and Musical Association is to take place in January. The caste will be entirely new, we learn, and the plays will be two, a French and an English. With regard to the former, we hear that it has already been performed privately, with remarkable success, and with regard to the latter, the present intention is to give the old favourite "Ici on parle français," in which the immortal Toole distinguished himself thirty and odd years ago.

OLD CLOTHES AND COTTON MILLS.

An interesting example of interactions that occur during industrial developments such as are now taking place in Japan is furnished by the effect that paper making has had upon cotton spinning. In former days, while the paper of Japan was manufactured chiefly from mulberry bark, straw, and other vegetable material, a large trade existed between Tokyo and the northern parts of the island, the metropolis sending its old clothes to the provincials, whose financial circumstances made them welcome these discarded garments of the big city. But gradually the making of paper according to foreign methods came into vogue, and the old clothes and rag merchants of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto found profitable and growing markets for their wares close at hand, the natural consequence being that the O-U districts received, each year, smaller consignments of second-hand garments and fragments of apparel. Meanwhile, the provincials themselves found their circumstances steadily improving, as the development of railways and other means of communication opened to their agricultural products markets hitherto entirely out of reach. Hence to be cut off from their traditional supply of old clothes did not greatly matter to them. They could afford to buy new garments at a pinch, and that meant, of course, that a new demand sprang up for cotton manufactures, with a corresponding spur to the spinning and weaving industries. Even the wearer of woollen garments finds his purchasing power improved by the industrial development of the era, for he can obtain an appreciable sum for his worn-out suits now readily bought up by purveyors for the shoddy mills. There is, in truth, no selfishness about industry. Development in one direction does not take place at the expense of other interests.

VOLUNTEER FLEET FOR JAPAN.

The vernacular press continues to speak of the project of a volunteer fleet as likely to be realized. The projector is a Major-General on the Reserve List, and his idea is to form a joint stock company with a capital of twenty million *yen*. The ships spoken of are nine cruisers of from 3,000 to 6,000 tons each; and fourteen iron steamers of from 500 to 3,000 tons each, and the lines on which the ships would be placed are, (1) Kobe, Moji, Kelung, Hong-kong and Amoy; (2) Amoy, Foochow, Shanghai; (3) Kobe, Moji, Fusan, Chemulpo; (4) Shanghai, Chefoo, Taku; (5) Shanghai, Hankow; (6) Taku, Tientsin; (7) Australia; (8) America. The projectors are said to expect that, in addition to the aids procurable under the Law for the Encouragement of Navigation, the Government will be induced to grant special assistance. We can not regard the programme as very hopeful.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF THE "GRAPHIC."

The art of coloured illustration has now been carried to a degree of excellence that can be best appreciated when such a publication as the Christmas number of the *Graphic* is before us. Its pictures are really charming. As for the letterpress, we need only say that the stories are by Rudyard Kipling, Bret Harte, "Q.", Norris, Stanley Weyman, and C. M. White. Excellent stories they are, one and all, but Rudyard Kipling's "Bread upon the Waters" stands head and shoulders above the rest: It is another instance of his extraordinary powers of observation. He has actually ventured to make a Scotch nautical engineer tell a tale of the sea, full of technicalities and engine room lore, and so perfect is the fidelity of the thing that Mc-Phee becomes a reality never to be forgotten by any reader of his strange experiences. It is certainly a triumph of journalistic enterprise that the combined work of such authors and such artists should be offered to the English-speaking public for one shilling.

REVISION OF THE PRESS LAW.

Never did so much interest centre on the question of press law revision as at the present time. It is the *mondai* of the day. There is always a *mondai* of one kind or another upon the *tapis*. The Japanese seem to feel lonely if they have not some problem to discuss, and certainly if we undertook to draw up a catalogue of all the *mondai* that have exercised the nation's thinking powers since pigs, rabbits, roses, and orchids ceased to be absorbing topics, we could cover a long slip of paper. On the eve of each session of the Diet newspaper men have set themselves to agitate for full freedom of pen, and though it may be doubted whether the people at large originally cared much about the matter one way or the other, they have been forced to care, so importunately have their ears been assailed by the subject. Every one is now agreed that some modification of the suspension and suppression clauses is necessary. Indeed every one has long been agreed to that extent. The only difference of opinion has been as to the scope of the modification. Hitherto, the *Shimpo-to* have insisted on the whole loaf: they were determined to have nothing less than unconditional rescission of the objectionable clauses. And it seemed, a month ago, that their claims would receive legislative recognition in the approaching session of the Diet, since their leaders had not only come into power, but also practically pledged themselves to do what the Party wanted. Now, however, the *Shimpo-to* are said to have modified their views. In consideration of recent occurrences, they are disposed to be reconciled to the introduction of reservations, namely, that while the Administration's power to suppress any publication be abrogated altogether, its power of suspension should be left intact so far as concerns matter relating to the Imperial Family, to military affairs, and to foreign affairs; the incriminated journal being entitled, however, to bring suit for damages against the Government should it feel dissatisfied with the action of the Administration. A Bill in that sense ought to pass both Houses without much difficulty, we think. It may be noticed, *en passant*, that the agitators of this question have very cleverly raised it above the level of mere journalistic interests by calling it *Jinken-mondai*, or the "question of personal rights." The Minister President, in his speech to the Local Governors, used that term, evidently because, by dealing in generalities rather than specialities, he sought to avoid riveting upon the Cabinet too tight fetters of promise. Politicians have been quick to appreciate the unintentional suggestion. *Jinken-mondai* is a fine legend for their banner: much more artistic and better calculated to appeal to wide sympathies than the comparatively clumsy and hacknied cry of *Shimbu-forei-kaisei-mondai*.

In connection with the above, we note that the parliamentary members of the National Unionists held a meeting on the 7th instant, in order to prepare resolutions for submission to the general meeting of the Party, which is fixed for the 20th instant. The subject of the recent suspensions and suppressions of publications came up for discussion, and elicited strong denunciations of the *Nippon*, the *Kokumin Shimbu*, and so forth, it being agreed that those journals had been guilty of gross disrespect to the Throne. The meeting voted that the Government had been perfectly right in its action toward the offending publications.

ARMY ACCOUNTS.

A very eulogistic notice is published by the *Tokyo Asahi* with reference to the work of the accountants that have been engaged compiling accounts of the expenditures incurred for the Army during the war. It appears that there are over twelve hundred of these officials. Many of them having been engaged at a moment's notice during the war, were men without and experience of the especial duties they had to perform. Nevertheless, they are said to have succeeded admirably, avoiding mistakes and getting through their tasks with celerity, so that receipts

and disbursements were made with uniform regularity. They had to deal not only with the funds handed over by the Treasury, but also with the monies voluntarily contributed by more than four hundred and fifty thousand persons and aggregating over 5½ million yen. Commencing the compilation of final accounts in May, 1895, the total sum of their figures up to the last day of November of the current year was 163,000,080, approximately, and the amount still remaining to be entered up was only some 400,000 yen. Adding to these totals a sum of 6½ million yen brought over from the previous account, it appears that the total expenditures shown in the Army's ledgers are 171 million yen, approximately.

KOREAN NEWS.

The latest letter received by the *Kelsai Zasshi* from its Sōul correspondent states that the Japanese merchants in Korea are highly indignant with Count Okuma on account of His Excellency's outspoken criticism of their doings, in his address to the Japan-Korea Commercial Association. The letter says that the news of Count Okuma's appointment to the Foreign Office was hailed with joy by the Japanese in Korea, for they believed that he would adopt a strong policy. But their sentiment has been entirely altered by his utterances before the above Association. The charge that the Count has laid at the door of the Japanese in Korea is a grave one, continues the correspondent, inasmuch as it amounts to accusing them of disobedience to the Emperor's will in failing to uphold the independence of Korea and in impairing the dignity of Japan. In other words, the Count has stigmatized the Japanese in Korea as disloyal subjects of no ordinary type, so that they are naturally excited about the speech and contemplate demanding a full explanation. Had the Count confined himself to instructing the Japanese in Korea, nobody would have found fault with him; but he went beyond the limits of instruction and entered the field of abuse. His ill-advised speech may produce grave consequences in Japan's Korean policy, for suppose that the Tokyo Government should open negotiations on some subject with Korea, and suppose that the latter make this reply:—"The hostility shown by Koreans towards Japanese is attributable to the fault of the latter. Did not Count Okuma, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, publicly confess that the dislike and contempt entertained by the Koreans towards the Japanese were a punishment brought by the Japanese upon their own heads?" How could Japan meet such a contention? Many persons are no longer inclined to expect much from the Korean policy of Count Okuma, since they have read the report of this speech, for they argue that his motive in attributing the failure made by Japan in Korea to the fault of the Japanese residing there, must be a desire to avoid risking his reputation in the field of Korean politics and to provide some plausible excuse for shuffling out of the responsibility of putting into practice the strong foreign policy to which he has committed himself. The Count seems to have obtained the materials for his speech from a certain report, but he ought not to forget that no community is entirely free from defects, the world over, and that blemishes can be abundantly discovered if sought for with the eyes of a detective.

This correspondent seems to forget altogether that what Count Okuma said about the conduct of the Japanese in Korea had been said previously by Count Inouye in terms quite as strong, and it can not be pretended that Count Inouye lacked sufficient materials for forming a conclusive opinion. But in truth, the thing is notorious. Over and over again we ourselves have received similar information from Englishmen or Americans who spoke on the strength of things actually witnessed by themselves, or described by persons of unquestionable veracity, and who desired, in making such reports, not to injure Japan or impair her prospects in Korea, but to warn her against proceedings that must ultimately inflict irreparable harm on her interests. There is no manner of doubt

about the truth of what Count Okuma said, and we do not admire his courage in saying it more than we applaud the wise statesmanship of laying bare the root of the evil, and seeking to recover that without which no policy directed from Tokyo can be successful, namely, the beneficial coöperation of Japanese subjects in Korea. At present, many of the Japanese living in the peninsula are doing their best to defeat the ends pursued by their country at an immense outlay of blood and treasure.

The same correspondent reviews the change that has taken place in the distribution of power in Korea since the affair of Feb. 11th. He subdivides the time into three periods, and give the following analyses:—First period—Remnants of the Queen's Party, 4; English Language Faction, 4; conservatives and neutrals with no fixed ideas, 2=Korean Court. Second Period—Remnants of the Queen's Party, 0; English Language Faction, 4; Conservatives 4; Neutrals 2=Korean Court. Third Period—Russian Faction, 8; Conservatives and Neutrals, 2; English Language Faction, 0=Korean Court. The numerals in this table do not represent the number of heads, but the relative proportion of power enjoyed by each section.

To give a brief explanation of the three changes. In the first period, the power was in the hands of Li Pōm-chin, who represented the remains of the late Queen's Faction, and the two Li's, the representatives of the English Language Faction. In the second period, the influence of Li Pōm-chin disappeared, and that of the Ministers of Justice and of Finance and their fellow conservatives came into prominence. In the third period, the thoughtless action of the ex-Minister of Education, who published, or caused to be published, an anti-Christian pamphlet, has estranged the feelings of foreigners in Sōul from the Conservatives, and their influence is gradually waning. Indeed, the agitation to make the king return to his own palace threatens to complete the downfall of the Conservative Faction, as may be seen from the removal of the last Chief of Police, a Conservative, to an unimportant post. The English Language Faction managed to maintain its ground, backed as it was by a section of the foreign residents, till the end of the second period; but in the third period it has been completely overshadowed by the Russian Faction, so that its power is now *nil*. Two things are worthy of special notice in the present politics of Korea, namely, the impossibility of any Korean acquiring influence unless he is a *persona grata* with Russia; and the supremacy of the Court over the Cabinet.

Apparently Korean law courts recognise the legality of office buying. We read in *The Independent* that Pak, of Chulla province, having paid \$480 to Kim on condition that the latter procured for him the post of Royal Grave-keeper, and finding that Kim had appropriated \$250 of the money without obtaining the post, intends to sue the latter. It is to be hoped that *The Independent* will keep its readers informed as to the progress of this suit.

Fifteen paupers died in the streets of Sōul during the four months from August to November. The Government of the city has applied for a special allowance to defray the cost the burying people that make the streets their death-bed.

It would seem that even at this early stage of journalistic development in Korea, the newspaper is a power in the land. Some time ago, *The Independent* denounced the conduct of the Governor of South Chōung-chōng as illegal, and now the people of the province write to say that in consequence of the critical article, the Governor has radically changed for the better.

The so-called conspiracy to remove the King from the Russian Legation is beginning to be regarded as a mare's nest. *The Independent* says that the affair is alleged to have been nothing more than an attempt on the part of some office-hunters, who hoped to obtain rewards for reporting the imaginary danger. Meanwhile, some of the unfortunate persons denounced are understood to have been put to the torture.

The surveys for the Sōul-Chemulpo railway are nearly completed.

The Korean Home Department has issued a notification inviting the people throughout the country to report any acts of oppression on the part of local officials, or attempts to impose illegal taxes.

The Korean people seem to be now, for the first time, laying the foundations of their nationalism. They have hitherto had cliques of all kinds for the purpose of promoting individual or family interests, but they now have a club organized with the view of strengthening Korean independence. The club was started five months ago. It then had a membership of half a dozen, but over two thousand names are now borne on its roll. These patriots, as our readers know, held a grand meeting on the 21st of November, to lay the corner stone of an arch in honour of the country's independence. Thousands thronged to witness, or take active part in the celebration, and the orthodox features of orating and banquetting were not absent. The most curious incident of the affair was the action of Korean women who have embraced the Christian faith. After the termination of the ceremony proper, some fifty of these ladies assembled at the "Independence Club" buildings and asked to have the use of the principal hall for a brief interval. Their request was granted, and they speedily organized a celebration on their own account, several of them delivering speeches to the effect that they wanted to assist the patriotic work undertaken by their brother-nationals, and that they desired to be understood as taking not less interest in national affairs than the stern sex do. The modern woman has made her *début* very early upon the Korean stage.

At the collation in connexion with the celebration of Korean independence officials of the United States, Russia, and Japan delivered congratulatory speeches. The Representatives of the United States and Russia were not themselves present, but the Secretary of Legation spoke in the former's place, and a military surgeon in the latter's. It was noticeable, however, that the British Consul-General and the German Consul took their departure in time to avoid any speechifying. When they were called upon to address the meeting, their places were found vacant. An opinion gathers ground that the new British Consul-General, Mr. Jordan, will not consent to play the secondary part followed by his predecessor, Mr. Hillier. Great Britain has been virtually effaced in Sōul up to the present; the Russian shadow has obscured her. Perhaps she may now begin to emerge once more into the light.

The district of Chungsan in Korea is in the anomalous condition of having two magistrates, neither of whom knows whether he is the right man. Both are named Pak Hangyang; both were in expectation of an official appointment when the *Official Gazette* announced that "Pak Hangyang" had been nominated Magistrate of Chungsan, and both hurried off to assume the duties of the post without taking care to establish their identity.

The exact facts about the plot said to have been recently discovered in Korea for murdering the pro-Russian Cabinet Ministers and carrying off the King from the Russian Legation to his own palace, have not yet been made public. As time goes by, the general impression gains ground that the plot was devised by pro-Russian Koreans in order to prevent the King's removal from the Legation. It is not pretended that the Russians themselves were implicated in the matter; they are beginning to wish that the King's residence in their Legation should be brought to the speediest possible termination. The prime movers were probably Korean politicians who believe that their tenure of power depends upon the King's remaining where he is.

There are only 52 Europeans and Americans residing in Chemulpo; namely, 38 men and 14 women. But the Japanese residents number 4,053; namely, 2,458 men and 1,595 women.

The Korean correspondents of the Tokyo papers inform us that Ku Sōu Chhang, an ex-

Police Inspector of the Court, arrested some days ago with several other Koreans, was hanged on the 4th inst. at the instance of the Police Bureau. Doubts were at first entertained as to the authenticity of the news, but it appears no longer to admit of any doubt. He was hanged within the precincts of the Left Prison situated inside the Eastern Gate of the city. Five or six others are said to have met a similar fate on the same day, but this story requires confirmation. The cruelty of the Korean Court, in utter defiance of justice and humanity, shows how complete is its relapse into its old lawless ways. The new chief of the Police Board is reported to be a man of moderate views and he is assisted in the discharge of his duties by an English adviser. The above executions must have been perpetrated by An Hwan, who seems to be a bloody ruffian, taking a delight in the horrible business of murdering his fellow countrymen. Indeed An is reported to have been much disappointed at finding no more victims to be dispatched, for, monster as he is, he failed to extort incriminating evidence from other prisoners. The Government takes care not to inform the public of the number of arrests made and the names of the prisoners, and though more than two weeks have elapsed since the seizures took place, the correspondents can not yet get at the number and names of the prisoners with anything like accuracy. They simply write that the arrests must have reached 18 at least.

KOBE'S SEASON.

Kobe seems to be bent on enjoying itself this winter. We read in its local press that the number of contemplated balls will average one a week, and on January 8th there is to be a Fancy Dress Carnival, concerning which great things are predicted. Stalls for the sale of all kinds of pretty articles, a performance, musical and terpsichorean, by the best amateurs of the settlement, and dancing in the interludes of listening, looking, or buying—such is the programme. Fancy dress will not be compulsory, but as prizes are to be given for the best costumes in character, there will surely be many competitors. There is talk, too, of establishing a mixed club; or, more accurately speaking, a ladies club with gentlemen-accessories. Ladies certainly ought to have clubs of their own in the East. Their wholesome amusements are few and far between. Good reading-rooms, billiard tables, and frequent reunions, without the formality of invitations, would materially brighten their lives. Gentlemen might be admitted on fixed days, and we see no reason why whist and chess should not be added to the list of amusements.

CHINESE NEWS.

The recent catastrophe in the forts outside Nanking appears to have been due to a singular display of ignorance on the part of some Chinese gunners. Unacquainted with the slow-burning properties of the powder used for the heavy artillery in the forts, they opened the breach of one of the guns to see why it did not go off. The explosion followed almost immediately, and fourteen men were killed.

Sites for German and Japanese settlements have been appropriated in Shanghai, by order of the Tsung-li Yamén. The German settlement is bounded on the east by Defence Creek; on the West by the Bubbling Well; on the north by the Shanghai-Paoshan district, and on the south by the New Cemetery. The Japanese Settlement commences at the Yangking-pang Creek and extends westward to Chingtang Bridge. Its depth inwards is 1,200 *chang*, or 12,000 Chinese feet.

It is stated that the Pekin-Hankow railway will be commenced at four points simultaneously, and that the whole line will be completed in five years, but nothing seems to be exactly known as to the source whence funds are to be obtained.

The Reform Society in Pekin are reported to have obtained the Emperor's permission to establish a college for training diplomatic officials.

The projected Imperial Bank of China has been favourably reported on by the Board of Revenue and the Tsung-li Yamén, and will probably be soon established. It is stated that American capital is at the back of the concern.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

Lieut.-General Baron Nogi, the new Governor-General of Formosa, delivered a speech on the 2nd inst., to the Local Governors of that island. He observed that as regular connection between Local Officers and the Governor-General's Office was now fairly established, it seemed proper that matters not directly bearing on the general administration of the island should be left to the care of Local Governors, the Governor-General devoting his attention chiefly to Administrative superintendence. He thought that subordinate administrative offices should be established under each Local Governor, and that influential natives should be appointed to serve in such offices. Investigations for the purpose had been completed, and if the consent of the Diet were obtained for the necessary expenses, he hoped to see the system in operation from next fiscal year. He drew the attention of Local Governors to the necessity of tempering rigour with sauvity, and expressed regret that rigour seemed to have hitherto predominated despite the absence of any sufficient cause. He had learned, indeed, that civil and military functionaries in Formosa acted, not infrequently, with overweening arrogance and even injustice towards the natives, imprisoning and flogging them on trivial grounds. Such things might have been unavoidable when the island was still disturbed, but to continue arbitrary practices of the kind would simply tend to estrange the feeling of the natives and must be checked now that peace had begun to reign. Any violent conduct towards the natives should be summarily dealt with. Old usages and customs ought not to be hastily disturbed, unless they interfered with the due preservation of good order. People should be left to their own free-will in such matters as hair-dressing, foot-binding, costume, and so forth. Opium smoking alone should be subjected to control, with the view of gradually eliminating the evil practice. The Governor-General emphasized also the necessity of paying greater attention to the policing of the island, as well as to the completion of measures for promoting industry, communications, sanitation, and education.

A party recently despatched to explore the hitherto unvisited interior of the island, ascended, on the 22nd ult., Mount Morrison, now the highest peak in the whole of Japan. The party was specially organized for purposes of exploration, its personnel being carefully chosen, and a sufficient escort of soldiers attached to it. The summit of the big mountain was reached at noon on the day of the ascent and was found to be so sharply serrated that standing on it even for a short time was not possible. The altitude was measured to be 13,800 Japanese feet—which is considerably higher than Fuji—and the thermometer stood 40° F. The formation is not volcanic. Cedars (*sugi*) and fir trees (*hinoki*), more than twenty feet high, were found growing at a point 6,000 ft. above the sea level. It seemed that the Peak had never been visited before. Another party is said to have been despatched towards the eastern coast of the island.

In connection with the above measurement of Mount Morrison, we may mention that the altitude of the mountain is marked as 12,850 feet, on the Rev. D. Campbell's map. We do not think that the Japanese have been the first to ascend it.

Mr. Furusho, Chief of the Administration Bureau, is reported to have rendered remarkable service in quelling the insurrection that broke out in the Hunlin district some time ago. His merit will be publicly recognized by the Government.

TEA.

Here is a very clever advertisement, culled by a Shanghai contemporary from the *American Grocer of New York* :—

INDIAN AND CEYLON TEAS.
The Cultivation and Manufacture of these Teas explains their extraordinary quality.

MARK THE CONTRAST!
INDIA AND CEYLON.

Lands.—New and Fertile.

Gardens.—Large, well planted, central modern factories, daily manufacture of leaf.

Manufacture.—Modern, up-to-date, specially devised machines for twisting and drying leaf untouched by hand.

Purity.—Full standard; never rejected from any port.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Lands.—Exhausted centuries ago, fed with poisonous fertilisers.

Gardens.—Small, scattered; leaf kept in family dwelling houses, with pigs and poultry till marketed.

Manufacture.—Ancient; barbarous; leaf twisted by the hands of semi-nude moist Mongolians, amidst the sordid surroundings of a Chinese dwelling. No factory inspection and much sweating.

Impurity.—Adulterated, coloured, faced "Lie Tea." Rejected on these grounds daily. A shipment recently rejected at New York was admitted through a Western Port of Entry. See daily papers, and Importers' Confessions in Petition to Congress.

If the state of commercial morality in the Occident were to be gauged by the advertisements appearing in the public press, the verdict must be very humiliating. Think of the innumerable lies concocted daily, and published at great cost, with the deliberate object of deceiving the public and obtaining money under false pretences! In this particular branch of the art of chicanery the Occidental trader can give many points to his Oriental confrère, against whose crooked ways and untruthful tendencies he never tires of declaiming. The advertisement quoted above is full of falsehood. But what of that? It is smart, and more than that few critics will care to say of it. It seems to us that the genuinely straightforward, conscientious merchant, who is above all such trickery, must be placed at a disadvantage in these peculiar times. Many specimens of that fine class of men are to be found in Far Eastern settlements; men that guard the traditions of their house name as jealously as they preserve their personal honour, and are practically incapable of taking an unfair advantage, however small, of a client, or of employing deception in any form to defeat a rival. Do they fare better than, or even as well as, their less scrupulous rivals? There is not room in Yokohama for the discussion of such a question. But one may think of it.

SOWING AND REAPING.

The *Shanghai Times* says :—

There has been another, small this time, tragedy in Yokohama, a man trying to kill his wife who was the daughter of a late well-known livery stable proprietor, M. Pequinot. There is undoubtedly some extraordinary influence at work when so many crimes are committed in such a small place. We should not be surprised if the existence for some years of the most scurilous sheet ever printed in the Far East has not some share in such a lamentable moral tone as that port appears to possess, for no newspaper in any part of the world can indulge in low, vicious personalities with the direct intention of damaging that credit and respect which is every citizen's due, so long as he behaves himself, without vitiating the air around him with a putrescent poison. The malaria of an ill-conditioned paper, which either inspires or reproduces calumnious sentiments is contagious and deadly, and we hope that Shanghai is not going to be cursed with any introduction of the plague from the port across the water.

It is quite worth while to place, side by side with the above, the following extract from the very journal to which our Shanghai contemporary alludes :—

The press is the mirror of society, and the latter's condition may be judged by the newspapers it supports, wherever a low tone prevails, the press is sure to reflect it in its columns, and the converse is true. What society is, the newspapers sufficiently indicate, and what society thinks about them is measured by its acts towards them.

Of course this latter attack is intended for the Japanese press, but it is not always easy to manage one's guns so that the shooter suffers nothing from the recoil.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, ETC.

(CONCLUDED FROM SATURDAY.)

CHAPTER VII.—SALE, TRANSFER, PARTNERSHIP.

Art. XXIV.—Any person wishing to have the sale, transfer, or partnership in a Trade Mark registered in accordance with Article XII. of the Law of Trade Marks shall make application in accordance with Form No. 3 and file it with registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XVII. Section 2 of the Law, together with the original and copy of the deed as well as the Certificate of Registration of the Trade Mark.

On the above mentioned demand, the Director shall enter it in the Register, stamp the deed as registered, and after endorsing the Certificate of Registration of the Trade Mark, send it back together with the deed to the applicant.

Art. XXV.—When it is desired to dissolve a registered partnership, the partners shall file a written statement thereof signed by the parties, together with the Certificate of Registration of the Trade Mark.

On filing as above, the Director shall enter the matter in the Register, and shall, after endorsement of the Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark, send it back to the owner.

Art. XXVI.—When one or more persons of the partnership wish to sell or transfer their share in the exclusive right to a Trade Mark to others, they may do so in compliance with the requirements of the first paragraph of Article XXV.

On receipt of the above demand, the Director shall act in compliance with the provisions of the second paragraph of Article XXV.

CHAPTER VIII.—APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF RENEWAL AND RE-ISSUE.

Art. XXVII.—Application for registration of renewal in pursuance of Article XIV. of the Law of Trade Marks shall be made in accordance with Form No. 4 and have registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with Article XVII., Section 1 of the same Law, and shall file it before expiry of the original registration.

Art. XXVIII.—Application for re-issue in pursuance of Article XV. of the Law of Trade Marks shall be made in accordance with Form No. 5 and have registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with Article XVII. Section 3 of the same Law.

Art. XXIX.—On receipt of the above application, the Director shall deliver to the applicant a Certificate of registration of Trade Mark, on which is endorsed the subject and date of delivery.

CHAPTER IX.—APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT.

Art. XXX.—Application for amendment of the Certificate of registration of Trade Mark in pursuance of Article XVI. of the Law of Trade Marks may be made in the following cases:—

1. When it is found that there is disagreement between the specification and the specimen of the Trade Mark.
2. When it is found that there is necessity for extending or contracting the scope of the essential particulars of the Trade Mark, or exchanging them with other parts, without altering the construction of the specimen Trade Mark set forth in the specification.
3. When it is found that the designation of the goods is not in conformity with the classification of goods under Article XXXIV.

Art. XXXI.—Application for amendment shall be made in accordance with Form No. 6 and have registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with Article XVII. Section 4 of the Law of Trade Marks, and be filed together with a copy of the amended specification and/or two amended specimens as well as with the original Certificate of registration of Trade Mark and dependent specification.

On the above application being granted, the Director shall enter the same in the Register of Trade Marks, and issue the certificate of registration of amended Trade Mark in accordance with the provisions of Articles XXI. and XXII.

Art. XXXII.—The certificate of amendment

of registration of Trade Mark, shall be made in accordance with Form No. 7 and the date of registration shall be its date.

CHAPTER X.—CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS.

Art. XXXIII.—The classification of goods under the Law of Trade Marks is fixed by Article VII. as follows:—

- Class 1.—Chemicals and medicines.
Acids, salts, alkalies, bleaching powder, gums, glue, phosphorus, spirits, glycerine, quinine, morphine, tinctures, syrups, extracts, pills, plasters, medical oils, musk, cloves, common salt, lime, moxa, &c.
- Class 2.—Dyestuffs and pigments.
Indigo balls, indigo, purple roots, beni (cantharine), vermilion, red lead, mineral green, ultramarine, prussian blue, white lead, gamboge, &c.
- Class 3.—Lacquer, varnishes, paints, shibu, shoe-black, &c.
- Class 4.—Perfumes and incense.
Perfumed oils, pomades, scent bags, perfumed waters, incenses, incense sticks, soft incenses, &c.
- Class 5.—Metals in the first stage of manufacture.
Pig iron, wrought iron, steel, bar copper, sheet tin, sheet iron, iron wire, copper, copper plate, copper wire, lead, sheet lead, zinc, sheet zinc, tin, alloys, &c.
- Class 6.—Manufactured metal goods.
Castings, forgings, engravings, network, &c.
- Class 7.—Edged tools and sharp pointed tools.
Sickles, saws, carpenter's chisels, drills, chipping chisels, needles, nails, scissors, knives, razors, cooking utensils, fire hooks, &c.
- Class 8.—Precious metals and goods manufactured of them (including aluminium, gold, nickel, and silver ware).
Gold, silver, shibuichi, shakudo, and other alloys of precious metals, and plated and engraved goods made of them.
- Class 9.—Precious stones, carved and engraved.
Corals, pearl, agate, quartz, topaz, emerald, and their imitations.
- Class 10.—Minerals (excepting coal which belongs to class 51).
- Class 11.—Stones, and when manufactured, carved, or engraved.
Slate, marble, whetstone, stone ware, and imitations of them.
- Class 12.—Mortars.
Mortars, cement, gypsum, &c.
- Class 13.—Porcelain and earthenware.
Porcelain, faience, earthenware, crucibles, tiles, bricks, &c.
- Class 14.—Cloisonné ware.
- Class 15.—Glass and glassware.
Glass bottles, glass tubing, coloured glass, &c.
- Class 16.—Machinery.
Spinning machinery, sewing machinery, sugar manufacturing machinery, printing machines, all other manufacturing machines, steam engines, boilers, &c.
- Class 17.—Agricultural and industrial implements.
Ploughs, spades, hoes, grain cleaning fans, harrows, pincers, hammers, lines and ink used by carpenters, &c.
- Class 18.—Scientific instruments.
Instruments used in physics, chemistry, medicine, surveying, &c.
- Class 19.—Instruments for determining measures and weights.
- Class 20.—Vehicles for transportation.
Wagons, coaches, jinrikisha, bicycles, &c.
- Class 21.—Musical instruments.
Koto, samisen, fiddles, flutes, &c.
- Class 22.—Watches and clocks, and articles pertaining to them.
- Class 23.—Guns, shot, gun-powder, fireworks, &c.
- Class 24.—Silk, silkworms, egg-paper, and cocoons.
- Class 25.—Floss silk and raw cotton.
- Class 26.—Raw silk, silk-thread, wild silk thread, including koto strings, and gold and silk thread.

- Class 27.—Cotton yarn.
- Class 28.—Woollen yarn.
- Class 29.—Hemp yarn.
- Class 30.—Silk cloth.
- Class 31.—Cotton cloth.
- Class 32.—Woollen cloth.
- Class 33.—Hemp cloth.
- Class 34.—All other cloth except silk, cotton hemp, and woollen cloths, and cloths of mixed materials.
- Class 35.—Net work and knitted fabrics, lace, braids, net, &c.
- Class 36.—Clothing.
Clothing, woven hats, gloves, stockings, woven rain-coats, hakama, knitted goods, &c.
- Class 37.—Fermented products and drink.
Saké, vinegar, shoyu, orange syrups, soda-water, ice, &c.
- Class 38.—Sugars.
Sugar, syrups, honey, &c.
- Class 39.—Cakes and bread.
Dry cakes, soft cakes, confectionery, European cakes, wheat gluten, sugared articles, &c.
- Class 40.—Tea and coffee.
- Class 41.—Tobacco.
- Class 42.—Grains, vegetables, seeds and fruits in grain, vegetables, mushrooms, fruits, seeds, roots, yeast, malt, &c.
- Class 43.—Flour, starch, and their manufactures and products.
Flour, starch, vermicelli, yuba, konnyaku, frozen tofu, frozen konnyaku, &c.
- Class 44.—Miso, namemono, and salt vegetables.
- Class 45.—Preserved Provisions.
Katsubushi, dried cuttle fish, dried awabi, nori, sea weed, tsukudani, tinned provisions, uni, salt provisions, &c.
- Class 46.—Dairy products.
Condensed milk, butter, cheese, desiccated milk, &c.
- Class 47.—Articles for smoking purposes, and pipes, pipes, tobacco pouches, pipe cases, &c.
- Class 48.—Paper and articles manufactured thereof.
Paper, tinted paper, tanjaku paper, imitation leather wall paper, oil-paper, shibu paper, envelopes, cases, ikkambari, motoyui, &c.
- Class 49.—Pens and ink.
Writing brushes, Indian ink, vermilion ink, sticks, printing ink, ink, slates, pencils, lead pencils, pens, &c.
- Class 50.—Leather and leather goods.
Saddles, bags, letter cases, leather belts, straps, shoes, shoe strings, &c.
- Class 51.—Combustibles.
Charcoal, matches, lucifers, lamp wicks, &c.
- Class 52.—Oil and wax.
Oil, wax, candles, fats, &c.
- Class 53.—Manures.
Fish manure, bean cake and other oil refuse, ground bones, &c.
- Class 54.—Wood and bamboo.
- Class 55.—Wooden goods, bamboo goods, rattan goods, including lacquered and varnished makiye goods, cabinets, turned goods, round boxes, cooper's ware, &c.
- Class 56.—Goods manufactured from horns tortoise shell, tusks, &c.
- Class 57.—Goods manufactured from straw and grass.
Matting, mats, hats, rope, straw work, &c.
- Class 58.—Umbrellas, canes and foot-gear.
Umbrellas, canes, gets, zori, hanawo, &c.
- Class 59.—Fans of various kinds.
- Class 60.—Lanterns and lamps.
- Class 61.—Tooth-powder and washing-powder.
- Class 62.—Brushes and false hair.
- Class 63.—Toys.
Flower hair-pins, balls, go, chess, dolls, tops, small bows, oshie, artificial flowers, playing cards, &c.
- Class 64.—Coloured wood cuts and photographs.
- Class 65.—Books, newspapers, and magazines.
- Class 66.—All articles or goods not enumerated under any of the foregoing headings.

FORMS.

To be written on Mino paper 13 lines per page and 25 characters per line.

FORM 1.

Application for Trade Mark. Registration stamp and seal.

Application for Registration of Trade Mark. Inasmuch as I (or we) firmly believe that the Trade Mark set forth in the accompanying specification does not conflict in any way with the provisions of the Law of Trade Marks, I (or we) pray that it may be registered.

Domicile and present place of residence. (Description of business for which the Trade Mark will be used, and so on throughout these forms).

Status.

Date.

Applicant's Name and Seal.

Name of Applicant's Firm and of the Manager or Director.

Seal of the Firm and Manager or Director.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 2.

Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark.

Domicile and present place of residence of Applicant.

Status of Applicant.

Name of Applicant.

In compliance with the provisions of the Law of Trade Marks, we hereby register the Trade Mark set forth in the specification attached to this Certificate and grant to the above mentioned Petitioner the right of its exclusive use for twenty years.

Date.

Name and seal (with rank of nobility if any), Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Name and seal of the Director of the Patent Bureau.

FORM 3.

Application for Registration of Sale, Transfer, or Partnership in a Trade Mark.

Application for Registration of the Sale, Transfer, or Partnership in a Trade Mark.

Registration stamps and seal.

Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark No. I (or we) having sold, transferred, or entered into partnership in the above mentioned Trade Mark apply to have the accompanying deed (of sale, transfer or partnership) registered. I (or we) annex hereto the Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark and also a copy of the above mentioned deed.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Date.

Name and seal of owner of Trade Mark.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status and Occupation of the Purchaser, Transfer, or Partner.

To Mr. Director of the Patent Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 4.

Application for Renewal of Registration of Trade Mark.

Application for Renewal of Registration of Trade Mark. Registration stamps and seal.

Trade Mark registered under Certificate No. The term of the above mentioned Trade Mark belonging to me (or us) expiring on (date), I (or we) wishing to use the Trade Mark for a further term apply for renewal of registration.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status, Occupation.

Date.

Owner's name and seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 5.

Application for Re-issue of Certificate of Trade Mark.

Application for Re-issue of Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark.

Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark No.

The Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark belonging to me (or us) having been damaged or lost (state the cause) I (or we) pray that the Certificate of Registration may be re-issued.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status, Occupation.

Date.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 6.

Application for Amendment of Certificate of Registration of Trade Mark.

Application for Amendment of Certificate of Registration. Registration stamps and seal.

Certificate of resignation of Trade Mark No.

As the efficacy of registration cannot be secured (state the cause) in the specification and/or specimen attached to the Certificate of registration of Trade Mark belonging to me, I wish to amend it as in the accompanying documents. There will not be introduced any changes in the essentials thereby. The amended specification and/or specimen is attached together with existing Certificate of registration and original specification and drawing. I pray that the amended Certificate of registration may be granted.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Status, Occupation.

Date.

Owner's name and seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 7.

Certificate of Amendment of Registration of Trade Mark.

Domicile and present place of residence.

Nature of business.

Status and name.

In compliance with the provisions of the Law of Trade Marks, we hereby grant to (name) Certificate of amendment as set forth in the specification and specimen of Certificate of Registration No. which Certificate was granted (date).

Date.

Name and seal (with rank of nobility if any), Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Name and Seal of the Director of the Patent Bureau.

THE LAW OF DESIGNS.

Imperial Ordinance No. 85 of the 18th day of the 12th Month of the 21st year of Meiji (A.D. 1888), to be in force from the 1st day of the 2nd month of the 22nd year of Meiji (A.D. 1889).

Art. I.—Any person devising a new design relating to form, pattern, or colours applicable to the industrial arts, may have it registered and have exclusive right to use it in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

Art. II.—The following designs cannot be registered:—

1. Those which are injurious to public morals.
2. Those which have been publicly known or used before the application for registration was made.

Art. III.—Any person wishing to have a design registered, shall make application, annexing specification and drawing for such design, to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; and such application, specification, and drawing shall be filed at the Patent Bureau.

Art. IV.—On application for registration of design, the Director of the Patent Bureau shall order the examiner of the Patent Bureau to examine the design, and, if the latter decides in favour thereof, shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, register it in the Register of Designs and proceed to deliver the Certificate of Registration of Design.

Art. V.—The Certificate of Registration of Design shall be signed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and countersigned by the Director of the Patent Bureau, and be delivered to the applicant, together with specification and drawing.

Art. VI.—The terms of exclusive use of design are four, namely, three years, five years, seven years, and ten years, and shall date from the day of registration.

Art. VII.—The exclusive use of a design is confined to the purposes designated by the applicant in the classification of goods to be fixed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. VIII.—When there are two or more similar designs, that application bearing the prior date shall be preferred; but, if the applications are of the same date neither shall be registered.

Provided that if the parties after conference jointly apply, or the applications are all revoked except one, that one may be registered.

Art. IX.—When a person who has had a design registered, or has applied for registration, dies, his rights devolve on his heirs.

Art. X.—When an inventor of a design employs another to make the design for him the right remains with the inventor, and, when the application is made at the expense of another the right belongs to the person at whose expense the application is made unless a special contract exists between the parties.

Art. XI.—When registered designs are found to come under Article II., or, to have been registered in contravention of Articles VIII., and X., the registration shall be annulled.

Art. XII.—As to examination, decision, and trial of design, the Patent Law shall apply.

Art. XIII.—The right of exclusive use of a design may, with or without conditions, be sold, or transferred, or used in partnership, or be hypothecated, in which case application must be made to the Patent Bureau and the contract shall be registered. In case of non-registration of the contract no recourse can be had against a party infringing the design.

Art. XIV.—No official of the Patent Bureau shall, during his term of service, apply for registration of a design, nor may he become the owner of exclusive use of a design except by succession.

Art. XV.—When a Certificate of Registration of design is damaged or lost, the owner may, upon stating the circumstances, apply for re-issue thereof.

Art. XVI.—When the owner of a registered design finds the specification and/or drawing insufficient, he may, to secure the efficiency of registration, make application annexing the amended specification and/or drawing for amendment of Certificate of Registration of design, but not if changes in the design be introduced.

Art. XVII.—The owner of the Certificate of Registration of design shall place on the goods to which the design is applied such marks as shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XVIII.—When applications are made with regard to designs, the following fees shall be paid:—

1. On application for registration of design for each design in one class of goods yen 50
2. On application for registration of sale, transfer, partnership, for each design in one class of goods " 2.00
3. On application for hypothecation. " 1.00
4. On application for re-issue of Certificate of Registration of Design for each certificate " 1.00
5. On application for amendment of Certificate of Registration of Design for each design in one class of goods " 2.00
6. On demand for trial, for one cause " 7.00

Art. XIX.—On obtaining Certificate of Registration of Design, the following fees shall be paid for each class of goods to which the design is applied.

1. For exclusive use for three years...yen 3.00
 2. For exclusive use for five years... " 5.00
 3. For exclusive use for seven years... " 7.00
 4. For exclusive use for ten years... " 10.00
- On obtaining Certificate of Amendment of Registration, the following fees shall be paid for

each class of goods to which the design is applied.

1. For exclusive use for three years...yen 1.00
2. For exclusive use for five years... " 2.00
3. For exclusive use for seven years... " 6.00
4. For exclusive use for ten years... " 8.00

Art. XX.—Any person requiring copies of documents relating to registered designs, or wishing to make drawings, may apply to the Patent Bureau for them and in such case reasonable fees shall be paid.

Art. XXI.—Any person infringing the exclusive right to a registered design shall be liable for damages to the owner.

Art. XXII.—As to liability for the above mentioned damages, the term of limitation is three years.

Art. XXIII.—Any person who knowingly applies the registered design of another to the same class of goods and sells them, or who knowingly sells them on behalf of another, shall be punished with major confinement for not less than fifteen days and not more than six months, or a fine of not less than yen 10 and not more than yen 100.

Any person who knowingly imports from abroad goods of the registered design of another and sells them, or who knowingly sells such goods on behalf of another, shall be liable to the same punishment.

Any person obtaining a Certificate of Registration of Design by fraud, or who sells goods to which are applied unregistered designs, affixing thereto registration marks, or marks resembling them, or who knowingly sells the goods on behalf of another, shall be liable to the punishment as set forth in the first paragraph of this Article.

Art. XXIV.—In case of the first and second paragraphs of the above Article the goods with which an offence has been committed shall be confiscated and handed over to the owner of the registered design; and, as to those which have been sold, the offender shall pay the proceeds to the injured party.

Art. XXV.—Offences under the first and second paragraphs of Article XXIII. shall be tried only on the application of the injured party.

In such case, the judge may, on demand of the injured party, provisionally suspend the sale of the goods, on which the action is based.

Art. XXVI.—An owner of a registered design who has neglected to affix the registration marks under Article XVII. cannot bring an action or sue for damages for infringement.

Art. XXVII.—The provisions of the Penal Code as to the concurrence of several offences shall not apply to offences under this Law.

Art. XXVIII.—The rules for enforcing this Law shall be made by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. XXIX.—This Law shall come into force on the first day of the second month of the 22nd year of *Meiji* (A.D. 1889).

ORDINANCE No. 18.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

Rules for enforcing the Law of Design. Published 18th day of the 11th month of the 25th year of *Meiji*, to come into force from the 1st day of the 12th month of the same year (A.D. 1892).

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Art. I.—Articles from I. to X. of the Rules for enforcing the Patent Law shall apply to these Rules.

Art. II.—The term for the exclusive use of a design cannot be altered after registration in the Register of Designs.

Art. III.—The Director of the Patent Bureau shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, publish the registration, amendment, revocation, and annulment of Designs and other important matters relating to Designs in the *Official Gazette* and *Official Journal of Patents*.

CHAPTER II.—APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.

Art. IV.—Application for registration of Design shall be made in the Forms Nos. 1 to 3, one application for each class of goods in the classification under Article XXXVI. of these

Rules and shall have registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fees under Article XVIII., Section 1, of the Law of Design.

Art. V.—When an applicant wishes to have his Design registered in partnership with another, or in another's name, he shall note the same on the application for registration.

Art. VI.—On receipt of application for registration, specification, drawing, and specimen, the Director shall put a serial number upon the application and give notice thereof to the applicant. And thereafter all documents relating to the application shall refer to that number.

Art. VII.—When any person after filing application for registration of Design wishes to use his Design in partnership with another, or, to have it registered in the name of another, he shall make application before registration therefor in the Register of Designs after which no such application shall be entertained.

CHAPTER III.—SPECIFICATIONS, DRAWINGS, MODELS, SPECIMENS.

Art. VIII.—Specifications shall be made out in the order of the following headings and be accompanied by two copies of the drawings:—

1. Title of design.
The title shall be in conformity with the nature of the Design and the goods to which is to be applied.
2. Class and name of goods to which the Design is to be applied.
The name of the goods shall be stated according to the classification under Article XXXVI.
3. Detailed explanation of the Design.
The details shall be explained, referring to the drawings severally: if a design of form, the forms of the whole and parts shall be described; if of pattern the figures and position of the whole and parts shall be described, if of colouring the forms of the colouring shall be described: the meaning shall be explained; and if it refers to historical events these shall be set forth, and, the significance of words to be used in the extent of claim shall be defined.
4. Extent of claim of exclusive right.
Only those particulars which are indispensable to the constitution of the Design shall be set forth.

Art. IX.—The extent of claim in the specification may be separately mentioned only when in order to indicate the sphere of exclusive right of Design, certain parts constituting the Design must be separately mentioned for the sake of clearness.

Art. X.—In drawings, parts necessary to make clear a Design shall be shown distinctly.

When a design is shown by photographs, unmounted photographs only may be substituted for drawings.

Art. XI.—Models and specimens shall be made in those parts only which are necessary to the design: their length, breadth, and height shall not exceed one *shaku* (Japanese foot) and in case of fragile or perishable articles the depositors shall take proper precaution for their safety.

Provided that, when the Director approves or demands, this rule shall not apply.

Art. XII.—The owner of a registered Design shall, by order of the Director, deposit the model or specimen for exhibition.

Art. XIII.—When a model or specimen ceases to be required, the Director shall notify the depositor to take it away, and, in case he does not do so within ninety days from the date of notice in writing, the Director may dispose of it at his discretion. The Director is not to be held liable for damage or loss of models or specimens deposited.

CHAPTER IV.—EXAMINATION.

Art. XIV.—Examination shall, with the exception of application for amendment under Article XVI. of the Law of Design, be held according to the date of application, or if there are two or more of the same date, according to the serial number of application, after the expiration of thirty days from the date of application.

Art. XV.—The following shall not be held to be new Designs:—

1. Designs which come under Article II., Section 2, of the Law of Design, or, resemble them.

2. Designs which, though not publicly known or used, are identical with or similar to designs for which registration has been applied and afterwards abandoned by others.

Art. XVI.—The following Designs, although they may be new, cannot be registered:—

1. Designs being figures identical with or resembling the Imperial crest.
2. Designs which come under Article II. section 1 of the Law of Design.
3. Designs which come under Article VIII. of the Law of Design and have the same date of application or those having a posterior date.
4. Designs not applied for to industrial purposes.
5. Designs in which forms, patterns, or colours form no essential part.
6. Designs which are merely representations of goods.

Art. XVII.—Written statement of decision of refusal of registration shall be made in the order of the following headings:—

1. Serial number of application.
2. Name of Design.
3. Class and name of the goods to which the design is to be applied.
4. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the applicant, or his attorney.
5. Abstract of the application for registration, or, in case of re-examination, abstract of grounds for rejection in the first instance.
9. Grounds for rejection.—Reference shall be made to the specification, model, and specimen, the reasons shall be stated exactly and accurately, and when extent of claim is in accordance with Article IX. separately stated under two or more divisions the reasons shall be separately stated.

In case of re-examination the reasons for appeal shall be answered and the grounds for the rejection in the first instance shall be explained and fully upheld.

7. Text of decision.
8. Date.

Art. XVIII.—Any person applying for re-examination shall make written statement of grounds of appeal in the order of the following headings and file it within thirty days from the date of the written decision:—

1. Serial number of application.
2. Title of Design.
3. Class and name of goods to which the Design is to be applied.
4. Name, status, occupation, and residence of the applicant, or his attorney.
5. Chief points of appeal.
6. Argument.—Referring to the specification, only the grounds of refusal shall be replied to.
7. Proof of facts.
8. Signature and seal of applicant, or his attorney.
9. Date.

Art. XIX.—When the decision of refusal is given against an application for registration of Design identical with, or similar to a Design which is under consideration for registration, the decision with regard to the latter shall be held over until the decision in the case of the former is arrived at.

Articles XXVIII. and XXXII. to XXXIV. of the Rules for enforcing the Patent Law shall apply to the examination of Designs.

CHAPTER V.—TRIAL.

Art. XX.—Articles XLIV. to LIV. of the Rules for enforcing the Patent Law shall apply to trial in respect of Designs.

Provided that, to the application to be heard shall be affixed registration stamps of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XVIII., section 5, of the Law of Design.

CHAPTER VI.—REGISTRATIONS.

Art. XXI.—When it is decided to register a design in accordance with the provisions of Article IV. of the Law of Designs, the Director shall, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, send notice in

writing thereof to the applicant together with a note for payment of registration fees.

On receipt of notice, the applicant shall, within sixty days from the date of the said notice, file the note for payment of fees with registration stamps affixed of such value as corresponds with the fee determined by Article XIX. of the Law of Design together with two copies of both the specification and drawing.

Art. XXII.—On payment of the registration fee, the Director shall, on the same day, enter the Design in the Register of Designs, and give notice thereof to the applicant and send the Certificate of Registration of Design within fifteen days.

When the above mentioned payment of registration fee is made during or after the last office hour of any day, or on a holiday, it shall be treated as paid on the next office day.

Art. XXIII.—Certificate of Registration of Design shall be made in accordance with Form No. 4, and the day of registration in the Register of Designs shall be its date.

Art. XXIV.—The owner of a registered Design shall, in accordance with Article XVII. of the Law of Design, mark on the goods to which the Design is applied or the wrappers etc., the words "registered design," the date of the Certificate of Registration and, the term of its exclusive use.

Art. XXV.—When the owner of a registered Design sells goods to which the parts described in accordance with Article IX. are separately applied, he shall be held to have abandoned the rights belonging to those parts.

Art. XXVI.—When a person succeeds to the exclusive right to a Design, or when the owner of the Certificate of Registration of a Design changes his name, residence, or seal, the heir or owner, as the case may be, shall at once give notice thereof to the Patent Bureau.

CHAPTER VII.—SALE, TRANSFER, PARTNERSHIP, AND HYPOTHECATION.

Art. XXVII.—Any person wishing to have the sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation of a Design registered in accordance with Article XIII. of the Law of Design shall make application in accordance with Forms 5 or 6, and file it, with registration stamps of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XVIII., Section 2 of the same Law affixed together with the original and a copy of the deed as well as the Certificate of Registration of Design.

On receipt of the foregoing demand, the Director shall register it in the Register of Changes, mark the deed "registered," and shall, after endorsing the Certificate, send it back together with the deed to the applicant.

Art. XXVIII.—When it is wished to have a sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation cancelled, a notice shall be filed by the parties together with the Certificate of registration of Design.

On filing as above the Director shall note the matter in the Register of Changes and shall, after endorsing the Certificate, send it back to the applicant.

Art. XXIX.—When one or more partners wish to sell, transfer, or hypothecate the exclusive right of a Design, or to obtain more partners, registration shall only be effected with the consent of the other partners.

CHAPTER VIII.—APPLICATION FOR RE-ISSUE.

Art. XXX.—Application for re-issue under Article XV. of the Law of Design shall be made in accordance with Form No. 7 and have registration stamps of such value as corresponds with the fee under Article XVIII., Section 3, of the same Law affixed.

Art. XXXI.—On receipt of application under the foregoing Article, the Director shall deliver the Certificate of Registration of Design with the subject and date of delivery endorsed thereon.

CHAPTER IX.—APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT.

Art. XXXII.—Application for Amendment of Certificate of Registration of Design under Article XVI. of the Law of Design may be made in the following cases:—

1. When it is found that there is disagreement between the specification and the drawing.

2. When it is found necessary to ascertain the extent of claim without altering it.

3. When the owner of the Certificate of Registration of Design finds that he claimed by mistake a range of exclusive right for his Design beyond the scope of his device.

Art. XXXIII.—Application for amendment shall be made in accordance with Form No. 8 and have registration stamps of such value as corresponds with Article XVIII., Section 4, of the Law of Design affixed, and be filed together with a copy of the amended specification and drawing as well as with the existing Certificate of Registration of Design, and dependant specification and drawings.

On grant of the foregoing application the Director shall note the same in the Register of Design and send to the applicant the Certificate of amended Registration in accordance with the provisions of Articles XXII. and XXIII.

Art. XXXIV.—The Certificate of amended Registration shall be made in accordance with form No. 9, and the day of registration shall be its date.

CHAPTER X.—CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS.

Art. XXXV.—The Classification of Goods under Article VII. of the Law of Design is fixed as follows:—

Class 1.—Clothing.

Boots, lower garments, overcoats, shirts, girdles, neck cloths, neck ties neckerchiefs, shawls, &c.

Class 2.—Head wear.

Ornaments, and hats, combs,kanzashi, nezaka, breast ornaments, bracelets, rings, buttons, hats, &c.

Class 3.—Time-pieces and their accessories.

Watches, clocks, wall clocks, watch chains, &c.

Class 4.—Umbrellas, Canes and Foot-wear.

Umbrellas, canes, geta zori, boots and shoes.

Class 5.—Articles of personal use.

Smoking accessories, fans, purses, hand-bags, &c.

Class 6.—Furniture.

Side-boards, chests of drawers, tables, chairs, bedsteads, &c.

Class 7.—Floor-coverings.

Cotton carpets, oil-paper floor covers, ornamental mats, and all other descriptions of floor coverings.

Class 8.—Stoves and accessories.

Braziers, stoves, smoking braziers, charcoal baskets, coal boxes, fire sticks, &c.

Class 9.—Lamps.

Andon, candlesticks, hand candlesticks, toro, foreign lamps, gas light globes, electric light bulbs, &c.

Class 10.—Fittings for Buildings.

Sashes, doors, sliding doors, ramma, balustrades, &c.

Class 11.—Cloths and woven goods not included in other classes.

Silk, cotton, hemp, woollen cloth, wraps, handkerchiefs, window curtains, table cloths, &c.

Class 12.—Network and knitted work not included in other classes.

Laces, braids, fringes, &c.

Class 13.—Lacquer work not included in other classes (including varnish, paints, &c.).

Eating and drinking vessels, boxes, incense boxes, &c.

Class 14.—Porcelain and earthenware articles not included in other classes (including bricks, tiles and such like).

Eating & drinking vessels, vases, censor, &c.

Class 15.—Glass ware not included in other classes.

Eating and drinking vessels, cut or engraved glass, &c.

Class 16.—Shippo ware not included in other classes.

Vases, incense burners, boxes, incense boxes, &c.

Class 17.—Metal goods not included in other classes.

Articles made of the precious metals, other metals, and alloys.

Class 18.—Stone goods not included in other classes.

Articles made of precious or other stones.
Class 19.—Articles made of wood, bamboo, tusks, and horn.

Trays, boxes, flower stands, baskets, bamboo curtains, stands, chop-sticks, stationary goods, &c.

Class 20.—Paper and Goods manufactured of Paper not included in other classes.

Stamped paper, paper in imitation of leather, paper for sliding doors, wall paper, wrapping paper, shikishi, tanzaku, writing paper, envelopes, letter boxes, saddles, &c.

Classes 22.—Goods not included in other classes.

FORMS.

To be written on Mino paper, thirteen lines on a page and twenty-five letters in a line.

FORM 1.

Application for Registration of Design.

Registration stamp and seal.

Application for Registration of Design.

Title of Design. This is a design particulars of which are set forth in the accompanying specification and drawing (or photograph) and of my invention, and as I (or we) firmly believe that it does not in any way conflict with the provisions of the Law of Design, I (or we) pray that it may be registered for my (or our) exclusive use for years.

Domicile and present residence.

Inventor, status, occupation.

Date.

Name and seal. (In case of more than one applicant each one must sign and seal and this rule applies to all the following forms.)

To Mr. (or rank of nobility.)

Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 2.

Application for Registration of Design by an heir.

Application for Registration of Design.

Registration stamp and seal.

Title of Design. This is a design which the late inventor and which I succeed to and is as set forth. I firmly believe that it does not in any way conflict with the provisions of the Law of Design, I therefore pray that it may be registered for my exclusive use for years.

Domicile and present residence.

Heir of the late inventor.

Status, occupation,

Date.

Applicant's name and seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 3.

Application for Registration of a Design invented by another.

Application for Registration of Design.

Registration stamp and seal.

Description of Design. This is a design set forth in the accompanying specification and drawing (or photograph) which design I (or we the present firm or present partnership) have intrusted to (name, domicile, and present residence) to be carried out, and I (or we the present firm or the present partnership) firmly believe that it does not in any way conflict with the provisions of the Law of Design (or we the present firm or the present partnership) pray that it may be registered for the exclusive use of for years.

Domicile and present residence

Date.

Applicant's name and seal.

or

Domicile and present residence.

Name of firm or partnership and seal.

Manager or Director.

(All documents filed by a firm or partnership shall be written as above.)

To Mr. (or rank of nobility)

Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 4.

Form of Certificate of registration of Design No.

Certificate of registration of Design.

Title of Design.
Domicile and present residence.
Status, occupation.
Name.

In accordance with the Law of Design, we hereby register the above mentioned Design, and we grant to the above named for the extent of claim set forth in the accompanying specification the right of its exclusive use for _____ years.

Date.

Name and seal (or rank of nobility)

Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Director of Patent Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 5.

Application for Registration of sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation of registered Design.

Application for Registration of sale, partnership, or hypothecation, of a Registered Design.

Certificate of Registration, No. _____

Title of Registered Design.

Name of inventor.

Registration stamp and seal.

I (or we) having sold, transferred, entered into partnership in, or hypothecated a certain Registered Design belonging to me (or us) as in the accompanying deed, I (or we) annexing the original and a copy of the deed as well as the Certificate of Registration of the Design, request that the deed may be registered.

Domicile and present residence.

Status, occupation.

Date.

Owner, Name and Seal.

Domicile and present residence.

Status, occupation.

Purchaser, &c., Name and Seal.

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 6.

Application for Registration of Sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation of a Registered Design already hypothecated. Application for Registration of Sale, transfer, partnership, or hypothecation of a Registered design.

Certificate of Registration No. _____

Title of Registered Design.

Name of inventor.

Registration stamp and seal.

I (or we) having sold, transferred, entered into partnership in, or hypothecated, as in the accompanying deed, the above mentioned Registered Design belonging to me (or us) hypothecated to (name, domicile and present residence) by a deed dated _____ I (or we) annexing the original and a copy of the deed as well as the Certificate of Registration of Design, request that the deed may be registered.

Domicile and present residence

Status, occupation.

Date.

Owner, Name and seal

Domicile and present residence of

Status, occupation.

Purchaser &c., Name and seal

To Mr.

Director of the Patent Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 7.

Application for Re-issue of Certificate of Registration of Design.

Registration stamp and seal.

Certificate of Registration of Design No. _____

Description of Registered Design.

Name of Inventor.

Certificate of Registration of Design No. _____ belonging to me (or us) being damaged or lost, I (or we) pray that a new one may be issued.

Domicile and present residence,

Status, occupation,

Date.

Owner Name and seal

To Mr. (or rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 8.

Application for Amendment of Certificate of Registration of Design.

Application for Amendment of Certificate of Registration of Design

Registration stamp and seal.

Certificate of Registration of Design No. _____

Title of Registered Design.

Name of inventor.

As the specification, drawing, or photograph, appertaining to the above mentioned Certificate belonging to me (or us) is insufficient to secure the efficacy of Registration (here state the reason) I (or we) wish to amend it as in the accompanying document into which has not been introduced any change in the essential parts of the design. I (or we) annexing the accompanying specification, drawing, or photograph, as well as the existing Certificate of Registration of Design and specification, drawing, or photograph appertaining thereto, request that Certificate of amendment of Registration of Design be granted.

Domicile and present residence

Status, occupation

Date

Owner Name and seal

To Mr. (or, rank of nobility) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

FORM 9.

Form of Certificate of Amendment of Registration of Design.

No. (of Certificate of Amendment of Registration of Design).

Certificate of Amendment of Registration of Design.

Description of Design

Domicile and present residence

Status, occupation

Name

In accordance with the provisions of the Law of Designs we hereby grant to

amendment as set forth in the Specification, drawing, or photograph attached to this Certificate of Registration of Design No. _____ (or

Certificate of Amendment of Registration of Design No. _____ amended from) by which was granted to _____ the exclusive of the _____ years.

Date

Name and seal (with rank of nobility if any) Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Name and seal of Director of Patent Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has issued the following:—

DEPARTMENTAL ORDINANCE No. 9.

Art. I.—If any person residing abroad desire to apply for a patent of any invention, or registration of a trade mark or design, or to prefer a claim in connection with the same, he must appoint a deputy, duly furnished with power of attorney, residing in Japan.

Art. II.—A foreigner forwarding an application or claim in connection with patents, trade marks, or designs, must append a certificate of nationality.

Art. III.—Applications, specifications, claims, or any other documents or communications addressed to the Patents Office, must be written in Japanese.

Art. IV.—Whenever a power of attorney, certificate of nationality, or any other document is written in a foreign language, a translation must be appended.

(Signed) Viscount ENOMOTO,

Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

(Dated) Nov. 20th, 1896.

NOTIFICATION No. 17.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE,
Issued 1st. day, 12th month, 25 year of Meiji (A.D. 1892).

Specifications and drawings to be annexed to application for Patent, Registration of Design, and for Registration of Trade Marks filed after the 1st day of the 12th month of the 25th year of Meiji, shall be made in accordance with the following rules:—

1. The Specification shall be written in the *kai* or *gyo* style 13 lines and 25 characters on a page, on Mino paper folded into two, top margin 1 *sun* (Japanese inch), $\frac{3}{10}$ *sun* at bottom, $\frac{3}{10}$ *sun* for outer margin and 1 *sun* for binding.

2. In the Specification the several items as set forth in Art. XVIII. of the Rules for carrying out the Patent Law, Art. VIII. of the Rules for carrying out the Law of Design, and Art. VII. of the Rules for carrying out the Law of Trade Marks, shall be placed in the order laid down in those Rules.

3. When in the Specification there is something explained referring to the drawings, it shall not have the portion pointed out with signs only, but shall be fully and explicitly described.

4. In the Specification to be annexed to the application for Registration of Trade Mark no explanation in respect of the colouring of the Trade Mark is required.

5. Drawings shall be made on sized white Mino-paper or *usuyō* with a space of 7.2 *sun* by 4.6 *sun*, keeping margins of 1 *sun* at the top .8 *sun* at the bottom, .3 *sun* to the left and 1.5 *sun* to the right, and shall be clearly drawn with black Indian ink, so that it may be suitable for lithographic printing.

Provided that, in case the drawings for the Design are very large and if reduced cannot show the Design correctly and plainly, this provision need not be adhered to.

6. In making drawings there is no objection to using sides as top and bottom, but the same paper shall not be used both ways.

7. Drawings shall be made as far as possible on one sheet of paper and shall not exceed this except in case of necessity.

8. The title of an Invention or Design shall not be mentioned in the drawings.

9. Drawings, except those relating to colouring, are not required to be coloured.

10. Separate figures shall have a number for each, as figure No. 1, No. 2, &c., but figures severally showing portions of one design shall be marked with the same sign, provided that number and sign shall be clearly described with dark Indian ink so as not to spoil the figure.

11. When signs cannot be placed close to the figure, they shall be put a little on one side and be connected with the parts they are intended to indicate by the thinnest possible straight line; signs should never be put upon shades, but when they are put upon those by necessity, that part where the sign is shall have an unshaded space around it.

12. To show a cross-section, parallel lines about $\frac{1}{16}$ *sun* apart from one another shall be diagonally drawn; and for different parts in a cross section diagonal lines of different direction shall be used.

13. When in order to indicate raised or depressed parts clearly, it is necessary that they should be shaded, the shading shall be put in simply and clearly, and in depressed parts shades shall be used as little as possible.

14. For the preparation of drawings of a Design relating to letters and signs to be applied to printing, the following heads shall be observed:—

1. When it is a Design composed of letters limited in number such as *atakana*, *hiragana*, figures, or Roman letters, the whole shall be shown in every case.

2. When it is a Design composed of letters unlimited in number such as Chinese characters it need not show the whole of each, but parts of the Design, such as *hen*, *tsukuri*, *kannuri*, *kamaye*, &c., shall be given.

When it is a Design relating to the whole character, which cannot be shown in a part only such as *hen*, *tsukuri*, &c., samples by which the whole can be appreciated shall be given.

3. When it is a Design not containing the whole of a letter, a character, or *hen*, *tsukuri*, or the like, but only relating to the form belonging to the points of a letter, character, &c., the form of each point as well as the whole of the character constituting it if a few in number shall be given.

NOTIFICATION No. 1.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE,
Published 4th day of the 1st month of the
22nd year of *Meiji* (A.D. 1889), to be in force
from the 1st day of the 2nd month of the same
year.

In pursuance of the Patent Law, the Law of
Designs, and the Law of Trade Marks, fees for
specifications of inventions, *Official Journal of
Patents*, *Official Journal of Trade Marks*, for
copies of documents and preparation of draw-
ings, are fixed as follows:—

Art. I.—As to printed matter, specification per
copy is *sen* 2½, the *Official Journal of Patents*
per number *sen* 15; and the *Official Journal
of Trade Marks* per number *sen* 2.

Art. II.—Fee for duplicates of documents per
sheet 13 lines per page and 25 characters per
line *sen* 10, but although the number of char-
acters may be less than 25 it shall be reckoned
as one sheet.

Art. III.—Fees for the preparation of draw-
ings are to be fixed from *sen* 25 to *yen* 5 per
sheet by the Director, according to the labour
required in their preparation.

Art. IV.—Printed matters can be purchased.

Art. V.—Persons requiring documents or
drawings, &c., under Art. XXXIII. of the Patent
Law, may make application, explaining what is
necessary for the preparation of drawings,
models, and specimens, or sketches of their
inventions, together with the specifications, but
when those are already deposited for the purpose
of examination they will not be required.

Art. VI.—Persons requiring the preparation
of drawings under Art. XX. of the Patent Law
shall make application stating the serial number
and date of the Certificate of Registration of
Design.

Art. VII.—On notice from the Director of the
Patent Bureau, fees shall be paid with registra-
tion stamps affixed to the notice and obliterated
with the parties' seal.

NOTIFICATION No. 10.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE,
Published 11th day of the 9th month of the
26th year of *Meiji* (A.D. 1893).

1.—When changes are made in the circum-
stances under which a Trade Mark is held, either
because it has devolved, has been sold, trans-
mitted, or is held in partnership, five specimens
of the Trade Mark, the conditions of which are
changed, shall be deposited at the Patent Bureau.

A similar course shall be taken in case of
change of name, place of residence, or of the
partners in a Trade Mark.

2.—When a Company or Partnership having
the exclusive right to a Trade Mark changes its
address or name, or when the manager of a Com-
pany or head of a Partnership is changed or his
seal is changed, notice shall be given in Com-
pliance with Art. XXIV. of the Rules for the
carrying out of the Law of Trade Marks, and
a specimen of the new seal shall accompany the
application.

CABINET ORDINANCE No. 32,

Published the 25th day of the 12th month of
the 21st year of *Meiji* (A.D. 1888), and to be
in force from 1st day of the 2nd month of the
22nd year of *Meiji* (A.D. 1889).

The fees for Letters Patent, Registration of
Trade Marks and Designs, as set forth in Art.
XXX. of the Patent Law, Art. XVIII. of the
Law of Design, and Art. XVII. of the Law of
Trade Marks, must be paid in registration
stamps.

Signed Count MATSUKATA,
Minister President of the Cabinet.

H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito and
Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, went to
Yokosuka on the Wednesday and attended the
graduation ceremony of the Naval Engineering
College.

A petition has been presented to Count
Matsukata, Premier, and other Ministers of
State, asking for the abolition of export duties,
a step that the Yokohama Japanese Chamber of
Commerce proposed the other day.

SUPPLEMENTING MILITARY
OFFICERS.

An Imperial Ordinance was issued on the 2nd
inst. over the signature of Viscount Takashima,
Minister of War, in connection with the supple-
menting of military officers. The Ordinance is of
great length and is divided into 10 Chapters, re-
lating to the supplementing of commissioned
officers and non-combatants of equivalent rank
serving with the Colours; commissioned officers
and non-combatants of equivalent rank on the
reserve list, and non-commissioned officers and
non-combatants of equivalent rank either with the
Colours or on the reserve list; fuzilemen, and so
forth. Chapter II., relating to the supplementing
of officers serving with the Colours, runs as fol-
lows:—

Art. VI.—Officers of infantry, cavalry, artillery,
engineers, and commissariat corps serving with
the Colours shall be supplemented by cadets
qualified to become sub-lieutenants. Officers of
gendarmerie shall be supplemented by officers of
other corps.

Art. VII.—The following may be appointed as
cadets:—

1. Students of the Central Military Prepara-
tory School (Chuo Yonen Gakko) who have
successfully passed through the graduation
examination.
2. Graduates of Government or Local Ordina-
ry Middle Schools, or of Ordinary Middle
Schools specified by the Ministry of Educa-
tion, who possess certificates of scholar-
ship from the Directors of the respective
Schools, and who have obtained the permis-
sion of commanders of regiments, independent
battalions, or insular troops to be enrolled.
3. Those that possess scholarship of similar
standing to that of the graduates of the
Ordinary Middle Schools mentioned in the
preceding clause, and who, with the per-
mission of commanders to be enrolled, have
passed the examination with success.

Art. VIII.—The number of cadets to be appoint-
ed each year shall be determined by the Minister
of War.

Art. IX.—The mode of enlisting cadets shall be
determined between the Minister of War and the
Chief of the Military Board of Inspection.

Art. X.—The Chief of the Board of Inspection
shall nominate aspirants to be appointed cadets,
and shall duly distribute cadets thus appointed to
regiments and so forth, after the cadets have ob-
tained the permission of commanders to be enrol-
led. Prior to sending cadets to the military college,
the Chief of the Board of Inspection shall cause
them to undergo service (miscellaneous services
excluded) as non-commissioned officers and pri-
vates, and to study military science, for the space
of one year (about 6 months for graduates of the
Central Military Preparatory School).

Art. XI.—When one year volunteers are ap-
pointed cadets they shall rejoin their regiments
from the day of such appointment.

Art. XII.—In distributing the cadets of the
Central Military Preparatory School, the following
points shall be taken into consideration:—

1. Desire of cadets.
2. Requirement of troops.
3. Equal distribution of cadets of superior
scholarship.
4. Cadets who excel in mathematics shall be
enrolled in artillery, engineers, and railway
corps.

Art. XIII.—On a cadet being appointed to a
regiment, the Commander shall specify which
company he shall join, and shall cause the captain
of that company to take charge of the instruction
and training of the cadet.

Art. XIV.—The instruction of the cadet in
military science shall be undertaken by a captain
or lieutenant by order of the officer immediately
placed over him.

Art. XV.—The Commander shall be held re-
sponsible for the instruction of the cadet.

Art. XVI.—Cadets of the Central Military Pre-
paratory School may be given, immediately after
admission into a corps, the rank of fuzileman and
be promoted to lance-sergeant after two months
and to full sergeant after six months; while those
of other schools may enter as first class privates
and be promoted to fuzilemen after six months,
to lance-sergeant after eight months, and to full
sergeant after one year.

Art. XVII.—When a cadet has become effi-
cient, the captain of the company shall give a
certificate to that effect to the Commander of the
regiment; the officer who has taken charge of the
cadet's instruction in military science shall make a

report in writing to the Commander of the regi-
ment. The latter, after perusing the certificate and
the report, shall confirm the completion of the
education of the cadet, and shall send the docu-
ments to the Commander of the Division, so that
the latter may compile a list of the cadets of
various arms and forward the same, with the said
documents, to the Chief of the Board of Inspection.

Art. XVIII.—Upon receipt of the documents
mentioned in the preceding article, the chief of the
Board of Inspection will determine who shall be
sent to the Military College, and will issue orders
to them through the medium of the respective Com-
manders of Divisions.

Art. XIX.—A cadet that has finished the course
of study in the Military College shall rejoin his
regiment, and the Commander of his corps shall
promote him to the rank of sergeant-major, and
assign him to the duties of a company officer for a
period of not less than six months. A cadet shall
be called a probationer during this period.

Art. XX.—The Commander shall hold himself
responsible for the education of a probationer
placed under his control, and shall make him at-
tend to company duty conscientiously and dili-
gently, as well as to the practical application of his
scientific knowledge.

Art. XXI.—Before appointing a probationer to
an office, the Commander shall obtain from the
captain of the company to which the probationer is
assigned a certificate guaranteeing the completion
of his education and his qualification for the office,
and after the Commander himself has approved the
recommendation, he shall submit the appointment
for approval by the Officers' Council.

Art. XXII.—The Officers' Council, shall decide
whether or not the probationer shall be confirmed
in such appointment, and each officer of the
Council present shall enter an affirmative or nega-
tive and also sign his name, but the captain of
the Company submitting the certificate referred to
in the preceding article shall not have a voice in
the decision.

Art. XXIII.—When all the Officers of the Coun-
cil have given an affirmative answer, the Com-
mander shall draw up the elective list, appending
to the officers' names in due order, and shall then
report to the Commander-in-Chief of the Division
that the probationer has qualified for a commission.
The Commander-in-Chief shall then transmit the
documents to the Chief of the Inspection Board,
and the latter shall forward the same to the Min-
ister of War. When a minority give an unfavour-
able answer, the same process shall be gone
through, inserting, in addition, the reasons for the
unfavourable answer in the election list. When a
majority give an unfavourable answer, the reason
for that verdict shall be submitted, together with
the election list. In this case the process speci-
fied in Art. XXVI. shall be followed.

Art. XXIV.—A cadet who has failed in training
or who, on account of illness, could not be sent
to the Military College, or who while in the College
had no chance to graduate, or who failed to
matriculate, and has left the College and rejoined
his original regiment, but whose chance is still re-
garded as hopeful, may be allowed to remain in the
regiment until the next date arrives for entering
the Military College. In such a case the Com-
mander of the regiment shall make a specified re-
port to the Commander of the Division, and the
latter to the Chief of the Board of Inspection who
shall transmit the same to the Minister of War.

Art. XXV.—For a cadet coming under the fore-
going article the process specified in Arts. XVII.
and XVIII. shall be followed.

Art. XXVI.—In case a cadet comes under one
of the following clauses, the Commander of the
regiment shall make a specific report to the Com-
mander of the Division, and the latter to the
Chief of the Board of Inspection, who shall give
judgment on the case:—

1. When military discipline is violated or
laws and regulations are repeatedly violated,
or when deportment is not strict, and there
is no hope of amendment.
2. When deficient in scholarship and not
qualified for a cadet.
3. When deficient in ability for an officer.
4. When the acquirement of cadetship is
not acknowledged.
5. When a satisfactory result has not been
attained in training; when owing to illness
the cadet could not attend the Military Col-
lege (excepting those that come under Art.
XXIV.); or when for a time training can-
not be undertaken owing to illness or
wounds.
6. When in accordance with the regulations
of the Military College, the candidate had to
leave the institution to rejoin his original
regiment, with no hope of passing through
the College subsequently.

7. When a negative vote has been entered by the Officers' Council.
8. When owing to illness or wounds the cadet is unable to undergo training with the Colours or with the 1st Reserve, or when he is unable permanently to undergo military service.

Art. XXVII.—Those that come under clauses 1 to 7 shall be relieved from cadetship, and shall, according to rank, be made non-commissioned officers or privates, and be enrolled in the 1st Reserve. Those that come under clause 8 shall also be relieved from cadetship.

MILITARY ACCOUNTANTS.

Officers of the Military Accounts Board shall be supplemented by captains or 1st lieutenants of different corps serving with the Colours, or accountants of 1st and 2nd grade that possess the diploma of the Military Accounts School.

OFFICERS OF THE MILITARY SANITARY BOARD.

Officers of the Military Sanitary Board shall be supplemented by probationer surgeons and pharmacists who possess qualifications to become surgeons or pharmacists of 3rd grade.

The following may be appointed-probationer surgeons or pharmacists:—

1. Students of the College of Medicine of the Imperial University who aspire to military service, and who, on being judged competent, are appointed to the College, and who have finished the course of the College.
2. Student surgeons or student pharmacists in the one-year volunteers who possess licences to practise medicine or to act as dispensers, and who desire to become officers of the Sanitary Board serving with the Colours.
3. Students of the College of Military Medicine who have passed the matriculation examination with success.

Probationer surgeons or pharmacists shall enjoy the treatment accorded to sergeant-majors.

OFFICERS OF THE MILITARY VETERINARY BOARD.

Military veterinaries shall be supplemented by probationers. Graduates of the military Veterinary College shall be appointed probationers, and shall enjoy the treatment accorded to sergeant-majors.

OFFICERS OR NON-COMBATANTS OF EQUIVALENT STANDING IN 1ST AND 2ND RESERVES.

Officers or non-combatants of equivalent standing in the 1st and 2nd Reserves shall be supplemented by the following:—

1. One-year volunteers who after successfully passing the final examination have been placed on the 1st Reserve list.
2. Officers and non-combatants who have left the service with the Colours before the age-limit in the service with the Colours was reached and have been placed on the 1st Reserve list.
3. Non-commissioned officers on the 1st Reserve list enjoying treatment accorded to officers and who have received commissions.

In order to appoint those coming under Clause 1 as officers for the 1st Reserve, after they have undergone service with the Colours, they shall in the next year undergo for at least three months training with their original regiments.

SUPPLEMENTING OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ON SERVICE WITH THE COLOURS.

Supplementing of non-commissioned officers of gendarmie shall be made by fuglemen of gendarmie who have served for at least two years, and are of strict deportment and of reliable character.

Besides the above, non commissioned officers of infantry, artillery, and so forth, either serving with the Colours or in the 1st and 2nd Reserves, who have undergone service with the Colours for at least two years, are strict in deportment, and of reliable character, and who have successfully passed the examination for supplementing, may be appointed, provided they are under 38 years of age.

Non-commissioned officers of different corps shall be supplemented by fuglemen who have served with the Colours for at least two years, and who have been allowed to re-engage, or are graduates of the Non-Commissioned Officers' School (Kyododan), and of the Gunnery School for gunners of fortresses at important places.

In case the officers of the commissariat serving with the Colours cannot be supplemented with cadets of commissariat, officers of other corps serving with the Colours may be appointed.

For the present, non-commissioned officers and privates (one-year volunteers excepted) and students at various military schools may apply for cadetship.

Besides the above, there are special lengthy pro-

visions for supplementing military artisans ranking with non-commissioned officers, junior military accountants, bandmen, fuglemen of gendarmie, infantry, artillery, and so forth, but these are of no special importance and are therefore omitted here.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiments or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

"THE STREETS OF TOKYO."

SIR,—A correspondent of one of your local contemporaries attributes to *The Times* Tokyo correspondent this sentence:—"In the broad and beautifully kept streets of Tokyo, while great arc lights constellate the sky." *The Times* correspondent is credited with having used these remarkable words "a few months ago," and with having alluded to the Electric Tram cars competing with the humble Jirikishia in Tokyo. Concerning these things I have three comments to offer:—First, there are no electric tram cars in Tokyo. Secondly, the streets are not beautifully kept, the method of repairing them being about as unscientific as it could well be. Thirdly, I have never made the most remote allusion to the streets of Tokyo in any letter to *The Times*. It seems to me that somebody writing to *The Times* from Osaka described the streets in the terms quoted, but my recollection of the matter is indistinct. At all events, the streets of Tokyo have never been described as "broad and beautifully kept," nor have imaginary electric tram cars even been placed there, by

Your obedient servant,

THE TOKYO CORRESPONDENT OF
"THE TIMES."

Tokyo, Dec. 13th, 1896.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to the article in the *Japan Mail* of this morning, in which it is stated as the result of the information acquired by a "Japanese Expert" during a prolonged visit of inspection through Europe and America, that the bogie styles of cars was only introduced in America quite recently; and that the locomotives in use in Japan are old-fashioned and only capable of running 30 miles an hour, I beg to state that, the bogie style of cars has been in use in America (where it was first introduced) for the past forty years at least; and that the locomotives in use in Japan are not old-fashioned, and the majority of them are quite capable of running from thirty to forty miles an hour. It is not the locomotive, it is the man behind the locomotive who is in fault.

If the above is a sample of what the "Japanese Expert" has learned during a prolonged visit abroad, he might have saved money by staying at home.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

A. S. ALDRICH.

Yokohama, December 15th, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Since addressing you this morning, the following paragraph from your article in this day's issue, has also struck me as requiring correction:—

The growing activity in the parcels post service and the increasing number of parcels post-bags that private railways are obliged to convey without remuneration, are beginning to attract the attention of railway companies in Japan. It is said that in England 25 per cent. of the receipts from the parcels service goes to the Treasury and the remaining 75 per cent. to railways that carry parcels.

The above paragraph as it stands, is in itself nonsense. Railways in England convey nothing without remuneration; and if the Post Office does take 25 per cent. of the receipts, it is a very moderate proportion for the cost of collection, packing, and delivery. All railways carry parcels. It is quite evident that the "Japanese Expert" has made a sorry use of his opportunities; and neither he, nor the *Jiji*, nor (shall I say?) yourself, know anything whatever upon the subject about which you affect to throw light.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

A. S. ALDRICH.

Yokohama, December 15th 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg to express my best thanks for your courtesy in publishing my letters of 15th instant, this morning; but regret to observe that some errors have crept in during the "setting up;"

and as I find it quite sufficient to bear the odium of my own mistakes, I shall be further greatly obliged if you will be so good as to note, that in the original manuscript of my former letter, the words, "bogie styles of cars was introduced," read "bogie style, &c., was &c.," and, "only capable of running 30 miles an hour," was written, "20 miles an hour."

In the second letter, also, the words, "upon" and "about," have been transposed in the last but one line. Thanking you for inserting this correction.

I am, Sir, yours obediently,

A. S. ALDRICH.

Yokohama, December, 16th, 1896.

SUCCESS IN RACING.—A WORD FOR THE COUNTRYBRED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—At the meeting of the Nippon Race Club on Friday, the report, taken as read, commenced with these words:—"In presenting the report and accounts for the year 1896, the Executive Committee have to congratulate the members of the Club on a very successful season." What in the main constitutes success in a racing institution? Most people would undoubtedly answer, good racing; and this answer may be taken to be indisputable. What constitutes good racing? Before answering that question I will refer to the report of the late meeting. In it I find that the sport provided by 16 country-bred horses was 13 races, and that the sport provided by 27 China ponies was 13 races. I find also in the Committee's report that the mile was covered by a country-bred (Tatsuta, 10st. 11lb.) in 1 min. 55 sec., and that the China record in Yokohama for that distance is 2 min. 11 sec.—a difference of 16 seconds, and consequently so much better time made by the countrybred than by the China pony. As to what constitutes good racing, the answer is plain—the principal element is fast time; and on this showing one would naturally conclude that the Committee congratulated the members on the possession of 16 horses that provided so much better sport than 27 Chinese ponies running in an equal number of races. Not a bit of it. Here is what the Committee say:—"The Club during the past year have taken up no less than four lots of Subscription Griffiths, but the Committee still think that the subscription country-breds are an inferior class, and can hardly be considered a success." What is success? The Committee apparently do not know! Is it the China pony's 2.11 for a mile against the country-bred's 1.55? Is it pony racing versus horse-racing?—for the country-bred is fully entitled to be classed as a horse. I congratulate the members who show sport by racing the countrybreds which the Committee choose to designate an "inferior class."

In the natural order of things one would expect to find that the "inferior class" costs much less money than the "superior" Mongolian. That this is so, is evident by the following figures taken from the Committee's report:—

Cost of 11 China Ponies, Spring, 1896	\$2,394.30
Cost of 10 Country-Breds, Autumn, 1895 ..	1,513.00
Cost of 12 China Ponies, Autumn, 1896	2,491.56
Cost of 16 Country-Breds, Spring, 1897	2,080.00

The Committee do not appear to know to what extent they have approached success now that so many races are given to the "inferior class," and it would be interesting therefore to compare Tatsuta's performance with that of something on the English turf, say at head-quarters (Newmarket). It is difficult to obtain precisely similar conditions, but let me take the One Thousand Guineas, one mile (straight) across the flat. Galliotia won that race last year in a field of 15, carrying 8st. 12lb., in 1 min. 47½ sec., and Tatsuta won the Prix des Haras, with 10st. 11lb. up, a difference of 17lb., in 1 min. 55 sec. No comparison can be made between the two courses, one being flat and straight, and the other hilly and and oval; and in favour of the English thoroughbred are blood and training. Things are superior or inferior by comparison, and success is relative. What logic or reason there may be in the Committee's report, so far as I have referred to it, has yet to be discovered.

Young Australia belonged to the "inferior class," but he ran a mile and a half in 2.56 (Derby time), carrying 10st. 11lb., that is to say 25lb. more than the Derby impost, while such a crack as the Flying Dutchman took 3 min., and Daniel O'Rourke 3 min. 2 sec. to win the Derby.

Under favourable conditions, it may come to pass that the mile at Negishi will be done in the autumn next year (weight for age) in 1.53—there is more than one in the new lot obtained by Mr. Durand for the low figure of \$130 a head that

looks capable of lowering Tatsuta's record next Autumn.

Yours, &c.,

OLD MEMBER.

December 13th, 1896.

[We have never been able to understand the principle on which China ponies are admitted to the Nippon Club's races. What is the prime object of racing? To improve the breed of horses. Have folks in Japan any interest in improving the breed of Chinese ponies? If not, why on earth do they import ponies from China at heavy expense, and fritter away one half of the prize money on races that have no conceivable bearing on the chief purpose of racing? It is, for all the world, like sending to China for silver-smith's work when incomparably better can be had in Japan at smaller cost—*Ed. J. A.*]

"THE DEATH-STONE OF NASU."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your report of the last meeting of the Asiatic Society occurs a small misstatement regarding the "Death-Stone of Nasu." It is not a matter of any importance, but to save possible disappointment to any who may be tempted to go to see the famed *Sesshō-seki*, perhaps you will kindly afford space for the following correction. What I said at the meeting was to the effect that the "Death-Stone" no longer existed, but that the spot on which it was supposed to stand, is still pointed out by the villagers. Oddly enough, only some few days before my visit there, a fox and a pheasant, both dead, were found within a few yards of the place. The legend says that not men only, but even birds and beasts perish if they do but touch it. All that is now remarkable about the spot are strong sulphurous fumes which seem to attract and prove fatal to the land-crab, lepidoptera, and other kinds of insects.

Yours truly,

W. B. MASON.

Tokyo, December 14th, 1896.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Nippon Race Club was held in Keil's Building on Friday afternoon. There were present, Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., President, in the Chair; Dr. Wheeler, Messrs. W. W. Till, Tom. Thomas, V. Blad, J. Dodds, E. Knaff, G. Campredon, L. Longin, S. Isaacs, B. Hyde Pearson, F. H. Abel, K. Kingdon, R. M. Stirling, C. Buchanan Dunlop, H. Smith, R. Abenheim, C. Abenheim, de Cuers, de Cogolin, and H. Tennant (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said that the first item of business before the meeting that day was to approve the minutes of the last general meeting held on the 22nd January. By rule 18 it was provided that these minutes might be taken as read. They had appeared in the newspapers at the time, and doubtless all present were aware of what took place, and he thought that they could be taken as read, for being rather voluminous they would take some time to read.

Mr. B. HYDE PEARSON proposed and Mr. KINGDON seconded, that the minutes of the last general meeting be taken as read.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business, gentlemen, is to consider the report that has been drawn up by your Executive Committee. Every member has been supplied with a copy; and besides it has also appeared in the newspapers. It has doubtless afforded you all satisfaction to see what a large balance we now have in hand. We have increased it by some \$1,200 during the year; and this in addition to very heavy expenditure—expenditure that will not be likely to occur again. So they could now say that they were really better off this year by something like \$3,000. I think the Club is to be congratulated upon the valuable result of the labours of the Executive Committee. I shall be glad if any gentleman present will be kind enough to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. R. M. STIRLING proposed, and Mr. L. LONGIN seconded, the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried unanimously.

The statement of accounts this year are prefaced by a report of considerable length giving the chief points of interest in the year's work and a résumé of the two races meetings held this year, names of winners, times, and donated prizes; besides some suggestions for the incoming Committee. One paragraph read:—A comparison of the accounts for 1896 with those of last year shows in all respects a gratifying result. There has been a satisfactory increase in the amount of members' subscriptions. The entries for the Spring Meeting amounted to \$3,285 as compared with \$2,425 for the corresponding meeting of last year, and those for the October meeting to \$3,110 as compared with \$2,810 at the Autumn Meeting 1895, the total increase being \$1,160. The receipts

for Gate Money, Tickets, Sale of Books, &c., amount to \$2,886 as compared with \$1,826.40 in 1895, while the Pari-Mutuel realized \$1,285.10 as against \$507.25 last year. A new source of income was furnished by a re-arrangement of the conditions of the Lotteries, the amount obtained being in all \$671.22. In consequence of these various increases, your Committee were enabled to offer \$9,805 in prizes as compared with \$8,905 given last year, and after expending \$1,540.44 in improvements and alterations, the accounts show a balance in hand of \$4,721.52 as against \$3,368.57 at the end of 1895.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the accounts were open to discussion. Nobody present having any questions to ask, the Chairman said that he had only one observation to make. The Committee had incurred the obligation of asking authority from the members of the Club to purchase a piece of ground extending to the front of the Grand Stand. It was mentioned in a paragraph of the report; "In addition to the land already acquired by the Club, your Committee think it advisable to purchase the piece of ground which extends to the front of the Grand Stand, on which the southern stables 1 to 16 are built, its acquisition being necessary for the welfare of the Club. The sum required is \$2,150, which will leave the Club \$2,570 towards the \$3,500, the purchase price of the ground mentioned above." But while this matter was under discussion he proposed that the ballot for the new Executive Committee be taken. He believed that there was no rule against their being re-elected.

Dr. WHEELER, for the information of the members, read out the names of the retiring executive Committee. They were, Mr. Till, Mr. Arakawa, Mr. Knaff, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Blad, and Mr. Isaacs. Mr. Mitchell had retired from the Committee in the early part of the year, and the speaker said that he might perhaps be allowed to suggest the name of Mr. Babington to take the place; he was a likely man, and one capable of filling it well in every way.

Mr. DODDS—In reference to the powers asked for in the report relating to the purchase of land, I think everyone present will agree with me upon the advantage that that land will be to the Club, and I now beg formally to propose that the suggestion in the report be acted upon, and the Committee be given the power to purchase that piece of land.

Mr. B. HYDE PEARSON—I have much pleasure in seconding Mr. Dodds' proposal.

The CHAIRMAN—Has anyone any remarks to offer on the proposal?

Mr. KINGDON—I should like to ask how many *tsubo* there are?

Mr. TILL—Three hundred.

The CHAIRMAN—If no one has any desire to ask any further questions, I will read the motion before putting it finally to the meeting. Mr. Dodds proposes, "That in addition to the land already acquired by the Club, the Committee be empowered to purchase for \$2,150 the piece of ground which extends to the front of the Grand Stand on which the southern stables 1 to 6 are built." This proposal has been seconded, and I put it to the meeting.—Carried *nem. dis.*

Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Hyde Pearson, having been appointed scrutineers of the ballot, now presented their report.

The CHAIRMAN—The result of the ballot gentlemen, is—Messrs. Till, Arakawa, Knaff, Thomas, Blad, Isaacs, and Babington—these gentlemen, if they will serve, will form your Executive Committee for the ensuing year.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. BUCHANAN DUNLOP—I have been requested to ask the members present to accord a vote of thanks to the retiring committee. Their labours have been somewhat arduous. I do not want to make any invidious distinctions, but I think that their Chairman (Mr. Till) is leaving us for a short time, and I think I am expressing the hope of all, when I say that I hope to see him back again soon.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. SMITH—I have pleasure in seconding your proposal.

The CHAIRMAN—I think I may say, gentlemen, that that proposition is carried by acclamation.—(Hear, hear.) I think that concludes the business of the meeting. It has been said that the best meetings are always the shortest, and I have heard of a limit of 10 minutes being set, but although we have not been able to get through our business within that space of time, still we are well within the half hour.—(Laughter.) Perhaps, when we take the very large balance that we have at our bankers into account, we can fairly say that this has been the most successful meeting we have ever had.—(Hear, hear.) The meeting stands adjourned.

Mr. DODDS—I think before we part, that we

should pass a vote of thanks to our President for coming down to-day to preside at our meeting.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. BLAD—I second that.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I am only too pleased to be of the slightest service to you, for really it has been slight to day.

The meeting then separated.

CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Owing in very great degree to the damp, chilly, cheerless weather—a murky, tearful sky above, and sloppy, ice-cold mud under foot—the Public Hall on Wednesday night was not filled with so large an audience as we have seen foregather at the opening Concert of the Yokohama Choral and Philharmonic Societies. To the same cause may be ascribed the curious lack of enthusiasm that prevailed during most of the evening; for the Hall was cold to the body. Later, and especially in the second part, the audience warmed up, and Mrs. Mollison's lovely song received a full measure of well deserved applause. The new system under which the Choral Society has worked this autumn in regard to practises has resulted in the selection of a thoroughly well-balanced chorus, a chorus that, even though smaller than in some years, knows its parts and is capable of doing the best with the music in hand. The Society is to be congratulated upon this factor; for quality must always be preferred to numbers, especially where music is concerned. Cowen's Romantic Cantata "Sleeping Beauty" is not very ambitious, but it is pleasing in its tunefulness, and when rendered as it was last evening can prove very acceptable to a connoisseur who has wearied somewhat of higher-class music indifferently rendered. The pity is that "the book" is so feeble, the verse at no time rising above jingling-bathos of the baldest description. The soloists, who acquitted themselves well, were Miss Lloyd-Thomas as the *Princess*; Miss Webb as the *Wicked Fay*; Mr. Fleet as the *Prince*; and Mr. Den Arend as the *King*. The latter is a new-comer and practically made his *début* at this Concert. His work reflects credit on his enthusiasm and his talent, giving promise of better things in the future. Miss Lloyd-Thomas was heard to great advantage in "Whither away, my heart?" and again "I hear your call;" while in the concluding passages with the *Prince* she surpassed herself, having gained the confidence that she appeared to lack in the earlier portion of the Cantata. Miss Webb, as the *Wicked Fay*, was very successful, especially when the music demanded the use of notes in her lower register; then her declamation was fine and cleverly expressed. She received a lovely bouquet in the course of the evening. Mr. Fleet, when he allowed his voice its full way, was most pleasing, and deserved the applause he received. But the vocal gem of the evening was Mrs. Mollison's song in the second half, "For all eternity" (Mascleioni). The charming singer was recalled, and then she graciously gave "Sigh no more Ladies," with a dainty archness all her own.

The work of the Philharmonic Society in the three pieces set down on the programme is deserving of much praise. Indeed, the progress made since the Society's last appearance is astonishing. Perhaps it would be more correct to say that, ashamed at the lapse displayed in the spring, the members have returned to their old ideals of conscientious thoroughness; and now having regained the high standard of the earlier performances we hope they will never again desert it. The pieces given on Wednesday were the Overture from "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" (Rossini); a Transcription "Andante in A flat" (Bastide Fraser); and the Overture from "Joseph" (Méhul). It would be hard to discriminate between the three pieces, each went so well; but if anything, the first had more swing and thorough accord than the others. During the performance, Mr. Griffin, who conducted with this accustomed ability, was presented with a harp of flowers; and Mrs. Doering, who accompanied, received two lovely baskets of flowers.

Baron Nishi, Minister to Russia; Baron Haya-shi, Minister to China; and Mr. Hara, Minister to Korea, who recently returned, will not resume their posts. As soon as the Budget for the thirtieth fiscal year has been completed, they will, we hear, be transferred to other posts.

Mr. Takabashi and others, of Shana, Etoro, have set on foot the Chishima Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha (Chishima Joint-stock Steamship Company), with the object of opening regular steam communication between Chishima and Etoro-jima.

LIST OF SUITS BROUGHT BY FOREIGNERS AGAINST JAPANESE SUBJECTS IN THE YOKOHAMA LOCAL COURT
FROM NOVEMBER, 1890, TO SEPTEMBER, 1896.

Date.	Nature of Suit.	Result in Local Court.	Result in Appeal Court.	Result in Court of Cassation.	Plaintiff.	Defendant.
Nov., 1890	Repayment of loan.	Removed to Tokyo.	...	...	F. Retz.	Iwata Michinosuke.
do	Demand relating to Exchange.	...	...	...	Messrs. Cornes & Co.	Ito Rikimatsu.
do	Implementing of contract.	In favour of Plaintiff.	Partly rejected.	...	B. Rose.	M. Sato.
Dec., 1890	Payment for goods sold.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Samuel Samuel & Co.	F. Takagi.
do	ditto.	ditto.	...	...	Yung Chang-hwa.	...
do	Implementing of contract.	ditto.	...	...	F. Retz.	S. Uchiyama.
do	ditto.	ditto.	...	...	Robinson.	Hosoi and another.
Jan., 1891	Repayment of loan.	...	...	...	Stein.	T. Fujishima.
do	Payment of cheque.	In favour of Plaintiff.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Lucini.	H. Mato.
do	Payment of loan.	ditto.	...	...	Shand.	I. Imura.
Feb., 1891	Implementing of contract.	Withdrawn.	...	...	More.	R. Tokuda.
do	Fulfilment of bargain.	ditto.	...	...	Reiff.	T. Nishikawa.
Mar., 1891	Recovery of silk.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Vivanti Bros.	Inouye Nobu.
do	Repayment of monthly installment.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Robinson.	S. Ono.
April, 1891	Damages for goods ordered.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Reynell.	F. Shimoyama.
do	Payment of cheques.	ditto.	...	...	Reiff.	Y. Uyeno.
May, 1891	Payment of promissory notes.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Strachan.	...
do	Repayment of loan.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Yung Changhwa.	S. Takahashi.
do	Payment of promissory notes.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Kaulmann.	Y. Uyeno.
do	ditto.	ditto.	...	...	Platt.	I. Tachikawa & 2 others.
June, 1891	Damages.	In favour of Defendant.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Sale.	N. Tsunooka.
do	Payment of remainder of transaction money.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Sale.	S. Ono.
do	Protest against distraint.	Withdrawn.	...	...	S. Akiguchi.	Reiff.
do	Demand for rent.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Austin.	K. Kobayashi.
July, 1891	Damages.	In favour of Defendant.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Montrie.	H. Kawase and 1 other.
do	Implementing of contract.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	Confirmed.	Favre-Brandt.	I. Nishimura.
do	Repayment of loan.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Kuoff.	I. Iwata.
Aug., 1891	ditto.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	E. Whittall.	J. Hayashi.
do	ditto.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Coye.	J. Kageyama.
do	Recognition of creditor's claim.	In favour of Defendant.	...	Confirmed.	W. Denning.	H. Tanaka and another.
Sept., 1891	Payment of goods sold.	Compromise.	...	...	Kaufmann.	J. Fujino.
do	ditto.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Stanley.	S. Ito.
Oct., 1891	Repayment of security.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Quincey.	Apcar.
do	Recovery of goods held in trust.	ditto.	...	...	McShane.	T. Nagase and 8 others.
do	Repayment of loan.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Teppin.	S. Yamaguchi.
do	Payment for house sold.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Curtis.	I. Kuramoto.
Nov., 1891	Payment for goods sold.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Reynell.	K. Miyamatsu.
Dec., 1891	Recovery of deposit.	Compromise.	...	...	Chang.	K. Yozawa.
Jan., 1892	Damages.	In favour of Defendant.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Groom.	Governor of Kawagawa.
do	Recovery of property.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Gilien.	Kayama Kimi.
Feb., 1892	Recovery of pledges.	ditto.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Ricoli.	K. Kadokura.
Mar., 1892	Acceptance of rails and payment of price.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Mollendorf.	Y. Sugihara.
do	Payment for land sold.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Deveze.	T. Fukushima.
April, 1892	Fulfilment of contract.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Favre-Brandt.	I. Nishimura.
June, 1892	Payment of cheque.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Kingdon Lamb.	U. Kurozawa.
July, 1892	Payment of loan.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Middleton.	Y. Muramatsu.
do	Payment for goods sold.	ditto.	...	...	Luccan.	Apcar.
Nov., 1892	Payment of loan.	In favour of Plaintiff.	Confirmed.	Withdrawn.	Bremner.	Apcar.
Dec., 1892	Payment of rent.	ditto.	...	...	Kidoley.	Apcar.
Jan., 1893	Damages.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Hartley.	Chief of Yokohama Customs.
do	Fulfilment of contract.	In favour of Defendant.	Partially rejected.	...	Kwang Waitai.	K. Iizuka.
do	Payment for goods sold.	ditto.	...	...	Graust.	Y. Shindo.
Feb., 1893	Protest against distraint.	ditto.	Nonsuited.	...	Bremner.	Kosaka.
do	ditto.	ditto.	...	...	...	Aikawa.
do	Payment of wages.	ditto.	...	...	Lewis.	S. Kobayashi.
do	Recovery of child.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Chang Yutsz.	Konine Roku.
do	Recovery of deposit.	ditto.	...	...	Caralit.	G. Kawakami.
do	Damages.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Booth.	S. Kawaguchi.
Mar., 1893	Protest against distraint.	ditto.	...	...	T. Masunaga.	Brennan.
do	Damages.	ditto.	...	...	Bing.	Y. Fukuzawa.
April, 1893	Payment for goods sold.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Fan Ztszan.	T. Haruyama.
July, 1893	Implementing of contract.	ditto.	...	...	Burnside.	K. Inouye.
do	ditto.	ditto.	...	...	...	I. Shimizu.
do	Payment for goods sold.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Camperdon.	S. Suzuki.
Sept., 1893	Payment of wages.	In favour of Defendant.	Confirmed.	Confirmed.	Lewis.	K. Suda.
Oct., 1893	Implementing of contract.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Dinsdale.	Y. Murata.
Nov., 1893	Damages.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Singleton.	S. Yokonizo.
do	Payment for goods sold.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Pang-Tsusan.	M. Nikaido.
do	Recovery of child.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Ching ting.	Konuma Toyo.
Dec., 1893	Implementing of contract.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Carl Rohde.	Y. Higashiro.
April, 1894	Payment for goods sold.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Wang-i-Hwui.	I. Yamashiro.
do	Payment of arrears.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	...	Y. Yuasa.
do	Damages.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	Withdrawn.	...	Schramm.	S. Yamada.
June, 1894	Payment for goods sold.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Stone.	T. Tanino.
do	Damages.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Wheatley.	K. Sonoda.
Aug., 1894	Repayment of loan.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Fuh Wa.	K. Suzuki.
Sept., 1894	Delivery of trust and repayment of money held in trust.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Macpherson.	R. Uchiyama.
do	Recovery of pilloined goods.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Helm.	K. Yamada.
Oct., 1894	Payment for contract.	ditto.	...	...	Chinjo.	Phillippe.
do	Payment for goods sold.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Iizuka.	Hwui Ki.
do	Repayment of loan.	ditto.	...	...	Apcar.	Phillippe.
do	Recovery of pledge.	ditto.	...	...	Assomull.	Y. Mitsui.
Nov., 1894	Payment for goods sold.	Unsettled.	...	...	T. Murayama.	Song-lakken.
do	Repayment of loan.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Hall.	Y. Hoshino.
Dec., 1894	Fulfilment of contract.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Bayar.	S. Takaha.
Feb., 1895	Implementing of contract.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Morf.	Satsumaya.
Mar., 1895	Damages.	ditto.	...	...	Macpherson.	D. Kitagawa.
do	Payment of cheque.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Kaufmann.	K. Yamashiro.
April, 1895	Damages.	Partially in favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Cornes.	R. Kimura.
May, 1895	Transfer of goods sold.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Gauert.	K. Hidaka.
do	Implementing of contract.	ditto.	...	...	Frazer.	S. Saito.
June, 1895	Repayment of loan.	ditto.	...	...	Ching Chiangwen.	Chang Ho-hen.
July, 1895	Damages.	ditto.	...	...	Weinberger.	K. Yamagata.
Aug., 1895	Refunding of security.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Kingu.	T. Hirano.

Date.	Nature of Suit.	Result in Local Court.	Result in Appeal Court.	Result in Court of Cassation.	Plaintiff.	Defendant.
Sept., 1895	Refunding of advances.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Cornes.	T. Murakami.
Oct., 1895	Damages.	In favour of Defendant.	...	...	Watanabe.	Severn.
do	Recovery of goods.	Withdrawn.	...	...	S. Krossle (?)	S. Hirayama.
do	Damages.	Unsettled.	...	...	Macpherson.	I. Mizuno.
Nov., 1895	Evacuation of ground.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Devrze.	Ching Hwanki.
Dec., 1895	Implementing of contract.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Morif.	M. Suganuma.
Feb., 1896	Repayment of loan.	In favour of Defendant.	Unsettled.	...	Aldrich.	Sato Kildoyle.
May, 1896	Damages.	In favour of Plaintiff.	...	...	Singleton.	K. Imasaka.
do	Payment for goods sold.	ditto.	Unsettled.	...	Murata.	Severne.
June, 1896	Evacuation of house.	Withdrawn.	...	...	Cutis.	R. Uchiyama.
do	Damages.	Unsettled.	...	...	Debrabant.	S. Ogino.
July, 1896	Fulfilment of contract.	ditto.	...	...	Chanw Hui-chan.	M. Takashima.
Sept., 1896	Damages.	ditto.	...	...	Sejourns.	S. Nizuma.

N.B.—It is to be noted that where no entry occurs under the heading of "Result in Appeal Court," or "Result in Court of Cassation," the case was not carried to either of those tribunals.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A general meeting of the Asiatic Society was held on Wednesday, December 9th, at 4 p.m., in the Parish Building, 54, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

The President, Sir Ernest M. Satow, occupied the chair. As this meeting was the regular annual meeting for the election of officers and the presentation of reports from the Council to the members, the preliminary business occupied the first attention of the Society. After the minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved, the Chairman called upon the Secretary to read the annual report submitted by the Council. The Secretary read the following report:—

"There is nothing of special importance to record in the annual report of the present session of the Asiatic Society. There is neither extraordinary progress, or any striking failure to note. In point of membership the Society has gained thirteen ordinary members and three life members. An old and esteemed member, Mr. J. J. Enslie, H.B.M. Consul at Kobe, died last June. One member returning to America has resigned.

"The average number of contributions have been made to the Transactions of the Society. In all, five papers were read and will soon be printed in a new volume of the Society's Transactions. One lecture was given to the members in March.

"Considerable progress has been made, in spite of many difficulties in the work of arranging and classifying the library of the Society. The precise number of Transactions in stock is known and the work of cataloguing the books is progressing steadily. It will not be long before the library is in working order. The Librarian reports a total number of 10,187 copies of the Transactions in stock, besides 1,682 copies of the Index.

"The finances of the Society, while showing no increase, at the same time are not running backward. The Treasurer's account shows a final balance of yen 2,144.645 for the present year.

"As several papers of interest are promised for the coming year, there is good reason for believing that the work of the Society will show no falling off either in the number or character of its publications."

After this report was adopted the election of officers and a new Council for the coming year was held. The outgoing Council submitted a list of names for election, which was adopted by the members. The names are as follows:—

President—Sir Ernest M. Satow, K.C.M.G.
Vice-Presidents—Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., and James Troup, Esq.

Corresponding Secretary—Garrett Drovers, Esq.

Recording Secretaries—Garrett Drovers, Esq. (Tokyo), and W. J. S. Shand, Esq. (Yokohama).

Treasurer—J. McD. Gardiner, Esq.

Librarian—E. W. Clement, Esq.

Councillors—Dr. E. Divers, F.R.S., B. H. Chamberlain, Esq., W. B. Mason, Esq., R. Masujima, Esq., Clay MacCauley, Esq., M. Michel Revon, J. H. Gubbins, Esq., Rev. T. S. Tyng, Rev. W. J. White, and Rev. A. Lloyd.

This completed the business of the annual meeting. The President then called upon the Rev. Arthur Lloyd for his paper on Nasu-no-Yumoto.

The paper was a description of the village of Nasu-no-Yumoto, on the borders of Shimotsuke and Aizu. The hot-springs were discovered about 630 A.D. during the reign of Jomei Tenno, the 34th Emperor, by a hunter who tracked a wounded stag to its lair. The volcano above the village became active in 1398; then followed a long period of quiescence, and another eruption in 1846, since which time it has always been active; thought not dangerously so. Amongst other events of interest connected with the village, the reader of the paper referred to a great landslide which occurred in 1858, and a battle between the Royalist and Tokugawa troops in 1868.

Referring to the system of taxation, the paper

continued:—Perched up high on the mountain side, surrounded by woods and rocks and far-stretching moorland, the community which clustered around the springs of Mount Nasu was possessed of no property upon which a tax could be levied, except its hot water. I have been able to find no traces of any system of direct taxation prior to the establishment of the feudal régime of the Tokugawas. If there were any taxes levied on the villagers, they must have been very slight; for during the Tokugawa régime the whole village, according to information supplied by the Komatsuya, only paid one *bu* (25 cents) per annum to the feudal lord. Even this small sum seems to have been collected with difficulty, for there was a discount of 24 *mon* (say 2½ cents) made for prompt payment. There were no payments of taxes made in kind, for there was apparently nothing with which to pay such taxes. But in lieu of taxes, the lord claimed as his own all the money paid by the visitors for the use of the hot baths, and officials were regularly sent to inspect the hotel accounts and collect the bath dues."

With regard to the charges made by the hotels, the paper continued:—"The Nasu hotels do not seem to have undertaken to cater for their guests. The visitors, who, then even more than now, came from neighbouring districts, brought with them their own rice, *shoyu*, *miso*, &c., and bought their vegetables and eggs from the villagers; while the hotel made a small charge for rooms and *futon*, for cooking utensils and lamps. . . . for a sum varying from 320 to 420 *mon* a month, that is to say, a little more than 1 *bu* and a half, a visitor could meet all his hotel charges. The cost of food would, of course, have to be added."

The latter part of the paper was taken up with a description of some of the local customs connected with the village. These are the prohibition of looms in the village, owing either to the proximity of the volcano which made it advisable to keep no heavy articles of furniture in the houses, or else to the sacredness of the local shrine; the former prohibition against confinements taking place in the village itself; and the custom of not keeping fowls, in memory of a disaster which in former times overwhelmed the family of the feudal lord. This family (*Sutō-gou-no-Kami*) became involved in war with Yoritomo, who shut them up in their castle. After a long siege the officer commanding Yoritomo's forces succeeded in destroying the castle by driving into it a number of domestic fowls with ignited straws tied to their tails.

The President, in behalf of the members, expressed his thanks to Mr. Lloyd for the paper. He pointed out that the battle mentioned in the paper had taken place not in 1867 but in 1868, as those who were in Japan at that time could well remember. One of the chief points of interest in Nasuno he related was the ghost-stone or death-stone, which, however since the Meiji era seemed to have lost its efficacy.

Mr. Mason made further interesting remarks about this stone. Three years ago, he said, the stone still possessed certain fatal properties according to the opinion of the tea-house keeper of the place.

A general discussion arose as to ancient and modern charges made at tea-houses. The prices mentioned in the paper seemed absurdly low according to modern standards. Mr. Tyng and Mr. Doonan gave instances of how very low certain charges for lodging and food at a tea-house might be, and again how sometimes foreigners might be overcharged. It was pointed out that these instances were not to be depended on for purposes of comparison, since they omitted the *chadai*, which was often, if not generally in certain cases larger than the charge itself. It was remarked that Japanese officials commonly paid a *chadai* of a dollar for a night's stay, while very wealthy men or Ministers of State were often presented with no account at all, but paid as they thought proper.

Some further discussion as to the meaning of

the watchmen who go about at night, especially in the vicinity of tea-houses, arose, after which the President, again thanking the reader of the paper, called upon the Secretary to read certain changes which the Council wished to introduce into the Constitution of the Society.

The Secretary stated that the Council proposed the following alterations:—

Constitution, Art. VI., par. 1, 2nd sentence: Omit words "or a life composition of sixteen dollars gold or three guineas." In place of par. 3, substitute the following paragraph:—

Ordinary members resident in Japan may become life members:—

- On election by paying the entrance fee and the sum of fifty silver yen (dollars);
- At any time afterwards within a period of twenty years by paying the sum of fifty silver yen (dollars), less yen 2.50 for each year of membership;
- After the expiration of twenty years on application to the Treasurer without further payment.

Ordinary members not resident in Japan may become life members:—

- On election by paying the entrance fee and the sum of thirty silver yen (dollars);
- At any time afterwards within a period of twenty years by paying the sum of thirty yen (dollars), less yen 1.50 for each year of membership;
- After the expiration of twenty years on application to the Treasurer without further payment.

Insert after Par. 3 the following additional paragraph:—

"Members hitherto resident in Japan who leave it with the intention of residing permanently abroad shall for the purpose of their subsequent subscriptions, or life-membership, be regarded as members not resident in Japan, provided the Treasurer is notified of their change of residence."

As, according to the Constitution, all amendments or proposed changes to the Constitution must lie over for one meeting, the Secretary gave notice that these alterations would be introduced at the next general meeting.

The President declared the meeting adjourned at 5.30.

REVIEW.

The A. Y. Z. Telegram Code. By Geo. Ager, LL.D. It is an exceedingly difficult matter to form a just estimate of the relative merits of two telegram codes. Each is a dictionary in itself, but there are no groups of phrases universally acknowledged as possessing a title to appear in any code. The experiences of different men in different lines of business, or even in the same line, will necessarily vary as to the usefulness of any selection of sentences. We have before us a new Code entitled the "A.Y.Z." and our task is to discover whether it so far excels the "A.B.C." Code, hitherto largely employed, as to justify its substitution for the latter. So far as the system is concerned, the two codes are virtually the same. The original phrases and the corresponding code words are arranged alphabetically. But the "A.Y.Z." here offers an improvement over its rival, namely, that whereas in the latter the subjects—i.e. the original phrases—are not disposed according to any logical system, in the former they are uniformly divided into interrogatives, affirmative replies, and negative replies. Greater facility of reference is certainly attained by that method, for, as Dr. Ager justly says:—"Of the errors that creep in, and the great inconvenience of employing a code that is merely a miscellaneous medley of phrases on each subject, questions and answers, affirmatives and negatives, being mixed up in glorious confusion, I have heard much—such mistakes as sending an affirmative for a negative, or passing over a

phrase in the code in the hurry of making up a telegram." Coming to the question of comprehensiveness, we have the arithmetical fact that whereas the "A.B.C. Code" has only 24,600 phrases and numbers, the "A.Y.Z." has nearly 30,000. It does not follow, however, that in every case the latter is of wider scope than the former. Opening the two at random, we find that the "A.Y.Z." has only 7 phrases under "Diver" against 16 in the "A.B.C." Again, while each contains to phrases under "Dispute," the "A.Y.Z." gives the phrases "A dispute has arisen between," "Settle the dispute at any cost," "Don't wait to settle dispute," "Let there be no dispute," and "There is no dispute," none of which appear in the "A.B.C." *Per contra* the "A.B.C." has, and the "A.Y.Z." has not, the phrases, "In event of dispute," "In event of dispute, to be referred to two competent persons," "Shall vessel wait until dispute is settled," "Dispute is now settled," and "Dispute shall be settled before vessel leaves." It must not be assumed, however, that these phrases omitted from the "A.Y.Z." under the heading of "Dispute" can not be coded with sufficient accuracy by recourse to another heading. Thus, under the heading "Settled," we find "Has been satisfactorily settled," which will serve well enough for "Dispute is now settled," and so forth. Sometimes the difference in the number of phrases is very marked. For example, under "Document" the "A.B.C. Code" has only 29 phrases against 78 in the "A.Y.Z." Further, the cursory examination that we have been able to make seems to indicate that there is less repetition in Dr. Ager's Code than in Mr. Clauson-Thue's. For example, take the group of phrases that we have just been considering. In the "A.B.C. Code," we have "Singularly" for "It is settled," "Dissidence" for "Dispute is now settled," and "Sinister" for "The matter has been settled," which three phrases are virtually interchangeable. Nothing of the kind, so far as we can see, occurs in the "A.Y.Z.," and we are therefore constrained to conclude that the difference between the latter's thirty thousand phrases and the former's twenty-five thousand is more significant than its mere arithmetical expression would imply. After all, the 4th edition of the "A.B.C. Code" dates from 1883, whereas the "A.Y.Z." was compiled in 1895. Twelve years' experience, especially in the case of an author already so distinguished in this special field as Mr. Ager is, could scarcely fail to be perceptible in the new cryptogram.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

By JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, November 5th.

The *Yamashiro Maru*, the pioneer steamer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, has just arrived at Sydney several hours in advance of her appointed time, having made the trip from Moreton Bay with remarkable expedition. Captain J. Jones, who is in charge of the steamer, reports that she left Yokohama on the 3rd of October, and proceeded to Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki. At Hongkong a small quantity of additional cargo was shipped, and the vessel resumed her voyage on the 17th. After a splendid passage, Thursday Island was reached on the 27th. On her way down the coast, the steamer called in at Townsville, for which place a portion of her cargo was manifested. To Sandy Cape most favourable weather conditions prevailed, but thence to arrival in Moreton Bay heavy south-east seas were encountered. From Moreton Bay to Sydney the weather was excellent, enabling a quick run to be effected. In Moreton Bay, Mr. J. T. Thompson, the company's representative in Sydney, who had travelled overland to Brisbane, joined the vessel, returning in her to Port Jackson. He has an office in the building occupied by Messrs. Burns, Philip, and Co., and is in every way eminently qualified for the position occupied by him. He has been for about 23 years connected with the Australian Steam Navigation Company, and bears a high reputation in the colonial shipping and mercantile world.

The New South Wales Government have not yet succeeded in passing the Alien Restriction Bill, but an effort will be made to secure its passage through the Legislative Council before the session closes. Meanwhile, its provisions are giving rise to considerable discussion, especially in connection with the opening of first steam communication between Japan and Australia. Recently a meeting in favour of the Bill was held in one of the Sydney suburbs, which Mr. McMillan, M.P., ex-Colonial Treasurer, who is the parliamentary representative for the districts, was invited to attend. In replying to the invitation Mr. McMillan wrote:—

"Without expressing any opinion on the question,

I don't see what purpose can be gained by the meeting, on what you call the anti-Asiatic question, seeing that a bill, which I presume fully embodies the views of yourself and friends, has been passed through the Legislative Assembly; as regards its treatment in the Legislative Council, it will be very premature and very improper to take any action in anticipation of proceedings in that House. I fear there would be very considerable divergence of views between your friends and myself under any circumstances. The question is too large to be considered in a letter. I must decline to attend the meeting." In the absence of Mr. McMillan the meeting adopted the following resolution,—"That this meeting views with alarm the rapid increase of Asiatics throughout the country, and pledges itself to support the league in its endeavours to eradicate the evil from our midst." No other meetings of the same character have, however, been held.

So far the tone of the letters appearing in the Sydney papers is opposed to the proposed legislation, at any rate so far as Japan is concerned. Thus one correspondent, a well known Sydney man, writes:—"As regards the policy of the bill, I look upon it as one calculated to do incalculable mischief to the colony. Here we have a huge territory practically unoccupied and containing in the whole continent about five millions, but capable of sustaining 500 millions, and, like the dog in the manger, we would shut out others from utilizing land which is useless to us, though the trade and revenue they would bring to our railways and ports would be of immense value to the country. The Japanese, a most progressive and highly cultured nation, with 40 millions of inhabitants, offer to trade with us, and would inevitably become a large consumer of our products; a country with which Great Britain has entered into commercial relations, and invited us to do the same, and our answer is a bill to prevent the Japanese coming here. What I should like to know is, whether Australians think themselves any better than the Japanese, for they certainly are not as far advanced in the arts of peace, or of war, though the Japanese are far behind the Australians in self-esteem and braggadocio." This is plain-speaking, but, after some more language of the same kind, the writer says:—"May I ask what right we have, a handful of Europeans, to talk of excluding any body, seeing that our title to Australia was only acquired by shooting down a few harmless natives. This vast territory was made by God for God's creatures, and as long as peaceful and inoffensive people come, they have no right to be excluded. And now for a word of warning. The Australian threat, that if the parent country will not allow the Alien Restriction Bill to become law they will cut the painter, is all bombast, and withal senseless bombast, for were it not for the ægis of Great Britain the Japanese would not stay to inquire if they might come here, but would probably take possession of Australia for themselves. How far it is desirable to count the enmity of the people of India, Syria, Japan, Persia, Afghanistan, and China is worth considering, and if these countries broke off their commercial relations with Australia, and refused to allow Australians to put their foot on their soil, we should then find out to our cost that 'what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.'"

Another correspondent, who also gives his name, says that a strong feature of the anti-alien legislation, so far as the New South Wales parliament is concerned, "is the unanimity on the matter between the free-traders and protectionists. The one member who had the courage to question the wisdom of the measure was well howled at for his temerity. With the yellow and the black between them the punting for a time will be at the same object instead of each other—a object, doubtless, that will soon be on the statute books, but that is no reason why it should not be placed on record that solid objections may be advanced against the passage of a bill that the future may discover to us to have been practically abortive. The Premier and all who followed him agreed as to its vast importance to the future of these colonies, but how significantly important none save Mr. McMillan seemed to care to point out even if they knew. It does not seem to be considered that the dreaded conflict might be provoked by a drastic measure excluding them from our shores. The bill proposes to restrict the movements of 400,000,000 Chinese, nearly 300,000,000 of Indians, about 40,000,000 of Japanese, and natives of the Pacific Islands, aggregating a stupendous number of people, who are to be dealt with by a population, spread over the whole Australasian group, numbering less than 5,000,000. A big order, but given rather late in the day, and it might be so considered. For prior to the middle of the present century, Europe had a civilisation all its own, and 'Anglo-Saxon' was a name to conjure with; it

is no longer so to the same extent, and the reason should be obvious save only to those either too ignorant or too blind to see. Western civilisation is no longer a monopoly, as by the enterprise of Anglo-Saxon races it has penetrated to the very hearts of the continents of Asia and Africa. The native races have acquired a taste for it, and the taste is rapidly extending. It is significant of coloured races that while we do not conform to their habits and customs, they very readily do to ours. The sons of the well-to-do are trained in the educational establishments of Europe, while they travel and acquire all the knowledge that is gathered by intelligent observation, for which they have gone with a set purpose; nor is that all, in their own countries they have availed themselves of the service of highly-skilled engineers, scientific men, and clever artificers to instruct their own people in all the skilled trades and callings at one time peculiar to the Western part of the world. The result of all this is witnessed in railways and manufactories with steam power, all after the European pattern. This new departure has been followed up by perfect warfare equipment and European methods of use. All the world knows that China and Japan have spent millions of money, and are still spending it, on first-class fighting ships. At present these are mostly officered by European men, who are gradually being replaced by native trained officers. The question that naturally arises in connection with the Coloured Races Restriction Bill is this: Will these despised people, having advanced so far, now remain stationary? The common-sense answer is, No! they certainly will not. The desire to go further will grow with what it feeds on. If any considerable number of people think otherwise, then it does not say much for their high understanding. Turning now to the mercantile marine. Your readers know that at present the ocean-carrying trade is monopolised by Europe and America—the great bulk is British. Here it is not unwise to inquire how soon Chinese and Japanese merchant steamers, officered and manned by native crews, may desire to discharge and take in cargo at Circular Quay. What would be our position then? It is manifest that, Sydney being a free-trade port, they would have a perfect right to do so and to compete with any "ocean tramp;" but under the proposed bill neither officers nor crew would be permitted to step on to the wharf without first paying the poll tax. Would a great Power like Japan submit for long to that sort of thing without retaliating in kind? The Imperial Government in such a case could afford no assistance. The time will come when the policy of "Take we will, but give we won't," will require to be modified, but, apart from these contradictions, the bill in its present form is a mistake, and has only had its birth out of panic."

Yet another correspondent, "Commerce," writes:—"Whilst I admit that the necessity may arise for special measures to prevent Australia from becoming overrun by the coloured hordes of Asia and elsewhere, I contend that the absolute and indiscriminate exclusion of Asiatics from the colony at this stage is not only unwarranted by the conditions by which we now find ourselves surrounded, but may involve us in serious complications, injurious alike to our national status and to our commerce. The Asiatic coloured races may be a mean lot—though I hold that they are far from meriting any such description—but they are not likely to submit to being so branded by us, and shut out from our midst as intolerable, without showing their resentment against us and the stock whence we sprung, in every possible way. It may further be taken for granted that any national prejudice thus created will be fostered by our trade rivals, and it does not require the exercise of any high statesmanlike qualities to foresee what immense injury must result, not only to ourselves, but to the mother country, with which, commercially at any rate, we have so much in common."

The case in point which most appeals to me is that of Japan. That sturdy and enterprising people, lying not too far to the north of us to prevent us from competing successfully for a share of their patronage, have shown themselves desirous of cultivating with us that interchange of products which is the very essence of commerce, and they are actually providing us with the regular shipping communication necessary to carry our products to their own front door. They have sent their ships to our port (the freest in the world, we are told), and have spent their money in the hundred and one ways that go to make up the importance and wealth of a great seaport, and in the natural course of things would doubtless do more and more as time went on. It is true that their motives are not disinterested. They have their own ends to serve, and legitimate ones too; but if it is not also distinctly to our advantage to encourage such enterprise, and thus

to increase the facilities for trade, and open up markets for our exports, then what becomes of the benefits of that glorious freetrade which some fiscal fanatics tell us is the panacea for all ills? I contend, Sir, that we cannot afford to ignore the friendly advances of such a people as the Japanese. Even less should we wantonly excite their national enmity; and those whose first concern should be to find the best and nearest markets for our wool and other staple products, should pause before they disdainfully thrust aside the hand held out to them, and consider whether the contemptuous indifference of to-day may not be the subject of unavailing regret in the near future."

Although these utterances fairly represent the views of the educated and intelligent classes in Australia, they will have little or no influence on public opinion generally, which is in favour of the Bill, so far as the Chinese residents of British India are concerned. There is no unfavourable feeling against the Japanese, those resident in Australia being much esteemed and respected by all who know them. The leading colonial papers are somewhat dubious respecting the policy of the new legislation. Thus the *Rockhampton (Queensland) Morning Bulletin* says of the New South Wales Bill:—"It is a far-reaching measure, the most momentous measure ever presented to an Australian Parliament according to Mr. Reid. It practically shuts the door of this continent in the face of the vast majority of the people of this earth. Mr. Reid's case was simply that this continent was for the Anglo-Saxon race, or the Celtic-Saxon race, as our own Attorney-General has expressed a preference to call it. He argued that it was the supreme duty of the Governments and Parliaments of this colony, that the race which now inhabits it should not only remain supreme here, but should be continued pure. He would have no intermingling of any kind; neither does he wish to see colonies of people of coloured blood established here and there throughout the continent, even if they are in insignificant numbers. It is infinitely easier, in his opinion, to prevent the incursion of these races than to expel them once they are here. Of that there can be no doubt. With all her vast power and resources the United States is unequal to the gigantic task of expelling the eight millions of negroes who now live within her territories. The great danger before the United States arises from this race problem. It is now evident that the war did not settle the negro question. Indeed, it may be said to have accentuated it. It settled slavery, and now that the negroes are free they are increasing at a rate far beyond the increase of the slavery days. In four states they are already a majority of the population, and in other four they will soon outnumber the whites. At present it is only by deliberate violation of the law that they are kept from exercising full authority in the first four states, and a very wide authority in the other four. But this cannot continue for ever. Some day, when the negroes form the majority, in not only four but in eight or ten states, there will come a demand for administration of the law. When that happens the negro problem will confront the United States in a far more terrible form than was ever presented by the slavery question. The representatives of the various Governments, who met in Sydney, believed that it was wise to take time by the forelock. When the meagre number of coloured people in Australia at present is compared with the tremendous weapon of this proposed legislation, the old charge of breaking a butterfly on a wheel may be heard. But to that the representatives would reply that they are legislating not so much for the present as for the future. The present measure brings up the ticklish question of curtailing the rights of British citizenship. It excludes all coloured races, consequently it excludes about 200 millions of the Queen's subjects from a portion of the Queen's dominions. This objection was urged in the New South Wales Assembly, but Mr. Reid pointed out that it was much more formidable in appearance than in reality. The Dominion of Canada passed an Act prohibiting all Chinese, whether subjects of the Queen or not, from entering Canada, and the Imperial Government did not demur from it. Then the Chinese Restriction Act of South Australia applies to subjects of the Queen as well as to aliens, and it was not even reserved for the Royal Assent. With these precedents, Mr. Reid did not anticipate any difficulty with the Imperial Government. But there was force in the contention of Mr. McMillan, that it was because Australia formed part of the British Empire that she could thus treat the coloured races of the earth. If she stood alone it would be an exceedingly hazardous thing to pass such an Act against powers like Japan or China, not to mention the protest which might then be made by the British Government itself on behalf of its Indian subject."

Curiously enough, while the Bill is thus dis-

cussed, attention is being directed to various industries which are capable of successful introduction into Australia if the employment of Japanese labour be permitted. Thus, in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, the other evening, Mr. Clarke, who represents the northern districts of the colony, asked the Minister for Mines and Agriculture to offer a prize for the best specimen of cotton grown in New South Wales. A sample of cotton from the Macleay district was recently sent to Japan through Mr. F. Kanematsu. Mr. Clarke has received a letter from the head office of the firm in Kobe, Japan, dated September 1. In this letter it is stated that the quality is very good and superior to that obtained from countries accustomed to grow cotton. It is further pointed out that the cotton-spinning industry in Japan has progressed very greatly during the last few years, and that at present there are about one million spindles spinning a large quantity of cotton yarn, most of which is sold in Japan, but some 60,000 bales are exported every year. It is therefore, considered that it would be beneficial to Australia. A hope is expressed that the Japanese labourers have had much experience in cotton-growing, and are well known as excellent labourers. Hence it is considered that it would be economical to employ Japanese labourers in Australia in order to increase the production. This latter point is emphasised.

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

Taipeifu, Formosa, December 3rd, 1896.

The plague still continues to claim occasional victims. The Sanitary Commission is at work more vigorously than ever, and it is almost safe to say that there is scarcely a spot left untouched. To such an extreme are precautions taken that, a few days since, I observed several sanitary coolies spreading lime over every spot that appeared even the least damp, in a stone-paved street which could scarcely be called dirty. Those that have always considered cleanliness a safeguard against the plague, will be disappointed to hear that it is not in the dirty places that the disease breaks out. Here in Twatulia, where foreigners live, there is in the Chinese part of the town, most certainly, sufficient filth to support innumerable bacilli in ease and luxuriance; yet the only cases that have appeared have been in houses not only clean in themselves, but standing on a paved street which for cleanliness will compare favourably with those at home.

The Chinese, as was to be expected, are complaining. They are unwilling not only to clean up for themselves, but also to allow any one else to perform the task for them. The Japanese hospital, to which during the first few days of the outbreak, they were taken for treatment, appeared to them a most dangerous institution, and no sacrifice was considered too great to save their sick relatives from falling into the clutches of the Japanese "medicine maker."

As an example of how atrocity tales are fabricated, the following blood-curdling account was freely believed by the Chinese masses. When Chinese were found weakened by sickness so that they could not escape, they were carried to the "medicine house," there stripped of all clothing, and a big white cloth saturated with the most deadly of poisons was wrapped about them, causing sure death. The hearts of the dead were then cut out to make medicine for the Japanese, fifty being required to give the strength essential for efficacy. Soon after the arrival of the Governor-General, a special hospital for the Chinese was established by his orders and placed in charge of a Japanese physician with a trained Chinese as assistant, and with Chinese to act as attendants, but of course under the control of skilled Japanese. Since the opening of this institution, Chinese have shown less opposition, and in several cases have voluntarily brought the plague-stricken for treatment. The measure has also had the effect, no less valuable, of discrediting the tales about murderously inclined Japanese doctors.

The Governor-General has shown further consideration for the sufferers by visiting the hospital, and speaking a kind word to all, which act is said to have produced a most cheering effect on the patients. That His Excellency Baron Nogi is obtaining the love and respect of all classes with whom he comes in contact, is very evident, and it is to be hoped that politics will not interfere with his tenure of the office of Governor-General for such a length of time as will suffice to place Formosan affairs on a comparatively firm and prosperous basis, a task to which his ability is believed to be quite equal.

The cases of plague from November 22nd up until the 2nd instant were as follow;—

Month, Day.	Japan- Chi-		Deaths.	
	esc.	nese.	Japan- Chi-	Totals.
November 22.....	1.....	1.....	2.....	3.....
November 23.....	1.....	1.....	2.....	2.....
November 24.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
November 25.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
November 26.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
November 27.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
November 28.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
November 29.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
November 30.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....
December 1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....	1.....

According to weeks, there were, during the first week, 54 cases; the second 18; the third 21; fourth 15, and the fifth 5. Considering this marked decrease, it seems as though we may expect to see the plague completely stamped out in a few days.

It may be added that, altogether there have been sixteen cases among the Chinese and twelve deaths, while among the Japanese there have been ninety-six cases and forty-eight deaths. The difference in the rate of mortality is accounted for by the great care the Chinese took in hiding their patients, so that the latter were generally past hope before receiving treatment.

It has been generally thought that the present outbreak and the few cases in April at Anping and Takow, were the first appearance of plague in Formosa. But the Chinese in Taipei now say that for several years a similar disease has broken out in North Formosa. It has been known among them as the sickness "when the rats die." That this rat-dying disease was true plague cannot, of course, be ascertained, but mention is made by foreigners of plague breaking out formerly in Formosa.

In consequence of the host of workers employed by the Sanitary Bureau, the city of Taipei, a small place with a population of only 2,580, was soon cleaned and disinfected in a thorough manner, but new cases still continue to appear, which fact suggests that some special source of disease exists. Possibly the explanation is to be found in the great amount of earth turning that has been in progress in and about the city. Immense amounts of fresh earth have been thrown up from a canal that is partially completed, leading from the river up to and along one side of the city wall. In this context it may be noted that during the digging of a railway cutting of considerable size near Kelung, an epidemic broke out among the labourers so severe that it was necessary to abandon the work in that particular district, and to carry the road to its objective point by a detour. As the nature of the disease was not specially investigated by the foreigners at the time, there is no certainty that it was not the plague. Against such a hypothesis, however, must be set the fact that the Japanese, in rebuilding the same line in the same district, made new and greater excavations without suffering from any disease.

It is interesting here to recall the words of Professor Burton after his inspection of the north. Speaking of Taipei city and surroundings he says:—"Sewerage, with the exception of a few stagnant or nearly stagnant canals, does not exist, and the foreshore of the river is in a positively pestilential condition on account of the emptying of garbage upon it!" and again regarding Hoho:—"Much of the usual foul matter is all over the town! This must be abolished and be prevented from accumulating again! The public latrines are without exception the most foul and filthy I have ever seen! They must be reformed. The most part of the whole plain is in a dreadful state, and of the Chinese town near the river, up stream, (Banka) reformation is impossible, the place ought to be destroyed!" The canal now under construction, as mentioned above, is a part of Professor Burton's plan for sewerage in Taipei.

The outbreak of plague is unfortunate just at this period, and will no doubt have the effect of deterring the better class of Japanese from emigrating to the island.

I think the Government itself is somewhat to blame for the fact that so many of its employes are among the afflicted. Proper living accommodation was not provided for those resident here. Surely the first and most essential work should have been the construction of suitable quarters, quarters built with due regard to health and comfort, and placed at the disposal of all government employes. In Formosa, especially Taipei and its suburbs, a man's only pleasure is to be sought at home. One step outside brings him into contact with the filthiest kind of Chinese life. Comfortable houses are absolutely essential for the Japanese, whereas at present they are installed in dark ill-ventilated Chinese huts with walls of mud, located in malodorous, disease-breeding crowded Chinese streets. Under such circumstances it is not strange that terrible sickness finds nourishment among them. The foreigners live in the second storeys of well

ventilated structures, and serious sickness is rare among them.

Mr. Arao, who established the Commercial School in Shanghai for Japanese, and who, after a few weeks in Formosa, met death by the plague, was engaged in a most worthy project here, the only aim of which was to foster a feeling of friendship between Japanese and Chinese in Formosa. His first work was the organization of a club. The affair would undoubtedly have proved a success but for his untimely death.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

TEISHINSHO, TOKYO, DEC. 17TH, 1896.

THE STRANDING OF THE "HIMEJI MARU."

This morning an inquiry was held by command of the Minister of Communications, at the Marine Office of the Teishinsho, Tokyo, into the circumstances attending the stranding of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Himeji Maru*, Captain Tittle, Commander, that took place on the Bombay Reef of the Paracels Islands, on the 1st November. The inquiry was held in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Regulations for granting certificates to Masters, Mates and Engineers.

The Court was composed as follows:—Mr K. Morimoto, President; Messrs. N. Nagata and S. Ito, assessors; with Mr. J. M. James.

Captain Rennie Tittle, a British subject, cautioned, deposed—I hold a Japanese certificate of master of the first grade, No. 262. I was commander of the *Himeji Maru* and in charge at the time of the above said stranding. I left Yokohama on the 17th of October, bound for Kobe; we were ultimately bound for Europe, via usual ports. After leaving Yokohama we called at Kobe, Moji, and Hongkong. We left Hongkong about 1 p.m. on the 30th October, bound for the port of Singapore. After leaving Hongkong we steered various courses to Gap Rock, coming out by Green Island Pass. Gap Rock was brought abeam to port E.S.E., distance $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles—magnetic bearing. The patent-log was then strung and course set S. 8 degrees W., true, to take the *Himeji Maru* 30 miles East of the Bombay Shoal. The wind was E.N.E. of varying force from 2 to 5, with moderate to high N.E. swell. The weather was dull and overcast, with passing rain. At noon on Saturday, the 31st October, the course was altered to South, true, and between 8 p.m. and midnight of the same day the course was altered as per log-book, so as to take the *Himeji Maru* 50 miles east of Bombay Shoal. At midnight the course was again altered to S. and written orders were posted in the night order book that at 4 a.m. it should be again altered to S. 30° W.—that would be by standard compass. The error of this compass on S. 30° W. would be $1\frac{1}{2}$ Easterly, I think. At 4:35 a.m. on November the 1st, the *Himeji Maru* grounded on the coral of the Bombay Reef. The position of the grounding is four miles to the westward of the eastern end of the Bombay Shoal, and on the northern side, in lat. $16^{\circ} 6' N.$, long $112^{\circ} 34' E.$ The wind, weather, and sea remained as before, dull, cloudy, and overcast throughout.

Mr. James—Have you anything else to add to your oral report?—No, sir.

Then the next question is your letter to the President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in which you give practically the same particulars as you have just given orally; do you accept that as a true report?—Yes.

Mr. James—You accept that as corroborative evidence—Yes, sir.

[Letter read—in identical terms almost to the statement just made.]

Witness, continuing—I got the distance from Gap Rock by four-point bearing.

Mr. James then asked witness to state the weather, force of wind, etc., when off Gap Rock.

Witness—May have I the log-book to refer to? Mr. James—Certainly; we do not expect you to remember all these things?—Thank you, sir.

Witness—Off Gap Rock the wind was E.S.E. force 2, cloudy; not overcast; blue sky and clouds. On October 31st at noon, the wind was N.N.E., and the force 5; rainy weather. At the time of stranding the wind was E. by S., force 5, dull weather, dark and overcast. I set a course S. 7° W., by compass (true course S. 8° W.), to clear the Reef by 30 miles. I did not, so far as I was aware of, experience any current while running on this course, but I had no observations. Up to noon on the 31st October, I made no allowance for current. The monsoon had set in; that is, the regular monsoon was blowing. I had the experience of two former voyages to go by in regard to the north-easterly drift of the monsoon; one voyage was made during the

N.E. monsoon, the other just at the change of the monsoon—in other words at the latter end of December, 1893, and in the early part of May, 1896. I also had the sailing directions of the China Sea Directory that advised me of the drift. I ascertained the ship's position at noon on the 31st October by dead reckoning, but made no allowance for wind and current at that time.

Mr. James—I notice you altered your courses frequently; why did you alter the course at noon on the 31st and at 8 p.m. on the 31st; why did you do this instead of taking one straight course more to the eastward?—The course was altered at noon on the 31st October to make allowance for the current, and in hope of getting a sight of the sun in the afternoon; but not getting the sun I altered it at 8 p.m. to steer 50 miles east of the Bombay Reef.

But the time was so short that you might have laid out a course for 100 miles eastward and it would have made no difference. You say you steered for the eastward of the Bombay shoal?—Yes.

But why did you do so? I have been up and down the China Seas a hundred times and never knew of any shipmaster taking such a course in the N.E. monsoon?—It is the track taken by the mail steamers, sir.

It is by taking such courses that these shoals have been lighted upon. The proper course is to keep the land of Hainan in sight and go down to Indo China?—The China Sea Directory advises ship-masters to steer 30 miles eastward of the Paracels Shoal.

Mr. James—I have never heard of such a course being taken in the N.E. monsoon; coming up in the S.W. monsoon, yes, because then you can clear the Maclesfield Bank and get soundings there?—There are places there of only five or six fathoms, and I should have been in an awkward position then.

What were your courses that day?—Not having had any observations I set the course at noon on the 31st October S.; at 8 p.m. it was altered to S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E.; at 9:30 p.m. to S. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. At midnight it was set at S. 2° W. true.

Why did you not take the inward track, that is to the westward of the Paracels?—Because I took the track advised by the China Sea Directory.

Did you ever go that course before?—Yes, always.

When, in this monsoon?—In December 1893.

Where were you going then?—From Hongkong to Singapore.

Steamer?—Yes, the *Miike Maru*.

Did you experience much south-westerly drift then?—I have the record, and will read it—22 miles in 24 hours on the second day's run.

You had then a drift of about a mile an hour?—My experience is that there is no drift, no adverse current, for quite 200 miles after leaving Hongkong.

In a North-east monsoon you must allow a knot an hour?—That is your experience, sir, but I have not your experience to go by when I am navigating a ship. I have to go by the sailing directions and the advice of the China Sea Directory, and from all I can learn, I find that there is a varying current; sometimes it is non-existent.

What was the speed, the uniform speed, of the *Himeji Maru* during this time?—Ten knots by patent log.

That is from time of departure till the time of stranding?—Yes.

Witness, continuing—I have hitherto found that my patent-log has been generally correct; but I expected at this time, from my revolutions and the quarterly sea, that we were doing about $10\frac{1}{2}$ knots. It was an ordinary Cherub taffrail log. I worked the dead reckoning by the log, so in my calculations did not allow for the extra half-knot.

When you last altered your course S. 30° W. was that magnetic?—No, by compass—I expected it to make S. 32° W. true.

By calculation, what was your supposed distance from the eastern end of the Bombay Shoal then; you thought you had cleared the shoal and shaped your course accordingly?—Fifty-one miles due E. This position was assuming that we had had no south-westerly current whatever between Gap Rock and the supposed position. At 4 a.m. on the 31st, when the course was altered, I was not on the bridge. I was very unwell at the time, suffering from influenza, and I have the doctor's certificate who treated me for influenza while in Hongkong. I had been on the bridge till midnight, when thinking that I had got the ship into a safe place, I went below, and so did not get up when the course was not altered. I was not awake and the course was not reported to me. The chief officer changed the course at 4 a.m. without reporting to me, in accordance with the instructions written by me in the night order-book.

Were breakers not seen before striking?—Yes, just before the ship took the coral. They were

seen on the port bow—that was when the officer of the watch saw them, just before the ship struck.

That was the second officer?—No, the chief officer.

Did he report this to you at once, or attempt to stop the ship?—The helm was put hard-a-port and the engines were put full speed astern.

Those were the measures taken to avoid stranding?—Yes.

Any sails set at the time?—Yes, the fore and aft sails. The interval between putting helm hard-a-port, reversing the engines, and taking the coral was brief. The signal "full speed astern" was immediately followed by a slight shock.

What was the interval, a few minutes?—No, almost immediately.

Did you cast the lead at all?—Yes. The casts, directly she had struck, gave 4 fathoms just amidships; this was on the starboard side, just under the bridge. Soundings were taken several times during the day. The vessel took the reef in such a fashion that the bottom grazed the coral from the foremast aft, but with the bow hardly touching at all. There was no shock or concussion, the coral seeming to crumble away as the ship passed. She grazed the coral fair on both bilges. When the engines were stopped the apprentice officer came and called me. I was called after, or at the same time as, the ship struck. The engines kept going full speed astern up till 5:45 a.m., and a small boat was at once lowered to lay out a keedge. All hands had been called on deck at once. Day was just about breaking. A portion of the crew were employed in stowing sails, and the boat that was lowered took out a keedge and line from the starboard quarter—it was a 7 or 8 inch hawser. The depth of water into which the keedge was dropped I did not know at the time, but from soundings I obtained afterwards, I should say that it was from 5 to 6 fathoms. The keedge came home on heaving the hawser taut. The ship was quite steady on the reef then, but her stem was gradually inclined to swing round; there was no rolling or bumping.

How far was the ship then from the higher part of the reef, where the lagoon is?—A ship's length; it was visible at low water. The breakers were not very high the first day, no water coming on board. The ship made no water the first day. At daylight we swung out the life-boats and lowered the starboard life-boat. We swung out a spare bower anchor with a derrick, but as we attempted to get it into the boat a big roller came in and capsized the boat and her crew: these were subsequently picked up. After breakfast two life-boats were lowered on the port side and spars placed across them to carry the anchor out. All these operations were greatly hampered by the crew refusing to go into the boats; this was after the first life-boat had been capsized.

They actually refused to go?—Yes.

Did this stop operations?—No, I and the officers proceeded to get out the boats and anchor.

Capt. Tittle further said—What happened was this. The second officer had been hurt when the first life boat was capsized, so when the crew refused to lower the other boats the chief officer and myself, with the assistance of another officer, lowered the two port life-boats. Then we placed spars across them, on which to support the bower anchor. Then I got the small boat afloat to tow out the two life-boats, but there was not enough power in the boat to do this. I had by this time got some of the men into this boat, but they only pulled the boat under the ship's counter. Then a couple of rollers came along and capsized the two life-boats and the anchor was lost.

Mr. James—We will leave this, I think, till after lunch. The Court is adjourned till 1.30 o'clock.

Upon resuming,

Captain Tittle said—I did not succeed in running out the bower anchor owing to the men at first refusing to enter the boats and afterwards, when they did go down, they remained under the counter until the boats were overturned. Nothing could then be done. I had lost all the boats that could be used. I looked at the chart and then decided to send a boat—the life-boat—to Tourane Bay, on the mainland of Cochinchina. This I placed in charge of the second officer, instructing him to wire to the Company's agent in Hongkong, to ask for assistance. The boat arrived in safety, and on Tuesday, the 10th November, the German steamer *Siegfried* arrived; she had a salvage party on board. At the time of her arrival there was too much swell to allow of anything being done, and I asked the *Siegfried's* captain to come the following morning; there was too much sea to allow of the crew being taken off with safety. He stood off, as there was no place where he could anchor. There was no anchorage near us under the lee of the shore; no anchorage at all near the Bombay Shoal. The crew were taken off from Thursday morning, 12th November. We then had a smooth

sea, and at daylight the *Siegfried* sent her boats in to take the crew off: the transfer of the crew took from this time till 10 a.m. on the 13th November. We had a double crew, the *Himeji Maru's*, and a crew for a new ship building in England, and their transfer necessarily took some time. The *Siegfried* left at 10.30 on the 13th for Hongkong. The persons left on board now numbered seven—myself, second engineer, purser, chief steward, chief cook, one quartermaster, and a saloon-boy. I remained on board until the final abandonment of the ship. This took place on the 20th November at 3.30 p.m. I left in the *Siegfried* for Hongkong.

Mr. James—Now you said that the men refused to enter the boats and obey orders. Did they continue to refuse, from then on, to obey your lawful orders until they finally left the ship?—They did.

On what plea—was there any particular spokesman among them?—They refused after the first boat capsized, that was their plea.

They refused because it was dangerous, I suppose?—I do not know, they were all good swimmers. I don't suppose they cared to be ducked in the China Sea in cold weather?—They refused because one boat was capsized and the crew thrown into the water.

Was that crew picked up?—Yes.

Were they much exhausted?—No, not at all.

Did they refuse to do any duty on deck?—Yes, they refused to do any duty except just what they pleased: my orders were not carried out.

I want to know this, because it has an important bearing, and I want to bring them to their bearings later on?—They did not obey my orders, but simply did as they liked.

Was the life-boat's crew a volunteer crew, that which went to Tournay; or were they picked by yourself?—There was the Second Officer; two European steamer passengers who volunteered, and four Japanese whom I did not pick but whom I understood volunteered. There were seven men altogether.

It was a volunteer crew really?—Well, I told the Second Officer I wanted him to go, and he consented; I asked the two European passengers if they would go, and they consented, and then I said I wanted four Japanese, and they were forthcoming.

The Officers did not refuse duty, did they?—No.

What was the Purser doing all this time, did he assist you, or work against you?—He assisted by interpreting my orders.

Did he assist you in your difficulty or not?—He interpreted my orders.

Which were not obeyed?—Which were not obeyed.

Then he did not assist you?—He did not seem to have any control over the men.

But he pays the men?—Yes.

And he has authority over the men?—Not on the deck; he has charge of the steward's department, etc., and generally, as the senior Japanese officer on board, he has authority with the men. In this case he seemed to have no authority at all.

Neither, it seems, had you; they seemed to do what they liked?—Yes. The purser had no control.

They did as they liked?—Yes.

They listened to no one?—The purser's instructions to the men had no effect upon them; they listened to no one.

What was the condition of the ship when you left her?—There was water in all the holds, and in the engine-room stoke-hold. The water was as high inside as out, but it had free egress in the engine-room stoke hold alone. There was water in all compartments with the exception of the fore and aft peaks.

You had given up all hopes of saving the ship?—By the crew, yes.

The crew would not have saved the ship. I suppose you had given up all hopes of saving the ship when you left her?—Yes.

What were your reasons for thinking you were not effected by a current?—I allowed for a current by steering 50 miles east of the Shoal.

But you did not make any allowance for it on the first day?—No, sir. I was simply going by my experience in former voyages.

When you were in the *Miike Maru*, going down in December, 1893, do you remember the weather you had?—Yes. The wind was E.N.E., force 3, that was the first day. On the second it was N.E., force 3.

What current did you experience then, do you remember?—Yes, the first day's run of 173 miles, no current whatever. On the second day's run 255 miles, current S. 72° W., 22 miles.

Up to the time you left the bridge at midnight, on October 31st, how far, in your opinion, was the horizon visible?—I should certainly say, about two miles.

It is a very difficult thing to judge?—Yes, it is, sir. At times that night it might be less, during rain.

When you came on deck after the stranding, how far could you see?—The conditions of the weather, so far as I could judge, were just about the same as when I turned in at twelve; the horizon being about two miles distant.

Had you full confidence in the Chief Officer and Second Officer keeping a good watch?—Yes. I had only just joined the *Himeji Maru*, but from what I had seen of them they were both steady men, and I had full confidence in them. The usual men were on the look-out forward that night.

Were these men properly placed and relieved that night?—Yes.

Were they relieved at four, or was it just taking place when she struck?—They were relieved precisely at four o'clock.

How far did you consider, according to reckoning, that you had passed the Dido Shoal—did you see any breakers?—No, nothing was sighted.

No broken water was seen during the passage?—No, sir, none at all previous to the stranding.

Did you pass any vessels between Gap Rock and the time of stranding?—No, sir.

When were your compasses last adjusted?—The ship was last swung for deviation on 2nd June, 1896.

Who was the captain then?—Capt. K. Iwanaga.

Did you find anything wrong in the compasses coming down from Yokohama?—No, the deviation table worked out all right.

How often do they adjust compasses in the N.Y.K.—what is the regulation?—I do not know whether there is any special time; but about once a year, if the ship is employed on one special trade.

Had you any iron cargo on board, or anything likely to specially attract the compasses?—None.

You had copper on board, I think?—Yes.

How did you know?—By external appearance.

Are you sure it was copper?—Yes.

Where was it shipped?—In Yokohama.

You do not know who the shippers were, do you?—No, sir, I do not. It was stowed in the fore part of No. 4 hold.

On the night of your running down, was the smoke ahead of the ship?—The smoke would in no way have obstructed the view from the bridge.

The wind was on the quarter, then?—Yes, sir. On the port quarter.

You do not think, then, that although the sails were set and the wind on the port quarter, that the smoke would not prevent the officer of the watch from seeing the breakers before he did?—As far as I saw, up till midnight, the smoke did not obstruct the view in any way.

Mr. Nagaura—Considering, from your experience on the voyage from Hongkong to Singapore when in command of the *Miike Maru*, the *Himeji Maru* should not have drifted to the place where she stranded, whilst the force of the wind with the *Miike Maru* was 3, with a current of 22 knots on the second day, making a drift to the south-west, whilst with the *Himeji Maru* the wind was 5 with no current, how do you account for her drifting a distance of fifty miles?—By reason of an exceptional current.

Mr. James—These currents in the China Seas are not true currents, but are wind and wave drift?—Not always, sir, as I can prove by observations I have made. I have a report of a steamer also, which I could read.

You say an exceptional current, but you did not allow for it?—I did, by steering 50 miles off the Bombay Shoal. It may not appear in the working, but I did make the allowance by steering such a wide distance off the Shoal. The sailing directions go to show that this current is not a steady factor in the China Sea, as at times it is not encountered.

Mr. James—You may read what you have there but it won't be taken as evidence?—It may have a moral effect.

It depends upon whom the person is?—Quite so. The China Sea Directory that you speak of, what date was that, was it an old one?—1884 or 1885, Vol. III.

That is not a very modern one—the latest is 1890?—I could not find a latter one.

Have you it with you?—No.

Will you bring it with you next time, that is if it was not lost in the ship?—Very good, I did save same books, but whether this was among them I do not know.

What was your drift?—The actual drift was 54 miles; I steered 50 miles, and struck 4 miles inside the shoal.

Mr. James—This closes your evidence this day, but you may be called upon again, perhaps, to give evidence on some other points.

Capt. Tipple—But may I not give some evidence in regard to these exceptional currents? I have advanced the plea of an exceptional current, but

have given you no instances in support of it, there is nothing at present beside my word to bear me out.

Mr. James—You may read your cases if you like; what are they?

Capt. Tipple—Upon my arrival at Hongkong I made enquiries at the Harbour Master's to see if I could gain any information of exceptional currents being experienced. I could gain no official information, as no official reports had been made, but I heard that the steamer *Germania*, Capt. Ben Dickson, from Singapore to Hoihow, had been in the vicinity, that is of the Paracels, on the 1st November, and had experienced a most exceptional current of 50 miles in 12 hours.

Mr. James—Was he coming up or going down?

Capt. Tipple—Coming up.

Mr. James—Ah, well, you always experience a more severe current going against the wind and sea.

Capt. Tipple—Well, I heard that the captain had experienced this exceptional current at that date.

Mr. James—I don't credit it.

Capt. Tipple—I also found out that the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna* passed the Paracels on November 1st, and I beg to lay before you the Captain's report signed by the 1st and 2nd officers showing that she experienced a most exceptional current—N. 11° E. 45 miles in 24 hours.

Mr. James—There is no such current there.

Captain Tipple—Well, I ask you to read the Captain's report.

Mr. James—I see he has appended a note, "very unusual at this time of the year." Very unusual, I should think it is. They ought to write to the China Directory at once. I would not take it, however, as an authority.

Capt. Tipple—Very well, then, I can carry on. I have also heard on reliable authority that the steamer *Argyle* sailed from Hongkong to Singapore within a few hours of myself, and that she experienced a most abnormal current. I regret that I cannot lay the log report before you to-day, but I have written to Capt. Ward, who is now on a voyage to Calcutta, to furnish me with a copy of the report of the current that he experienced. I now put these letters for your perusal, including the report of the steamer *Palawan*.

Mr. James—That concludes your case, then. I will read over your depositions.

The depositions were signed by Capt. Tipple, and the Court rose, adjourning till 10 o'clock next morning.

H.M. SUPREME COURT, SHANGHAI.

(IN ADMIRALTY.)

Shanghai, 8th December.

(Before Sir NICHOLAS J. HANNEN, Chief Justice; Commander GRAFTON, of H.M.S. *Redpole*, and Mr. JAMES MOAR, Master of the steamer *Strathleven*, Assessors.)

THE OWNERS OF THE STEAMSHIP "ONWO," AND THE OWNERS OF THE STEAMSHIP "NEUCHWANG."

His Lordship, in giving judgment said:—This suit arises out of a collision which occurred on the 30th of April, 1896, at Woosung, at a point somewhere about half-way between the Feima lightship and the *Kwaching*. The *Onwo* was proceeding down the river on a voyage from Shanghai to Hankow and the *Neuchwang* was coming up the river on a voyage from Amoy to Shanghai.

The *Onwo* crossed the Woosung Inner Bar about 2.25 a.m. by the Feima Channel. When she came abreast of the Feima lightship, or a little before, she ported her helm to round it and a little while after she again ported. The cross-examination of the Plaintiffs' witnesses indicated that the *Neuchwang's* contention was that after passing the Feima lightship the *Onwo* went over to the Woosung side. We had no direct evidence in support of this contention, and I find as a fact, and the assessors agree with me, that the *Onwo* never was on the Woosung (i.e. the *Onwo's* port) side of mid-channel. As she came over the bar she was bound to show her green light to any ship down by the mouth of the Woosung Creek, but if she was, as alleged by the witnesses on the *Neuchwang*, green to green, this must have been owing to the direction of the bow of the *Neuchwang* and not on account of the *Onwo* being far over on the Woosung side of the river.

The *Onwo* proceeded after rounding the Feima Light on the usual and proper course, namely, on the starboard side of mid-channel. She saw the masthead and red lights of the *Neuchwang* off the mouth of the Woosung creek, and shortly after her red light was shut in and the green appeared. The *Neuchwang* came on and when close to the

Onwo blew two blasts on her whistle, starboarded her helm, and ran into the *Onwo* from 15 to 20 feet from the *Onwo's* stern. Just before the collision the *Onwo* hard-a-ported and blew one blast of her whistle. We have no evidence that any whistling on one ship was heard on the other, except the two blasts blown by the *Newchwang* just before the collision.

The point of collision was well over on the Pootung side of the channel.

The *Newchwang* came up the river and when she was a little below the mouth of Woosung Creek she saw the lights of a steamer crossing the bar. She stopped her engines and drifted on until, as her witnesses say, the approaching vessel showed her green light on the *Newchwang's* starboard bow. If the *Onwo's* green light ever was on the starboard bow of the *Newchwang* it must have been because the head of the *Newchwang* had swung round toward the Pootung side of the river. But, whatever was the reason, the master of the *Newchwang* then determined to come up the Pootung side of the channel. He came on, passing the *Kwashing* (which is well over on the Pootung side) within 60 feet;—when nearing the *Onwo* he blew two blasts of his whistle, starboarded, and reversed his engines. The collision followed; both vessels were injured and the *Onwo* sank causing a most lamentable loss of life both of Chinese and of foreigners.

Now it is plain that the *Newchwang* did not comply with Regulation 22. Her explanation is that the *Onwo* so acted as to make her believe that she was going down the Woosung side of the river. With regard to this I would adopt the words used in the case of the *Highgate*.—"It is only where a clear case of necessity is made out that a captain can excuse himself for not following the rule." (The *Highgate*—62 L. J. N. S. 841), and again in "The Test" it is said: "The principle of law that you are not to adhere to the strict rules of navigation but avoid an accident if possible, is a doctrine to be very carefully watched." "The Test" 5 N. of C. 278). With regard to the case of the *Commerce*, 3, William Robinson, 287, cited by Mr. Platt in support of his argument that the *Onwo* ought to have given way, it is to be observed that the Privy Council remarked that "though the principle involved in that case may be in itself a sound one it is one which should be applied very cautiously, and only where the circumstances are clearly exceptional. They conceive that to leave to masters of vessels a discretion as to observing or departing from the sailing rules, is dangerous to the public, and that, to require them to exercise such discretion except in a very clear case of necessity, is hard upon the masters themselves." (The *William Frederick* 4 App. Cas. 669.)

I put the following question to the Assessors:—Was the course of the *Onwo* after passing the Feima light such as to justify the *Newchwang* in concluding that the *Onwo* was going to take the Woosung side of the River? They answered this in the negative, and I must therefore hold the *Newchwang* to blame.

But the *Newchwang* alleges that Regulation 18 applied, and that the *Onwo* did not comply with it. I do not think it is denied by the owner of the *Onwo*, but anyway I find as a fact that the *Onwo* did not slacken speed, stop, or reverse; in fact her engines were going full speed ahead at the time of and after the collision. That being so it is for the *Onwo* to show why she did not comply with Article 18. So far as I can gather, her contention is that there never was risk of collision until the *Newchwang* had starboarded and that after that she had not an opportunity to stop and reverse. As to this, let us see what Mr. Cooper said:—"He was asked (p. 3) "When did you first see anything of the steamer which afterwards proved to be the *Newchwang*?"—Just about abeam of the Feima lightboat."

"What did you see?—I saw her red light and masthead light slightly on our port bow."

"In what part of the river was the vessel you saw then approaching?—I should say a little above Woosung Creek and well over on the Woosung side."

Was there any change in the lights of the approaching steamer?—Yes, she shut in her red light and showed her green.

Soon after, or a considerable time?—Shortly after I first sighted her.

The result of this evidence and an examination of the chart is that those on the *Onwo* must have known shortly after they sighted the *Newchwang* that she was coming up the wrong side of the channel.

In the case of *The Memnon*, 59, *Law Times*, at page 201, Lord Esher makes these remarks:—"Is a sailor justified when he sees another man navigating his ship in a hazardous manner and though not illegally" (the *Newchwang* was acting illegally) "yet in an unsafe way,—is he

justified in supposing that the man will only go to the extent he is then going in doing what is risky and hazardous."

The gentlemen who assist us agree that an officer is not justified in supposing that.

So here I think that when those on the *Onwo* saw that the *Newchwang* was coming within 60 feet of the *Kwashing* and was showing them her green light they ought to have realized that there was risk of collision.

Mr. Drummond relied greatly on the case of *Wilson, Sons & Co. v. Currie*, App. Cases 1894, p. 116, but that case is materially different from the present. There the *Thorsa*, which it was sought to hold jointly to blame with the *Otto*, stopped and reversed. But it was said that she ought to have stopped and reversed sooner. The Court held that she was not to blame for not having stopped and reversed sooner; and Lord Halsbury, at p. 121, says "when at last it was apparent to the master of the *Thorsa* that the master of the *Otto* was going to manœuvre as he ought not to have done, he stopped and reversed."

In the present case when ought it to have been apparent to the master of the *Onwo* that the master of the *Newchwang* was going to manœuvre as he ought not to have done? Mr. Cooper says they sighted the *Newchwang's* masthead and red light just about abeam of the Feima lightship and that shortly after she shut in her red and showed her green. The *Newchwang* came within 60 feet of the *Kwashing* still showing her green light. If any one looks at the chart he cannot help seeing that the *Newchwang* was not then on her proper side of the channel, and if she was showing her green light it must have been apparent to those on the *Onwo* that the *Newchwang* was manœuvring in an improper manner, and I think that that ought to have been apparent some time before the *Newchwang* was abreast of the *Kwashing*.

The question I put to the assessors was—When should those on board the *Onwo* have reasonably concluded that there was risk of collision? To this they replied "As soon as the *Newchwang* had passed the *Kwashing*."

Then in order to see if the *Onwo* could excuse herself in accordance with the maxims derived from the *Kedive* (5 App. cases 876, 902) and the *Benares* (9 P. D. 16) I asked the assessors the following question:—

"After that, had they the opportunity to stop and reverse?—Answer: "Yes, to stop and reverse the engines, but not the ship."

"Could they have stopped and reversed:—Answer. "Yes."

"Was the continuing to go full speed ahead the only chance of avoiding the collision?"—Answer, "No."

I must therefore hold the *Onwo* to blame for not complying with Regulation 18. Whether the collision could have been entirely avoided had she stopped and reversed when risk of collision arose may be doubted, but I have no doubt that the disastrous effects of the collision could have been greatly mitigated. I wish also once more to impress upon masters of vessels the absolute necessity of adhering to the Regulations. If those Regulations are carefully adhered to there need not be any great danger in navigating this river, but if they are not adhered to such collisions as that between the *Onwo* and the *Newchwang* will occur.

The judgment of the Court is that both ships were to blame and the usual decree will follow.—*N.-C. Daily News*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.)

London, December 12.

The North German Lloyd mail steamer *Salier*, bound from Bremen to Buenos Ayres, has been totally wrecked near Corunna, and all on board, numbering 275 souls, perished. There were no English passengers.

London, December 16.

Great indignation is felt in America owing to a rumour that General Maceo, the leader of the Cuban insurgents, has fallen through Spanish treachery. The Spaniards repudiate the charge.

The *Times* Athens correspondent states that a revolutionary movement is projected in Macedonia for next spring. The leaders of the movement propose, in order to create a diversion, to foment the revolt in Crete. Large quantities of munitions of war have already been sent to Crete.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, December 11.

A telegram published in Berlin states that the Dutch Consul at Lorenzo Marquez has been assaulted and wounded, the German Consulate attacked, and the British flag torn to pieces. No details are given, but it is added that Germany has demanded reparation from the authorities at Lisbon.

London, December 12.

The U.S. Republican party is about to frame a new Tariff Bill which will be submitted at an extraordinary session of Congress after March 4th. Reciprocity will be a feature of the new tariff, and it is understood that the average rates will be lower than the McKinley tariff but considerably above the present rates.

Exchange on London at Paris..... 25.25
" " " " New York..... 4.87

London, December 14th.

There is strong popular opposition in Venezuela to the agreement with Great Britain for arbitration, but the President and the Government approve the arrangement.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Hongkong, December 5.

Under telegraphic orders from the Admiralty, the dockyard officials are now fixing gear on the *Empress of Japan* for four guns and carriages.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, December 8.

The President of the United States in his Message to Congress says he cannot believe that the present sombre prospect in Turkey will be long permitted to offend the sight of Christendom.

London, December 9.

A French syndicate has offered to advance to the Egyptian Government half a million sterling, but the offer previously made by Great Britain has rendered needless the acceptance of this later offer.

England advances £200,000 this month, and further amounts as they may be required.

London, December 10.

The French Ministry intend proposing an immediate reform and increase of the Navy, involving an expense of two hundred millions of francs (£3,000,000 sterling).

The insurgent leader Maceo has been killed in the province of Havana.

It is reported that King Menelik of Abyssinia has ceded to Russia a strip of land on the coast near Obok, to be used as a coaling station.

(FROM TONKIN EXCHANGES.)

Paris, Dec. 1.

The Chamber, by 295 votes to 85, has demanded the immediate liberation of Deputy Chauvin, who was arrested in the socialist disturbances at Carmaux. The Cabinet acquiesced.

The Senate has adopted the measure promoted to prevent the introduction and circulation of counterfeit Indo-China coins into France.

Kobe, December 17.

The present stock of rice in Hyogo is 183,917 koku.

Bakan, December 16.

Marquis Ito has arrived here to-day from Miyajima.

Kyoto, December 17.

Lieut.-General Sakuma, Commandant of Middle Section Headquarters arrived here to-day. To-morrow he starts for Osaka.

Kanazawa, December 17.

About one hundred *toshi* of *Jiyu-to* assaulted Mr. Innan, Supervisor, on his return from the Court. This originated in some scandal regarding the Tetori River works.

Kochi, December 17.

Major-General Sakai, Commander of Brigade here, has returned.

Osaka, December 17.

Out of yen 1,400,000 which the Osaka Shosen Kaisha has been ordered to pay in by the 16th inst., yen 1,080,000 has been paid.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Band, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 267.

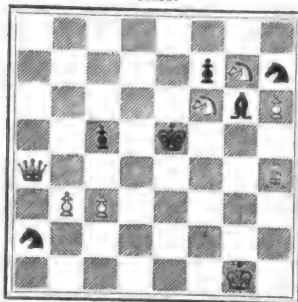
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—Q to K 8 | 1—P takes Kt |
| 2—Kt to Kt 5 ch. | 2—K to B 4 |
| 3—Q to B 8, mate | |
| | 1—K takes Kt |
| 2—Q to K 6 ch. | 2—K takes Kt |
| 3—Q to Q 6, mate | |
| | 1—K to K 4 or B 4 |
| 2—Q to B 6 ch. | 2—K takes Kt |
| 3—B to Q 3, mate. | |

Correct answers from W.H.S., Shogi, W.D.C., J.D., W.d.H., Sigma, N.E., and Omega.

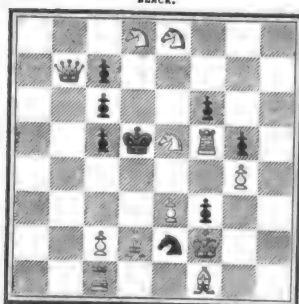
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 268.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—Q to Q 8 | 1—B takes Q |
| 2—B to B 6, mate | |
| | 1—R takes B |
| 2—Kt takes P, mate, | |
| etc., etc. | |

Correct answers from W.H.S., W.D.C., XX., J.D., Shogi, W.d.H., Sigma, N.E., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 271.
By ZDENEK MACH.

WHITE.
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 272.
By J. P. TAYLOR.

WHITE.
White to play and mate in two moves.

PROBLEM No. 270.

By an unfortunate error the Black Queen was printed for the Black King, as notified in our editorial columns of Monday, 14th inst.

Moscow.

Not hearing any news for the past three weeks, we sent a telegraphic enquiry as to the state of affairs, and received the following reply last night:—"Match stopped by the illness of Steinitz—present score, Lasker 6, Steinitz 4; drawn 4." No mention is made of the probable time when play will be resumed. It seems probable that the adjournment must have taken place about a fortnight ago. We anxiously await further news.

BUDAPEST.

We reprint from the *Scotsman* three of the best games as under:—

GAME No. 620.
BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| WHITE.
Charousek. | BLACK.
Tschigorin. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—P to K B 4 | 2—P takes P |
| 3—B to B 4 | 3—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 4—P to Q 4 | 4—Kt to B 3 |
| 5—P to K 5 | 5—P to Q 4 |
| 6—B to Kt 3 | 6—B to Kt 5 |
| 7—Q to Q 3 | 7—Kt to K R 4 |
| 8—Kt to K R 3 | 8—Kt to Kt 5 |
| 9—Q to Q B 3 | 9—Kt to R 3 |
| 10—Castles | 10—B to K 7 |
| 11—B to R 4 ch. | 11—P to Q B 3 |
| 12—K B takes P ch. | 12—P takes B |
| 13—Q takes P ch. | 13—K to K 2 |
| 14—Kt takes P | 14—Kt takes Kt |
| 15—B takes Kt | 15—P to R 3 |
| 16—Kt to B 3 | 16—B to B 5 |
| 17—P to K 6 | 17—R to B sq. |
| 18—B to B 7 | 18—P takes P |
| 19—B takes Q ch. | 19—R takes B |
| 20—Q to Kt 7 ch. | 20—R to Q 2 |
| 21—R to B 7 ch. | 21—K takes R |
| 22—Q takes R ch. | 22—B to K 2 |
| 23—R to K sq. | 23—R to K sq. |
| 24—P to Q Kt 3 | 24—Resigns. |

GAME No. 621.
RUY LOPEZ.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| WHITE.
Tschigorin. | BLACK.
Tarrasch. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to Kt 5 | 3—Kt to B 3 |
| 4—Q to K 2 | 4—P to Q 3 |
| 5—P to Q 4 | 5—P takes P |
| 6—P to K 5 | 6—P to Q 6 |
| 7—B P takes P | 7—P takes P |
| 8—Kt takes P | 8—B to Q Kt 5 ch. |
| 9—B to Q 2 | 9—Castles |
| 10—B takes Kt | 10—B takes B ch. |
| 11—Kt takes B | 11—P takes B |
| 12—Kt takes Q B P | 12—Q to Q 3 |
| 13—Kt to K 7 ch. | 13—R to R sq. |
| 14—Kt takes B | 14—Q R takes Kt |
| 15—Castles (K) | 15—R R to Q sq. |
| 16—Kt to K 4 | 16—Q takes Q P |
| 17—Q takes Q | 17—R takes Q |
| 18—Kt takes Kt | 18—P takes Kt |
| 19—K R to Q sq. | 19—Q R to Q sq. |
| 20—R takes R | 20—R takes R |
| 21—P to K Kt 3 | 21—R to Q 7 |
| 22—R to Q B sq. | 22—R takes Kt P |
| 23—R takes P | 23—R takes R P |
| 24—R takes B P | 24—R to R 3 |
| 25—K to Kt 2 | 25—K to Kt sq. |
| 26—R to Q Kt 7 | 26—R to R 7 |
| 27—P to R 4 | 27—P to Q R 3 |
| 28—K to B 3 | 28—P to R R 4 |
| 29—R to Q B 7 | 29—R to R 4 |
| 30—K to B 4 | 30—K to B sq. |
| 31—P to B 3 | 31—K to Kt sq. |
| 32—R to Q R 7 | 32—K to B sq. |
| 33—P to K 4 | 33—P takes P |
| 34—P takes P | 34—R to R 8 |
| 35—K to B 5 | 35—R to K B 8 ch. |
| 36—K to Kt 6 | 36—R to B 5 |
| 37—P to Kt 5 | 37—P takes P |
| 38—P takes P | 38—R to Q R 5 |
| 39—R to R 8 ch. | 39—K to K 2 |
| 40—K to R 6 | 40—P to R 4 |
| 41—P to Kt 6 | 41—R to R 8 |
| 42—P to Kt 7 | 42—R to K R 8 ch. |
| 43—K to Kt 6 | 43—R to K Kt 8 ch. |
| 44—K to R 7 | 44—R to K R 8 ch. |
| 45—K to Kt 8 | 45—R to O R 8 |
| 46—R to R 7 ch. | 46—K to R sq. |
| 47—R to R 6 | 47—R to K R 8 |
| 48—R takes P | 48—R to K 8 |
| 49—R to K R 5 | 49—R to K Kt 8 |
| 50—R to K 5 ch. | 50—K to Q 2 |
| 51—K to R 7 | 51—Resigns. |

GAME No. 622.

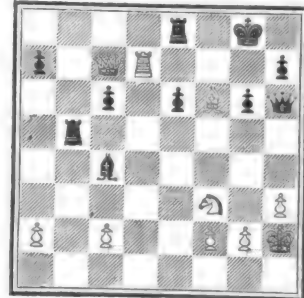
QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| WHITE.
Filarbury. | BLACK.
Walbrodt. |
| 1—P to Q 4 | 1—P to Q 4 |
| 2—P to Q B 4 | 2—P to K 3 |
| 3—Kt to Q B 3 | 3—Kt to K B 3 |
| 4—B to Kt 5 | 4—B to K 2 |
| 5—P to K 3 | 5—P to Q B 3 |
| 6—Kt to B 3 | 6—Q Kt to Q 2 |
| 7—B to Q 3 | 7—B to Q 3 |
| 8—Castles | 8—Castles |
| 9—P to K 4 | 9—P takes K P |
| 10—Kt takes P | 10—B to K 2 |
| 11—Q to K 2 | 11—R to K sq. |
| 12—Q R to Q sq. | 12—Kt takes Kt |
| 13—B takes B | 13—Q takes B |

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 14—Q takes Kt | 14—Kt to B sq. |
| 15—R R to K sq. | 15—B to Q 2 |
| 16—P to B 5 | 16—Q R to Q sq. |
| 17—Kt to K 5 | 17—B to B sq. |
| 18—Kt to B 4 | 18—R to Q 4 |
| 19—Kt to Q 6 | 19—K R to Q sq. |
| 20—R to K 3 | 20—Kt to Kt 3 |
| 21—R to B 3 | 21—R to B sq. |
| 22—B to B 4 | 22—R to Kt 4 |
| 23—R takes P | 23—R takes R |
| 24—Kt takes B | 24—Q to B 3 |
| 25—B takes P | 25—Q takes P ch. |
| 26—K to R sq. | 26—R to B 4 |
| 27—Q takes R | 27—Q takes Q |
| 28—B takes Q | 28—R takes B |
| 29—K to Kt sq. | 29—Kt to B sq. |
| 30—Kt to Q 6 | 30—P to Kt 3 |
| 31—P to Q Kt 4 | 31—Kt to B 5 |
| 32—R to Q 2 | 32—Kt to Q 4 |
| 33—P to Q R 3 | 33—R to B 5 |
| 34—P to Kt 5 | 34—R to B 6 |
| 35—Kt to B 4 | 35—P to Q Kt 4 |
| 36—Kt to K 5 | 36—R takes R P |
| 37—Kt takes P | 37—P to Q R 4 |
| 38—Kt takes P | 38—Kt takes P |
| 39—R to Q Kt 2 | 39—R takes Kt |
| 40—R takes Kt | 40—R to R 5 |
| 41—R takes R | 41—P takes R |
| 42—P to B 6 | 42—Resigns. |

The following remarkable position occurred in a game played recently at the Melbourne Chess Club between Mr. Jones and Mr. Burns, the latter giving the odds of Pawn and 2 moves.

BLACK.—MR. BURNS.



WHITE.—MR. JONES.

It is difficult to see how Black can avert being mated in a few moves. He saved the game as follows:—

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1..... | 1—R to Kt 2 |
| 2—Q takes R (best) | 2—Q to B 5 ch. |
| 3—P to Kt 3 | 3—Q takes B |
| 4—R takes P | 4—B to Q 4 |
| 5—R to R 4 | 5—Q to K 2 |
| 6—Q takes Q | 6—R takes Q |

and the game was ultimately drawn.

The following interesting game is sent us by our esteemed contributor W.D.C. Dr. Lasker is no mean expert although inferior to his younger brother the renowned Emanuel:—

GAME No. 623.
ALLGAIER GAMBIT.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| WHITE.
G. Hildebrandt. | BLACK.
Dr. E. Lasker. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—P to K B 4 | 2—P takes P |
| 3—Kt to K B 3 | 3—P to K B 3 |
| 4—P to K R 4 | 4—P to K Kt 5 |
| 5—Kt to Kt 5 | 5—P to K R 2 |
| 6—Kt takes B P | 6—K takes Kt |
| 7—B to B 4 ch. | 7—P to Q 4 |
| 8—B takes P ch. | 8—K to Kt 2 |
| 9—P to Q 4 | 9—Kt to K B 3 |
| 10—B takes P | 10—Kt takes B |
| 11—P takes Kt | 11—Q takes P (Q 5) |
| 12—B to K 5 ch. | 12—R to R 2 |
| 13—Kt to B 3 | 13—Q to Q 2 |
| 14—P to Q 5 | 14—B to Kt 2 |
| 15—Castles | 15—R to K sq. |
| 16—B takes B | 16—K takes B |
| 17—Q to Q 4 ch. | 17—K to Kt sq. |
| 18—Kt to K 4 | 18—R takes Kt |
| 19—Q takes R | 19—Q to Kt 2 |
| 20—Q to K 8 ch. | 20—K to R 2 |
| 21—R to B 7 | 21—Kt to R 3 |
| 22—Q R to K B sq. | 22—Resigns. |

GAME No. 624.

The following game, given by the *Morning Post*, as having occurred between two amateurs recently, may be regarded as a curiosity:—

CENTRE GAMBIT.

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—P to Q 4 | 2—P takes P |

3—Q takes P 3—Kt to Q B 3
 4—Q to Q sq. 4—Kt to B 3
 5—B to Q 3 5—P to Q 4
 6—Q to R 2 6—P takes P
 7—B takes P 7—Kt to Q 5
 8—B to B 6 mate.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE
 From Hongkong per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Dec. 20th.
 From America per P. M. Co. Friday, Dec. 18th.
 From Canada, &c. per C. P. R. Co. Monday, Dec. 22nd.
 From Europe, via Hongkong per M. M. Co. Saturday, Dec. 19th.
 From America per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Dec. 20th.
 From Europe, via Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Wednesday, Dec. 24th.
 From Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Dec. 27th.
 From Hongkong per C. P. R. Co. Thursday, Dec. 23rd.

* *Captia* left Hongkong on December 10th. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco on December 1st. ‡ *Empress of China* left Vancouver on December 8th. § *Tamara* left Kobe on December 18th. ¶ *Doris* left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 10th. ** *Hollandia* left Hongkong on December 16th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Yamashiro Maru*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES
 For Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Dec. 20th.
 For Victoria, B.C. per N. P. Co. Monday, Dec. 22nd.
 For America per C. P. R. Co. Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.
 For Europe, via Hongkong per N. D. Lloyd Friday, Dec. 26th.
 For Portland per O. R. & N. Co. Sunday, Dec. 27th.
 For Europe, via Shanghai per M. M. Co. Sunday, Dec. 27th.
 For America per P. M. Co. Thursday, Dec. 31st.
 For Canada, &c. per C. P. R. Co. Friday, Jan. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Furukawa, 13th December, Yokosuka 13th December.
Saiyen (12), Japanese ironclad, Captain T. Kashiwabara, 13th December, Yokosuka 13th December.
Skull, Norwegian steamer, 914, Raffin, 13th December, Hongkong, Sugar.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Toyouhashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, Horton, 13th December, Kobe 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 13th December, Yokkaichi 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Polyphamus, British steamer, 1,813, Goodwin, 14th December, Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 12th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 14th December, Yokkaichi 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Furukawa, 14th December, Yokosuka 14th December.
Fred. E. Sanders, American schooner, 440, 15th December, Port Townsend 16th October, Lumber.—R. Isaacs & Bro.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 15th December, Yokkaichi 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Ono, 15th December, Kobe 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shigaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 15th December, Kobe 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Buccleuch, British ship, 1,934, E. Tedford, 16th December, New York 21st July, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.
Dimitri Donskoi (20), Russian cruiser, Captain Vitget, 16th December, Kobe 14th December.
Tsinan, British steamer, 1,459, Geo. Ramsay, 16th December, Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 16th December, Ise 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, J. Truebridge, 16th December, Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 27th November, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.
Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 17th December, Otaru via ports, 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Moyune, British steamer, C. H. Kemp, 17th December, Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, and Kobe 16th December, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Sunda, British steamer, 2,650, E. H. Gordon, 17th December, London via ports, 22nd October,

and Kobe 16th December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Prince Robert, Norwegian ship, 2,654, H. A. Hansen, 17th December, Middlesbrough 9th July, Coke and Pig Iron.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Yeiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 17th December, Otaru via ports, 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 18th December, Yokkaichi 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 18th December, Shanghai via ports, 12th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 19th December, Yokkaichi 18th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tamarind, Norwegian steamer, John Dannevig, 19th December, Shanghai 13th December, Cotton and Cottonseed.—Chinese.

DEPARTURES.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 12th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, Tibbals, 12th December, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Lorenzen, 13th December, Moji, Ballast.—H. Grauert & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 13th December, San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, Flandin, 13th December, Shanghai via Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kwannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Anno, 13th December, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,656, T. Iki, 13th December, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Furukawa, 14th December, Yokosuka.

Saiyen (12), Japanese ironclad, Captain T. Kashiwabara, 14th December, Shinagawa.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 14th December, Hauda and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 14th December, London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, D. Ono, 15th December, Hauda and Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyouhashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, Horton, 15th December, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, R. Swain, 15th December, Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Naniwa Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Furukawa, 15th December, Yokosuka.

Sumbawa, British barque, 1,066, Carl Rehberg, 16th December, Hongkong, Ballast.—Captain.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Rend, 16th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, Ono, 17th December, Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, M. Vagi, 17th December, Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 18th December, Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Shigaura Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Suda, 18th December, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, Fukui, 18th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, British steamer, 2,608, J. Truebridge, 19th December, Hongkong via Kobe and Moji, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Polyphamus, British steamer, 1,813, Goodwin, 19th December, New York via Suez Canal, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Skull, Norwegian steamer, 914, Raffin, 19th December, Moji, Ballast.—Captain.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Allen, Miss Bristowe, Mr. Inglis, Mr. L. S. Lewis, Comte de Pimodan, Mr. J. Schroeder, Mr. G. Brockhurst, and Miss Williams in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Olympia*, from Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. P. E. F. Stone, Mr. W. S. Gage, Jun., Mrs. A. G. Smith, Mr. W. King, Mr. and Mrs. J. Henderson, Miss B. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Schuler, Mr. K. Imaizumi, and Mr. J. A. Gotteberg in cabin; 190 Chinese and 17 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Moyune*, from Glasgow and Liverpool, via ports:—Captain Evans in cabin.

Per British steamer *Sunda*, from Hongkong:—Mr. C. Wright in cabin. From Kobe:—Mr. E. W. Rutter and Mr. A. Souza in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. E. L. Descours, Mr. J. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. James Martin, Mr. G. P. Denbigh, Mr. H. R. Raspe, Rev. A. F. King, and Mr. H. Thies in cabin; Mr. S. Satake, Mr. T. Oye, Mrs. I. Oye, Mr. V. Hamada, Mr. T. Ikeda, Mr. K. Kuroda, Mr. O. Kobayashi, Mr. K. Sagara, Mr. Ohtal, Mr. S. Onodera, Mr. A. Skiller, and Mrs. H. Hamano in second class, and 43 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. C. O. Gill and Mr. G. G. Loteman in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Messrs. M. W. Kochen, L. D. Abraham, H. MacArthur, H. Joseph, J. Delbourgo, Andreas Strauw, F. Gillard, Mrs. J. Ling, Messrs. J. Lepere, J. H. Whitake, E. Eglard, A. G. Wise, A. Wohlgemuth, Miss J. Dupont, Mr. and Mrs. A. Henning, and Mr. and Mrs. Speirs in cabin; 67 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Kobe:—Miss J. Lee, Mr. François, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Hamaguchi, and Mr. M. Yabe in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Kodama, Miss Kodama, Mrs. S. Matsui, and Mrs. M. Matsui in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. W. H. Devin, Mr. H. M. Bowring, and Mr. and Mrs. C. Lucini in cabin; Mr. K. Yamada and Mr. G. H. Martell in second class. For Shanghai:—Mr. T. Nakagawa in cabin; 62 passengers in steerage in all.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	ST. LOUIS	MOBILE	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	1,208	812	—	—	—	2,020
Yokohama	—	—	200	350	—	450
Hongkong	1,298	—	—	—	—	1,298
Total	2,506	812	200	350	—	3,768

	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	ST. LOUIS	MOBILE	OTHER	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	179	—	—	—	179
Hongkong	—	150	—	—	—	150
Yokohama	—	935	15	—	—	950
Total	—	1,264	15	—	—	1,279

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai via Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,012 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 457 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Olympia*, Captain J. Truebridge, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 27th November at 6 a.m., and Victoria, B.C., the same day at 6 p.m.; experienced strong southerly and westerly winds with high seas to the 180 meridian, which was crossed on the 6th December in lat. 51° north; thence to port, fresh westerly gales; passed Inuboys the 16th at noon. Arrived at Yokohama at 11 p.m.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For LONDON via Ports, Quick Despatch, the "PYRRHUS."—Butterfield & Swire.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, December 20th, at Daylight, the "VERONA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.

For AUSTRALIA and New Zealand, via Kobe and Hongkong, December 20th, the "TSINAN."—Butterfield & Swire.

For TACOMA, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., December 21st, at Noon, the "TACOMA."—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

For HONGKONG, via Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, December 21st, the "EMPEROR OF CHINA."—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.
 For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, December 22nd, at 11 a.m., the "COPTIC."—O. & O.S.S. Co.
 For SHANGHAI, via Kobe, Shimonoeki, and Nagasaki, December 22nd, at Noon, the "SAIKIO MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 For SEATTLE, WASH., via Honolulu, December 23rd, at Noon, the "TENSIN MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 For SHIMONOEKI, Hongkong, Singapore, Colombo, Port Said, Marseilles, Newcastle, Antwerp, Zandam, and London, Dec. 24th, at Noon, the "KAGOSHIMA MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
 For HONGKONG, via Kobe and Nagasaki, December 25th, at 10 a.m., the "HOHENZOLLERN."—Norddeutscher Lloyd.
 For PORTLAND, Oregon, December 27th, at Daylight, the "CHITTAGONG."—Samuel Samuel & Co.
 For LONDON, via Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, and other intermediate ports, December 27th, at Daylight, the "SUNDA."—P. & O. S.N. Co.
 For SAN FRANCISCO, via Honolulu, December 31st, the "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."—P. M. S.S. Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market has fallen back again into practical stagnation. Yarns—No business. Shirtings—Nothing doing. Fancies—Dead, with the exception of a few sales of Turkey Reds. Woollens dormant; in spite of the cold weather.

COTTON PRICE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	—
Grey Shirtings—9 yds, 38 yds, 45 inches	—
1. Cloth—7 yds, 34 yds, 39 inches	\$1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 21 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italiana and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.32
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 yds, 24 1/2 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de Laine—1 yds, 34 yds, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.15 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 51 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 yds	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PIECE.
Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$36.00 to 38.00
Nos. 18 32, Singles	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 38 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	48.50 to 49.50
Nos. 80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 200, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 200, Gassed	75.00 to 80.00
Nos. 200, Gassed	Nominal
Nos. 200, Gassed	120.00 to 130.00

METALS.

Better feeling generally with more demand looming up in the distance, although present sales are not large. Still importers are hopeful of the future, and wear a more cheerful aspect than for months past.

	PER PIECE.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.75 1/2

KEROSENE.

No good word in this market. Buyers have it their own way, and with holders ready to meet them, they will not operate.

American	\$2.20 to 2.25
Russian	2.30 to 2.35
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—A fair amount of business was done early in the week, but all is now quiet again. Formosa sorts have been quiet neglected and did not participate in the business done. White—Moderate business for the time of year, prices firm.

	PER PIECE.
drown Takao	\$3.00 to 4.00
Brown Manila	4.40 to 5.10
Brown Daitong	3.70 to 3.80
Brown Canton	3.60 to 4.40
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Redhead	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.
RAW SILK.

Easy market and considerable trade done at irregular prices. The position is in buyers' favour, sellers wanting to realise for Shogatsu.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/15, 10/12 den.	Nom. \$770 to 780
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 720 to 730
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	Nom. 690 to 700
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Nom. 690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	Nom. 660 to 670
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 660 to 670
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Nom. 660 to 670
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	Nom. 630 to 635
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 690 to 700
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 670 to 680
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 660 to 665
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 640 to 650

WASTE SILK.

Rather less doing, but market strong and prices unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Hushu, Good	120 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshi, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

Small business, prices well maintained, but assortment poor, and very little stock left from which to make choice.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom.
Choice	\$26 to \$28

Finest	24 to 25
Fine	22 to 23
Good Medium	20 to 21
Medium	18 to 19
Good Common	16 to 17
Common	14 to 15

EXCHANGE.

Very steady all through the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/11 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/11 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/2 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2/70
— Private 4 months' sight	2/75
On Hongkong—Bank sight	par.
— Private 10 days' sight	1 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight	72 1/2
On India—Bank sight	166
— Private 30 days' sight	175
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	54
On Germany—Bank sight	2.18 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	30

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Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammation. Mr. J. T. Coates, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1891, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a ten, spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock.'"

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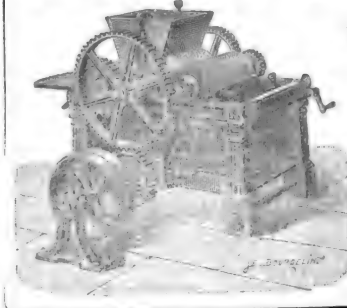
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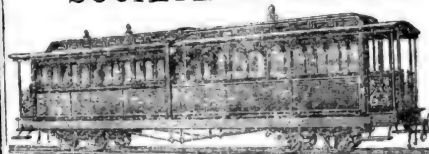
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June, 1896.

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Printed and Published for the Proprietor, at 51, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 58, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1896.

The Japan Weekly Mail.

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No. 26.]

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O.
AS A NEWSPAPER.

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 26TH, 1896.

月三年五十二治明 Vol. XXVI.
西曆一千九百零六年十二月二十六日

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 26TH, 1896.

BIRTH.

At 60, Main Street, Yokohama, on Dec. 21st, the wife of H. J. SHARP of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 19th inst., by the Rev. G. M. Meacham, MAY OASTLER BURDIE, of Yokohama, to LOUIS MARTIN WILLIAMS, of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

RINDERPEST broke out in a herd at Nara Ken on the 16th inst.

RINDERPEST is very rife at Yayeyama-gun, Okinawa Ken.

Snow fell in Yokohama on Tuesday—an unusually early date.

HIS MAJESTY formally opened the tenth session of the Imperial Diet yesterday.

THE new fortifications in Naruto Straits will be commenced at an early date, the land required

having already been purchased by the Authorities.

HENCEFORTH the Yokohama Sailing Club will be known as the Yokohama Yacht Club.

WAR Loan Bonds and Redemption Loan Bonds are at present without purchasers in Japan.

THE South of England has beaten the Northern Counties, under Rugby rules, by one try to nil.

H.M.S. *Grafton* defeated the home team at Association football on Saturday by two goals to one.

THE date of the Carew trial has been altered to the 5th prox., to suit the convenience of jurymen.

THE Spanish Minister of Marine has issued orders to hasten the completion of the warships now building.

MR. HATUYAMA KAZUO is the new President of the House of Representatives. He belongs to the *Shimpo-to*.

FOR the third time Wor. Bro. R. N. St. John has been installed Worshipful Master of the Yokohama Lodge.

TWO Meteorological Observatories are to be established at Dainan and Koshun, Formosa, during January next.

IT is reported that Mr. Hara Yoro will be appointed Superintendent Engineer of the Formosan Railway Company.

THERE have been several fires in the Japanese parts of Yokohama this week. A theatre and some thirty houses have been destroyed.

IMPERIAL Ordinance No. 204, relating to Japanese who crossed to Korea without permission from the authorities, has been abolished.

ON the 17th inst., at three a.m., a fire took place at Miyako, Rikuchu Province, and about two hundred and thirty houses were destroyed.

THE trouble of the cotton-spinners of the Hyogo district, in regard to the decoying of women-operatives, is rapidly coming to a head.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO, Commandant of the Japanese Standing Squadron, hoisted his flag on the *Chinyen* on the 20th inst.

MR. PEYTON JAUDON, to the deep regret of his many friends in Japan, passed away in this sixty-sixth year, at his residence in Tokyo, on Wednesday.

THE District Grand Wardens of the District Grand Lodge of Japan for the ensuing year are Wor. Bros. E. P. Fallister, of Tokyo, and A. Kirby, of Kobe.

THE *Kanagawa Maru*, the *Kamakura Maru*, and the *Hakata Maru*, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, built in England, will arrive in Yokohama about February next.

IT is stated that the Korean Government will borrow from the Ro-Shin Ginko (Russia-China Bank) yen 3,000,000 with which the Government intends to pay off her debts to Japan.

BARON DE COURCEL, French Ambassador to Great Britain, resigns the Embassy in London, being discouraged by the difficulty of a solution of the existing Anglo-French differences.

DON ANTONIO CANOVAS, the Spanish Prime Minister, in an interview with Reuter's representative at Madrid, said he relied on the statesmanship of President Cleveland and Mr. Olney and the good sense of the more sober citizens

of America, to prevent war between the two countries, but Spain, he declared, was determined to uphold her dignity and was preparing against all eventualities.

THE crew appointed to bring home the *Yashima Kan* from England left Yokohama on Thursday for England by the *Kagoshima Maru* of the N.Y.K.

THE officers and cadets of the *Fuso Kan* who were so victorious at the regatta held on the Sumida River on the 18th inst., came up to Tokyo from Yokosuka in a small boat, rowing all the way.

MR. YAMADA YOSABURO, a wealthy farmer at Otsu-gun, Yamaguchi Ken, died some time ago at the age of sixty-six. Before he died he contributed yen ten thousand to three Primary Schools in the district.

DURING the week the Girl's High School, and Winton House School, Yokohama, have held their prize-distributions. Miss Hilda Watson is the head pupil of the former; Bowden mi. head of the latter institution.

THE Senate of the United States of America have taken up a strong position in regard to Cuba, and in consequence the Governors of several American States declare they are ready to raise volunteers to fight Spain if necessary.

THE Norwegian steamer *Tamarind* was towed into port on Thursday morning with her tail-shaft broken. The vessel was towed into Yokohama by one of the Tateyama passenger-boats, which received \$5,000 for the job.

THE Spanish Government has purchased the steamer *Alaska*, of the Guion line, and will convert her into a transport for service in connection with the rebellions in Cuba and the Philippines. The *Alaska* is a steamship of 5,500 tons gross.

A SHARP earthquake was experienced on Dec. 17th in the Central, Southern, and Western counties of England and also in the suburbs of London. The most serious shock was felt at Hereford, where the Cathedral, the station, and a number of houses were damaged.

IT is stated that at a Council Cabinet held on Tuesday, a dispute arose between the Premier, Count Matsukata, and the Home Minister, Count Kabayama, regarding the revision of the newspaper regulations. The result is at present kept secret, but will be laid before the Diet.

SILK sold in Yokohama on Wednesday included:—30 cases to Siber, Breunwald & Co., No. 90A; 64 cases to F. Herb, No. 76; 41 cases to Walsh, Hall & Co., No. 2; 8 cases to Varenne & Co., No. 206; and 9 cases to Hutchison & Co., No. 179.

THE Import trade is best described as in a general state of stagnation—Manchester goods, Metals, Kerosene, Sugar, &c., &c., all being absolutely lifeless. There are enquiries certainly, but these lead to little or no actual business. But there are also people who believe in a revival so soon as the New Year is fairly launched and the holidays are over. On the other hand, there are many that are not so sanguine of an early resumption of business on a liberal scale. As to Exports, the two principal articles, Silk and Tea, are about as quiet as it is possible for them to be. In regard to the former, the settlements have been next to nil, and the season for the latter is over, there being no more leaf to come in and the few piculs on this market are mainly poor and common stuff. Exchange, which weakened slightly during the week, closes firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

After long throes of parturition the Bill for amending the Press Law is said to have been definitely carried through the Cabinet, but not in a sense satisfactory to the *Shimpo-to*. The *Yomiuri* and the *Mainichi* have been informed from trustworthy sources that the Cabinet has decided to retain the suspension clause in matters relating to the Imperial Court, to military and diplomatic secrets, to public morals, and to the preservation of social order. But the power of suspending a journal is no longer to be arbitrarily exercised. In the event of newspapers offending within the above limits the Home Minister or the Minister of Colonization—the latter in the case of journals published in Formosa—will be competent to suspend the publication of the offending sheet, but must prosecute it before a Court of Law and obtain the latter's judgment within a week from the issue of the order of suspension. As for the power of suppression, it is to be entirely taken away from the Administration and vested in the Judiciary.

Needless to say, the above two papers do not hesitate to accuse the Cabinet of want of courage and resolution to effect satisfactory amendments. They stigmatize the Ministers of State as chicken-hearted and invertebrate. If conclusive indications are furnished by the tone of these *Shimpo-to* organs, the plain inference is that the members of the Party are divided in opinion on this crucial topic. The Parliamentary representatives of the *Shimpo-to* have held repeated conferences as to whether they ought to frame and introduce a Bill of their own, totally excising the obnoxious clauses, but they have not arrived at any decision. It is alleged that about 12 members, representing north-eastern constituencies, have made up their minds to stand for the total rescission. They met on the 19th inst., and resolved that, in the event of the Government's failing to introduce a thoroughly satisfactory measure of amendment, they must sever their connection with the *Shimpo-to*.

The Liberals are not less troubled by internal dissensions. Some sixteen members, who entertain a feeling of umbrage against the Tosa section, are believed to have been won over by certain Cabinet Ministers, and rumour attributes to the existence of a secret understanding in that sense, the fact that these members declined to vote for Mr. Kono Hironaka, although his election to the presidency of the Lower House was desired by the Party at large. This news would appear to rest on more or less trustworthy foundation, if we may judge from articles published in the *Kokumin* and the *Meiji*, the latter a journal friendly to the Liberals. The *Kokumin* argues that though a rupture among the Liberals would be conducive to the interests of the Cabinet, the latter ought not to adopt any unworthy method of compassing such an end. It adds that the pro-Government section in the ranks of the Liberals could easily be induced to sever connection with the party, or to hoist their own standard, and it concludes that the Liberals are in imminent danger of a split. The *Meiji* can not easily believe such a rumour, but thinks that the mere fact of its circulation must seriously impair the credit of the Party. The Liberal leaders should adopt resolute steps to drive out "the worms that are secretly eating at the Party's core." In another article the same paper grieves to see members perverting their honourable position into a means for furthering their own sordid purposes.

The *Nippon* is highly satisfied with the withdrawal of the Imperial Ordinance issued last May for controlling the passage of Japanese to Korea. Our chauvinist contemporary denounces the ordinance as a relic of the weak foreign policy of the Ito Cabinet, and declares it to have been not only useless but even positively injurious, inasmuch as local officials, under whose

control the granting of passages was placed, failed to discriminate between persons that ought to be freely allowed to go to Korea and persons that ought to be kept at home, the result being that affairs in Korea went from bad to worse. The *Nippon* does not wish to have Korean matters hastily meddled with at this juncture. It advises Japan not to be easily stirred from the even tenour of her way, but, on the other hand, to spare no means calculated to promote the prosperity and improve the relations of the two neighbouring peoples. The operation of the now-rescinded Ordinance interfered with the consummation of these important ends.

The *Nichi Nichi* and the *Tokyo Shimbun* are entirely opposed to the rescinding of the above Ordinance. They criticize the action of the Government in this matter as irreconcilable with the spirit of the Constitution. Everybody knows, argues the *Nichi Nichi*, that when a Cabinet had issued an ordinance as a matter of urgency, the *post-facto* consent of the Diet must be sought as soon as the latter comes into session. The duty of following that procedure devolved on the Ministry now in power, for they inherited the Regulations in question from their predecessors. But after having enforced the Regulations for several months, the Cabinet has suddenly rescinded them on the very eve of the opening of the Diet, thus depriving the latter of the opportunity to exercise its right of retrospective assent or dissent. Such irresponsible action on the part of the Government is open to severe condemnation, as well as to the charge of inconsistency, especially when it is remembered how Count Okuma recently stigmatized the Japanese in Korea as a gang of lawless adventurers whose doings seriously impaired the interests and dignity of the Empire.

Referring to the High Educational Council, which is to be organized from the beginning of the next fiscal year, the *Mainichi* doubts whether the primary object contemplated by the two Houses of the Legislature when they repeatedly advised the Government to establish the Council, can be successfully attained by a body of men such as those recently appointed by the Authorities, seeing that an overwhelming majority of them are officials, whereas the original purpose of the projectors of the scheme was to establish an educational mechanism independent of the Department of Education and holding views of its own.

The *Yiji*, in two articles, give a warning to political parties and to statesmen either in or out of office. In one article, it asks the two rival political parties what ground of disagreement they possess beyond a merely sentimental one, namely, that the Liberals supported the Ito Cabinet while the *Shimpo-to* have been more or less instrumental in consummating the organization of the present Ministry. They have no essential cause for waging political warfare, and so long as they persist in playing their present rôle of factitious antipathy, the *Yiji* does not hesitate to condemn them both for seeking to pursue their own selfish ends at the expense of national interests, and for practically following the clan policy that they are in the habit of denouncing so loudly. In the second article, the same journal expresses surprise at the apparent want of amity between on the one hand, Marquis Ito and those prepared to range themselves beside him, and, on the other, Count Okuma and the statesmen now occupying seats in the Cabinet. In the eyes of the *Yiji*, they all hold similarly liberal and progressive views, so that there exists no genuine basis of contention between them, nor anything to prevent them from cementing cordial friendship. They ought to move together and to exert themselves for the weal of the nation at large.

The *Nippon* and the *Tokyo Asahi* offer advice to the Cabinet as to the attitude it should assume towards the Diet now in session. These two pro-Government papers concur in warning the Cabinet against temporizing measures,

adopted with the view of conciliating the members the House of Representatives and thus obtaining a majority. The best plan is to pursue vigorously the duty primarily devolving on the Government, namely, the mission of consummating the *post-bellum* measures, and going about the work with strong conviction and unswerving directness. Every course savouring of artifice or stratagem should be eschewed, and the sincerity that distinguishes Counts Matsukata and Kabayama should be steadily adhered to.

The *Osaka Asahi* does not attach so much importance to the problem of emancipating the press. Reform of the Household Department and of the Administration and freedom of the Press are doubtless questions of moment, but not of such paramount importance as to involve the fate of the Cabinet. The Ministry have not been called into power to deal with such questions, but rather to complete the *post-bellum* measures left in an imperfect condition by their predecessors.

Attaching minor importance to the result of the Presidential Election in the Lower House, and explaining that a little previous arrangement should have sufficed to secure the post for either party's candidate, the *Tokyo Shimbun* and the *Chuo* agree in thinking that the future situation of politics in the Diet depends upon the nature of the procedure that the Cabinet adopts towards the Diet, as well as on the possibility of an *entente* being established between the two great parties, a contingency that the Liberal organ is inclined to regard with much hope. Political rivalry does not prevent the *Chuo* from expressing a favourable opinion of the new President, whom it regards as endowed with a cool head and an unbiased judgment, and seems likely to prove the best President that the House has thus far had.

As might have been expected, the manifesto of the National Unionists has evoked diametrically different comments from the pro-official papers and the organs of the Opposition. The *Nichi Nichi* observes that the issue of a manifesto plainly at variance with the policy of the Government redounds to the credit and public spirit of the Unionists, for personally they have somewhat amicable relations with the members of the present Cabinet. Moreover, their resolution not to endorse the rescinding of the suppression and suspension clauses of the Press Law shows that their discernment is not obscured either by prejudice or business interests.

The *Yomiuri* hurls severe invectives against the Unionists on the very grounds that have won the above encomiums from the *Nichi Nichi*. It rails at them as having acted in complete contradiction to their original notion about the freedom of the press, and charges them with having yielded to a selfish hankering after political influence, and with being entirely devoid of any fixed political views. In short, it scornfully praises them for faithfully acting the part of "political bastards," and with being simply an "emergency party."

The *Kokumin* does not scruple to apply to the whole of the Cabinet Ministers the scurrilous epithet of *Banshoku daijin*. It avers that the real power appears to have passed into the hands of subordinates, and that the term "mess-together Ministers" must be applied not only to Viscounts Enomoto and Nomura, Marquis Hachisuka, and Mr. Kiyoura, but also to the Premier, and his three leading associates.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince left Shimbashi for Numadzu on Thursday morning. He will stay at Numadzu during the cold season.

On Tuesday morning, a Japanese junk conveying dynamite and cartridges, towed by the *Kanyo Maru*, while on her way to Tokyo from Yokohama, capsized near Haneda Light-house. The crew, three in number, were saved by the steamer but the cargo was lost.—*Yorodsu Choko*.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

ANDRÉE'S BALLOON FAILURE.

In a recent number of *Peterman's Mittheilungen* the Editor, Dr. A. Supan, in reviewing the latest North Pole expeditions, also speaks of Andrée's attempt with his great balloon. We translate the following:—Into the general rejoicing over the safe return of Nansen and Sverdrup there fell one disturbing note: Andrée had disappointed both hopes and fears alike. The balloon had been filled, but did not ascend and the expedition has returned without success. Of course, no intelligent person will conclude from this that all balloon projects are therefore conducted *ad absurdum*, but it has demonstrated how extremely difficult it is to base one's calculation as to the wind and weather in the Polar regions, which are of so great importance, upon a brief trip of observation. This is all the more so because there are no telegraphic connections at Spitzbergen by means of which one could ascertain the general condition of the weather. Perhaps Andrée would have succeeded had there been more time at his disposal. This, however, would have greatly increased the expenses, and yet this item will have to be taken into account if the subject is not to be abandoned altogether. Andrée, we hear, intends to make the venture once more, early next summer, and he can not be blamed if, in a sense, he feels in honour bound to do so. It is, of course, another question, whether Nansen's return has not in a great measure stripped the balloon project of its scientific importance. To us it seems questionable, whether it would be of important scientific consequence hereafter. Let us consider, for a moment, the situation as it obtained, a little more than a year ago, when the Andrée balloon enterprise first came up for consideration. The means heretofore employed, boats and sleds, had failed to penetrate into the inner Polar regions, and there were very few that expected to see it accomplished by these means. Nansen had not been heard from and perhaps there were not many that still felt confident of his return. Under these circumstances Andrée's plan was heartily welcomed, though one could not conceal that, "balloon travel in the Polar world can be only of a pioneer character," as I said, in my address at the London Congress. Now the situation is somewhat changed. The problem of building a ship that will withstand the pressure, may now be regarded as solved. True, the ship is not free to move about, it does not move, it is driven. Now the *Fram* did not exactly drift as Nansen had calculated, and therefore did not reach Greenland across the Pole, but went east of the Pole to Spitzbergen. There may have been reasons for this. It is possible that the *Fram* got into the outer rim of the Polar current, and it is a question whether he would not have gotten into the inner current, had Nansen carried out his original plan, to start in from the Behring Strait. At the same time it is doubtful whether another effort will soon be made again on this line. We must, in this connection, bear in mind that the sled has now also proven itself of practical service. Besides the ship and the sled, the balloon may be regarded as a third means of travel in the Polar world—provided its nautical capacity will answer Andrée's expectations: With regard to this we can advance no opinion. The balloon has the advantage of great mobility, but is far more dependant on favourable conditions. Ship and sled, even if they do not reach their goal, usually furnish some scientific results, while the balloon, on the other hand, in case of unfavourable wind may not as much as start. Even under the most favourable circumstances it can be only of very limited scientific utility. All that can be determined from a balloon is the division of water and land. That, of course, is important, and so long as it was supposed that the Polar region was dotted with islands, even the balloon could have made important discoveries. But now even this expectation has been modified. There is no doubt now that the area

around the North Pole is a deep ocean basin. The depths proved by the *Fram*, show that the great depression west of Spitzbergen is not a basin surrounded by shallow sea, but is widely open to the North, where it spreads over the Polar area. The depth of this ocean renders it improbable that many islands will be found in it. Another error from which Nansen has relieved us is that the whole of the central Arctic Sea is full of ice of immense thickness and great age. He found that, except for local heaps and hummocks, it is only about thirty feet thick. After this discovery, geology will no longer be burdened with the incubus of recent Polar ice-caps. Another interesting geological contribution is Nansen's collection of Jurassic fossils in northern Franz-Josef Land. And now consider how meagre the results would have been had Nansen passed over this region in a balloon!

CHRISTMAS DAY.

PROVERBIAL Christmas weather prevailed yesterday in Yokohama, the morning opening with a sharp frost and white-blue mist and developing later into a bright sunshiny day with the roadways ringing hard and frosty beneath the feet. Though some one hundred and fifty people left on Thursday afternoon for Miyanoshiba, and another large contingent went to other places in the country, the services at Christ Church attracted crowded congregations, particularly at the 11 o'clock matins. The Church was lavishly decorated with a wealth of scarlet berries, white immortelles, and greenery, reflecting credit on the artistic taste of the ladies of the congregation who undertook this labour of love. The Rev. E. C. Irwine officiated, assisted by the Rev. W. T. Austen; Mr. Griffin was at the organ. The choir, that was considerably augmented, especially in men's voices, carried through splendidly the special choral portions of the service, Mr. Fleet, the soloist, being heard to advantage in the Introit.

Union Church was very prettily decorated, but the congregation was not large. The Anthem was "Behold, I bring you good tidings" (Goss); while the following selections from "The Messiah" were sung:—"Comfort ye," "Every Valley," and "The Glory of the Lord," Mr. Lewis taking the solos.

At one o'clock a hot dinner of roast beef and plum-pudding with nuts, apples, oranges, and cigars was provided in the Seamen's Free Reading Room for all the men in need of it, covers being laid for 16. At 6 o'clock the room was filled with merchant seamen from the ships in port, who thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas dinner provided by the Mission, a large number of those present having recently come into port after long voyages of five and six months. After dinner a capital programme of local and instrumental music was rendered, at the close of which the Christmas Ship was illuminated by coloured lights, and her cargo of Christmas presents distributed. Three cheers for the Chaplain, proposed by Mr. Schurr, and seconded by Mr. Millar, chief engineer of the steamer *Furbo*, were heartily given and responded to. The Chaplain having explained that he was but the medium through whom the Christmas gifts of the ladies of Yokohama and other friends had been distributed, three hearty cheers were given for the ladies of Yokohama, which closed the proceedings. The Mission launch carried the sailors from and to their ships.

JAPANESE MILITARY MISSION.

THE *China Mail* says that on the 27th November, the Japanese military mission, consisting of Major General Kawakami, Chief of the Japanese Staff, Colonels Idichi and Murata, and Captains Akashi and Sekya, arrived at Haiphong by the steamer *Hanoi*. They were accompanied by Count de Pimodan, French military attaché at Tokyo. The Japanese officers, were cordially welcomed by the French officers, and then journeyed to Hanoi. Here a salute of eleven guns was fired in their honour, and the military band played the national anthems

of Japan and France. Accompanied by the Governor-General, M. Rousseau, and General Richot, the visitors were shown over the city, the hospitals, citadel, and principal places of interest. At Haiphong, they had previously visited the principal hongs, including that of Messrs Marty and d'Abbadie, and docks, &c. The visitors critically inspected the Militia, and for their edification the native troops performed some evolutions. During their stay, they were entertained at dinner, and replying to the toast of the health of the Emperor and Empress of Japan, General Kawakami (whose speech was interpreted by Colonel Murata) said:—"I am very highly honoured and very deeply touched by the welcome accorded me by the French. I hold a great admiration for your country, for if we were victorious in our campaign against China, we owed our victory in part to you. It was in France that a great many of our officers were instructed, the officers who directed active operations during the war. I drink to the health of the Governor-General, Madame Rousseau, and all present on this occasion." The mission is making an extended tour in Tonkin, and will also visit Cochinchina and Cambodia, going on to Singapore, where they will re-embark for Japan.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF JAPAN.

THE annual communication of the District Grand Lodge of Japan was held in the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, on Tuesday evening. The Rt. Wor. District Grand Master of Japan, Wor. Bro. W. H. Stone presided, and after the customary business was concluded, appointed his Grand Lodge Officers as follows:—

Wor. Bro. Dr. T. C. Thornicraft.....	D.D.G.M.
Wor. Bro. E. P. Pallister.....	D.G.S.W.
Wor. Bro. Alf. Kirby.....	D.G.J.W.
Bro. A. R. Morgan.....	D.G. Chap.
Wor. Bro. G. Hodges.....	D.G. Treas.
Wor. Bro. S. E. Unite.....	D.G. Reg.
Wor. Bro. H. Moss.....	Pres. D.B. of G.P.
Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss.....	V. Pres. D.B. of G.P.
Wor. Bro. W. Barrie.....	V. Pres. D.B. of G.P.
Wor. Bro. O. Keil.....	D.G. Sec.
Bro. D. Macdonald.....	D.G.S.D.
Wor. Bro. H. W. Lea.....	D.G.J.D.
Bro. F. C. Jackson.....	D.G. Supt. W.
Bro. E. C. Fox.....	D.G.D. of C.
Bro. Henry Tennant.....	D.G.S. Bearer.
Bro. Dr. N. Gordon Munro.....	D.G. Org.
Bro. L. Ph. von Hemert.....	D.G. Puis.
Bro. C. A. Valdemar Blad, No.	

1092 } D.G. Stewards.
 Bro. Thos. Simpson, No. 1263 }
 Bro. J. C. Anderson, No. 1401 }
 Bro. Rev. W. J. White, No. 2015 }

After the Lodge a banquet was held at which some forty brethren sat down; Rt. Wor. Bro. Stone, who presided, being supported in the Vice-Chairs by Wor. Bros. C. D. Moss and H. J. Sharp. A most entertaining evening was spent with toast and song.

A PROPOSED FAREWELL SUBSCRIPTION.

THE *Daily Telegraph*, of London, has been endeavouring to raise a farewell subscription fund, the proceeds of which were to be devoted to purchasing a gift to be presented to Mr. Bayard, the U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain, upon his departure from the Court of St. James. The American press seems to have taken umbrage at the project, declaring that the *Daily Telegraph* merely wishes to secure a big advertisement for itself, while at the same time it lowers the dignity of the U.S. Ambassador, placing him on a level with "the champion cricketer" or a "distressed Balacava hero." It is highly improbable that the scheme will eventuate successfully, but the Lord Mayor of London, in coöperation with Lord Salisbury, will no doubt tender the departing Ambassador a public dinner at the Mansion House. This would be a far more satisfactory way of bidding him farewell, besides being in better taste.

A CURIOUS MISTAKE.

"KOYO-SANJIN" is the pseudonym of one of the better known Japanese novel-writers of the day, and his latest work, *Do Budoshu*, "Blue Wine," has enjoyed quite a large sale, to the gratification of the publishers, the Shinyodo, firm of Nihonbashi, Tokyo. To this establishment

recently came a postal-card containing a most curious misapprehension. "Dear Sirs—We are vintners in one of the most prosperous cities in Shikoku. There are many other wine-stores here, but one and all sell only Japanese *sake* imported from Osaka. To our regret, there is not one house dealing in foreign wines. It is for this reason that we pay special heed to the sale of Kozan claret, and the Asahi and Yebisu beers. An advertisement of yours, relating to a blue wine manufactured by Mr. Koyosanjin, has recently been brought to our attention, and we now write to ask your terms and what discount you will allow on purchases of twenty dozen bottles each. Awaiting your reply, we are, etc., Yegawa & Co." Roars of laughter greeted the perusal of this artless missive and the story was thought too good to keep. The Japanese journals of Tokyo have all related the incident, with comments of a most amusing nature.

MEIDI-YA.

MEIDI-YA, the well-known store in Honcho-dori, Yokohama, has made capital provision for the wants of the foreign public during the festive season now almost upon us. A visit there discloses the fact that the store is decorated in the traditional fashion of stores in the home lands at this time of year; bright-red berries, white ever-lasting flowers, and greenery galore—bringing vividly to mind the displays made in many High Streets in old-fashioned English towns, and in many a new town, for the matter of that, in Canada and the United States. Meidi-ya has laid in a special stock of crackers, the ever-fresh delight of young and old at Christmas and New Year time; while there are stacks of those pretty enamelled biscuit-boxes that English manufacturers—Huntley and Palmer, Peek, Frean & Co., and others—have made such a speciality of for the Christmas trade at home. Another strong line is found in preserved and candied fruits, sweetmeats of all kinds; and some choice vintages in moselle, champagne, hock, and claret. Some very tempting breakfast hams are also in stock, and plenty of choice Chicago bacon.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Mr. P. Bozakowski gave an entertainment in the Public Hall on Saturday evening, before a very slim house, but this notwithstanding some genuine amusement was obtained. Perhaps the most startling trick of all was that which brought the entertainment to a close. The Professor was placed in a trunk that was locked and afterward corded; then a curtain was drawn across the stage and when this was removed the box was opened and out stepped a little girl, while the Professor walked into the hall from the back of the audience.

THE Y. C. AND A. C.

THE cricket averages of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club are being published, from which we gather that Mr. G. C. Murray heads the batting list with 31.75; Mr. K. F. Crawford being second with 27.75; and Mr. F. E. White third with 26.42. White made the greatest number of runs, 502. Mr. A. Kingdon played in the greatest number of matches 22, Mr. A. B. Walford coming next with 20. In bowling, Mr. R. C. K. Johnson has an average of 6.40—his record being 230 b., 96 r., 11 m., 15 wickets. Mr. E. J. Libeaud comes next, 8.20—180 b., 82 r., 9 m., 10 wickets; Mr. H. S. Goddard next 8.60—1,063 b., 430 r., 51 m., 50 wickets, and 13 wides.

THE NEW MANCHESTER RAILWAY.

THE London correspondent of a Melbourne paper telegraphed on Nov. 6th that Earl Portman, who owns 14 acres of land in Marylebone, required for the terminus of the new trunk railway line from Manchester to London, demanded £400,000 as compensation. The claim was submitted to arbitration, and the Court awarded Earl Portman £21,000.

NOTICE TO SHIPMASTERS.

THE following circular from the Department of State, Washington, dated October 29, 1896, is issued to the Consular Officers of the United States at seaports in Asia, Australia, Hawaii,

and on the West Coast of Mexico, Central America, and South America. It reads:—Gentlemen:—At the request of the Secretary of the Treasury, dated the 24th instant, you are instructed, when issuing bills of health to vessels bound for Puget Sound, to inform the master of such vessels that they are required to stop at the National Quarantine Station at Port Townsend, for inspection.—W. W. Rookhill, Assistant Secretary.

MARINE ENGINEERING FEATS.

"BROWNIE" of the *China Mail*, in the course of some remarks on the piece of engineering recently accomplished in mid-ocean by the engine-room staff of the *Hermann Vede Jarlsberg*, says:—That, without disparaging the achievement referred to, it may be worth mentioning that a piece of work was done over thirty-seven years ago, on board the P. & O. steamer *Malabar*, on her voyage from Singapore to Hongkong. That for eight or nine days the good old *Malabar* was turned into a blacksmith's shop, and with the detention caused by the repairs the mail and passengers were seventeen days in getting from Singapore to this port. That the ship was given up as lost, and services had been held over the foundering of the good ship, when she came quietly into harbour one day, fired her mail gun about 2 a.m., and was boarded by nearly every British resident in the place. That two of our oldest residents were on board of the *Malabar* on that memorable occasion. That in those days engineering appliances were not what they are now, but British pluck is always much the same.

A NEW REEF.

A CORAL reef has just been discovered in the north of Luzon. The following are the details published by the *Comercio*:—The Captain of the steamer *Herminia*, on a voyage from Bauva to Nagulandian, off the island of Dalupiri, N. of Luzon, encountered an unknown reef situate to the 19.1.30 N. lat. and 0.10.45 E. long of Manila meridian. The danger lies to the S.W. of the island, and about three miles from its coast, and to the 53°W. of the islet of Iras and about four miles from it.

RETIREMENT OF LORD ESHER.

It was authoritatively stated in London on the 10th of November that Lord Esher, Master of the Rolls, was about to retire from the bench. Lord Esher was appointed a Judge of Appeals in 1876, and in 1883 he succeeded Sir George Jessel as Master of the Rolls. He was created a Baron in 1885. Lord Esher is in his 81st year.

HONGKONG REGATTA.

HONGKONG held its fortieth regatta on the 10th and 11th inst. in glorious weather. In the International Fours the Germans won, the Scotch being second and the English third—and last. There were ten well-contested rowing events each day, in addition to several interesting sailing races. The pretty appearance of the large fleet of yachts was much commented on.

A ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

ENGLISHMEN in Hongkong have decided to give a St. George's Ball in that Colony on January 22nd, 1897. This news will doubtless suggest the old question, when will the English of Yokohama make up their minds to return St. Andrew's profuse hospitalities?

UNHAPPY MACAO.

ALTHOUGH Timor is to be separated from Macao politically, the latter is called upon to make an annual contribution of \$60,000 to the cost of the administration of the former dependency.

CHESS.

OUR Chess Editor advises us of a correction in the diagram of Problem No. 272, published in our Chess Column of 19th inst. The White Knight, in the centre of the board, should be a Black Knight; and the problem is then in order.

THE SALVATION ARMY IN JAPAN.

ON Wednesday afternoon the new bar, reading, refreshment, and recreation rooms of the Salvation Army, in Honmura-road, Yokohama, were

formally opened and dedicated to their work. The institution should prove successful.

GREENWICH MERIDIAN ADOPTED BY FRANCE.

ACCORDING to a telegram appearing in the Australian papers, a committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has approved of the adoption of Greenwich meridian and the abolition of that of Paris.

SILK.

SILK sold at Yokohama on Monday included 26 boxes to Varenne & Co., No. 236; 16 boxes to Siber, Brenwald & Co., No. 90a.; 28 to F. Herb, No. 76; and 20 boxes to Robison & Co., No. 3.

LADY BULLER.

LADY BULLER arrived at Singapore by the P. & O. steamer *Ganges* at the beginning of December, and was met on her arrival by Admiral Sir Alexander Buller, K.C.B.

THE VOLUNTEER FLEET.

Positive statements are again published by the vernacular press with reference to the volunteer fleet, the building of which is projected by a number of staff officers on the Reserve List. The fleet is to consist of two cruisers of six thousand tons displacement each; six of three thousand tons; fourteen strongly constructed iron steamers, and eight steam-launches. In times of peace, these vessels are to be employed on the American, Australian, Chinese, Korean, and Formosan lines, and in time of war they would be available, gratis, for protecting Japanese merchantmen, or attacking the mercantile marine of the enemy. The capital of the company organized for the purposes of this fleet is to be twenty million yen in four thousand shares of 50 yen each, and steps are to be taken at once to procure subscribers. The head office is to be in Kobe, with branches in Osaka, Tokyo, and Yokohama. It will be observed that the projectors estimate the average cost of their ships at about £35 per ton, which seems very small for vessels of the type contemplated.

OPENING OF THE DIET.

Yesterday (25th instant) the official opening of the Diet took place. The ceremony followed the accustomed routine, with which our readers are already familiar. The Emperor attended in person; was received within the enclosure of the Diet by the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the two Houses, the Ministers of State, and other high dignitaries; rested for a brief period in the Imperial waiting-room, and then proceeding to the Throne in the House of Peers, read the following speech:—

We hereby perform in person this opening ceremony of the Imperial Diet.

We inform the members of the House of Peers and of the House of Representatives that the relations between Our Empire and the Treaty Powers are more amicable than ever, and that the work of revising the Treaties is about to be consummated.

National defences being the safeguards of peace, We look to see them perfected gradually, with due regard to the adjustment of the national finances.

The condition of Our subjects in Formosa being a matter that greatly concerns us, it is essential that good order should be established there to the full, and that the welfare and prosperity of the island should be promoted.

We have instructed Our Ministers of State to prepare and present the Budget for the 30th fiscal year of *Meiji* and other important projects of law, and We expect that in the discharge of your important duties of State, you will exercise your functions of consent and careful deliberation in such a manner as to satisfy Our desires.

THE NAVAL REGATTA.

The Naval Regatta that took place on the Sumida River on Friday week was a novelty, in the sense that an interval of four years separated it from the last affair of the same kind, and that the whole thing was on an unprecedented scale. Under any circumstances, the present temper of the nation would invest a naval demonstration with importance and interest, but when we add that the Emperor was present and that three Imperial Princes steered in the officers' race, it will be understood that the citizens of Tokyo made a veritable fête of the event. From early dawn they began to throng towards the river, and by nine o'clock the crowds were so dense that the police deemed it wise to prohibit further passage in the direction of the banks, except in the case of persons provided with tickets. The first part of the programme included thirteen races of four boats each, pulled by blue-jackets from men-of-war, from the Gunnery School at Yokosuka, &c. It was arranged that out of the thirteen winners in these races eight—those that had made the best times—should be chosen to row two final races for the championship. This programme was commenced at 8.30 a.m., and by 1 p.m. the last of the thirteen races had been rowed over a course of 2,000 metres, the boats starting opposite the celebrated Yaomatsu restaurant, pulling as far as the Ueyhan restaurant, and thence turning for the return journey. The men rowed well and with the greatest possible pluck, and the enthusiasm of the spectators knew no bounds. The results of these thirteen races were as follow:—

	First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.
1.—Cutters, Tatsuta.	Takachihō.	Fuso.	Tsukushi.	Kongo.
2.—Giga. Takachihō.	Banjo.	Yokosuka.	Torpedo.	Seamen.
3.—Cutters, Gunnery School.	Banjo.	Musashi.	Tatsuta.	
4.—Giga. Isumi.	Fuso.	Musashi.	Matsushima.	
5.—Cutters, Amaki.	Kongo.	Isumi.	Chiyoda.	
6.—Cutters, Tsukuba.	Yokosuka.	Yayeyama.	Matsushima.	
7.—Giga. Itakushima.	Seamen.	Hashidate.	Saiy-n.	
8.—Cutters, Soma.	Hashidate.	Yokosuka.	Matsushima.	
9.—Giga. Amaki.	Yayeyama.	Seamen.	Heiyen.	
10.—Cutters, Saiy-n.	Yokosuka.	Fuso.	Tsukushi.	
11.—Giga. Chiyoda.	Soma.	Torpedo.	—	
12.—Cutters, Chinyen.	Itakushima.	Fuso.	—	
13.—Cutters, Naniwa.	Takachihō.	Heiyen.	Chinyen.	

At about three-quarters past nine o'clock the Imperial cortège arrived at the residence of Marquis Tokugawa, and after a short rest, the Emperor was conducted by Admiral Marquis Saigō to the temporary stand, especially constructed for the purpose, in front of the Marquis' house. His Majesty was attended by the Minister and the Vice-Minister of the Household, by Marquis Tokudaiji, the Lord Chamberlain, General Okazawa and Major Saito, Military Chamberlains, and other dignitaries of the Household, all of whom had formed part of the cortège. Admiral Marquis Saigō, Minister of the Navy; Vice-Admiral Viscount Ito, Chief of the Naval Board of Command; Rear-Admiral Baron Ito, Vice-Minister of the Navy, and many naval officers had arrived previously to receive the Emperor. Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Komatsu, senior and junior, Arisugawa, Fushimi, Kanin, and Yamashina were also present. The races in the afternoon attracted most interest. At half past 1 p.m. the officers' race began, Prince Yamashina steering the *Chiyoda's* boat, and Princes Kwachō and Komatsu (jun.), in the *Matsushima's* and the *Fuso's* respectively. For about half of the distance the three boats kept close toge-

ther, the *Fuso's* leading by a few feet, and the *Matsushima's*, steered by Prince Kwachō, being last. But as the winning line was approached, the *Matsushima's* crew, responding to a strong appeal from the coxswain, spurred splendidly, and quickly overhauled the *Chiyoda's* amid deafening cheers from the spectators, who watched the progress of the three boats with the greatest excitement. The *Fuso's* officers were not to be denied. They answered Prince Komatsu's call with equal spirit, and despite the powerful efforts of their competitors, drew ahead inch by inch, winning finally by about a length, the *Matsushima's* boat being second with only a slight advantage over the *Chiyoda's*. Donning their uniform, the triumphant crew proceeded to the presence of the Emperor and received from the hands of Commander Nishi a silver wine cup, on which was chiselled a sixteen-petalled chrysanthemum, the Imperial badge. They then had the honour of being congratulated by the Emperor, and at His Majesty's command Lieut. Prince Niijō, who sat at the Sovereign's side, handed a glass of champagne to each of the victors. When they left the Imperial presence and reappeared on the bank of the river, Admiral Marquis Saigō and other Naval dignitaries shouldered Prince Komatsu and carried him round amid loud cheering.

Then followed the two champion races. In the first, the competitors were the Gunnery School's crew, who had won the third of the thirteen forenoon races in 11' 57.5"; the *Chinyen's* crew, whose time in the twelfth race had been 12' 3"; the *Naniwa's*, who had won the thirteenth event in 12' 11.7", and the *Saiy-n's*, who had won the tenth in 12' 3". The *Saiy-n's* crew (originally the Chinese *Chiyuen*) started at a slow stroke, and seemed at first to be out of the race. But it turned out that they were only saving themselves, for when the home reach was commenced they quickened up, and rowing with sustained vigour, passed their competitors, one after another. The race ended in a sharp tussle between the *Saiy-n's* and the Gunnery School's boats, the former winning by less than two feet. Of course such a close fight excited immense enthusiasm. For the second champion race the crews of the *Takachihō*, the *Chiyoda*, the *Itakushima*, and the *Isumi* were chosen on account of their previous performances, and the last won the flag. Each of the champion crews received handsome prizes from the Committee, as well as silver cups from the *Fiji Shimpō*. Various displays of imitation torpedo practice and fights between ships and forts brought the regatta to a successful conclusion at 3.15 p.m., the whole affair having been well organized, and carried through with unflagging vim. His Majesty Emperor contributed a thousand *yen* to the funds.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

The members of the Jiyū Club, a coterie of politicians not included in the ranks of the Liberals but always working with them, are said to have proposed that a vote of want of confidence in the Government should be introduced by the Liberals in the approaching session of the Diet. The proposal was advanced at the recent general meeting of the Liberal Party, but met with strong opposition, mainly—if we

may credit the report of the *Yorodan Choho*—on the ground that no necessity exists to attack the present Cabinet from without, since its disruption by the action of internal forces is inevitable.

It is stated that the documents compiled by the various Local Governors, at the request of the Minister of State for Home Affairs, embodying their views with regard to local administrative reform, have now been received, for the most part, and that they agree in recommending three points:—First, that the powers of local officials should be more clearly defined and the limits of their authority extended, with a view to facilitating the discharge of business. Secondly, that as there will certainly be a large increase of local duties after the Revised Treaties go into operation, the number of officials competent to discharge these duties should be increased. Thirdly, that since the marked rise in the prices of commodities during the past two or three years seriously cripples junior officials, some augmentation of salary should be granted to them.

There is an expectation that the Diet will be asked next session to address the Throne on the subject of the ten-per-cent. deduction to which the salaries of all public servants are subjected for the purpose of Naval expansion. The loss of such a sum presses very hardly on junior officials, whose pay, even if received in full, would barely suffice to cover the cost of very frugal living. The recalcitrant spirit shown by the House of Representatives three years ago, when invited to vote the first considerable appropriation on account of naval expansion, was responsible for the Imperial Rescript ordering that the above amount should be set aside from the salaries of officials, and it therefore devolves upon the Lower House to spare no effort towards remedying the hardship. For a hardship it undoubtedly is. If every Japanese subject were required to contribute ten per cent. of his income for purposes of military expansion, there would be a national uproar of no small dimensions.

DEATH OF MR. PEYTON JAUDON.

With deep regret we announce the death of Mr. Peyton Jaudon, which took place at 9.20 p.m. on Wednesday at his residence, Yamato-yashiki, Tokyo. Mr. Jaudon was in his sixty-sixth year. He had been ailing for a long time, but his illness did not suggest any immediate danger, and when the end came, it was exceedingly sudden, and happily painless. He came to Japan twenty-eight years ago, and after serving for a time with Messrs. Walsh, Hall and Co., accepted from the Japanese Government an appointment which he held until the close of 1895, when he retired on a pension. Few men have worn the white flower of a blameless life more consistently or won more universal respect and regard. The United States Government, at the instance of His Excellency Mr. E. Dun, recently created for Mr. Jaudon's benefit the post of Clerk of the Legation Chancery. He had been decorated by the Emperor of Japan, and he leaves behind him the highest attainable reputation for faithfulness and assiduity. We need scarcely add that the deepest sympathy is felt with his widow and daughter in their bereavement. The funeral services took place at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, at Trinity Cathedral, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The standing committee of the National Unionists held a meeting on the 17th inst. with closed doors, at which the draft of a manifesto shortly to be issued, was discussed. Mr. Motoda took the principal part in the debate, urging the adoption of the following points:—

- 1.—That the Party should maintain the position it adopted in the 9th session in regard to *post bellum* measures.
- 2.—That the Party pursue a diametrically opposite policy to that of the *Shimpo-to* in regard to the question of the three personal rights.
- 3.—That the Party should consult with the Liberals in the matter of selecting a candidate for the post of President of the Lower House.
- 4.—That the Party meet in secret council to decide upon what policy it should adopt in the event of the Liberals introducing a motion of want of confidence in the Cabinet; and that such policy should be one of support to the Liberal party.
- 5.—That the Party should not blindly support all Government measures, but should exercise discrimination and support or oppose Government Bills according to their nature.

The first and second propositions were carried unanimously; and the third was also decided in the affirmative, though some present urged that Members of Parliament should be left free to exercise their own choice in the matter of electing a President of the Lower House. The fourth proposition was reserved for future deliberation and the fifth was carried without debate. Mr. Yumoto and two others proposed that the Party should open negotiations with the Liberals with a view to introducing the question of lese-majesty in any debate that should arise over the Household Minister's Affair; while other proposed that questions be put to the Government in regard to the matter of the public pledges given by the Cabinet on the morrow of its installation. No definite conclusion was arrived at with reference to either proposal. Mr. Arai Go reported upon the circumstances and reasons for Count Kabayama's call on Viscount Shinagawa; and then Mr. Shirane Senichi, ex-Minister of Communications, advised the Party not to advocate the rescission of the suppression and suspension clauses of the Press Law.

On Sunday the Party held a general meeting at which Viscount Shinagawa and Messrs. Sassa and Motoda delivered speeches. The Viscount observed that the essential principles of the party were based neither on personal rights nor on the English system of politics, by which the Sovereign enjoys no actual power. The National Unionists were in all particulars in accord with the national characteristics of the Japanese political system. Some folks pretended that politics belonged by right to two parties only—the Liberals and the Progressionists—and wondered at the Nationalists springing into existence and keeping aloof from either. The Viscount warned his adherents not to be duped by smooth words and flattering promises, but to be on the alert against being drawn into the dangerous vortex of internecine politics. Yet they must ever keep in view the watch-words of the party "the tri-partition of politics," fearing no one, but boldly advancing without having to turn to anybody for assistance by the way.

Mr. Sassa observed that the Unionists must ever preserve a cordial union—that was the distinguishing characteristic of the Party. Mr. Motoda's address was to the effect that the Party should endeavour to promote the true interests of the coun-

try and never allow itself to be dragged into petty party squabbles.

The following is the manifesto passed in general meeting by the Party:—In accordance with the principles of nationalism, the Party has maintained a positive and constructive policy while other parties have identified themselves with a negative or destructive line of conduct. When the War broke out between Japan and China, the National Unionists took the lead in bringing about firm coalition between the people and the Government, thereby enabling the latter to conduct its warlike operations unchecked by fear of domestic disturbances. The result was an unprecedented and glorious triumph for Japan. That the complete building of the mound of that grand achievement could not be consummated because of the lack of a cart-load of earth, owing to the defective measures drawn up by the Government of the day, is to be extremely regretted; and impelled by the alarming developments at home and abroad, the Party now devotes its undivided attention to perfecting the *post-bellum* measures. These it earnestly supported in the 9th session of the Diet. The policy outlined by the present Cabinet does not apparently differ materially from that entertained by the National Unionists; yet, on second thoughts, it will be found that the Cabinet's terms are vague and slippery, while some of its practices cannot be reconciled with the policy of the Unionists. This remark is specially applicable to the Government's attitude in regard to the expansion of national armaments and national industry, the present scope of which it apparently considers to be too extensive. The Party, however, will not lay down any hard and fast course with regard to these affairs, but will exercise a nice discrimination in deciding which measures ought to be supported and which opposed. In conclusion, the Manifesto dwells on the dangers menacing the country from outside, and declares that the Party will boldly urge on the realization of the schemes it has just dictated.

The above report is taken from the columns of the *Nippon* and the *Yomiuri*. But the *Chuo*, which is the organ of a section of the National Unionists, declares that the standing Committee of the Party did not hold any secret meeting on the 17th instant, and that the proposals alleged to have been made by Mr. Motoda on that occasion exist only in the imagination of the *Yomiuri* and the *Nippon*, which journals the *Chuo* roundly accuses of having wilfully fabricated the story.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE REVISED TREATIES.

The *Nippon* raises 34 doubtful points in connection with the practical operation of the Revised Treaties. We note only those more or less pertinent. The first and second questions relate to naturalization and the rights of naturalized persons. The *Nippon* asks whether the Government intend to put into operation the Naturalization Law that was drafted and submitted to the second session of the Diet, or whether they contemplate drafting a new law. In the former Bill, naturalized persons were not allowed to become Ministers of State, Field-Marsals, or Privy Councillors, but might be elected members of the Diet after ten years' resi-

dence in the Empire. Are no other restrictions to be put upon them with regard to other public functions? Many questions arise in regard to landed property also. In the first place, in Yokohama, Kobe, and other Treaty Ports, municipal expenses will be considerably augmented owing to the incorporation of the existing concessions into the Japanese communes; but the brunt of the increased burdens will have to be borne by Japanese subjects, inasmuch as the lands to be incorporated belong to the Government and are let by the Government at rates very much lower than the rates at which land in the Japanese communes are assessed. The matter of rent constitutes another difficult problem, for whereas the market price of land is steadily rising at all tradal centres, the leases of land held by foreigners in the settlements are unalterable, and as time goes by, the discrepancy between the terms embodied in these leases and the terms demanded for adjacent land in the Japanese communes, must grow more and more marked. The right of holding or leasing land for business purposes is clearly acknowledged in Art. III. of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. Is this privilege applicable to such places as Hokkaido or Formosa, where natural resources are not yet fully developed; or are such places to be specially reserved for Japanese subjects?

Then, in recognizing the right of foreigners to lease land for business purposes, no special provision is enacted as to the limit of time or area. Again has the Government inquired into the amount of the funds held by the municipalities in the settlements, and has it obtained any trustworthy information as to the sums to be transferred on the eve of carrying the Revised Treaties into operation? Subsequently to the operation of the new Treaty, British Colonies, so long as they do not accept the Treaty, must be treated as subjects of non-Treaty Powers. But will it be possible to rigidly discriminate between them and subjects of Great Britain proper, when the former come to Japan simply as Englishmen? Are the relative positions that British Colonists and Japanese subjects in the matter of Customs duties duly recognised? As to the right and freedom of prosecuting business, the Treaty provides only for wholesale business and retail business, whereas Art. II., of the Chapter of Persons in the Amended Code provides that foreigners are to enjoy all individual rights not prohibited by law or Treaty. Does not the existing law prohibit the conduct of several kinds of business by foreigners? Are foreigners entitled, for instance, to carry on banking affairs? Is it not necessary to appoint interpreters in Courts of law and other central or local offices to deal with questions relating to foreigners, and are charges to be levied on foreigners to defray the cost of such interpreters? Or is the Government about to provide facilities to enable foreigners to acquire the Japanese tongue without inconvenience? Or are the Japanese rather to be encouraged to study English? Suppose that a foreigner living in Japan and possessing property at home is declared bankrupt by a Japanese Court, are his Japanese creditors entitled to extend the judgment to his property outside Japan? On the other hand, is a decree of bankruptcy pronounced by a home court against a foreigner living in this country to be held valid by a Japanese Court? If so, are not Japanese creditors liable to incur

heavy loss? Is a branch office established in Japan by a foreigner who has his head office at home to be acknowledged only after it has undergone registration in conformity with Japanese law? In Yokohama alone there are five or six journals edited by foreigners: are these to continue to be published after the enforcement of the Revised Treaties? As the law of the land permits the publication of papers by Japanese subjects alone, may not these foreign papers be prohibited? Or is their publication to be left untrammelled if Japanese are registered as their publishers? Is a distinction to be made in prisons between Japanese and foreign prisoners? Are the Japanese police to deal with foreigners exactly in the same way as they deal with Japanese, or are the police regulations to be more or less amended? Matters relating to Christian Churches, funeral services, and so forth, are now subjected to no kind of restraint. Buddhist and Shinto priests have their rights restricted in the matter of election and so forth, but no such treatment is extended to Christian priests. Are such things to be left in their present state? Schools established or maintained by Christian missions or foreigners receive only nominal recognition from the Government at present. Is it not necessary to place them under more strict control, for the sake of unifying national education and for the sake of drawing a line of demarcation between religion and education? Such are the chief questions propounded by the *Nippon*. We give them as they stand, with comment or reply of our own.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 22nd instant the House of Representatives assembled for the purpose of choosing three names for submission to the Emperor in order that His Majesty might nominate one of the three to the post of President, *vice* Baron Kusumoto, whose elevation to the peerage makes it impossible for him to officiate any longer in the Lower House. The result of the first ballot was:—

	Votes.
Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo (formerly of the <i>Kaishin-to</i>)	138
Mr. Kono Hironaka (<i>Fiyu-to</i>)	125
Mr. Suzuki Shigeto (formerly of the <i>Kakushin-to</i>)	124
Mr. Sassa Tomofusa (National Unionists)	52
Mr. Motoda Hajime (do do)	16
Mr. Shimada Saburo (formerly of the <i>Kaishin-to</i>)	6
Mr. Ohgashi Giteisu (formerly of the <i>Kakushin-to</i>)	5

The number of members present and voting being 287, none of the above candidates had a plurality. A second ballot had therefore to be taken. It resulted as follows:—

	Votes.
Mr. Hatoyama	140
Mr. Kono	128
Mr. Suzuki	44
Mr. Sassa	40
Mr. Motoda	23
Mr. Shimada	18

The first three names were sent up to the Emperor, and it may be taken for granted that Mr. Hatoyama will be nominated. The House has certainly made a most excellent choice. Mr. Hatoyama is a man of high attainments and proved ability. We had occasion to criticize his parliamentary action with regard to the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, but party feeling probably influenced his judgment in that

matter. Mr. Hatoyama is a native of Tokyo, and a prominent member of the Bar. He is also President of the Waseda College. In 1875, he was sent by the Department of Education to study in America; and in 1877 he took his degree as Bachelor of Law in Columbia College, and in the following year he obtained the diploma of Doctor of Civil Law. Returning to Japan, he served as a teacher in various schools, and became a lecturer on law in the Imperial University. Subsequently he qualified as a barrister, and in 1885, he received the appointment of Assistant Chief Secretary in the Foreign Office, and, at a later date, that of Director of the Translation Bureau. He abandoned official life on Count Okuma's retirement in 1889, and devoted himself to legal practice, as well as to his duties as President of the Waseda College, to which position he was nominated in 1890. Two years later he stood for one of the districts of Tokyo and was duly returned, after one defeat, to the House of Representatives, where he has showed himself a powerful debater and a skilful tactician.

Recent experience has shown that the result of the presidential election in the Lower House can not be taken as an indication of the House's political colour. Baron Kusumoto stood at the head of the poll when the Liberals, his opponents, commanded a distinct majority. The individuality of the candidate seems to have a good deal to do with the House's choice. We judge from the voting recorded above that the National Unionists did not support either the candidate of the Liberals, Mr. Kono Hironaka, or the candidate of the Progressionists (*Shimpo-to*), Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo. No indication is furnished, therefore, as to the attitude of the Unionists in the session now about to open.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATES.

The following Government Delegates have been Gazetted:—Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune, Chief of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Komura Jyutaro, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Kawasaki Hiroyoshi, Secretary of the Foreign Office; Mr. Matsudaira Seichoku Vice-Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Furuichi Koi, Chief of the Civil Works Bureau; Mr. Misaki Kame-nosuke, Chief of the Local Administration Bureau; Mr. Terahara Nagateru, Chief of the Peace Preservation Bureau; Baron Tajiri Inajiro, Vice-Minister of Finance; Mr. Matsuo Shiujen, Chief of the Accounts Bureau; Mr. Megata Tanetaro, Chief of the Taxation Bureau; Mr. Komai Jyukaku, Chief of the National Debts Bureau; Mr. Soyeda Juichi, Secretary of the Department of Finance; Baron Kodama Gentaro, Vice-Minister of War; Baron Noda Itsu, Chief of the Supply Bureau; Capt. Nakamura Yujiro, Chief of No. 1 Military Affairs Section; Mr. Yagu Kazuyoshi, Councillor of the Department of War; Baron Ito Shunkichi, Vice-Minister of the Navy; Baron Kawaguchi Takesada, Chief of the Supply Bureau; Mr. Yokota Kuniomi, Vice-Minister of Justice; Mr. Iwahara Seichi, Secretary of the Department of Justice; Mr. Makino Shinken, Vice-Minister of Education; Mr. Koba Teicho, Chief of the Primary Education Bureau; Mr. Nagai Kyuichiro, Secretary of the Department of Education; Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Fujita Shiro, Chief of the Agricultural Bureau; Mr. Takahashi Takuya, Chief of

the Dendrological Bureau; Mr. Ando Taro, Chief of the Commerce and Industry Bureau; Baron Suzuki Taizo, Vice-Minister of Communications; Mr. Matsumoto Soichiro, Chief of the Railway Bureau; Mr. Nakahashi Tokugoro, Secretary of the Department of Communications; Baron Kitagaki Kunimichi, Vice-Minister of Colonization; Mr. Nomura Seimei, Chief of the Southern Bureau; Mr. Sone Shizuo, Chief of the Northern Bureau.

THE INVENTOR OF THE *JIN-RIKISHA*.

There has always been uncertainty about the inventor of the *jinrikisha*. Some claim the honour for a foreigner, others, for a Japanese. The foreigner in question was a man in holy orders, whose life reflected no great lustre on his cloth, at all events when he ministered to sick souls in the East, but who nevertheless possessed shrewdness and the art of self-assertion. The author of "Young Japan" very confidently ascribes the "man-pull-cart" to this practical missionary, and we are not prepared to deny the assertion, though we can clearly remember that no mention of any such exercise of foreign ingenuity was heard until long after the success of the *jinrikisha* had been assured. The Japanese have always maintained that one of their nationals hit upon the happy idea. His name is Izumi Yosuke, and he is now again brought into prominence by the fact that a project is on foot to obtain a pension for him. It appears that whether Izumi Yosuke invented the machine, or whether he merely worked out an idea furnished by an American missionary, the application for official permission to commence the trade of *jinrikisha* drawing was made in his name, and in the names of two associates, Kozuke and Tokujiro. In those days, laws for the patenting and protecting of inventions did not exist, and in a very brief period thousands of persons were earning a livelihood by means of Izumi's device. When the Patents Law was promulgated, Izumi applied for the registration of his invention, but by that time the *jinrikisha* had passed into public use not only in Japan but also abroad, and the provisions of the new Law did not sanction the recognition of patent rights under such circumstances. Izumi does not appear to have profited much by his ingenuity. He is now in very straitened circumstances, and the idea is that as a public benefactor the nation should do something for him.

PARTY STRENGTH IN THE DIET.

The *Nippon's* estimate of the division of parties in the Lower House of the Diet this session, is as follows:—

<i>Shimpo-to</i> (Progressionists)	99
<i>Gin Club</i> (Parliamentary Club)	25
Business Men	13
Independents	10
Total	147
Liberals (<i>Fiyu-to</i>)	100
National Unionists	30
Kishu Section	8
Independents	5
Total	143
Unclassed Independents	7
Grand Total	297

Government supporters.

Government opponents.

ECONOMIC TOPICS.

The Railway Council has arrived at a definite conclusion as to the policy that it ought to pursue with respect to the granting of charters to private railway companies. Mr. Shibuzawa Eiichi, who was chairman of the Committee specially appointed to investigate the subject, reported the result of the Committee's investigations. The report states that an undertaking can be projected only when the necessary funds are forthcoming, and no undertaking that is not so circumstanced can be carried into practice; that capitalists who start an undertaking have their own views on the matter, and therefore it is injurious to fix an arbitrary standard and to make them conform with it; that there is no occasion at present on the part of the Government to raise a big loan and thus put a check on the people's enterprises; therefore, the Committee decides that charters should be granted for private railway projects in strict accordance with the Railway Regulations. This report was endorsed by the Council, and the Council has decided to keep to the original liberal policy in the matter, issuing charters for all projects that are not at variance with the Railway Regulations.

In Yokohama there are about 40,000 bales of silk awaiting purchasers, while at the same time stocks of miscellaneous commodities are also far greater than in ordinary years. Again, imported goods fail to find purchasers and are stored away in godowns. The only parties that are enjoying any profit are insurance companies and owners of godowns.

A panic is reported to have overtaken the weavers of Nishijin, Kyoto, as a result of having dabbled thoughtlessly in business enterprises or having speculated in silk. More than twenty weavers are on the verge of ruin, and a few have already gone under, unable to keep their heads above water any longer. Bankers refuse to advance money to them.

AGITATION FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

The Cabinet has repeatedly held conferences about the amendment of the Press Law, but has not yet, it is said, come to any definite conclusion. Tokyo papers report that Ministerial opinions are divided on the subject, the Premier, Marquis Saigo, Count Okuma, and Viscount Takashima being in favour of totally abolishing the obnoxious clauses relating to suppression and suspension, whereas Count Kabayama, Marquis Hachisuka, Viscounts Enomoto and Nomura, and Mr. Kiyoura declare that the clauses must be retained so far as concerns matters connected with the Imperial Court, diplomatic and military secrets, and public morals.

If the Cabinet's opinions are divided on the subject, lack of cordial unity is betrayed by the Press League also, though it has been organized expressly for the purpose of agitating for the total abolition of the clauses in question. Moreover, a diametrically opposing position is assumed by the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Chuo*. The *Yomiuri*, always a most earnest advocate of press emancipation, invites attention to the existence of dissensions among the League. It professes its belief that the *Tokyo Asahi* and the *Nippon* are acting

in opposition to the spirit of the League, and have shown signs of playing the rôle of trimmers. So excited is the *Yomiuri* about what it considers treachery on the part of these two papers—which, by the way, are understood to be more or less open to persuasion by Mr. Takahashi, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, that it loudly denounces them and even urges the League to strike their names off the list. The cause of this indignation on the part of the *Yomiuri* is to be found in leading articles published by them since our last weekly summary was printed. The *Nippon* argues that a problem originally belonging to the region of theory, must undergo more or less modification when carried into the field of practice; that the procedure of the present Cabinet, though not absolutely satisfactory, is gradually approaching the ideal of perfection; that the intention of the Ministry to comply, at least in form, with the demand of public opinion in the matter of amending the Press Law, is worthy of all praise, quite apart from the questions whether the proposed amendments are full or defective, whether the new system is of a wholesome or unwholesome character, and whether the Authorities can succeed in their attempt.

We thought it strange, observes the *Yomiuri*, criticizing the above article, that the tone of the usually uncompromising *Nippon*, should have lately become moderate all of a sudden. Our surprise is deepened when we find the *Nippon* now declaring, in effect, that the amendment Bill framed by the Government, whether defective or unwholesome, should be welcomed and endorsed provided only that it shows an improvement, however small, over the existing Law. No words can convey the astonishment that such utterances evoke. Like the writings of the *Nichi Nichi* and *Chuo*, they are calculated to impair the extension of the rights and liberty of the subject, and are moreover entirely at variance with the position that the *Nippon* assumed only a few days previously. As to the academical distinction between ideal and practical problems, the *Yomiuri* has nothing to offer but scorn and scoffing. It advises the Press League to strike the name of the *Nippon* from their list. With equal vehemence the *Yomiuri* traverses an article published by the *Tokyo Asahi* on Saturday last. It declares the *Asahi's* writing to be deficient in strength and perverse in tone, for according to the captious *Yomiuri*, that journal's arguments may be construed in the sense that since the advent of the present Ministry was welcomed primarily because of the hope that it would arrange the *post bellum* measures in a suitable manner, therefore the question of amending the Press Law is subordinate and need not be viewed as crucial.

This division of the house against itself does not augur well for the immediate success of the press-emancipation movement. But we confess that, for our own part, we have never anticipated immediate success. Frankly speaking, we can not think that Japanese journals have qualified for the privilege they demand. The best among them do not themselves think that the suspension and suppression clauses can be safely abolished as yet. After all, it is not a question so much of the existence of such a law as of the manner of its application and the conduct of those that suffer by it. Take the case of a journal like the *Yiji Shimpō*. It says, everything that it wants to say. Its

writings do not show a shadow of restraint, and it commands more influence than any journal in Japan. But it is never suspended. That it takes an independent line, no one can deny. Sometimes its criticisms of the Cabinet in power are most trenchant. Yet the Administration does not interfere. Why should not all Japanese journals try to follow the *Yiji Shimpō's* example? Do they imagine that public opinion is swayed more effectively by violent intemperance than by well marshalled arguments couched in quiet, reasonable language? We can discover no great hardship in a law under which really creditable and responsible journals like the *Yiji Shimpō* pursue the even tenor of their way, neither harrassed by censors not disturbed by the police. The *Yiji's* history proves that not the law is in fault but the newspapers.

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

The establishment of the High Educational Council has been proclaimed at last by an Imperial Ordinance issued on the 18th instant. The chief function of the Council is to formulate its views on educational matters, either in obedience to a request from the Minister of Education or of its own motion. The Council is to be composed of the following personages:—The President of the Imperial University, Presiding Professors of the Colleges of the University, Chiefs of Bureaux in the Department of Education, Directors of the Higher Normal Schools, of the Higher Commercial School, of the Tokyo Technical School, and of the Tokyo Fine Arts School, one principal of a Higher School, and scholars and educationists whose number shall not exceed seven. In all, therefore, there will be about 21 members. The proceedings of the Council are to be conducted with closed doors; the term of membership is to be three years; the Chairman is to be nominated from among the members by the Minister of Education subject to the approval of the Emperor, and each member is to receive an allowance not exceeding 300 yen per annum. The Ordinance goes into effect from April 1st, 1897.

The trouble at the Nagoya High School has been settled. A representative of the students apologized to the Director and the staff for the insubordinate acts into which the students had been betrayed, and the lads, including those that were dismissed at the beginning of the complication, were allowed to return. On the other hand, the Faculty agreed to dismiss the teachers with whom the students were dissatisfied, so that the victory seems to have rested entirely with the students.

Mr. Inouye Enryo, a graduate of the Imperial University, an eminent philosopher and a prominent figure in the Hongwanji Reform Agitation, published, a few days ago, an article denouncing as utterly contemptible the fundamental theory of Japanese geomancers that the *kimon*—literally "devil's gate," but used in the sense of "north-east"—is a most inauspicious quarter, and that people must never make their houses face in that direction, or commence a journey towards it, and so forth. The idea is that an evil spirit has its abode in the north-east, and that the demon's wrath is to be apprehended by any one venturing to confront him. It is a very old superstition in Japan, and still retains a deep hold on the minds of ordinary folks. Mr.

Inouye demonstrates the absurdity of the idea, and alleges that he has had his houses built specially fronting the tabooed quarter, and that he has purposely neglected the warning whenever undertaking a journey, yet nothing unlucky has happened to his buildings or to his person. On the very next night after the publication of his article, fire broke out in one of the rooms of the Philosophical Institution presided over by Mr. Inouye, and burnt it down, as well as a school in close proximity. The cause of the disaster is unknown, but some suspect that the fire was kindled by one of the geomancers whose means of livelihood were jeopardized by Mr. Inouye's attacks.

Hitherto the educationists of Japan have been divided into two camps, namely, the Japan Educational Society and the National Educational Society, and the relations between the two have not been very cordial. The leading members of the Societies have long perceived the advisability of amalgamating them into one body and as the idea is generally approved, the principal members recently met at the residence of Prince Konoye, President of the Japan Educational Society, and decided to convocate an extraordinary general meeting of the Society on the 20th inst. to discuss the question.

The relation between the Peers' School for Boys and the Peers' Club has been modified. Hitherto the latter had been in the habit of contributing a considerable sum every year to the School Fund, but the managers of the Club, as well as prominent peers like Princes Konoye, Shimazu, and Niijo thought that since the system of the institution had been changed in the sense of admitting the sons of untitled persons, there was no reason to extend annual financial aid. In lieu of such aid, however, they proposed that the Club should give one half of its accumulated fund (now amounting to 700,000 yen) to the school, and thenceforth sever all pecuniary connection with the latter. This change having been submitted to the Peers' meeting held on the 13th inst., was adopted.

TOKYO THEATRES IN TROUBLE.

Tokyo theatres never seen to be able to free themselves from troubles, of a pecuniary description. The Kabukiza was turned into a joint stock concern with a view to guaranteeing its financial stability, but already it has incurred a loss amounting to several thousand yen, and internal dissensions among its Directors have culminated in the resignation of Mr. Minagawa, the President of the Company. Mr. Inouye, a relative of Countess Goto, and Mr. Miyake, a steward of Count Goto, were the originators of the scheme, and Mr. Minagawa subsequently joined them. They at first intended to buy the theatre from Mr. Chiba, who owned it, but as they lacked funds to carry out this project they decided take advantage of a mania that afflicted the public at the time and to turn it into a joint stock concern. This plan succeeded and subscribers were forthcoming. The original proprietor consented to transfer it for 55,000 yen, but Messrs. Minagawa and Inouye defrauded the shareholders and entered the price at 75,000 yen, pocketing the balance between them. Before the Company had been duly sanctioned by the Authorities, the two undertook one theatrical representation with the

funds that the projectors had raised from the intending shareholders by way of security. The performance brought in a profit of 5,000 yen, and this also was pocketed by the two persons named. But trouble came and a split took place, their apparent cordiality being brought to an end on the nomination of Mr. Minagawa as President, for Mr. Inouye was under the belief that he, who had taken considerable trouble for the consummation of the enterprise before Mr. Minagawa joined it, was much more entitled to the chair. Mr. Inouye was simply appointed a Director, but he resolved to disagree with the President on every possible occasion and to make the seat too hot for him. The selection of pieces presented since the establishment of the Company was carried through by Mr. Inouye in the teeth of the President, who declared that the pieces selected would fail to draw good houses. This prediction proved correct, and the Company incurred a loss of some 5,000 yen. Mr. Minagawa intended to avail himself of the knowledge he possessed to "bear" the shares, but in this his rival thwarted him and managed to rule the quotations, so that the shares Mr. Minagawa had booked in the Company's ledger dwindled to small value. Fearing, then, that if his rival and the latter's followers demanded and convoked an extraordinary meeting, a vote of want of confidence in the President might be expected to follow, Mr. Minagawa, rather than be placed in a humiliating position, resolved to resign, and has now been succeeded by one of his rival's friends. But Mr. Minagawa possesses a sharp weapon with which to wreak revenge on the Company. While he was President he received from Mr. Chiba a note transferring to his control the ground on which the theatre stands. Therefore, if he buys the ground and charges an exorbitant rent to the Company, the latter will find it difficult to continue its business.

Other theatres in trouble are the Ichimura-za, the Haruki-za, and the Kawakami-za. The proprietors of the first were not punctual in the payment of their ground rent and fell several months in arrear. The result was that the landowner prosecuted them in a law court and proceeded to tear down the theatre for removal elsewhere while a performance was actually going on. The same trouble has overtaken the Kawakami-za: it too, is in danger of being demolished, though it was built only this summer. The proprietor of the Hongo theatre also is in pecuniary distress and is flying hither and thither, pursued by his creditors. Other theatres of less note are no better off financially, and thus all the theatres in the capital may be said to be tottering towards bankruptcy. It is high time that some resolute steps be taken with regard to theatres in Tokyo, so that people may have entertainments uninterruptedly and at a fair charge. The charge now imposed at the principal theatres is too high, considering the scale of living in Japan.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to nominate Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo to the post of President of the House of Representatives. Mr. Hatoyama proceeded yesterday to the Palace, and was nominated direct by the Emperor.

OBJECT LESSONS.

One bubble railway company has burst, bringing its principal promoter within the purview of the law. The story of this company-swindle is well worth the telling. Tashiro Tanshi, a native of Fukuoka, conceived the idea of turning the railway-mania to his own account, and laid plans accordingly. He drew up a scheme of a railway some three miles in length, that should run between Hakodate and Shimonnokawa, and fixed the capital of the undertaking at yen 250,000. This he proposed to raise in 5,000 shares of yen 50 each. The scheme, when published in Hakodate, failed to attract investors, and Tashiro accordingly came up to Tokyo where he expected the monied public to be more credulous. In this he was not mistaken, and very soon he managed to get 1,500 shares applied for; the other 3,500 he placed to his own account. Then a temporary charter was obtained from the authorities, in October, 1895, and by April following he had the satisfaction of seeing this made permanent. Accordingly, in the next few months he called up 18 yen on every registered share, thus obtaining a sum of 95,000. Months passed away and yet nothing was done towards constructing the proposed railway. Eventually the shareholders grew suspicious and demanded the calling of an extraordinary meeting. Tashiro flatly declined to listen to their request, and as he nominally held an overwhelming majority of the shares he could always have outvoted them had the meeting come off. Meanwhile, the wronged and deluded shareholders formed themselves into the "Hakodate Railway Tashiro Enquiry Company," and set *Soshi* to watch the movements of Tashiro. When they had collected enough evidence to suit their purpose, the shareholders brought a suit, in the Tokyo Local Court, against Tashiro, charging him with embezzlement. Tashiro has since been arrested and now awaits trial.

Another instructive story relates to the now notorious Seiwa Railway Company. This Company was established at Matsusaka, Ise, with a capital of yen 3,600,000. Dissensions broke out among the Directors soon after the affair was floated, and eventuated in two distinct boards of Directors being elected by the shareholders who ranged on either side. The *personnel* of the Boards were changed three times without any appreciable calming of the disturbance, and then one board prosecuted the other for illegal proceedings. The case was heard in the Local Court at Ise, a verdict being given in favour of the plaintiffs. What will become of the Company nobody ventures to predict.

THE BILL FOR AMENDING THE PRESS LAW.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that a hot altercation took place at the Cabinet Council on the 21st instant between Count Okuma and Count Kabayama, the subject of discussion being the amendment of the Press Law. A decision was finally reached, but our contemporary says that the Government have decided not to reveal it until the Bill embodying the proposed amendments is actually submitted to the Diet. If that be the case, the obvious inference, as the *Mainichi* justly observes, is that the liberal members of the Cabinet have not been able to effect everything that they desire.

THE SPINNING INDUSTRY AND ITS OPERATIVES.

Trouble has arisen between the Hyogo Branch of the Kanagafuchi Spinning Mill and other factories in the Kei-Han districts, in connection with the alleged decoying of operatives by the Hyogo factory. Twenty-five mills have decided to boycott the latter. The mills that complain of suffering from foul play at the hands of the Hyogo Branch allege that, from about May of this year, they became aware of the treacherous practice, and found that the Hyogo Mill was in the habit of sending, hither and thither, agents who, under various disguises, contrived to get at girls employed in other mills and decoy them away. These secret agents succeeded so well with their work that one mill lost 10 girls in a night. The agents pursued the business with zeal, as may be inferred from the fact that their employers promised them a reward of from 3 to 5 yen for each girl brought to the Kanagafuchi mill. The other factories became alarmed, and decided to place guards on the highways leading to Hyogo, so that operatives might be intercepted *en route* for the Hyogo Mill. The latter, however, was equal to the occasion. It caused its agents to conduct the girls by circuitous routes, and the efforts made by the other mills to intercept them proved fruitless. On the 25th ult., the Osaka mills convoked a special meeting to consider the question of dealing with their unscrupulous competitor, and at the same time they decided to despatch men to the mills in Okayama, Nagoya, Miye, and Wakayama to inquire whether they also were not suffering by the proceedings of the Hyogo factory. It was ascertained that these mills had fared no better, and that already they had received 30 letters of apology from the Hyogo mills asking forgiveness for having decoyed operatives. At last the mills that found themselves inconvenienced by the practices of the Hyogo factory, decided to place the matter formally before the Spinners' Union. In a written communication addressed by them to the Office of the Union, they averred their belief that out of some 3,000 girls now working in the Hyogo factory, the great majority had been procured from other mills by unfair practices. The commissioners and advising barristers of the Union held a council on the 18th inst., and considered what measures should be adopted towards the offending mill, which we may mention, has never belonged to the Union. They decided that the 25 mills robbed of their girls by the Hyogo factory must warn the merchants with whom they were accustomed to transact business that all relations with them would be severed if they dealt with the Kanagafuchi Mill, and they resolved, further, to demand from the Hyogo Mill the surrender of the girls decoyed. It is said that in order to provide against the escape of the girls, the Hyogo Mill has stopped them from leaving the premises, and is organizing various amusements for them within the precincts of the factory.

These singular proceedings form an interesting chapter in the history of Japanese industrial development. Perhaps the most striking feature of the story is the apparent absence of any independent initiative on the part of the female operatives. They are decoyed from one factory to another; conducted to their destina-

tion by circuitous routes, guards being posted by other factories to intercept their passage along the main roads; confined within the precincts of their new place of work, and treated, altogether, like inanimate chattels rather than sentient beings. Still more singular to the ordinary mercantile mind will appear the defensive measure adopted by the suffering mills. They inform their clients, the purchasers of their products, that no more sales will be made to them unless they refrain from all dealings with the offending factory. In some countries such an announcement would have the effect of driving purchasers to the Kanagafuchi mill. But it will not be so in Japan. If the Kanagafuchi folks have transgressed the peculiar and comprehensive canon of conduct known in this country as *giri*, not merely those that have suffered directly by the transgression, but also those that can help to correct it, will feel bound to unite for that purpose. According to the ethics of trade in the West, the managers of the Kanagafuchi mill have not been so greatly to blame. To entice the servant of another to enter one's own employ is an act to which few respectable merchants or manufacturers in Great Britain, at all events, are willing to have recourse. But the conditions in the West are somewhat different from those existing in Japan. The middle-man plays a much more important rôle in this country than he does in either Europe or America. Without any close scrutiny into his methods, large use is made of his services, the results alone being considered. Just as there are agents elsewhere who procure a supply of emigrant labour for some foreign country, and whose emigrants are employed in that country without any query as to the means by which they were originally induced to go abroad, or the duties they abandoned for the purpose, so there are middle-men in Japan who undertake to find servants or work-people for every form of employment, and if the manager of a spinning factory simply announces to these middle-men his willingness to pay a certain premium for every skilled operative brought to his mill, leaving all details of contrivance to the middle-man, other factories, less enterprising, are not unlikely to find their employes leaving them at the instance of the middle-man. The facts of the present case seem to be that the mills belonging to the Spinners' Union rely on the force of combination to avert competition, and to retain their supply of operatives without increasing the latter's emoluments in proportion to the development of the industry's prosperity; whereas, the Kanagafuchi factory having declined from the outset to join the Union, is fighting for its operatives with whatever weapons it can command. Combination among employers means, of course, combination, by and by, among employes also. Japan has her industrial troubles before her. They are coming very close.

A REMEDY FOR CONSUMPTION.

The *Hochi Shimbun* recently published a note lauding in high terms an alleged new remedy for consumption. It stated that Dr. Hori Gentoku, a graduate of the College of Medicine of the Imperial University, and President of the Consumption Hospital, Yagenbôri, Nihonbashi, had succeeded in discovering a cure for consumption; a remedy, which, if properly ap-

plied, would restore to health even patients whose cases had been given up as beyond cure. The *Hochi Shimbun* alleges that the Doctor is a native of Oshima, Kagoshima Prefecture, and has for a long time been investigating the history and pathology of leprosy and consumption. He was employed in the Okinawa Hospital from 1882 to August of this year, when he came up to Tokyo and began to practise. While in the Riukiu Islands, Dr. Hori prosecuted his favourite investigations, and more especially possible remedies for leprosy. In Miyako-jima he found a leper village and at once assumed charge of more than 300 lepers. On these poor people he experimented with various medicines, and at last succeeded in discovering a certain combination that was specially efficacious in curing the dread disease. He then tried it with lepers outside the village and found it equally efficacious. We are not told whether the doctor succeeded in restoring all the 300 lepers to normal health. The results of his investigations were printed in a pamphlet published in 1886. It was while conducting investigations in leprosy that he was accidentally led to discover a remedy for consumption. In 1889, while working on the pathology of consumption, he himself was taken ill with the disease. Then the doctor determined to sacrifice his body for the benefit of humanity and tried experiments upon himself. It seems that he was successful, for we are told that the experiments were completed by May of this year. Nothing is said as to the nature of the medicine beyond the conjecture that it is a vegetable substance. Mr. Hori told the representative of the *Hochi* that the materials used in obtaining his medical compound are very abundant in Riukiu and Formosa, and while searching for them he explored extensively the woods of Okinawa. The doctor further said that up to the present 95 persons, out of one hundred subjected to the cure, had been restored to complete health. Slight cases can be cured in three weeks; those of a more serious nature in about three months. The remedy is efficacious even when six-tenths of the lungs have been lost, but a graver case than that would be beyond the reach of the medicine. The *Hochi* gives the names of several patients that have been saved by Dr. Hori. We quote this notice for what it is worth, and do not vouch for its authenticity.

SHIPBUILDING PROSPECTS IN JAPAN.

The *Oriental Economist* writes in a pessimistic strain about the employment of foreign-built vessels by Japanese companies and the prospects of shipbuilding in Japan. Commendable as is the enterprise of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, observes this tri-monthly journal, in opening regular services to Europe, America, and Australia, it is exceedingly doubtful, as things stand, whether the Company's efforts will succeed. This doubt is based on the striking contrast afforded as to speed, comfort, and general accommodation by the Company's steamers and those of other steamship lines trading on the same routes. In the first place, the steamers of the Yusen Kaisha now used for ocean service are cargo boats with speed and so forth not capable of being compared with the mail steamers of other companies. Nor are the steamers that the same company has

ordered from Japanese and foreign dock-yards much superior in these respects, as they are mainly designed for cargo work; passenger accommodation receiving only secondary attention. The *Oriental Economist* therefore apprehends that, even after the new steamers, now in course of building at home and abroad, are put on the lines, they will not succeed in attracting the attention of the public to any marked degree. The only way to obviate this serious disadvantage, is to induce the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to use nothing but mail steamers on its new routes. But such a project would not be feasible unless the Government is willing to distinguish between mail and ordinary steamers in the way of subsidies, and consents to pay a higher rate on the former class.

The Ship-building Regulations, observes the same journal, that were issued some time ago in conformity with the Ship-building Encouragement Law, were based on Lloyds' bye-laws of two or three years ago. They are therefore more or less out of date as compared with the bye-laws of this same English Corporation compiled last year. But the Japanese Authorities can not refuse bounties to steamers that Japanese shippers have had built for them abroad in conformity with the latest bye-laws of Lloyds' Register; and the latter will consequently find it more to their advantage to give orders to foreign dock-yards rather than to a home dock, as in the latter case they would have to go through the tedious process of asking the Authorities whether a steamer built on the lines of the newest fashion may receive a bounty, seeing that the new Lloyds' specifications do not exactly conform with the particulars laid down in the Ship-building Regulations. Hence Japanese dock-yards will fail in obtaining orders and ship-building will not be developed in Japan.

THE INDEMNITY.

Mr. Taguchi, M.P., is continually urging the Government not to keep the Chinese Indemnity in London. In the latest issue of the *Tokyo Economist*, he argues that the course now taken by the Treasury involves Japan in a loss of no less than 4½ million yen a year. His argument is based on three hypotheses. In the first place, he says, this policy has resulted in a superfluity of circulating. The Government borrowed 50 million yen from the Nippon Ginko during the war, and against that loan the Treasury lent to the Bank of Japan £5,900,000 that is held in trust at the London Branch of the Specie Bank. This transaction is called "mutual depositing" (*asuke-ai*) by the Treasury, but whatever its designation, it is nothing but the borrowing of money from the Nippon Ginko on a mortgage. Therefore it results that 50 million yen of convertible notes over and above the ordinary note issuing limits of the Nippon Ginko are now on the market. The presence of this superfluous supply of notes has resulted in the appreciation of the market price of commodities, a diminution in exports, the dwindling of the specie reserves in the Bank of Japan, and so forth. The foregoing contention, Mr. Taguchi alleges, is borne out by the following tables:—

TABLE 1.
Government and Convertible Bank Notes.

	Notes.	Total.
At end of Nov., 1891.....	53,607,166.50	84,400,221.38
At end of Nov., 1892.....	45,300,421.50	66,008,807.14
At end of Nov., 1893.....	39,385,282.75	51,437,431.15
At end of Nov., 1894.....	35,337,807.75	48,148,359.10
At end of Nov., 1895.....	38,001,490.25	50,148,385.18
At end of Oct., 1896.....	38,466,715.25	50,613,643.19

TABLE 2.—SECURITY RESERVES.

	Government Bills and Commercial Notes.	Total.
At end of Nov., 1891.....	35,976,455.00	45,781,128.40
At end of Nov., 1892.....	36,301,150.00	40,066,631.40
At end of Nov., 1893.....	37,780,330.00	51,016,151.40
At end of Nov., 1894.....	35,074,751.00	52,218,519.40
At end of Nov., 1895.....	67,818,421.00	94,489,005.40
At end of Oct., 1896.....	39,900,740.00	61,781,053.40

TABLE 3.—SPECIE RESERVES.

	Gold Coins and Bullion.	Silver coins and Bullion.	Total.
1891.....	27,334,092.00	33,728,156.00	61,062,248.00
1892.....	21,800,100.00	28,030,191.00	49,830,291.00
1893.....	21,816,100.00	23,123,005.00	44,939,105.00
1894.....	22,316,800.00	21,841,410.00	44,158,210.00
1895.....	31,120,800.00	32,777,280.00	63,898,080.00
1896.....	71,931,000.00	28,848,077.00	100,779,077.00

The increase in the volume of currency during 1891-'92-'93 was due to the appreciation of the silver price of gold, the consequent activity of the export trade, and an immense import of silver. In 1894, in consequence of the Japan-China war, the volume of the specie reserves was diminished by 10 million yen, while convertible notes were increased by six million yen in round numbers. From May, 1895, the Bank of Japan issued convertible notes over and above the ordinary limit and loaned them to the Government which paid them out to the people. In 1896, the money lent to the Government shows a considerable diminution, but this is due to the operation of the "mutual depositing" transaction, though in reality the sum in which the Treasury is indebted to the Bank must be greater by 50 million yen than that given in Table 2. Again, according to Table 3, the gold reserves show an increase of over 50 million yen in 1896, but this factor is also due to the same cause, and therefore a sum of 50 millions must be deducted from the figures in reckoning the gold reserves actually in the Bank. The true state of affairs in round numbers and in units of a million is as follows:—

	Currency in circulation.	Specie Reserve.	Security Reserve.
At end of Nov. 1891.....	138.....	45.....	61
At end of Nov. 1892.....	141.....	40.....	74
At end of Nov. 1893.....	154.....	51.....	84
At end of Nov. 1894.....	161.....	62.....	74
At end of Nov. 1895.....	182.....	94.....	64
At end of Oct. 1896.....	197.....	115.....	60

In short, more than 197 million yen of paper notes now in circulation in Japan are backed by only 60 million yen of specie, and even this is gradually dwindling. Such is Mr. Taguchi's contention, but our readers, in common with ourselves, will probably fail to see why gold actually held by the Bank of Japan in London is not as good as gold held in Japan, for the purposes of a reserve against note issues.

In the second place, the Government's present financial policy seriously impairs the circulation of money. Some argue that if the Indemnity be brought to Japan, it might still further augment the volume of currency and thus aggravate the evils incidental to the present superfluity of notes. Mr. Taguchi, though he has frequently pointed out the fallacy of this contention, takes the trouble to explain the situation once again. Suppose that the London Agent of the Nippon Ginko purchases bills payable in Yokohama to the extent of 10 million yen; and suppose that the Bank receives that sum in convertible notes in Yokohama and withdraws them from circulation. Would that not mean a transmission of the Indemnity; and is not the volume of convertible notes diminished by 10 million yen? The same thinkers may reply that if the volume of currency is diminished to that extent, the money market may suffer from over tightness, interest on money may be raised, and business enterprises droop. The Editor

of the *Tokyo Economist* condemns that contention as an utter fallacy, for diminution in the volume of currency would be followed by a fall of interest and a fall in the market price of commodities, while there would be still enough money in circulation to carry on all business transactions. To explain his theory, he falls back on the history of Japanese finance. Subsequently to 1877, owing to the vast disbursements of money occasioned by the Satsuma Civil War, and also as a result of the amendment of the National Banks Regulations, over 60 million yen of extra paper notes were issued. From 1882, the Government steadily withdrew this superfluous money, reducing the fiat currency from over 160 million yen to 120 million yen, approximately, by 1885. But what was the actual result as felt in the market? Interest, that stood as high as 15 to 20 per cent. in 1881, fell to 7 in 1885; rice fell from 12 yen to 5; and whereas a 7 per cent. Pension Bond of yen 100, face value stood as low as 60 yen, or even lower, in 1881, its value appreciated till it reached 120 yen in 1885. How are these things to be explained? When the price of rice rose from six to twelve yen, and 100 koku of rice that could be purchased at first for 600 yen required 1,200 yen, deposits in the Banks were lessened on the one hand and loans increased on the other. But when, on the contrary, the purchasing power of money increased, the deposits increased and loans diminished. Hence, where currency is excessive, the money market suffers from tightness, while, when it diminishes, the market conducts its transactions smoothly.

In the third place, the presence of the Indemnity in London inflicts a heavy loss on the country. Through the "mutual depositing" transaction the Government pays interest at the rate of 2 per cent. to the Nippon Ginko and the latter pays to the Government only 1 per cent. and hence the Treasury incurs a loss of half a million yen as follows:—

Interest paid by Government on "mutual depositing" of 50 million yen.....	1,000,000
Interest paid by the Bank on issue of 50 million yen of convertible notes.....	500,000
Loss to the Treasury.....	500,000

But if the Treasury paid off its loan of 50 million yen and imposed a five per cent. duty on the 50 million yen worth of notes issued by the Bank over and above the ordinary limit, it would obtain 2½ million yen. In other words, the Treasury loses a sum of 3 million yen at present. The Treasury elaborated this complicated process on the ground of the alleged difficulty that would be experienced in bringing the Indemnity to Japan. Mr. Taguchi fails to see any difficulty. The Indemnity can be dealt with by selling bills in Yokohama payable in London, as the India Office sells Council bills; or bills sold in London and payable in Yokohama may be purchased. In point of fact, the Treasury managed to bring from London in July a sum of six million pounds sterling without any difficulty, while even as early as 1873 the Government brought over from England a sum equivalent to 24 million yen in one year.

Mr. Taguchi does not pretend to know with anything like accuracy the sum now held, or ultimately to be held, in London, but a tolerable idea may be arrived at from the following schedule compiled by the Government:—

	Government expenses abroad estimated by Treasury. Yen.	Amount of Indemnity received from China. Yen.
28th fiscal year.....	—	76,890,000
29th fiscal year.....	34,186,929	76,820,000
30th fiscal year.....	41,432,535	46,134,000
31st fiscal year.....	22,733,673	25,630,000
32nd fiscal year.....	10,160,744	25,630,000
33rd fiscal year.....	6,420,888	25,630,000
34th fiscal year.....	5,726,423	25,630,000
35th fiscal year.....	3,746,751	25,630,000
36th fiscal year.....	2,994,236	—
37th fiscal year.....	2,713,074	—
38th fiscal year.....	1,126,518	—

Total131,241,771 351,694,000

The above excludes interest and payments on account of stationing troops at Wei-hai-wei, both of which are to be received from China.

Mr. Taguchi estimates that as a sum of 50 million *yen* or so is believed to have been already brought to Japan, there must now be in London about 120 million *yen* with which the Treasury ought to do the same. A trifling sum in all verity, when it is remembered that the India Office sells Council bills to the extent of 170 million *yen* every year. Were a sum amounting to over 100 million *yen* brought into Japan, the Treasury could pay off its loan of 50 million *yen* to the Nippon Ginko, and the remainder should be used in redeeming public loans and purchasing Bonds; for to return borrowed money to its original source is the best method of finance that can be devised. Mr. Taguchi does not expect to have 50 million *yen* entirely withdrawn from the market. He thinks, judging from the increased activity of business as compared with 1894, and other considerations, that the withdrawal of 20 million *yen* only would be required. Therefore the Nippon Ginko might be allowed to leave in circulation 30 million *yen* over and above its ordinary limit. One half of the remaining 70 millions brought over from London should be used in discounting commercial bills, and the other half in buying bonds and so forth, so that quotations on the stock market would be raised, interest on money would fall, and enterprise would be encouraged. Such steps would inure to the advantage of the Treasury thus:—

Five per cent. duty on extra issue of 30 million <i>yen</i>	Yen. 1,500,000
Interest on 70 million <i>yen</i> worth of Bonds redeemed or purchased, or discount on bills purchased (estimated at 4½ per cent.)	3,150,000

Total 4,650,000

An income of 4,650,000 *yen* a year to the Treasury at the present juncture would be no trifling thing. Why should financiers hesitate to bring home the Indemnity merely because the process requires an outlay of 88 *yen* in transmission expenses per 10,000 *yen*? In effecting this, the excess of imports might reach a large figure—perhaps as much as 100 million *yen*—next year, but that need not prove a deterrent factor, for, as Count Okuma observes, exports alone do not constitute commerce: imports must be similarly encouraged.

COUNTESS OKUMA'S RECEPTIONS.

We are asked to say that Countess Okuma will not hold her usual reception on Friday, the 8th of January next.

JAPANESE PEERS AND THEIR WEALTH.

The Peers of Japan are generally classified in rank under two broad subdivisions—Feudal and Court Peers—and the same method may be pursued when comparing their wealth; for as a rule the former far surpass the latter in worldly possessions. It would be erroneous to suppose, however, that, other things being equal, a feudal Peer who formerly ruled over a wide fief is now wealthier than a peer who possessed a small fief, for it is often found that a small Peer, especially if he was a *fudai daimyo* (an hereditary retainer of the House of Tokugawa), is considerably richer than a Peer of *tosama* extraction (a *daimyo* who regarded the Shogun simply as his suzerain). That is due to the fact that the Shogunate, with a view to centralizing its power as much as possible, contrived to bestow fertile districts on Daimyo that were its immediate retainers, and thus drew closer the bond that bound them. Hence *fudai* Peers whose fiefs did not ostensibly exceed 100,000 *koku*, were really more wealthy than many of the *tosama* Peers, owing to the partiality of the House of Tokugawa. The Matsuura of Hirado (60,000 *koku*), the Matsudaira of Takamatsu (120,000 *koku*), the Omura of Hizen (57,000 *koku*), the Soma of Nakamura (60,000 *koku*), and others are good illustrations of Peers of this class. We give below a list of feudal Peers who received Bonds valued above 100,000 *yen* at the time of the abolition of feudalism, and we append the amount of their present incomes as reported to the Taxation Office in the 27th fiscal year (1894-1895):—

	Bonds. Yen.	Income. Yen.
Prince Mori	1,100,000...	204,000
Prince Shimadzu (main house)	1,320,000...	136,000
Marquis Mayeda	1,190,000...	147,000
Marquis Hosokawa	780,000...	125,000
Marquis Tokugawa (Kii)	700,000...	109,000
Marquis Ikeda (Bizen)	490,000...	101,000
Marquis Tokugawa (Owari)	730,000...	95,000
Marquis Asano	630,000...	95,000
Marquis Kuroda	510,000...	65,000
Count Matsudaira (Takamatsu)	300,000...	60,000
Marquis Nabeshima	600,000...	59,000
Count Matsuura	162,000...	59,000
Marquis Yamanouchi	668,000...	57,000
Marquis Hachisuka	508,000...	51,000
Count Arima	215,000...	52,000
Count Toda	410,000...	51,000
Count Ii	310,000...	44,000
Marquis Ikeda (Inaba)	430,000...	42,000
Marquis Date (Uwajima)	160,000...	42,000
Marquis Tokugawa (Mito)	180,000...	36,000
Prince Tokugawa (main house)	560,000...	35,000
Count Hisamatsu	300,000...	35,000
Viscount Ogasawara	236,000...	35,000
Count Sakai (Himeji)	240,000...	29,000
Count Abe	170,000...	29,000
Count Omura	270,000...	29,000
Marquis Shō (Riukiu)	—	24,000
Viscount Sakai (Tsuruoka)	140,000...	24,000
Viscount Matsudaira (Matsuyama)	315,000...	22,000
Marquis Matsudaira (Echizen)	287,000...	21,000
Viscount Kikkawa	138,000...	21,000
Viscount Akimoto	160,000...	21,000
Viscount Matsudaira (Mayebashi)	203,000...	23,000
Count Date (Sendai)	130,000...	22,000
Count Tsugara	249,000...	21,000

The incomes of 37 other Peers are not recorded, or have been reported to the Authorities as being about 10,000 *yen*. The amount of Pension Bonds given to

the Peers when they surrendered their fiefs to the rehabilitated Imperial Government, was generally at the rate of 110,000 to 120,000 *yen* per 100,000 *koku* of fief; but the amount that most of the Kyushiu Peers received was at a better rate because of the part they played in the Restoration. On the contrary, the Date of Sendai, the Lords of Aizu, Kuwana, and so forth, who took the part of the Tokugawa, had their fiefs considerably reduced and so received only a small quantity of Bonds.

Though the condition of the Kuge (Court) Nobles has been considerably bettered since the Restoration, it bears no comparison with that of the Feudal Peers. It is not, perhaps, generally known that few Court nobles, even of the highest class, possessed a fief above the value of 2,000 *koku* in pre-Restoration times; those of lower grade drew incomes of only about 30 *koku*; some as little as rations for three men per day, and most were hardly able to keep body and soul together, unless they took to work of one kind or other. At the Restoration, Pension Bonds were given to these nobles at the rate of 5,000 to 10,000 *yen* to those that had enjoyed a fief of 100 *koku* or so, and who were hereditarily entitled to rank of and below the 4th class; and 15,000 to 20,000 *yen* to those that had rank of and above the 3rd class. Court nobles that had performed services of high merit during the Restoration, or that were of good blood, also received Bonds at a special rate. But such grants did not compensate them for their old important positions, and in 1884, when the Peerage Law was first enacted and titles were conferred both on Court and Feudal Peers according to rank, a sum of 100,000 *yen* was granted to each of the five highest *kuge* families, called *Gosseke*, and their heads were, at the same time, created Princes. To Court nobles next in rank a sum of 50,000 *yen* was granted, and so on, a noble of the lowest rank receiving 10,000 *yen*. Yet still these Peers fall considerably below those of Feudal extraction in respect of wealth, as may be gathered from the following table:—

	Pension Bonds. Yen.	Income. Yen.
Prince Takatsukasa	18,000.....	9,200
Prince Ichijyo	29,000.....	9,000
Prince Iwakura	62,000.....	62,000
Prince Niyo	35,000.....	9,300
Prince Kujo	61,000.....	13,000
Prince Konoye	59,000.....	8,200
Prince Sanjo	65,000.....	—
Marquis Kikutei	32,000.....	—
Marquis Daigo	14,000.....	2,400
Marquis Kuga	23,000.....	8,300
Marquis Hirohata	28,000.....	1,800
Marquis Nakayama	39,000.....	9,200
Marquis Saionji	23,000.....	5,500
Marquis Saga	24,000.....	2,600
Marquis Shijo	16,000.....	3,400
Count Higashikaze	21,000.....	8,400
Count Sono	10,500.....	2,400
Count Yanagisawa	17,000.....	8,200
Count Anenokoji	13,000.....	1,200
Count Shimizudani	15,000.....	1,000
Count Hino	21,000.....	1,600
Count Hirohashi	9,200.....	3,000
Count Ogimachi	18,000.....	2,300
Count Kanroji	11,600.....	1,200

The Colonization Department intends to start in Hokkaido, next year, a new plan of railways, and construct a harbour at Hakodate. The estimated expenditure on the former plan is *yen* 100,000, while the latter is estimated at *yen* 250,000.

Marshal Marquis Oyama is now staying at Numazu.—*Yorodsu Choho*.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS AND
POLITICAL CONNECTIONS.

FROM the opening of the Diet, Mr. MISAKI KAMENOSUKE distinguished himself by directness and level-headedness. As a prominent member of the Liberal Party, he naturally assumed an attitude of hostility to the Government, but his attacks were never violent or unreasonable, and whenever a *via media* offered, he usually set the example of taking it. After the alliance between the Liberals and the ITO section of the *Meiji* Statesmen, not much was heard of Mr. MISAKI, but doubtless as one of the consequences of that alliance, he received the appointment of Head of the Local Government Bureau in the Home Department. The office being of a purely administrative character, Mr. MISAKI did not resign when the ITO Cabinet went out of power, but a difficulty soon presented itself which has very much wider bearings than those revealed by a cursory view. Our readers are aware that it is the Government's custom, in accordance with the Constitution, to appoint Delegates for the purpose of representing the various Departments of State in the Diet. In selecting officials to fill that important post, the choice has invariably fallen on Vice-Ministers of State and Heads of Bureaux; the list usually including, in addition to the Vice-Ministers, the twenty-four Heads of Bureaux, thirty-four in all. The chief duty of the Delegates in the Diet is to introduce Government Bills, to explain their provisions, whether to the whole House or to Special Committees, to answer questions propounded by members with regard to such Bills or to the Budget, and, in general, to defend, and secure the House's approval of, the Cabinet's legislative procedure. It is evident that to discharge such a duty efficiently a Delegate must be in entire accord with the principle of the measure entrusted to his charge, which means that he must endorse the Cabinet's policy and be prepared to act as its advocate. That was not difficult so long as no sort of relations theoretically existed between officialdom and political parties. But the times have undergone an emphatic change, which is very distinctly illustrated in the case of Mr. MISAKI KAMENOSUKE. It is true that Mr. MISAKI, having now been appointed a new member of the House of Peers, will doubtless resign his post in the Home Department, so that in his particular case the dilemma has been solved; but it is precisely in connection with his transfer that the general question suggests itself. Had he remained in charge of the Local Government Bureau, he would have found himself in the position of having to promote the passage through the Diet of all official legislation relating to his Bureau, and to oppose any private legislation disapproved by the Cabinet. Hence, he must have been not

only in sympathy with the Government, but also prepared to assume an attitude of antagonism towards Bills introduced by his own Party, the Liberals, in the more than probable contingency of a conflict between such Bills and the Government's policy. No conscientious man could afford to undertake functions of that character. Mr. MISAKI must have resigned his official position, had he not been nominated a member of the Upper House, or transferred to the diplomatic service where the influence of domestic politics is entirely unfelt. If his were a solitary case, no special comment would be necessary, but it seems to us that so soon as the system of party Cabinets is introduced in Japan—and the day can not be very far distant—the peculiar relationship in which the Government stands to the Diet according to the Constitution, must involve great inconvenience at every change of Ministry. It will be practically impossible for Vice-Ministers and Heads of Bureaux to remain in office while their Party is in opposition if they have to steer Government measures through the Diet in defiance of the sentiments of their own political friends. The fact is that the Constitution was framed to suit conditions very different from those now coming into sight. It was framed on the hypothesis that the Ministry hold office entirely by the will of the SOVEREIGN and independently of the Diet. In an Administration of that kind, Vice-Ministers and Heads of Bureaux, being theoretically free from all political bias, can discharge the functions of Parliamentary Delegates without any embarrassment. But where the Cabinet is in close alliance with a political party, it will be necessary either to exclude members of the party from the posts of Vice-Minister and Head of Bureau; or to relieve Vice-Ministers and Heads of Bureaux from the duty of appearing as Government Delegates in the Diet; or to make them change with the Ministry. The first two courses are evidently out of the question, so long as the Constitution retains its present form, and the third must involve great administrative inconvenience. If every change of Cabinet is to be accompanied by a disturbance of officials down to Heads of Bureaux, the machinery of Government will be constantly subjected to disabling shocks.

We presume that considerations of the above nature induced the leaders of the present Cabinet to propose the appointment of political Vice-Ministers, or chief Councillors of Departments, who would move with the Ministry, and to whom would be entrusted the duty of representing the Government in the Diet. That would be a practical and easy exit from the difficulty, but unfortunately it appears that the project has not secured general approval.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.*

Dr. Katō Hiroyuki has fulfilled his promise of giving an exposition of his views on the subject of prostitution. The following statement of the position occupied by him in this controversy is epitomised from the *Nihon Shūkyō*, the magazine to which Dr. Katō's recent essay was contributed:—"With the exception of one or two criticisms of the more serious kind expressing the shock which was given to the writers by my article, the answers it has evoked have contained nothing but abuse. The controversialists who have come into the field all assume the very point which I wished to see argued in detail, namely the vicious nature of the practice under consideration. What I wished to know was what it is that makes prostitution a vice, if vice it is to be called? To this question no satisfactory answer has been given. Not only on the subject of prostitution, but on all questions of virtue and vice, no scholar is satisfied with being told that a thing is right or wrong, virtuous or vicious; he wishes to know why it is so. Nothing could be more unscholarly than to accept without inquiry the authority of our ancestors in reference to the character of actions. To me it seems that no man of learning has a right to shelve such questions. It is his solemn duty to examine them and throw what light he can on them. Seeing, then, that the invitation I extended to scholars to give the world the benefit of their opinions on this subject has called forth only a feeble response, no other course is open to me but to submit for the consideration of older men than myself the conclusions at which I have myself arrived. As I have frequently had occasion to show before, there is no such thing as absolute virtue or absolute vice. The meaning these terms bear depends entirely on the country and the state of society in reference to which they are used. What is considered virtue in one age or in one country becomes vice in another age and another country. The rules of life and conduct which constitute what is called the morality of a country have been established for no other purpose than to preserve society in a vigorous condition and to enable it to make progress. All existing practices of society have an origin of some kind, and it is on this that it is important to concentrate attention. Prostitution, it is evident, grew out of circumstances connected with the relation of the sexes. Into these it is necessary to go in order to test the fitness or unfitness of the practice. It is well known to anthropologists and others that in the earliest stages of humanity promiscuous sexual intercourse resembling that of ordinary animals was the rule everywhere. The women captured by savage tribes became the property, not of individuals, but of the whole tribe, and were used promiscuously. Later on it became the custom for a man to appropriate a number of women for his own use, as wives or concubines, and when the world had further advanced in certain countries polygamy gave place to monogamy. As far as China and Japan are concerned, for many centuries the practice of having one wife and numerous concubines prevailed. One of the objects of the institution of concubinage was to keep count of a man's offspring. Intercourse with other women than those who lived in a man's house was not condemned, however. Men were allowed great liberty. But this was not the case with women. It was considered a disgrace for the daughter of a respectable house to entangle herself with a man unless he offered to make her a wife or a concubine. Our intercourse with Europeans has led us to adopt their notions to a large extent. Polygamy and concubinage have been alike condemned, and according to prevalent opinion sexual intercourse with a woman who is not a wife is wrong. It is very evident that all the changes under which public opinion on this subject has undergone in different countries are to be traced to one and the same principle, the desire to preserve the race and promote its permanent well-

* [We have to apologise for a long delay in publishing this Summary.—ED. J.M.]

fare. But in passing, it is worth while to notice what a variety of meanings in the course of the world's progress the words good and bad, virtue and vice, have undergone. At first promiscuous sexual intercourse was considered good; then what may be described as the keeping of women shared by several men. Subsequently, by slow degrees, the opinion prevailed that monogamy must be enforced and no other kind of sexual liberty allowed. In China and Japan for many ages the notion that men are superior to women and that this superiority entitles them to indulgence forbidden to women explains the general opinion held in reference to sexual intercourse. But there is no denying that, however necessary it seemed to our ancestors that the liberty to which I have referred should be granted to men, there is manifest in Japan a growing antipathy to this notion, and in my opinion we are not far off the time when even the habit of keeping concubines will no longer be sanctioned by society generally. Both China and Japan, as far as they have renounced barbarism, are of opinion that prostitution is immoral."

It will be observed that Dr. Katō has shifted his ground considerably, almost to the extent of being guilty of a *volte-face*. We would refer our readers to an article entitled "Dr. Katō's Doubts," published in the *Weekly Mail* of June 27th last, for a short account of the views which he originally espoused on this subject.

Under the title of "Religious Items," the *Taiyō* observes that the use of the cross as a symbol may be traced to several sources. In addition to the usual Christian explanation of this use, there is the Indian one which traces it to the worship of the sun, the emblem being used to represent the way in which the equatorial lines cross the meridian. The cross for which the Sanscrit word *Isastika* is used, and the cross used by Buddhists, are both slightly different in shape from the Christian cross. The former emblem is used by that popular Indian sect, the Sivaits.

There are writers who maintain, says the *Taiyō*, that the difference in the character of Japanese according to the locality from which they come resembles the division of Europeans into the Latin, Teutonic, and Slav, races. Those living in the West are said to resemble the Latin race, those in the North East the Slav and those in the centre of Japan the Teutonic. Whether there is any truth in this or not, it is a fact that Roman Catholicism prevails in the western and southern parts of Japan. In Kyūshū, Shikoku, and Chūgoku, where the people are said to resemble the French most in character, French priests have been most successful. In the northern and Eastern part of Japan the Greek Church has been more successful than any other body. Recent investigations connected with the relief of sufferers from the seismic wave revealed this fact in a striking manner. English, American, and German protestantism has laid hold of the central provinces of Japan. Hence, says the *Taiyō*, social proclivities may have something to do with the form of belief adopted.

The *Taiyō* has something to say on the crisis through which certain Protestant Churches are passing in their desire to be independent. As a rule, says this organ, a determination on the part of Japanese Christians to be independent means, as in the case of the Dōshisha, that foreign pecuniary support is withdrawn, which frequently involves pastors in financial difficulties and leads to their abandoning the ministry altogether in favour of some secular calling. There are cases of men of influence in the Christian Church having been forced to act thus by their straitened circumstances. In some instances the cessation of remuneration from the Christian Church has been followed by a renunciation of the Christian faith and a lapse into immorality. All this has brought a great deal of reproach on Christianity and has led men to doubt its power as an incentive to virtuous living. Devoted and earnest Christians must do their best to restore confidence in the superiority of

the Protestant faith. The crisis through which many churches are passing is a trying one, but while the dross will be destroyed, the pure gold will be unaffected by the fire to whose heat it is subjected.

The *Taiyō* asserts that certain French missionaries in Riukiu, Higo, and other places; and certain Russian missionaries and Protestant Episcopalians in Hokkaido, are actuated by political as well as religious motives in propagating their faith, but furnishes no proof whatever of this grave accusation. The language used by the *Taiyō*, it seems to us, is altogether unwarranted. It goes so far as to say that certain Christian missionaries are the slaves of politicians. *Shūkyō-ka Seiji no dorei to nari.*

The *Nihon Shūkyō* publishes a philosophical article in favour of harmonising the different forms of religious faith. The spirit of the times, says this organ, is in favour of that course. Whether in politics, law, language, or customs earnest attempts are being made to reconcile differences and to create a new *modus vivendi*. There are, of course, religious believers who regard the different systems as incapable of being blended. They are like oil and water, they will not mix, say these authorities, ignorant of the fact that the application of soda is all that is required to change the attitude of these fluids to each other. But in other quarters there is quite a different feeling. Among Protestants there is a growing antipathy to what is called the American form of Christian faith, and for some time efforts have been made to harmonise Christian doctrine and Japanese customs. Men who are convinced of the need of modification in one direction can easily be persuaded of its necessity in another, and hence a reconciliation between Buddhists and Christians is by no means unattainable. We do not intend to represent, continues the *Nihon Shūkyō*, that the adherents of the two creeds will renounce their own systems and combine to found a new one, but we see no reason why they should not approach each other in a sympathetic manner, imbued with the spirit of humility and liberal feeling. Buddhism is undergoing great changes in order to adapt itself to the life and the sentiments of mankind in this Nineteenth Century. Hence there is no insurmountable obstacle to a union being effected between forward Buddhists and forward Christians.

We are indebted to the *Nihon Shūkyō* for a fuller account that any hitherto published of the meeting of representatives of various sects held in Shiba on September 26th. The representatives numbered 42 and the audience consisted of 48 persons. Bishop Nicolai, the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, and Mr. Nanjō Bunyū were prevented by other business from attending, but sympathised with the movement. The following is a short abstract of some of the speeches that were made. Mr. Ouchi Seiran (Buddhist): For more than twenty years I have been on intimate terms with Christians. The only interruption to cordiality between me and them was during the years when Christians were intoxicated with the pro-foreign spirit and when, as a consequence, they often said and did things that were disloyal to the State and the Emperor. Against this result of Christian teaching I earnestly protested some ten years ago. Now a different feeling exists, and hence Buddhists and Christians are able to approach each other in a friendly spirit. In the matter of doctrine Buddhism excels Christianity, but in being abreast of the age and devising schemes for the benefit of humanity Christianity is superior to Buddhism. May they not meet on equal terms and seek to supply each other's defects?

Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo—The part which Buddhism has played in the development of Japanese literature and art must never be forgotten, and it seems to me that Buddhist idealism is much needed in the materialistic age in which we live. And as for Christianity, when adapted to our national customs and institutions, it will confer immense benefits on us.

Mr. Shaku Sōyen, Head of the Zenshū and Yengakuha—If asked to state in a few words the object of this meeting, I should say that it aims at destroying the fence that separates Buddhism from Christianity and enabling Buddhists and Christians to shake hands with each other, to show love for each other, and together to make plans for future action. I do not advocate the amalgamation of the two systems of religion known as Buddhism and Christianity. Where we can agree, let us by all means agree; where we differ let each be at liberty to follow his own course. An investigation of Buddhism, Christianity, Mohammedanism, and Confucianism tends to show that, though different in form, in many important particulars they agree. There are certain truths which are common to all, such, for instance, as the power and need of benevolence in the world. If we are agreed that the privilege of religious believers, whether Christian or Buddhist, is to rest in the bosom of a god or divinity who loves all alike, there is no reason why together we should not devise measures for showing kindness to the needy world in which we live. It seems to me that if the broadest meaning be given to the terms benevolence and compassion, and efforts be made to manifest to the world the beauty of that love which both religions regard as of such importance, then the union of the two sects would be practically perfect and the world would be benefited by effecting such a union.

Mr. Shibata Reichi, Head of the Shintō Jikkōha—When Buddhism first entered Japan it constantly came into conflict with our native religion, and our national life, but it gradually adapted itself to its new surroundings and thus gained the esteem of our statesmen and Emperors; and there is nothing to prevent Christianity from doing the same.

Mr. Yebina Danjō, a Christian pastor from Kōbe—At the present time the prevailing spirit in Japan is in favour of nationalism, and I take it that the object of this meeting is to adapt religion to this condition, to intensify the nationalistic spirit, and, by showing that it is endorsed by the teaching of our creeds, to render those creeds a power in the world.

Mr. Murakami Senjō, Director of the Shinshū Middle School—The intercourse of the followers of one religion with those of another resembles the intercourse of one State with another. On such occasions it is important to make much of similarities and little of differences.

Mr. Matsumura Kaisai, a Christian connected with the Young Men's Christian Association—Some fifteen years ago there was a strong feeling in favour of greater union among Christians, but in recent years the existence of two distinct parties in the Church, one conservative the other liberal, has been very marked. But among the liberals there are several different sections; which have had various epithets applied to them. Mr. Togawa Zanka, owing to his saying things that resemble the utterances of a Buddhist priest, is said to belong to the "Buddhist Christians." On account of my frequent quotations from Confucius and Mencius, I have been called the "Confucian Christian," and Mr. Yebina Danjō, on account of the open manner in which he enunciates the articles of faith of the Kōbe Church—on account of the local colouring he gives to his belief—might be called the "Shintō Christian." Thus it has happened that liberal Christians all have their special proclivities, and it seems to me that union can be effected only by the appearance of some leading spirit to whose influence and character men of all parties will show deference. Regarded from the point of view of the State, Christianity, Buddhism, Shintoism, and Confucianism are all alike.

Mr. Onishi Shuku (Unitarian), Director of the Senshin-gaku-in—We live in a world where a great variety of forces are at work, some conducing to union others to conflict and discord. It is possible to be so absorbed in the work of opposing others as to forget that we even learn much from the men we oppose. It is not enough to have a mind that is bent on teaching, we must also have a mind that is bent on learning.

Dr. Clay MacCanley—The present meeting is an event which for several years I have desired to see take place. Just as all the colours reflected by the various material objects of nature derive their beauty from the same sun, so do all the diverse features of society originate from one source, and it is only natural that religions should unite together in their various stages of development in order the better to reveal the marvellous working of the power that controls them all.

Mr. Iida Ichiji—Christians in Japan object to being placed under Government control, as I explained, some little time ago, to the head of the Ecclesiastical Bureau attached to the Home Department. I was informed on that occasion that the chief reason for official interference is to prevent Buddhism and Shintoism from being overthrown by Christianity. Is religion then to be degraded to the rank of a mere ordinary thing and subjected to secular control? My desire is that religious sects should unite and in a body take steps to shake off this control.

Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta, the editor of the *Shūkyō*—I was brought up as a Christian when a child, but on coming to years of discretion my mind was enveloped in the clouds of doubt, which ended in my becoming an advocate of free inquiry and in my attaching immense importance to a knowledge of comparative religion. I can sympathise to a greater or less extent with all religious movements, and am of opinion that united efforts to reform society are likely to effect great things.

Mr. Konishi Masutarō, a teacher in the Greek Church School of Divinity—All religions agree in labouring for the cultivation of virtue, and the reforms that religious believers of various sects desire to see effected do not differ in any important particular. Though there are doubtless irreconcilable differences in the religious dogmas held by the adherents of diverse sects, as regards the province of religion, as regards the function it is designed to fulfil in man's life, there is no difference of opinion among the devout. The various sects may be compared to the colours, black, white, yellow, red: though they all differ from each other they all possess that abstract quality we call colour. It is far too common to find religion and learning opposed to each other. Scholars are apt to regard religion as a thing with which they have no concern. There ought to be no enmity between science and religion. They occupy two different spheres; they pursue different ends; and this it is our duty to make known to the world. There is no record in history of any such decline of religious devotion as marks the present age. Hence it is not a time for dwelling on minor differences. In the face of the stolid indifference to all kinds of religion with which we are confronted, it is our duty to combine our efforts for the furtherance of a cause that is clear to us all.

Mr. Takashima Kayemon explained to the meeting some of his well-known theories respecting divine influences founded on the teaching of the *Yeki*, Mr. Takashima's Bible, which book to him possesses all the authority given to the Christian Bible by strictly orthodox Christians. The meaning of the moral *Kami* is the one who reveals, said Mr. Takashima, and it is my belief that all hearts that are true have communication with the gods, receive their commands, and become participants of divine foreknowledge.

The number that attended the meeting as representatives, distinguished according to sects, were as follow: Shintoists, 2; Buddhists, 19; Christians, 16; attached to no sect, 5.

We read in the *Shinri*, that Dr. Faber, of China, has of late been devoting his time almost exclusively to high class literature. He has lately prepared a work called *經學不厭精* which is a most scientific and masterly treatise on the Chinese classics known as the *十三經*. It is to be published in Chinese in 10 volumes, two of which have already appeared. The *Shinri* affirms that no such thorough exposition

of Chinese philosophic thought exists in Chinese or Japanese.

The *Awoyama Hyōron* has an article on "The Education of the Individual," the gist of which we proceed to give. The primary object of school education in Japan is not the development of individual character, but the preparation of instruments and agents of the State. But there is such a thing as becoming a slave to the State and losing the spirit of independences. The many privileges to be derived by entering Government schools have caused these institutions to be crowded with students, but when the character of the majority of the students is examined, it is found that they lack energy and steadfastness of purpose. And there is another drawback to the ultra-national education now so popular. The minds of the students are centred on Japan, and they grow up with little knowledge of the greatness of the outside world. Excessive loyalty to their own country prompts many students to speak and act rudely to foreigners, and even to attempt to take the lives of pro-foreign statesmen, like Viscount Mori and others. How far the incident at Otsu many years ago and the assault on Li Hung-chang were the result of an education that elevates patriotism to a rank to which it has no true title, is a question that those responsible for State education would do well to consider. To us it seems that it is high time that, instead of concentrating our attention on the training and development of State agents, we should endeavour to produce in our schools broad-minded men. Education must be widened and be better adapted to the development of individual powers and faculties. Individualism in education does not imply selfishness by any means. The State will eventually gain more by the enlargement of the world to which the student is introduced than by adhering to the narrow-minded policy now pursued. The greatness of the State depends on the greatness of individuals; and the greatness of individuals depends on the possession of a wide knowledge of men and things.

The *Awoyama Hyōron* comments on the relinquishment of holy orders which has been taking place during the past twelve months in some Christian churches. Regarded from some points of view, says this organ, the abandonment of a position in the church that has been occupied for some time is cause for deep regret, but on the other hand, it is only too evident that numerous persons have taken office in the Church without due consideration, some for the sake of worldly gain and others owing to the influence of friends, and it is far preferable that such persons should leave us. The troubles through which our churches are passing will shift the chaff from the wheat. Hence we are inclined to think that they will prove a blessing in disguise. The *Uchū Shinkyō* (Universalist) has an article on the sacredness of the body and the necessity of preserving it from defilement of every kind. No such questions as those asked by Dr. Katō in reference to prostitution would be put were the generality of mankind convinced that our bodies are "the temples of the living God," observes this organ.

The Magazine just quoted take exception to Mr. Fukuzawa's representing life as a joke in one of his 100 short essays. Mr. Fukuzawa is of opinion that some people take life too seriously and are oppressed by its difficulties and responsibilities. He thinks they would do well to take more notice of its comic side. The man who regards life as a comedy bears his losses and disappointments with a light heart. The *Uchū Shinkyō*, it seems to us, founds its objection to Mr. Fukuzawa's remarks on a misconception of their purport. This magazine has articles on the following subjects:—"The Formosan Tongue;" "Professor Toyama's View of Society;" "Christian Philosophy," and "The New Japanese Prayer Book."

In that part of the *Waseda Bungaku* devoted

to the discussion of religious topics, the question of the depth of the religious sentiment in the Japanese mind, raised some time ago by Dr. Katō Hiroyuki, is again discussed and the remarks of Bishop Nicolai in the *Taiyō*, are quoted by the *Waseda Bungaku*. The following is a summary of the Bishop's article:—Many things in Japanese history seem specially adapted to make the Japanese a very religious people, and one of the chief reasons why they are not so is that outside of religion they have a code of morals which, if not perfect, has no serious defect. In the matter of criminal conduct, like thieving, Japan compares favourably with France, Germany, and other European Countries. Though there are a number of immoral practices in Japan, compared with European countries, Japan is pure. In Rome's palmy days the flesh of her slaves was often chopped into small pieces to feed the fish which swam in the nobleman's pond, and even at the present time in Spain the spectacle of men fighting with beasts is to be witnessed. Contrasted with these and similar practices, Japan's wrestling is a mild and harmless form of amusement. Even the worst kind of men in Japan are not impressed, by religious teaching, and no wonder, for only those who are really ill stand in need of a physician. But it should be pointed out that there are truths, virtues, and beauties with which Japanese would do well to become acquainted. Bishop Nicolai concludes by observing that he by no means endorses the general opinion as to the shallowness of Japanese religious feeling. His experience, extending over a quarter of a century, leads him to different conclusion.

The *Waseda Bungaku* and the *加是 Nyose* (a Buddhist organ) both draw attention to the lack of true religious feeling among the nobility. The latter organ affirms that, as a class, noblemen are sadly ignorant of the doctrines of religion, and hence it is not uncommon to find them joining such sects as the Remmonkyō and the Tenrikyō, worshipping Kōbō Daishi at Kawasaki, Fudō at Narita (Shimōsa), or relying on divination for the averting of some of the ills of life. The mental poverty of this class exceeds the physical poverty of the lower orders. The reason alleged by this organ for the want of spiritual enlightenment among the upper classes is the superstition and ignorance of their concubines. The *Waseda Bungaku* observes that education in Japan greatly needs pecuniary help from the nobility. They might do wonders with their money, but at present, influenced by the upholders of superstition, they are frittering their money away on unworthy objects. If asked what religion is best adapted to the present wants of the nobility, the answer is Christianity. Both as regards its influence on the relations of the sexes and as a stimulus to works of charity of all kinds, Buddhism is not to be compared with Christianity.

The *Koye*, the Roman Catholic organ, continues its abuse of Buddhism, the goddess of mercy, Kwan-on, being singled out for attack in the last number which has reached us. The imposing ceremony held in Kōbe on Oct. 18th connected with the consecration of Bishop Chatron is described. It is said that there were 460 Japanese converts and 380 foreigners present on that occasion.

The *Shūkyō* (No. 61), as previously announced, has entered on a new career. Henceforth it is no longer to be the organ of the Unitarians only. It will open its columns to all contributors on religion and cognate subjects. The first number of the new series contains a tempting list of articles on a great variety of subjects, the writers being men of various schools of thought. Among the subjects treated are "Name and Reality," by the Rev. D. Yehina; "Luxury," by K. Tajima; "The Influence of Delusion on Religious Beliefs;" "Why I believe in the existence of God," by N. Kishimoto; "Demand and supply in Religion;" "Freedom of Thought;" "On the Religion of Great Japan;" "Dean Hodges on Church Problems."

In the course of one of its articles the *Shūkyō* states that a meeting of scholars, including Dr. Motora, Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō, and others, has been held in Tokyo for the purpose of devising measures for the furtherance of morality throughout the country. The *Shūkyō* welcomes this movement and thinks that it is high time that something was done to raise the moral tone of all classes of society. The writer contrasts the influence of Christian Churches in America with the influence of Shintō and Buddhist congregations in Japan, and affirms that the latter accomplish next to nothing in the way of moral reform.

The *Bukkyō* gives a vivid account of the war of sects being waged in the Buddhist territory at the present time. A statement of the questions at issue and of the attitude of the great sects to each other would require more space than we have at our disposal. We reserve this subject for the next summary.

CHRIST-CHURCH, YOKOHAMA.

An entertainment is to be given at the Public Hall next week, the funds of which are to be devoted to the purposes of Christ Church. We do not know what objects the promoters have in view, or what the purposes are, but the thought arises that a certain portion of the money might be set aside to form the nucleus of a new Church building fund. The present fabric is very old—the wonder is that it has lasted so long—and there can be no question that it is very unsightly. Before many years go by the problem of a new church will become imperative, if the Episcopalian community of this port are to continue to worship in a consecrated fane. We are not aware that any funds are in hand that can be devoted to a building fund as the subscriptions and contributions just keep pace with expenses; besides which, there is a mortgage on the Church. Next year, God willing, the British race will be celebrating the completion of the sixtieth year of the Queen's reign—the longest, most glorious, and in all senses peculiarly successful in our rough island's story. What better record could the English Churchmen of this port desire to have in their midst than a commemoration church built on the site of the present Christ Church? Such a building could be erected at small cost—a building of harmonious proportions yet simple in detail—if the Episcopalians will but put their shoulders to the wheel within the year of grace that we are now about to enter upon.

FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

During the height of the gale on Monday morning fire broke out in the Mantake theatre—used principally by story-tellers—at the corner of Onocho, Gochome, and Bashamachi, opposite the iron bridge. Though the alarm was quickly given, by the time the Brigades arrived on the scene the place was enveloped in flames and the fire, fanned by the breeze, burned furiously. Sparks were carried all over the place, some even reaching the harbour. The Yokohama Fire Brigade, under Supt. Morgan, assisted by the Japanese brigades, had a very hard task in subduing the blaze, but after an hour and a half's incessant work, they managed to get it under. By this time ten houses beside the theatre were destroyed and many others were damaged. The cause of the outbreak is said to be accidental.

At half-past five o'clock on Thursday morning fire broke out in the Yoshino Bath-house, No. 63, Chojamachi, Shichichome, Yokohama. Six adjacent houses were entirely destroyed together with the bath-house, and six houses were greatly damaged. The fire was extinguished about six o'clock. The cause is not yet known.

Nakayama Seikichi, a fireman living at Hino-de machi, Yokohama, while going through some gymnastic feats on Monday afternoon, fell to the ground and died in a very short time—*Yiji Shimpō*.

"YOKOHAMA" LODGE INSTALLATION.

On Saturday evening, at the Masonic Temple, Main Street, Wor. Bro. Robert Newell St. John was installed for the third time Worshipful Master of the "Yokohama" Lodge, No. 1092, E.C. The ceremony of Installation was performed by the Right Worshipful the District Grand Master of Japan, Bro. W. H. Stone, who was accompanied by several of his District Grand Officers; and there was a large attendance of Past Masters and Brethren of other lodges. The Wor. Master having duly installed, invested his Officers as below:—

Wor. Bro. E. Flint Kilby.....	I.P.M.
Wor. Bro. H. W. Lea	S.W.
Bro. E. C. Fox	J.W.
Bro. H. L. Klinge	Treas.
Wor. Bro. A. T. Watson	Sec.
Bro. L. P. Von Hemert	D. of C.
Bro. F. Coghill Jackson	S.D.
Bro. V. R. Bowden	J.D.
Bro. L. H. Abel	I.G.
Bro. H. Ivison	Tyler.

Some fifty Brethren sat down to the banquet, at which the newly installed Master presided, supported by Rt. Wor. Bro. Stone and Wor. Bro. Kilby. A capital repast was provided from Clausen's Hotel, and at its conclusion the usual Masonic toasts were honoured in customary fashion. During the evening songs were contributed by Wor. Bro. H. J. Sharp, Wor. Bro. Delf, Bros. F. Coghill Jackson, E. T. Bethell, E. C. Fox, and others, a most enjoyable evening being spent.

DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDO-CHINA.

News has been received in Tokyo to the effect that His Excellency M. Rousseau, Governor-General of Indo-China, Councillor of State, formerly Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, Senator, &c., died at his post on the 10th of this month. M. Rousseau enjoyed the reputation of being a highly competent official. Zeal in the cause of duty seems to have been responsible for his lamented demise, inasmuch as, despite seriously impaired health, he considered that to quit his government on sick leave would be injurious to the public interests, and so, remaining unflinchingly in harness, he finally succumbed to an attack of abscess of the liver. His loss will be deeply regretted in France as well as in the East.

THE PHILIPPINES REBELLION.

The following is taken from the *China Mail* of Dec. 15th:—News from Balacan was received at Manila to the following effect:—Between 2 and 3 o'clock on the morning of the 26th Nov., a large body of rebels attacked the exchequer house of the parish of Lolomboy and carried away a quantity of goods. There were over 1,000 rebels, but only 16 of them entered the house for the purpose of pillage. The attack was repeated on the 29th. The rebels appear to have threatened to burn the buildings.

The volunteers in Batangas succeeded in capturing six rebels out of a group which were wandering about the place on the 1st Dec.; but while they were being taken to Taal, they attempted to escape, and the volunteers shot them down.

Lient. Pintos telegraphed from Paranaque that on the 3rd Dec., on going his ordinary rounds, he discovered a party of about 200 rebels, who ran away on the appearance of the troops. Several volleys were fired upon them.

On the 2nd Dec., the troops had an encounter with the rebels in Sambat, when a few prisoners were taken. These men stated that the party was headed by one Eligio, entitled "general," and Valentin, both from Talisay.

General Polovieja arrived at Manila on the 2nd December, in the transatlantic steamer *Alfonso XIII.* and was received with great enthusiasm by the inhabitants.

General Polovieja, according to Manila papers,

comes to Manila to fill the post of Military Governor in place of General Echaluce, and not as Captain-General in place of General Blanco, as generally supposed. [Our information, however, published last night, is authentic to the effect that General Pola Vieja supercedes General Blanco.—Ed. C.M.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for that sentiment or opinion of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE TIDAL WAVE FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Though late, we think it due to the contributors to make some public report of the funds contributed through the Sendai Committee to the Tidal Wave sufferers. Several trips were made to the scene of the disaster and the funds were distributed with the utmost discrimination in view of the amount of suffering to be met by such a comparatively small amount. The distribution therefore was continued into the present month, which partly accounts for the delay in the report. If it would not be trespassing too much upon your space would you kindly give publicity to the report.

Yours truly, R. H. JONES.

Sendai, December 15th, 1896.

REPORT OF THE SENDAI TIDAL WAVE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

The whole amount of money received was \$304.50. Subscriptions came from Kobe on the South-west to Sapporo in Hokkaido. The Committee was represented on the field a few days after the disaster by Rev. J. P. and Mrs. Moore, who after a close and thorough investigation in which they were greatly assisted by the local officials, reported to the other members of the Committee that it would be well to postpone the distribution of the funds till later in the season. This opinion was supported by the advice of other Sendai missionaries who went to the front to give personal assistance and sympathy to the suffering. When the other members of the Committee went out in October to commence distribution the wisdom of the delay was abundantly shown by the condition of the people. From an early period—only a few days after the disaster—immediate relief of all kinds poured into the hands of the village and prefectural officials, so that it came soon to be difficult to store the things till they could be distributed. The Government undertook the feeding of the people in a wonderfully careful and efficient manner. Summer clothing and other articles for immediate use were soon in abundance, and the whole affords a good illustration of the benevolent character of the present age. But as the season advanced to colder weather, and other disasters occurred to claim the assistance of the benevolent, it was found that while the large contributions from the Government, from abroad, and from various subscription-centres in Japan, were providing the people with houses, boats, and other implements, a supply of thick clothing was lacking. We undertook so far as our funds would allow to meet this need. We visited the stricken districts in Miyagi Ken with relief, from Nagashimizu, South of Shizugawa, to Karakuwa, opposite Aomori, and would have gone further but our funds only sufficed to this point. Our method was to apply to the local officials for names of such as were old or maimed, or otherwise incapacitated to get their own living; or any other worthy poor who were in distressing circumstances. To each of these we gave a padded garment—*watire*, a comfortable *futon* or a simple lined garment, or *awase*, as the circumstances seemed to require. We were surprised, in view of the abundant evidences of want to be seen on all sides, at the modest requests of the officials. About 10 garments was the highest limit for any village centre; the name *Uatsuru-mura*, for an instance, having some ten or twelve village centres, and this even where scores of houses had been swept away. There was an evident desire on the part of the afflicted people to hear more about the religion that had prompted so much generous help to them in their distress; and we may expect some results in a religious way from the awakened interest manifested. Below is the list of the places helped, and the number of persons. The Woman's Society of the Japanese Kumiai Church at Moyoshi, Bingo, sent to the committee a box of clothing made by their own hands for distribution to the needy. Two Japanese Christians also contributed to our funds. The balance was collected from missionaries. It may be some satisfaction to the donors to know that none of the funds was used for expenses, the expenses of investigation and distribution being defrayed from personal or other funds. Only the small amount needed for the transport of the clothing, etc., was charged.

LIST OF PLACES AND PERSONS HELPED.

Nagashimizu—Drowned 38, wounded 18, persons helped 13.
Aikawa—Drowned 150, wounded 33, persons helped 18.
Matsu-mura—Drowned 764, wounded 76, persons helped 56.
Oya—Drowned 230, wounded 110, persons helped 16.
Hakukami—Drowned 421, wounded 110, persons helped 22.
Karakuwa—Drowned 823, wounded 57, persons helped 47.
Oshima—Drowned 56, wounded 12, persons helped 18.
Hosoura—Persons helped 10.
Shizugawa—Persons helped 10.
Kusumi—Persons helped 2.
Committee—J. P. Moore, Mrs. J. P. Moore, J. H. De Forest.
F. H. Jones, Treasurer.

Sendai, December 15th, 1896.

REVIEW.

An Unabridged Japanese-English Dictionary, by Capt. F. BRINKLEY, R.A., Editor of the *Japan Mail*, F. NANO, M.A., *Bungaku-hakushi*; Y. IWASAKI, *Hogogushi*; with co-operation of Prof. K. MITSUKURI in Zoological terms, and Prof. J. MATSUMURA in Botanical terms. Published by the Sanseido, Tokyo.

We confess that we have the greatest admiration for any foreigner who has the courage to attempt lexicography in Japan. The difficulties attending the task, owing to the rapid changes which the language is undergoing, are so great that only four or five out of a score of advanced foreign students of the language have essayed the enterprise. Lexicographers who, despairing of attaining the best, are content with the next best, deserve the thanks of the public. Were all sinologues fearful of staking their reputation for scholarship on works that fall below the highest standard, we should have no dictionaries and no grammars in Japan. One of the schemes of the late Viscount Mori, which he did not live to see put into operation, was the compilation of a Japanese-English dictionary by a committee of specialists, each collecting words on that branch of knowledge with which he was best acquainted, the labours of each to be revised by the whole Committee. The plan was a good one, and perhaps when the Japanese begin to feel the need of an exhaustive dictionary more than they do now, we may see it acted on. In the meantime, such a work as has been lately published by the Sanseido is invaluable. Among Japanese-English Dictionaries it must be acknowledged by all impartial critics to be *facile princeps*. It not only contains many more words than Hepburn's latest edition, but the definitions are as a rule more scholarly and minute than those of Dr. Hepburn's work. It is difficult to estimate exactly the number of terms it explains, but supposing that there are 32 words on each page, perhaps a fair average, the number would reach 53,884. An average of 40 words per page, which we hardly think is reached, would give 67,480 words. The pages are six inches in length against 7 inches in Dr. Hepburn's work. The latter, at 40 words per page, would contain 30,800 words; at 50 the total would reach 38,500. Roughly speaking then, the Unabridged Japanese-English Dictionary has nearly double the number of words given in Dr. Hepburn's work. And yet, as we shall show presently, the new work has omitted to give many words that are in every day use.

As regards the printing of the dictionary, we are only expressing the view of the majority of foreign critics when we say that it is disappointing. The type is far too small, with the exception of that in which the terms explained are printed. Even with fair eyesight it is very difficult to read the Chinese characters at night. There are a good number of printer's errors, but that, perhaps, is unavoidable in a work of this kind issued by a Japanese Printing Office.

In advertising the Dictionary, the Sanseido is bold enough to affirm that it contains almost every word in use in the language. The Japanese Preface states that the compilers of the dictionary have collected and translated into English all the modern and ancient terms known in Japan. We venture to think that the Sanseido was not authorised by the gentlemen who prepared the work to make any such statement, for surely those gentlemen must be aware that the book would need to be at least half as big again in order to include all the modern terms in use, to say nothing of medieval Japanese. It might have occurred to the publishers to look up in their dictionary the term which they use in the first sentence of the preface 網羅 *Mōra suru*, as the equivalent of comprehending or including, a term in every day use, but omitted from the Unabridged Japanese-English Dictionary. It is further stated in the Japanese preface that the words which appear in the Dictionary were principally selected by the Sanseido. Is it to be understood from this that the compilers whose names are attached to the work were not granted full liberty to supplement the list of words furnished by the Sanseido? If that was the case, it is a matter for surprise that the authors of the Dictionary did not make this fact known to the foreign, as well as the Japanese, public. The point is important, as will be seen later on, when we point out how defective the work is compared with what it might have been under different management. Our own experience with Japanese booksellers leads us to the conclusion that the compilers by no means had *carte blanche* to act as they pleased in the choice of terms. A variety of courses was open to them in compiling a work of this kind. The most natural for them to follow would be to examine every word given in Japanese and Anglo-Japanese

dictionaries and to include most of these in their lexicon. The contents of the work we are reviewing show that this course was not followed. Scores, perhaps hundreds, of words given in Gubbins' Dictionary are omitted from the Unabridged Japanese-English Dictionary. Both from the written and the spoken language terms in everyday use like *era* (remarkable) and *hōten* (code) are omitted. Another course open to the projectors of the Dictionary was to secure the co-operation of specialists, not only in Literature, Agriculture, Zoology, and Botany, but in Medicine, Geology, Mental Philosophy, Chemistry, Economy, and other subjects. By confining their attention to certain fixed branches of learning to the partial exclusion of other equally important departments, they rendered the primary object of the work (according to the publishers' preface), comprehensive, impossible of attainment.

It is only with the object of helping forward the cause of lexicography in Japan, and not from mere capriciousness, that we now proceed to point out such defects in the work as our necessarily limited study of it has enabled us to discover.

First as to omissions. We have no leisure to compare the pages of the new Japanese-English Dictionary with those of a standard Japanese lexicon like the *Genkai*, but we have tested the work by means of terms culled at random from books written on different subjects in colloquial and classical Japanese. As a result of this investigation, we may state that the most perfect part of the Dictionary is its colloquial part. We do not mean to say that there are no omissions even here, but they are few compared with those from the written language, and numerous terms are given which, though quite obsolete, will prove valuable to the philologist and antiquarian. Among the omissions of colloquial terms, we may mention 骨灰 *Koppai*, a word in constant colloquial use in Tokyo in such expressions as "*Koppai misin ni suru*," to utterly demolish, the figure being taken from reducing the bones of the dead to ashes and grinding them into small dust or atoms (*mijin*); 大枝 *taimai*, equivalent to *takusan*, or a large sum, in such phrases as *taimai no okane*; *taimai nijūgo ryō*, which are frequently met with in novels; and the meaning of *ato ashi* in the sense in which it is so often used in such phrases as "*ato ashi de suna wo kaku*," a figure of complete oblivion, and 刑狀 *kyōjō*, a criminal matter, used in such phrases as *kyōjō mochi da kara kono yama wo de-rarenai*, often met with in novels.

Coming now to terms in use in the newspapers, magazines, and in educated speech, we would draw attention to the omission of the following 恐慌 *kyōkō* or *kyōkō*, a panic; 同盟罷工 *dōmei-hiko*, a strike; under 本位 *hon-i*, standard of money, *kinkewa hon-i* is given as the equivalent of gold standard, but the terms for single standard and double standard, both constantly used, 單本位 *tanhon-i* and 複本位 *fukuhon-i*, are not given; 固定資本 *kotei-shihon*, fixed or immovable capital in contradistinction to circulating capital, is omitted. So also are the following 常識 *jōshiki*, common sense; 繁文縟辭 *hambun*, excessive attention to a variety of details, used constantly in the newspapers in such phrases as the following; *ima no naikaku wa hambun no hei wo nazoku to iu*, it is said that the present cabinet are getting rid of the habit of spending time over multitudinous minor details; 國粹論 *kokusui-ron*, *kokusui-hōron*; 奇貨 *kiwa* or *kika*, extraordinary prosperity or luxury, and in phrases like the following, *ōoku naru wo shitte kika to shite oku*.

The terms 抽象 *Chūshō*, abstract, 具體 *guta* concrete, 主觀 *Shukan*, subject and 客觀 *Kakkan* object, and the adjectival forms of these words are omitted. So are the terms 內界 *Naikai*, 外界 *Gwaihai*, the internal world and external world; 前提 *Zentei* premise, 大 (大) *sentai* major premise *Sho* (小) *sentai* minor premise; 封鎖 *fūsa* (suru) to seal, a word in constant use; 排水力 *Haisuiyoku*, displacement (used of ships), employed in such phrases as "*Kono gun-kan no haisuiyoku wa ikutan aru?*" 速射炮 *Sokusha hō*, quick-firing guns. The term *Kensei Suru* 牽制 is given, but the military use of the term is not explained. In accounts of battles, the term *Kensei undō* is constantly used for describing feints, in the following manner, *Ushiro wo semen ga tame teki wo mayu ni kensō su*. "In order to attack him in the rear the enemy's attention is drawn to the front and kept there." The Japanese equivalent of the term *kensei suru*, used in a military sense, is *hikitomeru*. Although the word for an ironclad is given, *Kōtetsu kan*, the term for cruiser 巡洋艦 *Fun'yōkan* is not given. The term for extra-territoriality, 治外法權

Chingwai-hōken, the most favoured nation clause, 最惠國定疑 *Saikiōoku jōkan*, and several kindred terms are all omitted. The legal term 成文 *Seibun* is given, but the antithetical term 不成文 *Fubun*, applied to unwritten law, has been omitted. We have not exhausted our list of omissions, but have given enough to show how numerous they must be when a very imperfect examination of the contents of the dictionary has led to the discovery of such a large number.

We think, in view of the numerous grammars and phrase-books treating the structure of Japanese that have been published, the authors of the Dictionary might have spared themselves the labour of preparing a grammatical introduction to the work. We have no space to discuss the merits of this part of the dictionary.

We do not pretend to have examined very extensively the English explanations of the words, but we have quite casually come across definitions that are incorrect and others that are misleading. To give only one example of each, the word 偶然 is translated as follows: "Having no fault to find; leaving no room for criticism," which is the exact opposite of the real meaning, as is shown by the example quoted, *Kansen suru nashi*, there is no room for criticism. The term 史 *Shi* is translated (1) history, chronicle annals (2) A historian. This is misleading, as the word *Shi*, unless in conjunction with another word, is no longer applied to the writers of history. It was so used in former days owing to the fact that a Chinese writer of history in ancient times was called 史. The modern term for a historian, in every day use omitted by the Unabridged Japanese-English Dictionary, is 史家 *Shika*.

We think it worth while to draw attention to the fact that the plan followed by the compilers of giving synonyms at the end of a series of definitions of a word which is used in a variety of senses, without indicating the special meanings of these equivalents, is misleading. Take for example the word *Shiawase*, which is translated (1) Fortune; fate; luck (2) An event; accident; chance. We are told that *Saimai*, *Kōfuku*, *un* and *Gyōkō* are the synonyms of this word. Then would it be correct to use the word *Kōfuku* as the equivalent of accident, a meaning *Shiawase* is said to bear? In some cases we do not agree with the definitions given or approve of the selection of synonyms. In the case under consideration the term "fate," which is almost universally used in connection with bad luck, is not a good rendering of *Shiawase*, which is almost universally used to express good luck. But this is a very minor point.

It is said that the *Wa yaku Yei-Ji-i*, compiled some years ago by Y. Shimada and others, contains 80,000 words. The *Yei-ma J-i-i*, by Shibata and Koyasu, probably contains more. The omissions from the latter work, which, after many years' use, we have discovered, lead us to the conclusion that anything like an adequate lexicon of Japanese and English or English and Japanese should contain at least 100,000 words.

We do not wish anything we have written to convey the impression that we undervalue the work which Captain Brinkley and his collaborators have given to the world. Taken all round, there is nothing to equal it. The defects, inaccuracies, and omissions to which we have drawn attention, and others, such for instance, as the mispronunciation of Chinese characters, which, though existing, we have not found space to refer to, may all be remedied in a second edition of the work. By every one who knows the difficulties of lexicography in Japan the new dictionary will be valued, and its publication is to be regarded, not as a mere step, but as a great stride, towards the goal which all ardent linguists hope to reach—a knowledge of the language no less accurate than comprehensive.

BREAKING-UP DAY AT WINTON HOUSE SCHOOL.

On Wednesday afternoon Winton House School held its breaking-up festival and distribution of prizes. Mr. James Troup took the Chair, and among others present were Prince and Princess Lobanow de Rostow, Mr. and Mrs. James Walter, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. Le Prevost, the Rev. E. C. Irvine, the Rev. T. Austen, Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Bowden, Mrs. David Jackson, Dr. Munro, etc. Before gathering in the school-room, the boys went through a capital series of military evolutions under the direction of Mr. Lowe, the Assistant-Master. After this, guests and boys entered the School-room where the following recitations were given:—

"Essay on Man," A. J. H. Chope.
"Deux Camarades de Collège," A. J. H. Chope, E. dos Santos, and V. G. Bowden.

"The Merchant of Venice," H. Austen, P. Le Prevost, and F. Thomson.
 "The Lay of the last Minstrel," R. Bowden and V. G. Bowden.
 "Daffodils," J. Drummond.
 "Ein Schatz Fürs Haus," F. Herb, W. Graham, T. Jensen, and J. L. Graham.
 "The Poet's Song," and "The Beggar Maid," T. Jensen.
 "The Cock and the Hen," R. Parsons.
 "Noël," F. Lowder, H. Schurr, H. Dare, R. Box, and H. St. John.
 "Le Laboureur de Castille," E. dos Santos.
 "Bed in the Day," R. St. John.
 "Hollenlinden," M. Walter.
 "De Arrio," A. J. H. Chope.
 "The Isles of Greece," W. Graham and J. L. Graham.
 "Wishes," D. Cameron.
 "Killed at the Ford," A. J. H. Chope.
 "My Little Doggy," F. Lowder, H. Schurr, H. Dare, R. Box, and H. St. John.

The recitations were given in excellent style, Master Chope, in particular, showing to advantage whether speaking in English, French, or Latin. The five small boys—Masters Lowder, Schurr, Dare, Box, and St. John—won well deserved applause.

After an interval for refreshment, the Head-Master, Mr. G. James H. Schurr, delivered the following

REPORT.

Perhaps the first matter that calls for attention is the removal of Winton House School from 22 Bluff, to our present premises. At the beginning of the year I was able to commence work in the new building in which we are now assembled. The play ground was in an entirely unfit state for use by the boys, but, thanks to the kind contributions of their parents, I was able in a short time to get it into the excellent condition in which you now see it. Madame Salabelle has been constant in her attendance at the School, and when Mrs. Schurr was taken ill was kind enough to come during extra hours to take part of the work. I have also for short periods, enjoyed the assistance of Mr. Coningham and Mr. Edmunds, and by the kind consent of the Consul, Mr. Kitcher last term came three times a week to give instructions in drill. I have specially to thank Mrs. Syme Thomson for the very kind way in which, during the summer term, as soon as she heard of Mrs. Schurr's being ill, she came forward and offered to help with her class, which she ably took in History and Geography. At the commencement of the term I was fortunate enough to secure the valuable co-operation of Mr. Lowe as Science Master and Instructor in Drill. On his success in drilling the boys, you have just had an opportunity of judging, and I should like to accord my high appreciation of the general state of efficiency to which he has brought the boys in the subjects which he teaches. For four terms one of my old boys, Albert Austen, has given his help with the lower classes, and I beg to thank him for so kindly assisting me.

Our numbers fluctuate with the changes in the population of Yokohama. Several boys have gone into offices in Yokohama, Kuhn, Carst, and Irvine being among the number. Others, such as the two Lindsleys and Cleveland, have gone to School in America, Mollison to England, and Cook to Scotland. The work in general of the boys throughout the term has been highly satisfactory. Never at any previous examination have the German papers been so well written as they were last week. And the same may be said of the translations from Latin. The tendency, I am told, in schools at home is in give less time to the classics and to devote more attention to modern languages and scientific subjects. The modern side is growing in every public school. Army classes are a regular institution, and chemistry has much more consideration shown it than was the case ten years ago. In deference to this change of opinion at home, and to meet the requirements of the majority of residents in Yokohama, our curriculum includes no Greek, and but little Latin, while the greater portion of the school hours is given to English, Arithmetic, French, and German. Mrs. Schurr is good enough to ground the boys in German, and I desire to express my perfect satisfaction with the success of her methods, the two last boys who have passed through her hands, Bowden major and Bowden minor obtaining very nearly full marks in German composition in the examination. In September last Mrs. Schurr started a class for boys under eight years of age to be preparatory to the upper classes in the School. The advantage of such a preparatory class is manifest, as there can be nothing for the boys to unlearn when they are moved up higher. The progress made by these little boys is on the whole very satisfactory. They are being taught on the new principles, which recent experience has shown to

be most recommended. A proof of this is to be seen in the fact that those who have learnt the new method alone, are rapidly leaving behind the others who were first taught on the old lines.

Drawing has always been taught in the school by Mrs. Schurr. This subject, since the end of September, she has been unwillingly compelled to drop, and it has been a real disappointment in her to be deprived of the pleasure of offering two prizes for Drawing, as had been her intention.

After this the Chairman distributed the following prizes:—

PRIZE LIST.

CLASS IA.—First Prize—Bowden mi. Latin—Graham mi. German—Chope. French—Santos. Mathematics—Bunting ma.
 CLASS IB.—First Prize—Bunting ma.
 CLASS II.—First Prizes—Drummond. Latin—Drummond.
 CLASS III.—First Prize—Noble. First in Examination—Le Prevost mi.
 PREPARATORY CLASS.—First Prize—Freddie Lowder.
 Special Prize, presented by James Troup, Esq.—Graham mi.
 Mr. Lowe's Prize—Watson.
 Prizes for Punctuality.—Dare ma, Watson, Herb, Lowder, Schurr, absent once.

CERTIFICATES.

CLASS IA.—German—Bowden mi. General Proficiency—Graham mi. German—Bowden mi.
 CLASS IB.—General Proficiency—Graham mi. Improvement in French—Dare ma.
 CLASS II.—General Proficiency Repetition of Poetry—Cameron. General Progress—Walter. Progress in Arithmetic—Fraser. Latin—Dare mi. Marked Improvement—Oustinnoff.
 CLASS III.—General Proficiency—Le Prevost mi. Arithmetic—Le Prevost mi. Poetry—Parsons. Geography—Lobanow.
 PREPARATORY CLASS.—General Proficiency—Schurr. General Proficiency—Box, Geography—St. John mi.

YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB.

The annual general meeting and an extraordinary general meeting of the Yokohama Sailing Club, took place on Wednesday evening in Keil's Building. There were present Messrs. G. H. Scidmore (in the chair), J. O. Averill, Alan Owston, R. Boyes (Secretary), C. V. Schmidt, K. Kingdon, J. Carst, L. Salabelle, F. L. Elliott, Kay Smith, R. Hay, B. Martinielli, W. Carst, C. S. Averill, W. Schmaderke, H. Rose, F. Abbey, J. B. Gibbs, F. Owston, and G. Hodges.

The SECRETARY, called the meeting to order, and then asked Mr. G. H. Scidmore to take the chair.

The CHAIRMAN—The first business of the meeting is to consider the report and accounts presented by the Committee. This has been printed and placed in your hands.

Mr. J. O. AVERILL proposed and Mr. L. Salabelle seconded that the Committee's report and the Treasurer's accounts be taken as read and then accepted.—Carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.	YEN.
Annual dues from members	248.00
Entrance fees for Races	263.00
Prizes in cash	493.87
Measurement fees	46.00
Interest from H. S. B. C.	2.13
	Yen 1,053.00
DISBURSEMENTS.	YEN.
Prizes	827.20
2 Stopwatches	34.00
Flags	11.00
Flag-boat hire	28.80
Ammunition and gun repairs	13.33
Measurement fees	75.00
Advertising and Printing	52.67
Collector's commission	7.00
Gratuities	4.00
	Yen 1,053.00

RICHARD BOYES.

Examined with the vouchers and found correct.
 W. GRAUTOFF.

Yokohama, 20th December, 1896.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is to elect a Committee for the ensuing year. I think I am expressing the sentiments of all present when I say that the Club owes a good deal of its present satisfactory state, to the industry and active interest of our Secretary (Mr. Boyes). To him we owe much of our present financial prosperity for the report just presented is the best in its history. The cash receipts have been over 1,000 yen, in round numbers, which is about 200 yen in excess of what they were last year. In addition to this we have had the

usual number of prizes presented, which have been of great value. Altogether, the condition of the Club is most encouraging. I now ask Mr. Salabelle and Mr. Gibbs to act as scrutineers of the ballot. You will vote for five members of the Committee, and although by a provision in our rules the Committee chooses its own Secretary, this does not preclude you from indicating your own preference in the matter.

The election of Committee resulted as follows: Messrs. T. Abbey, R. Boyes, T. M. Laffin, H. Rose, and Alan Owston.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, if there is nothing further to be brought forward, I will declare this annual general meeting closed. There being no response, I declare the meeting closed and convene the extraordinary general meeting, which has been duly advertised, for the purpose of considering various alterations in our rules.

The SECRETARY read the amendments *seriatim* and they were then discussed and passed.

Mr. AVERILL proposed and Mr. ALAN OWSTON seconded the alteration of Rule I. "The name of the Club be changed to the Yokohama Yacht Club."

Mr. AVERILL, in answer to the Chair, said that when the Club first started they had only a fleet of converted ship's boats and small craft, and therefore it was then thought that to call their association a Yacht Club would be too ambitious. But now, after ten years of successful work, and also when they had rivals in the field, he thought that the name should be changed to the Yokohama Yacht Club. Besides, the new revised Treaties contained provisions that applied to pleasure yachts, and for this reason also it was well that their Club should be called the Yokohama Yacht Club, and as such be recognised by the proper authorities.—Carried.

Mr. ALAN OWSTON then proposed, and Mr. Gibbs seconded—"Addition to Rule XIII.—And no change in system of measurement for rating on sailing rules be made except in December." This alteration was made, as explained by the proposer, to meet the case of persons wishing to build boats at the close of one season to race in the next, thus giving them plenty of time to develop their plans.

Mr. J. O. AVERILL proposed and Mr. F. OWSTON seconded an alteration of Sailing Rule 27—"That rig allowance as made by the Yacht Racing Association shall be allowed."—Carried.

Mr. F. OWSTON proposed and Mr. C. S. AVERILL seconded, "That the time-allocation scale shall be increased from 50 to 100 per cent." Mr. Owston explained that the amendment meant that the Club's time allowance would be doubled.

Mr. J. O. AVERILL said that it was intended to have brought this amendment before the Club last year, but there was not a sufficient number of members then present. Since then the Yacht Clubs in England and America had adopted an increased time-scale, so that the big Clubs at home were actually following the Yokohama Club's lead.—(Laughter.)

Mr. SALABELLE said that it would be best for all concerned to double the time scale.—The proposal was carried.

Mr. ALAN OWSTON proposed that Rule 28 be cancelled and a new Club course be substituted—a course well within sight of the people on the shore at Yokohama.

The CHAIRMAN thought that the Committee had it in their own discretion to fix the course for the day. Then again, the harbour was becoming very crowded and objection might be made to races in the harbour; or even to the finishing of races inside the harbour, because objection had already been urged that racing created confusion in business transactions in the harbour.

Mr. F. OWSTON said that the old Club course was cancelled because its line was crossed by the breakwater. The only reason why the present proposal was made was to enable the boats to keep closer home, thus making the racing more interesting.

The CHAIRMAN then read the motion—"That the course for the A Division be as follows:—From the present starting place around a mark-boat off Tsunami, the lightship and home, the number of turns around the outer marks to be varied according to class. Course for B Division:—Present starting line around a mark-boat, or markboats, outside of Eastern breakwater, 12 rating Special Class:—Between the Bund and shipping."

Mr. J. O. AVERILL seconded.—Carried.

Mr. BOYES proposed that "In case of disputes, doubts, or questions where the rules of the Yokohama Sailing Club prove insufficient, decision shall be given according to the rules of the Yacht Racing Association."

Mr. SCHMIDT seconded.
Mr. AVERILL pointed out that the rules of the Y.S.C. were based on the rules of the V.R.A.; in some cases they were word for word.

Mr. BOYES thought it would be better to have the new clause in their rules, as the V.R.A. rules were ample in detail and would materially help them in their decisions.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the words "according to the usage" be substituted for "according to the rules."

The amendment was accepted and the rule now reads:—"In case of disputes, doubts, or questions where the rules of the Yokohama Sailing Club prove insufficient, decision shall be given according to the usage of the Yacht Racing Association."

Mr. BOYES proposed and Mr. ABBEY seconded that the following be a Sailing Rule—"Time limit for Races to mean actual time of first boat in, not corrected time."—Carried.

Mr. KINGDON proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee, and more particularly the Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN—I second that. Mr. Boyes is a credit to the Club, and we all regret that he can not continue as Secretary for another year; still we hope to get plenty of work out of him.

Mr. BOYES—Thank you all, gentlemen.
The meeting then dispersed.

The following is our detailed report of the doings of the Yokohama Sailing Club for the past season:—

The Yokohama Sailing Club has now completed the tenth year of its existence, and although there was an unusual lack of wind during the latter part of the summer, the season, on the whole, has been a very successful one, fifty-one races having been completed, viz., fourteen by the 39 rating class, fourteen by the 26-raters, twelve by the 17-raters and eleven by the 12-raters. In addition to the above, there were a number of races that were either not started or else could not be finished on account of bad weather or want of wind. The following is an analysis of the season's racing:—

A DIVISION.

Date.	Class.	Course.	Wind.	Character of Race.		Winners.	
				1st Prizes.	2nd Prizes.	3rd Prizes.	
May 16	A Division	Kawasaki-Lightship	Light N.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
May 23	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
June 6	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
June 13	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
June 20	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
June 27	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
July 4	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
July 11	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
July 18	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
July 25	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Aug. 1	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Aug. 8	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Aug. 15	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Aug. 22	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Aug. 29	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Sept. 5	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Sept. 12	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Sept. 19	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Sept. 26	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Oct. 3	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Oct. 10	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Oct. 17	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Oct. 24	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Nov. 1	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
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Nov. 15	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Nov. 22	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn
Nov. 29	39 Raters	Homoku	Light S.E.	Arbitrary and measurement	Maid Marion	Albatross	Molly Bawn

39 Rating Class.

Yacht.	Rating.	sailed.	Prizes.	Record Miles
Mary	29	13	9. 2. 1	214.0
Tori	30	13	2. 2. 1	131.0
Golden Hind	30	13	1. 1. 1	34.0
Maid Marion	30	13	2. 5. 0	206.5
Wanderer	30	13	1. 2. 0	14.5
Spray	30	13	1. 2. 0	171.5
Daimyo	29	7	1. 2. 0	116.5

Elapsed Average time. speed. Other prizes. won.

Mary	47.08.25	4.54	Record prize	13
Golden Hind	30.53.13	3.30		5
Maid Marion	6.21.74	5.35		3
Wanderer	49.14.17	4.20	Champion pennant	8
Spray	4.07.15	3.50		1
Daimyo	39.56.00	4.30		3
Daimyo	29.11.21	3.97	Western Challenge shield	5
			Prize for highest speed	5

26 Rating Class.

Yacht.	Rating.	sailed.	Prizes.	Record Miles
Albatross	26	9	1. 3. 2	101.0
Molly Bawn	24	5	2. 1. 1	41.0
Surprise	24	3	2. 1. 1	37.0
Spencer	24	1	1. 1. 1	14.5
Ronin	22	1	3. 2. 2	115.5
Else	22	1	1. 1. 1	14.5
Ideal	21	3	1. 1. 1	27.0

Yacht.	Rating.	Elapsed time.	Average speed.	Other prizes.	Total Prizes won.
Albatross.....	29	49.28...	3.4	{ Record prize.....	8
M. H. B.....	15.18.37	2.7		{ Champion pennant.	
Surprise.....	9.30.40	3.4			
Spencer.....	3.33.38	4.0			
Ronin.....	34.10.11	3.4			
Else.....	2.51.38	5.1			
Ideal.....	9.21.18	2.9			

B DIVISION.

Date.	Course.	Miles.	Wind.
May 16	Home	4.5	Light N.E.
May 23	Home of leg	6.0	Light S.E.
June 6	Lightship and South		
June 20	S. Mark and Lightship	5.5	Mod. N.E.
July 4	Home and leg	5.5	Light S.
July 18	Home and leg	6.0	Mod. N.E.
Aug. 1	Home	6.0	Fresh S.
Aug. 22	S. Mark and Lightship	4.5	Mod. S.
Aug. 29	Home and leg	5.5	Mod. S.
Sept. 10	Home	4.5	Light S.E.
Oct. 29	S. Mark and Lightship	4.5	Light variable
Nov. 21	Lightship-Breakwater	5.0	Light E.

Date.	Character of Race.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.
May 16	Measurement time allowance	Eclair	Petrel	Vega
May 23	Arbitrary handicap	Vega	Petrel	Eclair
June 6	Measurement time allowance	Eclair	Vega	Petrel
June 20	Arbitrary handicap	Vega	Eclair	Petrel
July 4	Arbitrary handicap	Eclair	Vega	Petrel
July 18	Arbitrary handicap	Vega	Petrel	Violet
Aug. 1	Arbitrary handicap	Eclair		
Aug. 21	Arbitrary handicap	Eclair	Vega	Bonito
Aug. 29	Arbitrary handicap	Eclair	Bonito	Vega
Sept. 10	Arbitrary handicap	Bonito	Eclair	Vega
Oct. 29	Arbitrary handicap	Vega	Bonito	
Nov. 21	Arbitrary handicap	Bonito		

B DIVISION.

Date.	Course.	Distance.	Wind.	Eclair.
May 16	Home	4.5	Light N.N.E.	h.m.s.
May 23	Home and leg	6.0	Light S.E.	2.14.11
June 6	S. Mark-Lt. Ship	5.5	Mod. N.E.	2.34.21
July 4	Home and leg	5.5	Light S.	1.48.19
July 18	Home and leg	6.0	Mod. N.E.	2.13.05
Aug. 1	Home	6.0	Fresh S.	1.38.59
Aug. 21	S. Mark-Lt. Ship	4.5	Strong S.	2.09.00
Aug. 29	Home and leg	5.5	Mod. S.	2.28.20
Sept. 10	Home	4.5	Light S.E.	1.39.10
Oct. 29	Home and leg	4.5	Light vble.	1.43.10
Nov. 21	Lt. Ship-Breakwater	5.0	Light E.	1.30.25

Yacht.	Rating.	sailed.	Prizes.	Record Miles
Isabel	17	11	1. 2. 1	101.0
Cocktail	17	8	2. 1. 1	41.0
Bonito	16	3	1. 1. 1	37.0
Vega	16	3	2. 1. 1	37.0
Petrel	16	3	2. 1. 1	37.0
Violet	16	3	2. 1. 1	37.0

17 RATING CLASS.

Yacht.	Rating.	sailed.	Prizes.	Record Miles
Eclair	17	11	6. 2. 1	18.59.0
Isabel	17	8	2. 1. 1	13.48.29
Cocktail	17	2	1. 2. 0	4.25.51
Bonito	16	3	2. 2. 1	6.38.5
Vega	16	11	4. 3. 2	9.60.19
Petrel	16	6	3. 2. 2	23.35.10
Violet	16	7	2. 2. 1	37.51.13

* Record prize. † Champion pennant.

The Record Prizes in the several classes were won by the following boats:—

39 Rating Class	Mary with	25 points
26 Rating Class	Albatross & Ronin each	12 points
17 Rating Class	Eclair	18 points
12 Rating Class	Aimée	12 points

The four classes above mentioned were all well represented. The 32-rating class had only one yacht left in it and, as her owner did not care to sail alone, she was entered throughout the season with the 39-raters. The 21 and 14-rating classes again had no representatives, but the time may not be far off when the first-named class will come into favour. Two of the yachts sailing with the 26-raters properly belong to the smaller class, and one more new boat would be enough to start the class, which once started would no doubt soon become a popular one. A 21-rater can be built at a moderate expense and be big enough to sail on the bay with safety, which is more than can be said for anything below that rating.

The following table gives a comparison of the average speeds of the Record Prize winners for the last six years, which, allowing for difference in the force of the wind in different seasons, shows a

steady improvement in the yachts of the club in the matter of speed.

AVERAGE SPEED OF RECORD PRIZE WINNERS.

1891.		Miles Sailed.	Speed in knots.
39 Raters.....	Aborigine	17	3.3
32 Raters.....	Daimyo	163	3.7
26 Raters.....	Molly Bawn	143½	3.5
17 Raters.....	Jessie	30½	3.3
1892.			
39 Raters.....	Aborigine	8½	2.2
32 Raters.....	Daimyo	155½	3.7
26 Raters.....	Molly Bawn	15½	2.5
17 Raters.....	Jessie	58½	3.9
1893.			
39 Raters.....	Maid Marion	133½	3.5
32 Raters.....	Mary I.	116½	3.8
26 Raters.....	Molly Bawn	161½	3.5
17 Raters.....	Daisy	42	2.9
1894.			
39 Raters.....	Maid Marion	143	4.2
32 Raters.....	Spray	148½	4.2
26 Raters.....	Sea Gull	157	3.7
17 Raters.....	Daisy	42½	3.5
1895.			
39 Raters.....	Mary II.	150	4.2
26 Raters.....	Daimyo	141	3.6
17 Raters.....	Sans Nom	60	3.0
16 Raters.....	Petrel	39	3.1
1896.			
39 Raters.....	Mary	214	4.5
26 Raters.....	Albatross	101	3.4
26 Raters.....	Ronin	115½	3.4
17 Raters.....	Eclair	59	3.4
12 Raters.....	Aimée	—	—

There have been no additions to the 39 rating Class during the past year, but there was some good racing between the old yachts, five of them generally competing in each race. Unfortunately most of the races had to be sailed with an arbitrary time allowance, mainly in consequence of the indisputable superiority of the *Mary* over all the other yachts. *Maid Marion* has been slightly improved by an alteration in her ballasting, and, with a good suit of sails certainly went as well if not better than she has ever done before. Still her chance of ever winning a race against the *Mary*, except with the help of a handicap, is very small indeed, as may be seen from the following comparison of the performances of the two boats in the races in which they have sailed in company during the past season:—

Mary, 39		Maid Marion, 37	
Rating.		Rating.	
Races sailed together	12	Races sailed together	12
Miles sailed.....	199.5	Miles sailed.....	199.5
h. m. s.		h. m. s.	
Elapsed time	45.04.50	Elapsed time	47.49.47
Average speed	4.42 knots	Average speed	4.18
Difference .24 knot per hour.		Difference .21 knot per hour.	
Allows by club scale 7.3 per mile=24.16		Allows by club scale 7.3 per mile=24.16	
h. m. s.		h. m. s.	
Corrected time.....	45.04.50	Corrected time.....	47.25.31
Corrected average speed	44.2 knots	Corrected average speed	4.21
Difference .21 knot per hour.		Difference .21 knot per hour.	

The actual difference in time 2h. 44m. 47s. or 49s. 6 per mile. This is about seven times the time allowed for difference in rating by the club scale and shows a difference in speed of about a quarter of a knot per hour.

Tori came nearest to *Maid Marion* in speed, and these two yachts had some fairly close racing in which, however, the *Maid* generally proved to be the winner.

The cruiser *Golden Hind* sailed several races during the season and with better sails might have shown to more advantage, though there was seldom wind enough to bring out her speed. A good part of the summer was taken up by a cruise out side the bay, a purpose for which she is much better suited than for racing. This yacht has probably sailed more miles in cruising during the season than all the other yachts of her class put together. *Spray* was in about the same form as the year before but was not quite so fortunate in the matter of winning prizes. This is easily accounted for by the light winds prevailing most of the time, which was of course unfavourable to a boat carrying a small sail-plan. The *Spray* is a yacht that would profit by an increase in the time allowance, as she is capable of making a good race with the *Mary* in a strong breeze with the full time allowance for difference in rating, instead of only the half time allowance as used hitherto. There is not much to be said about *Wanderer*, she is a cruiser, and as such has done her owner good service for a long time, but as a racer she would never fill his house with trophies. *Daimyo*, although belonging to the 32-rating class was sailed with the 39 raters and with a fair amount of success. This yacht has the honour of winning the prize for the highest speed made during the season, corrected by full time allowance. This was done on the

16th of May, the first race of the season, when she made an average speed of 7.1 knots over a 14.5 mile course. The *Mary* in the same race made an average of 7 knots, which was never afterwards beaten, as there was never another opportunity for a fast race during the season.

The 26-raters made a better show than last year as there were more of them. *Albatross* and *Ronin* had new sails during the season and closely contested all the races with the result that they have scored 12 record points each, and so have an equal claim to the record prize.

Molly Bawn was this year refitted, and although not ballast for canvassed as well as she used to be, has still a turn of speed left sufficient to beat the rest of her class provided she is carefully sailed.

Surprise, formerly *Box of Curios*, came into the racing again during the season and won her first race in fine style, but other things being equal, she is not fast enough to pick up many prizes while *Albatross*, *Molly Bawn*, and *Ronin* are about. *Sperwer* and *Else* sailed only occasionally and were not very successful, generally starting on days when there was not wind enough to take them round the course.

Ideal, the new boat built by Mr. Boyes, was raced with the 26-raters, but is too small for the class, being only about 17 feet on the water line. She is a nice little boat, however, and sails well, though probably she could be made to go much faster by lowering her ballast a little. At present she sails on her side even in light winds.

The fin-keel boat *Sodeska*, of about 19½ rating, competed in one race with the 26 raters and the weather being favourable beat them all easily. Where would the present class of 26 raters be if some one were to start a 26 raters of this type?

The 17-raters had a very successful summer's racing and to most people's thinking provided better sport than the big boats. There are two reasons for this, first that their races are sailed over a short course so that their movements can be followed from the shore, and that they are more nearly matched in speed, so that they can make a race together without being so widely scattered as the big boats often are. *Eclair* was at the top of the class and succeeded in winning most of the first prizes, she is a smart little boat in light winds and could be made to do still better with a new suit of sails. *Vega* was next best in this class, sailing just near enough to *Eclair* to make her keep going. These two boats sailed 10 races together covering a distance of 54½ miles, with the result that *Eclair* beat *Vega* by 33 minutes in 16½ hours sailing, with an average speed of one tenth of a knot more, which is pretty close sailing considering that the two boats are not of the same rating and the smaller one is unbalanced, while the other has a lead keel and heavy centre-board.

Isabel came out with a new rig and competed in nearly all the races, but with small success. Her worst point was sailing to windward, but as she was not always so it was perhaps not the fault of the boat.

Violet sailed in most of the races, but was not quite fast enough to tackle either *Eclair* or *Vega*. *Petrel* was more nearly a match for *Vega*, but was only sailed in a few races at the beginning of the season. *Cocktail* also sailed a few races and was then withdrawn. The only new boat in this class, the *Bonito*, a boat somewhat similar to *Eclair*, but with more freeboard and a fin instead of a centreboard, is altogether a more powerful boat. At first she was not successful, mainly on account of badly setting sails, but now that their defects have been remedied it is safe to forecast that she can beat the rest of the class easily. At present she is only rated at 16½ but does not appear to have enough sail; canvassed up to 17 rating she would no doubt sweep the board.

This year a new class of 12-foot-one design boats was started, and as they were always sailed round a short course abreast of the Bund, where they were in full view all the time, their races were watched with much interest. They are, for their size, very staunch little boats, which with careful sailing can stand a fair amount of hard weather, but as was several time demonstrated during the past season they can be very easily capsized by unskilful handling. For beginners in the art of boat-sailing they are all that could be desired. The Club is mainly indebted to Mr. Alan Owston for this new class. Two of the boats were already in existence, having been built by him some time ago, and finding that there was an opening for a class of small boats of one design, he had three more built on the same lines and at the same time presented the Club with a substantial sum of money to provide prizes for them. The result has been very satisfactory, and now we believe he is getting three more boats of the same pattern built ready for next season. This Class only commenced racing at the end of June, but managed to com-

plete eleven races in spite of the calm weather which practically prevented any racing after the end of September. The boats being alike, they were sailed without any time allowance, the first boat in taking the prize. Of the five boats that competed *Aimée* was by far the most successful, probably in consequence of her having a larger and differently shaped sail to the others which allowed her to carry a lighter mast. The result of the season's racing was:—

No. of races.		Prizes won.	Record.
finished.	rat.	and.	points.
Aimée.....	6	—	12 Winner of record prize.
Tombo.....	2	2	6
Botchan.....	1	5	7
Waratah.....	1	1	3
Nixe.....	1	1	3

FOOTBALL.

Y.C. AND A.C. VERSUS H.M.S. "GRAFTON."

Saturday afternoon was dull with a most decidedly wintry aspect in the sky-line, and a nipping grip in the north-easterly breeze, consequently the spectators at the football match were few and the ladies present could be counted on the fingers of one hand. But those that did put in an appearance had the pleasure of witnessing a very good game, all things considered. The Naval visitors were a heavy lot and possessed some good players among them: the home eleven were all youngsters, with the exception of Mair, the centre forward. But young and light though they were, the home side provided plenty of good sport and made a better showing than the score at first sight seems to tell—two goals Navy, one Yokohama. The Yokohama lads have still much to acquire, however, in the way of combined play. Time after time they sent the ball out of touch instead of passing it into the field; then they were always getting out of their places, with the result that when the half-backs fed the wings, there was often no one to carry on the ball, or when the wings found the play too hot and passed out their opponents found a practically clear field. Then again, every one is too fond of high kicking. That is not good football. A ball continually in the air is considered a disgrace to a school eleven, and is the means of many a lad getting a "jacketing" from the Captain of Football at the close of a school match—at least that was our experience. There is no reason at all why the Yokohama players should not be taught to keep the leather down, and we hope when Pearson, or Edwards, or Crawford condescend to play again that they will impress this on their teams. In one sense it was a pity that no old player—we speak, advisedly and intend by the phrase a player of some years' treaty-port standing—was not included in Saturday's eleven, for then, we think, the result would have been different.

Owing to the unpunctuality of the home team in arriving, play began some time after the hour advertised. The Navy started with the wind at their backs, and almost immediately carried the ball down the ground. It went behind. Allcock took the kick, but the ball was soon returned, the Yokohama goal being attacked in force. The backs again relieved, and for the next few minutes play was transferred to the other end of the field. Mair made a shot at goal, that was cleverly returned, and then Watt attempted to score, but without success. Several other dashes at the Navy's goal were all rendered futile by the vigilance of their backs, and eventually the ball was returned to the neutral ground. Soon the Navy pulled together a bit and assailed the local goal. It required all the vigilance of Goddard and Allcock to clear the lines, and then getting possession of the ball Yokohama passed it down the field. Hayward centred right in front of goal and Mair put the ball through, thus securing first blood for Yokohama. On restarting, the Navy made a spirited attack, and Kingdon, the Yokohama goalkeeper, had his work cut out to save. In the end he ran out, and the Navy, passing him and Allcock, dribbled the ball through—one goal all. Nothing more was done before half time was called. The second half of play produced some lively work, and time and again Yokohama seemed on the point of scoring, only to miss the opportunity by wild shooting. The last goal of the day was made by the Navy, after a determined rush, just as the whistle blew.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert has made some progress with a new work for the stage. In it he reverts to his earlier manner, owing nothing to collaboration, musical, or otherwise. The opening scene of the comedy will be laid on the deck of a P. and O. steamer. Being one of the guests on the recent trial trip of the *India*, Mr. Gilbert seized the opportunity to take a series of photographs useful for the scenery of his piece.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18TH.

THE STRANDING OF THE "HIMEJI MARU."

The enquiry into the circumstances attending the stranding of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamship *Himeji Maru*, on the Bombay Reef of the Paracels, on November 1st, was continued at the Marine Court, sitting at the Teishinsho, Tokyo, this morning. Mr. Morimoto again presided, with Messrs. Nagaura and S. Ito, Assessors, and Mr. J. M. James.

Mr. Thomas Law Harrison, the First Officer of the *Himeji Maru*, was first called. Cautioned, he deposed—I am a British subject. I hold a Japanese Master's certificate of the first grade, No. 394. I was chief mate of the *Himeji Maru* and in charge of the deck at the time of the stranding. We left Hongkong on the 30th October about 1 p.m., bound for Singapore. The departure was taken from Gap Rock, the distance being $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles when the lighthouse was abeam. We then altered the course to S. 7° W. The Gap Rock was abeam before that. I was in charge of the deck at the time. My note-book was lost in the wreck, along with my other books, but I made the proper entry in the log-book, where it can be found. I ascertained the distance from the Gap Rock myself by the four-point bearing. The course we set from there was S. 7° W., by compass. The deviation, as near as I can remember, was half a degree easterly. I joined the *Himeji Maru* on the 8th of October; joining her for the voyage to Hakodate under Capt. Barslow. We returned to Yokohama and then left for Europe. I had only made one voyage in the ship as Chief Officer.

Mr. James—Did you find the compasses agree with the deviation table on that voyage?—They came in very well then; but we went up by the land mostly, not getting any sun, and so had no azimuths. We did not trust to the compasses much, though we steered by them.

Did you have faith in the compasses?—Well, we had doubts, not having drawn up the deviation table ourselves; and so steered by the land most of the time.

The land is better than the sun. Then you did not put much faith in the compasses, you were rather doubtful about them?—Yes, we were doubtful, but we found very little error, very little. The compasses had been adjusted, I believe, in the time of the previous Captain, Captain Mackenzie.

Was the ship swung for compass adjustment before leaving Yokohama?—No, sir.

Was she swung in Hongkong?—No, sir.

Did you take any azimuths while at anchor in Hongkong?—I did not take any myself.

Where any taken, that is what I want to know?—I did not hear of any being taken. We anchored at Hongkong, and did not go to a buoy. I was too busy with the cargo there, and did not hear of or see whether any azimuths were taken there. I have been running on this line before, in several ships; a sailing ship among others. This was about November or December some years ago, going from Hongkong to Singapore. We went the same way as we did this time.

That is, partly the same way?—Yes.

Witness, continuing—This sailing ship was built of iron. I was second officer on board her. We had moderate winds on that occasion, with a moderate swell. We got the sun then and took usual observations.

Did you find much current?—I can't remember now.

You do not recollect whether the ship was set very much out of her course?—No.

What other vessels have you been in when running on that route?—I was never on a steamer between those two ports, Hongkong and Singapore.

Was a good course steered from the time of departure from Gap Rock up to the time of the stranding?—A good course.

During your watches?—Yes.

Were the quarter-masters on board good helmsmen?—Very good helmsmen.

Was the ship perfectly up-right when she left Hongkong, or had she a list?—She had five degrees of list.

That is what I wanted to know: it bore to starboard?—Yes, it bore to starboard. The engineers were ordered to shift the coal—to trim her—from the starboard side as soon as we left; but I saw no perceptible difference in the trim of the ship up to the time of stranding.

When you took charge of the deck at 4 a.m. on the morning of Nov. 1st, what course were you steering?—I can only tell by referring to the log-book.

At four a.m. you were steering due S.?—Yes. Was that true or magnetic?—By compass.

What was the error in the compass?—The deviation table will show you.

What kind of weather did you have, and wind?—Moderate, E.N.E. breeze.

Any swell?—Yes, moderate.

Clear or thick weather?—Dark and overcast; very dark.

How far could you see the horizon, do you think?—About 3 miles.

Come, three miles is a long way; think over it a bit?—I should say about 2 miles.

Do you think you could see breakers two miles away; it was a dark night remember?—I fancy I could have seen the horizon for about 2 miles, but I did not see the breakers two miles away.

What sails were set?—All the fore and aft sails. Had anything been sighted before you took charge of the watch?—Nothing.

Was there nothing suspicious, land or breakers in sight when you went on deck?—No, nothing. Had the look-outs been relieved?—Yes.

What was on the log, the patent log, when you took charge?—You will find it in the log.

Mr. James—Yes, 155 miles. Did you see the breakers?—Yes, about two minutes before striking.

In what direction?—Off the port bow.

Who saw the breakers first, you or the look out man?—I did.

What did you do when you first saw them?—Ordered the helm hard-a-port and the engines full speed astern.

Did she touch the reef before the engines moved astern?—Before the engines moved astern she had not touched the reef. The engines had started to move astern before she actually touched.

After the ship had got on the reef, what was the first thing done?—We lowered the life-boat and ran out a kedge. We lowered the small-boat first, and ran kedge astern with the hawser.

What was the size of the hauling-line?—It was a six inch or six and a half inch line.

What depth of water did you drop it in?—Seven or eight fathoms, I think. I do not know for sure. We ran it out a hundred and thirty, or a hundred and forty fathoms from the ship.

More than a cable?—Yes. We set the hawser up and then lowered a life-boat. The small anchor dragged home; but we did not haul the hawser too taut. The anchor dragged, and we lowered the No. 1 life-boat on the lee side. The ship was heeled over to starboard and on the listed side the boat was lowered. We lowered a two-and-a-half ton bower anchor, having first prepared the boat to receive it. Before the anchor could near the boat, or rather as soon as the anchor was sling on the stern and before the body of the boat received the entire weight, the sea rolled in and stood the boat right on end, doubling it back. Then she capsized. We hoisted the anchor up again, having first saved the lives of the crew who had been thrown into the water. An hour after this another attempt was made with two life-boats having a spar lashed across them, to carry out an anchor.

Did this fail?—Yes.

Did the crew refuse to work on this occasion?—Yes. They said that they would lower the anchor but they refused to go into the boat. The result, unfortunately, was that the boats capsized.

Did you order the men to go into the boats then?—Yes, I ordered them to the boats.

And they distinctly refused?—Yes, they distinctly refused.

How long was it after this before you left the ship?—I left on the 3rd to go out and look for a steamer—two days. I went out in the morning of the 3rd November, in one of the life boats. We had sails and oars. The log book will give the time of my starting.

Mr. James—I find that it was at 2 p.m. Which way did you go?—I started out for the Hongkong-Singapore track.

Which way was that?—I reckoned it would be about fifty miles due east.

Did you see any ships?—No, sir.

I should not think you would. Did you steer due East?—I steered on a wind close-hauled, and got out about 35 miles. When it came on dark, we let off blue lights and rockets as signals.

Did you come back again?—I kept out all day, all next night, all next day, and all next night.

You were away some two days?—Yes, two days and two nights.

Keeping about the same position?—Yes. After I had reckoned, by taking sights, that I was in a proper position, I put out a drag-sail, and kept about there. I remained away until the 5th November, without seeing anything. I left the ship again the same day, at 4:30 p.m., with eleven sailors for Tourane Bay, Cochinchina.

In the same boat?—Yes. But I patched her up before starting the second time.

When did you arrive in Tourane?—On the 8th November, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Without accident?—Without accident.

Did the men behave well all the time?—They behaved very well in the boat.

Did any vessels pass you on the way across?—None at all. We made the land right dead ahead at six o'clock in the morning.

The second officer had preceded you, had he not?—Yes, he was the first person I saw standing on the end of the Promenade there.

Did the French authorities there render every assistance they could?—Yes, they did. They were civil and obliging.

Did you return to the ship or go on to Hongkong?—We all went on to Hongkong from there, after staying some 14 days. We went up in the German steamer *Ingraban*. From Hongkong we returned to Japan in the *Belgie*, to Nagasaki, and there transferred to the *Kobe Maru*, one of Company's ships.

When you were steering across to Tourane Bay, what current did you experience?—None at all, so far as I remember.

What speed did you allow the boat?—About four knots.

And made the land on that calculation?—Yes.

Are you sure; what log did you keep?—I could keep no log there, sir. The water was breaking over the boat continually, wetting everything, and even dissolving a piece of charcoal I had in a pencil case.

You might have kept a bit of spun yarn with knots in it?—Perhaps.

What was the drift of the current at the Bombay Shoal?—I could not say.

Did you experience any difficulty in saving the men from the capsized boat?—They drifted, yes; but it was more swell drift than anything. The boat itself drifted right round the shoal. What part of the reef was dry was too far off to notice drift effects.

What was the direction of the wind when you went over this track with a sailing ship?—It was the usual monsoon.

Mr. Nagura—When you first saw the breakers, you were going full speed ahead, did you then reverse the engines to full speed astern?—Yes, to full speed astern.

The President—When you took charge of the deck at 4 a.m., the course was that given by the Captain?—It was the order given in the night order-book, and was the course I altered to S. 30° W.

Between Gap Rock and the time of stranding, in your opinion, do you think that the ship made any lee-way from the send of the sea?—No, not by the send of the sea. The sea was too far aft—too much on the quarter—to set us to leeward.

Do you think she made any lee-way at all, if not from the send of the sea?—From a current, that is all I know, sir.

Mr. James—The smallest quarterly swell with the wind that you had would cause the ship to drift considerably to leeward. It doesn't matter whether you were going six knots or 19, the drift would still be there. Suppose you put a piece of wood in the water, you would soon see how it would drift.

Witness—Yes, but a piece of wood has no power in itself. We were going ten knots; perhaps more, with the sea and wind that we had.

Mr. James—You were hardly going fast enough to get out of your own way.

Witness—That may be so.

Mr. James—I congratulate you, as being very lucky people, to be where you are at the present moment.

Witness—Thank you, sir.

The depositions were then read over to witness and signed by him; then the Court adjourned for luncheon.

The Court resumed at 1.45 p.m.

Frank McGarity, Second Officer of the *Himeji Maru*, was called; cautioned, he deposed—I am a British subject and hold a British certificate of first mate, and a Japanese certificate of second mate, first grade, No. 544. I was second officer of the *Himeji Maru* when she stranded on the Paracels Shoal. When the ship left Hongkong she had a list of about 5 degrees to starboard. I joined the ship in Yokohama about the 13th of October or thereabouts.

Mr. James—You were all new on board?—I was new. I joined the ship three or four days before sailing.

Who was the navigating officer of the ship, assisting the Captain?—I was assisting the Captain.

Did you take any azimuths, or in any way attempt to adjust the compasses whilst in Hongkong?—No.

Were you on deck when you passed the Gap Rock?—No.

Who took charge of the deck at 8 o'clock that evening, after passing Gap Rock?—The third mate.

When did you come on watch again, then?—At midnight.

How was the wind and weather then?—Moderate wind from E.N.E.

The swell, nothing unusual?—A moderate swell. Weather?—Overcast, cloudy, with no stars visible. It was dull and overcast.

Did you see any vessels during your watch?—No.

See any fishing-boats?—No.

You came on watch next day at noon?—Yes.

How was the weather then?—Overcast and dull. Was it cloudy?—About the same sort of weather as the previous day. The sun was obscured; we had no sun from the time we left Hongkong.

When you took charge of the deck at midnight, what was the course?—I am not sure now, but you will find it in the log.

I find it entered as S. 7° W. Do you remember what the course was next day at noon?—I believe it was altered at noon. If you look in the log you will find it noted.

At a minutes past noon the course was altered to south. I notice in the log-book that you placed a man on the look-out then, where did you place him?—At the fo'c'sle head.

And where was the officer of the watch?—On the bridge.

Then the look-out was lower than the officer?—It is the usual thing to place the look-out on the fo'c'sle head.

It depends on what you are looking for. What was he placed there for?—It was hazy and therefore the fo'c'sle was the best place to put a man.

But are you short-sighted?—No.

But you were higher than he was and ought to have seen further than the look-out could?—He was placed there to assist me in keeping a look-out.

What was the man placed on the fo'c'sle for: was he placed there to look-out for ships, breakers, or anything all; that is what I want to know?—To look out for ships or anything that might be coming in the way.

Well, specify that?—Ships, steamers, fishing-boats, or anything that comes along.

For whales, too, I suppose. Is it hard to specify this? It is very unusual to place a man on the fo'c'sle head in broad day-light with the officer on the watch many feet above him?—It is not unusual; I have always done so whenever the weather comes on hazy.

Then you expected to meet vessels?—Yes.

Not breakers?—I did not expect to see breakers.

Only vessels, nothing else?—If I saw anything else I was to report it. I was supposed to report anything I saw.

Isn't it usual to keep a man on the mast-head as lookout as well as on the fo'c'sle?—I have never seen it.

Then what sort of ships have you been in?—Steamers, as a rule.

But is it not usual to send a man aloft instead of on the fo'c'sle head, which is several feet below the officer of the watch?—I have never seen it.

You have never seen it done?—Never.

But you were evidently looking out for something?—I have never seen it done except when we were looking out for land.

When you took over charge of the deck from the Captain at midnight on the 31st October, what course were you steering, and what instructions did you receive?—I do not remember now. It is in the log-book.

I know the log-book is here. You don't remember the course?—Not at this distance of time.

Have you no note-book?—I had, but I lost it.

I shall put it down in the evidence that you don't remember the course?—The entry in the log-book is correct.

Anything might be in the log book for all I know. According to the log-book the course was altered to S. at midnight. During the middle watch, was there any increase of sea or wind that might set the ship to the westward?—There was no great change; there was plenty of rain.

Squally?—Yes. It was very dark.

When you handed over charge of the deck to the chief officer had you discovered anything suspicious, breakers, shoal-water, discoloured water, or anything that would lead you to suppose that you were nearer the Paracels Shoal than the dead reckoning showed?—No, I had not seen anything.

You had not seen anything?—No.

Owing to the list that the vessel had of 5 degrees to starboard, did she lurch much to starboard, with the wind on the quarter, or did this list tend to make her steering difficult?—No, she went along steadily enough.

Did not the list to starboard have a tendency to make her come up in the wind?—It was not noticeable.

When you were sailing across from the Paracels Shoal to Tourane Bay, did you go straight

across, or through them?—No, I passed southward of Discovery Reef; there is a reef southward of that.

That was at night was it not?—Yes. I heard the breakers perfectly as I passed, and steered right for Tourane Bay.

How long did it take you to go across from the ship to Tourane?—Four days and four hours.

You sailed all the way I suppose?—I sailed very nearly all the way.

What average speed did you make, do you know?—I am not certain.

You did not work the distance out?—Well, it was pretty nearly three knots an hour.

Did you make the land any sooner than you expected?—No. I made it just about when I expected.

You did not find any westerly current?—It is hard to tell, for at times I had no wind; again I had plenty of breeze. The captain laid out the course for me, so I did not work out the distance. There was a strong current as I sighted the land.

Did you experience any current in your favour between Bombay Shoal and Tourane Bay?—I must have had a little current, or I should not have reached the land, because I did not have much wind.

You were four days over it, a day longer than the Chief Officer?—Yes, but he had wind.

But I want to know about the current?—Well, there must have been a current. I will say that not having much wind, and using sails and oars all the time there must have been some current in my favour; and when I struck the coast there was a strong current running south. That is the reason that I could not beat to Tourane Bay, but had to land on the eastern end.

How did your boat's crew behave on the way across?—Very well, indeed.

They were all Japanese?—No, I had two Norwegian sailors.

Were they passengers?—Passengers to London. And afterwards, on landing, how did they behave then?—Very well.

They always listened to your orders?—Yes.

Before the depositions were read over to witness Mr. James said that his evidence did not form part of the enquiry, only the Captain and Chief Officer being responsible, but as the second officer's statements might be used in evidence for or against them.

Witness signed his depositions.

Captain Tittle was then recalled.

Mr. James—There are one or two questions I should like to put to you. One refers to the list, which was not asked of you at the first enquiry. Was the *Himeji Maru*, when she left Hongkong, trimmed upright, or had she a list of 5 degrees to starboard?—She had a list of 5 degrees to starboard.

The next question is, at what time on the 30th October did you get the last bearing of the Gap Rock light, and how did it bear?—May I look at the log book?

Certainly.—There is no entry in the log-book.

No. That is a very important thing. Is there no record of that?—No record.

You see, by that bearing you could have seen whether there was any current. You could have seen that light for thirty miles?—Thirty miles, sir? It is an eighteen mile light.

Well, you could have seen it for two hours?—Yes. But it would have been difficult then to get a bearing: it was then quite aft.

Did you make any observation of the bearing of the current while at the Shoal?—No. I could not. There is a rise and fall there of about three feet. [After a pause.]—I should like to correct the statement somewhat, because the life-boat we lost we saw next morning. From all I could see there was a set to westward.

But probably the boat had been on the reef and had not kept drifting?—Well, alongside the ship there was no apparent set whatever.

That is what I mean. What was the rise and fall of the tide?—Three feet at spring tides; at neaps about one.

Did you fix the position of the ship by observation afterwards?—Yes.

There was no mistake, it was the Bombay Shoal?—It was the Bombay Shoal.

Mr. James—These questions, Capt. Tittle, are put by the President.

What do you attribute this list to, to the stowage of cargo or the coal?—Stowage of cargo.

By true courses you mean courses as measured on the true meridian?—Certainly.

Where was the steering gear fixed?—Where did you steer from?—The helmsman steered from the upper bridge.

Were the steering compass and the standard compass different instruments?—They were one and the same thing.

Mr. James—There is no necessity to call the

Chief Engineer, as the engines are not called in question, but the men who steered the ship from Hongkong will be called, by due notice to the Company, and examined as to the course that they steered.

Capt. Tittle—Will the third officer be called?

Mr. James—I do not think that there is any necessity; I do not myself see the necessity for calling him, as you were on the deck with him, and ostensibly and virtually in charge, seeing he was a junior.

Captain Tittle—Have any of the Japanese staff or crew been examined yet?

Mr. James—Not yet, but the quartermasters will be examined, because they can tell us whether a good course was steered and whether the ship was difficult to steer or not. The Court does not deal with the certificate of Mr. McGarity, the second officer, and returns it to him. The certificate of the first officer will be detained, but in the event of the Company requiring his services, application can be made by it to the Court. Your certificate, Capt. Tittle, will be detained, and whether it will be returned or not, or detained for only a short while, will depend on the finding of the Court.

Capt. Tittle—Could you give me any idea, sir, when the finding will be given?

Mr. James—I will try to hurry it on as fast as I can. We are coming to the end of the year, and we would like to finish the case as quickly as possible. I am sorry that you officers, turning to Messrs. Harrison and McGarity should have been brought up here on such a matter, and I can but congratulate you upon managing the boats as you did and in so successfully getting out of the position in which you found yourselves. I think it is very much to your credit.

The Court then adjourned.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE "SAGHALIEN."

Passengers arriving at Hongkong by the *Tamiso* says the *China Mail*, announce the true cause of the breakdown to the Messageries Maritime steamer *Saghalien*. The steamer was due to arrive at Saigon on Tuesday, 1st Dec., and on the 2nd the *Haiphong* was dispatched to look for her, but returned in the evening without having sighted the missing steamer. The *Saghalien* arrived at Saigon on the 3rd, when it was learnt she had been delayed by a serious accident. When sixty miles off Pulo Condore one of the boilers exploded killing eleven men and severely injuring nine others. Another of the injured men died in Saigon, and when the *Tamiso* left one other was not expected to survive. Amongst the killed was a European engineer, and several of the European crew were injured. In consequence of the accident, the speed was reduced to seven knots. The *Saghalien* remains at Saigon for repairs.

Le Courrier de Saigon contains details of the fatal explosion on board the French mail steamer *Saghalien*. It would appear that there was considerable apprehension entertained at Saigon in consequence of the steamer being overdue from Singapore. Ultimately it transpired that the dome of the starboard boiler had burst, killing instantaneously twelve Arab firemen and seriously injuring six others, including a French stoker named Dubois. All the injured men were horribly scalded, and Dubois and another Arab subsequently succumbed. The accident occurred about six o'clock on the evening of November 30, when the vessel was 70 miles from Pulo Condore and just when the watch was being changed. Fortunately the sea was smooth at the time. The noise from the escaping steam was most alarming, and as the electric light went out leaving the ship in darkness there was naturally much excitement amongst the passengers until the Commander was able to reassure them there was no immediate danger. The Commander, Chief Engineer, and some of the sailors, at great risk to themselves, gallantly entered the stokehold and brought up the dead and injured. It is reported that all on board behaved with admirable *sang froid*. After several hours' delay, the vessel was again got underway, but in her crippled condition, could not make more than seven knots per hour. It is anticipated that the *Saghalien* will be ready for sea in three weeks. The injured are doing as well as might be expected, and two have recovered sufficiently to be discharged from hospital.

By special permission of the Admiralty, a party of officers belonging to the Japanese Imperial Navy, visited Devonport Dockyard on Nov. 5th, and were shown over both the dockyard and the factory at Keyham.

ANOTHER READING ROOM FOR YOKOHAMA.

At a meeting held at the Clarendon Hotel on the 15th instant, the gentlemen present decided to form themselves into a Committee for the purpose of providing a reading-room for gentlemen, there being many in Yokohama not connected with the Club, whom it was thought would appreciate an enterprise of this nature. It was proposed that the name of the Reading Room should be "The Clarendon Reading Room," and that a charge of \$1.00 per month should be made, or 50 cents for minors.

Mr. F. Staniland opposed the use of the term "Clarendon," as it would, in his opinion, tend to lessen the sympathy of the community, who might think that it was a personal enterprise on his part, and would naturally suppose that he should be responsible for its proper maintenance.

The meeting decided that this would not be considered as an objection, and the idea was withdrawn, the understanding being that the "Clarendon Reading Room" is entirely distinct from and has no connection with the Hotel except that it will be situated in the building.

Mr. F. Staniland was appointed Secretary and Treasurer, and was instructed to purchase suitable furniture and order certain papers and periodicals, the room being opened in January 1st.

THE U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

Although the fact that Mr. McKinley had gained a sweeping victory was known in Japan the day after the election, the exact figures were not ascertainable till the mail that arrived to-day, as Kentucky, South Dakota, and Wyoming were in doubt. In Kentucky the vote was so close that one Republican elector who ran behind his colleagues was defeated; and in Wyoming and South Dakota the pluralities for Bryan were very small. The following table represents the vote in the electoral college, as figured in the *Chicago Record*, an independent and careful newspaper:—

States.	McKinley.	Bryan.
Alabama	11	—
Arkansas	—	8
California	9	—
Colorado	—	4
Connecticut	6	—
Delaware	3	—
Florida	—	4
Georgia	—	13
Idaho	—	3
Illinois	24	—
Indiana	15	—
Iowa	13	—
Kansas	—	10
Kentucky	12	—
Louisiana	—	8
Maine	6	—
Maryland	8	—
Massachusetts	15	—
Michigan	14	—
Minnesota	9	—
Mississippi	—	9
Missouri	—	17
Montana	—	3
Nebraska	—	8
Nevada	—	3
New Hampshire	4	—
New Jersey	10	—
New York	36	—
North Carolina	—	11
North Dakota	3	—
Ohio	23	—
Oregon	4	—
Pennsylvania	32	—
Rhode Island	4	—
South Carolina	—	9
South Dakota	—	4
Tennessee	—	12
Texas	—	15
Utah	—	3
Vermont	—	4
Virginia	—	12
Washington	—	4
West Virginia	6	—
Wisconsin	12	—
Wyoming	—	3
Totals	272	175

Necessary for choice, 274.

Mr. McKinley's electoral vote has been surpassed at two previous presidential elections. In 1878 Grant secured 202 electoral votes, and in 1892 Cleveland got 277 electoral votes. Mr. McKinley's popular votes, however, largely exceeds the highest popular vote previously cast for a presidential candidate—5,556,562, given to Cleveland four years ago. His popular majority of about 1,000,000 votes is the largest ever received by a presidential candidate, Grant's popular majority over Greeley being next to it in point of size.

LETTER FROM PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Paris, November 7th.

The French followed with much interest the Presidential campaign in the States. Not that the platform was exactly understood, but the working of the machinery of the election was new to them. As both the candidates for the presidency were discounted for favouring an increase in the duties on European imports, that wet blanket sufficed to check the development of enthusiasm. As Continentals have rather a weakness to be paid in gold rather than in silver, no matter how the latter may be ratioed, the success of Mr. McKinley meets their wishes. The phase of American politics that now attracts attention is, will the followers of Mr. Bryan continue to agitate with his programme?—which is here accepted as eminently socialist. In France, Socialism is not in the odour of sanctity, no matter how the pill may be sugared or silvered; nor are French Socialists disciplined and fagotged as in Germany, where they are rapidly becoming a state within a state. French Socialism is split up into schools, with daily recurring cleavages; its followers, being thus divided, are not viewed as very dangerous. What they might be in a period of national peril, when France was in the tetanus grip of a foreign foe, is uncertain. But the memory of the Commune points a moral that possibility handicaps France.

The revelations of Prince Bismarck as to the manner in which he deceived the triple alliance with Russian aid, and how the late Czar out-trumped the Chancellor, till the Kaiser cut short the diplomatic immorality, have done their work. They have lowered Germany, and affixed a stigma to her loyalty; they have scared opinion which held that in alliances there was a relic of salvation. For the future when a treaty is signed by her right hand, suspicion will ask, what about the counter-treaty signed by the left? Europe denounces the poor tribal chiefs of Africa who execute treaties with the Dicks, Toms, and Harrys of the Western Powers. Happy then that makes no treaties; it can never have sleepless nights through fear of being duped, while never ceasing to keep abreast of modern armaments on sea and land.

France has climbed down on the humanities; she extends her help to the Armenians, not in joining Britain to evict the Sultan, but in associating herself with the other four Powers as the Good Samaritan, but without the oil and the two-pence. The discussion in the Chamber on the Armenian atrocities resolved itself into France's joining in the collective ambassadorial decision to give good counsels to the Sultan. Nero fiddled and Rome burned, for the Sultan laughs at the syndicate of impotence, well knowing that, save England, they will not sacrifice the life of one of their soldiers nor expend one of the smallest coins of their realms. Such temporising succeeds in staving off for a little the inevitable Continental catastrophe, but it adds to the intensity of the coming trouble.

"Let us talk of graves, of worms, and epitaphs," would seem to be the yearning desire of the period. Beyond doubt the times are out of joint. At dinner parties and soirées conversation largely turns on subjects of a morbid and of an immortal character. True, politics and change are banished from a general *causerie*, and ladies in their teens are too realistic to talk of "Love's Young Dream." Mrs. Annie Besant's theosophic skit, or her "Life after the Death," affords battledore and shuttlecock amusement. She claims to have found in her inner consciousness some key to heaven, and presents us with a kind of Boedaker's guide to the other world, or "the thirteen spheres"—there's luck in odd numbers according to the gods—where mankind is classed and billeted after quitting this vale of tears. Nansen's voyage is nothing compared with that which Mrs. Besant blocks out in the astral regions unknown even to Milton. Who can deny that some enterprising penny paper—but sold at a half-penny—may not organise a service of special correspondents in the empyrean regions—whose fires, it is to be hoped, remain extinct? Already we receive despatches in the shape not only of solids, but of "bolts from the blue."

The possibilities of nature are infinite, according to Huxley. So maintains M. Jean Finot, who handles the mental fantasies of the moment, his speciality being the "ontology of tombs." He urges us not to be terrified at Death; our sepulchre becomes the most animated of silent dwelling-places; our remains are changed into multitudes of brilliant and joyful insects. M. Finot asserts that our souls to-day are sick; only the "religion of the sepulchre" can heal by making us love and venerate the spot where ancestral ashes repose. That is Chinese-like, and would necessi-

tate our travelling—like Li Hung-chang—with our coffins as personal luggage. It is better to rely on the old beliefs, accept death as the inevitable, be resigned to meet it by living uprightly, and not to be occupied by discussing its mysteries over dinner-tables or at soirées buffets. Why we exist we do not know; when we know it, we no longer exist.

The Russian journals ought to cease hoaxing the French by publishing their usual weekly official article, urging the convocation of a European Congress to settle the so-called Tunis-Bosnia-Schleswig-Egyptian question. All the European powers are friends in "provisionally" occupying grabbed territory, while grass grows and water runs. "Criminal Congresses" are very fashionable, but limited to the common order of odd fellows. Imagine a meeting of six Brother Peachums, encountering and exclaiming "Brother Peachum we are both in the wrong." It would be as interesting, and as important, as the Trappist, "*Bon jour!* Brother, it is necessary to die." Opinion is coming to the belief that the Bismarck scandal will lead to the Kaiser's descending from the high horse—a Krüger and Zanzibar result—and accept the English lead in his foreign policy, the more so, as Lord Salisbury, between the rival alliances, has the ball at his feet. Besides the defensive preparations of Britain are slowly but noiselessly being pushed forward to a formidable standard. A nation backing its premier, commanding all the peace-making weapons and machines of modern warfare, with unlimited means, and proverbial staying power; resolved to provoke no war, determined to be dragged into none, save when the gauntlet is thrown down, is "an out and outer to be let alone."

The once notorious Arton, to-day a convict, has at last resolved to make a clean breast of the rôle he filled as middle-man during the reign of Panamaism, between the legislators he corrupted and the money of the duped shareholders of the second South Sea Bubble. It is not conscience that urges him to solicit the penitent's blouse and taper. He is vexed that those he bribed and whose reputation he spared by his silence leave his wife and family to starve. In his halcyon swindling days, he had purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously; his thievings were at the rate of 100,000 francs a year. Ill got, ill gone. The singular part of the "revelations"—these are becoming contagious—is that they excite no interest now. Five years ago they could have set France on fire. *Quid rides?*

The marriage of the Duc d'Orleans will help him in his running for the Pretender Stakes; but Cup or Throne day has not yet loomed, nor is a change in the form of Government of France possible, so long as the Republic abstains from suicide by avoiding war. Happily it is a popular truism in France, and thus an admirable restraint, that in a general war, after the preliminary skirmishes all round, the issue would be whittled down into a duel between herself and the Turton. After the quarrel—to be tried hilt to hilt—the world might be excused asking "Stands Scotland where it did?" I never met a Frenchman desirous to create a situation where he risked having his brains knocked out. Let France remain strong, be "aye ready," and, like her rivals, form not only one but half a dozen alliances; in fact negotiate with all the Powers, and so be at once protected against foes, or perhaps worse, against friends.

But she must do her level best with her colonies; have a plan even in her present colonial maze. The recalled governor of Madagascar, M. Laroche, blows hot and cold as to the condition of Madagascar. Its future is compromised, while being encouraging; he could promenade round the island with a corporal's guard, satisfied that a hair of his head would not be touched by the terrible Faha-valos—which is true, as they cast away the head of a victim after striking it off. At the same time he applied for more troops. It was only Nora Creina who could traverse Ireland from north to south of the isle, with "only her tears to guard her." Then home-rulers and unionists were all saints. But General Galliani thinks otherwise, and relies on martial law rather than soft-sawder. He has already shot the home minister and the Queen's Uncle—*pour encourager les autres*. Why does he not seize her Majesty and export her, say to Senegal? There she would encounter, since she has a weakness for matrimony, two bachelor ex-Sovereigns, Behanzin of Dahomey, and Dinah Salifon, whom the late Shah treated as his "cousin," at the World's Fair.

The juridical importance of a "hole in the wall." The police have captured a ruffian long wanted, who had a band of unfortunate women to thieve for him. He terrorized them, and his last punishment on one of the girls was to cut a strip off the skin of her hand, and carry it in his purse to awe

the others. He was arrested in a café; he was a Herculean brute and took five policemen to tie him hands and feet—pity they forgot his neck. The women were so afraid that they refused to be placed in his presence to identify him, so the magistrate ordered a hole to be made in the wall of the guard room and the ruffian was thus peeped at.

The Free Thinkers have held an assembly, where delegates met to discuss rather Sapphic questions—not Odes. Many ladies were present. Ex-School Master Robin, aged 68, expounded as his doctrine; "Liberty in Love and in Maternity." Some dissenters made a rush to choke him. Madame Leonide Rouzade, totally oblivious of the awful weight of the National debt, proposed that woman should have liberty as respects maternity, and for that great social function the state should accord her a pension for life. Sigh no more ladies!

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S "JAPAN MAIL" SPECIAL SERVICE.]

London, Dec. 21.

The Spanish Minister of Marine has issued orders to hasten the completion of the warships now building.

The Governors of several American States declare they are ready to raise volunteers to fight Spain if necessary.

Don Antonio Canovas, the Spanish Prime Minister, in an interview with Reuter's representative at Madrid, said he relied on the statesmanship of President Cleveland and Mr. Olney, and the good sense of the more sober citizens of America, to prevent war between the two countries, but Spain, he declared, was determined to uphold her dignity and was preparing against all eventualities.

(Reuter's Service of Telegrams supplied to the "Japan Herald," the "Japan Gazette," and other Subscribers in Tokyo and Yokohama.)

London, Dec. 18.

A sharp earthquake was experienced yesterday in the Central, Southern, and Western counties of England and also in the suburbs of London. The most serious shock was felt at Hereford, where the Cathedral, the station, and a number of houses were damaged.

Baron de Courcel, French Ambassador to Great Britain, resigns the Embassy in London, being discouraged by the difficulty of a solution of the existing Anglo-French differences.

Exchange on London at Paris 25.26
Exchange on London at New York..... 4.87
(Tel. Trans.)

London, December 19.

Despite the opposition of Mr. Olney, Secretary of State, the Senate's Committee on foreign relations has adopted a joint resolution requiring President Cleveland to recognize the autonomy of Cuba. The adoption of this resolution has caused a semi-panic on the New York Bourse.

(Tel. trans.)

Exchange on London at Paris 25.25 1/2
" " " " New York 4.88

London, December 22.

President Cleveland has signified his approval of Secretary Olney's position on the Cuban question.

The Spanish Premier, Senor Canovas, states that Spain will succumb rather than grant Cuba independence, but she is sincerely disposed to grant a satisfactory measure of autonomous administration providing the rebels will first submit.

London, December 23.

Mr. Carlisle, Secretary of the United States Treasury, estimates there will be a deficit of sixty-four million dollars for the current financial year.

The U.S. Senate has adjourned the discussion of all resolutions relating to Cuba, including the Foreign Committee's report, until after the Christmas and New Year holidays.

(FROM THE "N.C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, December 15th.

The *Viedomosti*, in a much commented article upon the Armenian Question, states that

if the Powers decide upon an active policy Russia must obtain the sole mission for executing the work of protecting the Christians in Turkey. *The Times* says that any intervention for the coercion of Turkey must be international, conferring no exclusive advantage on any one Power.

London, December 16.

The preamble of the Italian Naval Estimates deplores that the Navy has fallen below the level of efficiency as compared with other nations and demands a sum of seven million lire additional for the purpose of building ships.

The correspondent of *The Times* in Athens states that an extensive revolutionary movement is being projected in Macedonia to take place in the Spring, and that the leaders propose to create a diversion by fomenting a revolt in Crete. It is also stated that quantities of arms and ammunition have already been sent to Crete.

London, December 17.

The Italian Government has denied that Russia has occupied a strip of land near Obok, at the southern entrance to the Red Sea.

The French Chamber has rejected the proposal to expend two hundred millions of francs on the Navy, with the assent of the Government. The Ministers admitted that there are defects and abuses, and promised remedial measures.

The Orient Liner *Orotawa* has sunk at Tilbury whilst coaling.

London, December 18.

Lord George Hamilton, speaking at Ealing, stated that there was great possibility of a satisfactory agreement being reached at an early date for stopping Turkish misrule.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

London, December 13.

Said-Edin, the Sultan's Envoy to Crete, is thwarting the execution of the reforms, and the Ambassadors have demanded from the Porte that he be recalled within forty-eight hours.

The Russo-Chinese treaty published in Shanghai is denied at St. Petersburg, and the railway scheme is confined to the building of a short Chinese railway in Manchuria, connecting with West Siberia and the Vladivostock lines.

The South has beaten the North, under Rugby rules, by one try to nil.

Mr. William Jones, at present Magistrate in Jamaica, has been appointed Judge to the Straits Settlements.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

Manila, December 15.

The Spanish troops are continually being reinforced, and most determined measures are being taken to effectively and decisively stamp out the rebellion in these islands. There are already 20,000 Spanish troops here and 8,000 native infantry; while 25,000 men are on their way here from Spain.

The rebels are strongly holding Cavite and Bulacan, and most parts of Laguna province are under their domination.

General Blanco, has been relieved by General Poliviejo, the latter taking command to-morrow (Thursday). General Blanco leaves here for Spain in a fortnight.

Enquiries made with regard to the alleged loan by the Hongkong Bank, show it is flatly denied.

It is now found that the rebel forces are much stronger than was at first believed, but the Spanish Government is taking overwhelming measures to stamp the rebellion out, to restore order, and eradicate lawlessness, no matter what may be the cost.

I am going with the Spanish troops to Bulacan and Cavite in order to gain a personal knowledge of the rebel movements and the Spanish methods of coping with them.

Manila itself, although in a state of siege, is very quiet, albeit the rebel lines are in sight, but in spite of the close proximity of the insurgents everything is calm and business is being transacted in the ordinary way almost as though nothing unusual was going on. There is, however, no danger in Manila itself.

(FROM "EL COMMERIO.")

Madrid, December 2.

The direct steamer for the Philippines leaves Barcelona on the 9th instant, instead of the 5th, as previously announced, taking on board eight companies of Cazadores.

The orders issued by General Azcarraga, Minister of War, regarding the despatch of the fresh troops for the Philippines are:—On the 15th Dec., the steamer *Magalanes* leaves Cadiz with battalions Nos. 9 and 10 of Cazadores; and from Barcelona the steamer *Isla de Luzon* and *Antonio Lopez* with battalions Nos. 11 and 12. On the 18th Dec., the steamer *Montevideo* will leave Valencia with battalion No. 13. On the 20th Dec., the steamer *Colon* will leave Barcelona with battalions Nos. 14 and 15, also of Cazadores.

(FROM "EL COMMERIO.")

Madrid, December 8.

In his Message to Congress, President Cleveland denied to the Cuban insurgents the status of belligerents, declaring that they were damaging American interests. Spain did not contest the proposition made by the American Government to the effect that the present régime in Cuba should be varied. Mr. Cleveland lamented the fact that the unquiet element in America supported the insurgents. He said that if the war was prolonged it might become necessary to take steps to terminate it, but the North American Republic would allow no other Power to mix itself up with the affairs of Cuba.

This declaration has caused great annoyance to the Powers.

Madrid, Dec. 4.

The campaign in Cuba is being actively pushed forward under the direction of General Weyler. The rebels have sustained heavy losses. The commercial treaty between Spain and Japan is being discussed the last few days.

Madrid, Dec. 9.

The *Gaceta* to-day publishes the royal decree appointing Sr. D. Camilo Polavieja y del Castillo to be Governor General of the Philippines.

The appointment of Sr. D. Enquire Zappino y Moreno to be Second General (Military Governor), will shortly be made.

The mail steamer leaving Spain to-day, has on board Sr. D. Patricio Montojo y Pasaron, the officer appointed to be the chief of the naval station in the Philippines.

(FROM THE JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kobe, December 17.

The present stock of rice in Hyogo is 183,917 koku.

Bakan, December 16.

Marquis Ito has arrived here to-day from Miyajima.

The Jutetsu Kaisha (Iron Smelting Company), has decided to build a foundry in front of Karatsu Station.

Kyoto, December 17.

Lieut.-General Sakuma, Commandant of Middle Section Head-quarters arrived here to-day. To-morrow he starts for Osaka.

Kanazawa, December 17.

About one hundred *soshi* of *Jiyu-to* assaulted Mr. Innan, Supervisor, on his return from the Court. This originated in some scandal regarding the Tetori River works.

Kochi, December 17.

Major-General Sakai, Commander of Brigade here, has returned.

Osaka, December 17.

Out of yen 1,400,000 which the Osaka Shosen Kaisha has been ordered to pay in by the 16th inst., yen 1,080,000 has been paid.

Sendai, Dec. 18.

Mr. Innazuka, Chief Public Procurator of the Miya Court of Appeal, died yesterday.

A storm has been raging furiously for several days, and much damage has been done.

Akita, Dec. 18.

The Prefectural Assembly of Akita Ken has passed a vote to spend yen 7,500 in surveying the proposed port at Funakawa.

Matsuyama, Dec. 18.

Several hundred people assembled in the District Office to protest against the removal of

the District Office and Police Station. In consequence the police are keeping a strict watch at every spot.

Nara, December 21.

The ordinary meeting of the Prefectural Assembly ended to-day. The expenditures for the next fiscal year are estimated at yen 309,600.

Mr. Nakamura, member of the Upper House, and Mr. Nakayama, Representative in Lower House, started for Tokyo to-day.

Kobe, December 21.

Lieut.-General Sakuma, Commandant of the Middle Section Head-quarters, arrived from Osaka to-day. He will go on to Suma for pleasure.

Captain Saito, a Military Chamberlain, arrived here the night before last. To-morrow he returns to Tokyo.

The spending of yen 280,000 on buildings for the Hyogo Prefectural Bureau has been postponed until next year.

The training-vessel *Hiei* left here for Shinagawa yesterday morning.

Kyoto, December 21.

Majima Sakichi, an employe of Mr. Okumura Yoshimatsu, at Gojo, murdered his employer last night. The murderer is an utterly profligate man and has caused great anxiety to his employer, besides bringing his own family to ruin.

Akita, December 21.

Yen 7,500, the estimated cost of surveying the proposed port of Funakawa, having passed the Prefectural Assembly, the proposal was presented to the Governor. The Governor not seeing his way to acquiescing, a discussion on the matter will take place early next year.

Nagano, December 21.

A woman, generally known as Okiku Inari, has been arrested on a charge of having obtained about yen ten thousand from her neighbours by fraud.

Kobe, December 22.

Out of one hundred *soshi* who arrived here from Osaka to coerce the weaving women working at the Hiogo Branch of the Kanagafuchi Cotton Spinning Company, thirty were to-day sent back to Osaka by the Hyogo Police.

The cotton spinning factories of the district being in a disturbed condition, the Governor of Hyogo Ken has issued a notification stating that workmen of one factory should not go to another factory unless they have formally left the employment of their first employers.

Osaka, Dec. 22.

The Osaka money market presents a brighter prospect to-day.

Tsu, Dec. 22.

The tone of the market is dull.

Atami, Dec. 22.

H.I.H. Prince Kacho arrived here to-day.

Bakan, December 22.

Marquis Ito left for Miike (Kiushu) to-day.

Wakayama, December 22.

Mr. Oki, Governor of this Prefecture, gave an entertainment to the members of the Prefectural Assembly to-day.

The Wakayama Orifu Kaisha (Wakayama Hemp Manufacturing Company) held a special general meeting yesterday at which the raising of further capital to the amount of yen 50,000 was decided upon.

Hakodate Dec. 22.

Mr. Nakayama Kanzo, President of Teikoku Suisan Kai (Japan Marine Products Company) left here for Tokyo last night *via* Aomori.

Toyama, Dec. 22.

Snow has accumulated here to a depth of two feet.

Numadzu December 24.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince arrived here to-day accompanied by a numerous suite.

Marugame, December 24.

The election of a representative for the four sections of Kagama Ken resulted in the return of Mr. Kageyama Jinnyemon.

Sendai, December 24.

Lieut.-General Nishi, Commandant of the Second Army Division, left for Aomori this morning.

Osaka, December 24.

The third, *Tashan Maru*, dredger was launched to-day.

Torite, Shitachi, Dec. 25.

The opening of the Tsuchiura line on the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha, was held to-day.

Mitajiri, Suwo, December 25.

Owing to the death of Prince Mori, Prince Mori Mototeru, his successor and heir, started for Tokyo last night.

Yokkaichi, December 25.

The formal opening of the Yokkaichi Commercial School took place to-day.

Kumamoto, December 25.

The election of a representative for three sections of Kumamoto Ken resulted in the return of Mr. Saku Seichiro.

Yonezawa, Dec. 25.

The action against the *Yonezawa Nichi Nichi Shimbu* for disrespect towards the Cabinet, will commence on the 7th of January.

Bakan, Dec. 25.

Fire broke out in the Toyouru Ordinary Middle School last night. The building was burnt to the ground.

Nagasaki, Dec. 25.

The jailers of Nagasaki gaol have resigned in a body.

CHESS.

All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week, at the Club Hotel, No. 5, Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel, every Friday, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 269.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 1—Q to K B sq. | 1—B takes R |
| 2—Q takes P ch. | 2—K takes Q |
| 3—B to Q 7, mate | 1—K takes Kt |
| 2—Q to Q 3 ch. | 2—P takes Q |
| 3—R to R 5, mate | 1—B takes P |
| 2—R takes P ch. | 2—P takes R |
| 3—Kt to Q B 6, mate | 1—P to B 5 |
| 2—Q to R 3 ch. | 2—K takes Kt |
| 3—Q to B 5, mate. | |

Correct answers from W.H.S., J.D., W.D.C., Shogi, XX., W.d.H., and Omega.

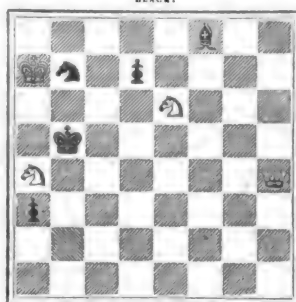
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 270.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1—Kt to Q B 7 | 1—K to B 4 |
| 2—Q takes P, mate | 1—K to K 4 |
| 2—B to Kt 7, mate | 1—Kt (Q 3) moves |
| 2—Kt to K B 3, mate | 1—P to K 7 |
| 2—Q to Q B 3, mate. | |

Correct answers from J.D., W.H.S., W.D.C., Shogi, XX., W.d.H., N.E., and Omega.

PROBLEM No. 273.

By KARL FIALA (Prague).



White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 274.

By R. L. HODGSON (Melbourne).



White to play and mate in two moves.

Moscow.

No further news. We should not be surprised to hear that Steinitz now retires from the contest, if his backers do not insist on the match being finished.

We take the next item from Forsyth's column in the *Scotsman*.

CHESS IN GLASGOW.

The following game was played in December last in the championship tournament of the Glasgow Post Office Chess Club. The winner is a promising player of only 18 years of age, and in this game he defeated his father.

GAME No. 625.

EVANS GAMBIT.

- | WHITE.
J. A. Hale. | BLACK.
A. W. Hale. |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1—P to K 4 | 1—P to K 4 |
| 2—Kt to K B 3 | 2—Kt to Q B 3 |
| 3—B to B 4 | 3—B to B 4 |
| 4—P to Q Kt 4 | 4—B takes Kt P |
| 5—P to Q B 3 | 5—B to B 4 |
| 6—P to Q 4 | 6—P takes P |
| 7—P takes P | 7—B to Kt 3 |
| 8—Castles | 8—P to Q 3 |
| 9—P to K R 3 (a) | 9—Kt to B 3 |
| 10—R to K sq. | 10—Castles |
| 11—B to R 3 | 11—R to K sq. |
| 12—Kt to Kt 5 | 12—P to Q 4 |
| 13—P takes P | 13—Q Kt takes P |
| 14—Kt to Q B 3 (b) | 14—P to K R 3 |
| 15—Kt to B 3 | 15—Kt to B 4 |
| 16—B to Kt 5 (c) | 16—R takes R ch. |
| 17—Q takes R | 17—Kt to Q 3 |
| 18—B to Q 3 | 18—B to Q 2 |
| 19—Q to R 2 | 19—Kt to B 4 |
| 20—B takes Kt | 20—B takes B |
| 21—Q to K 5 | 21—Q to Q 2 |
| 22—Q to Kt 3 | 22—Kt takes P |
| 23—R to Q sq. | 23—B to K 3 |
| 24—B to Kt 2 | 24—P to K B 3 |
| 25—Kt to K 4 (d) | 25—Q to K 2 (e) |
| 26—R takes Kt | 26—B takes R |
| 27—Kt takes P ch. | 27—K to R sq. |
| 28—Kt takes B | 28—Q to Q 2 |
| 29—Q to K 5 | 29—B to R 4 (f) |
| 30—Kt to K 7 | 30—R to K Kt sq. |
| 31—Kt to Kt 5 | 31—P to B 3 |
| 32—Kt to B 7 ch. | 32—K to R 2 |
| 33—Kt to Kt 5 ch. (g) | 33—P takes Kt |
| 34—Q takes P at Kt 4 | 34—Q to Q 8 ch. |
| 35—K to R 2 | 35—Q to Q 3 ch. |
| 36—P to Kt 3 | 36—Q to R 3 |
| 37—Q to B 5 ch. | 37—R to R sq. |
| 38—Q to B 7 | 38—R to Q sq. |
| 39—Kt to B 5 | 39—Resigns. |

(a) Normal play till this point, but this move is inferior to the usual continuations, Kt to B 3, P to Q 3, B to Kt 5, and B to Q Kt 5.

(b) If 24—P to Q 6, Kt to K 3, with no advantage for White.

(c) We would prefer 16—Q to Kt 3, bringing the Q R into play.

(d) White now assumes the attack and conducts it well to the end.

(e) Better to have moved the King.

(f) This seems a useless move. Black's game is not altogether hopeless; R to K sq. would have given some resource.

(g) This repetition of the move, in a slightly altered condition of Black's position, is very clever. Black is now compelled to capture the Kt.

PROBLEM 272.

The White Knight in the centre of the board should be a Black Knight, as per note in our Editorial columns of 24th instant.

The report, which we have already given, is now confirmed, that the Japanese Government has given contracts to a firm at Philadelphia, and to another at San Francisco, for each to build a cruiser of the exact type of the United States cruiser *Olympia*, which has a displacement of 5,500 tons.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 29th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 29th.
From Europe, via	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 7th.
Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Jan. 1st.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 31st.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 9th.
From Canada, via	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 18th.
From Europe, via	per H. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Jan. 30th.

* City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on December 19th. † Doris left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 19th. ‡ China left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 19th. § Sydney (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 24th. || Empress of Japan left Hongkong on December 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shang-	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 27th.
For Portland	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wednesday, Dec. 30th.
For America	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 31st.
For Canada, via	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 1st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 3rd.
For Victoria, B.C.	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 9th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 10th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 18th.
For Europe, via Hong-	per H. D. Lloyd	Friday, Jan. 22nd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tamise, French steamer, 1,328, Rebutel, 19th December.—Marseilles 8th November, Hongkong 10th December, Shanghai 14th, and Kobe 18th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Tibballs, 19th December.—Hakodate 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 19th December.—Hongkong via ports, 10th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 19th December.—Nagasaki 16th December, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 20th December.—Portland 11th November, via Victoria 16th, and Honolulu 2nd December, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 20th December.—Hongkong 8th, via Shanghai 14th, and Kobe 18th December, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Turbo, British steamer, 4,200, J. A. Moses, 20th December.—Batoum via ports, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, Anderson, 20th December.—Kobe 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bering, Russian barkentine, 377, Ringvall, 21st December.—Petropavlovsky 18th November, Ballast.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 21st December.—Vancouver, B.C., 7th December, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 21st December.—Hakodate 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 21st December.—Hongkong 16th December, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 22nd December.—San Francisco 1st December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Engelhorn, British ship, 2,374, Shimmin, 22nd December.—New York 26th June, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Ballona, German steamer, 2,663, von Binzer, 23rd December.—Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Yamamoto, 23rd December.—Kobe 22nd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pakling, British steamer, 2,875, Allen, 24th December.—London via ports, and Kobe 22nd December, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tamarind, Norwegian steamer, John Dannevig, 24th December.—En route to Mororan, but returned to port, Ballast.—Captain.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 25th December.—Hongkong via ports, 17th December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kubota, 25th December.—Mororan 22nd December, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 25th December.—Otaru via ports, 21st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, T. Sakai, 19th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,534, Poole, 19th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Panther (10), Austrian cruiser, Captain Carl Koppel, 20th December.—Nagasaki.

Tsinan, British steamer, 1,459, Geo. Ramsay, 20th December.—Australia and New Zealand, via Kobe and Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 20th December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Tibballs, 20th December.—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,662, T. A. Whistler, 21st December.—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

Grafton (36), British cruiser, Captain E. P. Jones, 21st December.—Yokkaichi.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, J. McLean, 21st December.—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tamarind, Norwegian steamer, John Dannevig, 21st December.—Mororan, Ballast.—Captain.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Inman Sealby, 22nd December.—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 22nd December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

Moyune, British steamer, C. H. Kemp, 22nd December.—Liverpool via ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, G. W. Conner, 22nd December.—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Ternick, 22nd December.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 23rd December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,758, P. Cottier, 23rd December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Silver Fleece, American schooner, 72, T. R. Thompson, 23rd December.—Saipan, Ballast.—John Kernan.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,652, N. Trennt, 24th December.—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andruff, 24th December.—Kobe.

Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, K. Kori, 24th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, T. Anderson, 24th December.—Seattle, Wash., via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pyrhus, British steamer, 2,290, Bait, 24th December.—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Soya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,069, Higo, 25th December.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, A. Harrasowitz, 25th December.—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. Kuhn, Mrs. and Miss McCormick, Mr. R. A. Duster, Mrs. and Miss Hunt, Mr. A. H. Emanuel, Mr. Malowsky, Mr. Milton Harley, Mr. Geo. Bayfield, Mr. C. Niels, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Brown, Mr. Makino, Mr. R. Finch and native servant, and Mr. E. Stein and native servant in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Roy S. Anderson, Mr. C. G. Stenilen, and Mr. W. J. Gorham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Mount Lebanon*, from Portland via Victoria and Honolulu:—10 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong:—30 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong via ports:—50 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. Beadle, Mr. P. Cobbold, Mr. C. Cary, Mr. Jno. Dodd, Mr. Alfred Edmonds, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Grant, Mr. Allen Goodwyn, Mr. F. Harold, Mr. W. Kennedy, Mr. Chas. Lehman, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Lawson, Mr. Paul May, Miss Pritchard Morgan and maid, Mr. W. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., and manservant, Mr. Alex. Maxwell, Miss C. H. Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Mitchell, Miss Mitchell and maid, Mr. Wilson Marshall, Mr. R. Ousaga, Mr. A. Ross Owen, Dr. E. F. Power, Mr. R. C. Ross, Captain Watson W. Rich, Mr. J. Seymour and 2

children, Miss L. M. Seymour, Mr. Shockly, General Washburn, Misses Washburn (2), Mrs. Webster, Mrs. Wilkes, and Mr. F. R. Leight in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Hidaka Ziro, Dr. Weipert, Mr. Bernis, and Mr. P. Strehel in cabin; 18 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Scott, Mr. W. M. Long, Count Avenokoji, Mr. S. Takato, Mr. M. Onodera, Paymaster D. A. Smith, Surgeon R. S. Blackman, Mr. H. Hockert, and Mr. S. Okawa in cabin; Mr. W. M. Keogh in European steerage. For Shanghai:—Mr. Jas. Hosford and Mr. J. Findlay Thompson in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Owen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bushby, Lieut. O. H. G. Bernard, Messrs. G. H. Morey, A. McConnell, Chung Chink Wun, W. Lippitt, and M. Lynch in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. H. Allen and servant, Mr. James Leys, Mrs. and Miss Jarvis, Mr. Tan Tajima, Rev. and Mrs. N. L. Rockey, 4 children and 2 infants, Mr. and Mrs. Chan San Nan, Mr. Chan Hon Pan, Mr. Handelman, Mr. and Mrs. Tokareff, Misses Tokareff (2), Mr. A. E. Collins, and Mr. Alfred Nicolle in cabin; 4 Europeans and 7 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—Mr. Roy S. Anderson, Mr. A. Baux, Mr. H. Clarkson, Lieut. R. St. J. Clarkson, Miss McCormick, Mrs. L. McCormick, Mrs. S. W. B. Diehl, Mr. W. J. Gorham, Mr. C. Greathead, Mr. Milton Harley, Mr. J. Malowansky, Mr. B. K. Miller, Mr. S. Nishimura, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Newhall, Mr. O. Pollak, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Rothchild, Miss Rothchild, Mr. Cyrus S. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Salisbury, and Mr. L. S. Tieman in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Payne Whitney and maid, Mr. W. S. and Miss L. Curtis, Mr. M. Denegri, Colonel E. H. Sartorius, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Tok Hing and 2 children, Mr. A. W. H. Whitall, Mr. Robt. Chapman, Mr. James Summers, Mr. Leonard Black, Mr. J. A. Ballard, Mr. H. B. Darnell, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Oveyrin, Mr. N. W. Petroff, Mr. Y. Honda, Mr. H. W. Arthur, Mr. W. G. Hockridge, Mr. Y. Ueyhara, Mr. F. J. Bardens, Captain N. Walker, Mr. Brockhurst, Mr. King, and Mr. Kanematsu in cabin; Messrs. Y. Kono, A. Skillen, R. Geiscke, John Scott, and M. Donarth in second class, and Mr. Wong Chung in third class.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Kobe:—Messrs. H. R. Raspe, N. Raspe, H. A. Schieuten, B. Izu, and Mrs. Yamagawa in cabin; Messrs. R. Oni and M. Iwama in second class. For Shimomoseki:—Messrs. S. Wada and Mito in cabin; Messrs. T. Fukushima, T. Tazaki, and S. Miyoshi in second class. For Nagasaki:—Mr. and Master Denbigh, Mr. T. B. Glover, and Captain Tiptle in cabin; Mrs. Kono and Mr. Y. Kawara in second class. For Shanghai:—Masters T. Iwasaki, T. Shoda, and S. Kondo in cabin; Mr. K. Tanimichi in second class, and 66 passengers in steerage in all.

Per Japanese steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, for Marseilles:—Sub-Lieut. K. Wueda in cabin; Mr. Shiubo Toshio in second class. For Newcastle:—Commander H. Takei, Surgeon S. Tsuruda, Lieut. M. Takahashi, Lieut. H. Mikami, Lieut. Y. Mori, Chief-Engineer S. Ichikawa, Chief-Engineer S. Hirano, Surgeon K. Wakakura, Staff-Paymaster T. Tonda, Sub-Lieut. T. Hiraga, Engineer Y. Matsuzawa, Sub-Lieut. S. Momotake, Sub-Lieut. N. Sakamoto, and Engineer T. Hiratsuka in cabin; Messrs. K. Kawaguchi, S. Ishii, and T. Chiya in second class. For Kobe:—Master J. Drummond in cabin; Mr. Oyama Fudekichi and Mrs. Tanaka Dai in second class. For London:—Mr. Peverley and Mr. Wallace in cabin; 230 passengers in steerage in all ports.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco, via Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	MON. TONON-OTHER.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	140	664	1,237	2,041
Yokohama	79	—	—	97
Hongkong	241	—	—	241
Total	478	664	1,237	2,379

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	85	—	85
Yokohama	—	221	—	221
Total	—	306	—	306

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong via ports:—Silk, 704 bales; Waste Silk, 365 bales.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.				TOTAL.
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST. COAST.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	
Shanghai	319	4,410	20	—	4,749
Yokohama	1,076	322	1,004	—	2,402
Hongkong	—	1,244	3,102	40	5,862
Calcutta	—	—	22	75	97
Colombo	—	—	—	65	65
				129	129
Total	2,871	5,976	4,208	309	13,364

	SILK.				TOTAL.
	CANADA, AND WEST. AND EAST. COAST.	CHICAGO	NEW YORK	PACIFIC	
Shanghai	254	—	—	—	254
Hongkong	30	—	—	—	30
Yokohama	862	—	—	—	862
Total	1,146	—	—	—	1,146

Tea	1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk	3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement	\$11 Gold per ton.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The dreary account must be repeated. Dull market with nothing doing, Kobe is also feeling the stagnation, and Importers' godowns are crowded with goods. Money is tight for the end of the year, and there is no certain prospect of much improvement when the New Year opens.

COFFIN PRICE GOODS.

Grey Shirts—8 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	—
Grey Shirts—9 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	—
I. Cloth—7 1/2 yds, 38 yds, 39 inches	\$1.70 to 1.95
Indigo Shirts—12 yds, 44 inches	1.95 to 2.90
Prints—Assorted, 21 yds, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yds, 42 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yds, 38 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.35 to 1.55
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 30 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 1/2 yds, 24 1/2 yds, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.35

WOOLLEN.

Flannel	\$0.30 to 0.47 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32 1/2
Italian Cloth, 30 yds, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27 1/2
Mousseline de laine—Cape, 21 yds, 31 inches	4.15 to 4.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.15 to 0.30
Cloths—Presidents, 54 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.60 to 0.75
Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 yds, 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 5 to 5 1/2 yds	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARDS.

Nos. 16 24, Singles	\$30.00 to 38.00
Nos. 24 32, Singles	30.00 to 40.00
Nos. 32 42, Singles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	44.00 to 45.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	48.50 to 49.50
Nos. 2 60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	75.00 to 80.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	Nominal
Nos. 2 100, Gassed	120.00 to 130.00

METALS.

Better talk, but small improvement in reality. Probably nothing will now be done until after Shogatsu.

Flat Bars, 1 inch	\$3.50 to 3.55
Flat Bars, 1 1/2 inch	3.60 to 3.65
Round and square up to 1 inch	3.50 to 3.65
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.60
Sheet Iron	4.70 to 4.80
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.20 to 10.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 6.00
Fin Plates, per box	5.00 to 5.30
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.70 to 1.74 1/2

KRONSNE.

Weak market. Prices in favour of buyers.	
American	\$2.20 to 2.25
Russian	2.30 to 2.35
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Browns—Quiet and market practically closed until New Year. White—Steady at late rates.

Brown Takao	\$3.00 to 4.00
Brown Manila	4.40 to 5.10
Brown Daitong	3.70 to 3.80
Brown Canton	3.60 to 4.40
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7.00 to 9.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Trade has fallen away this week and settlements are small. Prices nominally unchanged but there is no doubt better could be done. Cash would be a tempting bait for many holders of Silk just now.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom. \$770 to 780
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 1, 10/14 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 11/18 deniers	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/16, 14/17 den.	660 to 670
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 690 to 700
Kakedas—No. 1	Nom. 670 to 680
Kakedas—No. 11	660 to 665
Kakedas—No. 2	Nom. 640 to 650
Kakedas—No. 21	—

WASTE SILK.

Market quiet. Quotations unchanged, but in favour of buyers to a slight extent.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filature, Best	\$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	100 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi—Shimizu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shimizu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushi, Best	140 to 150
Noshi—Bushi, Good	120 to 130
Noshi—Bushi, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshi, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshi, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95
Kibiso—Joshi, Good	25 to 30
Kibiso—Bushi, Fair	20 to 22 1/2

TEA.

Very retail sort of trade. Stock down to 1,200 piculs, mostly very common and undesirable leaf. Market strong.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Nom. \$26 to \$28
Choice	24 to 25
Fine	22 to 23
Good Medium	20 to 21

Medium	18 to 19
Good Common	16 to 17
Common	14 to 15

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fallen a point this week, but closes steady at quotations.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/2
— Bills on demand	2/1 1/2
— 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/2
— 6 months' sight	2/2 1/2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.69
— Private 4 months' sight	2.74
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 1/2 d.
— Private 10 days' sight	1 1/2 d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	168
— Private 30 days' sight	175
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	53 1/2
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— Private 4 months' sight	2.22 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	29 1/2

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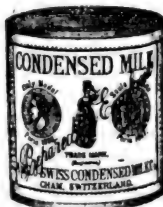
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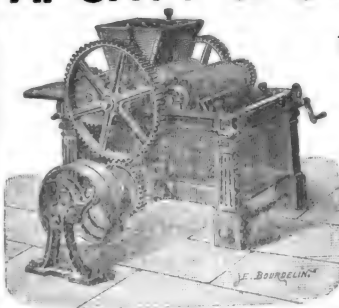
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